

THANK YOU DELHI!

You are cordially invited for
the oath taking ceremony of
Chief Minister Shri. Arvind Kejriwal

on Sunday, 16 February, 10 a.m.
at Ramleela Maidan



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अच्छी शिक्षा पाएगा

जब भारत के हर बंदे को
अच्छा इलाज मिल पाएगा

जब सुरक्षा और सम्मान
महिलाओं में आत्म विश्वास जगायेगा

हर नौजवान के माथे से
बेरोजगार का तमगा हट जाएगा

जब किसान का पसीना उसके
घर में भी खुशहाली लाएगा

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WHAT LOOMS AHEAD FOR MANCHESTER CITY

Will club appeal 2-yr ban from all UEFA events?

3 THINGS

EXPRESS AUDIO

Can Neeraj Chopra win a medal at the Tokyo Olympics?

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

We discuss whether ace Javelin thrower can win a medal and why he needs a star

FROM PAGE ONE

Shah Faesal booked under PSA for 'soft separatism'

three former chief ministers, Farooq Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah, National Conference leaders Ali Mohd Sagar and Hilal Lone, and PDP leaders Sartaj Madni and Naeem Akhtar have also been booked under the Act. The 900-page dossier on Faesal includes annexures with his statements and records of his activities, an FIR, his television interviews, Facebook posts and the credentials of people who had joined the Jammu and Kashmir People's Movement (JKPM), the political outfit Faesal launched in March 2019.

among other things". The document also notes that he floated his JKPM with like-minded people but "subsequently got in tandem with elements like Awami Itihaad Party chief Sheikh Abdul Rashid @ Er Rashid who stands arrested by NIA in a terror funding case". Quoting from the Budgam Executive Magistrate's report recommending Faesal's continued detention, the dossier reads, "this office is of the view that continuation of detention is required in view of reports vis-a-vis sensitive security situation wherein the public order could be disturbed by any provocative statement/speech, action or otherwise."

and states that he "clearly advanced the separatist ideology and challenged the ruling dispensation at the Centre to scrap special status of J&K by saying, the day it happens, we in J&K will move our watches 15 mins away from the Indian Standard Time". It also makes note of his alleged attempts to "instigate and instill rebellion" among the government employees of J&K, when he asked in a post, "suppose if Article 35A is abrogated, what will be response of police, civil servants and secretariat employees?". It says that Faesal "criticised and demonised" security forces through his social media outreach by terming government policies in Kashmir "as being imported from Israel".

After Valley visit, French envoy says lift curbs soon

security concerns, it is important that the remaining restrictions be lifted swiftly." Speaking to The Sunday Express, Lenain said: "This trip was important because, as an Ambassador, I need to see the situation with my own eyes in order to make an assessment as objective as possible. It was useful to be able to interact directly with local authorities, and also with some parts of the civil society, local media and business community." "It is obvious that significant efforts are being made by the authorities to normalise the situation and move on swiftly towards economic development, for which the population has very high expectations. It implies removing as soon as possible the remaining restrictions, even though the security challenges were made very clear," he said.

JK&S special status under Article 370 was revoked last August. On Friday, EU spokesperson for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Virginie Batten-Henriksson had said that the EU Ambassador to India, along with some ambassadors of EU member states, had accepted the invitation extended by the Government of India to visit Srinagar and Jammu, on February 12-13. The programme of the visit included meetings with civil and military authorities, political representatives and selected representatives of civil society and the business community, she said.

ical representatives and selected representatives of civil society and the business community, she said. "The visit confirmed that the Government of India has taken positive steps to restore normalcy. Some restrictions remain, notably on internet access and mobile services, and some political leaders are still in detention. While we recognise the serious security concerns, it is important that the remaining restrictions be lifted swiftly," she said.

the ground. He was unconscious all along but we didn't know that he was dead. Later, doctors at the nearby hospital said he had been brought dead," she said. Based on visuals of the lynching circulated on social media, police have arrested seven people, three women and four men, for Sakhthivel's murder. An allegation that has emerged now is that Sakhthivel was attacked for allegedly flashing at a woman.

"After sometime, I received another call from his phone and I asked if he had reached his office. But there was a different voice at the other end. The man said they had tied Shaktivel up and that he was in their custody. He asked me to reach Boothur Hills (about 5 km from their home). It was clear there was some problem," she added.

Villupuram SP D Jayakumar, however, said only a detailed probe can reveal if there was a caste angle to the murder. "He died of heart attack due to the severe torture. A case has been registered under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act with IPC Section 302 (punishment for murder)," Jayakumar said.

Green shoots

vegetables - from spinach, lettuce, coriander, radish, spring onions and brinjals to sarson da saag (mustard greens) - that are grown by the children.

It's not just the "regular veggies". The students have started growing oyster mushrooms and broccoli, too. They use green waste for composting and wheat and paddy straw, which their parents would otherwise burn in the fields, for mulching the gardens and growing oyster mushrooms. Officials and teachers say the

kitchen gardens have become a part of their science practical sessions and will help the children develop skills that could firm up employment prospects.

"The results have been heartening," says Vipesh Garg, Horticulture Development Officer (HDO), Budhlada, who is the lead initiator of the project. "Of the 87 villages in Budhlada, kitchen gardens have been established in at least 32, and more are being set up. We have trained at least 500 students to grow mushrooms using crop stubble," he says.

"The purpose is not just to teach children to grow organic vegetables and make their mid-day meals nutritious but also to stop them from stubble-burning and divert their interest towards horticulture to break the wheat-paddy cycle," says Garg. At the government senior secondary school for boys in Boha, a garden has been set up using straw bales as chairs - the design won the first prize under 'Sustainable Agricultural Practices' at the district science competition.

Parmal Singh, the school principal, says around 100 students from Class 9-12 grow mushrooms, garlic, coriander and onions. "The students are also being taught mushroom processing, which will help them prepare for the National Skills Qualification Framework." The NSQF facilitates certification for skills competency through formal, non-formal or informal learning.

Jagdeep Kaur, a teacher from the government middle school in Chak Bhai Ke, says students from Class 6-8 "enjoy working in the kitchen garden".

"Whenever the children feel stressed or bored, they tell teachers to take them to the garden," she says.

Naveen Kumar, the project's coordinator at the government middle school in Ram Nagar Bhatol, says they are also setting up a garden for medicinal and herbal plants. "Other schools have started asking for fresh vegetables from our garden," he says.

At the government senior secondary school in Budhlada, Class 11-12 students have grown oyster mushrooms using stubble. "It also helps them in their biology practicals. They are easy to grow and we use them in our mid-day meals. Most of the students are from low-income families and they can pursue mushroom cultivation for better income after schooling," says Jasbir Singh, a biology teacher.

According to the latest assessment of the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Budhlada is among five blocks in Mansa that fall in the "over-exploited" category. This is the most severe category, which means groundwater extraction is more than net availability with a significant long-term decline in levels. The 2017 report also notes that the groundwater quality is "alkaline, brackish and not fit for irrigation".

"These are big issues in Mansa and we have to catch students young to make them aware. We are suggesting garden designs that use less water, and encourage the use of paddy and wheat straw," says Garg, the HDO.

The official, however, acknowledges that the programme, which is being promoted under Punjab Tandrast Mission, is facing challenges on the ground. "There is a lack of trained staff in the Horticulture Department to regularly visit schools. We try to provide mushroom seeds (spawn) free of cost, but lack of funding is an issue," he says.

Yet, senior district officials are happy with the results so far. "In Mansa, groundwater levels are depleting and chemicals are used incessantly. We thought a change could start with young farmers and their organic kitchen gardens in schools," says Gurmeet Singh Sidhu, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mansa.

Pakistan

Western diplomat on condition of anonymity.

To avoid any further pressure at Paris, a Pakistani court had this week sentenced Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed on terror financing charges. Saeed had been designated a global terrorist by the United Nations, with a \$10 million placed by the US. He was arrested in Pakistan on July 17 last year in the terror financing case.

Alice Wells, acting US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, had noted that the "conviction of Hafiz Saeed and his associate is an important step forward - both toward holding LeT accountable for its crimes, and for Pakistan in meeting its international commitments to combat terrorist financing."

Government sources, however, had said "the decision has been made on the eve of the FATF plenary meeting... It has to also be seen whether Pakistan would take action against all other terrorist entities and individuals operating from territories under its control and bring perpetrators of cross border terrorist attacks, including in Mumbai and Pathankot, to justice expeditiously."

After it got a reprieve at Beijing last month, Islamabad was expected to make a case for its exclusion from the grey list at Paris. To achieve that, it needs 12 votes out of 39. It, however, needs only three votes to avoid falling into the FATF black list. After Paris, the next chance for it to be moved out of the FATF grey list will be either in June or September.

Although FATF is not backed by any international treaty that could make its measures binding on member countries, its listing of any country has an adverse effect on that country.

Chandrachud

"The true test of a democracy... is its ability to ensure the creation and protection of spaces where

every individual can voice their opinion without the fear of retribution... A legitimate government committed to deliberate dialogue does not seek to restrict political contestation but welcomes it... A state committed to the rule of law ensures that the state apparatus is not employed to curb legitimate and peaceful protest but to create spaces conducive for deliberation. Within the bounds of law, liberal democracies ensure that their citizens enjoy the right to express their views in every conceivable manner, including the right to protest and express dissent against prevailing laws. The blanket labelling of such dissent as 'anti-national' or 'anti-democratic' strikes at the heart of our commitment to the protection of constitutional values and the promotion of a deliberative democracy," he said.

Stating that the "great threat to pluralism is the suppression of difference and the silencing of popular and unpopular voices offering alternate or opposing views," Justice Chandrachud said: "Protecting dissent is but a reminder that while democratically elected governments offer us a legitimate tool for development and social coordination, they can never claim a monopoly over the values and identities that define our plural society. The employment of state machinery to curb dissent instils fear and creates a chilling atmosphere on free speech which violates the rule of law and detracts from the constitutional vision of a pluralist society... The destruction of spaces for questions and dissent destroys the basis of all growth - political, economic, cultural and social. In this sense, dissent is the safety valve of democracy. The silencing of dissent and the generation of fear in the minds of people go beyond the violation of personal liberty and a commitment to constitutional values - it strikes at the heart of a dialogue-based democratic society which accords to every individual equal respect and

consideration."

Another threat to pluralism, he said, is the belief that "homonisation presupposes the unity of the nation". "India, as a nation committed to pluralism, is not one language, one religion, one culture or one assimilated race... No single individual or institution can claim a monopoly over the idea of India... The idea of a plural India guides and dictates how the institutions envisaged by the Constitution as well as individuals in the society respond to diversity," he said. "A democracy welded to the ideal of reason and deliberation ensures that minority opinions are not strangled and ensures that every outcome is not a result merely of numbers but of shared consensus... Where, on the one hand, due deliberation and consideration within institutional spaces underlines a commitment to pluralism, deliberation by individuals in public spaces on the other hand is of equal, if not more, importance," he said.

Quoting political scientist Uday Mehta, he said the founders of the Constitution "sought to unify a divergent India by accommodating all people who called India their home". He said the "commitment to pluralism does not imply non-interference with brute practices which hinder the constitutional vision of an equal citizenship, premised on equal dignity, worth and liberty of every individual." Referring to the Sabarimala case, he said: "Take, for example, a religious group which prohibits the entry of women into institutions of worship grounded in their physiological characteristics. Here, inequality on the basis of sex is grounded in the membership of the group which seeks to prevent their entry. For this reason, the state was empowered to provide for social welfare and reform by throwing open Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all sections of Hindus."

Patpargharhi was asked to sign a personal bond of Rs 10 lakh and deposit two sureties of the same amount, undertaking to maintain peace. "The notice has a reference to the fact that so far, a total expenditure of about Rs 1.04 crore has been spent on police forces deployed at the protest site. There is a warning that this amount can be recovered from him," said Kumar. "Terminating a witch hunt, Prapatgarhi said this was a way to "gag" protesters. "The UP government doesn't want people to speak against officials. I had not visited Moradabad for a very long time before February 7. There was no law and order problem. This is clear targeting, and police want to shirk responsibility," he told The Sunday Express.

"I went to the protest site on February 7, and, in my speech, I did not use any words which may disturb law and order," he said, adding that he would move court against the notice. Police claimed the notice was preventive in nature and did not reflect the actual amount to be recovered. "As per procedure, another order is issued if the individual is found flouting the notice. This is not the same as a recovery notice since no public property was damaged. This acts as a deterrent to prevent a person from possibly causing a law and order

situation," said Amit Kumar Anand, SP City Moradabad.

Police claimed such notices have been issued to 150 other people to prevent a law and order situation arising from protests in the district. Protests have been taking place in Eidgah since January 29, and the cost of police deployment has been calculated since the first day, police said. Earlier, the state government had issued notices to individuals asking them to pay for damage to public property in the violence that erupted during anti-CAA protests in December.

According to the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984 anyone "who commits mischief by doing any act in respect of any public property" is liable to a jail term of up to five years and a fine or both. Provisions of this law can be coupled with relevant sections of the IPC.

Scindia

in charge of the state Deepak Babaria, was also attended by senior leaders Digvijaya Singh and Meenakshi Natarajan and state Education Minister Jitu Patwari, who is said to be lobbying hard for the post of Madhya Pradesh Congress president. At present, CM Nath heads the Congress unit in the state. While Congress leaders claimed Scindia did not walk out in a huff, sources in the party said he was clearly unhappy. While party leaders claimed he left early because he had a prior engagement, Nath's statement after the meeting indicated that all efforts at rapprochement between the two had come to naught.

Babaria told The Sunday Express, "It was a good meeting. He (Scindia) had told me yesterday itself that he has some prior engagement... By then, we had by and large completed the discussion." The meeting took place a day after Scindia, while addressing a rally in Tikamgarh, told guest teachers, who have been protesting for weeks in Bhopal demanding that their services be regularised, that he would stand with them and take to the streets with them if needed.

"Our manifesto (for Assembly elections) had promised to fulfil your demand. The manifesto is a sacred book for us. If every promise is not fulfilled, I will take to the streets with you. Don't think you are alone," he had said.

On Saturday, Babaria said he saw nothing wrong in Scindia's remarks. "He had talked about implementing manifesto commitments... the aspirations of the people should reflect in the administration. Not just government, at times there is laxity in the administration too. There are BJP-oriented people... they try to frustrate. Whatever he (Scindia) said yeh toh logon ko saat jodne ki prakriya hain (it's an effort to bring people together). He has to address the concerns of the people so that they don't go to the BJP," he said, adding that he does not view Scindia's statement as "in-discipline".

Asked about Nath's dare, he said, "Both of them have decided to meet this week. All issues will be settled."

However, Digvijaya Singh, while indirectly taking on Scindia, said the commitments made in the manifesto "are to be implemented over five years, not for the first year itself". He also maintained there was no factionalism in the party.

Scindia's remarks at the rally have put the party in a spot because though the promise of regularising guest teachers found a mention in its manifesto, the government hasn't been unable to implement the measure owing to the state's poor finances.

With MILIND GHATWAI in Bhopal

TN lynching

members are known to share an open animosity towards Dalits. While Sakhthivel belongs to the SC Adi Dravida community, Vanniyars belong to the Most Backward Caste (MBC), which falls under the OBC category in Tamil Nadu.

Talking to The Sunday Express, R Theivanai, the 26-year-old elder sister of the victim, said Sakhthivel was attacked "only because he was a Dalit". "On Tuesday, he was on night

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BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI 4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001 Notice under Section 19(1) 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 OA. 778/2019 BANK OF BARODA Vs MR. ASHWANI KUMAR & ORS. Defendant/s Applicant To. D-3 M/s Amrapali Smart City Developers Pvt. Ltd. Through its Managing Director /Authorized Signatory Having Its Registered Office at : 307, 3rd Floor, Nipun Tower, Plot No. 15, Community Centre, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092 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 18.03.2020 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 in this the 26th day of Dec. 2019 By order of the Tribunal Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

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SMOKE ENTERED ROOMS VIA AC DUCTS

Fire at The Park, 9 Norwegians hospitalised

ANANYA TIWARI
 NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

AT LEAST nine Norwegian nationals were hospitalised following smoke inhalation after a fire broke out in the basement of The Park, a five-star hotel in Connaught Place, on Saturday morning. Delhi Police and Delhi Fire Services (DFS) alleged that the hotel staff did not inform them about the fire for over two and a half hours, with a PCR call eventually being made at 11.45 am.

"The hotel staff tried dousing flames in the basement themselves and they thought they did that, but the smoke entered the AC duct. The smoke then entered the rooms of the guests, who then raised an alarm. We only got a call at 12.25 pm," DFS director Atul Garg said.

A case under sections 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire) and 337 (causing hurt) of the IPC has been registered against the hotel, said Additional DCP (New Delhi) Deepak Yadav.

The injured were rushed to Ganga Ram Hospital, from where the doctors made a PCR call about the incident. Among those staying at the hotel was Anil Prabhakar (62), a



Joachim Kvam and Abdiweli Bashir Ali were among the nine Norwegian nationals who inhaled smoke

Norwegian national, with 34 of his guests, who are in the city after attending his daughter's wedding in Chandigarh.

"My guests are here from Porsgrunn. After a visit to Agra, they checked into the hotel on February 13, and were supposed to leave Sunday. Around 9 am,

my wife and I left our room on the fifth floor and smelt smoke in the corridor. We figured there was a fire but no fire alarms rang. The hotel tried to hush up the fire by knocking on doors quietly; they didn't even ring bells," alleged Prabhakar.

He posted a fire SOS on a

Facebook group he had made for his guests to rush them out of rooms. On the fourth floor were Joachim Kvam (29), a salesman, and Abdiweli Bashir Ali (30), a personal trainer from Norway.

Kvam said, "I was woken up by the smell of smoke coming through the air conditioner ducts. It was suffocating," Ali alleged, "We left the room, and two hotel staff, very calmly as though nothing was wrong, told us to go back into our rooms. But we saw the post on the group and went down."

After reaching the lobby, they both threw up, and Ali passed out. They were referred to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

Aleyamma Joseph, the medical officer-in-charge at the emergency, said that "nine patients came in, of which three are still admitted. One has injured his hands as he tried to break the glass window in his room in a bid to get out. Ali was unconscious and was choking. He has been put on an IV drip."

Police said some others also complained of breathlessness but were not hospitalised.

In a statement, the hotel said, "An investigation has been launched to get to the bottom of the incident to ensure we can take measures to avoid a similar situation in the future."

Fire chief says lapse by hotel, will carry out inspection soon

SOMYA LAKHANI
 NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

CALLING IT a "major lapse" on the part of The Park, which "failed to inform the Delhi Fire Services (DFS)" about a basement blaze that led to nine people being admitted to the hospital Saturday, fire chief Atul Garg has sent a notice to the hotel.

Garg told *The Indian Express*, "I fail to understand why such a big and old hotel would not call DFS in case of a fire. As per police, the fire took place around 9 am and we got a call only at 12.25 pm. The same delay led to a tragedy at Hotel Arpit Palace in Karol Bagh last February, and recently at the Anaj Mandi factory."

A fire station is located barely a kilometre away from the hotel and as soon as a call was made, at least 30 firefighters rushed there — only to find a cleaned up basement. The hotel authorities claimed the fire was caused by a

short-circuit.

"In a day or two, the DFS will inspect The Park because even though it was a small fire, the smoke should not have spread so quickly and entered the rooms. This means something was wrong. Apart from this, we need to check the status of smoke alarms, water hose, among other arrangements," said Garg.

A DFS official said that on being asked why the hotel didn't call them up, a staffer said that since it was a small fire, they didn't think a call was needed.

The Park authorities refused to comment on why an emergency call was not made earlier. They also did not respond to allegations by guests that the smoke alarms didn't ring.

In a statement, they said, "There were no casualties, and our in-house crisis management team got into action and controlled the situation immediately."



A Scorpio was used to uproot the ATM in Govindpuri on February 14

3 ATMs uprooted from district in one week, Rs 36 lakh gone

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

THREE ATMs have been uprooted from South East Delhi within a span of one week, with over Rs 36 lakh gone in the daring heists. All three incidents have been captured on CCTV cameras, with police saying the accused men used SUVs to uproot the ATMs. However, police are yet to make an arrest in connection with the crimes.

Police said the first incident took place at New Friends Colony on February 9. The second incident was reported from Badarpur on February 12, and the third on February 14 in Govindpuri. "We received a call about the (latest) theft on Saturday morning, following which senior officers visited the scene of the crime. Some unidentified people came in a four-wheeler and fled with the automated teller machine (ATM). We have registered an FIR at Govindpuri police station and formed teams to nab the accused," DCP (South East) R P Meena said, adding that FIRs have also been lodged in connection with the other cases.

Initial investigation suggests there is a common link between all these incidents — in the first two incidents, the accused came in a Bolero, and in the third case,

they arrived in a Scorpio.

"So far, police have found that a gang, armed with a gas cutter, a long belt and other items, is operating in South East Delhi. They are operating with around half-a-dozen men and targeting unguarded ATMs during odd hours. Police came to know through their informers that after reaching the ATMs, they use a spray to block out CCTV cameras and cut the wire placed outside the ATM. They then use a gas cutter to weaken the base of the ATM," an officer said.

Police found that after the base of the ATM is weakened, they used the belt to tie the machine to their SUVs. "A few strong jerks are enough to uproot the machine. The men then escape with the machine to their hideout, where they remove the cash," the officer said.

The manager of the banks told police that the accused stole Rs 24 lakh from NFC, Rs 12 lakh from Badarpur and Rs 57,000 from Govindpuri. "Despite the first two incidents, no special night patrolling arrangement had been started during night hours," a police source said.

DCP Meena said now they have made special security arrangements by deploying police personnel during the night and will ask the banks to deploy security guards at their ATMs.

27 detained during protest march to Tamil Nadu House

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
 NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

A GROUP of people, including students of Jamia Millia Islamia, held a protest near the Tamil Nadu House on Saturday over the alleged lathi-charge by Chennai Police on anti-CAA protesters.

The small group of protesters, which also included a few women, tried to march from the Bihar Bhawan towards the Tamil Nadu House, and raised anti-BJP and anti-RSS slogans.

The protesters were detained

midway as they tried to go towards Chanakyaपुरi, police said.

Later, a few more people, including women, were also detained.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Deepak Yadav said 27 protesters were detained and taken to a nearby police station.

Out of them, seven were women, he said, adding that all of them were released later.

The call for the protest here was given by the Jamia Coordination Committee.

Protesters in Chennai had clashed with police on Friday.

Card recharge, footage gives away Gurgaon engineer who 'flashed woman in Metro'

SOMYA LAKHANI
 NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

THREE DAYS after an FIR was filed against a man for allegedly flashing a woman in the Yellow Line of the Delhi Metro, a 28-year-old civil engineer who works at a Gurgaon firm has been arrested.

While Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) claimed that the accused was tracked down after he recharged his Metro card online, a senior police officer said that "CCTV

footage from each station of the Yellow Line was scanned thoroughly to figure out his entry and exit points to trace him."

Anuj Dayal, executive director, DMRC, said, "He had recharged his Metro card online after which his mobile number was tracked down and he was identified."

A senior police officer said, "Accused took the Metro from Kashmere Gate and boarded at a Gurgaon station, after which police personnel went to several offices with the side profile photo of the accused to identify him."

A police officer said that at

one such firm, a person recognised the accused.

DCP (Delhi Metro) Vikram Porwal said that a case under IPC sections 354 (sexual harassment), 294 (sings, recites or utters any obscene song, ballad or words, in or near any public place) and 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) has been registered against the man at Ghitorni police station. The accused, who hails from Karnal, was arrested from his Gurgaon house.

"We found his address and reached there, only to realise he

had shifted elsewhere a while back. We then tracked down the current address to Sector 22, Gurgaon, and arrested him on Saturday," said the police officer.

On Wednesday night, the woman had taken to Twitter to share her account of the incident inside the Metro. On Saturday, Dayal said, "We request the public to use the passenger emergency alarm button if they notice any such incident and inform the train operator. Also, please give the coach number so the person can be apprehended at the earliest."

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 IN COORDINATION WITH

DELHI TRAFFIC POLICE
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NATIONAL LOK ADALAT
 ON

16th February, 2020
 FROM

10:00 AM to 03:30 PM

FOR SETTLEMENT OF TRAFFIC CHALLANS

PENDING "ON THE SPOT" AND NOTICE BRANCH TRAFFIC CHALLANS of all types of vehicles (Including Commercial Vehicles)

FOR "ON THE SPOT" TRAFFIC CHALLANS
 All concerned Traffic Courts of the Metropolitan Magistrates

FOR NOTICE BRANCH TRAFFIC CHALLANS any court at Court Complexes i.e. Tis Hazari, Karkardooma, Patiala House, Saket, Rohini & Dwarka

Note: • Virtual Court's Challan shall not be taken in this National Lok Adalat.
 • Notice Branch Challan upto 31.08.2019 will be taken.

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DP/92/17/2020

BRIEFLY

Gold worth Rs 2 lakh looted from jeweller

New Delhi: Two men allegedly robbed a bag containing Rs 40,000 in cash and gold worth around Rs 2 lakh from a jeweller at gunpoint in South Delhi's Aya Nagar area on Friday. The victim, Daudayal (36), alleged that as he was closing his jewellery shop, two unidentified men threatened him with a weapon. One of them snatched Daudayal's bag and fled on his motorcycle, police said. They said Daudayal has alleged that he heard gunshots while they were trying to flee. The probe is underway, police said.

Man held in Tilak Nagar for firing in air

New Delhi: A man was arrested for allegedly firing a pistol in the air in West Delhi's Tilak Nagar area on the intervening night of Thursday and Friday. The accused has been identified as Manpreet Singh, a resident of Paschim Vihar. A police team rushed to the spot and nabbed him, a senior police officer said. One country-made pistol and three live cartridges were seized from his possession, and later, a magazine and 44 live cartridges were also seized from his car, police said.

Golf event to promote India-Japan relations

Gurgaon: The "complementary" relationship between India and Japan formed the basis of a 'golf networking event' organised at the Classic Golf and Country Club in Gurgaon Friday, which saw CEOs of several Japanese companies and officials from the State and Union government, including Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, in attendance. Speaking on the occasion, Khattar said, "In India, Haryana is quickly becoming the first choice of investors since it gives a conducive and safe environment to MNCs. Japan also has, and always will have, an important role in the social and economic development of Haryana."

NDMC staff complain of 'bank fraud'

New Delhi: Around 150 to 200 employees of the New Delhi Municipal Council have allegedly become victims to a bank fraud and lost thousands of rupees, police said. They said on Friday that money was siphoned off their hacked bank accounts in the first week of February. The employees complained to police at Parliament Street and blocked their cards by visiting SBI. Police said it could be a case of forgery of ATM cards. ENS

'DILLI KE NIRMATA'

Teacher, doctor and architect among 50 who will share stage with Kejriwal at swearing-in

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

TAKING OATH as Chief Minister of Delhi for the third time, Arvind Kejriwal and his Cabinet will share the stage with 50 special guests from different fields, who have contributed to the capital.

Called 'Dilli ke Nirmata', those on the guest list include traders, teachers, principals, labourers, advocates, engineers, doctors, sportspersons, students, bus drivers and conductors, auto drivers, Metro pilots, farmers, anganwadi workers, sanitation workers and social workers.

Announcing the decision Saturday, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia said, "It is a great victory for the people of Delhi, who made the Kejriwal model of governance and development triumphant. It is the victory of those who dream to make Delhi a world-class city and work tirelessly for it. These fifty people — Dilli ke Nirmata — will be seated with the Chief Minister on a special stage. Collaborating with them, the government will pursue development work and schemes in Delhi effectively in the next five years. We had a good five years; the next five years will be even better."

"Education was a major plank in the elections. Many teachers personally called and texted me that they wished to participate in the oath-taking ceremony. Beneficiary students

of the Jai Bhim Yojana, who are expected to contribute towards the development of Delhi in the future, too are invited. From the transport sector, representatives of bus marshals, who bravely prevented many instances of crime and atrocities against women, will be invited. Mobile sahayaks, who brought various government services to the doorstep of people, are also special guests," said Sisodia.

Among those who will share the stage with Kejriwal are:

Dr C S Verma, principal

Verma (48), who started as a teacher in 1996, is now the principal of Kautilya Government Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya in Chirag Delhi. On receiving the invitation, he said he took a few minutes to "settle down". A core member of the team behind the 'happiness curriculum', he was also among the teachers who visited Cambridge University as part of their training programme. He will attend the ceremony with his family.

Vijay Kumar, IIT student

An ex-student of Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya



Ramlila Maidan on the eve of Delhi CM-designate Arvind Kejriwal's oath-taking ceremony, Saturday. Praveen Khanna

Paschim Vihar, Kumar, who joined IIT-Delhi in 2019, is a beneficiary of Jai Bhim Mukhya Mantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana. "Last year, the government gave wings to my dream and I got admission into IIT. And this year, I have been given a chance to sit with the CM. I never imagined such a day would come," he said.



in Najafgarh, Singh (66) will be attending the ceremony with his wife. Recalling his first meeting with Kejriwal, he said: "When we were going through a rough patch, the CM helped us by giving a compensation of Rs 14,000 per acre to every farmer."

Geeta Devi, bus marshal

A resident of Rohini, Devi (37) had caught a pick-pocket from a bus and handed him over to police at Delhi Gate on October 23 last year. Commuting on route number 901 between Mangolpuri and Kamla Market, she said women feel much safer now with marshals on buses. "I feel that cases of eve-teasing have come down and people now think twice before misbehaving with women on a bus," she said.



Dr Alka Chaudhary, medical office in-charge at a mohalla clinic

Managing a mohalla clinic in Peera Garh for five years, she has been able to address issues such

as drug abuse, violence against women, immunisation, menstrual hygiene awareness and malnutrition. "I am proud to represent my community of mohalla clinic doctors, who have built a unique and innovative primary healthcare model that the world is talking about," she said.



Ratan Jamshed Batliboi, Signature Bridge architect

Born in Mumbai in 1957, Batliboi graduated from Sir JJ College of Architecture, Mumbai, and has been practicing architecture for 40 years. Apart from designing Delhi's Signature Bridge which connects Wazirabad with East Delhi, he has undertaken other crucial projects like architectural designing of railway stations and monorails in Navi Mumbai. He has also been associated with refurbishment of the Bandra-Worli sea-link project, Marine Drive promenade, and expansion of DMRC routes. When the Signature Bridge project began in 2004, he collaborated with Mike Schlaich

Bergermann to advise on structural construction to spearhead the construction process. "The CM's model of development has been commendable. He has stuck to his cause and has not been dissuaded or corrupted by the blaming disposition of other leaders and politicians," he said.

Gajraj Singh, bus conductor

Working in the field for 20 years, Singh is among the few conductors who can also drive the bus. Hailing from Uttar Pradesh, he recently helped a driver avert a road accident. On being invited to the ceremony, he said: "At first I thought it was a prank call. But the invitation was for me, and my family is honoured to sit there on the stage."

Nidhi Gupta, Metro pilot

Singh (38) still remembers how one time, as the Metro entered a station, a girl jumped in front of the line. "I had very less time to stop the train. I immediately pushed the break and managed to save her," she said. "I am very honoured to be a part of such a historic ceremony. I think the CM is empathetic towards children and women. I am also very proud to represent Metro pilots."



After return from China, 2 hospitalised

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

TWO PASSENGERS who travelled to China have been admitted to RML Hospital, a report by the Delhi health department stated. On Saturday, a total of 3,688 passengers were screened at Delhi airport for coronavirus.

Officials said 12 blood samples have been sent to labs for testing. The Delhi government has identified over 5,700 people who travelled to China between January 15 and February 13. Of these, 17 have been hospitalised so far and around 4,700 people have been quarantined at home.

At the ITBP quarantine facility in Chhawla, the final test reports are awaited. The final sample collection of all 406 people at

the facility was done by a team of doctors Friday. The final reports may be received by Sunday or Monday.

"Based on reports, a decision will be taken to discharge the travellers, if agreed to by the authorities, which is expected to be done in the next week, observing laid down protocols with due medical procedures as per directives of Health Ministry," said Vivek Pandey, spokesperson, ITBP.

A total of 406 people who came back from Wuhan, China, including seven persons from Maldives on February 1 and 2, are being looked after at Chhawla quarantine facility of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) by an expert team of doctors and medical professionals. There are seven children, including an infant, in the group.

Bodies of two children found inside open drain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

BODIES OF two children, who went missing in two separate incidents, were found in an open drain in North West Delhi's Jahangirpuri area on Friday evening.

A senior police officer said the first incident took place on February 8, when five-year-old Arshan Khan went missing while he was playing near his house. After an extensive search, his parents lodged an FIR of kidnapping. "After registering an FIR, police started checking with nearby police stations and began probing the case," an officer said. Arshan's family claimed they had checked the drain, but found nothing.

"On Friday afternoon, four-year-old Moina fell into the same drain while she was playing. Her mother, who was collecting garbage nearby, raised an alarm. The girl was pulled out by the locals from the four-feet open drain," a senior police officer said. She was taken to nearby hospital, where she was declared dead on arrival. On Saturday, police found Arshan's body in the same drain after suspecting that he might also have fallen inside. No FIR has been registered for negligence, as police are trying to ascertain the liability of the agency concerned.

The bodies have been handed over to the families after a post-mortem. Police suspect that both the children might have lost their balance while playing and slipped into the deep drain.



BACK TO WORK

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with Cabinet Ministers, who will be sworn in today at the Ramlila Maidan. At a dinner on Saturday, the roadmap for the development of the capital was discussed, especially initiatives over the next three months

Circular meant for teachers sparks row as BJP's Gupta writes to L-G

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

NEWLY ELECTED BJP MLA Vijender Gupta wrote a letter to L-G Anil Bajaj Saturday, requesting him to withdraw a circular that has made it "compulsory" for government school teachers to attend Sunday's ceremony where Arvind Kejriwal will take oath as Delhi chief minister.

Gupta, leader of Opposition in the previous Assembly, said the circular is "dictatorial" and has shattered his belief that Kejriwal's focus after coming back to power would be on governance and strengthening democratic ethos.



Gupta termed the move 'dictatorial'

Slamming Gupta's objection, the vice-chairman of Delhi Dialogue and Development Commission, Jasmine Shah, said teachers and principals were "architects" of Delhi's transformation in the past five years and they "deserved to be invited" for the swearing-in ceremony. "When did BJP last think of teachers at the centre of your 'vikas' (development) model? Never did, never will," Shah

tweeted. "By virtue of the order, 15,000 teachers and officials will have to attend the oath ceremony," Gupta wrote in his letter. The Directorate of Education issued a corrigendum later, in which it said that the communication was invitational in nature and no attendance would be taken. The AAP returned to power after winning 62 of 70 seats in the Delhi Assembly election. Kejriwal and his cabinet members will take oath in a grand ceremony at Ramlila Maidan Sunday. Gupta, who has been re-elected from Rohini constituency, said he would attend the event. Other MLAs are also likely to join.

2,000 personnel to keep watch on swearing-in

New Delhi: Around 2,000 personnel of Delhi Police and 25 companies of paramilitary forces have been deployed for the swearing-in ceremony of Arvind Kejriwal at Ramlila Maidan Sunday. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 10 am and traffic regulations will be in place in the area from 8 am to 2 pm.

Additional Commissioner of Police (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa said they have also deployed the traffic policemen. "We have made multi-level security arrangements and will monitor all routes leading to the venue through CCTV. Snipers are positioned at buildings to ensure security," he added. Drones are also likely to be used. ENS

Wanted criminal nabbed at IGI Airport

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GURGAON, FEBRUARY 15

A 35-YEAR-OLD 'most-wanted' criminal, Raju Basodi, was arrested by the Special Task Force of Haryana Police from Indira Gandhi International Airport Saturday morning, after immigration officials were alerted to a lookout circular issued for him.

Basodi, who hails from Sonapat, is wanted by police in Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi, and is believed to be linked to the "inter-state criminal gang" led by Lawrence Bishnoi. Police said the accused was hiding in Thailand, from where he was running his criminal activities. "We were alerted to his presence by immigration officials around 1.30 am last night, and formally arrested him around 7 am from the airport," said Sateesh Balan, Deputy Inspector General, STF. Basodi has a total of 29 cases registered against him, including 13 cases of murder, three of attempt to murder, and around a dozen accusing him of robbery and dacoity. Police said he ran an extortion gang that targeted people in Haryana, Chandigarh, Punjab and Delhi. Haryana Police had declared a combined reward of Rs 2.5 lakh for information for his arrest. While Sonapat Police and Jhajjar Police had declared rewards of Rs 1 lakh each, Rohtak Police had announced a reward of Rs 50,000.

"His gang would use social media platforms to intimidate their victims, and recently carried out the murder of their rivals at Malot in Punjab and Manimajra in Chandigarh in broad daylight," said Balan, adding that Basodi has been taken into police remand for further questioning.

STAGE DIPLOMACY

Shakespeare at Delhi theatre fest, starring UK's Dy High Commissioner

DIPANITA NATH NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

A NEW actor appeared on stage at the 21st Bharat Rang Mahotsav, the theatre festival organised by Delhi's National School of Drama on Thursday evening. UK Deputy High Commissioner to India Jan Thompson put aside her diplomatic schedule to turn into Queen Elizabeth, who lives

through the death of her husband and the murder of her young boys at the hands of a tyrant king, in William Shakespeare's *Richard III*. "I feel regal," she said after the show, dressed in the queen's costume of an elaborate gown and pearls.

Performed by the award-winning Prague Shakespeare Company, with whom Thompson acted when she was Ambassador to the Czech Republic till 2018, *Richard III* re-

volves around a man who is deformed in mind and body, and obsessed with becoming king of England. He murders his brothers, nephews and anybody else who stands in his way before the ghosts of the past and Henry of Richmond bring about his end.

"Everything that happens in the play, which portrays the politics of power, both personal and political, feels so relevant. In today's world, too, you have tyrants and people who abuse

power. Every different audience and generation could get something from this play," she says.

"The play also has strong messages to the society about the treatment of women... It is very close to my heart for that reason," said Thompson. "I am a strong woman but have had a lot of difficult situations to contend with in my life, but then so have so many women. Queen Elizabeth is indomitable and, in the end, triumphs by being on



the winning team." Elizabeth, she adds, is a bit of a diplomat as well. "She manages to keep her real feelings to herself and masks her true feelings a lot. Diplomats sometimes have to keep up fronts. They have to be careful about the words they

UK Deputy High Commissioner to India Jan Thompson as Queen Elizabeth in the play

choose and the emotions and feelings they express," she says. Theatre came to Thompson late in life. She was in her late twenties-early thirties, long after her diplomatic career began, when she began performing in Germany. "It is very important to have theatre as a counterpart to my working life. This artistic and creative side of me is something fabulous," she says. After a packed house gave the play a standing ovation, peo-

ple crowded around Thompson and the rest of the cast. The play has been performed in Prague before, but there were almost no rehearsals before the show in Delhi. "It is a wonderful opportunity to be on stage in India. I never thought I would do that. I really hope I have another opportunity to act in theatre in this country," says Thompson, who was honoured with an OBE for her diplomatic work in Afghanistan some years ago.

Give Kanhaiya security, arrest culprits: CPI's Raja writes to Nitish

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

WITH THE cavalcade of CPI leader Kanhaiya Kumar coming under attack once again in Bihar on Friday, CPI general secretary D Raja on Saturday wrote to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and urged him to provide adequate security to Kanhaiya and his ongoing state-wide tour and take action against the culprits.



D Raja, Kanhaiya Kumar

"The CAA is discriminatory against one particular minority community and is violative of the basic tenet of our Constitution on citizenship. The people of our country, irrespective of religions, regional, linguistic and caste affiliations, are agitating and protesting from North to South, East to West and North-East to North-West of the country."

"The people have genuine concerns and worries. The CAA is not just against Muslims. Of course it is against Muslims, but it is against all the poorer sections and socially discriminated sections of our society," Raja stated in his letter to Nitish.

CM ORDERS PROBE 4 children killed as school van catches fire in Punjab

RAAKHI JAGGA LUDHIANA, FEBRUARY 15

FOUR CHILDREN were burnt alive when a private school's mini van carrying students caught fire in Punjab's Sangrur district on Saturday, police said. The youngest victim was a three-and-a-half-year-old girl — for whom it was the first day at the school — and the oldest five-and-a-half-year-old. All of them were from an extended family.



Twelve children were in the van at the time of the incident, in Sangrur district, Punjab, on Saturday. Harmet Sodhi

The accident took place on Sidh Samadha road of Longowal area in the district, just 200 metres from the school, at about 2pm when the students were returning home, they said.

There were 12 children in the van, a very old condemned vehicle that the school administration had bought on Friday. The vehicle was on its first run ferrying students and was being driven by a kindergarten teacher, identified

as Dalbir Singh, officials said, adding the driver fled from the spot leaving the children trapped inside the burning vehicle.

While eight children were taken out safely by people working in nearby fields, four were charred to death. Punjab Chief

Minister Captain Amarinder Singh ordered a magisterial enquiry. "DC and SSP Sangrur are on the spot and I have ordered a magisterial enquiry. Guilty will be strictly punished," he tweeted. Sangrur Deputy Commissioner Ghanshyam Thori,

who visited the spot, said that police have registered a case under Section 304 of the IPC (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) against owner-cum-principal Lakhwinder Singh of Simran Public School and driver Dalbir Singh. "Preliminary inquiry indicates that the van was in condemned condition and was being run illegally, as per a report of the District Transport Officer (DTO). It was without relevant documents. If the DTO or any official of his office is found guilty, he will be chargesheeted," he said.

He said the school had recently shifted to a new building on the outskirts of the Longowal village. "The school has a temporary affiliation with the Punjab School Education Board. The affiliation of the school may be cancelled following an enquiry," the DC said. Later, Sangrur SSP Dr Sandeep Garg said that the school principal and the driver have been arrested.

UP varsity student found unconscious in a sack; IG denies abduction, gangrape

AMIT SHARMA MEERUT, FEBRUARY 15

A 20-YEAR-OLD student of a government university in Meerut was allegedly abducted, assaulted and gangraped by four persons in a village in Bulandshahr district of UP on Thursday evening. The woman from Hapur district was reportedly found unconscious in a sack inside the residence of an accused, who was an acquaintance of the victim, after police traced her location through her mobile phone that was found switched off in the house in Bulandshahr district.

While Hapur SP Sanjiv Suman said the police are yet to record the victim's statement considering her condition and that the police can only comment on the issue after probe, Meerut IG Praveen Kumar ruled out abduction and gangrape, claiming that the woman was on a bike with a classmate when they met with an accident on her way home. The IG's remarks triggered protest by students.

The victim was admitted to a hospital in Meerut on Friday in a serious condition and an FIR of abduction and rape was lodged on the basis of a complaint by the victim's father.

"During investigation, it was found that the girl went with her classmate on her own. Both are adults. She got injured after falling down from the bike, rape

has not been confirmed in the medical report. This is not a case of kidnapping or gang rape," tweeted IG Kumar.

SP Suman said, "An FIR has been lodged on the basis of a complaint by her father under IPC Sections 376 D (voluntary causing hurt), 365 (kidnapping with intent secretly and wrongfully to confine person) and 342 (punishment for wrongful confinement). We cannot say anything on the issue unless our investigation is complete."

On Saturday afternoon, nearly 200 students from the university took out a protest march in Meerut and blocked traffic for nearly two hours outside the IG's office near the police lines. They also handed over a memorandum to the IG demanding immediate arrest of the culprits, security to the victim's family members and medical care for the student in a private hospital.

"We are not ready to accept the police theory... Even if we agree for once that the victim had gone with her classmate, how was she found by the police in an unconscious state in a sack in his house?" a classmate of the victim said outside the IG's office.

"The girl is being treated at the ICU. She seems frightened... Her body has serious injury marks all over. The family members... are satisfied with the treatment so far," said the medical officer of the hospital in Meerut.

STUDENTS MADE TO 'STRIP' Bhuj college: Cops record statement

U.प्र. पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि. ई-निविदा निरस्तकरण सूचना अपरिहार्य कारणों से इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा संख्या टी-39/2019-20 को निरस्त किया जाता है। हस्ता./मुख्य अभियन्ता (पारोषण पश्चिम) 130-डी, पारोषण भवन, विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ

Rajkot: A day after police booked four people, including the principal of Shree Sahjananda Girls Institute, Bhuj, for allegedly forcing students to strip to "prove" they were not menstruating, statements of 43 students of the institute and a few other witnesses were recorded on Saturday.

CM Vijay Rupani said that the government had taken very serious note of the incident and ordered strict action. "The treatment meted out to the daughters in Bhuj by the teachers of the college with respect to their menstruation period is unacceptable and criminal," Rupani said.

Police, however, said that nobody was detained or arrested till Saturday evening. "We are gathering evidence against the accused before making arrests," said a police officer.

पारोषण वलवण वदरण निमम लि. विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ. इति विस्तार सूचना इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित की गयी अत्यकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 11, 13 व 14/वि0 कार्यशाला ख0/मेरठ/2019-20, जो दिनांक 15.02.2020 को खोली जानी प्रस्तावित थी, की तिथि को अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिनांक 20.02.2020 तक विस्तारित की जाता है। अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें अपरिवर्तनीय रहेंगी। पत्रांक 143 दिनांक 15.02.2020 अधिसूचि अभियन्ता, सिविल प्रकृतिसंश्लष खम्भ, मीडिक्विडिनि, मेरठ

REGISTRATION OF TENDERS FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINES AND CONSUMABLES FOR MH ROORKEE FOR THE FY 2020-21. 1. Reiter advertisement on subject on same newspaper dt 16 Jan 2020. 2. The date of collection of application forms of subject is hereby extended till 20 Feb 2020, rest no change. (Commandant) MH Roorkee

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES. E-TENDER NOTICE. On line offers are invited with fresh specification through e-tender from Manufacturer / Direct Importers / Authorized distributors for the supply of Liquid Chromatography Tandem - Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS). The offers submitted earlier for the Liquid Chromatography Tandem - Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS) by the bidders against Re-Tendered advertisement No. RML/MS/MS/eq/2019-20/5315 dated 21.01.2020 will be treated as cancelled. Therefore, those who have already submitted their offer against above advertisement are also required to submit again and they are required to deposit tender fee and EMD fresh and enclose its proof in technical bid as per tender terms & conditions, along with their complete offer. Earlier EMD deposited against the above mentioned cancelled tenders will be refunded to the bidder on their request.

MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI. M-300/MCF/ISO/Gen/013. Date 14.02.2020. Open e-tender based on single packet system Tender Notice No. - M-300/MCF/ISO/Gen/013. Dt. 14.02.2020 is invited by DVCME/IT&TC on Indian Railways portal www.reps.gov.in for and on behalf of president of India for the following work: Design & Development of ISO Management Software to Management of all activities for all ISO standards with 01 year AMC support as per scope of work at Modern Coach Factory, Rae Bareilly (U.P.)-229120.

राष्ट्रीय डिजाइन संस्थान. National Institute of Design. An autonomous institution under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India. Acharya, Erit Khedi, Post Arwalia, Bhopal MP 462038.

Tender ID No. NIDMP/IT/01/2020. Date 15.02.2020. National Institute of Design, Madhya Pradesh invites e-tender for following: E-TENDER NOTICE. Tender Title: EMD Cost: 2,05,000/-; Published CPPP/Website: 14.02.2020; Pre-bid Meeting Date: 18.02.2020; Closing Date: 29.02.2020. Tender for Supply and Installation of IT Equipment. Detailed terms & conditions can be viewed on website: www.nidmp.ac.in and CPP Portal www.eprocure.gov.in. Registrar.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, DEHRADUN. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Financial Services. 2nd Floor, Paras Tower, Mazra, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun, UK-248171. BEFORE THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I, DRT, DEHRADUN. NOTICE OF DEMAND & APPEARANCE. (NOTICE UNDER RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT 1961 READ WITH SECTION 25 to 29 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993). T.R.C. No. 481/2018 (Old DRC No. 285/2016 of DRT, Lucknow). P.No. 617. Date: 22.01.2020. Punjab National Bank V/s M/s Mahaveer Industries & Anr. Gurudwara Road, Jwalapur, Haridwar To. CD.1: M/s Mahaveer Industries Through its Proprietor Shri Mukesh Kumar, F-1/2, Industrial Area, Haridwar. CD.2: Shri Mukesh Kumar (Proprietor) Son of Shri Suresh Chand R/o, F-1/2, Industrial Area, Haridwar. 2nd Address at: House No. 411 Mohalla Tagan, Tehsil and District Mujaffarnagar (Uttar Pradesh). Certificate Debtors. Take notice that in view of Recovery Certificate issued O.A.No. 524/2013 passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT, Lucknow, an amount of Rs. 1,05,20,836/- (Rupees One Crore Five Lacs Twenty Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Six only) along with pending estate and future interest @12% per annum from the date of filing of the original application i.e., 11.11.2013 till the loan is fully liquidated and costs succeeds and is hereby allowed against defendant Nos. 1 to 2 jointly and severally. The above RC has been transferred to DRT, Dehradun and renumbered as TRC No. 481/2018. You are hereby called upon to deposit the above sum within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules. In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay: a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the execution proceedings; b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due. You are directed to appear before the undersigned, DRT, Dehradun on 20.03.2020 at 11.00 a.m. for further proceedings in the matter. In case of non appearance the proceeding will be heard and decided Ex. Parte. Given under my hand and seal on this 22 of January, 2020. Recovery Officer - I (Additional Charge of RO-II) DRT, Dehradun

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH. Tender Notice No. P(EP)/19-20/15. Sealed Tenders are invited from the Manufacturers or their Sole Authorized Distributors/ Agents on the prescribed form for purchase of various items against Tender No. 1-17 The Manufacturers and their Authorized Dealers / Distributors can offer their minimum rates as per terms & conditions contained in the Tender Form.

Government of Odisha, Department of Water Resources, OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER BOLANGIR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BOLANGIR. e-mail-sbebalangir@gmail.com. Phone No. - 06652-250483. e-Procurement Notice No. SEBOIC 03 of 2019-20. BID IDENTIFICATION NO. - SEBOIC BID 03 of 2019-20. No. / Dated. The Superintending Engineer, Bolangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir on behalf of His Excellency, the Governor of Odisha invites online Percentage rate tenders in double cover system to be received in online mode only for the works as detailed below.

National Health Mission Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society Health & FW Department, Odisha. Department of Health & FW, Govt. of Odisha. Annex Building of SIH & FW, Nayapalli, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar-751012. Advt. No: 05/20. Date: 15/02/2020. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Operation & Management of Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) in partnership mode under NHM. Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society Invites application from credible entities registered under Society Registration Act/ Indian Trust Act/ Company Act/ Institutions like Medical Colleges/Hospitals run under Govt./ Public Sector/ Pvt. Sector for operation & management of 02 Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHC) located in urban areas of Rourkela in partnership mode. The list & locations of the UPHCs to be managed is available in the RFP document.

Office of The Executive Engineer Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department. e-Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB). The Executive Engineer HPPWD Kotkhal Distt Shimla H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the Online Bids on Item Rate, in Electronic Tendering System, from the Eligible Class of Contractors/Firms Registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the Table.

Varanasi Smart City Limited (VSCL) Municipal Corporation, Sgra, Varanasi, U.P. 221010 Tele: 05422221711, Fax : 05422221702, Web Site : www.smartcityvaranasi.in. Ref No: 504/VSCL/19-20 Dated : 14/02/2020. Re-Tender Notice. 1. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the projects/works mentioned below, with respect to NIT No.: 14/VSCL/TENDER/2019-20, Dated: 07/01/2020 (Tender ID: 2020_NNVAR_421448_2) is hereby re-tendered due to non-receiving of sufficient number of bids for further course of action. The pre-bid response and all the corrigenda issued earlier w.r.t this tender shall be the part of RFP Document.

National Health Mission Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society Health & FW Department, Odisha. Department of Health & FW, Govt. of Odisha. Annex Building of SIHFW, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar-751012. Proposal(s) complete in all respect should reach the District(s) by Speed Post or Registered Post or Courier only on or before 11/03/2020. The pre bid meeting of the bidders will be held on 20/02/2020, Venue: Mission Directorate, NHM, Annex Building of SIHFW, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar - 751012. The proposal(s) shall be opened in the concerned district on the date and time mentioned in the RFP. Name of the UPHC and the RFP reference no. must be super scribed on the sealed envelope. Incomplete applications/applications received in an open envelop/applications received after the due date/from the blacklisted NGOs/ Trusts will be summarily rejected. The authority reserves the right for cancellation/ modification of guidelines for selection without assigning any reason thereof. No personal inquiry shall be entertained.

10 IDEA EXCHANGE

NEWSMAKERS IN THE NEWSROOM

Each of us has our views about China, but the bottom line is we want it to be a constructive player in the region. Also, not just China, but if any country crosses a line or oversteps, we want to be able to say so”



WHY HARINDER SIDHU

Outgoing Australian High Commissioner Harinder Sidhu has been at the centre of the transformation of India-Australia ties in the past four years. Her stint was marked by the revival of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (a strategic dialogue involving the two countries, besides USA and Japan) and the visit of President Ram

Nath Kovind to Australia, the first-ever by an Indian President to that country. The envoy, who is of Indian descent, was witness to some major developments during her stint in India — demonetisation, the Balakot strikes, abrogation of Article 370 and, more recently, the passing of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act



“Kashmir is a bilateral issue... We have credibility in contributing to global peace as we don't go in and take sides. We do that on invitation of countries... You can't solve a problem if someone doesn't want it solved

SHUBHAJIT ROY: One of the big achievements during your stint was the revival of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad). How did it come about?

I think it's fair to say that the first round of Quad (an informal strategic dialogue among the United States, India, Japan, and Australia) in 2007 was a bit of an unusual beast. We didn't really do very much in small groups — what we call mini-laterals in diplomacy. By 2017, we were in a very different strategic environment. Not only were we well on the road to articulating what we mean when we say 'Indo-Pacific', but already by that stage tri-laterals and small groupings were quite well established. Also, Australia, India and Japan had a tri-lateral that was underway, we were working in two-plus-two formats. So by 2017 it was a natural evolution to accord to a Quad format because the four partners have tri-lateral formations anyway. There is a clear convergence of strategic outlook... I think India went through the same process as Australia and we all came together in November 2017 as you know.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: So is there a realisation that China is a threat, is it the elephant in the room when negotiators or the ministers sit together for discussions?

Quad is a strategic grouping of like-minded countries. The conversations are about humanitarian, disaster relief, counter-terrorism and cyber issues... I think there is a sense that we have an environment where economic power is shifting to the Indo-Pacific, and it's not just China, it's many other countries — Vietnam is growing, Bangladesh, India obviously. This creates a strategic flux... I think each of us have our views about China, but the bottom line is that we want China to be a constructive player in the region, and we want to work constructively with China. Also, not just China, but when any country crosses a line or oversteps a mark, we want to be able to say so as well.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: Your Prime Minister was expected to visit India in January, but the trip was cancelled because of the bushfires in Australia. When the visit eventually happens, what are some of the key areas that the two countries are expected to look into?

Visits by prime ministers tend to be great magnets for bringing together a lot of work... In that sense, yes, of course, we have been talking about a logistics agreement for quite some time now. I believe that is one of the things that will really solidify the relationship. Last year, in the defence space, we brought our largest ever deployment for a bilateral naval exercise. India participated in a number of exercises in Australia, and a logistics support agreement just really simplifies all of that. So, certainly, it is my hope that we will be able to conclude that in time but I can't predict how these things go. We have been working with India in the strategic space as well as on cyber cooperation, counter-terrorism, human trafficking.

LIZ MATHEW: What is your assessment of developments in India in the last four years?

I would say that it's very dangerous waters for a foreign envoy to wade into, to talk about the internal dynamics of a country, but I remain an optimist on India. I believe that Indian democracy is actually very energetic, very alive. India's greatest strength is the strength of its democracy and its pluralist society. I think that is what gives this country a great deal of its dynamism. The fact that there is so much debate about government policy or legislation, I think it's a good thing, a healthy thing, and that's something I would encourage India to continue to support and evolve.

LIZ MATHEW: You once said that great democracies always allow for uncomfortable debates. Do you see that happening in India?

I think there is a very strong debate going on on issues that some people find uncomfortable. If that is the test, then I think India is doing very well.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: Do protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, the abrogation of Article 370 in J&K and the Internet shutdown in the state, make it difficult for the Australian government and firms to do business with India?

Our starting point as the Australian government is to respect the sovereignty of every country. In fact, a core element of the way we see the Indo-Pacific idea (is a space) where sovereign countries can behave in a sovereign fashion. We don't like being lectured by other people, and so we are not

'India's strength is democracy, pluralism... Debate on govt policy good, India should continue to support it'

Australian High Commissioner Harinder Sidhu hopes India will revert decision to reject RCEP, warns against economies turning inwards, believes climate change role in bushfires bears examination, and admits that her Indian origins, especially Bollywood love, helped her



Australian High Commissioner to India Harinder Sidhu with Associate Editor Shubhajit Roy in *The Indian Express* newsroom. Abhinav Saha

inclined to lecture others ourselves. Every businessman or every person will make their own own judgment about how they feel about engaging with India. I think there are two things that give India a lot of weight and credibility in the region, including in Australia, and those things are the strength of its economy and the strength of its democracy. To the extent that those strengths remain, India will continue to be an important partner in the region.

SANDEEP SINGH: The Australian government is willing to go ahead with Gautam Adani's coal mine project despite protests. How would you justify your decision in the face of criticism from environment groups?

I think that there is a mixing of a few issues, if I may say so. The Adani mine is a very significant investment. We are a country that welcomes investment. It's a commercial decision made by the Adani Group to invest in Australia, which has been welcomed both at the central and state government level because it generates jobs and improves the economy of that region. I won't deny that it has been subject to some controversy in Australia. Climate change is a live and sharp debate in Australia. It is not for me to justify or not justify it... But I can justify it in terms of the Australian government continuing to support the investment when it is sound and commercially based. For us to do otherwise would introduce a level of sovereign risk into investment which, frankly, would not be welcome by other investors in the country.

SANDEEP SINGH: What is your view on India's decision to opt out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)?

I think it is fair to say that Australia and the other RCEP members were disappointed with India's announcement at the East Asia Summit last year. Our immediate reaction and the reaction of our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, was to say that the door is wide open for India to rejoin and that remains our priority. We genuinely hope that India will rejoin the RCEP. The issues and concerns that India has are something we should continue to address and seek to negotiate... We recognise that this has not been an easy road for India to go on. India has, in some sense, been catching up with the other countries in the region, but we really credit the Indian system for having invested the time and effort in engaging with the RCEP right up to that point... (The RCEP) is actually about regional economic integration. It is about bringing the big players of the Indo-Pacific together, economically and not just strategically. India adds weight, it brings balance to the RCEP equa-

tion. And, equally, what the RCEP offers India is accelerated access to 15 of the most dynamic economies in the world. There would be benefits to India as well by joining the RCEP in terms of its ability to access those economies and strengthen its economy in the process... India's government has said that it will keep the door a little bit ajar and consider it, and whenever India is ready, I think we are quite happy to work with India and welcome it back.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: Did you see a high level of interest by the political leadership in India in the Adani investment?

This was always seen by both countries as a commercial investment made by a private company in Australia. The government interaction on the Australian side related to regulatory approvals, as it is when Australians invest in India. So the engagement was only in that context.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: The Indian economy has not been performing very well. Has it had any impact on Australia's engagement with India?

...Our understanding is that the economies go up and down in cycles. The trick is to always look at the trend line... Even if you look at the IMF's (International Monetary Fund) latest outlook, the trend line for India still remains strongly positive. That is because the economic fundamentals in India are sound. That said, what will effect the speed and the shape of that trend line will be specific policy decisions that are made, or specific events that might occur, so those are the things that we watch... India, I think, has an opportunity to really shape its economy, to reform it, and in the future get an economy that is strong and resilient. It is good to see that the government has taken strong steps in this respect. Ease of doing business is a real thing. There

is progress, there is scope, and it has actually come a long way. We are seeing more interest by Australian businesses in India.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: We have seen many countries send Indian-origin diplomats to India. In terms of diplomacy, has it helped you?

It has been a help. I don't think it is very easy to define why it has been so useful. At some level, an ability to interpret both sides, both perspectives, is a bit easier if you understand the culture deeply. (But) there may be ambassadors of Indian origin who may not do that so well. I think it also goes down to core diplomatic skills, the ability to look at the country, to look at events, through the eyes of the people of the country. It's certainly a lot easier if you have the language, you are addicted to Bollywood movies as I am... Of all the places that I have been to, I have found (India) to be a very comfortable place to work in. That would have had something to do with my origins.

KARISHMA MEHROTRA: Australia's decision to ban Chinese smartphone maker Huawei from providing 5G technology for the country's wireless networks split the developed world. How did you decide on it?

It was a technical assessment that we made about how to secure our 5G network. We were the first country to really take up this question because our telecommunication companies asked us to have a look at it. So we undertook a technical assessment and formed a view that, to be able to secure our 5G network, we needed to ensure that all the vendors were distant from any government or any other power. That's not aimed at Huawei or any other company in particular. It's a judgment about the distance between commercial provision of an equipment or whatever and the ability of another gov-

ernment or power to interfere. So we made that judgment entirely on technical grounds. We made it in the context of our own sovereign concerns.

KARISHMA MEHROTRA: What would your response be to the criticism that there is not enough political will from your country to fight climate change, especially in light of the bushfires which could be a consequence of it?

The bushfires have been quite unprecedented in our country this year, and our government has worked very hard to respond. We are very sure that the recovery will happen very swiftly. Our Prime Minister has been very open in saying that definitely climate change is a factor in these fires. It is something I think that bears more examination. Despite all the noise and controversy around climate change in Australia, it has always been a very controversial topic. The fact is that since 2006-07, every government in Australia, of every political colour, has had a climate change policy and emissions reduction policy in place, as does the current government. So it is something I am sure will be considered down the track as we review these issues. But be in no doubt that we are very conscious of the climate aspect to these bushfires as well.

SANDEEP SINGH: You spoke about how opening up of the economy has helped both India and Australia. But we are increasingly moving towards a scenario where many countries are turning inwards, tariffs are being imposed. How do you see this impacting global trade and growth?

The backbone of Australia's success has been the liberalisation of our economy... In the past when the world did go down the path of raising tariff walls, it led to slower growth globally anyway. This isn't just an ideological position, it is objectively something that makes a lot of sense.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: Was Australia invited to be part of the tour of foreign envoys to Kashmir?

I think every ambassador made a choice about going on that tour. I don't want to comment about that.

MUZAMIL JALEEL: Australia supported the grey-listing of Pakistan by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Also, your relationship with India is much stronger than it is with Pakistan, and if India was talking envoys to Kashmir, Australia would be invited...

I wouldn't draw that link. We have always been of the view that Kashmir is a bilateral issue for India and Pakistan to re-

solve... The FATF is a technical group, and they make technical judgments about whether a country is meeting the requirements or not. We have landed on a technical judgment that the grey-listing continues to be justified. I think October was the last meeting. So we are now in the process of discussing if there has been any progress made by Pakistan towards meeting some of those requirements.

RAVISH TIWARI: Why has Australia not taken a position on J&K or the CAA?

...We have credibility in contributing to global peace and security because we are not seen as a country that goes in and takes one side or the other. We do that at the invitation of countries... That is a very important part of the puzzle — you can't solve a problem if someone doesn't want a problem solved.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: There were many people from Australia who joined the ISIS. Has Australia managed to find the motivation behind it?

Since 2001, since 9/11, it has certainly been on our radar, this whole question about political Islam and radicalisation. Australia has been very concerned about the number of people who went from the country to the Middle East to fight with the ISIS. We have worked very hard to counter radicalisation, and large part of that was working with the Islamic communities in Australia. But one thing that we have been learning as we have gone along is that it's actually impossible to predict the path that leads someone to radicalisation. We know that working with the communities has been helpful. We know that watching social media behaviour can also be helpful, but not perfect... India has a very small number of such people, and we look at that with admiration. We are trying to understand what it is that is different in India to what has happened in Australia, to try to see if there are things that we can learn from India.

SHUBHAJIT ROY: In your four years in India, what do you count among your biggest achievements, and has there been a low point?

It's very difficult for me to point to one single achievement but I would say the overall step change in the relationship has been the big achievement... My achievements have been not just about India, but also in Australia. Australia has also begun to take India very seriously as a partner. And the fact that it has been mutual, has been a phenomenal achievement.

For me, the RCEP has been a disappointment. I maintain hope that India will reconsider.



“The Adani mine is a very significant investment. We welcome investment. It's a commercial decision made by Adani Group to invest in Australia, which has been welcomed both at central and state level because it generates jobs



Illustration: Mithun Chakraborty

‘Will they take me away?’

As the narrative moves on to CAA and a possible nation-wide NRC, the Assam list hangs in a limbo. So does the fate of children out of it. The Centre has assured the Supreme Court, Parliament that such children, whose parents are on the list, won't be taken to detention centres. But that hasn't lessened their dread, of being sent away to "a place called Bangladesh". TORA AGARWALA reports

GAARI, GAAS gujali, fuler bagan (Cars, trees and flower gardens)!" says Fatima, 12, her face lighting up at the memory. That morning, more than a year ago, her 15-member family hired three autos for a trip to Boitamari. It was Fatima's first time outside her village. The furthest she had ever ventured was her school, a 3-km walk from the family's small thatched house in Borpara village, in Assam's Bongaigaon district. Sitting by her side was her niece, neighbour and best friend, Narzina, and they watched paddy fields fly past the window over a 30-km journey that took nearly two hours.

The evening before, the girls had been told by their elders to answer every question clearly. "What if they catch you there itself? Don't make mistakes," they were warned.

Narzina and Fatima giggle at "the great time" they had at the National Register of Citizens (NRC) hearing. The grim purpose of their visit — to prove Narzina is Indian — hasn't registered, though the 10-year-old is acutely aware of the value of the plastic folder holding her "nothi potro (documents)".

On January 6, Attorney General of India K K Venugopal assured the Supreme Court that children excluded from the Assam NRC will not be sent to detention centres for now if their parents feature in the list.

This month, answering a question in the Lok Sabha on the status of such children, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai said they would "not be separated from their parents and sent to detention centres pending decision of their application". Rai also mentioned that the Supreme Court had directed the government to file a reply. "The next date of the hearing is not fixed," he said.

To Narzina's parents, such assurances mean little. The final draft of the Assam NRC came out more than a year and a half ago, and included Narzina's parents, grandparents, but not her and her younger brother, 7. The family attended four hearings in four different towns. At each, officials assured them "it will be okay" — rules say parents who are in the NRC need to only give "oral/written" testimonies for children under 14. But Narzina or her brother didn't figure in the final NRC list, published on August 31, 2019.

Narzina's mother recalls that night of August, Narzina waking her up. "Will they take me away?" she sobbed. Her mother, who is in her mid-20s, says she did not know what to say. "I just hugged her and we slept."

Nearly five months later, the narrative has moved on to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and a possible nation-wide NRC, even as the fate of the Assam list lies tangled in politics.

In Borpara too, the NRC has been pushed away into an uneasy corner. The village is one

of 146 in Boitamari Revenue Circle, 70 per cent of whose population is minority. Borpara's 150 households are equally divided between Muslim and Hindu families, with the Muslims mostly Bengali-speakers, the group most vulnerable to the NRC exercise.

"Most people in our village are in, but those out worry," says Ahmed Toweb, 29, an engineering graduate who is out of the NRC too. The NRC Seva Kendra in Chalantapara (2.5 km away) has been shut since August 31, Tawab adds. "No one from our village has been sent to detention but 5 km away, in Jogighopa and Kochudola, there are several."

For Narzina and the others, this means no end to the uncertainty. Any day could bring them rejection slips, making their exclusion official, followed by summons to the overburdened Foreigners' Tribunals (FTs), and maybe even detention camps.

The NGO Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), whose petition led to the government assurance in the Supreme Court, listed 61 cases of children across Assam who were out of the NRC even as their parents had made it. There are no confirmed figures regarding how many of the 19 lakh out of the NRC are children. As per an Assembly Question Hour reply, at least one minor, 45-day-old Nazrul Islam, died while in detention (his mother was later held to not be a foreigner).

Assam Chief Secretary Kumar Sanjay Krishna directed all queries on the matter to NRC State Coordinator Hitesh Dev Sarma. Sarma said he had given his response on the CJP petition to both the Central and state governments. "At this point, all I can say is this," Sarma also claimed that they were in "the final stages" of readying the rejection slips and would issue them soon.

Narzina's father shrugs when told of the Centre's promise to the Supreme Court. "Every day someone says something new. I am uneducated, I do not understand this," he says.

Narzina and Fatima go to government-run lower primary schools nearby and, later in the afternoon, to a madrasa for Arabic lessons. After that, their days are free, to play *doura dori* (catch) or *utha boha* (sit-ups).

It is here that Narzina says she is often reminded of the NRC. An elder child may tease, "You and your brother are out. *Uthai loi jaabo* (They will pick you up)."

Fatima says often Narzina bursts into tears and runs back home. "What if they really do take her away to that place?" she asks.

For the two, "that place" is Bangladesh — wherever that may be. "We have not learned about it in school," explains Fatima.

Across the field, Khadija, 10, is the only member of her family out of the NRC. Last July, when she accompanied her family to a hearing at Jogighopa, 30 km away, the officer asked her her father's name. She replied confidently. Two more hearings followed, in Abhayapuri (Bongaigaon district) and

EXPLAINED

E.

NRC in play: Rules vs reality

UNDER THE rules, parents who are in the NRC need to only give "oral/written" testimonies for children under 14. In reality, an unspecified number — a case in the Supreme Court says 61 — children find themselves out of the NRC.

Amidst conflicting voices on the list, as well as talk of a new survey for Assam's ethnic Muslims now, they and their parents say they don't know whom to believe.

Baghbar (Barpeta district). But while all the others in the 15-member-family are in the NRC, Khadija isn't.

Having just returned from school, the Class 5 girl rattles off all she does there. "We go at 8.30 am, we pray, we sing the National Anthem, we study and we come back home," she smiles.

"Khadija is very smart," says her proud father, a daily wage labourer and father of two, including a six-year-old son. The 30-year-old suspects that though they have not told her, "from our behaviour, Khadija has guessed something is wrong".

Now, as he talks about a hearing they attended last year, Khadija suddenly bursts into tears. "They won't take you away, don't cry," he consoles her, putting her in his lap.

Khadija wipes her face with the hem of her red frock, and refuses to speak further.

In a town called Bijni in Chirang district, 55 km away, a 14-year-old is dealing with his and his 10-year-old brother's exclusion from the NRC by keeping it a secret at school. "They might tease us, say something bad," says the teenager. The other members of his Hindu family, including his married sister and parents, are in the list.

So far, the plan has worked. At school, they discuss books, cars, music, even the news, but rarely topics like the NRC. Once back, the teenager mostly stays in, painting.

When the list came out, the 14-year-old asked his father a number of questions — "Why is my name not in it? What happens now? What benefits come to those included?", etc. His father, who works in a nursing home in Siliguri, tried to patiently answer. "I said he was 'Indian' by birth and nothing could happen to him," says the 43-year-old.

While the CAA, which makes citizenship

process easier for Hindus, could help his sons, the father admits that doesn't make his wait less taxing. "How does the CAA work in a secular country like India?" he asks. "And moreover, for my sons, all this has no meaning. All they understand is that they are out of the list while everyone else they know is in."

One of the important documents during the Assam NRC updation exercise was birth certificate, especially in the case of those under 18 who had not gone to school. According to the National Family Health Survey, while one in four children under age 5 in India (166 million) continue to not be registered at birth, Assam has seen an upsurge in numbers.

Still, in many cases, including Khadija's, the document proved inadequate in proving a child's lineage to his/her parents.

"In many cases, families submitted a 'delayed' certificate — not made within 90 days of birth. Many of these were rejected," says Guwahati-based activist Abdul Kalam Azad.

For example, Ashrab, a Baksa district-based pharmacist. "When my son was born in 2006, we only picked up a receipt and not the birth certificate. In 2015, when the NRC started, we went to get it, but there was a huge crowd, almost like a stampede. We finally managed to get it in 2018. We submitted that, but still he is out," says Ashrab.

His son, a Class 6 student who wants to become an engineer, realises this, often worrying too that he will be "taken away".

Guwahati-based counselling psychologist Dr Sangeeta Goswami warns of the trauma facing children when it comes to the NRC. "It creates insecurity, of what is going to happen, of being separated from parents." There should be adolescent health care centres at block and district levels manned by trained professionals to deal with such cases, she adds. "But that is not happening."

Lawyer Aman Wadud says the NRC limbo has made matters worse. "The Home Ministry order states that no one — adult or child — will be sent to detention just because they have been excluded from the NRC... Unless the Court specifically says no child will be sent to the FT, it means nothing," he argues.

Azad talks of the reverse too, of children being left on their own with parents in detention centres. "In one case, a girl in Class 10 had to give up studies to take care of her three younger siblings, who also ended up dropping out of school."

Some take to begging or become daily workers at brick kilns to support themselves. "An entire generation has been destroyed," says Azad.

"Before the NRC execution started, the state should have taken into consideration the children. Has it made special provisions for children going to an FT? Have they made child-friendly courts? Are the judges sensitised or trained in dealing with children?"

asks Miguel Das Queah, a child rights activist based in Guwahati. "It is complete callousness on the part of the state. You go to hearings after hearings... you miss school."

Dr Sunita Changkakoti, Chairperson of the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, says they have not received any complaint with regard to children and the NRC so far. "If there are cases like this, and this comes to our notice, we will definitely take over and try to do something about it," she says.

In Morigaon district's Bhurbhanda village, Shoriful, 7, lost his mother a few months after the draft NRC list was published in July 2018. His father, a daily wager, insists his wife died because of "NRC tension", after their son's name did not figure in the draft. Shoriful has stopped attending school, and barely talks to anyone. "He was always a quiet child but now he has become *paagal* (mentally ill)," says the father, as he urges Shoriful, who is clinging to him, to tell his name.

Last year, he took Shoriful to a doctor in Morigaon, he adds. The doctor said the seven-year-old would become "alright" once he grows up.

"Isn't Bangladesh a country like ours? With people like ours?" asks Faruna of Goromari village in the district. The daughter of a farmer, the 15-year-old wants to become a teacher when she grows up. A few months ago, when her name was dropped from the final NRC, a neighbour told her, "You are a Bangaldeshi, they will take you away to Kokrajhar Jail."

For three days straight, Faruna says she wept, refusing to eat or talk. Several months later, attending an NRC awareness drive at the Nagabhandagaon panchayat, the burqa-clad Faruna is reflective. Accompanying her is her 12-year-old brother, who has made it to the NRC. Their father, a daily wager, who would come with her earlier, is now working in Arunachal Pradesh.

Faruna talks about her Class 10 exams in April 2019, where she got a first division, and how she would have performed much better but for the NRC stress.

"My family told me, '*Dua kora, ahi jabo* (Have faith, your name will come in the list)'. But yet, it didn't... We gave such *bhaal certificates* (good documents). So how can my name not be there?" she says, tearing up.

Her brother, who barely understands the NRC more than that "if you are on the list, it is good", tries to console her. "Don't worry, *ahi jaabo* (It will come)," says the 12-year-old. An elderly neighbour, sitting besides them, has better luck with her. "Don't worry, even mine did not come," he smiles. "We can go to Bangladesh together."

Faruna laughs, despite herself.

(The last names have been dropped to protect identity)

SUNDAY PROFILE ADVOCATE K PARASARAN

Trusted and the trustee

The Ram Janmabhoomi case had brought K Parasaran out of retirement after a period of 10 yrs. Now the 93-year-old is in the middle of all the action, from the Sabarimala case that is set to define the contours of right to religion, to the trust that will build the Ayodhya temple

APURVA VISHWANATH

The first meeting of the Ram Janmabhoomi Theerth Kshetra Trust is scheduled on February 19. But the host, first trustee, jurist and senior advocate K Parasaran, has had a slight hitch in his schedule.

Senior Parasaran, as he is referred to in legal circles, will be on his legs (legalese for arguing in court) that day for the Sabarimala case before a newly constituted nine-judge Bench. The meeting that is to take place at his Delhi residence has been rescheduled for now to the evening to allow the 93-year-old time to hasten back.

Parasaran began his preparation for the Sabarimala case, which is set to make judicial history by defining the contours of the right to religion, while still back in home town Chennai — taking hardly any break since an eye surgery in January.

His inclusion in the Ram Janmabhoomi Trust to build the Ayodhya temple was not surprising. A go-to counsel for successive governments since Indira Gandhi's time, the lawyer represented the winning Hindu side in the Ayodhya case, impressing as much with his legal expertise in Roman law and English case law, as his knowledge of Hindu texts.

As his double-duty day arrives, those who know Parasaran, and who point out that he rarely argues extempore, say he would be dipping into all of the above to make his case. Says a lawyer in his team, "Even at this age, he prepares like a lawyer setting out to argue for the first time. He makes handwritten notes for court." The lawyer also attests to his "photographic memory". "If you mention a case even from 1954, Senior Parasaran will tell you the page number and the line that contains the answer to the legal question."

Others mention his equanimity even while arguing some of the most heated cases in court, ensuring that the atmosphere remains civil.

A senior advocate who worked alongside Parasaran in the Ayodhya case says, "Even though many lawyers have contributed to the case in the last 50 years and some have even framed significant legal arguments that helped win the case eventually, Parasaran will be remembered the most for his opening arguments at the final hearing."

He had told court, "While the Muslims can pray in any mosque in Ayodhya, the

Hindus cannot change the birthplace of Lord Ram." He had also urged that granting the disputed land to the Hindu side would be correction of a historical wrong.

In the Sabarimala case, Parasaran has argued for retaining the ban on entry of menstruating women into the Ayyappa temple. For some, his arguments reflect his conservative view on aspects of women's rights, with him even skirting the word menstruation in court.

His juniors say he doesn't depend on "briefings" from them, like most senior lawyers, and reads everything himself. When in the middle of a case, he can go for days without an off, Sundays or holidays. "There is also the question of who can brief him on pure questions of law on religion really. He is the one usually briefing the other lawyers," a junior jokes, calling him a "genius".

The Sabarimala case and the trust duties mean the 93-year-old will be re-shifting base to Delhi for a while, to his office in "R-20, Greater Kailash Part-1, New Delhi", which is also the address of the Ram Janmabhoomi Trust till a new location is decided. The address has been the home and office of his son Mohan Parasaran for decades. Parasaran, in an earlier interview, had said he was guilty of committing bigamy since he spent more time with the law than his wife Saroja Parasaran, who passed away in 2010.

Earlier, Parasaran had returned from a decade-long professional hiatus to fight the Ayodhya case in the Supreme Court.

Sources told *The Sunday Express* that before Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the setting up of the temple trust in Parliament — just three days to go for a Supreme Court deadline — frantic calls were made to Parasaran to seek his consent to be named the first trustee.

A government lawyer says Parasaran was "felt to be the most agreeable choice for bearing the responsibility of the first trustee". "Given his age, the role he played in the case and his scholarship, nobody could object to his nomination."

Parasaran has been Attorney General of India twice, under Congress PMs Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. Seen as enjoying the confidence of Sonia Gandhi, he was in the race to be named for the third time to the post in 2004 when then AG Soli Sorabjee resigned (Milon Banerjee, who defended the P V Narasimha Rao-led government at the time of the Babri demolition, pipped him to the post at the time). In 2012, he was nominated by the UPA government as a member of the Rajya Sabha. Parasaran's elder son Mohan was addi-



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Those who know Parasaran, and who point out that he rarely argues extempore, say he would be bringing the full force of his legal acumen and knowledge of scriptures into the Sabarimala case. As a lawyer in his team says, "Even at this age, he prepares like a lawyer setting out to argue for the first time"

tionally the Additional Solicitor General of India and Solicitor General of India for the entire 10 years of UPA-I and II.

With Parasaran's religiosity burnishing his credentials with the Sangh Parivar, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and RSS general secretary Suresh Bhaiyyaji Joshi visited him at his residence to personally thank him after he won the Ayodhya case. Later, the VHP held a grand felicitation for Parasaran and his team of lawyers in Ayodhya.

At the same time, what makes Parasaran a valued voice across the political spectrum is that, even as a quintessential government lawyer, he has never shied away from speaking his mind. Despite being a UPA nominee, he had defended NDA government's National Judicial Appointments Commission Act in Parliament.

During the Ayodhya hearing, where at one point the court had told him he could sit and argue if he wanted, the 93-year-old had said that seeing the decades-old Ayodhya case conclude was his last wish. Clearly, those plans are in the past now.

As the Supreme Court convenes on February 19, and Parasaran walks in with facts and scripture on his fingertips, expect fireworks. In the other corner would be another court legend and veteran, Fali S Nariman, 91.

TAKE 5

FACES ON THE FRINGES OF NEWS

RAMANBHAI (50), RATNIBEN (45);
RESIDENTS OF DEV SARAN
SLUM, AHMEDABAD

'We have been told that it does not look good to the visiting *saheb*... If this is a VIP route, where is our *vikas*'



'Earlier a *parda* was put up. It is done repeatedly.' Javed Raja

Ahead of US President Donald Trump's visit to India on February 24, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation is building a four-foot-high wall along the road connecting the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport to Indira Bridge, ostensibly to mask the slum area on the route that Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are likely to take for a roadshow during the trip. Dev Saran slum, which has about 2,000 *kuchcha* homes, is 2.5 km from the airport where the US President would land

1 Have you heard of Donald Trump?

We have heard that some '*mota saheb* (senior official)' is coming from America. We have not heard the name Trump. We don't understand these issues much. We just know that someone important from America is coming.

2 What do you think about construction of the wall?

Nobody told us why this wall is being constructed in front of our slum... We have heard that this is to hide us, the poor. How can we object or complain when we do not have even our own houses? We are daily wage labourers and work in other people's bungalows.

3 Why do you think the government wants the wall?

If this is such a VIP route, then why have we been deprived of *vikas*, where is our development? We have been living here our entire lives, how can we leave this place? We have been voting in every election but we have not seen any development here in decades.

4 How long have you been living here?

This is our native place, our ancestors have been living here for the last 100 years. We have been here since this area was a jungle. There were no roads and only a cremation ground nearby, which has now been taken over by the bungalows that you see. We do not have any house anywhere in the country. Already, with this wall construction, we have lost our drinking water facility (One of the public water facilities in the slum with four taps was buried under the debris of the construction.) What shall we do? Where shall we go?

5 Has this happened earlier, during previous VIP visits?

Earlier they would put up a *parda* (a sheet of green cloth) to hide us. It has been done repeatedly, many times, we have lost count. Since the BJP came to power, they have been putting up the *parda*. We have been told that it does not look good to the visiting *saheb*. The *parda* would later be removed after two-three days.

RITU SHARMA

Make way for Hanuman

Before a 64-tonne, 28-ft idol can be established in Bhilwara's Sankat Mochan Temple, it is travelling 900 km to Prayagraj for a Ganga bath. From waived toll to waving crowds, the faithful lend a hand

DEEP MUKHERJEE

NINE HUNDRED kilometres would have been no more than a big leap for Lord Hanuman. A 64-tonne, 28-ft-tall idol of His is taking a lot more effort.

On February 9, the idol set off on a journey from Bhilwara (Rajasthan) to Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh) for a '*jal abhishek*' (bath in the waters of the Sangam)". Tolls across the state highways have been waived off, police have been managing the traffic, and crowds have been swarming to catch a glimpse.

Once the *jal abhishek* is done, the Hanuman idol would do the reverse journey to the Sankat Mochan Temple in Bhilwara.

The temple priest, Mahant Babugiri, is accompanying the idol, which is being carried on a 26-wheeled trailer, escorted by 10 men in two cars. "We had to take the help of cranes to load the idol when we started," says Babugiri, 38, who belongs to the Niranjani Akhara and took over as the temple priest in 2006.

According to Babugiri, it is one of the biggest Hanuman idols in Bhilwara. The temple's largest so far is about 5 feet.

Babugiri says the new idol was his idea, and he placed the order five years ago. "We wanted to make it entirely from one stone and it took us almost a year to find the right piece. We sourced it from Banshi Paharpur in Bharatpur, whose stone is widely used for making idols. The uncut stone weighed around 150 tonnes," he says.

The idol was made in Sikrai, Dausa district, around 100 km from Bharatpur. When ready, it was brought to Bhilwara on a similar trailer.

Babugiri says they spent around Rs 40 lakh, put together with donations from devotees. For the next four years, the idol kept lying at Bhilwara, before Babugiri decided that it needed a holy bath for consecration. The priest admits even his friends were surprised at the plan to take the idol nearly 900 km to Prayagraj.

The procession plans to go via Rajasmand, Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Kota, Jhansi and Kanpur, before it hits the holy town. Babugiri won't put a date on their arrival — for now, he hopes to be back in Bhilwara in a month — because their schedule has been going awry. "Whenever we enter city areas, policemen automatically turn up to ensure security and control the curious crowds. Still, it



The trailer carrying the idol maintains a pace of 40 km an hour, and halts for devotees to offer prayers. Express

took us four hours to cross Udaipur city alone as devotees formed a huge procession around us," says Devendra Prakash, one of the men accompanying the idol.

A priest at Bhilwara, Prakash says he decided to accompany Babugiri when he heard of the *yatra*. The others in the convoy are regular devotees of the Sankat Mochan Temple. "Hanumanji ke liye toll-free hai (The toll is free for Lord Hanuman)," adds Babugiri, showing letters from local BJP MP Subhash Baheria and Bhilwara District Collector

Rajendra Bhatt.

Says MP Baheria, "I felt that since this was a local and religious initiative, we should support them. I wrote a letter requesting the toll booths to cooperate. The decision to waive the toll is up to them."

Every morning, the procession sets off after offering prayers to the idol. Even as other vehicles zip past on the highway, they maintain a pace of not more than 40 km an hour. Whenever villagers along the way urge them to halt so that they can see the idol or offer

prayers, they oblige. At sunset, the convoy halts, for evening prayers.

As they are about to reach Chittorgarh, Babugiri uses his smartphone to call ahead to an acquaintance, asking if lodging could be arranged for the group.

After a moment's pause, he chuckles, "Hanumanji ko raste mein kahin basne ki ichcha ho to ho sakta hai wahin bas jayen (Somewhere along the way, if Lord Hanuman decides to settle down at some place, it's possible the idol might be established there)."

16 BOOKS

CHAPTER 1, LINE 1

"The war in Zagreb began over a pack of cigarettes."
—*Girl at War* (2015), Sara Novic

Rocky Mountain High

A valuable contribution to our understanding of the complex historiography of the Himalayas and the role of Tibet, India and China in this strategic zone



The Lamayuru monastery and hamlet in Ladakh Tashi Tobgyal

SHYAM SARAN

AMBASSADOR PHUNCHOK Stobdan is one of the few Indian scholars and security analysts who has intimate familiarity with the Himalayan zone shared by India, Tibet and China. His understanding of the sectarian distinctions among the different schools of Tibetan Buddhism, the long history of engagement between the Chinese central empire and Tibet's unique theocratic dispensation and the distinctive character of the Buddhist legacy in India's own Himalayan region, is reflected fully in his timely book, *The Great Game in the Buddhist Himalayas—India and China's Quest for Strategic Dominance*. While there is a perception that Tibet is a vulnerable underbelly of China, the author shows how it is also becoming a platform for extending Chinese influence into the southern Himalayas, which the Indian security establishment has failed to counter over the years.

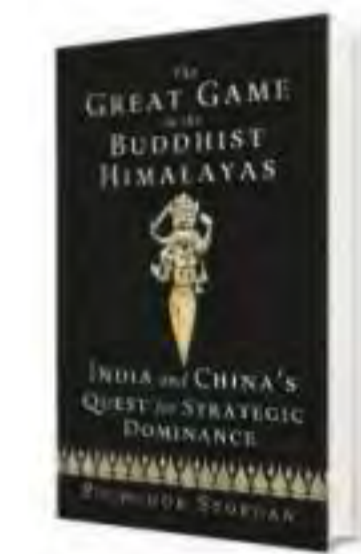
The book draws attention to the fact that the dominant sect in Tibet is the yellow hat or Gelugpa, which is headed by the Dalai Lama. It was founded in the 15th century by Tsongkhapa whose seat is the Ganden monastery not far from Lhasa. However, in the southern Himalayas, stretching from East to West, the older tradition is that of Guru Padmasambhava who is revered in Ladakh, Lahaul and Spiti, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan. The Nyingmapa sect has been associated with this tradition but is gradually being overshadowed by the Gelugpa sect. The other traditions are the Kagyu headed by the Karmapa and the Sakya whose current

headquarters are in Dehradun. Stobdan argues that historically there has been a constant drive by the Tibetans to entrench the dominant Gelugpa in the southern Himalayas. It is a fact that at India's independence in 1947, the then Tibetan administration had laid claim to the entire stretch of the southern Himalayas, including Ladakh, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan. While these irredentist claims have not been raised since the Dalai Lama sought shelter in India in 1959, it is Stobdan's argument that the string of monasteries in the Indian Himalayan zone are falling into the hands of Gelugpa monks appointed by the Dalai Lama, with the tacit acquiescence of Delhi. If and when the Chinese reconcile with the Dalai Lama or gain control over the institution in future, then this could well lead to a Chinese zone of influence throughout this strategic and sensitive region.

While one may or may not accept that there is a well-thought-out Chinese conspiracy afoot, there is no doubt that the distinctive Buddhist traditions in the Indian Himalayas are being steadily eroded. Reviving the extraordinarily rich Padmasambhava tradition and philosophical heritage should be on the cultural agenda of the Indian state. This will also reinforce the affinities India shares with Nepal and Bhutan.

It is clear that Stobdan considers the presence of Dalai Lama and the Tibetan community in India as a disruptive factor in India-China relations. India extending asylum to the Dalai Lama in 1959 soured relations between the two countries. It may have turned differences over the border into a strategic confrontation, which still continues.

However, while the American CIA certainly played a role in assisting the escape of the Dalai Lama into India and extended support to Tibetan rebels thereafter, it is difficult to accept the argument that India became entangled in an American conspiracy to turn the two Asian giants into enemies. It is unlikely that Jawaharlal Nehru would have decided to extend asylum to the Dalai Lama under US pressure. The US has never questioned Chinese sovereignty over Tibet although it uses China's oppressive tactics in Tibet as a pressure point. Stobdan is right in



THE GREAT GAME IN THE BUDDHIST HIMALAYAS — INDIA AND CHINA'S QUEST FOR STRATEGIC DOMINANCE PHUNCHOK STOB DAN
Vintage Books
328 pages
₹ 599

advising India not to play the American game on Tibet, as it would only sharpen Chinese anxieties without any gain for India.

The Chinese assumption that the Tibet issue will resolve itself once His Holiness is no longer on the scene may be misplaced. It is the reverence in which he is held by Tibetans everywhere, including in Tibet itself, which has prevented the kind of militancy which one witnesses in Xinjiang. His departure may spawn a radicalisation, particularly of the Tibetan youth which may become a challenge for both India and China. As the author points out, the issue of the Dalai Lama's reincarnation after his death may become another complicating factor. All this points to the need for the two sides to engage in a confidential conversation on these matters, the sooner the better.

Stobdan's book is a valuable contribution to our understanding of the complex historiography of the Himalayas and the role of Tibet, India and China in this strategic zone. It is full of insights and points the direction in which Indian policy must move to safeguard the country's vital interests. Better editing could have avoided several repetitions. There are also some inaccuracies. The Chinese never offered to give up Aksai China in exchange of Chinese claims, including Tawang in the east, as the author contends. What they said was that in return for India making "meaningful" concessions in the east, China will make "appropriate" but as yet unspecified concessions in the west.

Shyam Saran is former foreign secretary and Senior Fellow at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

All Woman

An empathetic novel about the feminine experience in a world of inequality

Express Archive



The novel captures the pushback of girls and women in urban working-class India

AMRITA DUTTA

THE MOST striking part of Mathangi Subramanian's novel is its voice, the "we" that narrates this often delightful, always empathetic novel about Swargahalli, a slum somewhere in Bengaluru. But the collective voice that leaps off the page—a people's history, as we are told—is distinct for another reason, too. It is female. This is a novel "spoken" by girls, but in this chorus, you also hear the formidable women who come before them—the mothers and grandmothers, from whom flow stories, memories, prejudices and knowledge.

A People's History of Heaven opens with these women taking a stand against the bulldozers that have come to level their houses. "Our houses may break, but our mothers won't... Instead, they form a human chain, hijabs and dupattas snapping in the metallic wind, saris shimmering in the afternoon sun... [they] blaze like carnations scattered at the feet of smashed-up goddesses. Angry, unforgiving goddesses..."

The slum they are defending is hardly "heaven", but it is home to our five protagonists. "Born the same year in the same slum", Deepa, Banu, Padma, Rukhsana and Joy are friends with different talents and histories. All girls, matter-of-factly aware of how that hobbles them in life: "Early on, we girls learn that life owes us nothing." Banu is the subversive graffiti artist, her ace *kolam* skills her precious inheritance from her *ajji*; Joy was once "shaped like a boy" till she embraced her true self, with her mother's support; Padma is a migrant from a verdant village, with the burden of mothering her displaced parent; Rukhsana is the plucky daughter of a women's union member, one you can easily imagine in the many Shaheen Bagh's erupting all over India; and Deepa is the blind child, out of school, but invaluable friend to the others.

A People's History of Heaven is blurred with fulsome praise from foreign publications, though it is less heralded than the new literary sensation, *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line*, both surprisingly — or, should that be unsurprisingly? — novels about children in Indian slums. To the reader's relief, however, Subramanian opts out of the painful business of "explaining" the Indian city to an alien audience, or painting a picture of deathly (dull) squalor. (In fact, some snark is reserved for the cluelessness of a white woman photographer, though, given the overall optimistic arc of this novel, even saviour complex is put to good use.)

The novel's language, too, is flecked by the English we hear on this city's streets. True to Bengaluru, Swarga is a place of many

tongues, and many communities. It was once a "bunch of blue tarps" strung up into haphazard tents, "a for-now kind of place, not a forever kind of place". Outside is ranged the city, morphing relentlessly, with snazzy malls and hospitals ("Even the diseases there are posher than us..."). The slum is driven by women, and their fierce instinct for survival, as they take on poverty, disloyal and drunk husbands, casteism and fledgling Hindutva. The boys are wastrels, the men absent.

Subramanian's last book, too, *Dear Mrs Naidu* (2015), was about the battle of a girl, armed with the Right to Education, to study in a private school. *Reading A People's History* in the backdrop of the anti-CAA protests, its articulate no-nonsense band of girls, one senses that it captures the ripple of an important change in urban working-class India: the pushback of young girls and women, who have had democracy seeded in their minds.

Subramanian is a fine writer; the natural wit of young people flow through the dialogues; sentences leap out for their beauty ("Rukhsana was as frantic as a just-hatched dragonfly, shimmering and eager to test her brand-new wings.")

Nevertheless, there is something about this novel's determined sunniness, its well-meaningness, its fairy dust. From its poster children of diversity (could they be the Fierce Five for our times?) to the mentor-principal Janaki Ma'am who opens doors for them, from the mothers who invariably stand by the difficult choices of their daughters to the roadblocks which seem to melt away.

Some of it might have to do with how close its style is allied to the strategies of children's or YA writing. Not that that in itself is a bad thing: what is *To Kill a Mockingbird* but an address to the idealism of the young? A children's book draws its readers — imagined as being essentially good souls — into its fold by a nudge and a wink, by turning tiresome grownups into funny caricatures, by eyerolling at the absurdities of the world. In its commitment to the readers, who are indeed the future, it has its eye on all that is possible, even wondrously so. But in this novel about inequality, these strategies only serve to simplify the messiness of the world.

Early on in the novel, the narrators wonder: "It's funny, being a girl. The thing's that supposed to push you down, defeat you, shove you back, back and farther back still? Turn it the right way, and it'll push you forward instead." Subramanian remains committed to this hopeful inversion, but I will be curious to know of the results, if and when a writer this political and skilled allows more of the darkness into her work.



A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF HEAVEN MATHANGI SUBRAMANIAN
Hamish Hamilton
290 pages
₹ 599

LOOKOUT NOTICE

NO MATTER WHERE THE JOURNEY TAKES ME: ONE MAN'S QUEST FOR A LEPROSY-FREE WORLD. by Yohei Sasakawa (Hurst): Japanese philanthropist Yohei Sasakawa's six-decade fight against leprosy began in his 20s. On a trip to Korea with his famous

father, he saw him reach out to patients suffering from leprosy at a hospital. It would make him aware of how it was possible to fight not just the disease but also the discrimination that came with it. It led Sasakawa, 80, also the founder of the Sasakawa India Leprosy Foundation, to travel the world raising awareness about the disease and advocating a communitarian global approach to tackle it. An emotional, powerful account of his spirited fight against the disease and the science involved in curing it, it shows why leprosy is a human rights issue as much as a medical one.

The Last Encyclopaedic Mind

An original thinker, George Steiner's mark on our intellectual scene is indelible

RAMIN JAHANBEGLOO

SOME INDIVIDUALS are born with excellence; others achieve excellence in their life. George Steiner belonged to the second group. For him, to excel was to live as a critic and to live critically was to strive for excellence. As a noble spirit, but also an original thinker, George Steiner was most probably the last encyclopaedic mind of the 21st century. He was a provocative literary critic and a prodigious reader of the classics. Whether discussing Leo Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoevsky, Paul Celan, or Martin Heidegger, George Steiner came out as an original thinker and an astute mind, constantly and critically observing our civilisation. As a post-Holocaust Jewish thinker, he was obsessed by the meaning of culture after the absolute failure of culture. As a result, the issue of how to represent the Holocaust became for Steiner the essential question in contemporary culture. Steiner's reflections are not to be seen merely as operating on an abstract level of theoretical thought; rather his writings can be seen as

concrete reflections on the possibilities and limitations of post-Holocaust culture. The recognition of Adorno's impossibility of poetry after Auschwitz was constantly tied in Steiner's work to an acute awareness of the aporetic complexity which Auschwitz had placed on the idea of culture. According to Steiner, "We now know that a man can read Goethe or Rilke in the evening, that he can play Bach and Schubert, and go to his day's work at Auschwitz in the morning." In other words, for Steiner, Auschwitz was not an accident, but "a suicidal impulse in Western civilisation."

Steiner came to the conclusion that the Holocaust was the result of something much deeper than merely the social and political circumstances of Europe in the 1930s. He saw it as the result of a desire for subconscious retribution against the immissible ideals imposed upon Western culture by the monotheism of the Hebraic tradition, the moral rectitude of Christianity, and the messianic socialism of Marxism. It is interesting how Steiner looked backed at his own Jewishness as an endless exile, rather than a commitment to the faith of the Patriarchs.

Indeed, Steiner's cosmopolitan view of Jewishness found its expression in the work of the "text". The book, in his view, was the true homeland of the homeless Jew. "When the text is the homeland," argues Steiner, "even when it is rooted only in the exact remembrance and seeking a handful of wanderers, nomads of the word, it cannot be distinguished." This commitment to a textual "homeland" was considered by Steiner as a critical moral perspective that rejected all

The commitment to a textual 'homeland' was considered by George Steiner as a critical moral perspective that rejected all ethnic and nationalist utopias. As such, Steiner perceived a contradiction between the life of the spirit and political life

ethnic and nationalist utopias. As such, Steiner perceived a contradiction between the life of the spirit and political life. For him, this was most clearly evident in the figure of a Jew as a reader of human civilisation. Steiner, therefore, defined a Jew as "one who always has a pencil or pen in hand when he reads, of one who will in the death camps correct a printing error, emend a doubtful text, on his way to extinction." Steiner saw this special Jewish intimacy with texts in general as being inherent not only in the commitment to Jerusalem but also to Athens. "The idea of Europe," he underlined, "is indeed a tale of two cities." It is the heritage of Athens to Jerusalem, which is that we have a book, we have several books."

Steiner explained the decline of European culture by the loss of a public capable of full readings of great texts. He observed, "The major part of Western literature, which has been for 2,000 years and more so deliberately interactive, the work echoing, mirroring, alluding to, previous works in the tradition, is now passing quickly out of reach." It is in this spirit that the critical standpoint of George Steiner finds all its pertinence and relevance. The task that he set for himself as a philosopher of culture was to address the problem of a crisis of the European mind in particular, and of Western civilisation in general. Once again, we are reminded by Steiner that we

live in a "current 'crisis of sense' and a current equation of text and pre-text..." As Steiner puts it, "the revolution... brought on by computers, by planetary electronic exchanges, by 'cyber-space' and 'virtual reality' has brought this sense of presence into extinction. However, as readers of Steiner, we need to understand that his intense dialogue with the great artistic and philosophical sources of Western civilisation may only be appreciated in the mirror of his questionings on different modes of threat to thought and creation in today's world. Interestingly, while describing the death and decomposition of Western culture, George Steiner brings all his many talents and sympathies to understanding those refined figures of the European culture who tried another way of experiencing and living with culture.

Undoubtedly, Steiner's commitment to reading and understanding the canonical texts of human civilisation made his literary and philosophical effort a suitable context for critical thinking in our age of mediocrity. By living and thinking against the current, George Steiner presented himself as an unsettling thinker. But as an unsettling thinker, he left many marks on the intellectual scene of our time, and will influence future generations.

The writer is Noor-York Chair in Islamic Studies, York University, Toronto



TOP OF THE WORLD



Nawaz Sharif

PAKISTAN

Anti-corruption officials raid Sharif properties

Lahore: Pakistan anti-corruption officials raided the properties of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in Lahore on Saturday to collect evidence in a money laundering case, even as his mother left for London to be with her son ahead of his cardiac treatment. An accountability court here has already exempted the 69-year-old from appearing before it on medical grounds and adjourned the hearing till February 28. "Nawaz Sharif's mother Shamim Bibi left for London to be with her son while he undergoes heart treatment," PML-N spokesperson Marriyum Aurangzeb tweeted.

US

Weinstein abused power: Prosecutor

New York: New York prosecutors told jurors that Harvey Weinstein abused his power and pushed back against claims by the former Hollywood producer's defense team that his accusers were not credible. Assistant District Attorney Joan Illuzzi said Weinstein, 67, had counted on his victims never coming forward. "The defendant not only ran roughshod over the dignity and the very lives of these witnesses, but he also underestimated them," she said. Since 2017, more than 80 women have accused Weinstein of sexual misconduct.

MALI

Death toll in central Mali violence hits 40

Bamako: Forty people, including nine soldiers, have been killed in a spate of attacks in central Mali, authorities said Friday, with most of the deaths caused by inter-ethnic violence in the deeply troubled region. Thirty-one people were killed in an attack overnight in Ogosagou, a village mainly inhabited by Fulani people, the government said, raising the death toll. About 30 gunmen carried out the new attack, village chief Aly Ousmane Barry told AFP. "Huts and crops were set alight, livestock was burned or taken away," he added, vowing that the government would find the perpetrators.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

France reports first casualty outside Asia, US plans evacuation from ship

Toll climbs to 1,523 in China; over 67,000 cases globally

AGENCIES

BEIJING, FEBRUARY 15

FRANCE'S HEALTH minister, Agnès Buzyn, said on Saturday that a 80-year-old Chinese tourist had died of coronavirus on Friday at a hospital in Paris.

This comes even as more than 2,600 new cases were confirmed in China, with deaths up by 143, health officials said on Saturday. The death toll rose by 143 to 1,523, as per officials.

Meanwhile, The United States has urged its citizens to leave a virus-struck cruise ship under quarantine in Japan.

Buzyn said the deceased man, who was from the Chinese province of Hubei, the centre of the outbreak, arrived in France on January 16 and had been hospitalised at the Bichat-Claude Bernard Hospital since January 25. "His condition had quickly worsened and he had been in critical condition for several days," Buzyn said.



A medical worker at a hospital in Wuhan. Reuters

The death is the fourth from the virus outside of mainland China, where about 1,500 people have died, most of them in Hubei Province. The Philippines, Hong Kong and Japan have each reported one death.

Outside mainland China, there have been about 500 cases in some 24 countries and territories, and three deaths - one in Japan, one in Hong Kong and one in the Philippines.

Africa has recorded its first case, in Egypt. The biggest cluster outside China has been on the Diamond Princess, a cruise ship owned by Carnival Corp, that has

been quarantined since its arrival in Yokohama, Japan, on February 3. Of its 3,500 passengers and crew, 285 have tested positive for the infection.

The US urged its citizens on the ship to leave, "out of an abundance of caution", on a special flight due in Japan on Sunday, although they will face quarantine for another 14 days upon return.

"We understand this is frustrating and an adjustment, but these measures are consistent with the careful policies we have instituted to limit the potential spread of the disease," the embassy said.

EXPLAINED

Shortage of equipment on frontlines an issue

AMID REPORTS of medical workers in China being infected, it also emerged that they were facing equipment shortages. The measures taken to curtail the outbreak, such as travel restrictions and road checks, have also delayed the delivery of supplies, as per reports. Production, too, has become an issue, as factories have been unable to function properly. Bureaucracy has been cited as another hurdle that many doctors face. Given that these medical workers are the main line of defence against the virus, experts said more attention has to be paid to the issues they face.

China must keep social, economic order: Xi

REUTERS

BEIJING, FEBRUARY 15

CHINA MUST make every effort to maintain economic and social control as it battles the coronavirus epidemic, and avoid causing panic that could lead to secondary "disasters," President Xi Jinping told senior officials.

His February 3 speech to the Politburo's Standing Committee was published in full by the leading Communist Party journal

Qjushi on Saturday. It showed how Xi had urged officials to roll out policies to support the economy even as they worked to control the spread of the virus.

In the speech, he said the epidemic was impacting the economy, especially service industries. Actions needed to be taken to maintain China's industrial chain and encourage enterprises to resume production, he said.

China "still has to adhere to this year's economic and social development goals", Xi said.



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at a trilateral meeting with Japan and South Korea in Munich on Saturday. Reuters

REJECTS CLAIMS THAT US QUIT GLOBAL ROLE

West is winning, Pompeo tells China, Russia

REUTERS & PTI

MUNICH, FEBRUARY 15

US SECRETARY of State Mike Pompeo defended on Saturday his nation's global role despite misgivings in Europe, vowing that Western values would prevail over Russian and Chinese desires for "empire".

Seeking to reassure Europeans troubled by US President Donald Trump's "America first" rhetoric, his ambivalence over the NATO military alliance and tariffs on European goods, Pompeo said there was no crisis in Western leadership.

"I'm happy to report that the death of the transatlantic alliance is grossly exaggerated. The West is winning, and we're winning together," he said in a speech at the Munich Security Conference, listing US steps to protect liberal democracies.

Pompeo's Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, accused him of telling "lies, not based on facts" about Beijing's intentions.

Pompeo had been, in part, responding to German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who on Friday accused the United States, Russia and China of making the world more dangerous.

French President Emmanuel

'NEFARIOUS STRATEGY'

US Secretary of Defence Mark Esper accused Beijing of a 'nefarious strategy' through Huawei

'MANIPULATION'

"It is essential that we... wake up to the challenges presented by Chinese manipulation of the international rules-based order," Esper said.

'NOT TOO LATE'

He said it was not too late for Britain, which last month said it would allow Huawei a limited role in building its 5G networks, to take 'two steps back'.

Macron told the conference of international leaders, lawmakers and diplomats he was not surprised by Steinmeier's speech and had liked it.

"We cannot be the United States' junior partner," Macron said, adding that while he supported NATO, Europe needed to be able to tackle threats in its neighbourhood and at times act independently of Washington.

"I'm impatient for European solutions," Macron said.

PROTEST AGAINST GENDER-RELATED VIOLENCE



Demonstrators confront police at a protest in Mexico City. Reuters

Angry demonstrations broke out in Mexico City on Friday as hundreds of women protested the gruesome slaying and mutilation of a young woman, a case that has come to personify outrage over the rising incidence of gender-related killings.

About 10 women are slain each day across Mexico just because they are women, the government and activists say. Last year there were 3,825 in all, which was up 7% from 2018, according to federal figures

Dozens of protesters sprayed-painted slogans such as 'We won't be silenced' on the facade and doorway of the capital's National Palace. They also confronted and clashed with police in the city

US, Taliban agree to reduce violence, in first step to finalising peace deal

DAVID E. SANGER AND RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

MUNICH, FEBRUARY 15

AMERICAN OFFICIALS said on Friday they had agreed with the Taliban on a seven-day reduction in violence in Afghanistan that, if it holds, would be followed by an Afghan peace agreement after 18 years of war.

The decrease in hostilities would be the first step in a plan leading to withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, though there have been indications that the United States would want to keep some counterterrorism and intelligence forces there.

The agreement on a reduction in violence was announced by a senior administration official at the annual Munich Security Conference, where Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Mark T. Esper are defending American policies.

But the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Taliban would have to adhere to that reduction for seven days before a peace pact could be signed.

The timing is notable. If the seven-day period begins this weekend or early next week, and it holds for a week, the peace agreement would be ready to sign around the time that President Trump is scheduled to travel to India. NYT



AIRSTRIKE KILLS EIGHT CIVILIANS: An air strike in Afghanistan has killed at least eight civilians. "The target of the attack was Taliban militants... but unfortunately civilians were hit," a spokesperson said. Reuters

US A-G moves to take reins of cases that are politically charged

CHARLIE SAVAGE & ADAM GOLDMAN

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 15

WHILE ATTORNEY General William P Barr asserted his independence from the White House this week, he has also been quietly intervening in a series of politically charged cases, including against Michael Flynn, President Trump's former national security adviser, people familiar with the matter said on Friday.

Barr installed a phalanx of outside lawyers to re-examine national security cases with the possibility of overruling career prosecutors, a highly unusual move that could prompt more accusations of Justice Department politicisation. The case against Flynn, who twice pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI in the Russia investigation, is a cause célèbre for Trump and his supporters, who say the retired general was en-

snared in a "deep state" plot against the president.

The disclosures came as Trump made clear on Friday he believes he has free rein over the Justice Department and its cases, rejecting Barr's public demand of a day earlier that the president stop commenting on such cases.

Hours later, the Justice Department told defense lawyers for Andrew G. McCabe, the former acting FBI director whom Trump has vilified for his role in the Russia case, that McCabe would not be charged in connection with a leak case, ending a nearly two-year criminal investigation.

"We consider the matter closed," the department wrote to McCabe's lawyers.

Together, the developments send conflicting signals at a time when the Justice Department's independence from political interference by the White House has come under sharp scrutiny. NYT

'THEY CAME INTO THE MIDDLE OF OUR LIVES AND RUINED THEM. MY PAST IS FOR NOTHING NOW AND I HAVE NO FUTURE'

He observed a protest in Turkey, now he faces a possible life sentence

CARLOTTA GALL

ISTANBUL, FEBRUARY 15

WHEN THE police banged on his door and took him away for questioning one dawn in November 2018, Yigit Aksakoglu assumed he would be home in time to catch his afternoon swim.

But after a 10-hour interrogation, he was hauled off to court and thrown into jail in solitary confinement for seven months on a charge that is among Turkey's most heinous crimes, violently attempting to over-

throw the government.

The Turkish representative for a Dutch charitable foundation specializing in programs for the social development of young children, Aksakoglu, 43, never expected to run into trouble with the law. Even when President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey began mass arrests after a failed coup in 2016, sweeping up many innocent academics, journalists and human rights activists, he never thought he would be caught up in it, too.

"I was picked accidentally," Aksakoglu said in an interview

at his office in central Istanbul. "And now they are unable to unpick me." A verdict in his trial is expected on Tuesday and he, along with 15 co-defendants, faces a possible sentence of life without parole. "Just like a lottery I will probably spend a long time in prison," he said.

The prosecutor has called for the sentence despite Aksakoglu's insistence that the charges are baseless and the evidence flimsy. Fears are mounting that under Erdogan's increasingly autocratic rule, he and his co-defendants will be punished in order to send



Yigit Aksakoglu with his family. NYT

a chill through Turkey's dwindling community of independent organisations and activists.

The case stems from the Taksim Square protests of 2013, when students, artists and environmentalists opposed the construction of a shopping mall in one of Istanbul's central parks.

Aksakoglu's fate is indicative of just how twisted Turkey's justice system has become: Someone who pulled himself up thanks to a state education is seeing his career crushed by his own government.

Aksakoglu was locked in soli-

tary confinement in the main high-security prison at Silivri, outside Istanbul.

"It was really hard to cope with the shock on my own," he said. "I was not able to talk to anyone about my situation."

He saw his lawyers and received visits from his wife and two daughters, 8 and 4, but began to dread his elder daughter's questions as she counted the days he had been jailed and asked when he was coming home.

After seven and a half months in detention, he was released under orders to report to

the police once a week. He quietly went back to work. But as the trial draws to a close, the prosecutor has requested the toughest sentence possible — a life sentence without parole.

Aksakoglu has little faith in the possibility of a fair judgment after seven months of hearings.

The government treats the defendants "like small change in their pockets," he said. "They came into the middle of our lives and they ruined them. My past is for nothing now and I have no future." NYT

18 ECONOMY

RBI GOVERNOR SAYS GOVT HAS ADHERED TO PRINCIPLE OF FISCAL PRUDENCE

Transmission of rate cuts improving; inflation spike factored in, says Das

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

THE TRANSMISSION of rate cuts has been "steadily improving" and is expected to improve further in the coming months, Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said on Saturday. Das also said the inflationary impact of government spending as outlined in the Union Budget for 2020-21 won't be much, adding the government has adhered to the principle of fiscal prudence.

"With regard to the impact of rate cut plateauing out, I would not entirely agree with that because transmission of rate cut has been steadily improving. If you recall, in December MPC when we met, the transmission to fresh rupee loans was in the order of about 49 basis points. In this monetary policy, we have said that it has improved to 69 basis points. It is the consequence of the rate cut, surplus liquidity that we ensure in the system and third, and very important, the external benchmarking which was brought into operation from October 1 onwards. Transmission is slowly and

EXPLAINED

RBI analysing MPC framework internally

AS THE term of the current monetary policy framework comes to an end in March next year, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said an internal review of its impact is being undertaken currently and, if required, the central bank will have a discussion with the government. Amid rising retail inflation levels, discussions regarding the medium-term target outlined in the monetary policy framework, which has been in operation for the past three-and-a-half years, will be closely watched.

steadily improving and it should improve even more in the coming months," Das said after the central board meeting where the Finance Minister addressed the board after the Budget.

The RBI has cut its policy rate by 135 basis points in the last one year. The RBI in its last monetary policy review meeting on February 6 maintained status quo on the key policy rates, citing growth-inflation dynamics. It had stated that the inflation was on a rising trajectory through the fourth quarter of 2019-20 and its outlook remains "highly uncertain."

When asked if the RBI is relooking at the inflation target set in the Monetary Policy Framework, given the rising inflation, the RBI Governor said an internal review of the impact of Monetary Policy Framework is being undertaken currently within the RBI and if required, the central bank will have a discussion with the government. "Monetary policy framework has been in operation for the past 3.5 years. Internally we are reviewing, we are analysing how MPC framework has worked over the last three-and-a-half years. There is al-

ready an internal review process going on. At the appropriate time if required we will have dialogue and discussion with the government. At the moment, it is under review within the RBI," he said.

As per the Monetary Policy Framework, the RBI's medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI)-based inflation is 4 per cent, with a band of plus or minus 2 per cent. The central government had notified the target for the period from August 5, 2016 to March 31, 2021, with the amended RBI Act providing for the inflation target to be set by the government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years.

On the impact of Budget on inflation, Das said the escape clause used by the government is well within the parameters set by the FRBM committee. "The direct inflationary impact of any Budget is fiscal deficit number, when borrowing goes up, but the government has adhered to the principle of fiscal prudence. The escape clause under FRBM Act, the deficit number in the current year as well as the next year are very much within the parameters set as per FRBM committee

recommendations. The good part of the government borrowing is also budgeted to come from small savings. Therefore, I don't see much of an inflationary impact," he said.

The RBI Governor said declining crude prices has definitely a positive impact on inflation and it will not lead to a spike in inflation. "The main reason for spike in inflation is because of food inflation, mostly milk, fish, and various protein related items. Core inflation has slightly edged up because of revision of telecom tariffs, so therefore, I don't see much of an impact (of Budget) on inflation," he said.

CPI-based retail inflation surged to 7.59 per cent in January as against 7.35 per cent in December. The spike in retail inflation was stoked by higher price levels of food items such as vegetables, eggs, meat and fish and fuels. The MPC has sharply raised consumer price inflation projection to 6.5 per cent for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2020 from 5.1-4.7 per cent earlier. The panel pegged CPI inflation for the first half of FY21 at 5.4-5.0 per cent compared with 4-3.8 per cent earlier.

Voda Idea says it will pay AGR dues, continuation of biz depends on SC order

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

UNDER FIRE from Supreme Court (SC) for failing to pay adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues by the stipulated deadline of January 23, Vodafone Idea on Saturday said it was ready to pay the AGR dues. In a filing with the exchanges, the company said it was assessing the amount it would have to pay to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and that it would pay the amount so assessed by it within "the next few days".

The company, however, again reiterated that it ability to "continue as a going concern" was dependent on the outcome of its modification plea for the order, which had asked them to pay the AGR dues within three months. On Friday, both the DoT and the telecom companies faced the ire of the SC for not having paid the AGR dues on time. A three-judge Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra also issued show-cause notice to the companies for not having paid the AGR dues on time.

In its written order on Friday, the three-judge Bench later said all companies should, by March 17, comply with earlier directions to make the AGR payments, failing which the Managing Directors (MD) and directors of these com-

'DoT to take penal action for delay in statutory dues payment'

New Delhi: The telecom department is mulling penal action against telecom operators for failing to pay in time the AGR dues as directed by the Supreme Court, as per an official source.

With Saturday being a

holiday in various offices, the DoT is likely to wait till Monday evening for the payment before sending out the next set of notices with updated penalty and other punitive action as per the licence norms, the source said. PTI

panies covered by the AGR judgment also have to be personally present in the court on that date.

In its order, the Bench came down heavily on the DoT for issuing a notification that said there would be no penal action against telecom companies until further orders as they had filed pleas for modification of order seeking more time and permission to sit and negotiate with the DoT.

Following the order, Bharti Airtel sent a letter to the DoT that it was in the process of a self-assessment exercise and it would deposit a sum of Rs 10,000 crore by February 20, 2020.

"As directed by you, we are in the process of completing the self-assessment exercise. You will appreciate this is a complicated process, covering 22 circles, multiple licenses and a substantial period of time and hence, is time con-

suming. We are confident we will complete the self-assessment exercise shortly and make the balance payment, well before the next date of hearing," the firm had said in its letter to the DoT.

On October 24, 2019, the SC upheld the DoT's definition of AGR and said since the licensees had agreed to the migration packages, they were liable to pay the dues, the penalty on dues, and the interest on penalty due to the delay in payments. The SC had then given the telcos three months to clear their AGR dues. That deadline ended on January 23, before which the telcos unsuccessfully tried to persuade the DoT to give them more time.

Meanwhile, industry body COAI Saturday asserted the Centre has "vast powers and options" to address the sector's issues, even in the light of the SC order.

'Banks will have to pay price if any telco files for bankruptcy'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

A DAY after the Supreme Court warned telecom companies for their failure to clear Rs 1.47 lakh crore in past adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues, SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar said not just lenders, but the entire ecosystem would have to "pay the price" if any telecom firm went bankrupt.

Stating that no such company had yet communicated to him their intention to shut shop, he said: "If there is a negative impact on any enterprise (in telecom or elsewhere), it impacts a larger ecosystem, whether it is banks, employees, vendors, consumers, etc. Everybody gets impacted. So, that impact, when it comes, we will have to pay the price." He was responding to a query on the potential impact on

"If there is a negative impact on any enterprise, it impacts a larger ecosystem, whether it is banks, whether it is employees, whether they are vendors, consumers, so everybody gets impacted"

RAJNISH KUMAR
SBI CHAIRMAN

banks if telcos went bankrupt. Kumar said both Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea are standard accounts as of now, and that only two accounts (Airtel and RCom) have been declared as non-performing assets.

Banks have an exposure of as much as Rs 49,463 crore to Vodafone. As for AGR dues, Bharti Airtel owes Rs 35,586 crore, Telenor Services Rs 13,823 crore and Reliance Communications Rs 20,434 crore. FE

Das says will discuss internally if any issues arise out of SC order

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

RBI GOVERNOR Shaktikanta Das Saturday said the central bank will have internal discussions in case there are any issues arising out of the Supreme Court order regarding adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues to be paid by telecom firms.

Das did not offer any specific comments about the order.

"It's a Supreme Court order and I would not like to comment on an order issued by the apex court and its consequences this way or that way. This is an order of the apex court. Whatever implication etc, it is internal matter of the RBI to examine. It will be internally deliberated, if at all there's an issue which arises out of that (order)," he said.

BRIEFLY

Interest on delayed GST payment

New Delhi: Interest payable on delayed payment of GST will henceforth be calculated on net tax liability and the law is being amended to give effect to it, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs said on Saturday.

'Markets can help achieve \$5tn economy'

New Delhi: The capital market is robust and can play a crucial role in achieving the goal of \$5-trillion economy by 2025, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur said on Saturday.

'Global scenario not rosy, will impact MFs'

Kolkata: The ongoing tension between the US and China, which has been affecting the global trade, will have its impact on the emerging markets and will not spare the mutual fund industry too, said Sebi whole-time member G. Mahalingam. PTI

Airbus 'deeply regrets' US tariff increase

Paris: Airbus said Saturday it "deeply regrets" Washington's move to increase tariffs on its planes imported into the United States from Europe. Friday's decision to hike tariffs to 15 percent from March 18 "further escalates trade tensions between the US and the EU", the company said. AFP

'Govt monitoring farm credit given by banks'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 15

THE GOVERNMENT is monitoring agricultural credit given by banks in rural areas, said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday. She added the government expects to meet the increased target of Rs 15 lakh crore for the next fiscal year.

The government in Budget 2020-21 raised the farm loan disbursal target by 11 per cent to Rs 15 lakh crore for the next fiscal and allocated Rs 1.6 lakh crore to implement various plans in agriculture and allied sectors amid the stated goal of doubling farmers income by 2022.

The government has allocated Rs 75,000 crore for the PM-KISAN scheme for the next fiscal, which is same as the Budget Estimate for this fiscal, but higher than revised estimate of Rs 54,370 crore.

"Credit limit has been expanded. I am sure it is based on local ground level requirement... we expect the demand to grow and credit requirements to also meet



(From left) Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das during the RBI Central Board meeting at RBI headquarters in New Delhi on Saturday. Praveen Khanna

up with it. I am actually closely monitoring banks and their extension of credit facility particularly to rural areas. So I think we'll be able to meet that," she told reporters after addressing the central board of RBI here. The farm credit target for the current fiscal has been set at Rs 13.5 lakh crore. Normally, farm loans attract an interest rate of 9 per cent. But

the government is providing a 2-per cent interest subsidy to ensure farmers get short-term farm loan of up to Rs 3 lakh at an effective rate of 7 per cent per annum.

With regard to proposed consolidation of public sector banks, the Finance Minister said there was no discussion on the issue at the RBI board meeting on Saturday. "I don't see any reason

to go back or any reason which is particularly causing any delay for any notification... you will hear on it as it when it comes," she said.

In August last year, the government announced merger of 10 public sector banks into four. United Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce are to be merged with Punjab National Bank, making the proposed entity the second largest public sector bank (PSB) from April 1 this year.

It was also decided to merge Syndicate Bank with Canara Bank, and Allahabad Bank with Indian Bank. Similarly, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank are to be consolidated with Union Bank of India.

In April 2019, Bank of Baroda, in the first three-way merger exercise, amalgamated Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with itself.

SBI had merged five of its associate banks — State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Hyderabad as well as Bharatiya Mahila Bank with itself effective April 2017.

As coronavirus fails to ease, interest rises in 'force majeure'

With the coronavirus outbreak that originated in Hubei province, China, showing no signs of abating any time soon, some companies that buy and sell goods in the Chinese market are taking interest in the legal defense of "force majeure"



WHAT IS FORCE MAJEURE?

Force majeure refers to unexpected external circumstances that prevent a party to a contract from meeting their obligations. Declaring force majeure may allow a party to a contract to avoid liability for non-performance.

IS CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK A FORCE MAJEURE EVENT?

Legal experts said the coronavirus likely qualifies, but any company invoking force majeure would need to show that it is effectively impossible to perform their contractual duties as a result of the outbreak

HOW IS FORCE MAJEURE INVOKED?

■ Cross-border deals typically include clauses that allow for non-performance during force majeure events. These clauses are

sometimes cut and paste and not reviewed as carefully as they ought to be.

WHO DECIDES WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IF FORCE MAJEURE IS DECLARED?

■ Cross-border deals often stipulate that disputes arising out of the contract will be decided by a particular court or arbitration body. ■ In practice, foreign firms doing business in China may be better off avoiding litigation and negotiating a compromise.

HAVE ANY COMPANIES INVOKED FORCE MAJEURE OVER CORONAVIRUS?

■ China National Offshore Oil Corp has invoked force majeure to suspend contracts. ■ Oil major Total has rejected a force majeure notice from an unnamed Chinese LNG buyer. Source: Reuters

RBI changes accounting year, interim dividends may stop

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 15

AFTER NEARLY eight decades, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to change its accounting year from July-June to April-May. While the RBI accounts will now be aligned with the central government accounts, this move is likely to obviate the RBI's need to transfer an interim dividend to the central government, a practice which has been adopted in the past few years.

Accordingly, the next accounting year will be a nine-month period which starts from July 2020 and ends on March 31, 2021. Thereafter, all the financial years will start from April every year, the RBI said on Saturday.

"The board recommended aligning the financial year of the RBI, currently July-June, with the Government's fiscal year (April-March) from the year 2020-21 and approved forwarding a proposal to the Government for its consideration," it said.

The Bimal Jalan Committee on Economic Capital Framework (ECF) of the RBI had proposed a more transparent presentation of the RBI's annual accounts and change in its accounting year from July to June to April to March from the financial year 2020-21. The panel's report, which was accepted by RBI board, noted that changes in the format of presentation of the balance sheet would need necessary amendments to the RBI General Regulations. "The information may, therefore, be

presented as a Schedule to the balance sheet till such time the processes for completing a change in the style of balance sheet presentation are formalised," it said. The committee had recommended that the RBI accounting year (July to June) may be brought in sync with fiscal year (April to March) from 2020-21. "The RBI would be able to provide better estimates of the projected surplus transfers to the government for the financial year for budgeting purposes," the committee said.

Experts said the change in the fiscal year could reduce the need for interim dividend being paid by the RBI. The payment of an interim dividend may then be restricted to extraordinary circumstances, the Jalan panel said.

Bombay HC asks Finance Ministry to enhance debt recovery tribunals

OMKAR GOKHALE
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 15

THE BOMBAY High Court (HC) recently observed that it is useless to say the economy will grow when funds of banks and financial institutions are stuck due to delays in resolution of cases in forums due to lack of staff and infrastructure. Noting this, the HC directed the Finance Ministry to look into the enhancement of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) in Mumbai and other cities.

DRTs are constituted under the Finance Ministry to enable banks and other financial institutions re-

cover their debt from borrowers in a speedy manner.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Pradeep Nandrajog and Justice Bharati Dangre passed order in pleas filed by Kotak Mahindra Bank and International Asset Reconstruction claiming that their original applications for recovery are meandering in the corridors of DRT since 1999 and are not being considered.

The Bench was irked noticing a near 20-year delay by DRT and said the original application before tribunal has not reached its destination. Writ pleas filed through advocate Rohit Gupta and Vinay Deshpande sought directions

from HC to direct Finance Ministry to expedite hearing on their applications.

The Bench directed the petitioners to append its order, along with their pleas, and forward it to the Finance Ministry represented by advocates Rui Rodrigues and Mohammedali Chunawala, who will place them before the FM — who is expected to pass necessary directions, the court said.

Moreover, disposing of writ pleas, the HC directed DRT Mumbai to expedite hearing in original applications from 1999. Earlier, it had raised concerns over functioning of another tribunal dealing with financial disputes.

'India will transform from data poor to data rich in 5 years'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHUBANESWAR, FEBRUARY 15

THE INDIAN Railways is leaning on technology to focus on the satisfaction of employees and passengers as well as in train operations to ensure safety, punctuality and line capacity, said Puneet Chawla, RailTel chairman and managing director, on the second day of Express Technology Sabha in Bhubaneswar.

Stating that RailTel was the fifth-largest telecom infrastructure provider in the country, Chawla, who gave the keynote address, listed examples such as "video walls, WiFi, CCTVs, e-of-



RailTel CMD Puneet Chawla at Express Technology Sabha in Bhubaneswar on Saturday. Express photo

ice and computer based signalling used in railway operations" and said the future of technological engagement with railways could include "IoT platforms, big data and artificial intelligence".

Chawla also highlighted the story of a luggage porter in Kerala, who cleared the state Public Service Service Commission with help from free WiFi available at the station.

Chawla was followed by Abir Banerjee, country manager, Aruba, who said: "India will transform from 'data poor' to 'data rich' in 5 years, allowing data-driven decision making for scale and inclusion". He called on organisations to be mobile first, cloud first and IoT-centric.

Pratibha Singh, from the National Informatics Centre, Odisha, said the organisation has recalibrated itself as per the state's 5T (Technology, Transparency, Teamwork, for Timebound Transformation).

She spoke about the importance of technology in agriculture and farmer empowerment in the state as well as revenue and disaster management.

Gautam Ghosh, deputy director-general, Department of Food and Public Distribution, said an end-to-end computerisation of the Public Distribution System includes grievance redressal, allocation generation process and transparency portal.

Ghosh also told the gathering that while 27 states across the country have adopted supply chain automation, 4.58 lakh fair price shops have already installed PoS machines.

Express eGovernance Recognition Awards were won by Office of the Deputy Commissioner, South West Garo Hills District, Govt of Meghalaya in the 'Analytics/Big Data' category; Government of Telangana for the 'Artificial Intelligence' category; Department of IT & Electronics, Government of West Bengal in the 'Artificial Intelligence' category; and Government of West Bengal for the 'Analytics/Big Data' category.

BRIDGE

This hand raises a couple of interesting points about the principle of "covering an honour with an honour".

Dealer North, both vulnerable.

NORTH	SOUTH (you)
♠ K 8 2	♠ A 7
♥ J 8 7 3	♥ A K
♦ Q 9 2	♦ A J 10 5
♣ 8 6 3	♣ A 7 5 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	3NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

West leads the CK and you hold up the first round. On the CQ, East discards the S5, so there is little point in holding up again. You therefore win. How do you continue?

THE WEST HAND: ♠ J 10 6 ♥ Q 9 5 ♦ 8 7 ♣ K Q J 10 2

THE EAST HAND: ♠ Q 5 4 3 ♥ 10 6 4 2 ♦ K 6 4 3 ♣ 9

Suppose we cross to the board in spades and lead the DQ. East will play low and so does South. A low diamond follows from the board and East plays low again. This time, South is left with DAJ10 and has to win, leaving himself in the wrong hand to take the third finesse.

We must arrange for North to be on lead after two rounds and this can only be achieved by starting with the nine which holds. Now we can play the queen, following with the jack or ten from hand, leaving the board on lead for the third finesse.

Dealer South, NS vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ A J 6	♠ K Q 10 8 7 5 3
♥ J 8 6	♥ A Q
♦ 9 4 2	♦ A 7
♣ J 10 5 4	♣ A K

SOUTH (YOU)

♠ 7	♠ 2
Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣
Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass

South is declarer in 6S, and West leads the DK. A heart finesse will give you a 50% chance of making 12 tricks, but if it loses, West will cash the DQ. Can you find a better play?

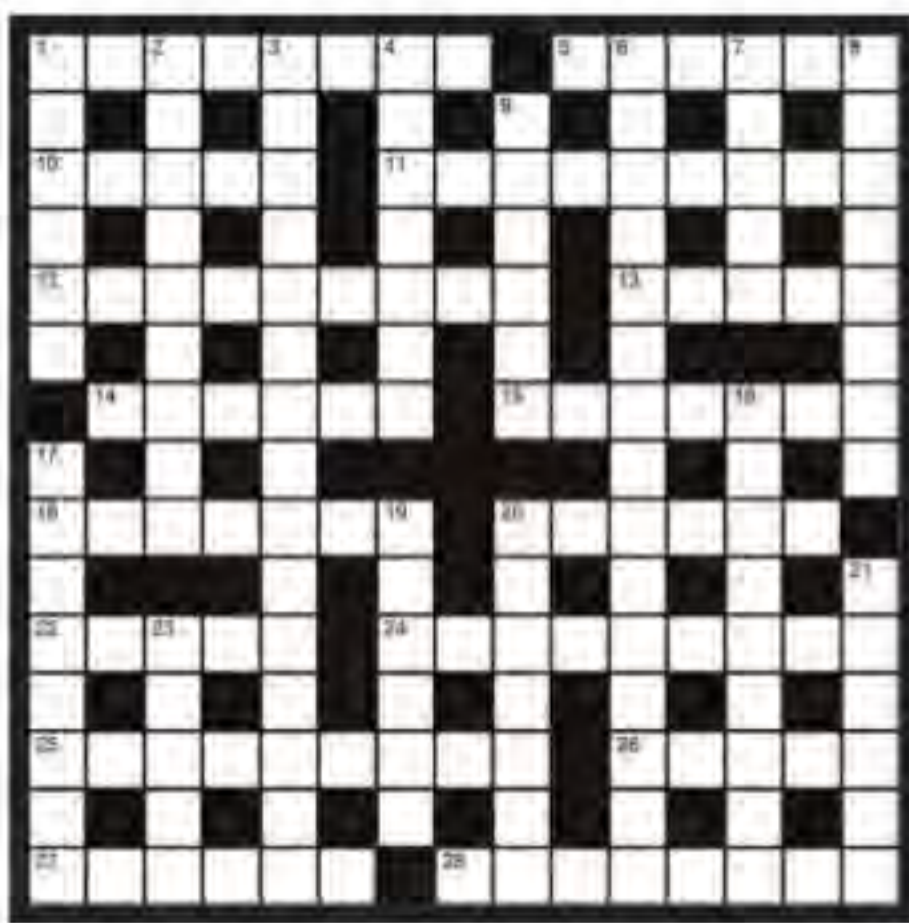
SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2256

QUICK CLUES ACROSS

1. Amplifies, strengthens or improves? (8)
5. Char (6)
10. Batman — Kohli (5)
11. Sound recorded on a disk (9)
12. Wisdom, learning or knowledge (9)
13. A fine cotton thread - "I sell" anagram (5)
14. Of larger dimensions (6)
15. Japanese raw fish dish (7)
18. Fitted closely together (7)
20. Club (6)
22. Junkies (5)
24. Arise (9)
25. Necessitating, involving unavoidably (9)
26. Revises copy (5)
27. Covered roads with asphalt (6)
28. A mythical Greek hero - Roman name Ulysses (8)

DOWN

1. Felt jealous of? (6)
2. Abnormal hairiness (9)
3. Robin Hood's haunt (15)
4. then : before in time or age? (7)
6. Such people cause accidents (8,7)
7. Debris (5)
8. Sanitary (8)
9. Views (6)
16. Repeating (9)
17. Trout Quintet composer (8)
19. Small-time (3,3)
20. Covered (7)
21. Population count (6)
23. Organic compound (5)



CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

1. Glass vessel in the main (8)
5. How Henry chases some little devil into Manipur's capital (6)
6. Go at university and make it more lively (3,2)
11. A rush kill may be (4,5)
12. Charity group distributed coins in rubbish tip (5,4)
13. She's among the meanest and greediest of women (5)
14. Braggarts put fly in ship (6)
15. Beg Nush to del with the whole matter (7)
18. "Is not on" is what the thoughts boil down to (7)
20. Something for the pot - hot stuff! (6)
22. Prize keeps bishop on the line (5)
24. Aircraftman a fool, holding nothing for growth (9)
26. Santa and Nolte use aliases (9)
26. Mental picture I'm taking time to form (5)
27. Sounds like Cornwall or Lancaster (6)
28. Secretly watch mirror with telescope (8)
2. Vital nerve in big African animal can keep eluding four leaders? (3,6)
3. Seat of government? No... (10,5)
4. Sighs on hearing chicken farm bargains? (7)
6. Get the wrong idea of gin printer's time (15)
7. Greens - in bad weather? (5)
8. Try, lag, he suffered from apathy (8)
9. Be chopping logs outside when the spherical objects appear (6)
16. A cinerama restored examples of a country's quirks (9)
17. Upend one contraption that was still sealed (8)
19. Old Bob gives friendly direction to the crowds (6)
2. Puts away decks of cards at the university press (5,2)
21. Gets down to making a proposal? (6)
23. Rough copper in welded nut (5)

Solutions to 2255

- QUICK CLUES ACROSS:** 1 Prime ministers, 10 Cases, 11 Stylishly, 12 Faraago, 13 Squelch, 14 Gleam, 16 Agitation, 19 Afterglow, 20 Esteem, 22 Readmit, 25 Offered, 27 Butters up, 28 Islen, 29 Thoughtfulness. **DOWN:** 2 Resurcite, 3 Mocha, 4 Most of all, 5 Noyes, 6 Stimulate, 7 Ethel, 8 Say when, 9 Ice-fog, 15 Nuremberg, 17 Improptu, 18 Interests, 19 Acrobat, 21 Ending, 23 Astro, 24 TV set, 26 Feign. **CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS:** 1 Public footpath, 10 Madam, 11 Medallion, 12 Horatio, 13 Eurasia, 14 Sheet, 16 Front line, 19 Relocated, 20 Decaf, 22 Outlets, 25 Apparel, 27 Tea for two, 28 Neath, 29 Platform ticket. **DOWN:** 2 Under sail, 3 Limit, 4 Come off it, 5 Ogle, 6 Tolerated, 7 Adits, 8 Henbane, 9 Omahas, 15 Ticked off, 17 Odd-man-out, 18 Incarnate, 19 Roof-top, 21 Filthy, 23 Tara, 24 Sitar, 26 Panic.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday February 16

You can make small decisions and make minor choices, but whether you are really ready to make a substantial long-term commitment is a moot point. Wait a little longer, just to see how the land lies.

Monday February 17

Be prepared for sudden changes of plan and emotional challenges. Current responsibilities may take first place.

Tuesday February 18

Partners have to have their say and there's no real way you can stop them. It could be positively to your advantage if partners are permitted to express themselves as and when they wish.

Wednesday February 19

Friends and family will rally round and shower you with affection. The real key to happiness is that you should be free to follow your own, deep, inner interests.

Thursday February 20

Don't take other people's goodwill for granted, otherwise you'll lose some of the vital support that you'll depend on over the next twelve months.

Friday February 21

Even if life doesn't go your way, you have lots of other options. Plus sheer determination could win the day. Make compromise the key to success over the coming year.

Saturday February 22

As the days pass, intensity and passion will be replaced by a laid-back feeling that you can just relax. That's OK. You do sometimes take life a little too seriously.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Start thinking more about your own long-term security. You should prepare for the moment when the current bout of professional confusion has come to an end and obstacles have lifted. You might also be overhauling all your most intense emotional relationships.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

If ever there was a moment to look way beyond all the current bickering, this must be it. You're approaching a period when the often neglected spiritual side of your life will be of steadily increasing importance, so don't allow anyone to cloud your vision.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Jupiter's lively passage through your chart has tended to make you a little over-trusting and self-confident with the result that you may now have cause to regret a wasted opportunity. However, the loyalty and devotion of at least one close friend or associate must by now be making you feel more secure and optimistic.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You currently have a much better idea of where your loyalties lie as well as an appreciation of all that other people have done for you. It's probably in your interests to stop worrying about personal matters and face up to the realities of your career and professional ambitions, especially if colleagues are relying on you.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Commonsense, coupled with a sense of humour, will enable you to turn even rejection to your own advantage by revealing to one and all what a truly caring and generous person you are. Use your opportunities wisely.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Lunar patterns make it inevitable that a choice you've been putting off concerning the balance between your home and professional life will have to be taken very soon. You just can't carry on pretending that you can complete every task you've taken on, so make cuts.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Venus's passage through your chart should by rights herald a contented and uncomplicated time. However, there do seem to be one or two areas of confusion involving a misunderstanding at home or an unresolved domestic mystery which could prove awkward at the beginning of the week. Try to remain calm and avoid risks.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Decisions that you take around the beginning of the week will have dramatic results in your personal life before long. The key days are Wednesday and Thursday, when you'll be considering making a completely fresh start in both private and professional matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

You're not normally a secretive person, yet when a group of planets congregates in intense regions of your chart you may have good reason to keep certain important matters to yourself. There seems little doubt that you will benefit from keeping your own counsel until after the end of the week.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Saturn, the planet of authority and structure, is in a helpful mood and you can expect a period of great honour. You can be sure that, over the next few months, people in all walks of life will come to respect you for your maturity, wisdom, skill and experience.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Magnetic Mars' celestial patterns create an explosive situation and, with the added impetus of head-strong Mercury, you'll be in no mood to watch your tongue. You know that your ideas must be listened to and it might be that the time for compromise has passed. Much depends on whether you are prepared to risk a confrontation.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

This should be a good time of year for you. You'll be motivated far more than usual by your beliefs and will be much less likely to opt for the easy way out. That should keep some individuals happy, but people you live with may still be looking to you to do something extra but what, exactly, they might not say.

JUMBLLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.

The really frightening thing about _____ is that you know you'll grow out of it (6,3)

GLAEE	EAGRDD
GILET	LOOYGM

Answer: The really frightening thing about middle age is that you know you'll grow out of it. SOLUTION: EAGLE, LEGIT, DREDGE, GLOOM

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

SUDOKU 4122



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4121



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE, BALANGIR.

CANCELLATION OF WORKS

In Bid Identification No. SE (R&B) BGR/05/2019-20

Tender for the work:- "Construction of Court Building for Senior Civil Judge at Birmaharajpur in the District of Subarnapur for the year 2019-20." To here by cancelled in respect to intimidated by the Chief Engineer (Building) Odisha, Bhubaneswar in the meeting held on date-29.01.2020.

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

GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE ITANAGAR

TENDER NOTICE

No. PHQ (Prov)-54/2019-20 Dated Itanagar, the 14th February, 2020.
On behalf of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Director General of Police, Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar invites Sealed Tenders under two Bid systems (Technical & Financial Bid) from the manufacturers, authorised agents/ dealers/suppliers of reputed firms for entering into contract for supply & installation of cyber forensic tools/other items for setting up of Cyber Police Station — cum — Social Media Monitoring System at Police Head quarters, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh during 2019-20. For details please visit web site - www.arunpol.nic.in.

Sd/-
Director General of Police
Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SOURA SRINAGAR-190011

IMPORTS SECTION NOTICE

Subject:- Procurement of Whole Slide Digital Scanner (250 slides)/ continuous loading with Panasonic Confocal with Quad band BAPI/TRITC/CYS/FL FILTER on proprietary basis from M/S 3DHISTECH Hungary.
SKIMS intends to procure Whole slide Digital Scanner (250 slides)/ continuous loading with Panasonic Confocal with Quad band BAPI/TRITC/CYS/FL FILTER for the department of Advanced Centre for Human Genetics SKIMS on proprietary basis from M/S 3DHISTECH Hungary being their proprietary item as claimed by the company.

In this connection, objections (if any) from companies manufacturing/marketing, such equipment capable of delivering the same result as intended from the above equipment, regarding the proprietary nature of the above item should be communicated within 15 days on the above mentioned email id/fax after which the claim of the company who has claimed for the proprietorship of the said item shall be accepted.

Sd/-
Asstt. Material Management Officer
Imports.

कार्यालय रजिस्ट्रार, सहकारी समितियां, राजस्थान, जयपुर

नेहरू सहकार भवन, 22 गोदाम, भवानी सिंह रोड, जयपुर

क्रमांक फा. 33 (4) सचिरा/स्टोर/2019-20 दिनांक: 11.02.2020

विज्ञापित

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि कार्यालय के अनुपयोगी/ अग्रविलत एवं नकार सामान जिसका मुल्य 28,69,402/- रुपये है, को सार्वजनिक रूप से दिनांक 11.03.2020 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे नीलामी को जानी है। सामान जहाँ है, जैसा है, जिस स्थिति में है नीलाम किया जावेगा, जिसमें मुख्यतः कम्यूटरस, प्रिन्टर्स एवं लैपटॉप सम्मिलित हैं। सामग्री का अवलोकन कार्यालय के स्टोर में कार्यालय दिवस में दिनांक 05.03.2020 से दिनांक 06.03.2020 तक मध्यह्न 3.00 से 4.00 बजे तक किया जा सकता है। नीलामिता को 50,000/- रुपये की अमानत राशि बोलती लगाने से पूर्व जमा करानी होगी। बिना अमानत राशि जमा कराये बोलोदाता नीलामी में भाग नहीं ले सकेंगे। सफल बोलोदाता को बोलती की राशि का 50 प्रतिशत बोलती समानित के तत्काल बाद जमा करानी होगी एवं शेष राशि अगले कार्य दिवस में जमा करानी होगी। बोलती की राशि के साथ सरकार को देय जीएसटी का भी भुगतान बोलोदाता को करना होगा। सामग्री को सुपुर्दगी बोलोदाता को संपूर्ण राशि जमा करने के बाद दी जावेगी बोलोदाता को सामग्री नीलामी के अगले दिवस तक उठानी होगी। नीलामी को बोलती सिक्योर करने अथवा नीलामी रद्द करने का अधिकार नीलामी कमेटी को होगा।

हस्ता./
DIPR/C/1217/2020 संयुक्त रजिस्ट्रार (प्रशासन)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF FINANCE INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE TAX RECOVERY OFFICER 6, Room No.426-E, 4th Floor, Wanaaparthi Block, 121, M.G. Road, Aayakar Bhavan - Chennai-34 TEL: 044-28338545 / Mob:94459-53797 Email : chennai.tro6@incometax.gov.in

PUBLIC AUCTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY SITUATED AT CHENNAI

Notice is hereby given that the office of the undersigned has proposed to conduct a public auction as per the provisions laid down in the 2nd Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and sale of immovable property, which belongs to **Shri. Anand Muruga Utharkar, No.69, VGP Layout, 3rd Part, 2nd Main Road, Pallavakkam, Chennai- 41** being Income Tax defaulter for the purpose of recovery of income tax arrears.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Vacant land situated at Plot No 23, Second Street, Balamurugan Nagar, in the layout Plan 5582/75, approved by the Commissioner under D.T.P.No.221/75 situated in Balamurugan Nagar, Velachery, Chennai, comprised in Survey No.257 of Velachery Village, Mambalam Gundy Taluk, District of Chennai South measuring an extent of 2400 Sq.ft. and being bounded on North by: 20 feet Road-Balamurugan Nagar 2nd Street, South by: Plot No.2, East by: Plot No.22, West by: Plot No.24.

Reserve price in Rupees : **Rs.85,21,600/- plus poundage fee & costs**
E.M.D in Rupees : **Rs. 1,00,000/-**

DATE AND TIME OF AUCTION
12.03.2020 @ 11.30 AM

VENUE OF AUCTION

Income Tax Auditorium (Vaigai Hall) in the Income Tax Main Building Campus, Aayakar Bhavan, 121, M.G. Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034.

CONDITIONS:

1. The intending bidders are requested to deposit **Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only)** as Earnest Money Deposit for the above property by means of Demand Draft in favour of "Tax Recovery Officer-6, Income Tax Dept., Chennai" drawn on any schedule bank payable at Chennai before the beginning of actual auction proceedings, which is refundable to the parties except successful. The successful bidder shall pay immediately after such declaration, deposit of 25 % on the amount of his purchase money to the officer conducting sale, and in default of such deposit the property shall forthwith be put up again and resold. The full amount of purchase money payable should be paid by the purchaser to the undersigned on or before 15th day from the date of sale of property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day being a Sunday or other holiday, then on first office day after the fifteenth day. In default of payment within the period mentioned above, the property shall be resold after issue of fresh proclamation of sale.
2. The Property will be auctioned on "as is where is and what is there is basis".
3. The details of the property and the copy of the Encumbrance Certificate can be perused at the office of the undersigned on any working day prior to auction, after fixing an appointment with the undersigned during office hours.
4. Detailed terms and conditions of the auction sale may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
5. The aforesaid property will not be sold below the Reserve Price of **Rs.85,21,600/-**.
(V. SATHYA)
Tax Recovery Officer-6
Off. Pr. Commissioner of Income Tax-6
Chennai.

Date: 06.02.2020
Place : Chennai

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Block No. 14/1 Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector-10, Gandhinagar.
Ph: 079-23250767, 23250766, 23257696

E-TENDER NOTICE: 18/2019-20

Tenders are invited online for following items **On BI - ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT BASIS** (through internet) from reputed manufacturers. For imported materials Authorized representative / dealer appointed either by parent manufacturer or its subsidiary company should submit their offer. Interested bidders are requested to submit the tender through e-tender process. All tender documents can be downloaded free from web site <http://gmscl.nprocure.com> between 15/02/2020 to 11/03/2020 upto 15.55 Hrs. Detail Tender Notice is available on website: <https://gmscl.nprocure.com/> <http://gmscl.gujarat.gov.in>, www.state-tenders.com and this office notice board. Only one authorised person from each company would be allowed to attend Pre-bid meeting subject to the production of authorization letter, Valid photo ID card and product literature of the company conforming that company manufactures the product for which pre-bid is being held.

Sr. No.	Name of Item	Pre-Bid Meeting
(1)	Spectacles under Eye Screening Programme	Ophthalmic Dt.24/02/2020 11:00 hrs.
(2)	Post Operative Glasses	
(3)	Black safety goggles (Cataract Goggles)	
(4)	Glasses for Near vision	

Duration of Downloading Tender (online): 15/02/2020 to 11/03/2020 up to 15.55 hrs.

Last date for Submission (online): 11/03/2020 up to 16.00 hrs.

Last date for Physical Submission on: 12/03/2020 up to 12.00 hrs.

Due date of opening of Technical Bid (online): 13/03/2020 on 12.30 hrs.

INF/2315/19-20 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Water Resources Department

Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Oglewadi

e-TENDER NOTICE NO. 65 FOR 2019-2020

Main Tender Portal: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

CIRCLE : SANGLI IRRIGATION CIRCLE; SANGLI
DIVISION : TEMBHU LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT DIVISION OGLEWADI

Online electronic bids in B-1 form for below mentioned works is invited by Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Oglewadi Water Resources Department Maharashtra Government from registered or non registered contractors with Public works department, Government of Maharashtra contractors. Tender documents are download from Government website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>. Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division, Oglewadi reserves the right to reject / accept of tender. Tender is not accepted with any condition

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Rate
1.	Lift Irrigation Scheme with drip irrigation system for Shree Kedarnath Sahakari Pani Purvatha Sanstha at Dicholi Punarvasit Babarmachi Tal Karad Dist Satara	
2.	Cost Put to Tender	Rs. 1,57,26,439/-
3.	E-Tender period	Dt 18/02/2020 to 04/03/2020
4.	E-Tender Opening	Dt.06/03/2020

All information of above E tender is available on below link.
1. <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
2. Any changes in E Tender will inform on above website

Name of Officer and Address :- Executive Engineer, Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division Oglewadi Tal- Karad, Dist-Satara
Ph.No. 02164-271327 E-mail- eetltpdn2@gmail.com

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Tembhu Lift Irrigation Project Management Division
Oglewadi Karad

DGIPR/2019/2020/5020

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

(A Super Speciality, Autonomous Institute of Govt. of Bihar)
IGIMS Medical College, IGIMS Nursing College
Sheikhpur, Patna-14. EPBX:0612-227099/227631. Website: www.igims.org

Tender Notice No. - 01/Tender (shop) M.S. Cell/2020

Sealed Tenders in two bid systems, Part-I Techno Commercial and Part II-Financial, are invited from Drugist/Chemist/Firms/Dealers/ Companies for running medicine shop in IGIMS campus, Patna under Pradhan Mantri Bhariya Jan Aushadhi Kendra, Scheme near O.P.D of IGIMS.

Details of bidding document, term and conditions can be seen and downloaded from institute website www.igims.org.
Director, IGIMS, Patna

EMANELMENT OF LOCAL MEDICAL STORES/CHEMISTS FOR ECHS POLYCLINIC ROORKEE

Applications are invited from vendors for empanelment of local medical stores for supply of medicines to this Polyclinic. Vendors to apply on prescribed application (available at ECHS Roorkee) along with requisite documents. Applications should reach at Stn HQ either by registered post or dropped in tender box by **1200 hrs on 02 Mar**

There's nothing Kane can't

Neither Nice Guy, nor Mr Cricket will do enough justice when describing Kane Williamson. SANDIP G visits the people and places who made the Kiwi captain cricket's endlessly endearing mascot. But there's more to him — he could slaughter oppositions in rugby and basketball, and cooks a mean lamb in the kitchen.

A THICK, chest-high fence demarcates the Pillans Point School and the house the Williamsons lived in for years before they shifted to the upscale Mount Manganui neighbourhood. The Maxwell's Point, where Williamson's character and quiet genius for batting were formed, is a quiet, leafy neighbourhood, undisturbed by vehicular noise or human chatter. Leap over the house's back wall and you are straight into the play ground of the school where students play everything from rugby, volleyball, cricket to football.

At the corner of the ground was once an artificial wicket, which Williamson's father Brett built when his cricket-crazy son was around nine. It was not just for Williamson that he installed the facility, but for the entire neighbourhood and the school. Since there was no turf wicket in the locality, the kids just played on the street and the ground, or had to drive down to Tauranga. So he dug deep into his own pockets for the money and then some of his friends contributed to mount a turf wicket in the school backyard.

"He always believed in doing things the right way, giving the proper facility to the kids, so that their growth is organic. He did all those things, not because he was obsessed about seeing Kane play for New Zealand, but just to provide him with the right environment," says Susan Braid, one of their neighbours, and mother of rugby's Braid brothers, Luke and Bryn, the former already an All Black with the latter knocking on the doors.

Brett would impart training and give throw-downs to every kid. So the Williamson twins, Logan and Kane, the former who has long stopped any form of the game but is a playstation addict, and the Braid brothers, would always be around the ground. "While training, he was not Kane's father, but more of a coach. He would give the same advice to all the kids. He's just like Kane, sweet and simple, a bit reserved, doesn't talk much until he gets to know you really well. Kane's character is a replica of his. He was a talented cricketer too."

Brett, a sales manager, nursed cricketing ambitions when he was young, but had to confine to the club level because of an eye condition. He was around 17, by then he had already represented the Northern Districts U-17 side, when he got diagnosed with Keratoconus, a degenerative cornea condition. He needed a cornea transplant back in the day when techniques weren't as sophisticated as they are now. But in pushing Williamson to play cricket, he was not trying to fulfil his own last dream.

He encouraged him to play every sport, be it rugby or football, volleyball or surfing. But it was over cricket that the father and son bonded the most. "He was always his cricket partner, because his twin brother (Logan) was not much of a sports guy, and his sisters weren't much into cricket, though they played basketball and softball," says Braid.

It's where Brett's cricketing background, too, kicked in and proved beneficial for Williamson. The training was scientific even back then, the old but efficient methods like hitting a ball in a sock dangled from a washing line, and the combination of stump and golf ball, wherein a hole is drilled through the ball and a string is tied through it. When there was no bat, he would grab his grandad's golf clubs and bat with a bat shaft.

So by the time he started taking formal lessons, his hand-eye coordination and muscle memory were set, observes his childhood coach David Johnston, who had ditched his dairy farm in Matamata to embark on a cricketing coaching career in Tauranga. "I first met him when he was around 10 or 11, and I was literally shocked to see the kind of technique and movements. He waits until it is under his eyes. He picks up the line early, length early, and knew his game so well. The fundamentals were all in place. I thought he had some kind of training, but he told me he had none, expect the father giving tips. I wanted to meet



Chef Adams (L) keeps his chores aside whenever Williamson drops in at his cafe. Often they join hands to fix meals. When home, the Kiwi skipper also finds time to visit his coach David Johnston (Top).

BASKETBALL

It was the first sport Williamson played, when he was barely one-and-a-half-years old. Such was his love for the sport that he slept with a basketball.

RUGBY

When in school, Williamson reckoned he would make it big in rugby. A diminutive fly-half, he was quick and combative. He was also known to wade through tackles and fly on the flanks.

his father straightaway."

Brett downplays his own influence. "I just tap here, or at the school, just for fun," he told me. But I knew it was more than that. Later, as I understood him deeper, I realised it was just the father's humility or simplicity. He's just like Kane, quiet and soft-spoken," remembers Johnston.

But one day, when he dropped in at their home, he saw them tapping the ball in the car-pot. "I watched their intensity, and I was like wow. Then Kane's mother took me to the garden and pointed out to a flower pot they had broken and then to the back wall to show me the red marks of the cricket ball on the wall. Brett would yell, 'I will paint it myself, no worries. It was a happy family and that reflects on his character,'" he recollects.

He was not just throwing balls, he would make technical observations too. "He analysed a problem with many New Zealand batsmen of his time, that they are not good playing on the back-foot. So they would feed him with short balls, thus honing his back-foot technique. He would also lob the ball in the air and advise him to step out so that he built the game to play the spinners," he says.

A son built in the father's mould is an image you can't escape. No conversation about them in the locality is complete without the "oh he's just like his father" line. Even if you press for a break-the-mould anecdote, there isn't any. As Susan says: "Whatever you see of Kane is real. And he got it from his family." And perhaps the locality he grew up in too, quiet and idyllic but brimming with sporting talent. Williamson carries a slice of his family and Maxwell's Point wherever he goes. Even if he tries, he could not have, for there's so much of the town in him.

Though the artificial turf his father installed has long deteriorated—albeit replaced by a new one—it still exists metaphorically in the mind of Maxwell Point residents.

Between all the myriad games he played—a sporting polymath in its broadest sense—he excelled in academics. But one subject was difficult to crack, economics. For the lessons, he would turn to his best friend and competitor for the coveted sports captain's honour, Peter Burling, a helmsman sailor in the 49er who won gold at the Rio Olympics after a silver at London. So prodigious were both of them that the principal of the Tauranga Intermediate College, Robert Mangan, always used to be in a dilemma as to who he should make the sport's captain.

Williamson was the skipper of the cricket team and an accomplished fly-half in rugby. Burling was already winning laurels in international sailing tournaments and was touted as an Olympic champion. To pick between the two was difficult. But after much nerve-racking, the principal found a solution. He made Burling the sports captain and Williamson the head boy, an equivalent of prefect. "But neither of them were worried or bothered about the post. Both of them had no ego, very understated boys, who kept on bringing more accolades for the college."

The only concern for Mangan was whether Kane was taking too much a sporting load on his shoulders. Initially, he reckoned that he would make it big in rugby. A diminutive fly-half, he was quick, used to wade through tackles and fly like an eel. He played the Roger Mills tournament and was adjudged the best fly-half. Then he thought, he would become a basket-baller, after he was named MVP at the mid-northern junior secondary schools tournament. "He was a damn good shooting guard, always at the right place at the right time kind of a guy. He was extremely good with three pointers too."

Basketball, in fact, was the first sport he

COOK

He is not a crazy foodie, but a decent cook. He makes excellent lamb curry and likes to experiment. He prefers his meals to be gluten free.

COFFEE

For coffee he heads to The Luca on the Maunganui Road, where he grabs a magazine, reclines into the chair and sips his favourite flat white. Being regular, they know his coffee needs to be extra hot.

played, when he was barely one-and-a-half-years old. He always slept with a basketball. "What surprised me was that he excelled in all. It was not like he was good at one and okay in the rest. He was equally prolific in all. Maybe, he would become a dual sportsman, I thought. But I know it's difficult in this day and age," he admits.

But a concussion in a rugby game led him to stop the game. Johnston remembers that day. "It was perhaps the only time I have seen him a bit worried. He got a terrible blow on his head, and I wouldn't say he was scared, but he got an aversion to the sport. I told him, well you can devote more time to the cricket, though I would say that he never compromised his time on cricket," he says.

The love for basketball with an eye on the Tall Blacks eventually, which he got from his mother, died a natural death. What it meant was more time with Johnston. If previously, he faced a 1,000 balls a day, he would now face 2,000. And the news of an ever-smiling young boy ransacking runs and breaking age-group records travelled far and wide.

By the time the final year winked, he was hardly in the college, as he was always touring with the New Zealand U-19 team and captained his country in the 2008 edition of the U-19 World Cup. The same year, Burling went to the Beijing Olympics. Mangan was excited but at the same time sad. "Oh, now we have neither our sports captain and head boy, and we had keenly contested annual sports events coming up." Burling then went onto win silver in the 49er class in London before upgrading it to gold in Rio.

A decade later, he's smitten with another dilemma. Who does he give the Old Boy of the decade award to? "They would recommend each other's name, I am sure."

The Eddies and Elspeth on Terrace Avenue is always bustling. The chef is Adams, flaunting his chiselled biceps and tattoos and tonsured head, the kind with a don't-mess-with-me-kind of demeanour. He's a busy man, but he keeps his chores aside when Williamson drops in at the cafe, which he does whenever he's in town. "Spends a lot of time here, when he's in town. Sits in one corner quietly, that is when I'm not there and does his own thing. Here in the Mount, people don't intrude into anyone's space. They might identify him, but at the most they would say hello," he says.

Adams, too, is a cricket buff. But cricket scarcely slips into their conversation. It's mostly cuisine-talk. "We always discuss food, the different varieties of food that I make and the type of cuisine he has tasted in the different parts of the world. He likes the sort of stuff I make, a lot of fusion and gluten-free stuff.

I first met him when he was around 10 or 11, and I was shocked to see his technique. The fundamentals were in place. I thought he had some kind of training, but he told me he had none, expect the father giving tips. I wanted to meet his father straightaway.

DAVID JOHNSTON,
WILLIAMSON'S CHILDHOOD COACH

Sometimes, we cook together," he says.

Williamson, he says, is not a foodie, but a decent cook. "He makes excellent lamb, I have had it a few times. Like me, he also likes to experiment, that's why we hit it off."

For coffee, he heads to The Luca on the Maunganui Road, where he grabs a magazine, reclines into the chair and sips the favourite flat white. Extra hot. But here he sticks to his regular brew. Hot coffee and cool demeanour. The recipe of Williamson's success.

But the conversation between Johnston and Williamson, even now, is purely on cricket. There's little else much between them. "He's half my age, several generations apart. Of course, we will talk generally about the town and other stuff, but mostly it's about cricket, not like a mentor-student thing, but about some technical thing."

Like recently, he had an issue with stance, and he realised that the front-shoulder tended to droop a bit. So, they worked together for a week and corrected it. "Though he is away mostly, I keep watching him. Not only because I enjoy watching, but just to check if he's doing everything correctly. It's one of those childhood coach things. He's always a child to me, and he's very receptive to my suggestions, as he always was," he says. The irony is striking, because his batting when he was a child looked like a man's. Not just his technical abilities but also his mental bearings. Attests former New Zealand cricketer Lorne Howell, in whose father's academy Kane trained: "A lot of kids have the game, but not the mental strength or composure. They fall apart once they start failing. But Kane was elevated in that sense. He was a man among boys. Whether he had scored a hundred or a zero, he would react the same way. That's what you call mental equilibrium. He's like Sachin Tendulkar in that way."

It could also be that he was not failing at all. In one season, when he was only 13, he plundered 700-odd runs in seven single-innings two-day games. Almost 500 of those, he scored with a bat that Graham Thorpe had once used.

The England batsman had gifted it to Mark Patterson, who had played for Surrey. When he started playing for the Northern Districts, he handed it to Jim Irwin, a Mount player. He, in turn, gifted this to his friend and an ex-player Charles Aldridge, whose son Graham went on to play three matches for New Zealand. But rather than giving it to his son, he decided to give this to the most talented young cricketer around.

As it was too heavy for him, he shoved it in a corner. But a day before the match, he broke his old bat and there was no time to buy another. So he dusted up the old bat and it worked like a lucky charm. "The bat wouldn't have mattered. He would have scored with a golf club," says Johnston, chuckling.

Forget failure, he never even feared failure. "I have never seen a more mentally sorted guy. He might be extremely humble or soft-spoken, but he has a lot of inner steel," says Howell. So he calls him Buddha.

The day New Zealand lost the World Cup in the most heartbreaking fashion, the town didn't mourn or shed tears. A week later, when Williamson returned home, they put up banners all around the town that read: "Welcome back, Kane. We won't weep for you. You are a champion."

The words spoke stronger than commiserations. The quiet stoicism they displayed symbolised the spirit of Kane Williamson. The next day, he was back on the street, haunting his haunts, sipping coffee and cooking lamb. "He gave me a call and we had a pleasant chat. He didn't sound tired and was cheerful," says Johnston. It was so Williamson. The unpretentious son of an unpretentious town.

Illustration: Suvajit Dey



SHARED LODGING

New Zealand spinner Ish Sodhi sits alongside the Indian trio of Prithvi Shaw, Cheteshwar Pujara and Rishabh Pant during the tour game. Express

NEW ZEALAND 'A' ALL OUT FOR 235

Spinners efficient, Bumrah good, Shami on the money



Mohammed Shami (R) was the most successful Indian bowler. Express

SANDIP G
HAMILTON, FEBRUARY 15

ON A SURFACE that was considerably better to bat on than in the first innings, Indian bowlers quickly adjusted to the lengths it demanded, in the process bowling out New Zealand 'A' for 235. Mohammed Shami snared three while fellow pacers Umesh Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Navdeep Saini gobbled up two apiece with offie Ravichandran Ashwin pouching the final. But there is more to their bowling than the numbers suggest. A gist of how they stacked up.

ated mostly on off and middle and hardly got any fizz off the surface, as was expected on a day-two surface. Maybe, he pipped Ashwin in the accuracy quotient.

JASPRIT BUMRAH 2/18

Though not yet at the zenith of his prowess, he bowled sharply and lively enough to allay untoward fears that he has lost his deception. He bowled with fabulous rhythm, pace and liveliness. A beautifully-shaped delivery got him the first wicket, Will Young. The ball angled in and moved a shade away to brush his outside edge. Classic Bumrah stuff. Similar rippers though didn't yield results. The next victim was Finn Allen, who discounted Bumrah's ability to duck the ball inwards, and shouldered arms to be bowled. Maybe, he thought the bounce would carry the ball over the stumps.

R ASHWIN 1/46

The last overseas Test he played was back in December 2018 in Adelaide, where he played an unsung role in India's victory. An abdominal strain ruled him out of the remainder of the series, but in his absence, Ravindra Jadeja nailed his spot with all-round feats. So even after he reclaimed fitness, he sat out of the West Indies tour.

MD SHAMI 3/17

Coming at a time when the surface was hardly offering any swing, he exhibited a masterclass on seam bowling. Those beautiful wrists and seam position was on show, as he tormented their middle-order. Everything he did was precise, be it the length or movement. Straightaway, he was getting more lift than his colleagues and tormented the batsmen. He was at his best in the second spell, just after the drinks break in the second session.

UMESH YADAV 2/49

Initially he struggled with his length and was either too full or too straight. Then he laboured with the lines, he was either way outside the off-stump or straying down the leg-side. Intermittently, though, he would bowl a near-unplayable delivery, one that would bend away, or hold the line marginally after pitching. But he bowled one loose ball too many and thus turned out to be India's second most expensive bowler, though he was clearly not bowling at full pelt.

NAVDEEP SAINI 2/58

Like Umesh, he too bowled a wayward first spell, spraying the ball all over the place. But his second and third spells were more encouraging, as he shunned his pursuit of lateral movement and instead stuck to what he generally does well, which is to bowl back-of-length. Recognition arrived in the form of two wickets

RAVINDRA JADEJA 0/25

The left-arm spinner came on as the sixth Indian bowler, and did almost an Ashwin-like job, in holding an end up. He troubled batsmen with his smart change of pace and angles, sometimes making them wait for the ball and sometimes hurrying them into playing shots. But he too oper-

Auditions are still open

Neither front-runner Umesh Yadav nor Navdeep Saini did enough to seal the third seamer's spot



EXPRESS IN NEW ZEALAND

SANDIP G
HAMILTON, FEBRUARY 15

STRAIGHTAWAY AFTER Rachin Ravi laced a gorgeous square drive in the fourth over, Umesh Yadav decided to come around the stumps to the left-hander, an unusual channel of operation for him. It began disastrously as his ankle slipped during the landing, sending a wave of momentary fear in the dressing room. How India could do away with a freak ankle twist, as had occurred to Ishant Sharma in Delhi, where Yadav was a witness. But Yadav flashed an embarrassed smile, gestured he was alright towards the dressing and offered an apology to the batsman.



Umesh Yadav (pic) like Navdeep Saini bowled better in the second spell. File

The strategy, though, hardly paid any dividends. It could be foreseen, as Yadav is not someone like Mohammed Shami who can move the ball away after pitching from that angle, or hold the line fractionally. All he could was to bowl straight at the off-stump and wish the batsman misses and the ball hits the pad. He has to be pinpoint perfect, for even if the ball pings the batsman on the middle-stump, umpires would be hesitant to approve his appeal.

A few overs later, Ravi dispatched him to successive boundaries, a classic left-hander's on-the-rise cover drive, followed by a neat pull. The drive was not off an over-pitched delivery, but the awareness that Yadav won't take the ball away from him was convincing enough for Ravi to unfurl the stroke.

The pull was off a wayward short-ball on leg-stump, which he just had to glide through fine leg. Promptly, he was withdrawn from the attack, his first-spell figures reading 4-0-18-1.

Not merely the figures, he hardly threatened to grab a wicket, barring a couple of deliveries that seemed away late after landing.

But in general, he was the throwback scattergun, who seldom adheres to the fundamental tenet of bowling on one side of the pitch. Or sticking to the length that suits the pitch. It was not a bowl-full pitch that conspired lateral movement, but one wherein the bowler had to pound the back-of-length area and optimise the bounce.

Maybe, he was striving too hard for this length, which is not his natural landing zone, that he either over-reached or under-reached. In the first over, he was unnecessarily looking to bounce out the batsman but only ended up testing the stretching limits of Pant. He stopped one, but the second he wouldn't have averted even if he was wearing a pair of stilettos.

It's exactly what India didn't want to watch from their likeliest candidate to replace the injured Ishant, and a 45-Test-old veteran (among the pacers, only Mohammed Shami has more Test caps). It's that stage of a career when you expect more guarantee from Yadav, and in fairness, he has evolved into reliable bowler, both in terms of

taking wickets and stopping runs, seamlessly straddling the strike-stock bowler worlds.

But with Navdeep Saini maturing by leaps with every outing, Yadav's slot in the team is not a surety. Both are different bowlers—Saini is more of a hit-the-deck purveyor with a heavy ball and twinkling pace, as opposed to Yadav who probes fuller lengths. But considering that their primary role could be that of a stock bowler, a support cast to Shami and Jasprit Bumrah, the team management could pick the one who's prospectively thrifter, who could be better suited to fill in Ishant's role. Neither of them is a like-for-like replacement, but both are resourceful in their own different ways.

Thus, replacing Bumrah in the eleventh over, it was Saini's chance to justify the hype around him and press for his Test debut. He didn't in the first spell, wherein he bowled sans the usual bustle. The run-up was a touch slower and shorter, and he didn't seem inclined to bowl at full tilt. He hardly procured the bounce Bumrah was getting from the same end, whereupon he quickly reverted

to a fuller length, which's not clearly his strength. Unsurprisingly, he neither looked like getting a wicket nor putting a tight leash on the batsmen. Finn Allen latched onto his loose deliveries and motored on, before he was duly taken out of the attack.

Split verdict

If the spells were taken into consideration, the third-bowler poll was a split verdict. Both were unworthy of mandate. But their respective second spells were more heated.

Yadav pounded in and ratcheted up the pace, he was more accurate, fourth stump or thereabouts and regularly hooped the ball away. There was nothing short or leg-side bound and he built substantial pressure. Just before lunch, he exacted revenge on the batsman who had troubled him the most too, Ravi, caught behind off a delivery that slanted across him after repeatedly beating him from the over-the-wicket angle. It was the tonic he required. The second spell read more presentable figures of 4-1-10-1.

Bounded in Saini—this time full steam, with a steamier run-up. He found two friends that seemed to have deserted him, pace and bounce. He was hitting the batsmen higher on the bat and troubling them with inward movement, his improved efforts rewarded with the wickets of Tom Bruce and Dane Cleaver, one through the gate and the other played-on. On both instances, the batsmen were hustled by the pace, bounce and movement. Thus, neither had a clear advantage in their second spells. By the time, the third spells beckoned, New Zealand 'A' were down to their lower-order batsmen, keeping the third seamer's spot inconclusive. And it's unlikely that either of them would get a meaningful enough chance on the final day.

So eventually, the next few net sessions notwithstanding, it might boil down to a lot of factors. Like the pitch (Yadav if it's grassier and Navdeep if it's bouncier), tactics (what if they decide to play two spinners?), or even the hunch or the role (Navdeep can bowl long unrelenting spells, which's often required of the third seamer). Yadav, by all means, would start as the overwhelming favourite. But Saini would offer a stiff race. Both, though, would rue that they couldn't present their case more tellingly on the second day.

RANJI ROUND-UP

PATEL SEVEN-FOR DOES THE TRICK

Left-arm spinner Axar Patel finished with figures of 7/92 as Gujarat restricted Andhra for 258 in the second innings, thereby earning an 8-wicket win. They may have gone down to Gujarat in their final league encounter, but Andhra have done enough to nose ahead into the quarterfinal, where they will face Saurashtra on their home turf in Ongole.

BRIEF SCORES: Andhra 177 and 258 (Axar Patel 7/92) vs Gujarat 406.

BIG WIN FOR GOA

AN INNINGS and 211-run win over Mizoram in their Plate Group clash at CC&FC Ground helped Goa advance to the knockouts. All-rounder Amit Verma followed his century with a 5/39 in the second innings of Mizoram, who folded up for 170, after following-on to suffer a defeat. Goa will now face 2017 champions Gujarat at Valsad in the quarterfinal.

BRIEF SCORES: Goa 490 for 4 vs Mizoram 109 & 170 (KB Pawan 111; Amit Varma 5/39)

SAURASHTRA TAKE LEAD, ADVANCE

Lower-order batsman Chirag Jani's unbeaten 124 helped Saurashtra grab three points, courtesy the first innings lead, in their drawn Ranji Trophy Elite Group B game against Tamil Nadu. Jani's knock would come as a boost for Saurashtra, as they overhauled Tamil Nadu mammoth first innings total of 424. Arpit Vasavada too scored a valiant 132.

QUARTERFINAL LINE-UP

Gujarat vs Goa (Valsad)
Bengal vs Odisha (Cuttack)
Karnataka vs J&K (Jammu)
Saurashtra vs Andhra (Ongole)

But the final day of the match belonged to Jani, who hammered 10 fours and two other hits over the fence. Saurashtra had begun the day at 346/6 and needed to get past 424 for three points.

BRIEF SCORES: Tamil Nadu 424 vs Saurashtra 481/6 (Arpit Vasavda 132, Chrag Jani 121 n.o.)

SENAPATI, THE STAR FOR ODISHA

Their duel against Jharkhand may have ended in a stalemate, but Odisha have qualified for the Ranji Trophy quarterfinal, having earned a first-innings lead. On the final day's play, Odisha's top-order lead by their captain Subhranshu Senapati unbeaten 100 and Biplab Samantray's 64 not out, took them to 181/1 when the match was called off.

BRIEF SCORES: Odisha 436 and 181/1 (S. Senapati 100 not out) vs Jharkhand 356.

■ Karnataka beat Baroda by eight wickets on Friday to advance.

■ Bengal beat Punjab on Friday to advance.

After rocky start, J&K head into knockouts

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 15



Parvez Rasool ended the group stage with 403 runs and 25 wickets. File

In early August last year, with the Jammu & Kashmir cricket team's pre-season camp gathering momentum, Irfan Pathan, the team mentor, had to leave because a political upheaval was on the cards. On August 5, 2019, the Government of India revoked Article 370 and curfew had been imposed in the valley. Cricket became absolutely peripheral and nobody outside the J&K team and its cricket administration were concerned about a pre-season going disarray.

Six months down the line, J&K are in the Ranji Trophy quarterfinals, having the odds and showing consistency that saw them win six matches outright in Elite, Group C. They lost their final group league fixture against Haryana by two wickets on Saturday, but the team had already secured a place in the knockouts—after six seasons—with 39 points, J&K will play against Karnataka in the quarterfinals.

It has been a fascinating tale, given the political uncertainty back home. The players showed character, but it wasn't easy. "When (it happened), we couldn't communicate with the boys. For 25 days, we didn't have any practice. I was there for two weeks and then I had to leave. And when the squad assembled again, their (players) mindset was-

n't up to the mark, their body wasn't up to the mark and I knew that I needed to get them a little bit of time to prepare," Pathan told *The Sunday Express*.

It was his decision to take the team to Baroda for a camp, where the focus was on having one-on-one sessions with the players. "What I, and also coach Milap (Mewada), told them during those sessions will always remain between us, but it was important to have those sessions in terms of mental preparation. I always believe that the majority of cricket is played mentally. If you are mentally OK, your feet will move. So many things were happening in the media and our

job was to help the players focus on doing the right thing, playing good cricket. Credit to the boys that they played very good cricket and I'm proud of them," Pathan said.

J&K's upsurge, however, hasn't happened overnight. A process that started a couple of seasons ago, when Pathan took charge, is gradually coming to fruition. The team mentor spoke about putting emphasis on changing the team culture.

"The biggest challenge was that we needed to play as a unit. In a region like J&K that has so many districts (22), and the diversity and history, we needed to have the right balance of making the team come together. That was our aim. That was my focus, captain Parvez Rasool's focus and the entire team's focus. This team has no senior, junior. Everybody is equal. In the past, some of the players had played 40 games with the average of 20, some of the players had played 50 games with the average of 18 as a batsman. You can't play cricket like that.

"We backed the players who are going to give everything to the team even if they are not performing. In the last two years, some of the guys got dropped from the XI for playing selfish cricket and we told them, 'if you play selfish cricket you would be dropped, doesn't matter if you score a half-century'. If a bowler was needed to bowl away from the stumps as per the match situation, he got the backing even if

he didn't pick wickets. It was important to make them understand that it's a team game."

Captain Parvez Rasool talks about the positive changes that took place recently.

"The last two years, cricket was taken to all the districts. Also earlier, the whole set-up used to be unprofessional. Players used to assemble just 10-15 days before the start of the tournament and we were always under-prepared, going into competitive matches. This has changed over the past two years. We have had proper camps and right facilities now. Also, Irfan Pathan came and brought in his international experience," Rasool told this paper.

Rasool ended the group stage with 403 runs and 25 wickets. "I'm trying my best to get back to the Indian team. Am working hard on improving my game."

Against Karnataka, J&K would be the underdogs. "We are going to play one of the strongest teams in domestic cricket. But if we can play good cricket for the entire duration of the game, I think we can beat any side. The boys now have belief," Pathan said.

Rasool is aiming even higher. "We will give a very tough fight to Karnataka. And definitely, if we can beat Karnataka, we can go the distance."

BRIEF SCORES: J&K 340 and 174 lost to Haryana 291 and 224/8 (R.P Sharma 75 not out) by two wickets.

Bhawana walks the walk, talks Tokyo

Daughter of a mason from Kelwa village in Rajasthan qualifies for the 2020 Olympics in 20km race walk

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 15

BHAWANA JAT would have still been herding buffaloes if it wasn't for the support of her physical education teacher at school. A decade ago a young Bhawana was taking the family's only buffalo grazing when she bumped into the teacher and his trainees who were heading for a district championship. Bhawana took a chance and asked Hira Lal Kumawat if she could go along. He obliged immediately. Barefoot, she won the gold in the 3-kilometer race walk event to everybody's surprise. It was the start of a long, hard but fruitful journey for the girl from Kelwa village in Rajsamand, Rajasthan.

On Saturday, the daughter of a mason who couldn't afford a pair of shoes for the longest time clocked 1 hour, 29 minutes and 54 seconds in the 20km race walk, a timing well inside the Olympic qualification standard of 1:31:00, to win gold at the national championships and book a berth to the Tokyo Olympics. She also broke the national record which stood at 1:31:29. Bhawana's timings was a huge improvement on her 1:38:30s set in October last year during the National Open Championships and the challenge will be for her to maintain her form closer to the Olympics.

On the biggest day of her career, one of the first people the 23-year-old spoke to was her first coach Kumawat.

"I still remember that day when I was out in the field. The temperature was touching close to 40 degrees and I had walked more than seven kilometres in search of green pastures for the buffalo. That is when I saw Kumawat sir and his trainees heading for the district meet. Since all the spots were filled up, he told me I only had the option to participate in the 3km walk. *Chalna hi toh hai* (all I have to do is walk), I told myself back then," Bhawana said.

The family stayed in a one-room mud house in Kelwa village and to fund his daughter's athletics career Shankar Lal Jat, a mason who earns Rs 300 daily, had to take a mortgage and borrow money from a lender. Her elder brother Prakash Chander was a budding athlete but had to give up on his dreams and take up a job to make ends meet as Bhawana showed promise.

"When Bhawana told me about competing in district meets, I was only worried about how to get her shoes. We mortgaged our house so she could use the money for her training and diet needs. Today all the sacrifices have paid off. The fact that she



On Saturday, Bhawana Jat clocked 1 hour, 29 minutes and 54 seconds in the 20km race walk, a timing well inside the Olympic qualification standard of 1:31:00, to win gold at the national championships. Express

has qualified for the Olympics brings us a lot of joy," Shankar said. Bhawana started formal coaching on the mud track in her village but things started looking up when she won a silver at the Junior National Athletics Championships at Vijaywada. When word spread about the talented girl from the village who had won a national medal, Hindustan Zinc factory located in nearby Dariba gave her Rs 4,000 for a pair of walking shoes.

Coach Kumawat is all praise for the hard work of his ward but a story from a few years ago, he says, showed how determined she could be when faced with the odds. "During the Rajasthan Athletics Meet in 2011, she struck her foot on a stone and it started bleeding. But she completed the race without flinching. Kumawat said. A silver at the national race walking

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championships in 2016 marked her out as special but a setback followed the next year when she suffered a knee injury.

Her current coach Gurmukh Sihag talks about the difficult period. "She had suffered knee injury but we worked on improving her technique dur-

ing that time. Her hand movement was not correct and was hampering her timing. So I would make her watch videos of 2016 Olympics champion Liu Hong of China so that she is able to see what is the right way. We also focussed on strength training during her injury layoff," Gurmukh said.

Bhawana now hopes to improve her timings steadily and peak at the right time for the Tokyo Olympics. "Apart from working on my technique, which I still feel needs improvement, I will be aiming to improve my timing in next month's Asian Championships. My training will all be focussed towards doing my very best at Tokyo," she said.

The newest race walk star will also have to eke out time to fill forms and apply for a passport. From Kelwa village to Tokyo, it has been a tough journey but Bhawana has taken the setbacks in her stride and excelled when it mattered most.

Free-flowing Sen the silver lining in India's semis loss

SHIVANI NAIK
FEBRUARY 15

FLYING UNDER the radar and with a tailwind of carefree zero pressure, Lakshya Sen is rustling up quite a little storm. In a perfectly windless, harmless playing hall at Manila, Lakshya put Asian Games champion Jonatan Christie under the pump and got him to send his flick serve wildly wide. This was at 20-20 in the second set, having won the first, playing second singles of the Badminton Asia Team Championship semifinal against Indonesia against the World No 7. Having drawn out that error under pressure, the Indian 20-year-old proceeded to record a stunning 21-18, 22-20 win over the Indonesian, the biggest of his career.

"I was playing freely with no pressure. There was no drift, so it was easy to defend and I made no errors. I attacked and kept him away from the net. I had no tension when I got to know I'm playing him in the morning. I was just a junior, so he was under pressure," says the youngster, who kept Christie at bay the whole of the opening set, and then parried back a second set defence to pocket around 760 bonus points above his 3742 by scalping the Top 10 Indonesian.

Both Christie and Lakshya play a fast, attacking style, and the Indian was particularly sharp in defense, embracing the challenge of the longer rallies — something which he isn't overtly fond of ordinarily. Lakshya picked a clutch of low-rung titles late last year while trudging through Europe (he was based out of Denmark), but the biggest takeaway from the European sojourn might well be the patience he's developed in these longer rallies.

One, it made him independent in making decisions. But it also added the fall-back safety valve to his game which doesn't fizzle out if he can't go boom-bang in offense and is forced to dig his heels in and grit it out. Like at 19-16, Jojo Christie would bring out a pair of flick serves to level at 19-all. But Lakshya had been absorbing the pace so well, looking confident too, that the Indonesian would blink first at deuce.

Against Christie, Lakshya got going with some pretty down-the-line smashes and got himself good net openings too, to first wrest the lead. But it's been more than just his attacking bearing as he's now notched wins against Malaysian top singles player Lee Zii Jia and the top Thai Kantaphon Wangcharoen. The key, his coach, Vimal Kumar reckons, is him finally setting into the rhythm of the pace at this level.

"Pace is a lot of things — you need to have the finishing stroke of course, but you need to retrieve attacks. When you lift back — you should know to cross or block from both flanks. He played judiciously today," Vimal says. Jojo brought out the deceptive drops in the latter stages which caught Lakshya off guard a tad. But not for long. A cross-smash after a series of straight ones would do the trick.

Lakshya struggled to close out earlier and



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LAKSHYA SEN, ON WIN OVER CHRISTIE

would notoriously spray smashes out. On Saturday he went for the lines and it was a mark of just how freely he was playing that he erred very little. While Lakshya is not heading to Barcelona's Super 300 where points are up for the taking with Chinese skipping the meet (heading to their 15-day quarantine straight for the All England) as he wasn't entered into the tournament, he made the most of the chance to play second singles for India, with HS Prannoy and Srikanth setting off in pursuit of precious ranking points.

While Vimal says Lakshya ought to look forward to All England and grab every chance, the team is not piling pressure on him to seek Olympic qualification. He needs to be in Top 16 — he's currently No 31. "Right now I'm not thinking of him qualifying realistically. But he should just play freely and that's what we're telling him — don't look at the Olympics (lest the pressure drag him down like other singles seniors).

Targets are more of putting the systems in place: learning to think independently when travelling ("he should learn to organise sessions and not get bogged down that there's no sparing or excuses of there being no coach.) He's also got his hotel gym schedules for when he's traveling and working on his strength is a continuous process."

Playing in Indonesia and Malaysia earlier, there had been doubts if Lakshya could transition to the regular seniors circuit smoothly. "Srikanth not playing opened up a good opportunity for me. Coaches kept telling me to play calmly and not hurry. I'm happy my consistency has improved in last few months and I can keep calm in crucial times," Lakshya says. Calm till he brews up yet another storm, that is.

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(Dr. Balvinder Singh)
Medical Superintendent
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BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
OA No. 1050/2018
CORPORATION BANK Versus Applicant
SH. SYED SOHAIL HAIDER & ORS. Defendants
To, 1. Sh. Syed Sohail Haider S/o Sh. Syed Nayab Haider, 203, New Om Shanti CGHS KK Ganguly Marg, Juhu Santacruz West, Mumbai-49
2. Ms. Nagma Ansar Sayed W/o Sh. Syed Sohail Haider 203, New Om Shanti CGHS KK Ganguly Marg, Juhu Santacruz West, Mumbai-49
3. Sayed Siraz Haider Zaidi S/o Sh. Nayab Haider Zaidi H. No. 68, 1st Floor, S-Block, Noida, UP
4. Amrapali Dream Valley Pvt. Ltd. (Builder & Developer) Through its Directors 307, 3rd Floor, Nipun Towers Plot No. 15, Community Centre Karkardooma, Delhi-92 Also At : C-56/40, Sector-62, Noida, UP Also At : GH-05, Sector-Tech Zone-IV, Greater Noida, UP Also At : 83, AGCR Enclave Delhi-110092 Also At : A-905, Amrapali Green Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201010
Whereas the above named applicant(s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs.15,07,510/- (RUPEES FIFTEEN LAKH SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND TEN ONLY) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Ld. Registrar on 01.06.2020 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 the Ld. Registrar on this 03rd February of 2020
By order of this Tribunal
For Registrar

Partner Nation Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan

Partner Nation Uzbekistan

Theme State Himachal Pradesh

Govt. of Haryana

Celebrating Art, Craft and Culture

AWARD PRESENTATION & CLOSING CEREMONY BY
SHRI SATYADEO NARAIN ARYA
Hon'ble Governor, Haryana

Guests of Honour
SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA
Hon'ble Governor, Himachal Pradesh
H.E. MR. FARHOD ARZIEV
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Uzbekistan Embassy

SHRI KANWAR PAL
Tourism Minister, Haryana
will preside over the closing ceremony

DATE: SUNDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2020 TIME: 2:00 PM
VENUE: SURAJKUND, FARIDABAD, HARYANA

34th Surajkund INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA
1-16 FEBRUARY, 2020
SURAJKUND, FARIDABAD, HARYANA

Mela Timings : 10:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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