

For bank deposits, private are back as the preferred choice over public

Shift began in 2016 but state banks surged in first half of 2019, only to slip

SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

IN A reversal, depositors over the last six months have preferred to park their money with private banks rather than state-owned banks, according to financial statements of banks over the last four quarters analysed by *The Indian Express*.

While depositors have been moving towards private sector banks over the last three years, the first half of the calendar year 2019 saw state-owned banks getting back in the game with a sharp increase in incremental deposits. But during July-December 2019, state-owned banks slipped again.

Deposits of top eight private banks including HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank increased by Rs 2.68 lakh crore, higher than the Rs 2.58 lakh crore increase in deposits in the top eight state-owned banks.

Compare this with the previous six months: During January-June 2019, these eight state-owned banks including SBI and Punjab National Bank accumulated Rs 5.25 lakh crore, more than double of what the eight private sector banks managed (Rs 2.53 lakh crore) in the same six months.

The shifting preference is significant given that state-owned banks still hold bulk of the outstanding deposits.

In its recently released Report

EXPLAINED
E Public dominates but...

PSBs continue to dominate banking, accounting for roughly 70% of business. But private banks have chipped away. They have opened branches even in rural areas and have better managed mobilisation of deposits. Trust in private sector banks, too, may be growing.

THE SHIFTING PREFERENCE

| Deposits added Jan-June 2019 | Deposits added July-Dec 2019 |
|---|------------------------------|
| TOP 8 STATE-OWNED BANKS 5.25 | 2.58 |
| TOP 8 PRIVATE BANKS 2.49 | 2.68 |
| AGGREGATE DEPOSITS DEC 2019 | |
| TOP 8 STATE-OWNED BANKS 66.73 | |
| TOP 8 PRIVATE BANKS 30.99 | |

All figures in Rs lakh crore; Source: Bank financial statements

on Trend and Progress of Banking in India, the RBI, too, had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SHOWCASING SKILL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Hunar Haat, in New Delhi on Wednesday. Anil Sharma

Babri case accused Nyas head, VHP vice-chief to lead Ram temple trust

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

THE RAM Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, constituted for construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya, met Wednesday for the first time and appointed Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas president Nriyaya Gopal Das as its president and VHP vice-president Champat Rai as general secretary.

Nripendra Misra, former Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, will head the committee for construction of the temple and management of the 66.7 acres in Ayodhya.

Das and Rai are among those named by the CBI as accused in the criminal conspiracy case relating to the demolition of the



Members of the Ram temple trust meet for the first time in New Delhi, Wednesday. PTI

Babri Masjid in 1992. They are out on bail and the case is being heard before a special court in Lucknow.

The 15-member trust, operating from its office at the

Greater Kailash-I house of senior lawyer and founder trustee K Parasaran, appointed Govinddev Giri of Pune as treasurer and decided to open a bank account

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PAK TOLD TO ACT BEFORE FATF JUNE SESSION

China joins India, US to set new deadline for Pak

Saudi Arabia too backs move, only Turkey opposes

Trade pact off Indo-US table, chopper deal on

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

IN A significant development, China and Saudi Arabia are learnt to have joined India, US and European countries to send a stern message to Pakistan to complete its commitments on action against terrorist financing and money laundering given to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) before the plenary session in June, including "conviction and prosecution of top leaders of all terrorist organisations".

Diplomatic sources said Turkey was the only country which held out in the end. This marks a major shift in China's position, which has always

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

SHUBHAJIT ROY & KRISHN KAUSHIK
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

CLAIMING THAT India has not treated the United States "very well" on the trade front, US President Donald Trump has indicated that a "very big" bilateral deal may not be signed before the American presidential election in November.

In Delhi, government sources said that while a major trade agreement seems unlikely during Trump's visit on February 24-25, India is likely to sign a deal to buy 24 multi-role anti-submarine helicopters from American defence giant Lockheed Martin.

The Cabinet Committee on Security cleared the path for the



A US chopper at the airport in Ahmedabad. Express

Navy to buy the multi-role MH-60 Romeo helicopters through the Foreign Military Sale government-to-government route.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

INDIA AND U.S.: MATTERS OF TRADE

PAGE 13

Delhi High Court Bar protests transfer of Justice Muralidhar

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

THE SUPREME Court Collegium has recommended the transfer of Justice S Muralidhar, known for his bold pronouncements on communal violence and personal liberty, from the Delhi High Court to the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

This recommendation, which comes a year after a sim-



Justice S Muralidhar

ilar move to transfer Justice Muralidhar was discussed but stalled, was condemned "unequivocally and in the strongest possible terms" Wednesday by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



EXPRESS NETWORK



YOGI ON PROTEST DEATHS: IF SOMEONE COMES TO DIE, HOW CAN THEY LIVE? PAGE 8

B SCHOOL 2020

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Now Sandeep Dikshit speaks up on leadership: 'Who will bell the cat?'

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

THE RIPPLES in the Congress caused by yet another election defeat are refusing to subside. Arguing that the biggest challenge the party faces is the "leadership question", former Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit's son and ex-MP Sandeep Dikshit Wednesday accused senior leaders of failing to find a new President after all these months because they are "scared who will bell the cat".

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Dikshit said there are many in the Congress who are



Sandeep Dikshit

capable of leading the party — "at least six-eight" — and attacked senior leaders saying "sometimes you want inaction because you don't want a certain action to happen".

"I'm actually feeling rather dismayed by our senior leaders. They must come up. Most of them, those who are in Rajya Sabha, those who have been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Jamia footage out, probe team calls for duty roster of policemen

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

IN THE first indication that Delhi Police is looking into the role of its own personnel in connection with the December 15 violence at Jamia Millia Islamia, a special investigation team (SIT) is learnt to have asked SHOs of police stations in the South East district for duty rosters of that day.

The move comes against the backdrop of several videos emerging over the past few days showing police assaulting people inside the Jamia library and breaking a CCTV camera and furniture. As reported by *The Indian Express*, the university estimates police action caused damage to the tune of Rs 2.66 crore.

Police have maintained that some of the video footage appeared edited and that they had entered the campus in hot pursuit of "rioters". On Monday, Special Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Praveer Ranjan said the SIT probing the December 15 violence will analyse all clips to establish the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

National Museum bars non-veg from Harappan menu in event on premises

JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 19

IN A last-minute decision, the National Museum has barred non-vegetarian dishes from being served at Historical Gastronomia, a weeklong exhibition-cum-event on culinary history that offers "the Indus din-



A promotional image for Historical Gastronomia

ing experience" through an "ethno-archaeological kitchen of the Harappan culture" on the museum lawn from February 19 to 25.

Organised jointly by the National Museum, the Ministry of Culture and One Station Million Stories (OSMS), a private firm, the event's menu with vegetarian

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

How-to videos in sign language: Two couples script a personal start-up story

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, FEBRUARY 19

TWO YOUNG couples in Kerala have joined hands for a special project inside the government-backed Technopark in Thiruvananthapuram that aims to build an online link to a better future for the hearing impaired.

Along with three others, they are the brains behind Digital Arts Academy for Deaf (DAAD), which



The DAAD team: (Sitting, from left) Sulu Noushad and CEO Remya Raj; (standing, from left) Priya Aneesh, Aneesh and Archana Krishnan with Priya Raj, the interpreter

is being incubated by the state government's Kerala Start-up Mission to develop course videos in sign language to teach basic IT skills to the hearing impaired.

But for this team of seven, it's as much professional as it is personal — all are hearing impaired.

DAAD was launched four months ago and has already developed 20 videos in sign language, most of which explain basic tools such as Photoshop, and skills like video-editing.

According to CEO Remya Raj (36), who worked as a business analyst earlier, DAAD is a solution to the problems she faced

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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