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UK IMMIGRATION RULES WILL HIT WOMEN
PAGE 14

TRUMP-MODI BILATERAL ON FEBRUARY 25

Pacts being readied: Homeland security to facilitation of trade

Joint statement on counter-terrorism, Indo-Pacific, space and nuclear issues

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 20

INDIA AND the United States are readying at least five pacts on homeland security, trade facilitation and intellectual property rights ahead of the bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump in New Delhi on February 25.

While the pact on homeland security will tackle counter-terrorism cooperation, the trade facilitation pact will look at providing a single-window system for US firms wanting to do business in India.

The two sides will also issue a joint statement, which will put significant emphasis on counter-terrorism, Indo-Pacific, space and nuclear issues.

Sources said while 8-10 pacts are under "active consideration", about half-a-dozen are expected to be signed and announced during Trump's visit.

Both sides have indicated that a major trade agreement seems unlikely. "We have been engaging

ALL IN JUST 36 HRS

- FEBRUARY 24**
- Trumps land around noon in Ahmedabad
 - PM likely to receive them; roadshow to Motera stadium
 - Modi, Trump to address 'Namaste Trump'
 - Trumps to leave for Agra 3.30 pm, visit Taj Mahal, go to Delhi
- FEBRUARY 25**
- Rashtrapati Bhavan reception at 10 am
 - Visit to Rajghat
 - Modi-Trump talks at Hyderabad House, lunch and press statements
 - Meeting with business leaders
 - Banquet hosted by President Kovind
 - Departure from Delhi

with the US on trade talks for some time. We hope to reach an understanding with an outcome
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



In Ahmedabad Thursday, workers put up a hoarding welcoming US President Donald Trump. AP

Swachh Bharat fund got Rs 777 cr in 5 yrs, but just Rs 13.8 lakh came from abroad

SHYAMLAL YADAV
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 20

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW
AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

AT A time when the diaspora is increasingly becoming a part of public diplomacy, the Swachh Bharat Kosh (SBK) for the central government's flagship cleanliness campaign received contributions totalling Rs 777.4 crore in five years — but only Rs 13.79 lakh came from "foreign sources", RTI records accessed by *The Indian Express* show.

RTI data from April 1, 2015, to January 20, 2020, provided by the Department of Expenditure under the Finance Ministry, shows that the contribution from "foreign sources" was "Nil" in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2019-20 (until January 20, 2020). It shows that Rs 3.79 lakh was received in 2017-18 and Rs 10 lakh the year after.

In total, the fund had Rs 158.29 crore on December 17, 2019, the data shows.

Referring to contributions from "foreign sources", the department, which is the nodal point for SBK, stated that "all foreign contributions are received in an exclusive designated bank account held in State Bank of India".

In its RTI response, the department said that the Chief Controller of Accounts (Finance)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLEANLINESS FUND

Year	Total contribution (Rs/cr)	Foreign sources (Rs/lakh)
2015-16	253.03	Nil
2016-17	244.72	Nil
2017-18	175.31	3.79
2018-19	94.72	10
2019-20 (till January 22, 2020)	9.62	Nil
Total	777.4	13.79

* Swachh Bharat Kosh Trust was registered on April 24, 2015
Source: RTI/ Dept of Expenditure

"is entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining accounts" of the SBK Trust. "Mostly, foreign contribution is received through designated agencies such as Consulate General of India in various countries... Certain contributions are made directly to the designated bank account (maintained in SBI)," it said.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

2 Dalit youths beaten, tortured for 'theft' bid in Rajasthan, 7 held

HAMZAKHAN
JAIPUR, FEBRUARY 20

TWO DALIT youths were allegedly assaulted and tortured by some employees of a motorcycle service agency in Karnu village, under Panchodi police station area, in Nagaur district of Rajasthan. While police said the incident occurred on February 16, five persons were arrested on Wednesday and another two on Thursday after videos of the assault were circulated on social media.

In the videos, a group of men can be seen thrashing two persons with rubber belts. One of the victims is stripped and held down, and a screwdriver dipped in petrol is inserted into his anus. The accused can be heard laughing in the background.

Police said the victims were suspected to have stolen money. "The two youths, Bisha Ram (24) and Panna Ram (18) were allegedly trying to steal money from the cash register of the motorcycle agency. It was lunch time and most of the staff weren't around," said Panchaudi SHO Rajpal Singh.

In their complaint, the victims, who are cousins, said they had gone to the agency to get Bisha Ram's motorcycle serviced on Sunday afternoon, around 2:30 pm.

"After giving the motorcycle, I was passing by the cash counter
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Hesitation in Delhi over Assam panel report, so CM will accept it

TORA AGARWALA & DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 20

TEN DAYS after the Centre-appointed high-level committee finalised its report on implementation of Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, the government has agreed to accept the report. The report, incidentally, will be handed to the state government, and not the Union Ministry of Home Affairs which constituted the committee.

Sources said there is unease in the central government over the report because the committee is learnt to have recommended a 1951 cut-off date to

EXPRESS NETWORK



SHAH N-E SPECIAL STATUS WILL NEVER BE REMOVED

CHINA OPPOSES SHAH VISIT, INDIA HITS BACK PAGE 7

define "Assamese" people, and has also suggested an Inner Line Permit regime for the state. Based on the definition of "Assamese", the committee is said to have made quota recommendations for the state

Assembly, educational institutions and government jobs. The report has been kept in a sealed cover at the Implementation of the Assam Accord Department of the state
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

For producing key drug ingredients, Govt plans to revive old pharma units

PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 20

THE GOVERNMENT is planning to revive old drug manufacturing units that produced key ingredients for crucial medicines in the past, but are now being imported from China. China contributes to almost 70 per cent of India's imports of key ingredients for medicines.

The move is significant in the backdrop of the novel coronavirus outbreak in China, and disruption of global supply chains.

Over the last three decades, most of the 7-8 manufacturing plants producing as many as 20 ingredients such as penicillin G, erythromycin, rifamycin, tetracycline, citric acid and vitamin B12, were shut down due to "cheaper alternatives from China". "The possibility of upgrading and restarting these plants is under consideration of the Department of Pharmaceuticals," said an industry executive requesting anonymity.

The idea is looking to wean away the Indian pharmaceutical industry from its heavy dependence on Chinese imports and strengthen its self-reliance. Industry and government

EXPLAINED

Why official backing is must

CHINA WAS able to build its cost-effective active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) capabilities due to various incentives like cheap land and electricity. India may have to consider similar incentives to ensure domestic manufacturers build scale and compete with lower Chinese prices.

sources told *The Indian Express* that while India had the capability to manufacture most key ingredients, there was no domestic manufacturer currently for fermentation-based ingredients. Fermentation-based ingredients are used in most antibiotics and vitamins. In response to the novel coronavirus outbreak, the Department of Pharmaceuticals constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Central
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MP govt to health staff: Get at least one man for sterilisation or lose job

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, FEBRUARY 20



His govt issued circular on February 11

IN AN unprecedented move to increase the participation of men in its family planning programme, the Madhya Pradesh government has warned male multi-purpose health workers (MPHWs), who failed to mobilise even one man for sterilisation in 2019-20, that their salaries would be withheld and they would be compulsory retired.

Citing the National Family Health Survey-4 report, which recorded that only 0.5 per cent men were opting for sterilisation in the state, MP's National Health Mission (NHM) has asked top district officials and Chief Medical and Health Officers

(CHMOs) to identify male workers with "zero work output" and apply the "no work no pay" principle — if they don't log at least one case in the 2019-20 period that ends next month.

The circular, dated February 11 and issued by the state's NHM Mission Director, states that if the situation does not improve, proposals recommending compulsory retirement of MPHWS will be sent through District Collectors to the NHM headquarters in Bhopal from where
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Collegium cleared 3 as permanent HC judges, but remains silent as one awaits

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 20

ON FEBRUARY 12, the Supreme Court Collegium issued a statement saying it had "approved the proposal for appointment of Shri Justice Rahul Chaturvedi, Additional Judge of Allahabad High Court on the same day — September 22, 2017.

Unlike Justice Chaturvedi, Justice Ali's term will now run out on March 21. He was one of three judges — along with Justice Chaturvedi and Justice Neeraj Tiwari — appointed as Additional Judge of Allahabad High Court on the same day — September 22, 2017.

On September 5, 2019, the Collegium, comprising then Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices SA Bobde and NV Ramana, recommended that Justices Tiwari and Ali "be appointed as Permanent Judges of the Allahabad High Court against

the existing vacancies; and Mr Justice Rahul Chaturvedi be appointed as an Additional Judge for a fresh term of six months w.e.f. 22nd September, 2019".

Subsequently, the Ministry of Law and Justice, in a notification on September 20, confirmed the elevation of Justice Tiwari following the Collegium recommendation. On the same day, it issued another notification saying Justices Chaturvedi and Ali will continue as Additional Judge for a period of another six months from September 22 — in effect,
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WHAT LIES BEHIND AAP'S SUCCESS
BY PULAPRE BALAKRISHNAN
PAGE 12

EXPRESS NETWORK

19 KILLED AS TRUCK RAMS BUS IN TAMIL NADU PAGE 8

DEFEXPO 2020 AT LUCKNOW

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'By arresting me, they have made my poem (CAA and govt) bigger than poet'

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

AMRITA DUTTA
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 20

WHEN FORMER chief minister HD Kumaraswamy was reading out his poem in the Karnataka Assembly, journalist-poet Siraj Bisaralli (43) was in a court in Koppal, where that very same poem was in the dock, and where his bail plea was being heard.

"After the judge granted us bail, I heard about it. I am happy he did so. But it is not just Kumaraswamy, anyone who is concerned about the rights of freedom of speech and expres-

sion should speak up now against the rights of people being trampled," Bisaralli said.

The poet was arrested Tuesday under Sections 504 and 505(2) of the IPC for the poem that he had read out at the Aneundi district festival, in Koppal district's Gangavati taluk on January 9. The editor of a local news website, *kannadanet.com*, Rajabaxi HV, who had uploaded a video of Bisaralli reciting the poem a few days later, was also arrested. Both were granted bail Wednesday after spending a day in police custody.

The poem, '*Ninna dakhale yaavaga needutte?*' (When will you show your documents?), is a series of rhetorical questions addressed to a government ma-



Siraj Bisaralli was released on bail, a day after ex-CM read out his poem in House

chine that is demanding hapless citizens to furnish documents. It refers to this machine as one that

"licked the boots of the British" and "believes in Goebbels".

"The BJP workers say the poem insults the Prime Minister, but I have not named any person, party or organisation," said Bisaralli, a resident of Bhaganagara, a city in Koppal district. Soon after he read out the poem, BJP workers of the area presented a memorandum to police, asking for action against Bisaralli as well as the district administration that organised the cultural festival, alleging he had insulted Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"They say I misused government space. But even in a festival organised by the government, we have the right to speak. There has never been such
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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