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US PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO INDIA

Family to accompany Trump; Commerce, Energy Secretaries, NSA part of his team

Two sides likely to sign MoU on cooperation over homeland security

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE FIRST stand-alone visit by a US President, a high-powered White House delegation that includes three of President Donald Trump's family members, the first time that First Lady Melania Trump and daughter Ivanka are travelling together on an official visit, and a fifth meeting since May right in the middle of an election campaign that comes after four earlier meetings between Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi — a headline trade deal may be off the table but officials in New Delhi underline how these firsts underline the deepening of the India-US strategic partnership.

Beyond the pomp and the spectacle at the Namaste Trump event in Ahmedabad, some substantive outcomes are also expected: a centre for counter-terrorism is likely to be announced as the MoU on Homeland security will focus on aviation and immigration security. Sources said that an Industrial Security Annex summit is scheduled for April-May while an energy dialogue to diversify India's energy requirement is a key thrust area to be discussed around the visit.

That dialogue, also likely to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

The Motera stadium in Ahmedabad being readied for the Namaste Trump event. *Javed Raja*

US, Taliban to seal Afghan peace deal on February 29, India wary of fallout

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

IN A dramatic development with strategic, political and security repercussions for India, the United States and the Taliban said Friday that they will seal a political settlement on February 29 at the end of a weeklong period of "violence reduction" starting midnight in Afghanistan.

The deal could become one of the major talking points during the bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump on February 24-25.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that the agreement, which will reduce US presence in the region, will be signed upon the successful implementation of an understanding with the Taliban on a "significant" and nationwide reduction in violence.

Reuters quoted a Taliban spokesperson as saying that "both parties agreed to sign the finalised accord in the presence of international observers". Both sides would also make arrangements for the release of prisoners, the Taliban said. Afghan,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL
BY UNNY

Deadlines are over, act or face financial consequences: FATF to Pak

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

IN A stern warning to Pakistan which managed to stay on the "grey list", global terrorist financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF), chaired by China, told Islamabad that "all deadlines" have expired and if they don't prosecute and penalise terrorist financing by June 2020, the FATF will take action which will have financial consequences.

In effect, Pakistan could face the FATF "blacklist" if it failed to implement the remaining action plan by June 2020.

The FATF, in its plenary meeting held in Paris from February 16-21, expressed serious concerns on Pakistan's failure to complete its 27-point action plan in line with the agreed timeline which ended in September 2019.

This was the key takeaway after the FATF plenary session ended Friday. FATF President Xiangmin Liu of the People's Republic of China chaired the plenary — China has the presidency until June.

In a significant development, as first reported by *The Indian Express* on February 20, China

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

JUSTICE SRIKRISHNA ON PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION BILL

Data Bill gives dangerous power... Orwellian, says author of first draft

In note to House panel, judge points to watering down, foreign lobbying

KARISHMA MEHROTRA & MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

JUSTICE B N Srikrishna, the retired Supreme Court judge who headed the committee that drafted the original Personal Data Protection Bill, has warned that extra powers and legal exceptions given to the central government are a "dangerous trend", potentially leading to an "Orwellian State".

In a note to the Joint Select Committee in Parliament deliberating on the Bill, Justice

Justice Srikrishna headed panel that drafted first Bill

Srikrishna also said "data localisation requirement has been watered down because of lobbying by foreign companies".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

Before House panel

THERE ARE three stakeholders in the data protection debate: the individual, the state and technology corporates. Justice Srikrishna's letter flagging a perceived increase in power to government and industry will be one of the many perspectives the committee will hear regarding the delicate balancing act between these three.

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

SECURING INDIA'S WESTERN FRONT
BY C RAJA MOHAN
PAGE 12

WORLD

CORONAVIRUS ON G20 AGENDA, S KOREA REPORTS SECOND DEATH

RUSSIA MEDDLING TO RE-ELECT TRUMP, US HOUSE WARNED
PAGE 15

19-year-old, who raised slogans at rally, charged with sedition, sent to jail

JOHNSON TA
BENGALURU, FEBRUARY 21

IN MARCH 2016, shortly after BJP's West Bengal chief Dilip Ghosh said that those shouting slogans like "Pakistan Zindabad" would be beheaded, a 16-year-old pre-university student in Mysuru in Karnataka put out a post on her social media account, referencing the BJP leader's remarks, saying: "I believe in ultimate brotherhood, I believe in the collective sense of universal being. These borders mean nothing to me after a point."

Much of the post also featured the song 'Imagine' by the singer, song-writer John Lennon.

Amulya was remanded in custody for 14 days. *ANI*

The student, Amulya Leona Noronha, now a 19-year-old college goer, and in recent days a speaker at several anti-CAA protests across the state, was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Assam NRC chief: Ineligible persons in list, identify

TORA AGARWALA
GUWAHATI, FEBRUARY 21

THREE MONTHS after Assam announced it would not accept the National Register of Citizens list because it was "erroneous" with "wrongful exclusions and inclusions", the office of the NRC State Coordinator, in an official memo to all district magistrates two days ago, sought details of those wrongfully included in the final NRC. It sought replies within a day.

Published on August 31, 2019, the state's final NRC list left out over 19 lakh people, many of them Hindus.

The memo, signed by NRC State Coordinator Hitesh Dev Sarma, stated it was a "matter of utmost importance", and that it "has come to the knowledge of the undersigned that after publication of final NRC on 31st August, 2019, few names of ineligible persons are found present in the final NRC".

The "ineligible persons", it said, particularly referred to "Doubtful Voters (DV), Declared Foreigner (DF), descendants of Doubtful Voters and Declared Foreigners (DVD, DFD) and those with cases pending in Foreigners' Tribunal (PFT)".

Under NRC rules, the DFs, DVs, PFTs and those who have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

MP govt scraps its sterilisation circular, BJP recalls days of Emergency

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, FEBRUARY 21

A DAY after *The Indian Express* reported on a circular issued by the MP government that male health workers would lose their salaries and face retirement if they failed to get at least one man for sterilisation, the state withdrew the directive while describing it as "a mistake".

The state government removed Chhavi Bharadwaj, the state's National Health Mission (NHM) director who issued the circular, and attached her to the Secretariat as officer on special duty till further orders. The 2008-batch IAS officer is currently attending a mid-career training course.

Friday's move came after the Opposition BJP slammed the circular and asked if it was "part-2 of the Congress's Emergency" in a reference to the aggressive family planning programme conducted by the central government of that time.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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EVENT DATE: 23-02-2020

Marathon Route Map

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Motorists are advised for their own convenience to avoid the following roads:

Bhisma Pitamaha Road Closed from Kotla Red light signal to Lodhi road Junction | Lodhi Road closed from Lodhi road junction (Sai Baba temple) to Mathura road Junction Flyover (Lala Lajpath Rai Road) | Arch bishop Marg Single side carriageway closed from Lodhi road to Subarmaniam Bhartimarg Junction | Mathura Road singal side carriageway closed Mathura road flyover to Zoo Red light signal | Subarmaniam Bhartimarg closed from zoo signal to Arch Bishop Marg Junction | Zakirhussain Marg closed from subarmaniam Bhartimarg junction to C-Hexagaon Junction | C-Hexagon closed from Zakirhussain Marg to Rajpath we used only two lines of the road rest is open for the traffic | Pandara road closed from Barda Ukli Marg, Pandara Road junction to C-Hexagon junction | Sahjahan Road closed from Sahjahan, Humayun Road Junction to C-Hexagaon | Akbar Road closed from Maansingh Road Akbar road circle to C-Hexagaon | Rajpath closed from C-Hexagon to Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Marg | Maan sigh road closed from Akbar road to Panchmukhi circle | Janpath closed from Mulanaazadjan path junction to Windsor circle (Le-meridian) | Rajendra Prasad marg closed from janpath, Rajendra Prasda circle to Rafi Ahmed junction (ShastriBhawan)

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Maharishi Raman Marg- Subramaniam Bharti Marg No traffic will be allowed towards Lodhi Road from Khan Market Light Point except bonafide residents of Lodhi Estate and Bharti Nagar.	C-Hexagon- Rajpath: No traffic on Rajpath towards R.P. Bhawan.
Arch Bishop Marg- Subramaniam Bharti Marg: No traffic will be allowed towards Lodhi Road except bonafide residents of Golf Link.	R/A Man Singh Road: No traffic on Akbar Road towards C-Hexagon.
Meharchand Market: No traffic towards Bhishma Pitamah Marg.	Subramaniam Bharti Marg – Humayun Road: No traffic towards SBM Marg – Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg crossing and Zoo.
R/A Neela Gumbad: No traffic on Dr. Zakir Hussain Marg excpet bonafide residents of Kaka Nagar and Persons visiting Golf Club.	Mathura Road- Subramaniam Bharti Marg: No traffic on Subramaniam Bharti Marg.
Ashram Chowk: No bus towards Nizamuddin. These buses shall be diverted towards Sarai Kale Khan	R/A Jaswant Singh: No traffic towards Rajpath | No traffic on Rajindra Prasad road towards Janpath.
Andrews Ganj Chowk: No bus shall be allowed on Bhishma Pitamah Marg. These buses shall be diverted towards AIIMS.	R/A Janpath – Dr. Rajender Prasad Road: No traffic on Dr. Rajender Prasad Road towards Rail Bhawan.
Moolchand Chowk: No bus towards Nehru Stadium via Lala Lajpat Rai Marg. These buses shall be diverted towards Ashram Chowk-Sarai Kale khan.	South foot of Lodhi Flyover: No traffic on flyover towards Pragati Maidan. Traffic will be diverted on the side road for U-Turn/Ring Turn under Lodhi Road Flyover.
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R/A Moti Lal Nehru Place: No traffic on Akbar road towards C-Hexagon	Vijay Chowk: No traffic on Rajpath towards Rafi Ahmad Kidwai Marg.
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WEB EXCLUSIVE

'PANDITS DRIVEN OUT, BUT THOSE WHO STAYED, SURVIVED THANKS TO MUSLIMS'

Near Srinagar's Hari Parbat, both Hindus and Muslims mourn a city changed forever, a home they all lost. Both say "some forces" made ordinary people from the two communities fear each other.

EXPRESS TECH

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EXPRESS EXPLAINED

WHO WAS LARRY TESLER?

The inventor of the cut, copy, paste command died on Monday

EXPRESS AUDIO

Kambala and India's search for a local Usain Bolt

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In this week's episode of Express Sport's podcast, Gaurav and Nihal breakdown the 'Kambala-Usain Bolt' incident and discuss why it discredits the current sports system

FROM PAGE ONE

Deadlines are over, act or face financial consequences: FATF to Pak

and Saudi Arabia had also joined India, US and European countries, among others, to send Pakistan a stern message to complete the commitments on terrorist financing and money laundering given to FATF by June 2020 including "conviction and prosecution of top leaders of all terrorist organisations".

The FATF statement said: "All deadlines in the action plan have expired. While noting recent and notable improvements, the FATF again expresses concerns given Pakistan's failure to complete its action plan in line with the agreed timelines and in light of the TF (terrorist financing) risks emanating from the jurisdiction. To date, Pakistan has largely addressed 14 of 27 action items, with varying levels of progress made on the rest of the action plan. The FATF strongly urges Pakistan to swiftly complete its full action plan by June 2020."

"Otherwise, should significant and sustainable progress especially in prosecuting and penalising TF not be made by the next plenary, the FATF will take action, which could include the FATF calling on its members and urging all jurisdiction to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relations and transactions with Pakistan," the statement said.

Officials in New Delhi said Pakistan's propaganda on exiting the FATF grey list in February 2020 has been "proved false".

In a detailed statement, the FATF said that since June 2018, when Pakistan made a high-level political commitment to strengthen its anti money-laundering and Combating Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) regime and to address its strategic counter-terrorist financing-related deficiencies, Pakistan's political commitment has led to progress in a number of areas in its action plan, including risk-based supervision and pursuing domestic and international cooperation to identify cash couriers.

The FATF asked Pakistan to demonstrate that terrorist financing-related prosecutions result in effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions and demonstrate effective implementation of targeted financial sanctions against key UN-designated terrorists and those acting for or on their behalf, including preventing the raising and moving of funds, identifying and freezing assets (movable and immovable), and prohibiting access to funds and financial services.

Pakistan was placed on the grey list in June 2018 and was given a plan of action to complete by October 2019 or face the risk of being placed on the black list. The FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system. It currently has 39 members, including two regional organisations — the European Commission and the Gulf Cooperation Council. India is a member of the FATF consultations and its Asia Pacific Group.

'Data Bill gives dangerous power ...Orwellian'

After a public consultation process, a committee led by the former judge released the first draft of what is commonly called the "privacy Bill" in July 2018. The Bill is the country's first attempt to protect individual rights by regulating the collection, movement and processing of data that is personal, or which can identify the individual.

Justice Srikrishna's draft required entities to store a copy of all personal data, even non-sensitive and non-critical data, in India. The new version of the Bill, reworked by the Information Technology Ministry, removed the mirroring requirement of personal data and allowed sensitive data to be stored abroad with government approval. Big technology companies have been critical of several requirements laid out in both versions of the Bill so far.

The personal data mirroring requirement, Srikrishna wrote in the note, "was with the objective that, if there be necessity for accessing such data at short notice, it would be impossible to follow the MLAT process to get it as that would take at least 18/24 months".

The Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) is the extensive process that Indian authorities have to follow in order to receive information from an American company for law enforcement purposes. Even American industry associations have recognised the need to adapt the mechanism for the speed of digital technologies. However, critics of the Bill argue that storing the data within the country's borders does not necessarily enable increased access to data.

In addition to leniency given to foreign companies, Justice Srikrishna also said that the "Government can always dominate the Data Protection Authority", and exemptions made for government surveillance have "sinister implications".

The new Bill shifts many powers from the Data Protection Authority to the central government, such as determining the definition of sensitive personal data. It also removes the original draft's independent committee that appoints DPA members, giving government officers appointment powers instead.

In addressing the clause giving the government the power to direct any entity to provide all their non-personal data, Justice Srikrishna calls it "a dangerous trend".

"This vague and generalized declaration will provide a carte blanche to access non-personal data from citizens and business entities," he said.

He also took issue with the government's power in notifying social media intermediaries as "signified data fiduciaries" who have more stringent obligations under the law. As he has previously said publicly, he said the "vague" exceptions given for government surveillance are a violation of the right to privacy and the potential introduction of an "Orwellian State".

The Bill, cleared by the Cabinet on December 4, 2019, was referred to a 30-member committee set up for the specific purpose of deliberating on it on December 12, 2019. The committee has met twice so far and is currently collecting public comments.

Family to accompany Trump; Commerce, Energy Secretaries, NSA part of his team

be in April in the US, envisages long-term agreements in energy partnership in LNG and crude oil, a gas task force and technology tie-ups in processing, exploration and exploitation; and the supply of 10 million tonnes of high-grade metallurgical coal - worth about USD 2 billion - used for specialised processes like smelting. A pact between Indian Oil and Exxon on LNG pipeline infrastructure is likely to be inked during the visit.

The areas where agreements are likely also include building capacities and collaborations in mental health; industry-specific agreements for the supply of high-quality medicine to the US; agreement on intellectual property rights and a basket of items in defence, which is likely to include helicopters.

During their India visit on Feb 24-25, Team Trump will travel to Ahmedabad and then to Agra, where they will visit the Taj Mahal, and Delhi. As per official sources, the delegation includes the Trump family: Donald Trump, Melania Trump, Ivanka Trump and son-in-law Jared Kushner. Ivanka and Kushner are senior advisers to the US President. Ivanka Trump had come to Hyderabad in November 2017 to attend the Global Enterpreneurship Summit at Modi's invitation. According to sources, Ivanka's addition took place later, and she recalled her Hyderabad visit "fondly" while deciding to get on-board.

"This is a very personalised administration and the fact is that the US President can take over-riding decisions, he came all the way to Houston for the Prime Minister's town hall and now this visit with his family...this underlines the importance both sides accord to the deepening relationship," said a top official.

Other heavyweights in the delegation, as of now, include: Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, Energy Secretary Dan Brouillette, National Security Advisor Robert C O'Brien and White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney among others. It is expected that all these ministers will meet their counterparts, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and NSA Ajit Doval.

As NSA O 'Brien will meet his counterpart NSA Doval, a key agreement on Homeland security is likely to be signed. Aviation security, immigration security, and combating transnational crime and terrorism will be the key components of this pact, sources told The Indian Express. Sources said that an MoU on cooperation in homeland security is likely to be signed between US Department of Homeland Security and Ministry of Home Affairs.

The MoU will strengthen and coordinate the two countries' efforts on homeland security cooperation, cybercrime, global supply chain security, border security, immigration security, and combating translational crime and terrorism, sources said. This will be within the framework of US-India Homeland Security Dialogue (HSD) established in 2011.

The areas of cooperation under the MoU will include border, immigration and global supply chain security, law enforcement investigative cooperation, aviation security, local and state law enforcement engagement, and professional development and capacity building. The cooperation in counter-terrorism has seen considerable progress with enhanced intelligence sharing, information exchange and operational cooperation. This was evident after the Pulwama terrorist attack, which led to the designation of Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist under UNSC resolution 1267 — a process in which the US played a key role, and Washington's support to put Pakistan in the grey-list at the FATF.

The Afghanistan peace pact, the official said, is likely to figure in Modi-Trump talks.

The bilateral Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism is an important mechanism in this regard. It last met in Washington in March 2019 (16th Meeting). "Both sides have also been working together in law enforcement and security cooperation through the six subgroups under the HSD. The Senior Officials Meeting of the HSD (between Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Homeland Security) was held in July 2018. Both sides have also initiated a Designations Dialogue to discuss designations of terrorists and entities. Both sides also cooperate with each other on counter-terrorism and security issues in various multilateral bodies," a source said.

"So regular have meetings between the Prime Minister and the President become," said the senior official, "the relationship needs to be seen beyond a purely transactional perspective." Trump had assured Modi in 2017 that he would visit India in his first term and for him to deliver on that assurance, officials said, is significant.

An official pointed to a piece Thursday in Foreign Affairs by Ashley Tellis, who has served as senior adviser to the Undersecretary of State for political affairs, to underline the importance of the visit. "Three years into Trump's presidency, the strategic partnership with India that successive US administrations have cultivated as a silent bulwark against China hasn't just survived - it has flourished," wrote Tellis. "...Modi's courtship of Trump was part of a considered strategy to keep the United States committed to India. Whereas many other world leaders reacted to Trump's election in 2016 with bewilderment and horror, the Indian prime minister sought to charm and disarm his impulsive American counterpart. In public, Modi lavished attention on Trump and wrapped him in trademark bear hugs. In private, he patiently parried Trump's demands on everything from Afghanistan to India's peace process with Pakistan to bilateral trade with the United States. In doing so, Modi signaled that the United States was of vital importance to India and sought to persuade Trump that even an asymmetrical U.S.-Indian partnership could be mutually beneficial. And Trump seems to have bought it, given his boast that Modi promised him a boisterous welcome."

That partnership, officials said, is based on the deep networks between the two nations — 4 million Persons of Indian Origin in the US, 200,000 Indian students in the US; 2000 US companies in India and 200 Indian companies in the US.

On a trade deal, officials said there is no "pressure" of an agreement during the visit. "It is very complicated," said an official, "the task is to bring sectors to the table that haven't had market access and discussions on a range of issues including stringent regulatory framework on both sides...The visit does accelerate the pace of talks but both sides couldn't complete the work that was needed...We didn't want any unintended trade barriers cropping up at a later stage."

US, Taliban to seal peace deal on Feb 29, India wary of fallout

international and Taliban forces will observe the reduced violence period.

There has been no official word from New Delhi yet, but the deal is of some concern to the Indian establishment. More so, because the return of the Taliban in Afghanistan carries harsh memories from the 1990s, especially of the IC-814 hijack crisis that ended with the release of Masood Azhar. Azhar later founded the Jaish-e-Mohammed, a terror outfit that has claimed several Indian lives — from the Parliament attack in 2001 to the Pulwama attack in 2019.

Over the last two years, New Delhi had kept a close watch on meetings between the US and Taliban negotiators. It has been briefed by the US interlocutors, especially US special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad who has travelled to India several times and recently met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar recently at the Munich Security Conference.

Apart from the US, India has engaged in regular talks with other active players, like Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, China and the political forces in Afghanistan, on this issue.

While many Western observers believe the agreement could represent a chance for peace in the region, New Delhi has been cautious on the issue as it gives strength to Pakistan, which has been a long-time benefactor of the Taliban.

Though New Delhi has softened its position over the years on engaging with the Taliban, India has always maintained that it has three "red lines", which it spelt out last year when the US, Russia and China were conducting negotiations with the Taliban.

The first is that "all initiatives and processes must include all sections of the Afghan society, including the legitimately elected government". This is important as, in the past, the Afghan government was often sidelined by international interlocutors engaging with the Taliban. This also means that there is acceptability in Delhi about talking to the Taliban — since they represent a "section of the Afghan society".

With the deal announced Friday, India will closely track the fate of the Ashraf Ghani government, which just got re-elected. Under Modi, India has developed a close relationship with Ghani, and both have been on the same side on the issue of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

The second red line is that "any process should respect the constitutional legacy and political mandate". This means that the achievement of establishing democratic processes and human rights, including women's rights, should be respected. Delhi will again monitor whether the "new Taliban" — as Western interlocutors claim — will respect these markers from the last two decades.

The third is that any process "should not lead to any ungoverned spaces where terrorist and their proxies can relocate". This is crucial for India, as it points to threats from terrorist groups, including the Haqqani network, Al Qaeda, Islamic State — and also, Pakistan-based outfits like the Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jamaat-ud-Dawa and Jaish-e-Mohammed that could relocate.

India has always pushed for a peace and reconciliation process that is Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled — and, in a nutshell, counter the Pakistan military establishment's influence over Kabul.

India has differed with the US on issues linked to the Afghan process, and that is expected to play out in the next few months and years. But the situation, South Block insiders feel, is different now since India figures much more in US calculations than in 1990, when it last left the region in the lurch.

There is a sense of cautious optimism that Washington will not hurt India's interests in the long-term, this time. "In 1990, we were not part of their concern. Now, we are part of their calculus...so there is a sense that the US will not jeopardise India's interests," sources said.

While Delhi has never negotiated with the Taliban — except after the IC-814 hijack — it was part of Moscow-led talks with the Taliban in November 2018, which two former Indian diplomats attended as "non-official representatives".

Although some within the strategic establishment have argued for engaging with the Taliban, the foreign policy establishment has so far shied away from doing so. With the new US-Taliban deal, New Delhi may have to recalibrate its position.

Former Indian ambassador to Afghanistan, Vivek Katju, who was one of the Indian interlocutors during the IC-814 hijack, told The Indian Express, "For almost the last two years, I have maintained that India should engage with Taliban because every country that mattered began doing so."

19-year-old, who raised slogans at rally, charged with sedition, sent to jail

arrested Thursday night before she could complete a speech which featured chants of "Pakistan Zindabad" at one such rally in Bengaluru.

She was produced before a magistrate Thursday post-midnight and sent to judicial custody for 14 days. DCP Bengaluru (West) B Ramesh said the police registered a suo motu case against Amulya under Section 124A (sedition), Sections 153A and 153B (promoting enmity between different groups and imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration).

The 19-year-old student of English from the NMKRV College in Bengaluru was forced down the stage at Freedom Park Thursday evening — which also featured AIMIM President Asaduddin Owaisi — soon after she said "Pakistan Zindabad" in the beginning of her speech. Her friends described this as part of an effort by Amulya to convey a message of brotherhood.

"Please see her Facebook post of February 16, 2020. Loving another country does not mean you are going against your own — this is exactly what she was trying to say. She is promoting unity among nations. This is what Gandhi has written multiple times during the freedom struggle," said a friend, who did not wish to be named.

In the February 16 post, Amulya Leona Noronha, said Zindabad for about seven Asian countries including India and Pakistan. "I do not become a person from another country by merely saying Zindabad about that country. As per law, I am an Indian citizen. It is my duty to respect my country and work for its citizens," she said.

The full video clips of Amulya Leona's curtailed speech on Thursday show her chanting "Hindustan Zindabad" soon after the "Pakistan Zindabad" chants and trying to tell the audience — after her mike was taken away — that all nations are one.

"Before she could complete what she wanted to say, they surrounded her and grabbed the mike. She was later placed under arrest on charges of sedition. What she was trying to say was that if we love one country it does not mean we should hate another," said another friend of the 19-year-old who was part of the protests at the Freedom Park.

The student who grew up in the Malnad region — a literary hot bed of Karnataka — going to school in the Koppa area of Chikamagalur district, is not identified with any youth outfits in the political spectrum but has been linked to a students' alliance in Bengaluru. Her father Wesly Noronha, an activist in local environmental movements, lives in Koppa.

Miscreants vandalised their residence in Koppa Thursday night after the incident in Bengaluru. In a video, some unidentified men were seen demanding Wesly Noronha to say "Bharat mata ki jai." He is heard saying, "I have not spoken to my daughter for five days." When the men asked him if he would seek bail, Noronha said, "I will not approach lawyers for her bail."

In Mysuru, Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa alleged Amulya had links with naxalites. "Amulya's links with naxalites have been proved in an investigation," he alleged, and said she must be punished.

(WITH INPUTS FROM DARSHAN DEVAIAH BP)

Assam NRC chief: Ineligible persons in list, identify

drawn 'legacy' from such persons are to be excluded from NRC. "However, the final list includes many such people. It was not correct then, so it has to be corrected now. That is why this step is being taken," said a top NRC official who did not wish to be named.

The publication of the final NRC left the state BJP government and the NGO Assam Public Works (APW), whose petition had led to the NRC exercise, unhappy with the list. They called it "incorrect" and demand re-verification of the names.

Earlier this week, the APW moved the Supreme Court again, demanding complete reverification, alleging that the final NRC had almost "eighty lakh foreigners" including "jehadis".

Sarma was unavailable for comment. In a Facebook post in February 2019, he said there were "lakhs and lakhs of Bangladeshis in the NRC".

MP scraps sterilisation circular, BJP recalls days of Emergency

State Public Relations and Law Minister P C Sharma blamed the circular on "a mistake by officials" and said it has been revoked with immediate effect on orders from Chief Minister Kamal Nath.

The Chief Minister's media coordinator Narendra Saluja said no target had been fixed and that MP's National Health Mission officials periodically carry out campaigns to motivate men for sterilisation. Saluja said no punitive action will be taken against any health worker.

The February 11 circular cited the National Family Health Survey-4 report, which said that only 0.5 per cent men were opting for sterilisation in the state, and asked top district officials 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.

"Is there an undeclared Emergency in Madhya Pradesh? Is it part-2 of the Congress's Emergency? The government should act if MPHWs (male multi-purpose health workers) are found wanting in their work but the decision to stop their salary and hand down compulsory retirement is dictatorship," said former Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

BJP MLA Rameshwar Sharma added a communal twist to the issue. "If your concerns about population are genuine, such measures should apply to everyone irrespective of caste or religion. You should appeal to even Muslims to restrict their families. It should not happen that Hindus remain at two and Muslims multiply from five to 25," he said.

He said it would be "dictatorial to drag people against their wishes and force them" to go under the scalpel. Sharma said that former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, whose government had imposed the Emergency in 1975, used to call Kamal Nath her "third son".

Former state BJP chief and Jabalpur Lok Sabha member Rakesh Singh said the government was "becoming a laughing stock because it issues an order one day and revokes it another day".

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FLAG BEARERS OF THE NATION

Setting a new benchmark

Teachers have a very significant and profound impact on all their students. J C Chaudhry is the Chairman and Managing Director of Aakash Educational Services Limited. With nearly five decades of contribution in the field of education as a Botany teacher, school principal and an educationist, he continues to transform the lives of students who are successful doctors and engineers

What has been your learning experience from students whom you have taught, which has enhanced your skill of teaching students?

I firmly believe that it is not only the students who learn from their teachers, teachers also learn through their interactions with students. From my early days as a teacher in 1972, I felt that knowledge grows when shared, and that has been my motto. I have studied in Hindi medium and understood the need to use simple language and words that average students could grasp easily. Being myself an average student, I devised my teaching methodology keeping the weakest student as well as the brilliant student in mind. I scored 79% marks in MSc (Botany) from BITS Pilani. Therefore, I am well acquainted with the working of the mind of low as well as high scoring students. It is this approach which has enabled me to impart good teaching to both the weakest student as well as the student achieving high scores.

The level of satisfaction in the class can be gauged from the face of a student. This is the hallmark of a good or a bad teacher. Most of the teachers keep facing the blackboard while writing most of the time and remain unaware of the receptivity of the students to what is being taught in the class. A good teacher is one who has his eyes on students in the class and looks at them in the eyes while teaching.

I believe every student is made unique by god. Each student is unique with his own potential and skill set. Therefore, the teaching methodology used cannot be uniform. They need to be motivated differently, ensuring they all learn. I have always regarded students as God. God has his means to help, and I believe, it is through students that he has been benevolent enough to build a company of the stature of Aakash. At Aakash, we believe in caring for the students, so that they perform brilliantly. If we are negligent, students being mirror images will be doubly negligent. I have devoted my entire life to teaching and believe in consistency and persistence. This is the ethos on which Aakash Institute's philosophy rests.

How are you using technology to your advantage?

We believe technology is a tool that can change the nature of learning, be it classroom, online or digital learning. To meet the demands of the changing world, Aakash went digital in 2008. With products like Aakash iTutor and Aakash Live, we have come a long way from the traditional classroom model to e-learning and virtual classrooms, wherein students can learn at their own convenience. By infusing technology in traditional classrooms, Aakash as a brand has taken classroom teaching a step ahead by adapting to the changing needs and growing expectations of the students.

Today, Aakash has become one of the premier coaching institutes that employ innovative technological tools for leveraging education to the masses. Our live teaching module, Aakash live, disseminates teaching via virtual classrooms that offer affordable solutions and quality teaching, wherein students can also clarify their doubts live while sitting miles away. In addition, our self-learning module, Aakash iTutor, helps in actively engaging the students and fosters greater accessibility. It makes lessons interesting for students, reduces their work load and helps in better understanding of the subject as students can learn at their own pace and convenience.

Our digital and online offerings are an attempt to reach the financially weaker students who are talented, but cannot afford to come to big cities/metros for their education. We extensively use technology in our operations and ERP system to manage curriculum, testing and courseware. Recently, we took over Meritnation, which offers a platform for online video courses for school and board students. Also, with several of our centres working on a franchise model, it becomes imperative to use technology to maintain the same quality and consistency.

We are also using digital tools to get feedback from students after every class which pushes us to raise our quality standards and ensure that students get the best of teaching assistance.

Our mission is to take high quality education to the farthest corners of the country — through classroom, web, mobile and videos

Aakash is a big brand now and was started in 1988. Can you please throw light on its journey of becoming a big brand?

My belief is that good perception builds a big brand. A brand grows in proportion to how it is perceived by its customers. What shape a brand is perceived as is vital for every business. In our case we have worked very hard, day in and day out to build and sustain our brand. Every year, we aim to outperform ourselves in comparison to the previous year. This has led to the creation of our brand, wherein the word 'Medical' is synonymous with 'Aakash'.

In October 1994, I took voluntary retirement from Government school job driven by the passion to impart medical entrance training to students to ensure a greater number of students become doctors. I was fortunate to receive full support from my family, which enabled me to focus solely on my path to teach. I attribute all my success to Maa Vaishno Devi and the blessings of my parents, who have played an important role in the journey of my life. Their abundant blessings from time to time have been instrumental to my success.

Our main centre in India is in Janakpuri (Delhi). It was started in 2001 and it continues to attract thousands of students from all over India. From a single centre in 1988, we gradually started expanding. It was our quality teaching and result-oriented test preparation that helped us garner the trust of both students and parents. Moreover, excellent results in medical entrance exams year after year resulted into a great demand from various cities across the nation. Today, we have a pan India network of more than 200 Aakash centers and a student count of more than 2,50,000. We started with the franchise model in 1987, with Mr M L Arora at its helm at Mayur Vihar, East Delhi. Mr Arora is no more, he expired in January 2020.

Today, we are highly respected for offering unparalleled coaching services for medical, engineering and foundation level exams through our distinct verticals namely, Aakash Medical, Aakash IIT-JEE and Aakash Foundations.

The company has entered into a remarkable tie-up with the world's largest private equity fund i.e. Blackstone and has been valued at over Rs 3,500 crore, which no test preparatory company in India has achieved so far. This also reflects our strength, quality, transparency and professionalism. AESL has diluted 37% equity to Blackstone.

Aakash Institute has produced 3,12,000 doctors for the country in the last 31 years from 1988 to 2019, spread throughout the world. Aakash IIT JEE (Engineering Wing) was started in 2007 and has produced about 55,000 Engineers for the country in the last 11 years.

Born in Sevli village (Faridabad district) in Haryana, **Jagdish Chand Chaudhry** completed his schooling from Hathin village and completed his BSc from Punjab University, Chandigarh. In 1972, he passed MSc (Botany) from BITS Pilani and started his teaching career at Vaish College, Bhiwani (1972- 73). In 1973-1974 he taught at Hansraj Model School, Punjabi Bagh and also taught in several schools of the Delhi Administration and was selected as principal through UPSC. A religious and pious man, he is also the Managing Trustee of "Maa Vaishno Dham" spread across 12 acres of land at Vrindavan (Mathura). The magnificent Maa Vaishno Devi Murti built at a height of 141 feet is also one of the tallest statue. Mr Chaudhry intends to build three religious dhams, Mahadev Dham, Shani Dham and Radhe Krishna Dham dedicated to Hindu deities Lord Shiva, Lord Shani and Lord Krishna respectively in the near future in the vicinity of Maa Vaishno Dham. His passion for Numerology has created numerous followers and besides a teacher, he is a sought after motivational speaker who has been recognised by several renowned organisations and institutions

Your commitment is commendable, but what about other teachers at your centres? After all you need equally adept faculty in other subjects?

Commitment comes from the family, it comes from the genes.

Also, I have been lucky to meet good, committed and like-minded individuals in the teaching profession with a shared passion to teach and work hard. Over the past 32 years, there have been many people who were with me in the journey. There are several teachers who have been with us on our journey for over 15 years and even more who have contributed to our success.

We have been particularly involved in cultivating a friendly environment, ensuring we have the right kind of people who are not only qualified, but also have the traits to be a successful teacher. The conducive environment ensures the understanding of our needs as well as the teachers. We believe that for a company to truly grow, two hands are not enough. Many strong hands are needed to accomplish growth. We have a continuous teacher training and development programme, where teachers are trained in teaching methodologies and opportunities to up-skill themselves. We believe that correct teaching not only lies in completing the syllabus, but it is aided well by teaching relevant course material, so that the students can qualify the competitive exams to emerge a winner. From the very beginning, our teaching is result-oriented and syllabus-based.

Students often look up to their teachers as mentors with vast experience and knowledge, and as an educator. Often, I am asked for advice, which can be life-changing for them

As a numerologist, the name and date of birth of an individual is considered while appointing staff so that people with better luck and fortune are associated with us on our journey.

Faculty quality at your own centres is one thing, how do you manage that the same is maintained at the franchise level?

The course material and teaching modules, test papers and technology along with the process of faculty selection are centralised. Moreover, as all the tests are centralised, performance is another way to gauge how franchises and outstation centres are performing. Technology is used for feedback, both good and bad from students, which is used to gauge how a faculty at any of our centres is performing. Every classroom carries a placard containing details where they can post good or bad feedback and obtain redressal of their grievances. We ensure to maintain a personal touch. Both students and parents can reach us at any time for any issue at any center.

We ensure micro-management of our Franchise Centres to provide education of the highest quality standards, in addition to seamless customer experience.

Being engaged and involved in all aspects enables us to build and operate a successful franchise

What other expansions are you looking at?

We plan to take big strides in Digital Delivery Platform in C and D-tier cities in India which are not classroom coaching viable. The plan aims to impart quality teaching to the talented but financially weaker students of the society in the comfort of their own homes at their own pace and convenience.

We will also strive hard to make our presence felt in the Middle-East countries with a focus to impart high quality education synonymous with the brand 'Aakash'.

We also plan to venture in digital PG entrance coaching in medical field at all our centers in the next two years and are hopeful of securing first position that is now associated with the brand 'Aakash'. To achieve this goal, we aim to hire the best faculty possible (both full-time and part-time). We will take care to ensure doctors take time off from their practice time to share knowledge and clinical expertise with undergraduates. We look forward to launching the PG course in our over 200 centers by February next year. Moreover, with more than 200 Aakash centres, dedicating even a single room for this course in each centre for video-linking will provide a pan India access to doctors looking for PG entrance coaching.

You are also popular numerologist with a huge following. How did you get interested in it?

Numerology is termed as the science of numbers. Numerology is the belief that there is a divine, mystical relationship between numbers and the projection of life and all life events. Numbers are the letters of this sacred language. Everything in the universe has an energy vibration and numbers are no different. In fact, in Numerology every number (and letter) has its own unique vibration that has an influence upon the story of our life. If we know the characteristics of each number and its interrelationship with other numbers, future predictions to a certain extent can be made. This is akin to having a "Third Eye". Numerology can forewarn us while navigating our way through bad times in life.

A YouTube Channel on Numerology/Motivational Speaker was started two years ago with the aim of helping individuals navigate their life better with the science of Numerology and providing students with positive direction through the motivational seminars. The channel has 366K subscribers and garners 44.5 million views. As a social service, solutions are also provided to individual queries through mail. We will be shortly launching the Numerology App, followed by the launch of the new website

Any personal incidents where numerology played a role?

I have learnt the science of Numerology from my brother-in-law, Mr Y K Gauba. My vast experience of 35 years in Numerology is a result of extensive reading, research and practice conducted on friends, family and relatives. While buying any property or naming a brand, selecting a date for inauguration, the dates are calculated as per Numerology and matched with the date of birth to see if they vibrate harmoniously. Of course! I changed my younger son's name to 'Aakash'from 'Manish' and added an alphabet to my older son's name, 'Aashish'. And, when I told you about meeting candidates for the hospital as well our teaching centers, besides franchisees, I look at their date of birth and meet with them. Numbers tell me their story and meeting them gives me an insight about their attitude which could be moulded even when their numbers are not favourable. I have observed that the knowledge of Numerology has worked and benefitted me immensely over the years.

When you look back, how does it feel when you come across students who have scaled new heights?

I have been an active teacher for nearly four decades and in this time, I have taught so many students. I forget their faces and names, because every new batch of students pushes me to work on them. But it feels great to come across former students at the least expected of places. Wherever I go, be it to an airport, on a flight, railway station or even visiting the mall/market, I meet students I have taught twenty or thirty years ago. They recognise me and come to me to seek blessings and update me about their chosen paths. In fact, I have also had many instances when I have taught two generations in a family. I feel blessed to be working alongside the third generation of students.

My focus throughout has been only to teach students and look at ways to help them realise their potential and dreams.

* RED (READ. ENGAGE. DELIVER.) IS THE MARKETING SOLUTIONS TEAM OF THE INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

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0-50 Good · 51-100 Satisfactory · 101-200 Moderate · 201-300 Poor · 301-400 Very poor · 401-500 Severe

BRIEFLY

NDMC lifts suspension of Park hotel's licences

New Delhi: The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on Friday revoked the suspension of health and trade licences of the five-star The Park Hotel at Parliament Street. "We had suspended the health and trade licences of The Park hotel after the hotel's fire safety certificate was suspended (by the Delhi Fire Services)," said Murari Lal Sharma, director of health licensing department of the NDMC. The licences were cancelled after a fire broke out in the basement of the hotel last week. Many guests, including nine Norwegian nationals, were injured after inhaling smoke.

Shop owner shot dead

New Delhi: A 47-year-old shop owner was allegedly shot dead, while his employee was attacked, by three unidentified men in a robbery bid in South Delhi's Fatehpur Beri. Police said the incident took place on Thursday, when the victim, Ravi Kumar, had shut his shop. Three bike-borne men approached him and snatched his bag. He tried to chase the men but one of the accused fired a bullet at him. The other two accused hit Kumar's employee on the head and fled. Kumar was taken to hospital but was declared dead on arrival.

3 rob man to fund Manali trip, arrested

New Delhi: Police have arrested three men who allegedly robbed a man at gunpoint to arrange money for their trip to Manali. The incident took place on February 3 near Palam flyover. The accused were identified as Shakeel (19), Karan Singh (19) and Pushpender (21). Police received information from a man saying he was robbed of his car, phone and wallet at gunpoint. They scanned CCTV footage and found that the accused were also involved in a firing incident. The accused were later arrested. **ENS**

Shoaib Iqbal appointed pro-tem Speaker

New Delhi: AAP MLA Shoaib Iqbal has been appointed as the pro-tem Speaker of the Delhi Assembly by L-G Anil Baijal. Iqbal, who has been elected for the sixth time from Matia Mahal, will oversee the oath-taking of newly-elected members on February 24 when the first session of the assembly begins. **PTI**

SHAHEEN BAGH

Mediation Day 3: Protesters might vacate a lane

The Mahamaya flyover route was opened for 30-40 minutes to let an ambulance pass. *Praveen Khanna*

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AS THE two Supreme Court-appointed mediators returned to Shaheen Bagh for the third day of talks, protesters made it clear that they will not shift from the venue. On Thursday, the panel and the protesters had interacted about the future of the protest and the road closure it has caused.

Sadhana Ramachandran and Sanjay Hegde were appointed by the top court to find a resolution to the issue. Ramachandran started the interaction by saying: "We know there are alternate roads that can be used. But you also said that the canopy covers one side of the road. Then why can't we tell the police to remove barricades from the other side?"

Women in the crowd got agitated, and one of them stood up and said, "We can't risk our lives for your convenience. You must be aware that there have been incidents of firing here. We are not safe despite all the security. Women like Gunja Kapoor walked in wearing a burqa and tried to film us secretly. We need more security and won't shift unless you give us an assurance that we will be safe. Why can't police reopen other roads?"

Protesters cheered and asked the advocates to get a response from the police. The lawyers called the SHO of Shaheen Bagh, who said, "We have come here multiple times and requested you to vacate the other side of the road. But you refused. We'll put barricades and I assure you that law and order will be maintained. If we reopen the other side, we will place more barricades and deploy personnel."

A protester then told police and advocates, "Please don't forget the day a man jumped barricades in front of you and fired bullets. Will the Commissioner of Police or the DCP resign if something happens to us?"

Hegde tried to pacify the crowd with a song: "*Chodo kal ki baatein, kal ki baat purani.*"

He told the protesters that the SC supports their right to protest and added: "I know you are sitting here for your citizenship rights. But you can't be stubborn and sit here indefinitely. If you decide to adjust, everyone, including the SC, will support you. The bigger fight will be the case against CAA and NRC and you need support."

Protesters later said they are ready to reopen the other side of the road, if police provide adequate security arrangements.

Ramachandran supported the women and said, "We will talk to the court and police about this. I understand that you need assurance from the police and we will get you one. Let's agree to reopen the other side of this road."

On Wednesday, the advocates had promised protesters that they will inspect the roads blocked by police.

On Thursday, the Mahamaya flyover route, which connects Noida to Faridabad, was temporarily opened by UP police.

"Protesters told us that police have blocked alternative roads. Yesterday, we went with four volunteers and police to inspect those roads. We came to a conclusion that the road which links Noida to Faridabad can be reopened. We told police to remove barricades and they did listen to us in the morning. I don't know what went wrong afterwards and someone blocked the road again. We condemn this and will inform the Supreme Court," said Ramachandran.

UP Police open up Mahamaya flyover but only temporarily

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

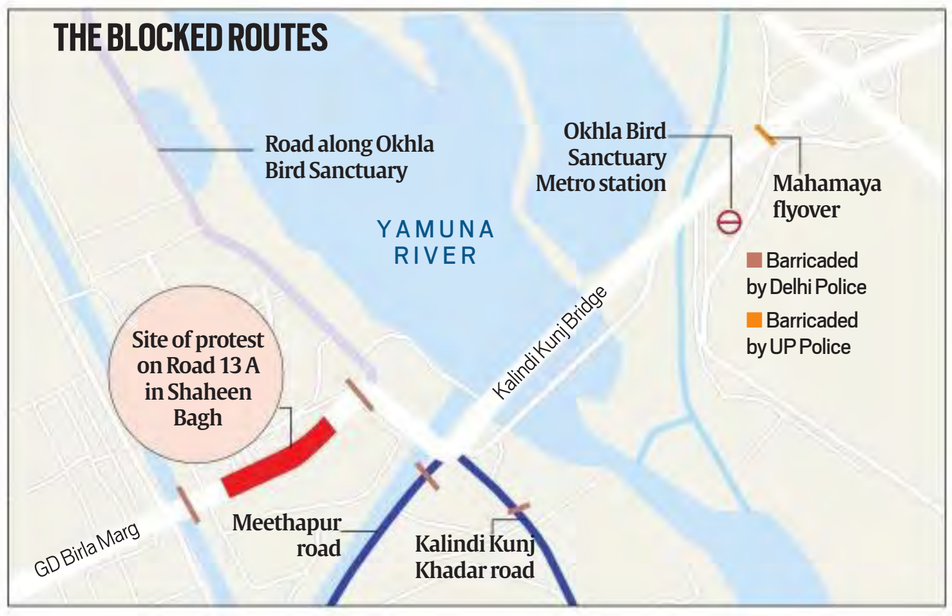
ON FRIDAY, UP Police temporarily removed barricades from Mahamaya Flyover, which connects Noida to Faridabad and has been closed off for the last 69 days ever since the Shaheen Bagh sit-in protest started. The road, which is near Kalindi Kunj, was blocked by UP police as per "security arrangements" on the directions of the Delhi Police.

This move comes against the backdrop of a Supreme Court mandated mediation panel visiting Shaheen Bagh and speaking to protesters. The brief opening of the route for 30-40 minutes prompted instant speculation that mediation had been successful, but both Delhi and UP Police made it clear this was not the case.

DCP (South East) R P Meena said that no roads had been opened and that when the traffic from Noida is too much, a small stretch is opened for a few minutes to let out a few vehicles. This was also the case on Friday.

Anil Kumar Singh, ACP (Noida traffic), said, "The road is still blocked because Delhi Police have barricaded other routes. In the morning, there was an accident nearby and an ambulance was allowed to access the flyover. But a few other commuters continued using the road; when we got this information, our team immediately replaced the barricades."

As news spread that the road had been reopened, several commuters and protesters gathered. But relief was short-lived as police teams returned and replaced the barricades. To avoid a similar situation, police said they will deploy personnel at the barricades.



■ The Mahamaya flyover, which connects Noida and Faridabad, has been blocked from two parallel sides

■ A small part of the flyover is open for 2-wheelers, while other vehicles use the DND Flyway or Mathura Road

■ Kalindi Kunj Khadar road and Meethapur road are the other routes near the protest area barricaded by police

City plan for Trump: 10,000 flower pots, keeping strays away

ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AROUND 10,000 flower pots, cleaning of roads, floral boards at roundabouts as well as keeping away stray dogs and monkeys — these are among the steps being taken by the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) as part of a beautification drive to welcome US President Donald Trump and his family next week.

"Working with the Central Public Works Department, the NDMC horticulture department has been given the task of maintaining hygiene and cleanliness of Rashtrapati Bhavan," said S Chellaiah, Director of Horticulture, NDMC.

"We have been told to procure 3,500 flower pots for the Bhavan, and will get over 10,000 pots for the beautification as well," he said.

As per the plan, over 10,000 pots of tulips, ornamental kale, petunias and multi-colour hybrid dahlias will also be placed at Hyderabad House, which is where the delegations will hold talks.

Additionally, floral boards will also be put up, reflecting the ties binding India and US, and flowers will also be used to beautify various spots, especially roundabouts, along the route that will be taken by the entourage.

NDMC has also been tasked with removing garbage and carrying out mechanical sweeping of roads. "We also have to make sure that no stray dogs or monkeys come along the route," said Chellaiah. He said the NDMC has to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply during Trump's visit.

US President Trump and his wife Melania Trump will be ceremonially welcomed at the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan on February 25, after which they will visit the Gandhi Samadhi at Rajghat. This will be followed by delegation-level talks at Hyderabad House.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will then host the lunch, and Trump is expected to attend meetings at the US Embassy with industry representatives.

In the evening, the US President will meet President Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan, and both will also host a banquet later.

Trump will stay at the 'Chanakya' suite of ITC Maurya, which has hosted the likes of former US presidents George Bush and Barack Obama.

On security arrangements in the capital, Delhi Police spokesperson M S Randhawa said, "Commissioner of Police Amulya Patnaik held a meeting Friday with traffic and local police about arrangements for Trump's visit."

A police officer said, "We are also coordinating with the US Secret Service."

Workers paint road medians near Rashtrapati Bhavan, Friday. *Praveen Khanna*

After being held hostage, economic survey teams seek police protection

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, FEBRUARY 21

SURVEYORS CONDUCTING an economic survey in Gautam Budh Nagar have sought protection from the administration amid fears of being mistaken for officials collecting data for the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Earlier this week, a group of four-five officials had been held hostage after villagers in Greater Noida mistook them for surveyors "collecting information for the NRC". This, officials claimed, has halted the survey process briefly, and it will resume once adequate safety arrangements are made.

"The local administration has tasked us with conducting the survey, which is being carried out across the country. The problem is that there is fear among locals with regard to the NRC and they think we are doing the same work. We faced a lot of resistance on the day of the incident and we believe that it can happen to us again. We have requested the administration to help us, else we might be attacked again. The survey will resume from Monday," said Raj Singh, a village-level entrepreneur of the local common service centre which is conducting the survey.

Officials are also planning to hold meetings with local residents to explain the nature of the work involved in the survey and to dispel apprehensions about the NRC.

According to sources, a panchayat was held in a neighbouring village in Jarcha where it was decided that the survey might lead to tension. It was eventually called off for that particular area. "We need to have discussions with people in advance and are hoping that the local panchayats will cooperate with us in the process," said Singh.

According to the administration, while there was a brief halt in the survey, the process is taking place as per schedule. "We had received information about the incident and are in constant touch with police. The survey is taking place all over the district smoothly. Necessary measures that need to be taken to ensure no official is harmed will be taken," said District Magistrate, Gautam Budh Nagar, B N Singh.

Police, too, said they are ready to provide armed protection in the event they are approached by an appropriate authority.

"It is a one-off incident, it has not happened anywhere else in the district. We have not been given, in writing, about officials needing any protection. But we are maintaining vigil. Keeping in mind the law and order situation, force will be provided," said Additional DCP (Gautam Budh Nagar) Ranvijay Singh.

PROJECT TITLED '100 VELOCITY PIECES'

All the world a stage: Artist urges protest through KG Marg billboard

DIPANITA NATH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

FOR PERFORMANCE-BASED artist Amitesh Grover, the city is a stage and its people astute actors. Since October 19, he has assumed the role of the director and sent out instructions through a giant billboard on Kasturba Gandhi Marg in Central Delhi. Grover's intention is not to prepare a play but to rehearse the people of the capital for a real-life performance of protest, dissent and resistance.

On the day the city came out to vote, the billboard said, "Run / through a museum / across a monument / along the parliament / run or else". After the election, it said, "Wonder / if the centre / and the periphery / will ever want to / meet". Three days later, the message was "If you watch / the movement / only from afar / how will you know / what makes it move?" On February 18, the billboard said, "Respect / the laws inscribed / in your flesh / all other laws / are provisional".

Each day brings a different note but in the form of an ambiguous poem written by him. "I wanted to help the Indian citizen, who is thinking about resistance, to begin their resistance. It is up to them to interpret the instructions being given on the board, but if they do what the board is asking them to, they would have started something," says Grover.

Titled '100 Velocity Pieces', the project is a part of a cultural initiative called 'Five Million Incidents' of the Goethe-Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan in collaboration with Raqs Media Collective. The project, which has been running for 100 days, has entered its last week and will end on February 29.

The project will end on February 29. *Express*

The message usually starts with an irregular verb such as Build, Dig, Make, Seek. Then, it looks at how people can perform simple acts of rebellion. "Very often, powerful acts of resistance are not spectacular. Look at protest sites and what you will see is that all people are doing is sitting," says the director.

To decide the texts, he turned to the notes he had scribbled over the years during rehearsal and thoughts he had written down. The texts are proofed and arranged by dramaturg Sarah Mariam. An instruction Grover once gave to an actor during rehearsal to crawl close to the floor has, on the billboard, become a message about staying close to the ground "to sniff out the state's blueprint or the masterplan which we, too often, fail to see from afar".

Many viewers think of the text as comments on immediate events but Grover says he had written most of the instructions long before the city erupted in protests. "The idea was to think about the text as poetry, not as a comment of what is happening right now, but as a constant battle between control and freedom, resistance and oppression, almost like a performance manifesto," he adds.

OVER MARRIAGE WITH MAN OF SAME GOTRA

Woman killed by family, body driven 80 km to UP

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WITH THE body of their 25-year-old daughter in the rear seat of the car, a couple drove 80-odd km from their East Delhi home to UP's Sikandrabad on January 30 to dump the body in a canal, hours after they allegedly strangled her for "marrying in the same *gotra*".

On Friday, Sheetal Chaudhary's parents, Ravinder and Suman, two paternal uncles, Sanjay and Om Prakash, and two cousins, Ankit and Parvesh, were arrested by Delhi Police for allegedly kidnapping and murdering her, DCP (East) Jasmeet Singh said. "During questioning, the family said it was unacceptable to them that the woman had married someone with the same gotra," said a police officer.

The matter first came to light on February 17 when a kidnapping case was registered at New Ashok Nagar police station based on a complaint by Chaudhary's husband Ankit Bhati. A police officer said, "The two secretly got married in October but continued staying with their respective families. On January 30, Chaudhary told her parents and the rest of the family about the marriage,

Sheetal Chaudhary

and they allegedly strangled her."

Both Chaudhary and Bhati's families have dairy businesses and are neighbours. It was three years ago that the two began dating, secretly.

After allegedly killing her, two cars with the six accused left for a village near Sikandrabad, where they hail from, and dumped Chaudhary's body in a canal before returning to Delhi. "Her parents were in a Wagon-R with her body, which was kept upright in the rear seat, and the other car with the rest of the relatives followed," said an officer.

In the complaint, Bhati wrote that he had not heard from his wife since January 30. "Bhati tried calling her, visited her house, relatives, and friends but in vain. His relatives also tried reaching out to her family," said a police officer.

UP Police had found her body in the canal on January 30 and cremated her on February 2 after doing a post-mortem since they couldn't identify her. "They kept aside her clothes and other belongings," said an officer.

After a kidnapping complaint was filed, a Delhi Police team visited Chaudhary's family, who said that she was visiting an uncle. "When we started questioning her family individually about her whereabouts, there were contradictory versions till one of them broke down. Another strong doubt emerged when Bhati's relative had inquired about the woman, and her relative had said, '*hogi toh milegi na ladki*'," said a police officer.

In Aligarh, Chaudhary's clothes and other belongings helped police identify that it was indeed her, and call details and technical surveillance of the six accused also established their presence in the area on the day of the crime.

According to Aligarh Police, the body was allegedly dumped in Sikandrabad and was carried till Aligarh due to the flow. Due to the low water level, the body was spotted in an Aligarh village by villagers who informed police.

Sisodia with Sitharaman in the North Block on Friday

At meeting with FM, Sisodia asks for more funds for Delhi, MCDs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

DEPUTY CHIEF Minister Manish Sisodia Friday asked the Centre to raise Delhi's share in central taxes, which has remained frozen since 2001-02, and more funds for municipal corporations.

Sisodia raised the demand during a meeting with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the first since AAP's return to office. Sisodia said talks were "constructive". "I demanded that Delhi civic bodies be funded by the Centre the way corporations in other states are done, which is Rs 488 per individual on a yearly basis," Sisodia tweeted.

According to finance department officials, Delhi, with a population of nearly 2 crore, should be provided at least Rs 1,150 crore, with an annual enhancement as grant to its local bodies.

The transfer of grants in lieu of share in Central Taxes has remained unchanged at Rs 325 crore per annum since 2000.

Maharashtra, Delhi join hands

New Delhi: Maharashtra Higher and Technical Education Minister Uday Samant met Delhi Education Minister Manish Sisodia Friday and announced future plans for collaborative efforts in the sphere of education. Samant said Sisodia briefed him about Delhi's education model, adding that Maharashtra will consider implementing the "Delhi pattern" of education. CM Arvind Kejriwal called it "cooperative federalism at its best". **ENS**

Polls over, BJP's Delhi unit told to tone down aggression

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WITH CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal extending an olive branch to opposition leaders during his swearing-in ceremony, the BJP central leadership is also learnt to have asked the state leadership to tone down the aggression and appear more conciliatory.

A party leader said that while they will continue pressing their demands, such as money from the Delhi government to the MCDs and implementation of central schemes in Delhi, the approach will now be less combative.

To this end, Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel has requested Kejriwal to meet the seven BJP MPs from Delhi every 15 days so they can contribute to the capital's development. Similarly, MP Gautam Gambhir has written a letter to

Goel has asked CM to meet with MPs every 15 days

Kejriwal asking him to visit the Ghazipur landfill with him so they can think of solutions.

However, this does not mean that the party has changed its stand on the Shaheen Bagh sit-in protest, and firmly believes that the road blockade should be resolved, said the leader.

Earlier, Delhi unit chief Manoj Tiwari had said he hopes central schemes such as Ayushman Bharat and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana will be implemented in the capital.

A senior BJP leader said the state unit has been told to refrain from personal attacks on the CM.

Kejriwal had met Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday, and, following the meeting, he said that issues related to Delhi's development were discussed.

"BJP and AAP have a lot of voters in common, which is why you see BJP getting above 50% votes in Lok Sabha and AAP above 50% in Vidhan Sabha. This section doesn't like personal attack on either PM Modi or Kejriwal," said the leader.

The BJP got 57% vote share in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, winning all seven seats, while AAP won 62 seats in the Assembly polls, with a 54% vote share.

Going forward, the BJP's attack will be focused on "policy and not personality", said the leader.

A passenger performs squats at Anand Vihar ISBT station, Friday. Passengers will get a free platform ticket, which costs Rs 10, if they perform 30 squats. *Amit Mehra*

30 squats = 1 platform ticket at ISBT station

New Delhi: Thirty squats can now earn you a platform ticket worth Rs 10 at Anand Vihar ISBT station, in an initiative aimed at promoting fitness. This is possible thanks to a new machine — equipped with sensors and cameras.

"This is part of the Fit India Movement, and is the first to be installed at any railway station in India," said Manoj K Singh, senior manager of business operations at UDS, which manages the station. The machine costs Rs 3.1 lakh. **ENS**

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एनईसैक उमियम, में विभिन्न परियोजनाओं के तहत विशुद्ध रूप से अस्थायी आधार पर निम्नलिखित पदों को भरने के लिए पात्र उम्मीदवारों से आवेदन आमंत्रित कर रहे हैं/Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up the following positions on project basis, at NESAC, Umiam:

क्रम सं./ Sl No	पद का नाम / Name of Post	पद की सं./ No. of Post	मासिक पारिश्रमिक/ Monthly Remuneration
01	इलैक्ट्रॉनिक्स और इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग, मौसम विज्ञान, भूविज्ञान, भूगोल, भू-भौतिकी, वनस्पति विज्ञान, कंप्यूटर विज्ञान, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी, सुदूर संवेदन और जीआईएस, भूसूचना, कृषि, भौतिकी, पर्यावरण विज्ञान, भू-विज्ञान, सिविल इंजीनियरिंग, जल-संसाधन, जल-विज्ञान, वाटरशेड प्रबंधन आदि के क्षेत्र में शोध वैज्ञानिक। Research Scientist in the discipline of Electronics & Electrical Engineering, Meteorology, Geology, Geography, Geophysics, Botany, Computer Science, Information Technology, Remote Sensing & GIS, Geoinformatics, Agriculture, Physics, Environmental Science, Atmospheric Science, Earth Science, Civil Engineering, Water Resources, Hydrology, Watershed Management, etc.	14	पे मैट्रिक्स का स्तर 10 (₹ 56100-177500) प्लस एचआरए और स्वयं के लिए चिकित्सा लाभ/ Level 10 of the Pay Matrix (₹ 56100-177500) plus HRA & Medical Benefit for self
02	वानिकी, पारिस्थितिकीय, पर्यावरण विज्ञान, पारिस्थितिकीय और पर्यावरण विज्ञान, वन विज्ञान, स्थानिक सूचना, वायुमंडलीय भौतिकी, इलैक्ट्रॉनिक्स और संचार, भुविज्ञान, प्राणी विज्ञान, वन्यजीव विज्ञान, भूगोल, आरएस और जीआईएस, भू-विज्ञान, कृषि, भौतिकी, वायुमंडलीय विज्ञान, अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान, भौतिक विज्ञान, पृथ्वी विज्ञान आदि के क्षेत्र में जुनियर रिसर्च फैलो(जेआरएफ). Junior Research Fellow (JRF) in the discipline of Forestry, Botany, Life Science, Ecology, Environmental Science, Ecology & Environmental Science, Forest Science, Spatial Information, Atmospheric Physics, Electronics & Communication, Geology, Zoology, Wildlife Science, Geography, RS & GIS, Geoinformatics, Agriculture, Physics, Atmospheric Science, Space Science, Physical Science, Earth Science, etc.	07	₹ 31,000/- प्लस एचआरए और स्वयं के लिए चिकित्सा लाभ/ ₹ 31,000/- plus HRA & Medical Benefit for self

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हस्ता / Sd/-
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CMS appeals to PM Modi & President Trump to consult on formation of World Parliament—to save humanity from complete annihilation

We hope that President Donald Trump & Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who will be meeting in India on 24 and 25 Feb 2020 will consult with each other over the formation of a World Parliament to safeguard the future of 7.5 billion people of the world (including world's over 2.5 billion children) and the generations yet-to-be born whose future has become progressively more insecure and unprotected during past seven decades since the outbreak of the 2nd World War and the recent spread of International terrorism, global warming, stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction, fear of a 3rd World War and a Nuclear holocaust. The World Parliament should be like that of the European Parliament which is a collaboration of 27 Sovereign European Nations for a shared dream and shared goal of European Unity, Peace and Prosperity and where no country has to give up its sovereignty.

Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Former Prime Minister of India said
''हम जंग न होने विश्व शांति के हम साधक हैं, जंग न होने देगें!!''
"We will not let War Happen, We are practitioners of World Peace, will not let war happen."

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is a very strong believer of the age-old Indian philosophy and ethos of **'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'** and the **Constitution of India (Article 51)**. The Article 51 of the Constitution of India calls upon the ***state to endeavor to (a) promote international peace and security; (b) maintain just and honourable relations between nations; (c) foster respect for international law & (d) encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration.*** **PM Modi has recently tweeted: Robust friendship between India and USA augurs well not only for our citizens but also for the entire world.**

On 23 January 2018, while addressing the Opening Session of World Economic Forum in Davos in presence of 3000 global participants of over 110 countries PM Modi said: "India from time immemorial has continued to believe in uniting the mankind…concept of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam' (the whole world is one family) is even more relevant in bridging the gaps… adherence to this international system based on the rules has become more important than ever." PM Modi has spoken about World Unity & World Peace on many occasions in India and abroad.

President Donald Trump during his Presidential campaign promised to the US electorate and his voters on **15 December 2015 in Las Vegas (USA) and had said: I think I'm going to bring unity to the world. That's what I do - I bring peace and I bring unity." On 22 May 2017 at Tel Aviv Airport, during a visit to Israel, President Trump said: "Now we must work together to build a future where the nations of the regions are at peace, and all of our children can grow and grow up strong and grow up free from terrorism and violence." On 24 May 2017, in the Vatican President Trump promised to His Holiness the Pope: "I am more determined than ever to pursue peace in the world."**

On 19 September 2017, at the UN General Assembly, New York, President Trump said: "But making a better life for our people also requires us to work together in close harmony and unity, to create a more safe and peaceful future for all people (of the world)." On 26 January 2018, at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, President Trump said: "We are all stronger when free, sovereign nations cooperate towards shared goals and they cooperate toward shared dreams (of World Unity and World Peace)." On 12 June 2018, at the historic Singapore Summit, President Trump said: "Anyone can make war, but only the most courageous can make peace" and "I'll do whatever it takes to make the world a safer place." "The past does not have to define the future… adversaries can become friends." On 24 October 2018, you said in Mosinee, Wisconsin, USA: "We want all sides to come together in peace and harmony (in world). We can do it, we can do it, we can do it…It will happen."

Both Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi & President Donald Trump have promised to bring World Unity and World Peace. This is an opportune time for the two biggest democracies of the world come together for the common good of humanity and work for World Unity and World Peace by establishing a World Parliament like that of the European Parliament which is a collaboration of 27 Sovereign European Nations where no nation is required to give up its sovereignty and each nation works for a shared dream and shared goal of European Unity, Peace and Prosperity.

Appeal by:

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Web: www.jagdishgandhiforworldhappiness.org
www.cmseducation.org

City Montessori School (CMS), Lucknow is the world's largest city-school, as per **Guinness Book of World Records with over 57,000 students.**
CMS is the only school in the world to have been awarded the **UNESCO Prize for Peace Education 2002.**

Students call off IIMC fee protest

New Delhi: Students of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) Friday called off their four-day-long hunger strike after the administration accepted their demands.

"The last date for submission of second semester fees has been extended up to March 31, 2020, or till the finalisation/notification of the new fee structure, whichever is later. It means the new deadline for submission of second semester fees is the arrival/notification of new fee structure in IIMC. We hereby request all students not to pay fees till the new fee structure is notified/finalised," they said.

"Regarding the committee which will decide our new fee structure, the administration agreed to share details of that committee with students and it also ensured students' participation in that committee. Suspension of all the nine remaining students is revoked," they added. **ENS**

MUSIC, MAGIC, COMEDY

Weekend festival celebrates 1 yr of Waste to Wonder Park

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

A WEEKEND festival will bring musical performances as well as comedy, magic, puppet and sound and light shows to the Waste to Wonder Park in Sarai Kale Khan, which is celebrating its first anniversary.

Since it was opened by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation on February 22 last year, the park, which has replicas made of waste of seven iconic monuments from across the world, has seen a more than expected footfall.

The park features a 60-ft Eiffel Tower, a 20-ft Taj Mahal and replicas of five other monuments, built using 150 tonnes of industrial and other waste.

On Saturday, the South MCD will hold musical performances by bands such as Swarism, The Trio Project, The Enlighters and Madari, followed by a comedy show. Sunday will see a Hindustani vocal performance by Shweta Dubey, followed by magic and puppet shows.

Ghazal singer Pankaj Udhas performs at the event, Friday

Ghazal singer Pankaj Udhas performed at the venue Friday, after the festival was flagged off by Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan.

Lt-Governor Anil Baijal, while inaugurating the festival, said such projects should be replicated at other places as well.

"SDMC is also developing another magnificent Bharat Darshan Park in Punjabi Bagh," he said, adding that to provide more parking space nearby, DDA land will be provided to the SDMC.

SDMC commissioner Gyanesh Bharti said that the civic body has recovered the entire cost of this park by generating a revenue of more than Rs 8 crore.

He said that approximately 16 lakh people have visited the park, with an average daily footfall of 4,000-5,000, which increases to 10,000 on weekends and public holidays. The entry fee is Rs 100 on Sunday and Rs 50 the rest of the days.

Coronavirus: Civic bodies step up watch on hotels

ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

IN A bid to ensure coronavirus does not spread in the capital, medical rapid response teams have been visiting hotels and guesthouses in Central Delhi and reviewing visitors arriving from China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand over the past week, said Dr Ramesh Kumar, director of the public health department of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

Two rapid response teams comprising a doctor, a nurse and a paramedic, have been visiting guesthouses and reviewing if visitors are showing flu-like symptoms, such as mild fever, headache, cough and cold.

Hotels and guesthouses have also been directed to inform the NDMC if they get visitors from these countries. Similar instructions have been issued by the North, South and East MCDs.

In NDMC areas, reports are being sent to the Delhi government's health department daily. "Guests are being given a form to fill. No positive case has come up so far," said Kumar.

Officials are keeping a watch on visitors from China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan. *ANI*

Samples of visitors exhibiting symptoms are sent to the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme — an IT-enabled disease surveillance system instituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for handling initial stages of epidemic-prone diseases, such as coronavirus.

Awareness has been spread in hotels and guesthouses since the outbreak began in December, said Kumar. Preemptive measures such as washing of hands, covering nose while coughing or sneezing, avoiding contact with those exhibiting flu-like symptoms, thoroughly cooking meat and eggs, and avoiding contact with live wild and farm animals are being highlighted in the NDMC's awareness campaigns.

Meanwhile, North, South and East municipal corporations too have issued instructions to all registered hotels, motels and guest houses to give information about visitors from flagged countries. Whether they are foreign nationals or Indians, the information has to be provided, said an official.

Mohalla marshals to be deployed in city soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WOMEN AND Child Development Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam said that mohalla marshals will deployed and an SC/ST Women Welfare Cell in Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) will be started soon, after a meeting with DCW chief Swati Maliwal Friday.

Introducing mohalla marshals — ex-servicemen or civil society volunteers in each mohalla — was a poll promise of AAP.

"The plan is to deploy mohalla marshals and strengthen mahila panchayats in the upcoming months," said Gautam.

Maliwal said, "We have conducted a pilot project on mohalla marshals in Burari wherein civil defence volunteers were deployed at vulnerable locations..."

Gautam also asked DCW to set up a SC/ST women welfare cell that will "work towards the welfare of women and girls from the community". Gautam also said he wanted to "set up a special board for transgenders and offer protection to members of the transgender community".

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
राष्ट्रीय जन स्वास्थ्य प्रशिक्षण एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING & RESEARCH

Inauguration of New Institutional Campus
and
Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of Residential Complex of National Institute Of Public Health Training & Research

Chief Guest:
Dr. Harsh Vardhan,
Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare,
Science and Technology, Earth Sciences Govt.of India.

Guest of Honour

Shri Rajesh Tope
Minister
Public Health & Family Welfare
Government of Maharashtra

Ms. Preeti Sudan
Secretary,
Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

22th February, 2020 at 9.00 am

RSVP
Prof. (Dr) Deepak Raut
Director, NIPHTR, Govt. of India

Venue
NIPHTR, Plot No. 6 & 6A, Sector 18, New Panvel (E),Navi Mumbai

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

CAPT SAHILL SHARMA,VrC
(26 Feb 1971- 22 Feb 1995)
25 years ago on this day you laid down your life in the service of our motherland, fighting the enemy in the world's highest battlefield, Siachen. You are fondly remembered and deeply missed by every member of 'YUDHE NIPUNAM' family. You are and always will be our leading light – CO and all ranks 237 Medium Regiment.

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(1. Tender ID for Group B1 Airports: 2020_AAI_43717_1)
(2. Tender ID for Group B2 Airports: 2020_AAI_43719_1)
(3. Tender ID for Group B3 Airports: 2020_AAI_43720_1)

Airports Authority of India (AAI) invites Global E-tenders for **"Granting Concession for Ground Handling Services at Group B1, B2 and B3 Airports"** through CPP E-Tendering Portal. Last date and time of submission of respective bids is **"07th April 2020" up to 1800 hrs.** For detailed information log on to CPP e-Procurement Portal : **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** or AAI website: **www.aai.aero**. Further clarification/corrigendum if any will be notified through CPP e-Procurement portal. **N-110/2019-20**

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION
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E-Tender Notice No. 41 OF 2019-20 Date : 18-02-2020

Sr. No.	e-Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate NIT Cost (₹)	EMD Cost (₹)
01	DRM-RJT-19-E-94	Hiring of Non-AC vehicle for Assistant Divisional Engineer (Works) Rajkot for two years (24 months) **Date & Time of Opening of Tender:** 18-03-2020, 15:00 Hrs.	8,19,744.00	16,400.00
02	DRM-RJT-19-E-95	Rajkot Division : U-Wall approach and pumping arrangement on RUB in connection with elimination of Level Crossing No. 225 and 226 under Divisional Engineer (West) Rajkot's Jurisdiction. **Date & Time of Opening of Tender:** 18-03-2020, 15:00 Hrs.	3,15,39,775.18	3,07,700.00

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tender No. MTC/EN/NOIDA/VH06/OT/2019-20

The General Manager/Coordination DFCCIL, Meerut for and on behalf of DFCCIL invites Open, E-Tender in Single Packet System on the prescribed forms for the under noted work; **Tender Notice No. :** MTC/EN/NOIDA/VH06/OT/2019-20. **Name of Work :** Providing of Six (06) Nos. commercial spacious vehicles on Hiring basis for use in the Jurisdiction of GM/Co/DFCCIL/Meerut, for One year. **Estimated Cost of Work :** Rs. 49,91,257/- (Rs. Forty-Nine Lakh Ninety-One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty-Seven only). **Completion Period :** One Year. **Type of BID :** Open E-Tender Single packet system. **Validity of Offer :** 90 Days from the date of opening of tender. **Bid Document cost :** Rs. 3540/- (Rs.3000/- + GST @18%) (Rupees Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty only). To be directly depositing in DFCCIL account, details provided in Clause 1.3, or alternately Paid by pay order/demand drafts/Banker's cheque/Manager cheque from a nationalized bank or an Indian Scheduled Bank in favor of DFCCIL payable at Meerut. (non-refundable). **Tender Processing Fee :** Rs. 5,889/- (Rs. 4,991/- + GST @18%) (Rupees Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Nine only) (non-refundable) through e-payment while uploading of tender. **Earnest Money :** Rs.99,825/- (Rs. Ninety-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Five only) to be submitted in DFCCIL Bank Accounts as per tender conditions. **Availability of tender Document and Tender Document cost :** Tender document can be downloaded from **www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL**, DFCCIL's website **www.dfccil.gov.in** & Central Procurement Portal, **eprocure.gov.in**; Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted on the website only. **Date and time of start & submission of filled tender document :** E-tender can be downloaded from 25.02.2020 and can be submitted Up to 15:00 hours of 01.04.2020 on **www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL. Date and time of opening of tender :** At 15:30 hours of 01.04.2020 on **www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL. Help Desk for E- Tendering :** For any clarification, help and registration for E-Tendering & obtaining Digital Signatures contact at **www.tenderwizard.com/DFCCIL**, and on telephone No 011-49424365 or Mob. No. 09599653865. **Address of Communication :** Office of General Manager/Coordination; DFCCIL, III° floor, Shri Balaji Commercial complex Plot no. C-2, Pocket- B, Sector-1, NH-58 By pass Vedvyaspuri Meerut.

Dy. Chief Project Manager, DFCCIL, Meerut

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER

Dy. CME /Carriage Workshop, Ajmer North Western Railway acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender no. Carriage-2-2020 Dated 20.02.2020. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Details are as under. **1. Name of work with its location :** "FIAT BOGIE DISMANTLING AND PAINTING WORK OF LHB COACHES AT CARRIAGE WORK SHOP AJMER (As per scope of work)." **2. Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 8630264.16/-; 3. Tender Document Cost :** Rs. 5000.00; **3. Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 172600.00; **4. Date and time for submission of E-Tender:** Submission of E-Tender up to 13.03.2020 at 15.00 Hrs. **5. Website particular : www.ireps.gov.in. 6. Eligibility Criteria :** Applicable. **Note:** Tender document cost & Earnest Money to be deposited online through payment gateway facility on the IREPS website only. **209-AM/20**
Please join us on /NWRailways

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
ई–निविदा सूचना सं. 47-49/2020/
वाणिज्य/बीकानेर दिनांक 20.02.2020

मण्डल रेल प्रबंधक (वाणिज्य), उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, बीकानेर भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से अनुभवी विज्ञापन एजेंसियों से बीकानेर मण्डल के लालगढ़, हनुमानगढ़ एवं श्रीगंगानगर रेलवे स्टेशनों पर स्टेशन एरिया में रेलवे द्वारा स्वीकृत आकार एवं स्थानों पर ग्लोसाईन बोर्ड एवं साईन बोर्ड के लिए वाणिज्य प्रचार प्राधिकार में लीज पर देने की तिथि से तीन वर्ष की अवधि हेतु ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। इस सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत जानकारी IREPS की वेबसाइट **www.ireps.gov.in.** पर उपलब्ध है। **1. कार्य का नाम एवं स्थान :** बीकानेर मण्डल के 03 रेलवे स्टेशनों पर स्टेशन एरिया में रेलवे द्वारा स्वीकृत आकार एवं स्थानों पर ग्लोसाईन बोर्ड एवं साईन बोर्ड इत्यादि के लिए वाणिज्य प्रचार प्राधिकार में लीज पर देने हेतु। **2. कार्य की अनुमानित लागत:** IREPS की वेबसाइट पर दर्शाये गये विस्तृत विवरण के अनुसार। **3. बयाना राशि :** IREPS की वेबसाइट पर दर्शाये गये विस्तृत विवरण के अनुसार। **4. ई–टेण्डर खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :** ई–टेण्डर दिनांक 17.03.2020 को 15.30 बजे खोला जायेगा। **5. IREPS की वेबसाइट: www.ireps.gov.in 210-AM/20**
Please join us on /NWRailways

UTTAR PRADESH METRO RAIL CORPORATION LIMITED
(Formerly known as Lucknow Metro Rail Corporation Limited)
Administrative Building,VipinKhand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010
UPMRC

Ref: LKE-MCRC-1 & UPMRCTR-01 Date: 21 February, 2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

1. Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. invites open bids through competitive bidding for the following Tender package
   (A) **"LKE-MCRC-1: - "Maintenance cum rate Contract for Electrical & Mechanical (E&M) works at 17 elevated stations & Transport Nagar Depot of U P Metro at Lucknow."**
   (B) **"UPMRCTR-01: "Outsourcing of manpower for O&M work for preventive and corrective maintenance of 25 KV OHE and power supply installations (ASSs & RSSs) (excluding SCADA) of Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Ltd."**
2. Bid documents can be purchased between **10:00 Hours** to **17:30 Hours (IST)** on any working day with effective from **21.02.2020** to **12.03.2020** from the office of Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Lucknow.
3. For further details, please visit UPMRCLwebsite **www.upmetrorail.com**

Kumar Keshav, Managing Director

EX- SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SECHEME
BANBASA
EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

1. ECHS invites Application to engage following staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinic Banbasa for a period of one year, renewable for additional periods :-
Medical Officer-02, Dental Officer-01, Lab Tech-01, Pharmacist -01, Nursing Asst-01, Lab Asst-01, Dental Hygienist-01, Driver-01, Chowkidar-01, Female Attendant-01 & Safaiwala-01
2. For terms & conditions, application form, remuneration kindly see our website www.echs.gov.in For details please contact Stn ECHS Cell. Stn HQ Banbasa at tele No 9012399494 & ECHS Polyclinic email on banbasa@echs.gov.in Last date of receipt of application is **04 March 2020**. Interview will be conducted on **05 March 2020** at 1000h at Stn HQ Banbasa. Candidate will bring original certificate/degree, photocopy of testimonial/ experience certificate, medical fitness certificate, computer course cert. applicable & two PP size photographs at the time of interview.

HIMACHAL PRADESH
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short Term Item rate off line tenders form PWD-6 & 8 are hereby invited for the following works and Contractors/Firms of appropriate class enlisted with H.P. I & PH department will eligible for participating in the tender on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, so as to reach in this office on or before 28.02.2020 upto 11.00 A.M. and same will be opened on the same day at 11.30 A.M. in presence of intending Contractor/Firm or their authorized representative who may wish to be present at the time of opening of the tender. The tender documents can be had from this office on or before 27.02.2020 upto 4.00 P.M. Conditional/Telegraphically tender will not be entertained. The earnest money will be received at the time of application in the shape of NSC/Time Deposit (FDR) duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer, Phina Singh medium irrigation Project Division, Sadwan in Tehsil Nurpur Distt., Kangra H.P. The cost of tender form shall also be deposited at the time of application in shape of cash or demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer, Phina Singh medium irrigation Project Division, Sadwan, If the tender cost or earnest money is not deposited at the time of application, failing which the tender shall not be opened & liable to be rejected. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject the tender without assigning any reasons, if, happens to be holiday on the date of opening of tender, then the tender shall be opened on the next working day. The notice inviting tender is issued with ref. to CPWD manual under Section 17.5 being emergent works.

Sr. No.	Description	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Form	Time Allowed
1	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: Wire crate for retaining the existing RCC Box/Barrel at RD 4449 to 4462=13mtr. length of main canal.	1,91,646/-	3833/-	250/-	Three Months
2.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (H.P) (SH: Wire crate for Embankment to protect the link canal at RD 500 to 525.00 left side of Kallam Nallah at Village Parchod 3rd & 4th layer over existing & settled crates.	4,97,841/-	9957/-	250/-	Three Months
3.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: Wire crate Embankment to protect the link canal from RD 100.00 to 118.00=18.00mtr. in Kallam Nallah near Diversion weir.	4,68,048/-	9361/-	250/-	Three Months
4.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: C/o Retaining wall at RD 32.00 to 38.10m=6.10m length 1st step between two existing R/wall over existing Toe wall retain the muck at dumping site Lahru.	4,93,969/-	9879/-	250/-	Three Months
5.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: C/o R/wall to protect the RCC Box/Aqueduct near RD 450.75 of main canal length 0 to 7mtr & RD 5071 to 5076=5mtr total length =12mtrs.	3,63,046/-	7261/-	250/-	Three Months
6.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: C/o Wire crate for retaining the disposed soil and protection to erosion of forest land existing of RCC Barrel/cut and cover of main canal at RD 4529 length 0 to 15 Mtr=15mtr. Downstream right site along the nallah.	4,63,983/-	9280/-	250/-	Three Months
7.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: C/o Breast wall to protect the private land /Forest land from sliding of steep hills due to C/O link canal and clearance of approach road over link canal connectiong Lahru parchhod village from RD 1157 to 1179=22mtr length 2nd step to heavy sliding.	4,76,662/-	9533/-	250/-	Three Months
8.	C/o PSMIP in Tehsil Nurpur Distt. Kangra (HP) SH: C/o Wire crate for retaining the disposed soil and protection to erosion of forest land existing of RCC Barrel/cut and cover of main canal at RD 4529 length 10.00 to 27.00 mtr. =17.00mtr. Down stream left side along the nallah.	465853/-	9317/-	250/-	Three Months

TREMS & CONDITIONS:
1. The work shall be executed as per CPWD Specifications as per direction of secretary (IPH) to Govt. of HP vide Letter No IPH-B-(A)9-1/2010-11 Shimla Dated 03.10.2019.
2. The quantity can be increase/decreased as per site conditions & Prior approval of Engineer-n-Charge be taken before execution.
3. Nothing shall be paid for the rejected work and material.
4. Income Tax, GST, Labour cess and security shall be deducted from each R/Bill of the contractor as per rules.
5. Crushed stone Aggregate of river borne material free from silt/foreign be used as per IS 383.
6. Work shell be executed as per drawings /design by IPH(PSMIP)Engineer-in-charge /competent
7. The Tenders received without earnest money will be rejected.

No.EE/PSMIP/SDN/ Tender/2020-3344-84
Dated: 20.02.2020 4949/HP

Executive Engineer,
PSMIP Division, Sadwan

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक
punjab national bank
Branch Office: New Market, Patna

POSSESSION NOTICE
Common Possession Notice for Immovable Properties of more than one borrower by the same Authorised Officer
(For Immovable property)

Whereas,
Punjab National Bank/ the Authorized Officer/s of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice/s on the dates mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/ date of receipt of said notice(s).
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred to him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against each account.
The borrower's/ guarantor's/ mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon.

Sr. No.	Name of the Branch	Name of the Account	Name of the borrower (Owner of the property)	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice Affixed	Amount outstanding as on date of demand notice	Name of the Authorised Officer/s
1.	New Market, Patna	**Sri Pawan Kumar & Julie Kumari**	Smt. Julie Kumari W/o Sri Pawan Kumar	Property situated at Berdhna, Barh, Patna having G+1, Class-1, residential building surrounded mainly by residential building at Mauza-Berdhna, Thana & Sub Registry Office-Barh, Sadar Registry Office and Distt.-Patna, Thana No.-70, Tauzi Bihar Sarkar, Khata No.-991, Khesara No.-290, Area-3.125 Decimal under Sale Deed No.-4822 dated 16.08.2010 in the name of Smt. Julie Kumari W/o Sri Pawan Kumar. Bounded by:- North-Anand Kumar, South-Sanjay Singh, East-Niz Manmokir, West-Pratima Kumari & others (Presently Road).	29.06.2019	15.02.2020	₹ 11,26,287/- (Rs. Eleven lac twenty six thousand two hundred eighty seven only) + Intt. and other costs	Smt. Anjana Singh
2.	New Market, Patna	**Md. Jahangir Khan** S/o Md. Aziz Khan	Md. Jahangir Khan	Property situated at Mauza-Danapur, Shajadpur, Mohalla-Sultanpur, Pargana-Phulwari, P.S.-Danapur, Distt-Patna under Thana No.-21, Ward No.-11(old), 14(Present), Mahal No.-02, Holding No.-52, Area-11 Dhur covered under Sale Deed No.2705 dated-27.03.2011 in the name of Md. Jahangir Khan. Bounded by:- North-Ram Autar Sonar, South-Rukshana Parveen, East-Old Sadak, West-Saida Khatoon.	14.09.2017	19.02.2020	₹ 13,07,030/- (Rs. Thirteen lac seven thousand thirty only) + Intt. and other costs	Smt. Anjana Singh

Date : 21.02.2020
Place : Patna

(Authorised Officer)
Punjab National Bank

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C. Railway can be seen on our website: www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice No.:43/2020,
Dated : 20-02-2020
SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS
PUB/0222

e-Procurement Tender Notice

The following Tenders have been floated online. Tenderers are requested to visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and submit their offers online. **The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD may be seen in website.** Offers submitted manually will not be accepted. Offers by post will not be entertained. Tender Closing time is 14:30 hours of the Due date of the Tender. "For all indigenous offers Earnest Money Deposit will be accepted only via online system as available on www.ireps.gov.in"

47.19.5107A	Isolated Transformers
80.19.1027	Internal combustion engine oil.
82.19.1420	Human insulin Mix of 30/70.
45.19.1125A	Battery operated LED based tail lamp.
45.20.1030	Universal type rectifier cum regulator.
42.19.1270A	BLDC fans without remote
62.19.1147	Gravity cock ½ inch Aluminium alloy.
76.20.1003	Steel Wire 1.2 mm in spool.
76.19.1017	Manual Metal Arc Welding.

Note:- Due dates of Tender Opening:
S.No. 01 on 05-03-2020, S.No. 02 on 10-03-2020, S. No. 03 on 16-03-2020, S.No. 04 on 17-03-2020, S.No. 05 to 06 on 18-03-2020, S.No. 07 to 09 on 20-03-2020.

GLOBAL TENDER NOTICE :

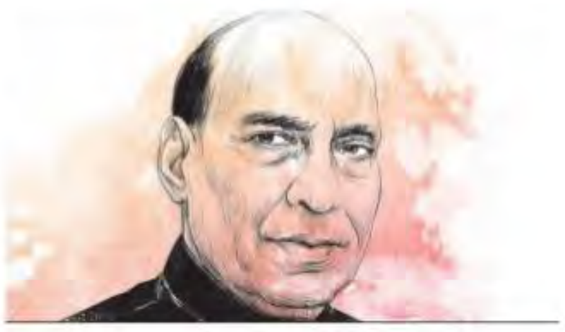
Tender No.29.20.1219B Due on31.03.2020	Various Spring for 3 Ph, locos

Beside above mentioned tenders there are other tenders having value below Rs.25 lakhs.

Principal Chief Materials Manager
A0292 Secunderabad

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



OFFICE SPACE

SPEAKING AT the ceremony to lay the foundation stone of a new Army office complex being built in Delhi Cantonment on Friday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced that along with the important offices of the Army, some parts of the newly created Department of Military Affairs (DMA) will also move to it. This created confusion within the South Block, as the new building, Thal Sena Bhawan, is meant for the Army, while the DMA, headed by Chief of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat, comes directly under the Defence Ministry. Some bureaucrats feel that a section of the DMA secretariat might move to the new building, but others believe it was just a slip of tongue on the Defence Minister's part. Regardless, what is clear is that like the office of the Army Chief, the office of the Chief of Defence Staff will continue to be wherever the Defence Minister will sit.

ONLINE CHALLENGE

TO MARK the completion of one year of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi on February 24, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has organised an online challenge for beneficiaries of the scheme. The ministry has asked states to encourage farmers who got the benefits of the scheme to share their "positive experience" with respect to PM-KISAN by uploading 30-second video clips on an online portal. On the basis of this challenge top three videos will awarded Rs 1,00,000; Rs 50,000; and Rs 25,000 on the occasion of first anniversary of the PM-KISAN next week.

ON OR OFF

ALTHOUGH THE NDA government had done away with the protocol of the meeting opposition leaders used to have with visiting foreign leaders, top Congress leaders like former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Sonia Gandhi have in the past met some of the visiting dignitaries, the recent being Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, State Counsellor of Myanmar Aung San Suu Kyi and Russian President Vladimir Putin. But with just four days left for US President Donald Trump to arrive in Delhi, the party is yet to hear from the US side on any possible meeting with him. The party is yet to decide whether it should reach out to the US side.

PM hands over 'chadar' for Ajmer Sharif

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday handed over a 'chadar' to be offered at the Ajmer Sharif dargah on the occasion of 808th Urs of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti. Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, who was present on the occasion, later told reporters, "For the sixth time, on behalf of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a chadar will be offered at the Dargah of Khwaja Saheb in Ajmer." **PTI**

MP CM Nath said people would be proud if the government released details of the 2016 operation

Kamal Nath targets Centre: Share details of surgical strikes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, FEBRUARY 21

MADHYA PRADESH Chief Minister Kamal Nath on Friday continued to target the central government over the surgical strike, seeking evidence and saying that people would feel proud when they get details about the number of terrorists killed or the number of buildings demolished.

"There is nothing, no photos. (It's only) in the media. The hullabaloo is only in the media," he said in Chhindwara when asked to clarify his comments in which he appeared to question the surgical strikes in Uri.

When asked whether he meant to say that the surgical strike was fake, Nath said, "No, our Army and Air Force do not indulge in any fake work. We are proud of both the forces... But share information with the country."

"We are not raising doubts over the surgical strike but just talking is not enough. Tell countrymen where it happened, how it was carried out and what was the result. The countrymen want to know," he added.

"(Former Prime Minister) Indira Gandhi ji made 90,000 Pakistani troops surrender. This surrender was seen by the people of the entire country and the world," the former Union minister said.

On Thursday, the Congress leader while lauding former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, had questioned the surgical strikes during the Narendra Modi government. "He won't talk about that (the surrender of Pakistani soldiers) but talk about surgical strikes. Which surgical strike?," he had said.

Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi Friday. *ANI*

No need to fear CAA, says Uddhav after meeting PM

PRADEEP KAUSHAL
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

REITERATING HIS stand on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the National Population Register (NPR), Maharashtra Chief Minister and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray said on Friday that those who instigated the protests against CAA needed to understand why they had done so. He was speaking to the media after meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This was the first meeting between the two after Thackeray assumed chief ministership of Maharashtra. The Sena was earlier a part of NDA, but formed the government in Maharashtra with the Congress and NCP after parting ways with the BJP.

At the meeting with the Prime Minister, Thackeray was accompanied by his son and Maharashtra minister Aaditya Thackeray.

Thackeray said he had good discussions with the Prime Minister on issues concerning the state. "I told him that whatever political developments that have taken place, Maharashtra should get cooperation from the Centre. He has promised me ...Centre's cooperation," he said.

"We discussed CAA, NRC and NPR. I have made my stand clear on these...There is no need to fear the CAA. The persecuted minorities (from the neighbourhood) will be benefited. The central government has said NRC will not be implemented across the country. If we see any dangers befalling the citizens (during the NPR exercise), we will oppose it then."

Thackeray and Aaditya later called on Congress president Sonia Gandhi, veteran BJP leader L K Advani and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Asked if he would appeal to anti-CAA protesters to call off their agitation, Thackeray said, "Those who have instigated it need to understand this." He said the "leader" has to figure out why he is opposing or supporting something. When a reporter sought to know who was instigating the protests, Thackeray shot back, "I don't live in Delhi, you do."

"The NPR is proposed along with the Census. It happened in 2010 too. Census happens every 10 years in our country. If there are new columns proposed in the NPR, they will be scrutinised by our government and if it seems problematic we won't take it ahead," stated a tweet from the official handle of the Maharashtra Chief Minister, Office of Uddhav Thackeray, on Friday. "NRC is problematic to every citizen, irrespective of caste, creed, religion any which way, and won't let it come to Maharashtra," said another tweet.

The Sena chief and his allies are not on the same page on the CAA. Both the Congress and the NCP are opposed to the NRC and CAA and have been objecting to the NPR exercise slated later this year. NCP chief Sharad Pawar, who had a crucial role in bringing together the Sena and the Congress, said on Tuesday that they will work on the differences with Thackeray. "We will convince the Sena," he said.

Thackeray on Friday ruled out any discord in the alliance and said the coalition government will last its full five-year term. "We have made up our minds. We are following the Common Minimum Programme. There is no problem," he said. **WITH ENS, MUMBAI**

EXPLAINED

Sena chief stand may hit alliance

MAHARASHTRA CHIEF Minister Uddhav Thackeray's re-assertion of his position in favour of the CAA and NPR may bring cheer for his earlier ally BJP and raise eyebrows of his current allies Congress and NCP. His green-flagging of CAA and NPR has the potential to weaken the opposition resolve against the move at the national level while creating an irritation for Congress and NCP in Maharashtra who have propped up his government.

Kartarpur Corridor a security challenge, says Punjab DGP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 21

Punjab DGP Dinkar Gupta in Panchkula Friday. *Jaipal Singh*

RAISING QUESTIONS over Pakistan's intent in agreeing to throw open the Kartarpur Corridor, Punjab DGP Dinkar Gupta on Friday said the visa-free passage cleared for Sikh pilgrims was "a huge security challenge from a terrorism point of view".

Claiming that there were reasons why the corridor was not opened so far, Gupta said some elements based in the neighbouring country were "trying to woo pilgrims and making overtures".

"Kartarpur offers a potential that you send somebody in the morning as an ordinary chap and by evening he comes back a trained terrorist. You are there for six hours, you can be taken to a firing range, you can be taught to make an IED," Gupta said.

He was speaking at The Indian Express Idea Exchange in Panchkula.

The Corridor, connecting Dera Baba Nanak in Punjab's Gurdaspur district to the Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan's Kartarpur, the final resting place of Guru Nanak Dev, was thrown open on November 9, three days ahead of the 550th birth anniversary of the Sikhism founder.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Indian portion of the corridor while his counterpart Imran Khan inaugurated the part on Pakistan's side.

"It is a huge concern... that is why it was not opened for all these years. I was in Intelligence Bureau for eight years... The feeling was that it (the corridor) will be a huge security challenge. But after that, as the community wanted it, the diaspora wanted it, it was decided why can't this dream be realised. So all those security concerns were put on the backburner," the DGP said.

Gupta said that he was in Delhi last week for a brainstorming session.

"They (Pakistan based agencies) have already tried to find potential (people for radicalisation). People who are going there, they are trying to woo them, making overtures. We are also concerned about the phones, which are going there. Earlier, the traffic to Pakistan was only a few jathas at Baisakhi and gurpurab. (Now) the footfall, the numbers are huge. This is huge potential. So, it is a security challenge," Gupta added replying to a query on whether Pakistan's offer to do away with passport combined with Referendum 2020 posed a security challenge.

Amarjeet Sinha, Bhaskar Khulbe appointed advisors to PM

New Delhi: Retired IAS officers Amarjeet Sinha and Bhaskar Khulbe have been appointed advisors to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an order issued by Appointments Cabinet of the Committee said on Friday.

Sinha, a 1983-batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre, retired as the Rural Development secretary on December 31, 2019. Khulbe, a 1983-batch officer of West Bengal cadre, served in the Prime Minister's Office before superannuating on September 30 last year.

The roles of the newly appointed advisors to the PM were not known immediately. However, their "appointment is in the rank and scale of Secretary to the Government of India, on contract basis, as per other usual terms and conditions, as are applicable in the case of re-employed officers of Secretary level in Government of India, initially for a period of two years or until further orders, whichever is earlier". **ENS**

EXPRESS NETWORK

N.E. W.S.

NORTH

Lucknow murder: Former BSP MLA's son arrested

Lucknow: A day after 25-year-old Prashant Singh was stabbed to death outside an apartment building in Lucknow, the police Friday arrested a law student on conspiracy charges. Police identified the student as Aman Bahadur, son of former BSP MLA Shamsher Bahadur.

Prime accused Arpan Shukla, an engineering student at BBD University, is the only accused named in the FIR and is yet to be arrested. Police said Aman Bahadur and Arpan Shukla are friends. The victim, Prashant, was an engineering dropout from BBD University. **ENS**

A woman pays tribute to 'Bhasha Shahids' (language martyrs) at a memorial on the occasion of International Mother Language Day, in Kolkata on Friday. *PTI*

EAST

West Bengal to reintroduce double-decker bus

Kolkata: The West Bengal Transport Department is set to reintroduce the iconic double-decker bus on city roads, a senior official said here. He said that the new double-decker buses will hit the roads in March. The buses have been designed by the transport department and two of these are being readied for service, West Bengal Transport secretary N S Nigam said. "These will be open roof and if the design is successful, we can look at the options of making more such buses," he said. "We have to develop them as there is no standard design," Nigam said. The only city that has double-decker buses in its public transportation fleet is Mumbai. **PTI**

WEST

2 held for murder in Malwani, police look for 1 more

Mumbai: Two persons were arrested on Friday in connection with the murder of a 35-year-old man in Malwani in Maharashtra last December.

Mahesh Patel used to work as a bus driver and stayed with a woman in Madh Island. The police are looking for the 28-year-old woman, who allegedly conspired with another man she was having a relationship with and put 10 sleeping tablets in Patel's food on December 20 last year. As Patel became drowsy, the woman and the man smothered him to death, said the police. Police have arrested Arup Das (25), with whom the woman was in a relationship and an accomplice, Sagar Sharma, the police said. **ENS**

SOUTH

SIT constituted to probe into Amaravati 'irregularities'

Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government Friday constituted a 10-member SIT, headed by a Deputy Inspector General of Police-rank IPS officer, to conduct a comprehensive probe into alleged irregularities, particularly land deals in the Amaravati capital region, during the previous TDP regime.

The report of a Cabinet Sub-Committee on the "procedural, legal and financial irregularities and fraudulent transactions concerned with various projects, including issues related to land in the CRDA region" will form the basis for the SIT probe, according to an order issued by General Administration Department Principal Secretary (Political), Praveen Prakash. **PTI**

Panama Papers details led to I-T crackdown on Bharat Hotels Group

RITU SARIN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE PANAMA PAPERS

DETAILS OF offshore entities listed in the Panama Papers, published by *The Indian Express* in collaboration with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists in 2016, led to the January 19 searches at the premises of the Bharat Hotels Group and its promoters in New Delhi.

Government officials told *The Indian Express* that following the publication of the Panama Papers, several references were sent by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to offshore jurisdictions and once information was received, searches were conducted at 13 locations in and around the Capital.

Following the operation and recovery of evidence of the links of the promoters of the Bharat Hotels Group to a clutch of offshore companies listed in the Panama Papers, the CBDT has dispatched fresh references abroad, this time for details of assets and properties held by offshore companies incorporated by Mossack Fonseca.

The Panama Papers refer to more than 11 million documents from the files of Mossack Fonseca, a law firm in tax haven Panama, which set up labyrinthine offshore companies for its worldwide clientele of the well-heeled. Hundreds of individuals used the firm — and the secretive, lax regulatory system in which it operates — to set up offshore entities in tax havens around the world.

In a press release, the CBDT said "undisclosed foreign assets" of over Rs 1,000 crore had been detected during the searches. But officials said the amount would be several times that figure, and that the Bharat Hotels case was likely to become one of the biggest detection of the Panama Papers cases in India.

The CBDT said provisions of the 2015 Black Money Act may be invoked in this case, and they had evidence that "a large amount of black money was stashed abroad by the group, through the mechanism of Trusts, formed in the early 1990s in tax havens".

Hitherto unpublished details from the Panama Papers data show that following the death in 2006 of Bharat Hotels Group proprietor and former MP Lalit Suri, his brother-in-law, Jayant Nanda, was inducted as a Director in several of the Mossack companies located in the British Virgin islands (BVI), the Bahamas and Hong Kong.

A resident of UAE, Jayant Nanda was detained by Income Tax sleuths at the Delhi airport on January 19 when simultaneous searches were underway.

Fresh evidence from the Panama Papers reveal that the focus of the Income Tax sleuths is on the ownership of a Panama-based entity called Richmond Enterprises SA and several other offshore companies to which it was linked, and were mostly incorporated between 1990 and 1992.

Asked about these links to offshore companies named in the Panama Papers and undeclared foreign assets, the official spokesperson for the Bharat Hotels Group said they had "no comments" to make.

Among the companies are two BVI-based entities: Blue Shore Circle Investment Ltd, of which Jayant Nanda became a Director in November 2007 and Sure Line Holdings Inc. There are documents to show that 25,000 shares of Sure Line Holdings Inc were transferred to Nanda as late as February 2015. This company is also among those who received a "resignation" notice from Mossack Fonseca in February 2017 following the global media leak. The notice was in the name of Jayant Nanda, wherein he was asked to find a new registered agent for the firm.

There are other companies under tax scrutiny as they were linked to Richmond Enterprises SA: Peran Limited and Amex Investment Limited, both incorporated in Hong Kong, and J&W Inc, incorporated in Nassau, Bahamas. The Mossack Fonseca data set shows cross-holdings between these companies. For instance, in August 2001, Richmond Enterprises SA acquired 1,000 shares of J&W Inc.

Officials said that besides recovered documents showing linkages to these offshore entities, the searches have revealed that several offshore Trusts had also been set up by owners or associates of the Bharat Hotels Group. Among the Trusts are the Charisma Trust, Oasis Trust and Pacific Trust.

GUJARAT

Surat civic body's women staff made to 'strip for medical test', probe ordered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT/VADODARA, FEB 21

WOMEN EMPLOYEES of the Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) were allegedly stripped in groups at the civic body-run hospital for a medical test, prompting authorities to order a probe.

Even as SMC Commissioner Banchhanidhi Pani instituted a three-member committee to probe into the complaint made by the employees union on Thursday evening, the National Commission for Women (NCW) demanded a high-level probe and questioned the need for such a medical test that "violates human rights and privacy" of women.

The complaint, however, doesn't mention how many women were allegedly made to undergo the test.

The incident comes days after students of a women's college in Bhuj were allegedly forced by hostel authorities to remove their undergarments to prove they were not menstruating.

Pani has directed the probe committee to submit a report within 15 days. SMC Employees Union (SMCEU) president A A Shaikh in his application to Pani has mentioned that the trainee employees, who had served for three years, had been regularised and for that medical fitness certificate was necessary.

Head of the department of gynaecology at Surat Municipal Institute of Medical Education and Research (SMIMER), Dr Ashish Vachhani, told *The Indian Express*, "If a woman employee is unmarried, we only note down the details of her medical history, including her menstruation cycle. For employees who are married, besides taking down their entire medical history, pregnancy and child birth, we carry out a PAP smear test for cervical cancer. If an employee comes for medical fitness certificate, he or she has to undergo a series of tests beginning with eye and heart check-up, blood and urine tests, and gynaec check."

"We didn't ask the 10 SMC employees to stand in a queue and strip (as alleged) as it is impossible. In our routine OPD, on an average 125 to 150 patients come other than SMC employees. We function as per government guidelines," he said. "There are three medical examination cabins, where first the employees get themselves registered, in the second cabin, the doctor checks her blood pressure and takes down her medical history, and later if needed, the employee is taken for medical examination in a small room."

SMIMER Medical Superintendent Dr Vandana Desai said, "I am not aware of the incident. It is not possible for 10 women to stand together in the gynaecology department as the space is small. It is a simple test wherein women doctors collect details of the applicant's medical history. If there is any complications, then further checking is done."

The complaint states that the women shared the "awkward" experience with other women employees who approached the SMCEU to take up the matter with the Municipal Commissioner.

Municipal Commissioner Pani said, "We have received the complaint from one of the SMCEU members and have formed an inquiry panel. On the basis of the report, appropriate actions will be taken."

Surat Mayor Jagdish Patel also assured stern action against the culprits. "This issue is very serious. Such physical tests are conducted on all those employees who are getting permanent after finishing their training period. We will take strict action against the culprits if the allegations levelled by the women staffers are found to be true," said Patel.

WITH PTI INPUTS

PIL seeks ban on slaughter of 'old bulls, buffaloes'

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

A PUBLIC Interest Litigation (PIL) was filed on Friday in Delhi High Court seeking to impose a "total prohibition" on slaughter of old bulls and buffaloes on the grounds that the "cattle breeds are never useless".

The PIL, filed by Madhya Pradesh resident Brishbhan Verma — who claims to be a social worker — submitted that the "prohibition on slaughter of cows must be extended to bulls and buffaloes only because such cattle, even after becoming useless as animals, assist in agriculture work or breeding".

The petition claimed that these animals "continue to provide dung and urine that can either be used by farmers as manure and fertilizer, or can be sold by the owners..."

The plea states that an interpretation of Article 48 of the Constitution, which states that the prohibition on killing/slaughtering of any animal and their progeny, excludes the male counterpart and "violates Fundamental Rights of the petitioner under Article 21 of Constitution..."

"If there is prohibition on slaughter of any person, then male and female both are prohibited. [If] There is prohibition on the peacock, then peahen will also be prohibited. But the order is clearly about slaughter of old, useless bulls, bullocks and old buffaloes," the PIL stated.

The plea cites numbers to add that bovine breeds are vanishing. "It is pertinent to mention that the cow and its original species are on the verge of banishment as it can be devised that cow breeds from 1947 to 1991 turned from 70 crore to few lakh, maximum one crore."

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the foundation laying ceremony for the Thal Sena Bhawan in New Delhi on Friday. *Praveen Khanna*

Rajnath lays foundation stone of new Army office complex

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

DEFENCE MINISTER Rajnath Singh on Friday laid the foundation stone of a building that will house several offices of the Army headquarters in Delhi Cantonment area and said it will be a "source of inspiration that will remind the people of the country about the sacrifices made by our soldiers".

He said it will also "represent the unsung heroes of the armed forces who have sacrificed their lives for the country".

The Defence Minister credited the sacrifices made by the nation's soldiers for India emerging as one of the powerful nations in the world.

He also stressed on the importance of integration among the armed forces and referred to the creation of the Department of Military Affairs and the post of Chief of Defence Staff that he said will work towards bringing jointness among the three services.

On Thursday, Army Chief General M M Naravane had said that the new Thal Sena Bhawan "will bring all Army headquarters offices under one roof thereby improving the working efficiency, while reducing the carbon footprint and logistics requirements".

He had said the new office, since it will be in the cantonment, "will also allow more family time for all soldiers" during peace posting at Delhi as they won't have to travel to Central Secretariat or other offices scattered around the city.

The Army Chief had clarified though that the offices of senior functionaries of the force, like the Army Chief and Vice Chief will continue to be located where the Defence Minster's office will be.

The new building, to be completed within five years, will come up in an area of 39 acre and will be a multi-storey green building, adopting Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment.

Farmer suicides: Andhra govt pays first tranche of compensation to families

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, FEBRUARY 21

DISMISSING THE previous TDP government's claim that 391 farmers committed suicide due to debt, crop losses during its rule, the YRS Congress Party government on Friday stated that 1,513 farmers committed suicide during the previous regime and released the first tranche of Rs 35.55 crore to provide ex-gratia to 627 families of the deceased.

Each of the families will receive ex-gratia of approximately Rs 7 lakh in the first tranche.

Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy said 1,513 farmers committed suicide during the previous regime and vowed to give compensation to families of all the remaining 1,122 farmers that the TDP did not compensate.

The government had made a provision in the Budget for paying the compensation.

According to officials, the suicide cases were verified in each case by the District Collectors.

"The previous government did not provide any support to farmers in distress. But my government is not like that. We will take care of farmers in distress. All the District Collectors must reach out to the families of the farmers who committed suicide and give them assurance that this government would take care of them. As soon as the facts of the suicide are verified, the families should be paid the ex-gratia immediately," Jagan said.

He advised Collectors to ensure that the amount reaches the families directly.

CORONAVIRUS

In Wuhan, a French doctor stayed back: 'My duty to protect my patients'

ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
PUNE, FEBRUARY 21

LAST MONTH, as the world scrambled to get out of Wuhan, a doctor from France decided to stay back in the Chinese city at the heart of the coronavirus outbreak.

It was a big decision for Dr Philippe Klein — but one he doesn't regret. Not even after the virus claimed the lives of the Wuhan doctor who first raised the alarm in December, and the director of a major hospital in the city.

Today, Klein is at the forefront of the battle against the virus. The 55-year-old has obtained permission from the government to "move freely" to visit patients in their homes, and handles cases at the international clinic of Union Hospital, one of the largest in the city.

"My patients have healed just as over 97 per cent of infected patients heal," Klein, who manages the clinic, told *The Indian Express* in an email interview. "The world needs to know the courage of Wuhan and China in this historic crisis," he says.

The WHO has confirmed 2,121 deaths and over 75,000 cases in China, and the country is still under high risk. But despite a lockdown, Wuhan's residents remain "brave, calm, disciplined and united", and "doing everything possible to protect and entertain their parents and children".

Dr Philippe Klein with his team in Wuhan.

"My duty is to protect my patients and after telling my staff to stay at home, I put this protective gear (overalls, gloves, masks and goggles) before going to the patient's home and then leave them in a sealed plastic bag. I wash my hands very often," says Klein.

"The crisis in Wuhan is like this huge sociological and medical laboratory from which we can draw lessons of incredible courage, intelligence and solidarity. There is a need to understand the sacrifices made by residents of Wuhan and China to protect the rest of the world. These lessons will protect all humanity from future health crises," he says. Klein's patients are mostly expats, including Indians working for a French auto company.

"The clinic welcomes foreigners and mainly the French community, which is important in Wuhan. I practice general medicine consultations and provide support VIP service to the best Chinese specialists. During this crisis, my job was to work towards the safety of the European community while awaiting evacuation and also to provide medical and psychological support for all those who remained in Wuhan," he says.

The initial days of the outbreak were particularly tough for Klein and his Chinese team. He recalls that they were under immense pressure while psychologically preparing for a rapid human-to-human transmission.

"It was a special time of the year as the Chinese look forward to the new year celebrations, and this intermingling would have rapidly promoted the epidemic. At our clinic, around January 16, the anxiety was palpable when a patient with pneumonia was detected with bird flu (avian influenza). I immediately shut the clinic and visited patients at home to prevent them from contracting any virus in the clinic," he says.

The death of Dr Liu Zhiming, director of Wuchang hospital, was a shock. And the construction of two hospitals in Wuhan in record time a "technical and human achievement".

Looking ahead, the doctor says a clinical trial is underway on severely affected patients in Wuhan using an antiviral drug that had been used against the Ebola virus. "The drug is showing positive results," he says.

Klein, a father of four, has been based in Wuhan for the last six years. After the outbreak, he sent his wife and 12-year-old son, who were with him, back home to Metz in France. As for his own future, the doctor plans to join his family only after the situation returns to normal in Wuhan.

"I sent my wife and son on the second plane back to France (in January). I also recommended my patients (the foreign community in general) to be evacuated to avoid the contamination as I knew the city's health system would deteriorate because of the mobilisation of 100 per cent medical forces in the battle against this new virus," he says.

There's one regret, though — there's no shortage of food but it's a challenge, he says, to find fruits and vegetables.

epaper.indianexpress.com

Ayodhya: Sunni Waqf Board to meet Monday, may decide on five acre-plot

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 21

THE SUNNI Central Waqf Board will hold a meeting on Monday to take a call on whether the Board will accept the five acres allocated at Dhannipur village near Ayodhya by the Uttar Pradesh government as per the Supreme Court's order. The Board, which was one of the main litigants in the Ayodhya title suit, comprises eight members from different fields.

Board CEO Mohammad Shuaib said the meeting was scheduled on February 24. "The issue of the five acres of land in Dhannipur will be discussed that day and we will see what the majority of the board members say," said Shuaib.

Sources in the Board said all issues regarding the five acres of land would be decided during the meeting on Monday. Asked if the land in Dhannipur would be accepted, a source said, "It will be immature for me to comment on it right now. During the meeting, it will be discussed whether the land will be accepted and if it is, what will be done with it. All these things will be discussed during the meeting and a decision will be taken then."

Another source said that during the Board's previous meeting on November 26, it was "informally decided" that the five acres would be accepted. "We had agreed that the five acres of land will be accepted because if we reject it, it will be contempt of court. But now, we have to decide whether the land will be accepted in Dhannipur. The land has been allotted by the state government and not the court... We will see how the members feel about this," said the source.

Set to lose land for Ram statue plan in Ayodhya, villagers ask why their farms

AVANEESH MISHRA
AYODHYA, FEBRUARY 21

NEARLY a month after the Ayodhya district administration put out a public notice saying close to 86 hectares would be acquired to build a Lord Ram statue and museum around 6 km from the Ram Janmabhoomi site in the town, villagers remain reluctant to part with their agricultural land.

The Uttar Pradesh government is planning a 251-metre high statue of Ram (making it the tallest in the world), along with a digital museum, on land situated along the Lucknow-Gorakhpur national highway. While the authorities have said 125 families would be affected, and 66 pucca houses apart from hutments demolished, the villagers of Majha Barhata gram sabha put the number at more than 300 families and around a hundred pucca houses.

The January 25 notice by the district administration mentioned 86 hectares and 259 landowners in the Yadav-dominated gram sabha, giving them 15 days to register objections. Officials said they had received close to 200 complaints, and the process to address them had started.

In the budget tabled in the Assembly on Tuesday, the state government set aside nearly Rs 600 crore to develop Ayodhya as a major tourist site, including an airport and a Tulsidas memorial.

Around 40 per cent of the land being acquired for the statue and museum belongs to the little-known Maharishi Ramayan Vidyapeeth Trust, with headquarters in Delhi and branches reportedly across 27 countries, and the authorities have its clearance to acquire it. The remaining land comprises small plots owned by farmers.

Villagers of Majha Barhata gram sabha put the number of those affected by the land acquisition at more than 300 families and around a hundred pucca houses. *Vishal Srivastav*

While the administration has promised proper compensation as well as alternative plots, locals, some of whom have been living in the area for more than 100 years, ask why the statue can't be built elsewhere.

In a letter to Ayodhya District Magistrate (DM) Anuj Kumar Jha, locals cited the non-farming land around, including some owned by saints, and said they would be left with no source of livelihood if their lands were taken. The letter added, "There has been no social impact assessment study. In addition to this, we have been given just 15 days to register our objections instead of 60 days mentioned in the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. As per the Act, land has to be acquired by mutual agreement, but only objections related to updating of land-related documents have been invited and consent has not been taken."

Jha remained unavailable for comment despite repeated attempts.

Majha Barhata pradhan Ram Chandra Yadav said, "There are three villages in the gram sabha and we won't let them take anything. We will go to the High Court and Supreme Court, do whatever it takes."

Accusing the Maharishi Ramayan Vidyapeeth Trust of acquiring land by stealth, Arvind Yadav, a 30-year-old farmer, said, "In 1992, the Trust came and told people they were going to build schools and hospitals. Our elders were mostly illiterate and sold them land around the main village. While nothing materialised, they got in and have been buying and selling land since."

Former pradhan Rajmani Yadav said villagers don't know how to fight the powerful Trust, and accuses it of having built just one school and that too for Brahmin students to learn the Vedas.

Majha area Lekhpal Lakshmi Shankar Srivastava, a land revenue official involved in the acquisition process, confirmed that the Trust had initially purchased land to open schools and hospitals.

Regional Tourism Officer R P Yadav, appointed by the government for the land acquisition, said they don't anticipate problems because of the Trust's cooperation. He added that Rs 100 crore sanctioned for land acquisition was already in.

Lekhpal Srivastava said there was no question of the "noble project" not going through, with "around 60 per cent farmers" having agreed and "around 80 per cent of those protesting living illegally". Hinting that the villagers who resist could face action, he added, "The situation is that land is of one person but another has occupied it... Some villagers are also involved in illegal sand mining. There are fake entries. At present we are requesting, but once checking of all this starts, all will comply."

Srivastava suggested that the project might become even "bigger" and "we may need more land". "I want to add that even the rate we are giving might go higher as the present rates are of 2017," he said, adding they were already giving "two-three times the price of a house".

Among those apprehensive is Mohammad Hashim, 37, the head of the only Muslim family living on the 86 hectares. His name was not in the list of landowners in the public notice. Hashim said he did not know how and where to complain. "We are eight members. We have been living here more than 100 years and this is our fourth generation. Only around 10 years ago we built a pucca house. Can anyone imagine our pain?" Hashim's wife Shareefun Nisha said.

Amarjeet Yadav, 24, a local, added that while no one was against a Ram statue, could a religion allow a temple after demolishing someone's house. "How will we go pray in front of a statue constructed like this?"

UP PRESIDENT VISIT TO AHMEDABAD

Reception committee headed by mayor to welcome Trump

ENS & PTI
AHMEDABAD, FEBRUARY 21

A RECEPTION committee headed by Ahmedabad Mayor Bijal Patel has been formed to look after various aspects of US President Donald Trump's visit here on February 24, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said on Friday.

Rupani told reporters that Donald Trump Nagrik Abhivadan Samiti has been given the task for Trump's welcome and preparations regarding the visit.

"Today, a swagat samiti (committee) under the chairmanship of city mayor has been formed. It also has two Members of Parliament, some Padma awardees and also prominent citizens. The committee has been given the task for Trump's welcome and preparations regarding it (visit)," Rupani said when asked if he was aware about such a samiti.

BJP MP from Ahmedabad (West) Kirit Solanki told *The Indian Express* that there were 10 members in the samiti, of whom he was one, but he claimed to know nothing else.

Solanki said, "I got a call today (Friday) that I am one of the members of the Donald Trump Abhivadan Samiti. There are 10 members in the committee and Ahmedabad Mayor Bijal Patel is its chairperson."

Solanki, however, evaded questions about the caller who informed him about his inclusion in the committee.

Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) president Durgesh Buch also claimed to have got a similar call.

"I got a phone call today about the constitution of the committee but I do not have any official email or intimation. Because of disturbance in the mobile network, I could not get the name of the officer," Buch said. He said the call could have either "originated from the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) or the General Administration Department (GAD) of the state government".

When asked about his role in the committee, Buch said, "It will be intimated later. But the basic idea is to be part of a felicitation or offering greetings on behalf of the citizens (to the US President). In such events, the committee will logically be presided over by the Mayor of the city, though I do not know the details," he added.

Mayor Patel was unavailable for comment.

Rapid Action Force personnel deployed at Motera Stadium in Ahmedabad of Friday. *Javed Raja*

BJP slams 'silence of liberals' over Pathan remarks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE BJP on Friday reacted sharply to AIMIM leader Waris Pathan's remarks at a rally in Karnataka and questioned the "silence of liberals" protesting against the new citizenship law on the remarks.

Addressing a rally to protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act at Kalaburagi in Karnataka on February 16, the AIMIM leader purportedly said, "*...Ikattha hoke chalna padega, azadi leni padegi aur jo cheez mangne se nahin milti, usko chheen ke lena padega yeh bhi yaad rakhna...humko bola mabehno ko aage bhej diya... abhi toh sirf sherniya bahar nikli hain aur tumhare paseene chhoot gaye, samajh lo agar hum log saath mein aa gaye toh kya hoga, 15 crore hain lekin 100 ke upar bhari hain, yaad rakh lena yeh baat* (We have to take freedom, and when you don't get something by asking for it, you have to snatch it...they said we put the women in front...only the tigresses came out and you have started sweating...imagine what would happen if all of us came along...we are 15 crore but weigh heavy on 100 crore)." The AIMIM leader has claimed he was quoted out of context.

BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra alleged that his remarks were an indication that a conspiracy is being plotted in the name of protests against the amended citizenship law.

He alleged that the remarks also showed that women sitting in Shaheen Bagh were being used "as a shield to further the cause of hatred".

"No one from these liberal brigades is making an issue of the divisive comments made by Waris Pathan. All of them are the same. *Haath mein Samvidhaan, dil mein Waris Pathan* (Constitution in hand, Waris Pathan in the heart)," Patra told reporters.

The BJP leader said Pathan's remarks point to the conspiracy to defame the government and disturb peace.

Former Maharashtra chief minister and senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis condemned Pathan's remarks.

Speaking to reporters in Nagpur, Fadnavis demanded an apology from Pathan and asked the Uddhav Thackeray government to take action.

"We condemn the statement made by Waris Pathan and demand an apology. In case he does not apologise, the state government must take action against him," he said.

Fadnavis said Pathan should understand that minorities were safe and enjoyed full freedom in India because 100 crore Hindus live in the country.

He said no one would dare to utter such a statement in a Muslim-majority nation.

"Hindu community is tolerant but its tolerance should not be mistaken for weakness," he said.

"Pathan should apologise to the nation and the Hindu community," he said.

Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut said, "Waris Pathan made a statement that 15 crore Muslims will dominate 100 crore Indians. I warn that Shiv Sena is capable of giving a proper reply to such statements even though we are in the government in Maharashtra."

NCP spokesperson and Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik condemned Pathan's remarks. "We condemn Pathan's divisive and inflammatory comments. Is there a fixed match between AIMIM and BJP for making communal remarks?" he said.

Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant said, "AIMIM and BJP are two sides of the same coin."

GIRIRAJ HITS OUT AT CONG, RJD

Patna: Union Minister Giriraj Singh on Friday was busy joining issue with Asaduddin Owaisi's AIMIM which has been under attack for controversial remarks by its leader Waris Pathan. Sharing a video of an old speech by Owaisi's brother Akbaruddin which had landed him in jail, besides Pathan's recent remark, Singh asked the opposition RJD-Congress combine in Bihar and the "tukde tukde gang" whether they wanted to "convert India into Pakistan". The leader is known for his controversial remarks. **ENS & PTI**

Late entrant to politics, he rose to fame through TV theatrics

ZEESHAN SHAIKH
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

ALL INDIA Majlis-E-Ittehadul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) national spokesperson Waris Pathan, whose comments at a public gathering at Karnataka have caused an outrage, has made a name for himself over the last five years for his television theatrics.

The 53-old former MLA grew up in Bandra and is the son of a Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS) judge in Mumbai. A lawyer by training, he has also represented actor Salman Khan in the past and defended Muslim youth arrested in connection with the Azad Maidan riots. A late entrant into politics, Pathan first came to the fore as a last-minute candidate of the AIMIM from Byculla in the 2014 Maharashtra Assembly polls. He was given a ticket after other candidates the party was interested in backed away one by one.

While Pathan does not have his own support base, the growing adulation among Muslim youth for the Owaisi brothers helped him win the 2014 polls. Pathan won the constituency which then had 2.7 lakh voters by polling only 25,000 votes.

After being elected as an MLA, Pathan started making frequent appearances on television talk shows. He is known to have a penchant for blustering statements and likes to be referred to by the sobriquet "Sher-e-Maharashtra" (Lion of Maharashtra). He also has an active social media presence and regularly posts videos, including several in which he can be seen riding high-end motorcycles.

Waris Pathan first came to the fore as a last-minute candidate of the AIMIM from Byculla in 2014.

In 2016, Pathan was suspended for the whole of the Budget Session of Maharashtra Assembly after he refused to chant "Bharat Mata ki Jai". The suspension was later revoked.

Despite political rivalry and exchange of harsh remarks, former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis personally attended a function organised by Pathan to celebrate his son finishing his law course.

While Pathan carved a name for himself as a television spokesperson, his performance as an elected representative from Byculla was deemed to be unsatisfactory. Also, his personal assets grew by a whopping 416 per cent during his tenure as an MLA — from Rs 3.06 crore in 2014 to Rs 15.80 crore in 2019. This was highest asset growth among all the sitting MLAs who recontested in the 2019 election.

Known for his theatrics, Pathan issued a video days before polling in which he cried and sought forgiveness from Muslim voters of Byculla for failing to fulfill their expectations. However, in the 2019 poll, he lost to Shiv Sena's Yamini Jadhav by a margin of over 20,000 votes.

"He tries to model himself on Akbaruddin Owaisi. His utility to the AIMIM is that his speeches may add some spark to otherwise staid political rallies. His performance as a leader and an MLA, however, leave a lot to be desired," said Javed Shaikh, a resident of Byculla.

In January this year, Pathan was appointed as the AIMIM's national spokesperson.

Cong to govt: Don't reduce visit to PR exercise, photo op

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AHEAD OF Donald Trump's maiden visit to India, the Congress on Friday asked the government not to reduce his trip to a "photo opportunity" or "PR exercise" and asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to leverage his "special friendship" with the US President to ensure "tangible outcomes" on "substantive issues" for India, such as enhancement of H-1B visas for Indian professionals and restoration of General System of Preferences (GSP), which provides preferential market access for Indian produce to America.

Senior Congress leader Anand Sharma asked Prime Minister Modi to "keep India's sovereignty, self-respect and national interest uppermost in his mind while conducting Trump's visit".

"There should be gravitas, seriousness and depth in this visit," he said. He also raised questions on the "big festivities" being planned in Ahmedabad to welcome Trump, saying the "splurge at the cost of the state exchequer militates against the philosophy and value system of Mahatma Gandhi" whose 150th birth anniversary the country is marking this year.

"This visit must have tangible outcomes. Then only it can be termed as success from the Indian perspective. There have been recent developments which have cast a shadow... these developments are negative from our perspective. The US and President Trump, they have withdrawn the GSP benefit to the Indian products, produce and Indian exports. The US has declared India as a developed country, thereby equating India with rich countries including China whose per capita income and GDP are five times that of India," Sharma said.

Arguing that reducing the Trump visit to a photo opportunity or a PR exercise would devalue the importance of the India-US partnership, he said, "This visit should also not become an extension of the US presidential campaign for the Indian diaspora vote. ... the Prime Minister ought to be careful as these are setting wrong precedents."

SITUATION ALARMING IN SEEMANCHAL AND SOUTHERN PART OF STATE

Report shows sharp dip in water table across Bihar

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, FEBRUARY 21

THE WATER table has dipped alarmingly across Bihar between August 2019 and February 2020, according to the latest telemetry report by the state Minor Water Resources Department released last week.

The dips in water table range from 13 feet to 25 feet. The situation is particularly alarming in the Seemanchal and the southern part of the state.

About 10 districts, including Katihar and Begusarai, reported a dip of 17 feet to 25 feet in its water table and Patna too reported a 17-feet dip. The report also says the water table in the state has gone down from 10 to 200 feet in the last 10 years.

According to the report, the groundwater level in Bihar earlier ranged from 40 feet to 200 feet, but the recent dips have brought down the range to between 60 and 250 feet. While this could lead to water crisis during summers, a drought could aggravate the problem.

The telemetry report said two blocks of Katihar district in Seemanchal reported a dip of 25 feet from the 50-feet water level in August. While the dip was 19 feet in Rafiganj, Aurangabad, it was 17 feet in Jogapatti, West Champaran, 22 feet in Bhagwanpur, Begusarai, 24 feet in Mansoorchak, Begusarai, 18 feet in Gaya and 17 feet in Bakhtiyarpur, Patna. Bhagalpur, Aurangabad, Arwal and Buxar reported dips between 12 and 14 feet.

Water conservation practitioner Kishore Jaiswal, who has worked with NABARD and other agencies over the last 10 years on water harvesting in Munger, Jamui and Banka, called the situation "very alarming".

"The depleting groundwater level is a crisis that is emerging worldwide, but in Bihar it is getting acute due to loss of forest and vegetation, dependency on groundwater and depletion in surface water resources, overexploitation of groundwater with the coming of powerful pumps and cultivation of high water-consuming crops," he said.

"There is an urgent need to check soil erosion, revive traditional water management practices and more efficient use of water in agriculture. Also, roof rainwater harvesting system should be used to take care of urban needs," he said.

Kumar Arun Prakash, special secretary of the Minor Water Resources Department, said, "Though we have not yet fully analysed the report, the water level has surely dipped alarmingly in seven-eight districts in comparison to the last two years. But we have initiated several measures under the Jal, Jeevan, Hariyali mission to improve the water table. An exercise to remove encroachment from water bodies and clear them of silt is being conducted on a mass scale and the results could start showing from next year."

Under the mission, about 3,000 ponds are being cleaned and over 2,000 checkdams have been planned in small rivers.

"All these measures are part of the project due for completion by 2022," said a government official.

EXPLAINED

Why water table is dipping in state

UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION of rains, lack of water-harvesting measures and encroachment upon water bodies are being cited as the major reasons for the alarming dip in water table across Bihar. A recent survey by the state government showed that 34,559 water bodies had been encroached upon. So far, temporary encroachment has been cleared from 20,432 water bodies and permanent encroachment from 2,123 water bodies.

Taj to remain closed for tourists during Trump visit

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

AS PART of security measures, the Taj Mahal will be closed for tourists from 12 pm onwards ahead of US President Donald Trump's scheduled visit to the monument on Monday.

According to officials, Trump is scheduled to visit Agra after 4 pm on the day during which he will visit the Taj and attend a cultural function.

"Due to security reasons, the monument shall remain closed from afternoon for public visits... As per routine, the cleaning of the premises is taking place and other measures have been taken ahead of the visit," said Vasant Kumar Swarnkar, ASI superintendent.

In addition, petrol pumps that fall on Trump's route have been asked to dispose off the fuel in stock before his arrival. "Keeping in mind security reasons, restrictions have been put on loading and unloading fuel at the petrol pumps. Whatever fuel is present, the petrol pumps must dispose or sell them off within the next two days. There are three petrol pumps in the particular proposed route," said an official.

According to sources, a battery-powered bus is being prepared to ferry the Trumps inside the premises of the Taj. The Taj Trapezium Authority (TTA) has banned petrol and diesel powered vehicles within a radius of 500 metres of the monument.The administration is also restricting vehicles owned by locals and residents, living within 500 metres of the Taj.

Lucknow cop held for killing daughter with cricket bat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 21

FIVE DAYS after the death of the 16-year-old daughter of a police sub-inspector, the Lucknow police on Friday arrested the girl's father, Ved Prakash Singh, and claimed that they had evidence that he had beaten her to death with a cricket bat following an argument.

Ved Prakash had initially misled the police and had claimed that his daughter had committed suicide by shooting herself with his service pistol at their residence on February 17. Police claimed to have recovered the cricket bat used in the crime.

"Ved Prakash has confessed. He claimed that it happened in a fit of anger. He hit his daughter after she argued with him when he told her to study," a senior police officer said. Ved Prakash was arrested after questioning.

Ved Prakash was part of the security detail at a central minister's Lucknow residence.

Police said Ved Prakash told them that on the morning of February 17, he beat up his daughter, causing injuries. She was taken to a nearby hospital. On returning home, she entered into argument with her father over studies after which he hit her with a cricket bat. She suffered serious injuries and was taken to a hospital, where doctors declared her dead on arrival. The girl's mother was also present in the house, police said.

On February 18, the autopsy report revealed that multiple injuries, including head injury, caused the death and also pointed that no bullet injury was found.

'They wanted to spread fear among Dalits by making us an example'

HAMZA KHAN
NAGAUR, FEBRUARY 21

ON FRIDAY, seven men in their underwear lined up at Panchodi police station in Rajasthan's Nagaur district as Inspector General, Human Rights, Bipin Kumar Pandey called them up for questioning one by one.

On February 16, the men, all of whom work at a motorbike service centre, allegedly stripped a 23-year Dalit youth after accusing him of trying to steal money, inserted a screwdriver in his anus and recorded the act on at least two phones.

"They should have respected the law and handed over the two to police," Pandey said, "Now they are repentant." The men face an FIR under several IPC sections, including attempt to commit culpable homicide and charges under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

About 12 km from the police station, at Bhojas Gram Panchayat, Bisha Ram (24) sits in a newly built, small room. Next to him is his cousin Panna Ram, 18, who was also assaulted. Behind them are their mothers, Gita and Dapu, respectively.

"Don't know why they had so much anger for us," says Bisha, who seems a little dazed due to the incident and the steady stream of politicians and officials visiting him. "Maybe they just wanted to spread fear among Dalits by making us an example."

Bisha's remark is backed by some political leaders visiting his home. "The heinous act was done simply to spread fear among the community," says Madan Dilawar, BJP MLA from Kota's Ramganj Mandi. Bhanwarlal Bhil, Jodhpur in-charge of BSP, says the act reeks of "a feudal mindset".

According to Panchaudi SHO Rajpal Singh, six out of the seven arrested are Rajputs and one is a Muslim.

Bisha says that he bought a motorbike "about 7-8 months ago" with a down payment of Rs 20,000 and the rest is to be paid in instalments. "About two instalments of Rs 4,200 each were left. On Sunday, I went to get my motorbike serviced, but Bhim Singh denied the service, saying that I should pay the instalment first," he said. "The instalment wasn't even due till the 20th," says his father Jagdish Ram (47). "The dispute was over the instalment," insists Bisha.

The family members said during the argument, the staff at the service centre hurled caste abuses at Bisha. "Bisha told them, '*Aap Thakur ho toh mera kya kar logey?* (What can you do to me if you are Thakurs)?" says his uncle Bhura Ram, 29, who identifies himself as an activist.

On February 19, after videos of the incident went viral, an FIR was lodged in connection with the assault. A counter FIR was lodged against Bisha and Panna after Hanuman Singh, manager at the service centre, cited CCTV footage in which Bisha can purportedly be seen stealing money from the cash register. The FIR says the staff was having lunch when Bisha stole Rs 50,000 from the cash register. It is alleged that Singh inserted the screwdriver in Bisha's anus.

Bisha claims that he was forced to fiddle with the cash register in front of the CCTV. "How is it possible that at a service centre, which has a staff of 12-15 people, there is no one by the cash register and everyone is having lunch," asks his father Jagdish.

Bisha and Panna have been questioned twice by the police. On February 19, they went to the police station with a complaint against the service centre staff after the videos went viral. According to police, both sides reached a compromise on February 16 after Bisha's elder brother Durga Ram was called to the service centre and made to pay Rs 5,100 as "fine."

"Panna and I were detained around 9 am on February 19 when we went to lodge a complaint with our family members. About 5-6 policemen accompanied us back home at about 1 am on February 20. They again took us to the police station at 6 am on February 20 and kept us till 7 pm," Bisha says.

Bhura says at least two other accused are absconding. The family now demands arrests of all the accused, financial help for the two, trial in a fast-track court, security for the family and proper treatment of the two.

"They were examined by a medical board on Thursday but we have not received a report so far," says Bhura. Bisha says that his body still aches from the assault. "The duo has been given Rs 50,000 each under provisions of the SC/ST Act," says Bhura.

Meanwhile, while leaders from both the BJP and Congress are visiting the victims, it is BJP ally Rashtriya Loktantrik Party which has taken up the issue most aggressively. Party chief and Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal was among the first to raise the issue on social media and three party MLAs walked out of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's budget address on Thursday over the incident.

Mainly identified as a Jat party, RLTP has thrown its weight behind the Dalits, apparently to sway the Dalit vote while consolidating its Jat base, since Jats and Rajputs are traditional caste rivals in the state.

Local residents outside the victim's home in Nagaur on Friday. *Hamza Khan*

Amid Nagaur outrage, similar case in Barmer

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, FEBRUARY 21

AMID THE outrage over videos of the assault of two Dalit youths on the suspicion of theft in Nagaur district, a similar case has now come to the fore in Barmer.

An FIR was registered at Barmer Rural police station Thursday evening after Murad Khan (30), a resident of Tirsingri in Barmer, alleged that his 23-year-old brother was assaulted and an irod rod inserted into his anus on the suspicion of theft. Deep Singh, SHO of Barmer Rural police station, said two of the three accused have been arrested.

In his complaint, Murad has said that on February 19, he came across videos of the assault of his brother Mohammad Khan. In the videos, Mohammad is seen being kicked, punched and hit with an iron chain, says the complaint.

"The same day, at about 4 pm, I called him up and asked him to visit us at home. But he said Moti Singh, Bharat Singh and Hinglaj have threatened to murder him if they spot him in the village. He started crying and I comforted him and asked him what had happened," Murad has alleged.

"He then told me that on January 29, the three called him at a petrol station near Bhadresh and then kidnapped him. They then took him to a hotel room near Bhadresh and locked it, and accused him of theft," he adds.

"He told me that Moti Singh and Bharat Singh then assaulted him with an iron chain, stripped him, and then Moti Singh inserted an iron rod in his anus. In violation of his religion, they also forced him to drink liquor and took Rs 4,800 from his pocket. Hinglaj recorded his video with Moti Singh's mobile phone and made it go viral," says the complaint, adding that Mohammad was later dumped at an unknown road.

SHO Singh said Moti owns a roadside dhaba and Mohammad, a truck driver, often hung out there. "Moti has claimed that Mohammad stole his phone in January but was caught. While Mohammad made light of the incident, the three assaulted him and also recorded videos. About 5-6 days later, Mohammad asked them to delete the videos, which led to another assault," the SHO said.

Police, however, said none of the videos show the rod being inserted in Mohammad's anus and the accused too have denied the charge.

The FIR has been lodged under IPC sections 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 342 (wrongful confinement), 365 (kidnapping), as well as 384 (extortion).

While Moti and Hinglaj have been caught, efforts are on to nab Bhati, SHO Singh said. Rashtriya Loktantrik Party chief and Nagaur MP Hanuman Beniwal has slammed the Ashok Gehlot government over the incident, saying both "the government and the police are asleep".

Around 3,000 tonne gold deposits found in Sonbhadra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
SONBHADRA (UP), FEB 21

THE GEOLOGICAL Survey of India (GSI) has discovered gold deposits to the tune of around 3,000 tonnes in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh — almost five times India's current reserve of the yellow metal, officials said on Friday.

The gold deposits were found in Son Pahadi and Hardi areas here, district mining officer K K Rai said. Work on finding gold reserves in Sonbhadra was started almost two decades ago in 1992-93 by the Geological Survey, he said, adding that auctioning of these blocks through e-tendering would start soon.

The deposits in Son Pahadi are estimated to weigh around 2,943.26 tonnes, while those in Hardi block are around 646.16 kgs, the official said. Besides gold, some other minerals have also been found in the area, Rai added.

As per the World Gold Council, India currently has 626 tonnes of gold reserves. The new reserves are almost five times that amount and estimated to be worth nearly Rs 12 lakh crore.

The British reportedly were the first to initiate the process of finding gold reserves here, which has been affected by Maoist violence. Interestingly, Sonbhadra — the second largest district of UP — is the only district in the country which shares borders with four states — Madhya Pradesh to the west, Chhattishgarh to the south, Jharkhand to the south-east and Bihar to the east.

PRAYERS ON LIPS

Parents of former Indian Navy officer Kulbhushan Jadhav offer prayers on Maha Shivratri at Matunga temple in Mumbai on Friday. Jadhav is on death row in Pakistan on charges of espionage and terrorism. He has been in jail since March 2016. *Amit Chakravarty*

BJD, Cong fume as AIIMS-Bhubaneswar mandates use of Hindi in official work

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BHUBANESWAR, FEB 21

AN ORDER from the senior administration of AIIMS-Bhubaneswar mandating the use of Hindi language in official communication drew sharp responses on Friday from BJD and Congress leaders.

A copy of the letter, shared by the staff, lists eight specific orders, such as they "should sign in Hindi, write name and subject on all files in Hindi, write name and sub headings of the registers in Hindi and also make entries in Hindi, write at least 30% noting and drafting in Hindi, at least 55% correspondence in Hindi, fill all up all bilingual office forms in Hindi, reply to all letters received in Hindi".

The order also specifies that in administrative meetings, employees "may" have discussions in Hindi and "prepare the minutes in Hindi as far as possible".

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, the order's signatory, AIIMS-Bhubaneswar Deputy Director (Administration) P K Ray, said the order is only for administrative work.

Ray cited a classification of states under the Official Languages Act, 1963, and Official Languages Rules, 1976, where Odisha comes under Region C. The rules state that communication "between Central Government offices situated in Region B or Region C may be in Hindi or English provided that this communication shall be in such proportion as the Central Government may, having regard to the number of persons having working knowledge of Hindi in such offices and the facilities for sending communications in Hindi and matters incidental thereto, determine from time to time".

Ray said, "In the last two years, there was an inspection by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Official Languages. We did not have a Hindi translator at the time. They (Committee) said that you (AIIMS-Bhubaneswar) are not making any progress in the matter, but we are giving you some time to recruit a Hindi translator and implement the provisions."

Ray added that a Hindi translator had joined the hospital recently.

BJD MP from Puri, Pinaki Misra, said, "We are the first state to be formed on linguistic basis and we would not like to allow anybody sidelining our mother tongue. we will formally lodge our protest with the Health Ministry".

Referring to the letter, Congress MP from Koraput Saptagiri Ulaka on Friday tweeted: So Bhubaneswar AIIMS has sent directives to speak, write in Hindi. Another attempt by the Central Government to impose Hindi at the cost of Odia in Odisha. Is the State Government aware of this and taking necessary steps to stop this?"

RAJIV CASE

TN government, Centre oppose Nalini's plea

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
CHENNAI, FEBRUARY 21

THE CENTRE has reaffirmed in the Madras High Court its stand that the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case convicts cannot be set free without its consent and said the Tamil Nadu cabinet recommendation for their premature release would have 'zero' effect.

The oral submission was made on Thursday by Additional Solicitor General (ASG) G Rajagopalan before a bench of Justices R Subbiah and R Pongiappan during the hearing of a petition by Nalini, one of the seven life convicts, seeking to declare her detention as illegal.

Nalini has moved the court contending that since the Tamil Nadu Governor had failed to order her release based on the September 9, 2018 recommendation of the state cabinet, she was in illegal detention.

The bench, which heard arguments from all parties, reserved its orders on her petition.

Opposing the plea of Nalini, the ASG cited a Supreme Court order and said unless there was an order in the name of the Governor, it was not an illegal detention. He said the resolution passed by the state Council of Ministers was not an order (for release).

Referring to an earlier litigation by Nalini in the Supreme Court, he said then the question raised was whether the state government has the power to release the convicts without the consent or consultation of the Central government under CrPC provisions.

The apex court had held that the Centre's consent or concurrence was necessary because the case was investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Rajagopalan said.

Already the central government had refused to release these convicts. Besides, as per the SC orders, life sentence means imprisonment till death, he said.

State Public Prosecutor A Natarajan, in his arguments on Thursday, submitted that some of the offences committed by the accused come under the Central Act and therefore, for the purpose of commutation or remission, the state government has to get consent from the central government.

The Cabinet passed a resolution requesting the Governor to release all the seven convicts. It can only recommend or request the Governor to consider their release and cannot demand or ask him to set them free, he said adding it was for the Governor to decide.

Another sexual assault charge against Bishop Franco Mulakkal

VISHNU VARMA
KOCHI, FEBRUARY 21

BISHOP FRANCO Mulakkal, currently on trial for allegedly raping a nun several times at a convent in Kerala between 2014 and 2016, has been accused of sexual assault by another nun.

The nun, who is a witness in the ongoing trial against the bishop, is learnt to have alleged in her statement that Mulakkal hugged her and forcibly kissed her on the forehead at a convent in April 2017. She is learnt to have said the assault occurred at the end of a two-hour interaction in the bishop's room. The statement is part of the chargesheet filed by police in April 2019.

The nun has also alleged that towards the end of 2015, the bishop had, during video chats with her, often used lewd language with sexual undertones. The nun has said that since he was the head of the diocese, she didn't have the courage to oppose him as it could have led to her expulsion from the church. She also did not file a formal police complaint due to the same fear, she has said.

A top police officer, who was part of the investigation into the case, did not respond to queries about these allegations.

Mulakkal is currently out on bail and has been ordered not to enter Kerala to prevent coercion of witnesses.

Sr Lucy Kalappura, one of the five nuns who waged a hunger strike against the rape-accused Bishop in 2018 and who was later expelled from Franciscan Clarist Congregation, said the fresh testimony will help the case against Mulakkal.

Non-veg off plate: Venue of Harappan dinners shifted from National Museum

POOJA PILLAI
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE HARAPPAN dinners that were scheduled to be hosted at the National Museum as part of the 'Historical Gastronomica' exhibition have been moved off the premises, according to a statement by the co-organiser, One Station Million Stories (OSMS), on Friday.

"With the support from National Museum, we shall continue Historical Gastronomica at National Museum, serving only veg tasters till 25 February, 2020. We had to cancel all dinners at National Museum. After receiving multiple requests from patrons who booked their Harappan diners with us, we have decided to move only the dinners (set to take place on February 21, 22 and 23, 2020) out of National Museum to Lavaash by Saby (February 24, 25)," said the OSMS statement.

The dinners were priced at Rs 4,000 (non-vegetarian) and Rs 3,250 (vegetarian) per head. OSMS is offering full refunds for those who do not wish to attend.

As reported by *The Indian Express* earlier, the week-long exhibition-cum-event on culinary history which planned to offer "the Indus dining experience" through an "ethno-archaeological kitchen of the Harappan culture" ran into trouble when, the day before it opened, OSMS was asked by the museum not to serve non-vegetarian food. The additional director general of the museum, Subrata Nath, said at the time, "This museum has so many idols of gods and goddesses, and a relic of Lord Buddha. International dignitaries visit this museum. We have to consider these sensitivities here."

In its publicity flyer, OSMS stated that the menu for the 'Indus Dining Experience' was specially crafted by chef Sabyasachi Gorai and only included ingredients that had been identified by archaeologists and researchers from sites of the Indus-Saraswati civilisation.

The menu was to have included non-vegetarian dishes such as bati with dry fish, fish in turmeric stew, quail/fowl/country chicken roasted in saal leaf, salted cured sheep, lamb liver and chick-pea and dried fish and mahua oil chutney, before they were struck off.

Neither Gorai, nor officials from the National Museum could be reached for comment

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Id: 2020_ AAI _43686_1

Airports Authority of India invites item rate tenders through the e-tendering portal by AGM (E-C), AAI on behalf of Chairman, AAI from the eligible contractors for the works of "**Construction of Retaining Wall behind Localizer Antenna at VSI Airport, Port Blair** for an estimated cost of **Rs. 1,11,25,700.00** with a period of completion **04 (Four) months.** Last date and time of submission of bid documents are **29.02.2020 upto 15:00 Hrs.**
For detailed information log on to CPP e-procurement Portal reference **www.aai.aero** and **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.**
Further clarification/corrigendum if any, will be notified through e-procurement Portal at **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Bipin Tripathi Kumaon Institute of Technology
Dwarahat-263653, Distt.-Almora (Uttarakhand)
05966-244250 (o), 244114 (F) Website : kecua.ac.in

INVITATION OF QUOTATIONS

Bipin Tripathi Kumaon Institute of Technology, Dwarahat invites Sealed Quotations from interested eligible suppliers for the following items:
- A complete set of documents with terms and conditions, specifications etc. for each supply may. may be downloaded from institute website (**www.kecua.ac.in**).
- Complete Quotation documents in all respects should be submitted on or before last date of submission as mentioned in respective quotation documents

Director

Expression of Interest (EoI)

National Health Mission — Uttar Pradesh, intends to provide "Accidental Insurance Coverage" to their employees. Interested Life Insurers/ Non-Life Insurers firms who can provide customised accidental insurance cover to the employees of NHM-UP may attend a discussion on 03.03.2020 at 01:00 pm at NHM UP, SPMU Meeting hall, 19-A, Vidhan Sabha Marg, Hazaratganj, Lucknow. Representatives from interested firms may come with details of their prior experience in the above concerned areas and summary of financials

UPID-149234 DATE-20.02.2020
WWW.UPGOV.NIC.IN

Sd/-
(Mission Director)

Office of the Superintending Engineer, Bulandshahr Circle, P.W.D., Bulandshahr

No. 2150/96M(4)-BSR CIRCLE/2019-20 Dated.- 11.02.2020

Short Term E-Procurement Tender Notice

1- On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh Superintending Engineer, Bulandshahar Circle, U.P. P.W.D Bulandshahar invites following percentage rate bid online through http://etender.up.ni.in the eligible and approved Contractor registered with UPPWD, from dated 25.02.2020 to 03.03.2020 Upto 05.00 PM. Technical bids will be open online on date 05.03.2020 at 12.30 PM. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day respectively, at the same time and validity of bid will be considered from the orginal date. The date date and time of opening of the financial bid shall be notified on the website.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lac)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs)	Time of Completion	Cost of Bid Documents GST	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	(Anticipation of Sanction) Widening and Strengthening of Mohannagar Railway Bridge Approach	147.00	9.35	1½ Months	2000+ 300+ 18% GST= 2714.00	UP PWD Class A,B

1- The Bid Security and Tender Document Fee must be deposite through Internet Banking.
2- All registered contractors have to upload Turnover certified by C.A. of last 5 year and details of maximum cost work satisfactorily completed in last 5 years on Charakya Software before Submission of tender.
3- The e-tender, which will be uploaded on **http://etender.up.nic.in**. It will be mandatory to upload the details of the software available in Chanakya software of Public Works Department, Uttar Pradesh before the last date and time of tendering.
4- Term & conditions related to bid are available on website **http://etender.up.nic.in**

UPID-149115 DATE-17.02.2020
WWW.UPGOV.NIC.IN

Sd/-
(Maneesh Verma)
Executive Engineer
C.D.-2, PWD,
Ghaziabad

Sd/-
(Ajay Shankar Singh)
Superintending Engineer
Bulandshahr circle, PWD
Bulandshahr

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT - KOTA DIVISION
Open E- Tender Date 18.02.20
NIT NO.EL/50/NIT/08 (2019-20)

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (General), West Central Railway, Kota for and on behalf of President of Union of India invites E-tenders for following works **Tender No.** - EL/50/45/2019-20, **Description of Work** - Hiring of Four Wheeler Vehicle for Use of ADEE (G)/Kota for 2 Years. **Approx cost of the work (In Rs.)** - 7,86,588.48, **Cost of Tender Form (In Rs.)**- 2000/-, **Earnest Money (In Rs.)** - 15,700/- **Completion Period**-24 Months **Date & time of submission and opening** - Submission upto 16.03.2020 upto 15.00 hrs. and opening at 15.15 hrs. The Offer is accepted only through E-Tendering on website http://www.ireps.gov.in. The bidders should have class III digital signature certificate and must registered on IREPS portal. No tender is accpeted manually. Please read tender & terms & conditions before the tendering.

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (General), WCR Kota

रेल यात्रा के दौरान शिकायत हेतु 138 पर एवं सुरक्षा हेतु 182 पर सम्पर्क करें

Manipur University V-C Pandey sacked: Failed miserably in performing duties

LEIVON JIMMY
IMPHAL, FEBRUARY 21

THE HUMAN Resource Development Ministry on Friday dismissed Manipur University Vice-Chancellor Adya Prasad Pandey from the post with immediate effect.

"The post of Vice-Chancellor is a post of pivotal importance and the entire discipline and ethos of the university revolve around him. As per statute 3(3) of the statues of Manipur University Act, 2005, it shall be the duty of the V-C to see that this Act, the statutes, the ordinance and the regulations are duly observed and he shall have all the powers necessary to ensure such observance. However, it has emerged that Prof Adya Prasad Pandey has failed miserably in performing duties assigned under statute 3(3) of the Manipur University Act, 2005," said an order signed by Surat Singh, deputy secretary to the Government of India.

Appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Manipur University on October 26, 2016, Pandey was placed under suspension in 2018 after violent protests erupted on campus, which led to the prolonged shutdown of the university.

The protest was launched by the Manipur University Students' Union, who demanded removal of Pandey, accusing him of financial and administrative irregularities. Later, teachers and other staff members joined the protest.

In his absence, the division bench of the Manipur High Court passed an order appointing Jarnail Singh, former chief secretary of Manipur, as administrator of the varsity, to bring back normalcy on the campus.

Meanwhile, a two-member inquiry committee headed by a retired judge was constituted by the ministry to probe the allegations against Pandey, who was placed under suspension till the completion of the inquiry.

Based on the inquiry report submitted on May 25, 2019, Pandey was served show-cause notice. According to the inquiry report, he was found indulging in financial and administrative irregularities, including misconduct, dereliction of duties, abuse of power and lack of commitment, causing great harm to the academic environment and bringing the varsity into disrepute, said the government order issued on Friday.

It said Pandey could also not justify his 189 days absence from the university. "The frequent absence of the Vice-Chancellor from the headquarters of the varsity affected its academic activities adversely. This displays lack of institutional commitment and his failure to provide effective leadership and guidance to the varsity," said the order. It said Pandey committed various financial irregularities in purchases and execution of works without inviting tenders in violation of the provisions of General Financial Rules and excess purchases among others.

The financial irregularities, according to the order, were in connection with the 105th Indian Science Congress, installation of smart class system through ITI, Lucknow and purchase of blank mark-sheets and OMR answer copies without the tenders.

"The President of India, on consideration of facts and materials available on record and reply submitted by Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey... in exercise of the power conferred upon him in terms of sections 13 of Manipur University Act, 2005, has been pleased to dismiss Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey from his post with immediate effect," said the order.

Shah meets Maldives counterpart

New Delhi: Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday met a delegation led by Home Minister of Maldives Sheikh Imran Abdulla at North Block and discussed issues of cooperation in areas of security and bilateral relations.

"During the meeting, the two sides discussed issues of mutual interest in the area of security and law enforcement cooperation. Welcoming the strengthening of India-Maldives Partnership, the ministers welcomed the expansion of bilateral cooperation between India and Maldives in diverse fields, including policing and law enforcement, counter-terrorism, counter-radicalisation, organised crime, drug trafficking and capacity building," a statement from the MHA said. **ENS**

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA
Mahendergarh - 123031 (Haryana)

POSTPONEMENT NOTICE OF 6TH CONVOCATION

Due to certain unavoidable circumstances, the 6th Convocation of the University scheduled to be held on 27th February, 2020 will now be held on Friday, 28th February, 2020.
All Concerned are advised to attend the Convocation accordingly.

Registrar

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED COMPUTING सी-डैक CDAC

CORRIGENDUM

"There had been certain technical issues in the online application for the posts notified vide advertisement no. **CORP/GR.A/03/2019** for which the last date to apply was 12-01-2020. The issue is now rectified. In order to facilitate the eligible applicants, the online application is open again at the career page of www.cdac.in for ten days from the date of publication of this corrigendum in Employment News. **Those who have already applied need not apply again.**"

HAJ COMMITTEE OF INDIA
(Statutory body constituted under the Act of Parliament No.35 of 2002)
Under Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.
Haj House, 7-A, M.R.A. Marg, (Palton Road) Mumbai – 400 001.

Ref.No.HC-02/120/2019 Dated: 19th February, 2020

Re-advertisement for the post of Private Secretary

Applications are invited for the post of Private Secretary on deputation basis in the Pay Level 6 (corresponding pay scale Rs.9300-34800 (PB2) + 4200 (GP) from Muslim officials working in similar capacity in Central/State Governments. The posting on deputation shall be for a period of 3 years. The applicants must be Graduate, and have passed Shorthand & Typewriting examination at speed of 100 & 50 WPM respectively, have minimum 5 years' experience as Personal Assistant and knowledge of English, Urdu and Hindi. Applications should reach the office of the undersigned by 20.03.2020 through proper channel, with complete ACR dossier's of last 5 years. For detailed information and application form please visit Haj Committee of India's website **http://hajcommittee.com**.

(Those candidates who had applied against the earlier advertisement for this post published on earlier 31.12.2019 need not apply again).

Sd/-
(Dr. Maqsood Ahmed Khan)
Chief Executive Officer

SANKALP SCHOOL
(FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED CHILDREN)
CHANAKYABAGH, CHANAKYAPURI,
NEW DELHI-26

EMPLOYMENT

1 Applications are invited following posts purely on contractual basis:-

Headmistress cum Special Educator- Graduate/ Diploma in Special Education registered with RCI & five years teaching experience with special children. Age between 35-50 years. Consolidated salary: Rs. 25,000/- per month.

Speech therapist- Degree/Diploma in Speech and language therapy. Salary: As per sessions.

Timing: 0845-1430hrs

2. Interested Candidates may send their Bio-data along with one photograph and Xerox copies of Educational qualification to **The Commanding Officer (for Senior Education Officer), INS India, Dara Shukoh Road, New Delhi-110011 by 28 Feb 2020 (Friday)** by speed post.

davp 10702/11/0259/1920

Directorate of Film Festivals
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India
50th International Film Festival of India Goa

Directorate of Film Festivals
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

Presents

66th National Film Awards, 2018
&
Indian Panorama, 2019
Film Festival

Siri Fort Auditorium II, New Delhi
(12th February-2nd March, 2020)

Public screening of best of contemporary Indian films from
66th National Film Awards, 2018 and
Indian Panorama of 50th IFFI, 2019

A festival of
47 feature films in 13 different Indian languages and
34 Non-feature films (Documentary and Short films) in
8 different Indian languages

For details and screening schedule please visit
www.dff.gov.in

Entry Free With a Valid Photo I.D.

davp 22209/11/0016/1920

2 held for 'misusing' social media in Valley

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21

DAYS AFTER top police officers in Jammu and Kashmir said that they will take strict action against those "misusing" social media in the Valley, the police have arrested two people in two separate cases in North Kashmir's Kupwara district.

While one person was arrested by the Kupwara Police several days ago, another youth has been arrested by the police in Handwara.

A statement issued by Handwara Police said on Friday that one "rumour-monger has been arrested for spreading hatred on social media".

"We received information that some youths are circulating fake news and spreading rumours, hatred through social media platforms. A case was registered and one person has been arrested," the police statement said.

The man was identified as Waseem Majeed Dar.

The earlier arrest was that of a Srinagar resident. He was arrested after a case was registered against him in Kupwara, after he allegedly posted on social media that security forces caused damage in a village in the district.

"He has posted on social media, when he was outside Valley, post August 5, 2019. With technical assistance, we located him and arrested him..." said an officer, adding that a case was registered last year.

Earlier this week, the J&K Police invoked the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act to register a case against several people using social media through proxy servers to get past the Internet firewall.

Subsequently, the police said that their priority is to take action against those spreading rumours and instigating people by accessing social media through Virtual Private Networks (VPN).

Authorities have restored internet service in the Valley recently after shutting it down for six months. But only whitelisted sites can be accessed. Social media and peer-to-peer applications are still banned.

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

CIN-L65910KL1992PLC006623
IV/470A (old) W638A(New), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala - 680 567.

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/03/2020 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

JHAJJAR, BAHADURGARH, 119180700007495, 7870, 8065, 8154, 8193, 8199, 8206, 8219, 8220, 8265, 8283, 8290, 8607, 8611, 8629, 8630, 8640, 8668, 8672, 8675, 8677, 8681, 8704, 8712, 8721, 119180730003298, 3328, 3336, 3405, 3449, 3450, 3466, 3467, 3468, 3489, 3490, 3492, 3497, 3496, 3500, 3501, 3502, 3533, 3534, JHAJJAR ,HARYANA, 128900700010051, 0386, 0544, 1532, 1647, 1651, 1654, 1658, 1684, 1710, 1711, 1712, 1720, 1724, 1725, 1735, 1754, 1763, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1778, 1793, 1813, 1827, 1861, 1867, 1873, 1889, 2373, 2514, 2558, 2568, 2572, 2579, 2587, 2593, 2597, 2601, 2606, 2611, 2613, 2616, 2620, 2629, 2630, 2636, 2639, 2643, 2650, 2659, 2667, 2680, 2687, 2688, 2695, 2697, 2702, 2703, 2705, 2706, 2707, 2709, 2724, 2725, 2730, 2734, 2736, 2737, 2740, 2750, 2751, 2758, 2759, 2764, 2771, 2772, 2774, 2775, 2776, 2779, 2782, 2789, 2792, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2803, 2811, 2816, 128900730007296, 7308, 7309, 7313, 7314, 7341, 7380, 7381, 7400, 7443, 7445, 7454, 7456, 7488, NEHRU PARK ,BAHADURGARH, 129670700013249, 4171, 4209, 4408, 4602, 4722, 4729, 4734, 4750, 4756, 4774, 4811, 4829, 4830, 4842, 4851, 4853, 4879, 4885, 4887, 4892, 4913, 4927, 4944, 4981, 5480, 5613, 5645, 5769, 5772, 5779, 5781, 5784, 5786, 5794, 5796, 5816, 5824, 5828, 5829, 5831, 5834, 5835, 5836, 5839, 5842, 5843, 5845, 5854, 5864, 5878, 5880, 5882, 5892, 5895, 5900, 5901, 5903, 5905, 5907, 5920, 5923, 5925, 5928, 5929, 5932, 5937, 5940, 5942, 5944, 5947, 5948, 5958, 5969, 5973, 5974, 5977, 5981, 5982, 5983, 5984, 5986, 5996, 6001, 6003, 6009, 6013, 6018, 6019, 6021, 6022, 6023, 6031, 6045, 6047, 6054, 6055, 6061, 6066, 6070, 6072, 6078, 6082, 6084, 6086, 6088, 6093, 6099, 6100, 6101, 129670730009047, 129670730010796, 0836, 0861, 0951, 0985, 0986, 0998, 1140, ROHTAK, CIVIL ROAD ROHTAK, 118930700014280, 4397, 4593, 5488, 5768, 5852, 6099, 6127, 6141, 6162, 6163, 6176, 6185, 6190, 6193, 6204, 6210, 6211, 6219, 6220, 6229, 6236, 6250, 6265, 6270, 6280, 6282, 6313, 6314, 6333, 6334, 6343, 6880, 7061, 7063, 7094, 7099, 7114, 7118, 7121, 7145, 7151, 7152, 7168, 7169, 7171, 7176, 7177, 7188, 7197, 7199, 7203, 7233, 7247, 7251, 7253, 7259, 7261, 7274, 7276, 7281, 7282, 7289, 7304, 7310, 118930730006096, 8198, 8199, 8532, 8622, 8644, 8646, 8717, 8796, 8827, 8930, 8931, 8932, ROHTAK SUBHASH CHOWK, 118510700014728, 4778, 4883, 5238, 5312, 5319, 5330, 5385, 5487, 5511, 5548, 5556, 5557, 5563, 5582, 5592, 5623, 5630, 5661, 5687, 5699, 5702, 5704, 5708, 5709, 6355, 6400, 6408, 6410, 6411, 6417, 6444, 6448, 6449, 6453, 6464, 6467, 6494, 6511, 6516, 6526, 6540, 6551, 6553, 6556, 6561, 6606, 6611, 6651, 6655, 6685, 6691, 6692, 6694, 6695, 118510730003269, 4053, 4060, 4167, 4177, 4178, 4185, 4189, 4202, 4203, 4204, 4209, 4212, 4213, 4218, SAMPLA ROHTAK ROAD, 117960700009751, 9753, 9777, 9969, 117960700010195, 0254, 0279, 0346, 0348, 0357, 0726, 0756, 0757, 0790, 0815, 0823, 0862, 0867, 0888, 0921, 0927, 0928, 0937, 0940, 0948, 0965, 0966, 117960730002627, 2654, SIRSA, DABWALI,HARYANA, 131100700023546, 4951, 5144, 5253, 5299, 5956, 6165, 6235, 6302, 6355, 6418, 6426, 6434, 6439, 6448, 6460, 6481, 6492, 6516, 6544, 6552, 6570, 6575, 6633, 6666, 6674, 6770, 6782, 6786, 6794, 6800, 6821, 6825, 6833, 7801, 8114, 8201, 8203, 8211, 8218, 8220, 8223, 8234, 8250, 8262, 8274, 8281, 8284, 8314, 8315, 8331, 8343, 8346, 8349, 8356, 8357, 8358, 8361, 8362, 8386, 8387, 8392, 8397, 8398, 8407, 8422, 8431, 8434, 8435, 8458, 8468, 8475, 8493, 8497, 8499, 8513, 8514, 8532, 8540, 8546, 8547, 8550, 8566, 8568, 8570, 8584, 8588, 8590, 8594, 8596, 8598, 8599, 8607, 8611, 8617, 8624, 8625, 8631, 8632, 8644, 8646, 8647, 8648, 8649, 8652, 8659, 8682, 8685, 8692, 131100730001718, 2321, 2383, SIRSA,HARYANA, 130150700017260, 7635, 7844, 7938, 8010, 8013, 8048, 8050, 8052, 8065, 8070, 8116, 8133, 8154, 8197, 8203, 8205, 8214, 8223, 8225, 8244, 8249, 8250, 8252, 8907, 8923, 8964, 8981, 9008, 9032, 9048, 9059, 9067, 9068, 9072, 9082, 9084, 9087, 9092, 9096, 9099, 9109, 9110, 9115, 9117, 9122, 9133, 9137, 9143, 9145, 9152, 9162, 9164, 9169, 9175, 9180, 9198, 9213, 9220, 9226, 130150730003695, 3698, 3716, 3734, 3752, 3869, 3873, 3984, SONIPAT, GOHANA, 131050700009543, 9645, 9703, 9659, 9875, 9883, 131050700010319, 0473, 0476, 0485, 0498, 0500, 0503, 0535, 0547, 0551, 0556, 0569, 0579, 0587, 0609, 0651, 0662, 131050730001591, 1712, SONEPATH OLD DC ROAD, 118640700012404, 3904, 3909, 3947, 3981, 4092, 4485, 4488, 4524, 4549, 4618, 4622, 4634, 4643, 4644, 4658, 4662, 4669, 4675, 4686, 4699, 4701, 4706, 4717, 4718, 4724, 4730, 4731, 4732, 4744, 4748, 4757, 4763, 4764, 4765, 4774, 4779, 4788, 4791, 4799, 4805, 4812, 4815, 4819, 4822, 4827, 4828, 4842, 118640730004342, 4418, 4432, 4547, 4548, 4616, 4634, 4685, YAMUNA NAGAR, AGGARSAIN CHOWK,YAMUNA NAGAR, 126760700013266, 3418, 3427, 3497, 3624, 4542, 4559, 4562, 4569, 4576, 4583, 4587, 4588, 4620, 4628, 4634, 4635, 4639, 4649, 4650, 4651, 4670, 4675, 4677, 4679, 4709, 4711, 4718, 4719, 4721, 4740, 4741, 4742, 4748, 4751, 4755, 4758, 4764, 4765, 4778, 4779, 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6945, 6975, 6976, 6985, 6993, 6998, 6999, 7003, 7004, 7005, 7007, 7009, 7020, 7033, 7037, 7054, 7088, 7099, RATU ROAD,RANCHI, 128920700023621, 5132, 5133, 5207, 5390, 5465, 5482, 5860, 5881, 5990, 5991, 6292, 6327, 6344, 6600, 6669, 6723, 6748, 6756, 6787, 6794, 6802, 6840, 6842, 6857, 6860, 6866, 6933, 6948, 6955, 6968, 6976, 6988, 7026, 7045, 7049, 7052, 7053, 7055, 7064, 7086, 7091, 7092, 7106, 7122, 7129, 7196, 7197, 7220, 7223, 8603, 8607, 8629, 8637, 8660, 8661, 8668, 8673, 8674, 8681, 8703, 8727, 8730, 8747, 8756, 8766, 8774, 8777, 8779, 8781, 8790, 8796, 8800, 8804, 8813, 8814, 8831, 8835, 8839, 8841, 8845, 8846, 8853, 8857, 8858, 8874, 8875, 8876, 8880, 8882, 8895, 8897, 8900, 8915, 8916, 8919, 8920, 8939, 8947, 8953, 8955, 8958, 8966, 8968, 8971, 8977, 8983, 8984, 8986, 8987, 8988, 8990, 9005, 9006, 9007, 9008, 9009, 9014, 9019, 9023, 9037, 9039, 9046, 9050, 9056, 9057, 9071, 9076, 9083, 9086, 9089, 9093, 9095, 9096, 9097, 9098, 9099, 128920730006509, 6574, 6712, 8532, 8594, 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8863, 8864, 8979, 8997, 9005, 9052, 9062, 9102, 9128, 9145, 9203, 9275, 9277, 9297, 9313, 9324, 9329, 9330, 9351, 9371, 132250700020087, 0164, 0187, 0420, 0422, 0437, 0557, 0563, 0569, 0578, 0579, 0582, 0583, 0607, 0616, 0619, 0621, 0626, 0633, 0634, 0642, 0652, 0659, 0661, 0664, 0675, 0685, 0686, 0687, 0688, 0695, 0696, 0704, 0710, 0714, 0718, 0722, 0734, 0736, 0737, 0738, 0740, 0743, 0751, 0772, 0775, 0780, 0795, 0808, 0810, 0813, 0817, 0819, 0822, 0823, 0828, 0831, 0834, 0835, 0836, 0839, 0842, 0845, 0846, 0847, 0852, 0855, 0862, 0870, 0871, 0872, 0874, 0875, 0883, 0889, 0890, 0892, 0894, 0896, 0898, 0899, 0900, 0901, 0903, 0907, 0908, 0909, 0910, 0917, 0924, 0925, 0950, 0955, 0957, 0958, 0959, 0964, 0966, 0967, 0968, 132250730005834, 5967, 5995, 6001, 6002, 6008, 6011, 6012, 6013, 6058, 6069, 6070, 6071, 6086, 6092, 6093, 6094, 6095, 6096, 6100, 6109, 6113, 6114, 6133, 6135, 6155, 6161, 6175, 6201, 6211, 6212, 6221, 6222, 6233, 6234, 6236, 6269, 6274, 6280, 6298, 6299, 6302, 6303, 6304, ALIGARH, AGRA ROAD-ALIGARH, 129400700007644, 9534, 9559, 9609, 9613, 9622, 9630, 9659, 129400700010095, 0109, 0128, 0166, 0179, 0196, 0227, 0230, 129400730004350, 4356, 4382, 4410, 4421, 4423, 4424, 4425, 4431, 4432, 4457, 4458, 4459, 4460, 4462, 4472, 4478, 4479, 4496, 4551, 4558, NAURANGABAD-ALIGARH, 133120700010275, 1099, 1152, 1424, 1568, 1691, 1710, 1712, 1759, 1762, 1868, 1886, 1910, 1925, 1940, 1945, 2451, 2593, 2597, 2603, 2607, 2622, 2627, 2630, 2638, 2642, 2654, 2680, 2683, 2692, 2694, 2700, 2732, 2747, 2749, 2753, 2761, 2762, 2770, 133120730004558, 4559, 4560, 4561, 4572, 4573, 4648, 4674, 4679, 4680, 4708, 4709, 4754, 4768, 4769, 4779, RAMGARH ROAD-ALIGARH, 129610700011772, 1967, 2405, 2503, 2532, 2539, 2578, 2593, 2594, 2597, 2610, 2618, 2627, 2642, 2653, 2655, 2663, 2664, 2702, 2722, 3202, 3224, 3367, 3371, 3372, 3374, 3376, 3382, 3397, 3421, 3428, 3436, 3440, 3444, 3464, 3467, 3468, 3475, 3486, 3511, 3513, 3519, 3522, 3533, 3535, 3536, 3546, 3548, 3566, 3569, 3582, 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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

THOSE WHO CAN IMAGINE ANYTHING, CAN CREATE THE IMPOSSIBLE.

— ALAN TURING

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

AFGHAN CHALLENGE

Post-Taliban order is breaking down in Kabul. Sooner rather than later, Delhi will have to revise its Afghan policy

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi's congratulatory message to Ashraf Ghani, who was declared re-elected as president of Afghanistan earlier this week, was certainly not a routine diplomatic courtesy. Delhi appears to have taken a deliberate decision to ignore the considerable political controversy surrounding Ghani's re-election. Delhi is among the few international entities to have endorsed the results from an election that was conducted nearly five months ago and has been the subject of a protracted dispute and painful recounting of votes. On Tuesday, election officials had declared that Ghani had secured a little above 50 per cent of the vote needed to avoid a run-off between the top two candidates. Ghani's principal rival, Abdullah Abdullah, an old friend of India, has called the announcement a "coup", demanded that the election officials be stopped from fleeing the country, and threatened to form a parallel government involving all sections of the Afghan political spectrum. Abdullah is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Afghan government.

Abdullah was also a contender for the presidency in the earlier election held in 2014 and disputed the proclamation of Ghani as the winner. But the US stepped in to broker a power-sharing agreement between Ghani and Abdullah. This time, though, there is no indication so far that the US, the principal international guarantor of the Kabul regime, is interested in a mediation between Ghani and Abdullah. For Washington, pacifying the factional fights in Kabul has become secondary to its current efforts to find a peace settlement with the Taliban. The two sides have agreed upon a week-long reduction of violence on the Taliban's part, to be followed by negotiations between various Afghan groups on the transition to a political arrangement in Kabul. The US has promised to schedule a withdrawal of its troops in Afghanistan in sync with the advances in the peace process.

That Kabul was not a part of the negotiations with the Taliban had already begun to erode the political legitimacy of the government led by Ghani. As the Trump Administration prepares to downsize its military presence in Afghanistan, if not fully withdraw, and paves the way for Taliban's return to power, the political prospects for a coherent Kabul look rather dim. Delhi's political decision to stay with Ghani, at least for the moment, underlines its unflinching loyalty to the current regime in Kabul. One would presume, however, the decision is a temporary one. For good or bad, the post-Taliban order is breaking down in Kabul, and sooner rather than later, Delhi will have to make significant revisions to its Afghan policy.

SCARED OF SPEECH

Case against 19-year-old Amulya Leona Noronha by Karnataka police points to outrageous misuse of sedition law in state

THE KARNATAKA POLICE seems to be taking disturbingly frequent recourse to the sedition law in the wake of protests against the new citizenship law. On Thursday, it slapped sedition charges on Amulya Leona Noronha, a 19-year-old student from Chikkamagaluru, for the slogan "Pakistan Zindabad" at an anti-CAA protest meeting. Also recently, a university student from Mysuru, the headmistress of a school in Bidar and the parent of a nine-year-old studying in the same school, and three Kashmiri students of a college in Hubbali/Dharwad have been booked on sedition charges and jailed. On Tuesday, the police arrested journalist and poet Siraj Bisaralli and Rajabaxi H V, the editor of a website where a video of Bisaralli's rendition of an anti-CAA poem at a literary meet was uploaded — both were fortunate, though, to escape sedition charges.

Many of these cases follow a pattern. Workers and affiliates of the ruling BJP file a case claiming sedition, the police make arrests under these charges, and the matter moves to the court. In some instances, local lawyers' bodies have passed resolutions barring members from representing the accused. This dreadful pattern continues to replicate itself even though these police excesses have been called out by the courts, which have spoken up for the citizen's right to express dissent and warned the police against attempts to stifle rights protected under Article 19 of the Constitution. This mismatch between the actions of those who interpret the law, the judiciary, and those who enforce the law, the police, is deeply troubling. The higher judiciary has been, for a long time, cautioning against invoking the sedition law on flimsy grounds. As early as in 1962, the Supreme Court had re-interpreted this colonial-era legislation and said that mere criticism of the state does not constitute sedition. Since then, the apex court has reiterated this position in case after case (*Balwant Singh v. State of Punjab*, *Nazir Khan v. State of Delhi*) — sedition charges should be applied only in the case of an act, including speeches, statements and slogans, involving incitement to violence.

Slapping sedition charges on people for staging a play that allegedly insulted the prime minister, raising slogans and statements shows a deliberate misinterpretation of the law with the intent to curb dissent. Those who wish to lean on the sedition law to bolster their hyper-nationalist sentiments must know that the Indian nation-state is not a fragile entity that will wither away in the face of dissent and criticism, but a capacious space that accommodates and welcomes both.

CUT-COPY-PASTE

Larry Tesler helped turn the computer from a tool for specialists to a species-wide prosthetic

THE COMPUTER IS more personal than ever, the user experience almost infinitely customisable. Larry Tesler, who died at 74 last week, was the icon behind the icon and deserves more than a little credit for the simplicity with which computing has become so personal and intimate a part of our lives.

Tesler, who has worked with Xerox, Apple and Amazon, among other tech giants, had a simple philosophy — "no modes". In the early history of computing, modes allowed users to switch from one function to another (like, say, a caps lock key). This increased mode or function errors (like, say, leaving the caps lock key on) and more importantly, made computing a specialists' game. Tesler was staunchly against modes, running against the current of the IT industry in the 1960s and '70s. His most famous innovations — "cut-copy-paste" and "find-and-replace". Steve Jobs hired Tesler for Apple when he saw the latter use a mouse to point and click at icons on a prototype — earlier, every action/function had to turn into a laborious typing exercise.

The story goes that Tesler came up with cut-copy-paste based on old, manual editing techniques, where blocks of the written word were literally cut and pasted. But what he did was not merely an adaptation of an older technique, and its impact has been far-reaching. In essence, the computer has gone from being a tool in the hands of well-trained experts to a nearly species-wide prosthetic, which has changed the way memory, recall and skill work. Modes are increasingly a thing of the past, as software runs hardware in nearly every aspect of human life, including at times the body itself. The pointer and the finger now inhabit a world of images and emojis, where unlike in early computing, the trains of language and logic that makes various functions possible are invisibilised and automated. Perhaps even more than the printing press, the innovations that Tesler helped pioneer have changed the way people create and consume knowledge.

An agenda for Modi-Trump

India-US security cooperation in eastern Indian Ocean and Pacific must be extended to western frontiers

C. RAJA MOHAN

AS INDIA RECEIVES Donald Trump on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be eager to get a first-hand briefing from the US President on his plans for the Af-Pak region and the Gulf — two regions vital to India's economic, political and military security. The impending withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan and the downsizing of the American security role in the Gulf region mark the end of an important era in India's north western frontiers — both land and maritime.

The question is whether Modi and Trump can overcome the past reluctance in both capitals to collaborate in the regions west of India. On the face of it, there is a good fit between America's downward adjustment in the region under Trump, and India's ambition to play a larger role in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Over the last three years of the Trump presidency, Delhi and Washington had developed a broad understanding on how to secure the Indo-Pacific that the US had defined, until recently, as stretching from Hollywood to Bollywood. But officials in Delhi frequently complained that these common perspectives did not extend to the Western Indian Ocean.

In recent weeks, though, senior US officials have said the Indo-Pacific region extends beyond Bollywood to the east coast of Africa. It is not a question of defining a geography but finding ways to secure common ground through strategic cooperation.

Trump has embarked on a course that breaks from long-standing US policy in the region. At the turn of the 1970s, Great Britain ended most of its security commitments East of Suez and set free many of its colonial possessions in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean. As the sun set over the British empire in the east after a century and a half, the US stepped in to fill the breach. What began as a cautious entry into the Indian Ocean became a full blown military power projection at the end of the 1970s.

The dramatic rise in oil prices, the Islamic Revolution in Iran and its threat to export it to the Arab World, and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, saw the elevation of South West Asia to the top of America's security concerns. The First Gulf War during 1990-91 saw the US intervene to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait that was swallowed by Iraq's Saddam Hussein. The terror attacks on September 11, 2001 invited a ferocious response from the US that ousted the Taliban from power in Afghanistan.

> Delhi needs to prepare itself for a larger security role in Afghanistan. Trump has been asking a simple question: If India is next door to Afghanistan, should it not be doing more for Afghan security? The NDA government has stepped up security assistance to Kabul. As Afghanistan enters a turbulent phase, regional and other powers are bound to fill the vacuum left by the US. Delhi can't simply sit it out. There are many options — between doing nothing and sending the Indian army into Afghanistan — that Delhi and Washington could discuss.

The US intervened in Iraq in 2003, this time for overthrowing the regime of Saddam Hussein. Notwithstanding the initial successes in both Afghanistan and Iraq, there is a growing consensus in the US that these occupations have been costly failures. Trump has been among the first political leaders in the US to call these wars initiated by a Republican predecessor in the White House as "stupid". During his presidential campaign in 2016 and since, Trump has promised to end the "endless wars" in the Greater Middle East and bring the boys back home.

It is an idea that has found considerable resonance among Democrats. While the security establishment is not willing to give up, it is now focusing more on the great power competition with Russia and China than the small wars that had preoccupied it over the last three decades. The steep decline in US energy dependence on the Gulf, too, has reduced the salience of the region in Washington.

Three consequences have followed. Trump has been cutting down military commitments in the Middle East and Africa. His officials are about to sign an agreement with Taliban that provides for American withdrawal from Afghanistan. On the maritime front, Trump has called on all major powers, especially those importing oil from the Gulf, to contribute to the security of shipping in the Strait of Hormuz.

Many in Delhi would like to see the US fighting in Afghanistan until the last American. The challenge for Indian policymakers has been to limit the consequences of what seems a definitive turn in US policy. It should also be about seizing the possibilities for expanding India's own role in the western marches of the Subcontinent. To get there, Delhi needs to make a few important shifts in its own thinking.

One, it must overcome the still powerful belief in sections of the Indian establishment that the US-Pakistan relationship is unchanging. Over the last two decades, there has been a tilt in US policies away from Pakistan and towards India — recall US pressures on Pakistan to vacate the Kargil heights in the summer of 1999 under the Clinton Administration, an exclusive nuclear exemption to India under the Bush Administration and efforts to rein in Pakistan's cross-border terrorism during the Obama years.

Trump went further to acknowledge that Pakistan is part of the problem in Afghanistan and turned up the heat on Pakistan's support for terrorism. He has supported India's efforts at the the UNSC to bring Masood Azhar to book in the face of Chinese resistance, helped India isolate Pakistan at the Financial Action Task Force, prevented the UNSC from discussing Kashmir.

Yet, Delhi needs to recognise that there will be a measure of cooperation between the US and Pakistan. Delhi's focus should, instead, be on expanding its own security cooperation with the US in the troubled lands to the west of India. Historically Pakistan was an important ally for the Anglo-American powers in South West Asia. But Pakistan's leverage in Washington is only likely to decrease as the US scales back its presence in Afghanistan and the Gulf.

Second, Delhi needs to prepare itself for a larger security role in Afghanistan. Trump has been asking a simple question: If India is next door to Afghanistan, should it not be doing more for Afghan security? The NDA government has stepped up security assistance to Kabul. As Afghanistan enters a turbulent phase, regional and other powers are bound to fill the vacuum left by the US. Delhi can't simply sit it out. There are many options — between doing nothing and sending the Indian army into Afghanistan — that Delhi and Washington could discuss.

Third, Delhi has already stepped up its naval activity within the Gulf and beyond as part of its emergence as a regional security provider. It knows that its effectiveness will rise manifold if it acts in concert with the US and other partners. Modi and Trump could begin by laying the political foundation for such cooperation.

At the beginning of Trump's term, sceptics dismissed the prospects for India-US security cooperation in the eastern Indian Ocean and the Pacific, but progress has been steady. That cooperation can and must be extended now to the Western Indian Ocean.

The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

LAHORE'S FORGOTTEN LAUREATE

City, and Government College University, are now recognising Har Gobind Khorana

KHALED AHMED

LAHORE'S PREMIER INSTITUTION, Government College University (GCU), has decided to remember an old Ravian — the name given to old students — who became a Nobel Laureate in 1968. The great Ravian was not a Muslim but a Hindu, Har Gobind Khorana. Vice Chancellor Asghar Zaidi announced last month that GCU Lahore would soon establish a research chair at its chemistry department in Khorana's name.

The occasion was the "98th birth anniversary of Har Gobind Khorana" whom the university decided to own as well as "correct" the earlier misinformation that Abdus Salam of the GCU was the "first Nobel Laureate". (Let it be remembered that after Salam got his Prize, he went to India to put the medal around the neck of his village math teacher who had migrated in 1947.)

Two Pakistanis have earned the Nobel Prize — Abdus Salam and Malala Yusufzai of the Swat Valley. The irony is that both are rejected by the overwhelmingly religious population of their homeland. Salam's Ahmadiya Muslim identity was rejected by the constitution of Pakistan. Exiled Malala was not allowed to visit her home in Swat Valley, Pakistan, lest she be killed by the Taliban who had earlier shot her in the head for advocating girls' education while girls' schools were being put to the torch in the Valley.

Khorana was born of poor Hindu parents on January 9,1922 in a village called Raipur near what is today Kabirwala in South Punjab. Ironically, home to the most powerful jihadi madrassa in Pakistan. His father was a poor patwari but was alive to the importance of education. His children turned out to be the only educated family in the village of a hundred inhabitants. After DAV College in Multan, Khorana moved to Lahore, got his MSc degree there, and lived in India till 1945 when he got a scholarship to go to England.

> Khorana is not the only great Hindu that Lahore is now getting ready to remember. There was a boy called Ganga Ram too who left his big mark on the city. Ganga Ram was born in 1851 in a Sikh saadhu's hut in Mangtanwala, about 40 miles from Lahore and 14 miles from Nankana Sahib, the famous Sikh shrine.

He studied for a Ph.D. degree at the University of Liverpool. He returned to India after Partition in 1949 but the following year returned to work at the Cambridge University in 1950-1952 before moving to British Columbia Research Council. In 1960 Khorana, he was in the Institute for Enzyme Research at the University of Wisconsin, becoming a naturalised US citizen. Khorana married Esther Elizabeth Sibler of Swiss origin in 1952. Significantly, "Khorana felt out of place everywhere and at home nowhere". He died at the age of 89 in 2011.

The great biochemist had made his contribution: "In 1972, Dr Khorana had reported a second breakthrough: The construction of the first artificial gene, using off-the-shelf chemicals. Four years later, he announced that he had gotten an artificial gene to function in a bacterial cell."

Khorana is not the only great Hindu that Lahore is now getting ready to remember. There was a boy called Ganga Ram who left his big mark on the city. Ganga Ram was born in 1851 in a Sikh saadhu's hut in Mangtanwala, about 40 miles from Lahore.

His father Daulat Ram was a Hindu who had fled from Muzaffarnagar near Delhi to escape the post-Mughal chaos. Ganga Ram (1851-1927) passed his matriculation joined the Government College Lahore in 1869. He was a scholarship holder and stayed frugally in a hut in Sutar Mandi to save money. He was good at mathematics, and won another scholarship to Thomason Engineering College at Roorki in 1871 where Colonel Maclagan was principal. He sent half his scholarship of Rs 50 to his poor parents while he worked hard to obtain his engineering degree.

It is as chief engineer that he literally "built" Lahore and is today called the Father of Lahore. Ganga Ram contributed to Lahore as executive engineer of the city: Planning and construction of its first Sanitation System and Water Works, the Lahore Museum, the Mayo School of Arts, the High Court, the Lahore Cathedral, the General Post Office, Aitchison College, Chemistry Department of the Government College Lahore, the Albert Victor Wing of the Mayo Hospital.

The writer is consulting editor Newsweek Pakistan

FEBRUARY 23, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDIAN EXPRESS

Kabul under martial law

KABUL MARTIAL LAW

THE SOVIET-BACKED government of Afghanistan proclaimed martial law and ordered a curfew in Kabul to curb a wave of "plundering and arson" by Muslim rebels, Tass reported. It said all residents of Kabul were ordered to surrender their weapons to the police within 24 hours unless they had special authorisation. Radio Kabul warned any violators that they would be immediately turned over to military-revolutionary courts.

STOPPING SOVIETS

US PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER, Zbigniew Brzezinski, says the United States has the military power to meet a Soviet thrust into the Persian gulf area without using nuclear weapons. "We can certainly threaten military involvement without commitment to an early reliance on nuclear weapons," he said. Defending the power of US mobile forces, Brzezinski said if they did not stop the Soviets in the Persian gulf region, the US might retaliate elsewhere.

RESERVATION ORDER

THE GOVERNOR, G D Tapase, has revoked the decision taken by the outgoing ministry last February 15, scrapping provision for reservation for SCs, STs and backward classes in promotion in the state services.

BREAK WITH JANATA

AN OVERWHELMING OPINION among Jagjivan Ram's supporters is in favour of breaking with the Janata Party. There are, however, differences among them on their future course of action. In view of the differences on whether Jagjivan Ram should revive the CFD or form a new party or merge with the Congress (I), Ram may not announce his decision after tomorrow's meeting. The meeting is expected to authorise him to announce his decision later. Ram refused to meet the press and sent word that he would not meet newsmen after tomorrow's meeting either.

Fom the IE edition dated February 23

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"In the midst of the coronavirus outbreak, Beijing has expelled three journalists. The measure is designed to intimidate – and is bad for Chinese citizens as well as the wider public."

— THE GUARDIAN

Harappan meat-eaters, Lutyens' vegetarians

An old discomfort persists among ruling elites vis a vis the country's earliest civilisation

TONY JOSEPH

C R Sasikumar

ON FEBRUARY 20, *The Indian Express* carried a news report, headlined 'National Museum bars non-vegetarian dishes from Harappan menu in event on premises'. A few days earlier, the museum had announced a week-long exhibition-cum-event on culinary history that offered "the Indus Dining Experience" through an "ethno-archaeological kitchen of the Harappan Culture" on the museum lawns from February 19 to 25. It was the menu of this event — which included meat fat soup, fish in turmeric stew, lamb liver with chickpea and dried fish, among others — that was effectively scuppered.

The reason the museum's additional director general gave was: "This museum has so many idols of gods and goddesses, and a relic of Lord Buddha. International dignitaries visit this museum. We have to consider these sensitivities here."

Since no other country is known for its sensitivities regarding consumption of meat or fish as much as India, and since Buddhists in India have rarely made a fuss about anyone consuming these, we can discount the second sentence as well as the second part of the first sentence as mostly a red herring. The real meat, so to say, lies in the rest of the statement and suggests that the "sensitivities" that matter lie in Lutyens' Delhi (to use TV-channel shorthand for those in power).

What explains this disconnect and discomfort of the ruling powers with the earliest civilisation of India, which also shaped our culture in a significant way?

Before answering that question, we need to see that this disconnect is not new. For example, when the Harappan Civilisation was discovered nearly a century ago by archaeologists, it came as a surprise to one and all. No oral traditions and no ancient literature had prepared Indians for the new-found fact that they were heirs to a very impressive urban civilisation that was contemporaneous with the Egyptian and Mesopotamian Civilisations; was as big in area and population as both of them put together; and, had carved a distinct identity for itself. The vital urban nodes of this large civilisation — Harappa in Punjab, Mohenjodaro in Sindh, Dholavira in Gujarat. were not mentioned in the ancient literature, were not part of any pilgrimage circuit, and were not in our live cultural consciousness. The Harappan script had been forgotten and the most common Harappan seal imagery, that of the unicorn, did not ring a bell either. In fact, even today, if you visit the most impressive Harappan site in India, Dholavira, you are likely to find few visitors.

We now know, most recently from the research findings of population genetics based on ancient DNA, that the reason for this disconnect with the Harappan Civilisation was a major migration that changed the demography of India, especially in the north, between 2000 BCE and 1500 BCE. At a time when the Harappan civilisation was already disintegrating due to a long drought and its people were migrating east to North India and south to South India in search of a new way of life, there were waves of new migration from the Central Asian Steppe region that is today known as Kazakhstan. These were horse-riding pastoralists who spoke Indo-European languages and called themselves Arya and they brought with them an early version of what would later become the language of Sanskrit in which the Vedas were composed.

The new migrants became dominant in northern India and mixed with the existing populations, causing two major developments that were to leave a deep impact on Indian history and culture. One was a language shift from the pre-Arya languages (most likely proto-Dravidian) to Indo-European languages in North India, while in South India, away from the epicentre of that migration, Dravidian languages continued to thrive. The second was a culture shift, with the urbanism of the Harappans giving way to a newly-dominant, pastoral lifestyle that significantly diminished the possibility of new cities of Harappan scale rising up again in the near future. India had to wait for more than a millennium for its second urbanisation, till around the middle of the first millennium BCE, when new cities began coming up in eastern India in the region of Magadha, outside the heartland of the Vedic culture.

Along with the rise of new urban centres, Magadha also saw the rise of new religions such as Jainism and Buddhism that particularly received the patronage of the rising urban and trading classes. The new religions stressed non-violence in general and opposed sacrificial rituals, which were an essential part of the Vedic culture. We could point to this period as the time when the idea of vegetarianism was seeded, even though Buddha and his followers had no problems with eating the meat they received as alms. The idea of vegetarianism slowly spread and was adopted by some communities including dominant groups in areas in the heartland of the Vedic culture — though the vast majority of Indians always remained meat-eaters like their Harappan ancestors.

Along with the rise of new urban centres, Magadha also saw the rise of new religions such as Jainism and Buddhism that particularly received the patronage of the rising urban and trading classes. The new religions stressed non-violence in general and opposed sacrificial rituals, which were an essential part of the Vedic culture. We could point to this period as the time when the idea of vegetarianism was seeded, even though Buddha and his followers had no problems with eating the meat they received as alms.

It is when you keep this history in mind that the discomfort of today's decision-makers with the practices of the ancient Harappans becomes explicable. But there is a contradiction within their own adopted stand: Even while exhibiting discomfort with the eating habits of the pre-Arya, pre-Vedic and pre-Sanskritic Harappans, there has been a long-standing attempt by the Indian Right-wing to appropriate the very same civilisation as a Vedic one.

For example, there have been continuing efforts to rename the Harappan Civilisation as the Saraswati Civilisation, in order to suggest its Vedic/Sanskrit and Arya nature. But this is problematic for the following reason. The latest research findings show that the Harappan Civilisation is the common heritage of all Indians and that the Harappans are their common ancestors, because when their civilisation declined, they moved all over the Subcontinent. Their culture, therefore, is in many ways the glue that holds India together, the reason for the similarities we observe across the country in many things, from the way we build our houses around courtyards to the design of our kitchen utensils.

The Harappan linguistic heritage may today lie with South India, but their cultural and genetic heritage belong to all. The attempt to erase this history and to appropriate and assign this common civilisational heritage to a narrower subset of the population is a divisive enterprise.

What the modern discomfort of Lutyens' Delhi with the eating habits of the Harappans should tell us is that some of us have forgotten the essential, exhilarating nature of our common civilisation, forged by four major migrations that happened in prehistory: A unity that is at home with its multi-layered, multi-hued diversity.

Joseph is author of Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From

The next mission

Like Swachh Bharat, Jal Jeevan Mission will benefit the wider economy

PARAMESWARAN IYER

LAST MONTH, I had the opportunity to present the key learnings from the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) at the ministerial round table discussion on "scaling up sanitation in Africa" at Addis Ababa. While the ministers of sanitation from the African countries of Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya and Senegal marvelled at India's astronomical success in tackling open defecation in just five years, they unanimously agreed that one of the biggest hurdles they faced in replicating the SBM model in their countries was that they were not able to convince their finance ministries to invest heavily in sanitation like India has done since 2014. The unspoken assumption was that they had not received political support from the highest level for scaling up sanitation in their countries.

In India, the prime minister's leadership in championing a hitherto neglected subject like sanitation has been unquestionably the key ingredient for success of SBM. This then triggered the large investment on sanitation through public financing. We have been very fortunate that since 2014, our finance ministers saw the importance of investing in sanitation and its far reaching heath, economic and environmental benefits. Hence, the central and state governments have invested in excess of one lakh crore on sanitation over the past five years. A majority of these funds have gone towards incentivising the poor and marginalised households to construct and use household toilets, bringing about behaviour change, and building capacities of field functionaries. Over 10 crore toilets have been built in rural India and nearly 55 crore people have stopped defecating in the open, all in just five years. This has contributed in bringing down global open defecation by more than half.

The returns on these investments have been manifold, and their effects on the broader economy, markets and employment have been significant. The UNICEF recently estimated that investments in sanitation in India are yielding a 400 per cent return with each rural household in an open-defecation-free village saving Rs 50,000 on account of avoided medical costs and time savings. The Toilet Board Coalition has estimated that the sanitation infrastructure and services market in India will be worth over $60 billion by 2021, many new jobs, even in the most rural areas of the country, apart from reducing health and environmental costs and generating savings for households. Many people engaged in the business of manufacturing toilet related hardware accessories have reported huge growth in sales during the SBM period. They project a continued uptrend through retrofitting and upgrades. This has been corroborated by another recent study by UNICEF in which they have estimated that SBM has resulted in creating over 75 lakh full time equivalent jobs over the past five years, giving the rural economy a major boost.

It is fairly clear now that investment in sanitation is actually a facilitator for broader economic, health and social gains. This is the chain of arguments that we encouraged the sanitation ministers of Africa assembled at Addis Ababa to use to bring their finance ministries on board.

Back home, our government continues to prioritise the water and sanitation sectors as key pillars of broader rural development. The government is committed to ensuring that this success is sustained. On October 2, 2019, the prime minister, when commemorating the ODF declaration by all states, said that this is but a milestone and not the finish line, and that we must all ensure that people continue to use toilets and that no one is left behind. This has been backed up by the finance minister in the budget for 2020-21, wherein she announced about Rs 10,000 crore for rural sanitation to focus on ODF sustainability, bio-degradable waste management, grey-water management, fsludge management and, critically, plastic waste management for all villages by 2024.

The next critical basic service, and arguably the most aspirational of them all, that this government is committed to delivering, is piped water supply. On Independence day this year, the prime minister announced the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) from the ramparts of the Red Fort with the goal of ensuring piped water supply for all households of India by 2024 and with a commitment of Rs 3.6 lakh crore of central and state funds for the scheme. In the Union budget for 2020-2021, the government has already allocated Rs 11,500 crore for JJM, with an additional Rs 12,000 crore being made available through extra budgetary resources.

In addition, a huge impetus to the rural water supply and sanitation sector is the earmarking of 50 per cent of the Rs 60,750 crore grant for rural local bodies provided under the Fifteenth Finance Commission for drinking water and sanitation. This will ensure that the gram panchayats and local communities have more skin in the game, and are responsible for the upkeep of their water and sanitation infrastructure, providing a boost to the sustainability of service delivery to people. This approach will ensure that just like sanitation, provision of water supply and its upkeep will also become everyone's business.

The writer is secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Views are personal.

In Valley, a reality check

My trip to Srinagar laid bare a false narrative of normalcy

MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

THE GOVERNMENT HAS deceived me once again. Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Opposition "leaders" to visit Srinagar to see for themselves how "normalcy" is being restored. The home minister had said anyone was free to go to the Valley. So, I went. What follows is my story.

I was pleasantly surprised to not be intercepted at the airport. So, taking the PM and HM at their word, I first went to see the 85-year-old daughter of Sheikh Abdullah, Begum Khaleda Shah, and her family. There I learned of a novel innovation the local authorities have made in our detention laws as their particular contribution to teaching the Kashmiris what it means to be truly "Indian": Without passing or providing any written orders, they simply stop those under effective, if not legal, house arrest, from leaving the premises and arbitrarily determine who may or may not visit them.

She showed us photographs of policemen barring their way in the presence of two Kashmir MPs which, along with a live video, they had submitted to the J&K High Court in a habeas corpus petition. The High Court turned down their request saying that a "Writ Court is neither to hold an enquiry into the allegations made in a petition, nor to take oral evidence. In writ proceedings, a fact is to be supported and proved by authentic documentary evidence. Press cuttings cannot be relied upon as authentic documentary evidence." The Hon'ble Court went on to adjudicate, "Further, a Writ Court cannot hold enquiry into disputed facts. Once facts are disputed, the writ petition is rendered not maintainable". So, the entire family of Sheikh Abdullah is now in one form of detention or the other, despite having upheld for 70 years and more the erstwhile Riyasat's integration into the Union of India, braving a spate of assassination attempts and at the cost of the lives of several hundreds of their followers to terrorist bullets and separatist bombs. Begum Khaleda nostalgically remembers hosting Mahatma Gandhi when she was a teenager and then gives me a copy of an open letter she has addressed to the prime minister rebutting each of the 23 counts that his home minister had raised in justifying his decision of August 5. She has neither received, nor expects to receive, a reply. But she hopes the points they have raised will somehow find play in Parliament. And, notwithstanding the setback they have received in the High Court, they continue to pin their hopes on the still higher judiciary. In this, they are at one with almost all Kashmiris who rest their hopes for justice on the last resort of the oppressed. And ominously add that, "without justice, there can be no peace".

We then dine with Agha Syed Hassan, the Shia leader, who is similarly incarcerated without orders in his residence. His story substantially endorses what we have learned earlier in the day. Next day, we understand from his son, in a telephone conversation, that the family has been severely reprimanded for not having informed the authorities of their visitors who stole in under the cover of darkness.

The police, having been tipped off by now to our presence in their city, arrive at our hotel to inform us that we cannot hold the meeting we have openly convened in a UT where "normalcy", it is officially claimed, has been restored. My colleague and I have convened similar meetings in Srinagar before, even when the streets were burning. We, therefore, ask for written orders. These are denied. We are told that Srinagar is under Section 144 of the CrPC. In that case, we ask, how is it that groups of Kashmiris were made to meet the foreign envoys who had been in Srinagar just the day prior to our arrival. We add that our meeting has not been convened in a public place but will be held behind closed doors. The police gruffly respond that these are their orders and call in a large posse to both prevent our guests from entering the hotel — and us from leaving the premises. An additional room is taken between my colleague's room and mine with a stern looking policeman seated on the bed with his AK-whatever in full sight, and the door wide open to check on any one who enters or leaves our rooms. I have heard of "house arrest". We now find ourselves under yet another novel invention — "hotel arrest"!

Moreover, we are told we cannot leave for the airport next morning except under police escort so that a beady eye is kept on our not straying from the "strait and narrow".

We read, with some amusement, in the newspapers that some of the foreign envoys who went on a pleasant picnic in shikaras on the Dal Lake found "signs of normalcy" on their visit. Perhaps they should have asked the boatmen gliding them along the Dal waters how many tourists they had succeeded in inducing into rides with them since August 5. Perhaps they could have enquired why so many shops on the boulevard were shuttered. Perhaps they should have (if they could have) removed themselves from the gaze of their official minders to share a word with street vendors and ordinary passers-by about what they were experiencing under this new "normalcy". Perhaps they should have asked those attending to their every need in their posh hotels how the hotel trade was faring. Someone might have told them that the loss is estimated at Rs 250 crore a day in Srinagar alone. Hotel Shahenshah, where we were staying, had only two guests — us.

If, when I was in the foreign service, I had reported to my ambassador after such a trip that I had found "normalcy" in Srinagar, he would have recommended that my further promotions be frozen.

The writer is a former Union minister

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SPARE GANDHI

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Misreading the Mahatma' (IE. February 20). The memory of Mahatma Gandhi has been cherished by Muslims. Reading Shrikrishna Kulkarni's article was painful. For the first time, we find a descendant of the Mahatma using a language that troubles us. Kulkarni is disturbed by the Muslim response to the CAA, NPR and NRC, as expressed by the sit-in at Shaheen Bagh. The IE editorial on February 21 points out the tragedy of Jabeda Khatun, who failed to getting clearance from the Foreigners Tribunal in Assam. My hunch is that even I will fail to get clearance, for my birth certificate was lost in the attack and burning of my house in the post-Godhra 2002 riots. Further there is no birth certificate for my father, who was born around 1903, or my mother in 1906, in a small town in Gujarat. Please do not take Gandhi away from us.

J S Bandukwala, *Vadodara*

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Misreading the Mahatma' (IE. February 20). The statement "Let me assure you: None of you in Shaheen Bagh, or anywhere in India, will suffer" in this article does not carry any weight. The confidence of the comman man has been shattered due to confusing statements by the Union ministers responsible for the CAA-NRC-NPR. An assurance must be given in Parliament in a proper manner.

Anurag Kashyap, via email

PROTEST VS DISRUPTION

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'The test protests face' (IE, February 20). The CAA-NRIC-NPR have created a misunderstanding between Hindus and Muslims. But many don't understand the issues at hand. According to Article 19, everyone has the freedom to express their opinion. Protests are needed to wake up a democracy, as in the aftermath of the Delhi 2012 rape and murder. But it is important also for the protesters at Shaheen Bagh to consider the disruption they are causing.

Aaditya Kanchan, *Noida*

LETTER OF THE WEEK

WHO RULES?

This refers to the report, 'Karnataka sedition case: After protest , J&K students re-arrested' (IE, February 18). Three students from Jammu and Kashmir were arrested for sedition. However, they were released by the police because of insufficient evidence. Subsequently, Hindutva groups like Bajrang Dal protested against the release and they were re-arrested. Who is ruling the state? The government and the police or the Bajrang Dal?

Anil Bagarka, *Mumbai*

ONE SIDED STORY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Putting neighbours first' (IE February 21). The writer has tried to put the blame only on Pakistan for the slow progress on regional cooperation in South Asia. While that is true to some extent, India cannot run away from its own failures. India tried to interfere in Nepal's constitutional development, cancelled the water-sharing pact with Bangladesh at the last moment, took sides in the domestic politics of Sri Lanka and Maldives and has dithered on the Rohingya issue. Most importantly, the CAA has developed unnecessary diplomatic and political strains with neighbours.

Suchak D Patel, *Ahmedabad*

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#ExpressExplained
If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to **explained@indianexpress.com**

TELLING NUMBERS

World Mother Language Day: which are most widely spoken?

INDIA TRENDS, 1991-2011
(Speakers of each as % of India population)

LANGUAGE	1991	2001	2011
Hindi	39.29	41.03	43.63
Bengali	8.30	8.11	8.03
Marathi	7.45	6.99	6.86
Telugu	7.87	7.19	6.70
Tamil	6.32	5.91	5.70
Gujarati	4.85	4.48	4.58
Urdu	5.18	5.01	4.19
Kannada	3.91	3.69	3.61
Odia	3.35	3.21	3.10
Malayalam	3.62	3.21	2.88
Punjabi	2.79	2.83	2.74
Assamese	1.56	1.28	1.26

Source: Census 2011

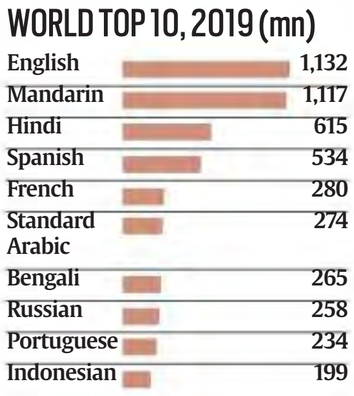
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 was International Mother Language Day. It has been observed since 1999 to promote "linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism", according to the UN. Of the world's 6,000 languages, 43% are estimated as endangered, according to the UN. On the other hand, just 10 languages account for as many as 4.8 billion speakers — over 60% of the world population.

Globally, English remains the most widely spoken language with 1.13 billion speakers in 2019, followed by Mandarin with 1.17 billion, according to the online database Ethnologue. Hindi is third with 615 million speakers while Bengali is seventh with 265 million.

In India, Hindi is the most spoken language with over 528 million speakers in 2011, as per the Census. Bengali had 97.2 million speakers in 2011, followed by Marathi (83 million), while other languages with over 50 million speakers are Telugu (81 million), Tamil (69 million), Gujarati (55.5 million) and Urdu (50.8 million).

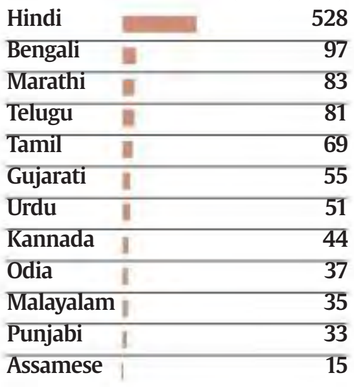
Percentage trends from 1991 to 2011 underline the growth of the most widely spoken language, Hindi, which was spoken by 39.29% of the Indian population in 1991, and whose share grew to 43.63% in 2011. For other languages in India's top 12, the 2011 percentage share has fallen when compared to that in 1991.

WORLD TOP 10, 2019 (mn)



Source: Ethnologue

INDIA TOP 12, 2011 (mn)



Source: Census 2011

Why February 21

UNESCO declared International Mother Language Day in 1999, to commemorate a 1952 protest against West Pakistan's imposition of Urdu as the official language of East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh). According to a report in *The Daily Sun*, police opened fire on demonstrating Dhaka University students and "some people were killed". When thousands thronged the university the next day, police fired again, killing more people. In Bangladesh, since 1953, February 21 is observed as *Ekushe Day*, after the Bengali word for twenty-one.

According to the South Asia Democratic Forum, five among those killed were recognised as "language martyrs — Abul Barkat, Abdul Jabbar, Rafiquddin Ahmad, Abdus Salman and Shafiur Rahman.

SIMPLY PUT

India-US ties, over the years

Trump's visit to India continues a trend of more and more frequent visits by US Presidents. How the ties between the two countries have evolved, strengthening in key areas while some areas remain a concern

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WHEN DONALD Trump arrives on Monday, he will be the first US President to visit India on a stand-alone visit in the seven decades of Indo-US diplomatic ties. US Presidents who came to India before him, from Dwight Eisenhower to Barack Obama, all had other stops in the region.

Visits before 2000, and later

Between 1947 and 2000, the first 53 years of India-US ties, there were only three visits by US Presidents to India — Dwight Eisenhower in 1959, Richard Nixon in 1969 and Jimmy Carter in 1978.

In the 20 years since 2000, there have been four visits by three US Presidents — Bill Clinton in 2000, George W Bush in 2006, and Obama in 2010 and 2015. Trump's will be the fifth.

While only three of the nine US Presidents during 1947-2000 visited India, every President in the last two decades has visited India at least once. Many reasons could be ascribed to the higher frequency of visits — a shift in global geo-politics in the post-Cold War era, India's economic ascent, rise of an assertive China, and New Delhi's place on the global high table.

Bush, Obama, Trump

Trump's visit will begin with a large community event at the largest cricket stadium in the world. Behind the red carpet New Delhi is laying out lies a growing strategic partnership.

In 2003-04, the first seeds of the Next Steps of Strategic Partnership were sown during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee regime. The relationship peaked with the Indo-US nuclear deal in 2008, which was negotiated during 2005-08 between the Manmohan Singh government and the Bush administration, and is considered the game-changer.

The Obama administration carried forward the relationship, and during his visit in 2010 hosted by Singh, the US promised support to India for a UN Security Council membership.

When Narendra Modi became PM in 2014, Obama navigated the transition and visited again in 2015, when he was the chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations.

After Trump came to power in 2016, there was a shift in the US political landscape as his unpredictability defined his presidency. The Indian government moved fast, and Modi visited the White House in June 2017. Trump promised Modi that he would visit during his term in office. It is in this backdrop that the visit is taking place in a year that will witness US presidential elections.

Biarritz, August 2019. Modi and Trump have met 4 times in last 8 months. *ANI/File*

Though the leaders have met several times in the last three-and-a-half years, the frequency of meetings has really increased in the last eight months since Modi's re-election. "This will be President Trump's fifth meeting with Prime Minister Modi in eight months (after Osaka, Biarritz, Houston, New York), reflecting the renewed intensity of high-level bilateral engagement since the NDA government returned to power," Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said.

Support against terrorism

This intense engagement has helped achieve robust support from the US against terrorism. This was evident after the Pulwama attack last year, leading to designation of Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist under UN Security Council Resolution 1267, and the placing of Pakistan on the grey-list of the Financial Action Task Force.

While Trump was once very critical on Pakistan, he has nuanced his position on Pakistan in the last seven months. And now, with a deal between the US and the Taliban likely on February 29, his approach towards Pakistan, long-time benefactor of the Taliban, will be tested in the months to come.

Pakistan has consistently lobbied with Trump to mediate between India and Pakistan on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir. Last year, with Pakistan PM Imran Khan at his side, Trump said he would love to mediate and that Modi had asked him to do so. Since then, Trump has backtracked and brought his personal position in line with the US position, that Washington will be ready to help if both sides want. New Delhi has consistently maintained that India sees no scope or role for third-party involvement on Kashmir.

Defence and energy

For India, its relationship with the US on defence issues has strengthened. India has procured over $18 billion worth of defence items from the US, almost half of this in the last five years. India conducts more bilateral exercises with the US than with any other country. And, under Trump, the announcement of India's elevation to Tier I of the Strategic Trade Authorization licence exception has opened up US defence technologies from the time when India faced a technology-denial regime.

The other area where the relationship has grown in recent years is energy. The bilateral Strategic Energy Partnership was launched in April 2018; India has started importing crude and LNG from the US from 2017 and 2018 respectively. The total imports are estimated at $6.7 billion — having grown from zero. The US is also India's sixth largest source of crude oil imports, with hydrocarbon imports rising to $7 billion in the last two years.

Overall bilateral trade has grown. The US is India's largest trading partner, goods and services combined. Bilateral trade in goods and services grew by more than 10% per annum over the past two years to reach $142 billion in 2018.

Areas of contention

The US feels that India is a high tariff country, and wants these reduced and a more predictable regime to conduct business. Although the growth is 10% per year, many feel the potential is much higher.

The other area of contention has been the movement of Indian skilled professionals to the US under the H1B programme. While the US President has always made immigration a key campaign theme, it has not led to any major barriers for Indians so far. But in an election year in the US, the rhetoric could sharpen.

Civilian nuclear cooperation has not taken off either, despite the historic nuclear deal, because of the nuclear liability law in India and Westinghouse's bankruptcy. Reviving that conversation could help meet India's energy needs.

Ties with others

What has differentiated Trump's engagement with India *vis-a-vis* US' allies and strategic allies is that there has been more strategic alignment with New Delhi than with some of Washington's closest partners. From Indo-Pacific to China, from Maldives to Bangladesh, the two countries are somewhat on the same page.

On Afghanistan, there have been differences in the process. But the situation, South Block insiders feel, is different now since India is much more in the US' calculus than in 1990. There is a sense of cautious optimism that Washington will not hurt India's interests in the long term; this premise will be tested.

The strong strategic partnership is also based on an idea of "shared values" of democracy, rule of law, religious freedom and protection of minorities. The revocation of Article 370 and the new citizenship law and the NRC is testing this "shared values" principle. India's position that these matters are "internal to India" has so far meant the Trump administration has not criticised India openly and sharply. But criticism from the US Congress and some parts of US civil society is pushing the US administration to tell India to bring Kashmir to normalcy and not go ahead with the new citizenship law followed by the NRC, which many see as aiming to exclude minorities.

As Trump spend about 36 hours in India, his summit with Modi will give them the opportunity to have a conversation to ensure that the visit is not just a spectacle in Ahmedabad and a photo-op at the Taj Mahal.

THIS WORD MEANS: HABITABLE-ZONE PLANET FINDER (HPF)

How to study light and confirm a potential exoplanet

AT 100 light years from Earth, a low-mass star was sending signals in a pattern that suggested that an exoplanet was orbiting the star. NASA's Kepler mission observed a dip in the host star's light, suggesting that the planet was crossing in front of the star during its orbit. To confirm, researchers turned to an instrument called Habitable-zone Planet Finder (HPF). It has confirmed that there is indeed an exoplanet.

HPF is an astronomical spectrograph, built by Penn State University scientists, and recently installed on the 10m Hobby-Eberly Telescope at McDonald Observatory in Texas. The instrument is designed to detect and characterise planets in the habitable-zone — the region around the star where a planet could sustain liquid water on its surface — around nearby low-mass stars.

Habitable-zone Planet Finder Spectrograph. *Gudmundur Stefansson/ Penn State University*

The newly confirmed planet, called G 9-40b, is the first one validated by HPF. It is about twice the size of Earth, and orbits its star once every six Earth-days.

How it works

A spectrograph is an instrument that splits light into its component wavelengths. Scientists then measure the properties of light over a specific portion of the spectrum, and draw conclusions on what is responsible for the trends they observe.

Kepler's observations alone were not enough to confirm a planet. It was possible that a close stellar companion was responsible for the dip in the star's light. Precision spectroscopic observations from HPF ruled out this possibility. Shooting a high-power laser into the air, researchers generated a "laser guide star", and subsequent observations found no evidence of blending of light or other stellar companions.

At Apache Point Observatory, researchers plotted a ground-based transit of the proposed planet using a process called diffusion-based photometry. They found that the plot agrees with the transits observed by Kepler.

Finally, using HPF, an analysis of a set of radial velocities helped provide estimates for the planet's mass.

The details of the findings appear in the *Astronomical Journal*.

How India proposals at UN event can help elephants, migratory birds

PARIMAL DABHI & GOPAL KATESHIYA
GANDHINAGAR, FEBRUARY 21

ON THURSDAY, a committee adopted India's proposals for including three species — great Indian bustard, Asian elephant and Bengal florican — for additional protection under the UN Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). This happened at the 13th Conference of the Parties to the CMS (CMS COP13), which is under way in Gandhinagar, with "Migratory species connect the planet and together we welcome them home" as its theme.

What does the Convention seek to do?

CMS is a treaty agreed by 129 countries plus the European Union, and functions under the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). It works for protection and conservation of species that migrate across frontiers and are facing threats of extinction or require urgent attention. CMS aims to bring together different countries that are part of range of a given species, and facilitate coherent conservation and protection regimes in a group of countries. The conference is being held in India for the first time. Delegates from at least 78 countries are attending.

Why do migratory species need special attention for conservation?

With a change in season, many mammals and birds move from one country to another in search of food and shelter, and for breeding. Asian elephants, also known as Indian elephants, migrate from India to Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar etc.

However, wildlife laws and protection regimes for these species can be different in each country, making them vulnerable to taking, hunting, poisoning etc. Many migratory species are threatened with extinction due to habitat degradation, barriers in their migration routes, and other pressures. Therefore, these species need special attention by all countries that are part of their range.

What were India's proposals that were accepted?

India has proposed inclusion of the three species on Appendix-I of the Convention. Appendix-I lists species threatened with extinction, while Appendix-II lists those in need of global cooperation for favourable conservation status. If listed on Appendix-I, it would facilitate trans-boundary conservation efforts of the these species.

The proposals cleared the first hurdle when they were adopted unanimously by the conference's committee of the whole. However, Pakistan, which is the other range country of the great Indian bustard, did not take part in the discussion on the proposals. The plenary of COP13 is expected to take a final call on the listing on Saturday.

Asian elephant, great Indian bustard, Bengal florican (above right) have crossed first hurdle in key listing under UN Convention. *Express Archive, Wikipedia*

What are the grounds on which India has proposed the listing?

Asian elephant: India said the Asian elephant, an endangered species, once used to range from west Asia to north of Yagtze river in China but currently, the range has shrunk to 13 Asian countries, and their population in India to 29,964 in 2017. India said elephants' inclusion on Appendix-I would ensure better coordination among the range countries, facilitate migration, increase effective habitat area, and reduce killings.

Great Indian bustard: Its range stretching across India and Pakistan, it is a critically endangered species with a population of just around 150 individuals and its present habitat having shrunk to 10% of its historical range. India said there is *prima facie* evidence that the birds fly across the India-Pakistan border and hence the need for bilateral cooperation for recovery of the species.

Bengal florican: This too is a critically endangered species of bird that belongs to the bustard family. In its proposal, India said the present population of the South Asian subspecies has shrunk to around 1,000 individuals and its present habitat been restricted to the Terai and Dooars grassland regions of the Indo-Gangetic and Brahmaputra floodplains.

How does listing on a CMS Appendix help a species?

Listing generally leads to concerted actions in different national jurisdictions in which a species ranges. Actions may include cooperation among range countries, harmonisation in policies etc through regional agreements. CMS has working groups specialising in various fauna families, and a Scientific Council that advises research-based solutions for conservation.

Many countries started shifting towards renewable energy by building infrastructure like wind turbines, power transmission lines, solar parks; these pose risks to wildlife. CMS set up in 2014 an Energy Task Force; it advises contracting parties on how to keep their energy projects wildlife-friendly.

Despite the listing and consequent efforts, 73% of 175 migratory species on Appendix-I and 48% of the 518 on Appendix-II have an overall decreasing population trend, CMS says.

So, what changes for the species in India's proposals?

If the plenary eventually adopts these proposals and the listing goes through, which is expected to happen, a formal regional cooperation among range countries would become possible. Once the listing is done, contracting parties within the range of a species are obliged to cooperate in trans-border conservation efforts.

Bangladesh, for example, welcomed the proposals on the elephant and the florican, a bird that went extinct in that country in 1882. However, Pakistan did not express any views on the proposal on the great Indian bustard. Conservation efforts would also gain from the international expertise of the CMS family, and could increase pressure on Pakistan for preventing alleged hunting of the great Indian bustard.

What else is on the agenda of the conference?

Besides the three species, proposals have been moved for including seven others — jaguar, urial, little bustard, antipodean albatross, oceanic white-tip shark, smooth hammerhead shark and tope shark — for listing on CMS Appendices. COP13 also discussed marine noise pollution, plastic pollution, light pollution, insect decline etc.

India has also invited the COP13 to adopt the 'Gandhinagar Declaration' urging the world community to strive for ensuring ecological connectivity, especially for sustainable management and conservation of migratory species. India has proposed that once adopted, CMS forward the Gandhinagar Declaration to the 15th meeting of UN Convention on Biological Diversity conference in China in October this year, for preparing post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

US Air Force Tweaks Dress Code For Sikhs

The US Air Force has updated its dress code to accommodate the religious sentiments of communities, including Sikhs, making it easier for them to join the service. Finalised on February 7, the new Air Force policy establishes clear grooming and uniform standards for enlisted and officer airmen who are granted accommodations based on their sincerely held religious beliefs

TOP OF THE WORLD

Leo Varadkar

IRELAND

Leo Varadkar resigns amid crushing defeat

London: Ireland's Indian-origin Prime Minister Leo Varadkar resigned from his post on Friday after a crushing defeat in a parliamentary vote, which failed to garner him enough supporters for a re-election. Varadkar, whose father was born in Mumbai, visited Irish President Michael D Higgins in Dublin to tender his resignation as Taoiseach – as the Prime Minister is known in Ireland. The 41-year-old will stay on as caretaker PM until a new administration is in place following a General Election earlier this month which failed to throw up a clear majority for any party.

SWITZERLAND

Burkina violence displacing 4,000 daily: UN

Geneva: More than 4,000 people are being forced to flee their homes each day in Burkina Faso, as attacks on civilians by jihadist militants increase in number and frequency, the UN's refugee agency said on Friday. "People fleeing the violence report attacks on their villages by militant groups, killing, raping, pillaging," the UNHCR said in a statement. "In Burkina Faso... more than 4,000 people to flee their homes and search for safety (on a daily average)," it said.

GERMANY

Police presence to be hiked after far-right killings

Berlin: German authorities will step up the police presence throughout the country and keep a closer watch on mosques and other sites after the racially motivated shootings that killed nine people,the country's top security official said Friday. A 43-year-old German man fatally shot the victims of immigrant backgrounds in the Frankfurt suburb of Hanau on Wednesday night before killing his mother and himself. Officials confirmed they had received a letter from the suspect last November in which he sought help in stopping the surveillance he believed he was under.

S KOREA REPORTS 2ND DEATH AS ITS CASES DOUBLE

Coronavirus on G20 agenda, WHO head warns window to act narrowing

AGENCIES
BEIJING, FEBRUARY 21

THE DEATH toll in China's novel coronavirus has gone up to 2,236 with 118 more deaths reported, mostly from the hard-hit Hubei province, while the overall confirmed infection cases have climbed to 75,465, Chinese health officials said on Friday.

As international authorities tried to stop the outbreak in China from becoming a global pandemic, finance leaders from the Group of 20 major economies meeting in Saudi Arabia over the weekend were set to discuss risks to the global economy.

Asian shares dipped on Friday as fears over the disease sent funds fleeing to the sheltered shores of US assets, lifting the dollar to three-year highs.

The head of the WHO warned on Friday that the window of opportunity to stem the spread of the virus was shrinking. "Our window of opportunity is narrowing, and that's why we called (on) the international community to act quickly, including the financing," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a news conference in Geneva, adding: "That's not what we see."

A team of WHO experts would travel to Wuhan on Saturday, the global health body announced.

South Korea also reported a second death from the coronavirus on Friday. The patient, who died on Friday, was a 54-year-old woman who had been admitted to a hospital in Cheongdo.

Iran's health ministry Friday reported two more deaths among 13 new cases of coronavirus in the Islamic republic, bringing the total number of deaths to four and infections to 18. "Thirteen new cases have been confirmed," ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour said on Twitter. "Unfortunately two of them have lost their lives."

Passengers checked after leaving the *Diamond Princess* in Japan on Friday. *Reuters*

DOCTOR WHO 'POSTPONED WEDDING TO TREAT PATIENTS' DIES IN WUHAN

- A 29-year-old Chinese doctor, who postponed his wedding to look after coronavirus patients, has died treating them — the ninth fatality among the healthcare providers
- Dr Peng Yinhua, a respiratory acute care medical professional, was hospitalised on January 25 and died on Thursday night, as per the health bureau
- 'Peng Yinhua, a frontline doctor at Jiangxia First Hospital in virus epicentre #Wuhan, died of #COVID19 on Thursday night...' state-run *Global Times* tweeted on Friday.

China finds spike in cases in prisons, officials fired

REUTERS
BEIJING, FEBRUARY 21

THE NEW coronavirus has infected 234 people in two prisons outside the province at the centre of the epidemic and top officials deemed responsible for the outbreaks have been fired, authorities said on Friday.

The infections found in the two jails, in the northern province of Shandong and the eastern province of Zhejiang, made up most of the 258 newly confirmed cases on Thursday outside the central province of Hubei, where the most cases have occurred.

Authorities sacked the chief of the provincial justice department in Shandong after the extent of the outbreak in Rencheng prison in Jining city was detected. In all, 207 people at the jail tested positive.

The jail discovered its first case in a prison officer on February 13. Seven prison officials were also fired, authorities told a media briefing.

Russia meddling to re-elect Trump, US House warned; Kremlin denies

ANASTASIA TETEREVLEVA& SUSAN HEAVEY
MOSCOW/ WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 21

The Kremlin on Friday denied Russia was interfering in the 2020 US presidential campaign to boost President Donald Trump's re-election chances following reports that American intelligence officials warned Congress about the election threat last week.

US intelligence officials told members of the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee in a classified briefing last week that Russia was again interfering in American politics ahead of November's election, a person familiar with the discussion told *Reuters*.

Trump has since ousted the acting intelligence chief, replacing him this week with a political loyalist in an abrupt move as Democrats and former US officials raised the alarm over national security concerns.

On Twitter, the Republican president accused Democrats in Congress of launching a misinformation campaign "saying that Russia prefers me to any of the Do Nothing Democrat candidates." Trump called it a "hoax" in his Friday tweet.

US officials have long warned that Russia and other countries would seek to interfere in the November 3 presidential election, following Russia's meddling in the 2016 campaign that ended with Trump's surprise victory over Democratic rival Hillary Clinton.

US intelligence agencies concluded that the Kremlin used disinformation operations, cyber attacks and other methods in its 2016 operation in an effort to boost Trump, an allegation that Russia denies. Trump, sensitive to doubts over the legitimacy of his win, has also questioned that finding and repeatedly criticised American intelligence agencies.

On Friday, the Kremlin said the latest allegations were false.

"These are more paranoid announcements which, to our regret, will multiply as we get closer to the (US) election," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. "They have nothing to do with the truth." **REUTERS**

Trump has since ousted the acting intelligence chief in an abrupt move. *Reuters*

Days before election, Netanyahu plans homes in contested East Jerusalem areas

ISABEL KERSHNER
FEBRUARY 21

PRIME MINISTER Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel announced plans on Thursday to build thousands of new housing units in contested East Jerusalem, which critics say could doom any prospect of a deal with the Palestinians.

It is likely to be years before any of the 6,200 units would be built, but the announcement, 11 days before a national election, was widely seen as an effort by Netanyahu to solidify support among his right-wing base.

The homes are slated for two areas in East Jerusalem, which was captured by Israel from Jordan in the 1967 war and has been long demanded by Palestinians as the capital of a future independent state. Israel unilaterally annexed the area as part of its capital, a move not recognised by most countries but endorsed by President Trump's Middle East plan.

"We are joining up all the parts of unified Jerusalem," Netanyahu announced in a video shot against the backdrop of Har Homa, one of the two neighborhoods where new homes will be built. Netanyahu said he had now "removed all the limitations."

Veteran Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat condemned the move.

Benjamin Netanyahu. *AP*

NYT

"Ongoing Israeli settlement announcements represent the implementation of the Trump plan, which requires urgent international action to deter both Israel and the U.S. from their continued violations of international law and order," he said in a statement.

The plans announced by Netanyahu call for 4,000 new homes in Givat Hamatos, another neighbourhood in the region. **NYT**

At a polling station during parliamentary elections, in Tehran on Friday. *Reuters*

Iran holds critical election, hardliners set to dominate

PARISA HAFEZI & BABAK DEHGHANPISHEH
DUBAI, FEBRUARY 21

IRANIANS VOTED on Friday in a parliamentary election likely to help hardline loyalists of the supreme leader tighten their grip on power as the country faces mounting US pressure over its nuclear programme and growing discontent at home.

State television said voting would run for 10 hours, but could be extended depending on turnout, which is seen as a critical test of the popularity of the clerical establishment after most moderates and leading conservative candidates were barred from running.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei casts his vote on Friday. *AP*

Seven hours after polls opened, an Interior Ministry official said about 11 million of 58 million eligible voters had cast their ballots for candidates in the 290-member parliament, the semi-official ISNA news agency reported.

With thousands of potential candidates disqualified in favour of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's allies, the vote is not expected to ease Iran's nuclear standoff with the United States or spawn a softer foreign policy.

Parliament's power is limited, but gains by security hawks could weaken pragmatists and conservatives who support the ruling theocracy but also more economically beneficial engagement with the West, from which Tehran has been estranged since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. **REUTERS**

'PATTERN OF JUDICIAL HARASSMENT'

Court disbands Thai Oppn party, draws criticism

HANNAH BEECH
BANGKOK, FEBRUARY 21

THAILAND'S MOST dynamic political force in years was ordered disbanded on Friday by the country's Constitutional Court, in a ruling that rights groups say is part of a pattern of judicial harassment aimed at smothering democracy.

The Future Forward Party was found to have violated a law governing political parties by accepting a loan from its young tycoon leader, Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit, to fund an electoral campaign.

The party maintains that the 191 million baht loan, equivalent to about $6 million, was legitimate, and that the campaign financing rules are so ambiguous that it would have been impossible to know whether the loan contravened them. Other political parties have taken out loans without any legal ramifications.

For a country where the same politicians and army generals have dominated politics for decades, the Future Forward Party offered something fresh.

In elections last year, the first since an army coup in 2014, all of Future Forward's candidates were first-time entrants. The party didn't even exist a year before the elections.

Despite its neophyte status, the opposition force surged to a third-place finish in the elections, capturing 81 of the 500 seats in the House of Representatives. (It now has 76.) **NYT**

EXPLAINED

Political future may be tenuous

THE RULING by the Constitutional Court has likely cut off the Future Forward Party's political future. Despite being relatively new, the party had quickly become popular. Now, the court's ruling implies that the FFP's senior leadership will not be allowed to step into the political arena for a set period of time, usually 10 years. Even if the party's founders simply create another one, that entity will be shorn of the FFP's top ranks.

70TH EDITION OF THE BERLINALE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL — DAY 1

Hitting turgid notes, 'My Salinger Year' falls short of being love letter to author

EXPRESS IN BERLIN

SHUBHRA GUPTA
FEBRUARY 21

USUALLY, FILM festival jury press conferences are your standard-issue staged events, with unremarkable Q&A sessions and photo ops. But at the 70th edition of the Berlin Film Festival, jury president Jeremy Irons made a tonal shift by prefacing his opening remarks with a call for human rights. I support wholeheartedly, he said, the worldwide women's rights movement, the right to same sex marriage and the right to abortion.

His comments were more in the nature of contravening previous ill-advised remarks on these issues, but the fact of having them said out loud, with force and clarity, set the tone for the presser. As well as for the Berlinale, which prides itself on being one of the world's most political film festivals, where issues such as rising right-wing nationalism, the refugee crisis and violence against minorities have found a voice in the choice of films.

There is something to be said about watching contemporary cutting-edge cinema just a few minutes' walk away from a sombre memorial dedicated to those who perished in the Holocaust. The main venue at the Potsdamer Platz is surrounded by signs of a city that was reconstructed post 1945, and those signs, which include remnants of the Berlin Wall are assiduously maintained. The movies help with the healing.

Margaret Qualley and Sigourney Weaver in Berlin. *AP*

■■■

If you, like me, have been a life-long fan of J D Salinger, you will have read everything by and on the famously reclusive author. I brought my battered, well-thumbed copy of 'Franny And Zooey' along for the plane ride from Delhi to Berlin as a refresher for the opening film, 'My Salinger Year'. Not that I had forgotten any of it, and though I love 'Raise High The Roofbeam, Carpenters' as much, and 'Catcher In The Rye' just a little less, I've always come back to the crackling prose and the intriguing doings of the two youngest Carpenter siblings.

The film, I'm heartbroken to report, is, for the most part, turgid and inert. It's based on Joanna Rakoff's memoirs of her year at one of New York's most famous publishing houses, where the author, a wide-eyed ingenue, walks in to find dark-panelled walls, antediluvian typewriters and respectful mentions of someone called 'Jerry'. Rakoff's part is played by the lovely Margaret Qualley, (Once Upon A Time In Hollywood), and her boss, a formidable grande dame who hates computers and anything modern, is played by Sigourney Weaver.

Rakoff's book is full of the sights and sounds of a 1995 New York. Manhattan, actually, where the publishing house is situated, not far from the venerable 'The New Yorker', and which is home to all kinds of itinerants from across the US, especially those, like Rakoff, who want to write themselves.

The finding-your-voice-and-yourself genre is well-established, and the film, directed by Phillipe Falardeu, lays out all its conventions on the table: the hopeful young woman, in her Peter Pan collars and messy just-woken-up hair, who begins tentatively but gains confidence as she goes along, the older woman who wants everything her own way and will brook no interference, the heavy-handed boyfriend who only cares for himself and writes very purple prose to boot. But there's no sparkle here.

Which, I have to say, is very disappointing. Qualley, criminally, comes off flat. Weaver is better, just a shade, just by the fact that she's done this for so long. How can a movie about wonderful writing, and writers, be written with so little flair?

Rakoff's character discovers the joys of reading Salinger and is visited by imaginary Salinger fans (her primary job is to read the mountains of fanmail he gets): one could have been Catcher's remarkable young Holden Caulfied, who so hated 'phonies'. One of the most alive parts of the movie has Qualley dance about a room full of light, chatting about a letter Franny writes.

That tone, joyous, curious, suffusing the whole film, would have been an apt love letter to Salinger.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,SHELKE DIPALI POPAT,Spouse of,WALKE NITIN SHIWAJI,resident of-Loni Sayyad Mir,Taluka-Ashti, Loni,Beed,Maharashtra-414202,have changed my name from SHELKE DIPALI POPAT to DIPALI NITIN WALKE,vide:affidavit-dated-21/02/2020,before Notary.Advocate:-Mr.Ram Kishore Singh,having Registration.No:-2548,New.Delhi 0040533038-2

I,Parveen Kr Chauhan S/O Satpal Chauhan R/O C-4/7, C-Block, Sultanpuri, Delhi-110086. Have Changed My Name To Parveen Chauhan. 0040533061-1

I,Ashmeet Kaur Chadha,W/o Harneet Singh Marwaha, R/o-Plot no.53,S.F.,Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064,have changed my name to Ashmeet kaur for all purposes. 0040533092-1

I, Vibhu Aggarwal,S/o Anshu Aggarwal, R/o House No.12, Road No.45A, Punjabi-Bagh West, Delhi-110026, have changed my name to Viibhu Aggarwaal. 0040533073-3

I, Vandana Verma W/o Yesh Paul R/o D-37, Sector-15, Noida U.P. inform that in my daughter's school record her father's name wrongley mention as Yash Pal Rao his correct name is Yesh Paul. 0040533016-1

I, Uzma W/o Mohammad Zahid R/o 370, Gali Saqqon Wali, Matia Mahal, Jama Masjid, Delhi-06 have changed my name to Uzma Begum. 0040533043-1

I, Tarvinder Singh Rekhi S/O Rajinder Singh R/O-B-82, Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura, Saraswati Vihar, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name To Tarvinder Singh. 0040533092-6

I, Tanya Dhuper W/o Devansh Salhotra R/o EC–179, SFS Flats, Maya Enclave, New Delhi 110064, have changed my name as Tanya Salhotra for all future purposes. 0040533078-1

I, Surender Kumar Bhola S/o Late Sh. Pritam Lal Bhola R/o M-55-B, Ground Floor Malviya Nagar, Delhi-110017 Have changed my name to Narinderjeet Singh Bhola, For all Future Purposes. 0040533106-1

I, Supriva Jindal W/O Puneet Jindal, Hno.41, Roadno.43, III-Floor, Punjabi Bagh West, Delhi-110026. Changed My Name To Supriya Jindal. 0040533061-5

I Pushkar Jain R/O 59, UGF Pocket -27, Sector -24 , Rohini,Delhi -110085 have changed my name to Pushker Jain 0070699742-1

I, Suman Rani W/o Rajiv Singh R/o: BG-3/67D, DDA-LIG-Flat, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-63 Have Changed My Name to Suman Kaur. 0040533061-6

I, Sripal Singh S/o Hoti Singh R/o-377, St.No.6,Asola Housing Complex, Dhakwali,New Delhi-74 have changed my name to Shri Pal Singh. 0040533038-1

I, Sparsh d/o Narender Singh r/o 605 Plot no.-60, Intelligentsia Society, Sector-56, Gurugram, Haryana-122002 have changed my name to Sparsh Chhikara. 0040533084-1

I, Simranpreet Kaur Rekhi W/O Tarvinder Singh R/O-B-82, Pushpanjali Enclave, Saraswati Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name to Simranpreet Kaur. 0040533092-5

I, Shipra Hiranandani D/o Parveen Arora R/o-E-243, Saraswati kunj plot-No.25, IP-Extension, Patparganj Delhi, have changed my name to Shipra Arora 0040533001-1

I, Sheikh Asim Hussai, son of Sheikh Mibashir Husain r/o 1204, Gali Majar Wali, Kalan Mahal, Darya Ganj, New Delhi -02 have change my name from Asim Hussain to Sheikh Asim Hussain for all future purposes. 0040533074-1

I, Saurabh Singh Chaudhary,S/o Shailendra Singh Chaudhary, R/o-Flat.No.9, Swastik Kunj Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Saurav Singh. 0040533073-4

I, Satya Narain s/o Kunj Bihari Lal H.No-330, A.G.C.R Enclave, Vikas-Marg, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Satya Narayan Gupta,permanently. 0040533092-10

I, Saroj Sharma W/o Late Sh.Raj Kishan Sharma R/o-Flat-No.88 Sector-19, PKT-3, Akshardham-Appartments Dwarka, New Delhi-110075,Inform that Raj Kishan Sharma & R.K Sharma both Names are one and Same person. 0040533060-1

I, Sarita W/o Manoj Kumar R/o-RZ-A35, Gali.No.14,Sita-Puri Part-I, Dabri, South/West/ Delhi, Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Sarita Lata,for all,future purposes. 0040533073-5

I, Laxmi D/o Sh.Satish Kumar W/o Sh.Pankaj Gupta R/o H-21, Plot No.114, Inderprastha Apartment, Patparganj, I.P. Extension, Delhi-110092 have changed my name after marriage to Laxmi Gupta for all purposes. 0040533003-1

I, Sanjeev S/o Babu Ram R/o A-105 Asha Park Hari Nagar Tilak Nagar ND-18 Have Changed My Name To Sanjeev Arora For All Purposes. 0040533061-10

I, Rana Dushyant Kumar SK S/o Sh. Shirishbhai R/o 22/716, DDA Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019, inform that in my service documents my wife name and Date of Birth wrongly mentioned as NAYNA and 05-05-1982. But Correct name and Date of Birth is RANA NAYNABEN and 06-05-1985 respectively. 0040533058-1

I, Rakesh S/o Rambadan Yadav R/o Rz-307, A-block, Gopal Nagar, Najafagarh, New Delhi-43 have changed my name to Rakesh Yadav. 0070699740-1

I, Rajiv Kumar S/o Shri Jatin R/o-C-60, New Seemapuri, Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Rajiv for all purposes. 0040533092-7

I, Paramita Khatua W/o Dipak Mal, R/o F-38, FF, Sector-22, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Paramita Mal in my minor daughter Baibhabi Mal aged 10 years in her Birth Certificate. The actual name of mine is Paramita Khatua 0070699743-1

I, No-12964057W, Hav Ab Ganie Lone,S/O Ghulam Rasool Lone R/O- Lachipora, Tehsil - Boniyar. In my service records (D o B) of my son namely Muneer Ahmad Lone has been wrongly mentioned as 14-07-2007 instead of 11-03-2001. It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days. 0020403164-1

I, Nasreena W/o. Noorul Amin Naqash R/o. E-2/5/A, Nawada Housing Complex, Dwarka More, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name after marriage from Nasreena to Nasreena Akhtar for all future purposes. 0040533009-1

I, Muzafar Ahmad Kochey,S/O Nazir Ahmad Kochey R/O-Machbawan (Amirpora Nambal), Tehsil – Mattan, District- Anantnag. In my service records name of my ward has been wrongly mentioned as Junaid Muzaffar Kochay instead of Junaid Muzafar. It needs correction. Objections be filed to concerned authorities within seven days. 0020403167-1

I, Murtuza Hassan S/o Farooq Hassan R/o-822, 1st-Floor, Chitla Gate, Chawri Bazar, Delhi-110006. have changed my name to Murtaza Hasan. 0040533073-10

I, Munna Ram S/o Ram Narayan Ram R/o A-826, K-Block, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-33, inform that my father name wrongly written in my Disability Certificate as Lakhman Prasad. Correct name is Ram Narayan Ram. 0040533059-1

I, Mukesh S/O Premballabh R/O Rz-26p/Kh.No.628 Gali No-35 Indra Park Palam Colony Delhi-110045 Have Changed My Name To Mukesh Darmora. 0040533061-2

I, Mohd. Irshad S/o Mohd. Umar R/o C-3/80 Yamuna Vihar, Delhi-110053 declare that the name of my father has been wrongly written as Hazi Mohammed Umar in my passport . The actual name of my father is MOHD. UMAR. 0050162915-1

I, Mohd Arif S/o Sh. Harun Khan R/o RZ-2541, Gali No.-28, Tughlakabad Extension, New Delhi-110019 do hereby inform that I have changed my Name from Mohd Arif to Arif Ali Khan and my date of birth is 08.05.1967. 0040533010-1

I, Mohammad Wasiq Nadeem Khan S/O Mohammad Wasim Khan R/O-N-43, G/F Abulfazal-Enclave Part-2 Delhi-110025. Have Changed My Name To Mohammad Wasiq Nadim Khan. 0040533061-3

I, Megha D/o Balvir Singh R/o B-1/9 Upkar Colony Santnagar Burari Delhi-110084 I have changed My name from Megha To Megha Mathur for all purposes 0040533007-1

I, Mamta W/o Karamvir R/o RZ-116, Braham Puri Nanagal Raya, New Delhi-110046 have changed my name to Mamta Devi, for all purposes. 0040533002-2

I, Litty Biju W/O Biju Konnathu Rajan R/O-B-360, Second-Floor, Hari Nagar, New Delhi-110064 Has Changed My Name To Litty Abraham. 0040533061-4

I, Karambir S/o Balbir Singh R/o RZ-116, Braham Puri Nanagal Raya, New Delhi-110046 have changed my name to Karamvir, for all purposes. 0040533002-1

I, Gunjan Raghav & MRS Gunjan,W/O-Sushil Kumar, R/O-61-A, B-9,Udaigiri-2, Sector-34, Noida G.B. Nagar, UP-201307,have changed my name to Gunjan Devi. 0040533092-3

Correct name of my mother is ANNU SINGH but it is mentioned as ANU SINGH in my some documents. SPARSH CHHIKARA d/o NARENDER SINGH r/o 605, Plot no.-60, Intelligentsia Society, Sector-56 Gurugram, Haryana-122002 0040533084-2

I, Divender Singh S/o Late.Aya Singh Lamba R/o-32/42, Ground-Floor, West Patel Nagar, N.Delhi-110008.have changed my name to Devinder Singh Lamba. 0040533092-4

I, Didar singh/Deedar Singh Mendiratta, S/o Jagjit Singh, R/o-E10,Ashok Vihar,Phase-1, Delhi-110052,have changed my name to Deedar singh for all purposes. 0040533092-2

I, Birbal Kumar S/o Aghanu Prasad R/o-B-607, GaliNo.34, Mahavir Enclave Part-2, New Delhi-110059, inform that Birbal Kumar and Birbal Kumar Chunihara are the one and same person. 0040533012-1

I, Archna W/o Shri Arun Kapoor R/o A-43(76/4-C) Street No.11, East Azad Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Archana Kapoor for all purposes. 0040533048-1

I, Ali Sadiq S/o Nazim Husain R/o B-677/12, Third Floor, Zakir Nagar, Okhla, Jamia Nagar, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Ali Sadiq Naqvi for all purposes. 0040533011-1

I Suraksha Mandhyan D/o Harish Mandhyan R/o-175 Pochanpur Sector-23 Dwarka Delhi-77 change my name to Vinamrrata Mandhyan for all purposes. 0040533061-7

I Sahil Goyal S/o Umesh Goel H.No-2109 Ward No-5 Pech Paras Ram Rohtak Haryana-124001, Changed My Name To Sahil Goel. 0040533073-9

I Pushpa w/o Shri Jay kumar R/o D-34 Sector-61 Noida distt-Gautambudh Nagar have changed my name to Rajeshwari 0040533064-1

I Pritika Talwar W/o Mayank Bhalla R/o 32-C, PKT-A, Vikas Puri Extn Delhi-18 have changed my name to Pritika Bhalla 0040532793-1

I Mohit S/o Ashok Kumar Gupta R/o H.No-5 New Deluxe Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085, Changed My Name To Mohit Gupta. 0040533073-6

I Mohd Shahid S/o Mohd Siddique R/o-1537, Saddique Manzil Pataudi-House Daryaganj Delhi-110002 changed my name to Sheikh Mohammad Shahid. 0040533073-1

I Md Wasim S/o Md Matin R/o-E51 Mahavir Vihar Colony Kanjhawla Delhi-110081, Changed My Name To Md Washim. 0040533073-8

I Maya Ramesh Chandra W/o Ramesh Chandra R/o House No-63, Chaukuna, Almora, Uttarakhand-263626, have changed my name to Mayavati 0070699746-1

I Manish Dubey D/O Gauri Shankar R/O-H.No-34, Lakhpat Colony Part-2, Mithapur Ext. Delhi-110044 Have Changed my Name to Aisha Malik. 0040533061-9

I Kavita Tomar W/o Kuldeep R/o RZ 74 Block D, Somesh Vihar, Chhawla, ND 71 inform that in my Passport, PAN, Aadhar card my husband name wrongly mentioned Kuldeep Tomar but his correct name is Kuldeep and may be corrected pl. 0040533008-1

I Bhikam Yadav S/o-Malkhan Singh R/o-69 H32 Sec-3 Rohini Raja Pur Kalan Delhi-110085, Changed My Name To Bhikam Singh Yadav. 0040533073-7

I Asha Chouhan W/O Durgesh Das R/O-167, Vasant Appartment, Vasant Vihar, Delhi-110057 Have Changed my Name to Asha Das. 0040533061-8

I "Malashri Dundanatti " spouse of No 15491836H ALD Ravindra Dundanatti of 85 Armd Regt declare that in my husband service documents my name was erroneously published as "Malashri". So now I have changed my name from Malashri to "Malashri Dundanatti" which is the correct name. 0040533087-1

I, Rambilas Paswan,R/o P-11/3,Basantra Line Sadar Bazaar,Delhi Cantt-10,have changed my minor son's name,from Subham Kumar to Shubham Kumar,for all purposes. 0040533107-1

I, Nisha Aggarwal, W/o Anuj Aggarwal, R/o-G-29/140-141, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Radhika Aggarwal. 0040533073-2

I Monika Sharma W/O, Brijesh Kumar Sharma D/o Late Sh. Ghanshyam Lal Sharma R/o B 1366, Green Fields Colony, Aravali Hills, Faridabad, Haryana 121010 have changed my name to Kamini Sharma for all purposes. Henceforth I will be known as Kamini Sharma for all purposes. 0040533089-1

BUSINESS

`CASHEW' Nut Processing Plant With 1 Year Used Machines In Good Condition For Sale.' Contact- 9082078906 0070699591-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my clients Kamlesh Kumar Aggarwal S/o Jagan Nath Garg and his wife Smt. Amla Aggarwal both R/o A-8/601, Olive County Society, Sector-5, Vsundhra, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201012, have severed all their relations and ties from their son Varun Garg and his wife Rashi Kumar due to their disobeying and harassing behaviour towards my above clients. My clients have disowned and debarred their abovesaid son and daughter-in-law from their all movable and immovable assets/properties. Anyone dealing with my said son and daughter-in-law in any manner in future, shall do so at their own risk and consequences and my abovenamed clients shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds and things done by my abovesaid son and daughter-in-law.

VINAY TOMAR (Advocate)
Ch. No. G-418,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

LOST & FOUND

I, Kamal Kapur, lost my Original Property Receipt No.ALD/CRB/00215/0111, ALD/CRB/00033/0311, ALD/CRB/00241/0111, ALD/CRB/00074/0812, ALD/CRB/00051/0613, ALD/CRB/00009/0714, wide Property No.WA30, DLF, Alameda, Sector-73, Gurgaon. Finder Contact:-9999004040 0040533021-1

Lost my original Sale Deed in the name ofM/s-Classic Builders favoring Mrs.ArchanaMahajan W/o-Parmod Mahajan(Document-No.2549, Additional-Book-No.1,Volume-No.6952, Page-No.171 to 175dated-13.03.1992) of Sub District-II againstmy Property-No.12/37, Ground Floor, WestPunjabi Bagh, Delhi-110026. Finder maycontact to Brij Mohan at above noted address. 0040533045-1

I, Beenu Sharma, D/o Padem Nath Adhikari, R/o-A-43, G.F.,Dayal-Bagh, Sector-39, Faridabad-121009,have lost my Allotment-Letter,Possession-Letter,Payment-Receipt,Transfer-Endorsement Letter of Property No.UGF-125,Sushant Vyapaar,Kendra,Sushant Lok-1,Gurgaon-122009,Finder contact. 0040533107-3

I have lost my Passport No K9993233 in Delhi, if somebody finds it please inform Sakshi Jain D/o Nirmal Jain, D-12, Apollo Apartment, Vidhyadhar Nagar, Jaipur-Raj., Mob:9829058532. 0110018492-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client Smt. Meetu Goel, R/o B-38, Phase-I, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-110052 is the sole and absolute owner and in possession of Upper Ground floor of property bearing no.47-FF (Old no.104), Out of Killa no.60/2/1, 51/22, situated at village Khureji Khas, in the abadi of Block-F, Laxmi Nagar, Patparganj Road, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi-110092 and nobody has got any right of any nature therein and if anybody lays any claim in the same property, the same shall be illegal and without any substance and anybody dealing with the said property, he/she/they shall be dealing with the same at their own cost and consequences and my client shall not be liable in any manner.

Sd/-
ANNU ARORA (Advocate)
M-10, Civil Side,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

Know all men by these presents that my client Sunita Rana W/o Mr. Anil Rana R/o House No. 8, Sector 9, Chiranjeev Vihar, Ghaziabad U.P. has disowned and debarred her son Sourav Rana from all her movable and immovable properties because he is out of control of my client and has married to some unknown girl without knowledge and consent of my client.

Anybody dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her/their own risk, cost and responsibility of my client and my client will not be held responsible for any of his act, deed and things done by him.

Sd/-B.B.N. DEO, ADVOCATE
SR IInd, B Campus, Janakpuri, N.Delhi-58

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mohd. Yamin S/o M. Shakur & his wife Smt. Saira W/o Mohd. Yamin both R/o 28, Azim Dairy, Okhla, New Delhi-110025, has severed his all relation and disowned / debarred their elder son Mohd. Vakeel aged about 36 years and his wife Smt. Naseema (Bahu of Applicants) aged about 34 years from his moveable-immovable properties and all assets including cash and other properties either in Delhi or Haryana. My client shall not be responsible for their any acts and deeds done by them.

Nizamuddin (Advocate)
Ch. No. 457, Saket Courts, Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE

Know all that Sh. Raj Singh S/o Mang Ram R/o A-58, Om Vihar, Phase-II, Hastsal, Delhi-110059, (My client) has fulfilled his fatherly obligations towards his eldest son Rahul Kataria. But now he is mentally and physically harassing my client, his wife Rekha, his younger son Deepak and other family members. As such, with immediate effect my client has debarred his son Rahul Kataria from all his movable and immovable properties. My client, his wife Rekha, his younger son Deepak and other family members have severed all their relations with Rahul Kataria for all intents and purposes.

Dipesh Choudhary (Advocate)
Chamber No. 585, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-01 Ph: 9811628706

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public in informed that Mrs. Bhagirathi Devi is the sole owner of No.126-B, on 1st floor, Pocket-C, Secto-2, Dwarka, Delhi (will be called Property hereinafter). She has lost the original Will deed dated 25/3/1998 (Reg. No.17662) executed by Amir Chand Tandon favouring G. B. Upreti in respect of the said property. An FIR/NCR regarding loss of original Will Deed has already been lodged with Delhi Police Crime Branch vide L.R.182137/2020 dated 20.02.2020. Any person doing any business in any manner about this property based on lost will Deed shall be invalid in legal terms and at own his risk and cost. Base on the above said documents any one has any claim, lien, ownership right etc. shall file objection to/contact **Mr. Rohit Kumar, Advocate** at his office – **Chamber No. F-712, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110032** and on his **mobile no. +919718703803 & +918368713222**, within 7 days from the date of this publication of notice.

COURT NOTICE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT
(ORDER 5, rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)
In the court of Ms. Neelam Singh
Additional District Judge-02, South-East District
Room No.d 18, 6th Floor Saket Courts, New Delhi
Suit No. : CS-650/19
Divjot Singh
Versus
Rajender Narang

To,
Rajender Narang
S/o L.D. Narang
R/o M-22, Greater Kailash Part-II, New Delhi
Also at : G-7, Rear Portion on Ground Floor, Lajpat Nagar-III, New Delhi-110024
Also at : J-26, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi

The Defendant above named

WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 28-02-2020 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the court, this 14-02-2020. Sd/
Additional District Judge-02, South-East District
(Seal) Saket Courts, New Delhi

BY PUBLIC AUCTION

Two Maruti SX4 Vxi Car Make 2009 would be sold by public auction at Armed Forces Tribunal (Principal Bench), West Block-8, Sector-1, Opp. Mohan Singh Market, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066 on 28th Feb, 2020 (Friday) at 1200 hrs.
Security Deposit Rs. 5000/- per Car (Refundable).
Successful bidder shall deposit the full bid amount (including GST) immediately and take delivery of the vehicle, on "as it is where it is basis".
T&C are available at **www.aftdelhi@nic.in**

Deputy Registrar

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

OA NO.769 / 2019 **Date: 04.02.2020**
UCO BANK .... Applicant
Versus
M/S. R. S. IMPEX & ANR. .... Respondents

To, (1) M/s. R. S. IMPEX (Through its Proprietor)
Having Office at: C-21, Shivaji Park, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi.
(2) RAMESH KUMAR PANDEY, R/o. House No.295, Ground Floor, Rishi Nagar, Rani Bagh, New Delhi-110034.
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of **Rs.34,04,817.32 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventeen and Paisa Thirty Two Only)** 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 before Ld. Registrar on **04.06.2020 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 Tribunal on this **04th Day of February of 2020.**

SEAL OF COURT

Yours faithfully,
For Registrar

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स), भुवनेश्वर
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), BHUBANESWAR

(A Statutory Body under the aegis of Ministry of H & FW, Govt. of India)
Sijua, Post: Dumuduma, Bhubaneswar - 751 019

AIIMS/BBS/Dean/PG/32/9191 Date: 21st February, 2020

SPOT COUNSELLING FOR ADMISSION IN MD/MS/ DM/MCh. COURSES AT AIIMS, BHUBANESWAR

Some vacant seats of MD/MS & DM/MCh. Courses at AIIMS, Bhubaneswar for the session January, 2020 will be filled up from the merit list of the Entrance Examination (January, 2020) conducted by AIIMS, New Delhi.
Venue: Director Conference Hall, Administrative Building, AIIMS Bhubaneswar
Date : **27th February, 2020**
Reporting Time : **09:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.**
(Candidate reporting after 11:00 a.m. will not be considered for admission.)
Further details may be seen at AIIMS, New Delhi website **(www.aiimsexam.org)** & AIIMS, Bhubaneswar website **(www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in).**

Sd/-
REGISTRAR
AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

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Phones : 0522-4918502, 4918510, Fax : 0522-4918506 ; Website : www.drrmlims.ac.in

Ref. No. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2019-20/5960 Date : 21.02.2020

RE-TENDER/E-TENDER NOTICE

On line offers are invited through e-tender from Manufacturer / Direct Importers / Authorized distributors for the supply of various items. **The offers submitted earlier for the listed items by the bidders against Tendered/Re-Tendered advertisement no. RMLIMS / MM(eq)/2019-20/5057/6105/5634 dated 04.01.2020/09.01.2020/04.02.2020 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 afresh 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.**

For detailed information like Name of Equipments, Date of submission, tender fee and opening of tender etc., you may please visit the e-tender portal www.etender.up.nic.in. The offer will be accepted on line only on e-tender portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in tender document. Any amendment will be uploaded only on the e-tender portal www.etender.up.nic.in. Details are also available in our website www.drrmlims.ac.in for reference only.

Director

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION
Solid Waste Management Department

S.W.M.C.No.A7/0670/2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-Tenders are invited for the following work in Single stage two cover system as detailed below.

The Superintending Engineer (SWM), Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), invites on-line tender for "Selection of Concessionaire to process the Wet Waste handed over by the Greater Chennai Corporation and convert into Bio-CNG (100MT Capacity per day) at Madhavaram plant-II in Zone III in DFBOT Model under PPP mode" are available online on **www.tntenders.gov.in** from **06.03.2020** onwards.

Date and time of Pre Bid Meeting	18th March, 2020 at 11.00 A.M.
Last Date and Time of Submission of Bid	08th April, 2020 at 03.00 P.M.
Bid Opening Date and Time	09th April, 2020 at 04.00 P.M.
Cost of Tender Documents and EMD	Cost of tender document: Rs.20,000/- + 12% GST. EMD: Rs.9.75 Lakhs

DIPR/1016/Tender/2020 **Superintending Engineer / SWM**

Government of Arunachal Pradesh
Department of Geology & Mining
Itanagar

File No: DGM/BA/I-ORE/449/2019

Dated: the Itanagar 5th February, 2020

Short Tender Notice

The Department of Geology & Mining, Government of Arunachal Pradesh invites sealed quotations (rates), from BSCIC accredited. ISO 9001 certified credible Mineral survey, Remote Sensing company/ organization/ agency having experience in mineral exploration and Geological investigation and undertaken similar projects in North Eastern States or Hilly Areas for the propose to undertake the work for the Iron Ore Exploration in Laggi-Gamlin & Yomcha Area, West Siang district, Arunachal Pradesh over an area of 500 hectare.
The interested Company/Consultant/Agency may refer to the website **http://arunachalpradesh.gov.in** for details.

Sd/-
(T.Koniya)
Joint Secretary, Geology and Mining
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

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

In the matter of
O.A. NO. 944/2017
BANK OF BARODA Vs **MR. GAUTAM MEHRA & ORS.**
Applicant **Defendants**

To,
D-2 M/s Subhkamna Buildtech Pvt. Ltd. Plot No. GH-05/B, Sector-137, Expressway, Noida, Uttar Pradesh **Also at :** A-80, Sector-2, Noida-201301

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 **27.02.2020** at **10.30 A.M.**
Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **03rd day of December 2019.**

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

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

OA NO.767 / 2019 **Date: 04.02.2020**
UCO BANK .... Applicant
Versus
M/S. MADHAV ENTERPRISES & ANR. .... Respondents

To, (1) M/s. Madhav Enterprises (Through its Proprietor)
Having its Office at: C-21, First Floor, Shivaji Park, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026.
(2) AJAY GOEL, R/o. Flat No.69, Ground Floor, Taj Apartments, Sector-15, Rohini, New Delhi-110085.
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of **Rs.31,84,813.95 (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Thirteen and Paisa Ninety Five Only)** 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 before Ld. Registrar on **04.06.2020 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 Tribunal on this **04th Day of February of 2020.**

SEAL OF COURT

Yours faithfully,
For Registrar

BIHAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION BOARD

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
(Through e-procurement mode only over https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
Tender Notice No.- PR 78/2020

Bihar School Examination Board, Patna invites E-tenders under two bid systems from the reputed, experienced & technologically sound Firms/ Companies/ Agencies/Societies having adequate infrastructure and Experience of **"Selection of Agency for Supply and Printing of Variable Data on Pre-printed Blank Stationary provided by BSEB for Matric and Inter Examination (Annual & Compartmental)-2020 & Other Examinations as per decision of BSEB."**

Scope of Work : Supply and Printing of Variable Data on Pre-printed Blank Stationary provided by BSEB for Matric and Inter Examination (Annual & Compartmental)-2020 & Other Examinations as per decision of BSEB.

Cost of Tender document (In Rupees)	Tender processing Fee (Non Refundable)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)
(inclusive of GST @18.00%) to be paid through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/ Credit Card/Debit card)		
1000/- (One Thousand rupees only)	1180/- (One Thousand One Hundred Eighty rupees only)	1,00,000/- (One Lakh rupees only)

Tender Schedule/ Programme

Date and Time for Activity	Date/Time: Duration
Online Sale/Download date of Tender documents	From 22.02.2020 (11:00 Hrs.) to 07.03.2020 (11:00 Hrs.) (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
Pre-Bid meeting	26.02.2020 at 11:30 Hrs. (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Last Date/Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	07.03.2020 up to 13:00 Hrs. (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
Submission of form fee & EMD in Hard copy/Original	07.03.2020 up to 13:30 Hrs. (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid	07.03.2020 at 14:30 Hrs. (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in) (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Financial Bid Opening Date and Time	Date to be announced later by competent authority.

❖ Detailed descriptions of the items and instructions for submitting your offer can be downloaded from e-tender website **https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.**
❖ For support related to e-tendering process, Bidders may contact at "e- Procurement HELP DESK First Floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road No-25, Sri Krishna Nagar, Patna- 800001, Ph. No: 0612-2523006, Mob- 7542028164" or may visit the link **"Vendor Info"** at **https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.**
❖ Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, will be published on e-Procurement Portal , Bihar **https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in** itself.
❖ **Contact Details:** Sh. Jai Kishore Singh, Nodal officer - +91 6299923095, **E-Mail ID – eproc-bseb-bih@gov.in**
❖ **Note:** - Bihar School Examination Board reserves the right to accept/ reject/reschedule any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.

Secretary

epaper.indianexpress.com

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹42,492	₹71.64	$57.94	₹48,599

*Indian basket as on February 18, 2020

SENSEX: 41,170.12 ▼ 152.88 **NIFTY:** 12,080.85 ▼ 45.05 **NIKKEI:** 23,386.74 ▼ 92.41 **HANG SENG:** 27,308.81 ▼ 300.35 **FTSE:** 7,420.65 ▼ 15.99 **DAX:** 13,646.82 ▼ 17.18

Domestic equity, bond and forex markets were closed on Friday on account of Mahashivratri.. **International market data till 1900 IST

TELECOM LICENCES

Trai for reforms in transfer, merger guidelines, factoring in less players

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE TELECOM Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) on Friday suggested that in case of merger of telcom companies and their licences, only the revenue of the company should be taken into account for other services like national and international long distance telephony. Apart from that, the one-year timeline currently allowed for merger and transfer of licences should exclude the time taken by the companies in litigation, Trai suggested.

The sectoral regulator also suggested that guidelines for such transfers and mergers of licences should not be 'hard code'. The guidelines, Trai suggested, should take into consideration the that from about 14 operators a decade ago, it has come down to just four.

Trai has now released its recommendations on reforming the guidelines for transfer and merger of telecom licences, after the telecom department in May 2019 sought its views on enabling simplification and fast-tracking of approvals.

Trai's suggestions range from marketshare math to approval timelines, and other terms.

Trai noted that the guidelines should be seen in the backdrop of consolidation in the market from 12-14 service providers a decade ago to four operators now, the National Digital Communication Policy's thrust on speedy approvals and the delays in mergers being taken on record.

"The authority recommends that for computing market share of an NSO (Network Service Operators) in the relevant market, market share of the VNO (virtual network operator) parented with it should be added to the market share of NSO, if the NSO is a promoter of VNO," Trai said.

The virtual network operators can provide telecom services like mobile landline, internet, but only as a retailer for full-fledged telecom operators.

"For calculation of one year that is time period allowed for transfer/merger of various licenses in different service areas subsequent to the approval of the Tribunal/Company Judge, the time spent in pursuing any litigation on account of which the final approval of a merger is delayed, should be excluded," Trai said.

This would protect the rights of a telecom operators to pursue remedies in court and also ensure that the period of one year does not become redundant for no fault of companies on account of pendency of an issue before a court, one of the stakeholders cited by Trai had submitted. Another provision of the acquisition guidelines which provides an exemption from substantial equity/cross holding clause for a period of one year or more should be modified such that the said exemption is provided only for a period till transfer/merger of licence is taken on record by the licensor (telecom department), Trai recommended.

It also suggested that both the number of subscribers as well as Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) should be considered for determining the marketshare in case of services like access, internet and VSAT. And that only AGR should be considered for determining the marketshare for rest of the services like national and international long distance, and resale of international private leased circuits.

The authority recommends that guidelines should explicitly mention that consequent upon payment of market determined price for spectrum, such spectrum would be treated as liberalised, that is technology neutral. Trai has reiterated its recommendation if a transferor firm holds a part of spectrum which has been assigned against entry fee, the resultant entity should be liable to pay differential amount for the spectrum assigned against the entry fee paid by the transferor, from the date that the DoT approves the transfer/merger. **WITH PTI**

'SHOULD NOT BE HARD CODE'

- **The sector regulator also suggested that the one-year timeline currently allowed for transfer/merger of licences in different service areas after National Company Law Tribunal nod should exclude time spent by companies in pursuing any litigation on account of which the final approval of a merger is delayed**
- **Trai recommended that the guidelines on transfer/merger of licences should not 'hard code' (that is, explicitly specify) the spectrum caps. Instead, it should be linked with the relevant clause of the licence**

'Despite decline in gross NPAs, impaired assets of banks at ₹16.88 lakh crore'

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

TOTAL IMPAIRED assets of the banking sector have remained at Rs 16,88,600 crore, or 15.7 per cent of the total advances of banks, as of December 2019, despite a decline in gross non-performing assets (NPAs) to Rs 910,800 crore, or 9.2 per cent of the advances, according to the latest report from global banking group Credit Suisse.

Impaired assets of banks include both gross NPAs — loans that are due for repayment after 90 days and NPAs written off by lenders. Total write-offs since FY2014 have amounted to Rs 777,800 crore, 7.3 per cent of the total bank advances, as per the data. "System gross NPAs have continued to moderate and are down to 9.2 per cent versus 11.7 per cent in FY18. While part of this has been driven by improved recoveries, a large part continues to be led by increasing write-offs," it said.

The global banking group has forecast a rise in bad loans in the coming months from the banking sector's total loan portfolio of around Rs 93,55,900 crore. It said the second wave of slippages was visible in the third quarter as slippages jumped to 1.5 per cent of loans as both corporate slippage (Dewan Housing Finance Corporation) as well as non-corporate (SME and agriculture) saw an increase. Strong recoveries through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (IBC) route were able to partly offset the slippage, and gross NPA was stable at 9.2 per cent. "Given residual stress (2-3 per cent of loans) as well as stress in the telecom and SME segments, we expect gross NPA to move up," Credit Suisse said.

Bankers say a substantial portion of the write-off is technical in nature, but they remain outside the NPA books. It is primarily intended at cleansing the balance sheet and achieving taxation efficiency. In 'Technically Written Off' accounts, loans are written off from the books at the Head Office, without foregoing the right to recovery. Further, write-offs are generally carried out against accumulated provisions made for such loans. Once recovered, the provisions made for those loans flow back into the profit and loss account of banks, the RBI had said in an explanatory note.

Several experts, however, said it's difficult to say whether the decline in gross NPAs was due to loan write-offs, saying recoveries could have added to the decline in NPAs. "A part of write-offs in the past gets recovered which can skew the picture. In FY19, for instance, for PSU banks there were write-offs of Rs 1.83 lakh crore but reduction in NPAs was Rs 1.33 lakh crore," said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist, Care Ratings.

According to banking sources, very little is known about the identity of the borrowers and the amount written off in the case of individual borrowers. While banks claim that the recovery measures continue even after loans are written off, sources said not more than 15-20 per cent is recovered and the write-off figures every year are rising, much faster than recoveries and recapitalisation.

The RBI had told banks that they are required to extinguish all available means of recovery before writing off any account fully or partly. Some banks are resorting to technical write-off of accounts, which reduces incentives to recover. Banks resorting to partial and technical write-offs should not show the remaining part of the loan as standard asset, the RBI had said in an earlier circular to banks.

Meanwhile, gross slippages in the last quarter (December) have moved up across banks and remained elevated at 1-3 per cent of loans.

On loan growth, Credit Suisse said, "With private bank growth down to 12 per cent versus 20 per cent a year ago and PSU bank growth remaining muted at 4 per cent YoY. The slowdown was evident in both corporate as well as retail segments. Given liquidity constraints, as the credit crunch continues, NBFC disbursements are still not growing and growth stayed muted at 7 per cent even as some of the perceived stronger NBFCs saw a pick-up in growth."

On non-banking financial companies, Credit Suisse said bond spreads for NBFCs have started declining, especially post RBI's recent policy announcement, with spreads for better-rated NBFCs (AAA rated) declining 15-20 bps. However, spreads for weaker-perceived NBFCs continue to see higher borrowing cost vis-a-vis stronger perceived NBFCs, it said.

TOTAL WRITE-OFFS SINCE FY2014 AT 7.3% OF TOTAL BANK ADVANCES

(As of Dec 2019)

	SBI	PSU (ex-SBI)	Pvt banks	Total
Gross NPAs	1,597	6,065	1,446	9,108
Net NPAs	582	2,218	558	3,359
Write-offs (Since FY14)	2,312	4,556	910	7,778
Impaired assets (NPAs + write-offs)	3,909	10,621	2,356	16,886
Total bank loans	21,999	38,338	33,222	93,559

Figures in ₹billion; Source: Credit Suisse

Test aviation personnel for psychoactive substances, suggests DGCA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE DIRECTORATE General of Civil Aviation has for the first time proposed testing of aviation personnel for psychoactive substances such as cannabis, opioids and their variants, officials said on Friday.

The civil aviation watchdog stated that once the regulations are finalized, flight crew members and air traffic controllers (ATCs) would be subjected to this examination at six airports -- Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad -- in the first phase.

The tests would consist of screening test and a confirmatory test. Screening test will be carried out at the airport or the ATC complex and will be recorded on video.

If a person is found positive in the screening test, then the confirmatory test will be carried out in one of the DGCA-approved laboratories.

The testing would be done at random under the supervision of the DGCA officers of and will cover 10 per cent of employees of each organisation in a period of one year, the regulator noted.

For the testing, personnel's urine sample would be used, it added. If any person is found positive in the screening test, he or she will be removed from safety sensitive duties till the results of the confirmatory test are received, the regulator stated.

If the confirmatory test is also positive then the person will be subjected to rehabilitation and will return to active duties only after having undergone the tests for the consumption of the psychoactive substance, clearance by treating psychiatrist and the certification by the Chief Medical Officer of the organisation concerned.

Coronavirus outbreak: Bane for supply chains, boon for some domestic industries

The novel coronavirus (n-CoV) outbreak in China is bad news for Indian importers, with supply disruptions hitting key segments. Exports to China are taking a hit, too, However, it may benefit certain domestic industries, according to Crisil

Who benefits
Sectors that are highly import dependent from China, such as ceramics and plastics, are expected to benefit Indian domestic manufacturers, with import volumes reducing. Moreover, India's steel, paper, leather and textile readymade garments (RMG) segments have a window of opportunity to expand exports, as China's own exports from these sectors account for a sizeable pie in global trade, which now stand impacted due to n-CoV.

The fact is, other countries including India do not potentially have the scale or size to take material advantage of the opportunities available due to disruption in Chinese supplies.

How n-CoV is playing out on different sectors in India (base case)

	ADVANTAGE		DISADVANTAGE	
	Aluminium*	Steel	Auto parts	Electronics
Market size (FY19)	₹560 bn	₹5,000 bn	₹3,590 bn	₹5,300 bn
India's sector-wise share in market size (CY19)	47% / 7%	9% / 10%	19% / 18%	6% / 31%
China's share in India's sector trade (CY19) Based on value terms	1% / 2%	2% / 17%	2% / 18%	8% / 67%
% China sectorwise exports to World (CY18) Based on value terms	3%	18%	9%	50%
Sector-wise share in China export basket (CY18) Based on value terms	<1%	2%	3%	21%

■ Export ■ Import

Aluminium Note: Considered select HS Codes of 76
** Refers to secondary aluminium sector*
Auto Note: Considered select HS Codes of 40, 70, 73, 83, 84, 85, 87, 90
Steel Note: Considered select HS Codes of 72
Electronics Note: Considered select HS Codes of 85

MAJOR SEGMENTS OF INDIA-CHINA TRADE IN CALENDAR 2019

Imports from China (~18% of India's imports)	% imports from China	Exports to China (~9% of India's exports)	% exports to China
Electrical machinery	34	Gems and jewellery	36
Nuclear reactors and machinery	18	Mineral and ores	15
Organic chemicals	10	Organic chemicals	11
Gems and jewellery	6	Sea food	5
Iron and Steel	4	Electrical machinery	4
Plastic goods	4	Cotton	4
Fertilisers	2	Plastic	3
Medical equipment	2	Nuclear reactors and machinery	3
Automobiles & components	2	Iron & steel	3
Chemicals, etc.	2	Salt	2
Total of above	84	Total of above	86
Grand total (₹ crore)	603,631	Grand total (₹ crore)	206,896
Grand total ($ billion)	86.2	Grand total ($ billion)	29.5

Note: China includes Hong Kong *Source: Intracen*

***Credit profiles:** The credit profiles of firms in sectors such as automotive components, renewables (solar) and diamonds could get impacted if the supply disruption continues beyond March.*

***However,** sectors such as aluminium in India will be unable to meet the void created by China's virus problem in global trade, as they either are running at peak utilisation or face capability issues.*

Source: CRISIL

Flipkart moves Karnataka HC against CCI investigation

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

FLIPKART HAS filed a writ petition in the Karnataka High Court seeking a stay on the "operation, effect and implementation" of the Competition Commission of India's (CCI) order asking its director general to investigate Flipkart's alleged business practice of deep-discounting, preferential listing of sellers and exclusive pacts.

Though the high court on February 14 had issued an interim stay order against the probe based on rival Amazon's plea, procedure demanded that Flipkart also file a petition as it is a respondent and party in the matter. Flipkart, in its February 18 petition, said there is more than a strong prima facie case that the impugned order is "ex facie illegal" and is liable to be set aside in as much as it "fails to meet the basic/essential jurisdictional prerequisites under section 26(1) of the Competition Act". Section 26(1) of the Act establishes that there is a prima facie case for probing a matter.

Flipkart argued that by passing the impugned order, CCI has contradicted its own orders and precedents wherein it had dismissed similar allegations raised against the petitioner (Flipkart).

Further, the company said the CCI had initiated a market study on e-commerce in India wherein it has repeatedly advocated a non-interventionist and self-regulation approach towards e-commerce players in the country. "It is respectfully submitted that the CCI cannot alter its stand from time to time," the firm said in the petition. "... We are a party to the CCI order and a respondent in Amazon's writ against the order. Given this position and the High Court stay, as a procedural matter, we are also filing a writ," a Flipkart spokesperson said.

On February 10, Amazon had filed a similar petition in the high court stating that the findings established by the impugned order are "perverse, arbitrary, untenable in law". On February 14, the High Court had stayed the CCI probe observing that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has already initiated probe into Amazon and Flipkart's operational activities alleged to be in contravention of the FDI policy in e-commerce. **FE**

On February 10, Amazon filed a similar petition in the high court stating that the findings established by the impugned order are "perverse, arbitrary, untenable in law"

Global stocks slide as coronavirus fears spur safe-haven buying; oil falls 2%

REUTERS
NEW YORK/LONDON, FEBRUARY 21

GLOBAL EQUITY markets slumped on Friday as the fast-spreading coronavirus drove investors into safe-havens, with gold hitting a fresh seven-year high and the yield on the 30-year US Treasury sliding to an all-time low.

The CBOE market volatility index, the market's "fear gauge," rose more than 10 per cent in the biggest single-day jump since late January. Crude oil prices slid about 1 per cent and the US dollar fell across the board.

Heading into the weekend, investors have decided to book some profits on the possibility of more coronavirus news, said JJ Kinahan, chief market strategist at TD Ameritrade. MSCI's gauge of stocks across the globe shed 0.54 per cent and emerging market stocks lost 0.95 per cent.

The pan-European STOXX 600 index lost 0.49 per cent as shares fell from record highs on Thursday. A raft of disappointing earnings added to fears about the global impact of the coronavirus outbreak. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 168.93 points, or 0.58 per cent, to 29,051.05 at mid-day, the S&P 500 lost 25.45 points, or 0.75 per cent, to 3,347.78 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 108.96 points, or 1.12 per cent, to 9,642.01.

Yields on the benchmark 10-year US Treasury note fell below 1.5 per cent for the first time since early September, while the 30-year long bond fell to 1.892 per cent, an all-time low.

Meanwhile, oil prices fell on Friday as a rise in new cases of coronavirus and weak Asian economic data fuelled uncertainty about the economic outlook and as major crude producers showed no rush to cut output. Brent crude was down $1.20, or 2 per cent, at $58.11 a barrel by 1136 GMT, while US crude dropped $1.02, or 1.9 per cent, at $52.86 a barrel.

Jack Ma teams up with Columbia University for cure

New Delhi: Co-founder and former executive chairman of Alibaba group Jack Ma has pledged over $2 million to support the development of antiviral drugs to combat the new coronavirus which has killed 2,236 people in the country and infected more than 75,000 others. **REUTERS**

Tax deductions for sales promotions, gifts of pharma companies on Madras HC radar

PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES in India claiming tax deductions for "sales promotion" as well as "gifts" are on the radar of the Madras High Court for potential unethical medical practices.

The court in January had suo moto decided to look into issues like bribing of doctors and overpricing of drugs by pharmaceutical companies. According to the details furnished to the court so far, "it is evident" that over 8,000 companies had claimed income tax deductions under the categories of "sales promotion expenses" and "Gift". "Totally, 8,667 companies have claimed the said deduction. This court is aware that thousands of pharmaceutical companies are existing in India," stated a bench of Justices N Kirubakaran and P Velmurugan in their order on February 17.

The court has now asked the central government to submit details of the number of pharmaceutical companies existing in India since 2015. It has also asked the Income Tax department to provide details of the number of companies that have claimed deduction towards promotional expenses from that year onwards.

The court's observations in January were brought on during a case involving a tax dispute with Chennai headquartered pharma company Fourrts (India) Labs Pvt Ltd, which had claimed deductions of Rs 5.46 crore as licences and taxes and Rs 42.82 lakh towards "sales promotion expenses", including payments to doctors to promote the company's medicine brands. In the course of the proceedings, the court had decided it was imperative to suo moto consider "the larger issues of bribing of doctors and overpricing of drugs by pharmaceutical companies, as they directly affect citizens", violating their rights under the Constitution of India.

"From the facts mentioned...it is clear that even though it is prohibited under law, the pharmaceutical companies are still promoting their drugs by providing gifts, travel facilities, hospitality, cash or monetary grant to the doctors to promote their brand medicines. It is also proved that drugs are overpriced illegally by the companies. It is shocking and surprising to note that the company (Fourrts) claimed deduction from Income Tax for the amount spent towards sale promotion expenses as well as for licences & Taxes," stated the court in its last order in January.

The case assumes significance as it comes at a time when the Department of Pharmaceuticals has been directing pharmaceutical companies to strictly adhere to its Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices. The code is currently voluntary, but DoP Secretary in December is learnt to have held a meeting with pharma industry representatives, telling them to implement the code otherwise it may be made a statutory provision. A report by NGO Support for Advocacy and Training to Health last year had suggested that pharma companies had given doctors expensive perks like foreign trips and, in some instances, even women, for prescribing their brands.

EXPLAINED

Code for ethical practices voluntary

WHILE THE code for ethical pharma marketing practices is currently voluntary in India, the judiciary's scrutiny might help tighten the noose around those getting tax exemptions despite flouting norms by providing bribes to doctors for pushing their products.

Past cess surplus to halve states' GST deficit in FY20

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE CENTRE will use about Rs 28,000 crore of the Rs 47,271 crore absorbed by the Consolidated Fund of India in FY18-FY19 period as 'surplus' revenue from the GST compensation cess to reduce the state governments' GST revenue shortfall in FY20. Even after this, the states' GST revenue (SGST) in FY20 will be some Rs 28,000 crore short of the level they would have achieved under the 14 per cent 'guaranteed' annual growth formula.

Some Rs 20,000 crore of the surplus that merged with the CFI was used to bridge states' shortfall in the final months of FY19.

Given the wide gap between the GST compensation fund and the funds required to compensate the states' GST revenue shortfall, there has been considerable friction between the Centre and state governments in recent months. While states wanted the Centre to meet its 'constitutional obligation', the Centre remained ambivalent on how the issue would be tackled. Clarity on the Centre's stand emerged when, in her Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, "It is decided to transfer to the GST compensation fund balances due out of collection of the years (2017-18 and 2018-19), in two instalments. Hereinafter, transfers to the fund would be limited only to collection by way of GST compensation cess."

Some states are threatening to move the Supreme Court against the Centre's decision. Kerala finance minister Thomas Isaac said the state government would approach the apex court under Article 131 to secure the pending GST compensation from the Centre. West Bengal finance minister Amit Mitra had said that it was for the Central government to devise a mechanism for payment of compensation to states under GST, if the fund set up for the purpose ran dry, given the silence of the relevant law on an alternative mechanism.

Of the Rs 47,271 crore ploughed back from CFI, Rs 41,624 crore has already been distributed to states. The balance will likely be disbursed by March-end.

The guaranteed level of SGST revenue in the current fiscal is Rs 6.70 lakh crore. The Centre's Budgeted GST revenue (CGST, compensation cess), according to the revised estimate, is Rs 6.12 lakh crore, as against the original estimate (BE) of Rs 6.63 lakh crore.

The gross GST collections averaged at Rs 1.02 lakh crore/month in the April-January period. The collections fell woefully short of estimates in earlier months, but these have picked up in December-January. It is expected that with the aggressive drive to boost revenue with restrictions on undue input tax credit claims and improved compliance, the collections would be robust enough in February-March period for the Centre to meet the revised estimate. **FE**

USING SURPLUS REVENUE

₹28,000 cr

The Centre will use about Rs 28,000 crore of the Rs 47,271 crore absorbed by the Consolidated Fund of India in FY18-FY19 period as 'surplus' revenue from the GST compensation cess to reduce the state governments' GST revenue shortfall in FY20

J&K GLOBAL INVESTORS' SUMMIT ROADSHOW

'Will ensure investment is not held hostage to law & order disturbances'

MAYURA JANWALKAR
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

EVEN AS curbs on the use of internet prevail in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Kewal Kumar Sharma, advisor to the J&K lieutenant governor, on Friday said the administration will take steps to enable businesses that depend on the Internet to ensure that it is not held hostage to law and order disruptions. Sharma was among senior J&K bureaucrats who were in Mumbai on Friday as part of a roadshow ahead of the Jammu and Kashmir Global Investors Summit in May.

"In today's business environment, all kinds of connectivity are needed. That will be provided. We will work out the regimes to secure that in case there are businesses that operate only on Internet... we will have arrangements, we will work on technical methodologies so that the investment that is coming to the state is not held hostage to law and order disturbances, if any, in the future," Sharma said.

Asked if curbs on the use of the Internet are a concern among investors, Sharma said: "Internet restrictions have been eased over the last month. Every fortnight there is a review. Whatever residual restrictions are there, are being eased off. It's only a temporary thing because the situation is becoming much better, it is more normal now. At the same time, the restrictions that remain are there so that people don't make use of the Internet to create disorder. This matter was also raised before the SC. We are confident that in the coming months, we will be able to further minimise the restrictions."

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu with Kotak Mahindra Bank Executive Vice Chairman & MD Uday Kotak in Mumbai on Friday. *Ganesh Shirsekar*

Aiming at securing investments worth Rs 2 lakh crore in the next 10 years, senior bureaucrats from the Union Territory on Friday invited investors from Mumbai to set up shop in J&K.

Presentations made at the roadshow, the third such after Bengaluru and Kolkata, spoke of 14 focus areas including tourism, infrastructure, real estate, food processing, horticulture, film, information technology, education and skill development, in which the administration encouraged investments. Investors were also told that with a "strong government" at the Centre and a "secure future", J&K was now one of the safest places to do business in the nation.

From the Mumbai roadshow, held in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry, Sharma said J&K expected investment pledge of over Rs 1,000 crore. At the Bengaluru and Kolkata roadshows, the investor interest was to the tune of Rs 600 crore and Rs 2,000 crore, respectively, he added. On the sidelines of the roadshow, J&K Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu met with industry leaders, including Uday Kotak, executive vice chairman and managing director at Kotak Mahindra Bank, in Mumbai.

J&K Finance Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta said the private sector has a huge investment opportunity in J&K. He claimed that reports of J&K's economy coming to a halt after Article 370 of the Constitution was diluted and the erstwhile state was declared a Union Territory were "totally incorrect". "Look at the GST growth in December. We were at 40 per cent month to month, highest in the country. In February, we are likely to be around 30 per cent... If we are at 30 per cent, we will again be highest in the country. So, GST growth at the moment is roughly in the order of 12 per cent, that puts us in the best category among states and UTs. While problems have been there, the growth story is there."

According to a preliminary economic loss assessment report released by the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry in January, J&K's economy had suffered a loss of Rs 17,878.18 crore between August 5, 2019 and December 3, 2019.

BRIEFLY

Gold futures jump ₹433 on widening bets

New Delhi: Gold prices on Friday jumped Rs 433 to Rs 42,472 per 10 gram in futures trade as speculators widened their bets driven by firm trend overseas. The trading in the first half was closed on account of 'Mahashivratri'. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for April traded higher by Rs 433, or 1.03 per cent, to Rs 42,472 per 10 gram in a business turnover of 1,354 lots. The yellow metal for June delivery climbed Rs 411, or 0.97 per cent, to Rs 42,649 per 10 gram in a business turnover of 109 lots. Fresh positions built up by participants on positive cues from global markets mainly led to rise in gold prices, analysts said.

'Bharti Infratel, Indus Towers merger okayed'

New Delhi: The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Friday approved the merger of the country's largest mobile tower company Indus Towers with Bharti Infratel, according to official sources. The combination of Bharti Infratel and Indus Towers will create a pan-India tower company with over 163,000 towers, operating across all 22 telecom service areas. The combined entity will be the largest tower company in the world outside China. "DoT has approved merger of Indus Towers with Bharti Infratel," an official source said.

Wipro Digital buys Rational Interaction

New Delhi: Wipro Digital, the digital business unit of IT major Wipro, on Friday said it has acquired digital customer experience firm Rational Interaction. Wipro Digital didn't disclose the acquisition amount. "The acquisition will scale Wipro Digital's offering for Chief Marketing Officers, connecting Rational Interaction's ability to map and orchestrate the customer journey with Wipro Digital's ability to design and build experiences at global scale," a statement said. **PTI**

Govt in favour of amendments to competition law; seeks comments

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THE GOVERNMENT has proposed various amendments to competition law, including a provision for persons to seek settlement of ongoing cases.

The draft bill to amend the Competition Act, 2002, has been made public more than six months after an expert panel suggested sweeping changes to the law.

In the bill, prepared by the corporate affairs ministry, provision for settlement of cases has been proposed, among others.

In certain cases, a person can submit an application in writing to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) proposing settlement of the proceeding initiated for the alleged contraventions, as per the bill.

Kuroda says virus impact likely biggest topic at G20 meeting

REUTERS
TOKYO, FEBRUARY 21

THE IMPACT of the new coronavirus outbreak on global growth will be a key issue at this weekend's meeting of G20 finance leaders, Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda said, underscoring growing concern over the fallout from the epidemic.

Kuroda said it was not yet time to discuss whether additional monetary easing was needed to prevent the virus outbreak from damaging Japan's economic recovery.

But the BOJ stood ready to take additional steps "without hesitation" as needed, he told lawmakers before departing for the Group of 20 finance gathering in Riyadh that kicks off on Saturday.

"The biggest topic on the agenda at this weekend's G20 meeting will probably be how the coronavirus will affect the global economy. I'd like to fully exchange information and opinions there."

Kuroda said Japan's economy is likely to continue a moderate expansion as temporary factors such as a pullback in demand after an Oct. 1 sales tax hike, typhoon and warm winter taper off. But he warned that the new virus poses a major uncertainty to the economic outlook by hurting China-bound exports, output and inbound tourism.

The virus has killed more than 2,200 people in mainland China and its fallout has paralysed the world's second-biggest economy, which has in turn disrupted trade, supply chains and Chinese tourism.

IATA: Coronavirus may slash $29 bn from airlines' revenue

Tokyo: The outbreak of the new virus threatens to erase $29 billion of this year's revenue for global airlines, mostly for Chinese carriers, as travel crashes worldwide, according to the International Air Transport Association.

It said on Thursday the virus causing COVID-19 has the potential for causing a 13 per cent decline in demand for Asian carriers this year.

The contraction comes at a time Asian airlines' sales had been growing, the group said. Global air traffic will be reduced by 4.7 per cent for the year, marking the first overall decline since the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009, IATA said. **AP**

Mahindra Renewables to sell entire stake in 3 arms for nearly ₹340 cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

MAHINDRA & Mahindra on Friday said its wholly-owned arm Mahindra Renewables will sell its entire stake in three subsidiaries to CLP India, a part of Hong Kong-based CLP Group, for nearly Rs 340 crore.

Mahindra Renewables Pvt Ltd (MRPL) has on Friday agreed to sell its entire stake aggregating 100 per cent of the paid-up equity share capital in Cleansolar Renewable Energy Pvt Ltd (CREPL), Divine Solren Pvt Ltd (DSPL) and Neo Solren Pvt Ltd (NSPL), wholly-owned subsidiaries of MRPL, to CLP India Pvt Ltd (CLP), Mahindra & Mahindra said in a regulatory filing.

As per the share purchase agreement, CLP will acquire 96,23,000 equity shares of Rs 10 each in CREPL at a price of Rs 113.11 per share, aggregating to Rs 108.85 crore.

NCAER pegs GDP at 4.9% in 2019-20

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

THINK TANK National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on Friday pegged the economic growth for the current fiscal at 4.9 per cent, a tad down from 5 per cent estimated by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

However, for 2020-21, the NCEAR expects the Indian economy to improve its growth rate to 5.6 per cent.

Indian economy grew by 6.1 per cent in 2018-19.

"GDP growth is forecast to be 4.9 per cent in Q3: 2019-20, and 5.1 per cent in Q4: 2019-20. The annual growth rates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 are forecast to be 4.9 per cent and 5.6 per cent, respectively," an NCEAR statement said.

The NSO as well as the RBI has projected the GDP growth rate at 5 per cent for the current fiscal.

The NCEAR has indicated some improvement in the fourth quarter of the current financial year.

Elaborating further it said, "Due to better rainfall in the monsoon as well as the post-monsoon seasons and considerable improvement in the storage of water in major reservoirs of the country, the prospects for growth in the agricultural sector remain bright."

Both the Ministry of Agriculture's second advance estimates and NCAER's own estimates point to higher agricultural output in the current fiscal versus the previous year.

This should also lead to lowering of food inflation in the coming months, which has otherwise remained high due to the lower than expected output of a few commodities, particularly vegetables and pulses, it added.

3 KEY POINTS

1. For 2020-21, the NCEAR expects the economy to improve its growth rate to 5.6%.
2. The NSO as well as the RBI has projected the GDP growth rate at 5 per cent for the current fiscal.
3. The NCEAR has indicated some improvement in the fourth quarter of the current financial year.

GMR-ADP deal for airport biz gets CCI nod

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

COMPETITION COMMISSION of India has given approval for GMR group's proposed 49 per cent stake sale in its airport business to France's Groupe ADP.

The regulator's clearance is through the green channel, which allows for an automatic system for speedy approval of combinations, subject to certain conditions.

On Thursday, GMR Infrastructure said the French group would acquire 49 per cent stake in its airport business for Rs 10,780 crore, a deal that will help the domestic entity reduce its debt burden.

EU looks to nudge down spending plans to break Budget deadlock

Brussels: European Union leaders were looking on Friday to rein in their proposed spending from 2021 in a bid to break a budget deadlock that pits the bloc's few wealthy net contributors against their poorer peers who benefit from handouts. Some 24 hours of talks between leaders have failed to bridge divisions over the size of their next seven-year budget and how to spend it. Denmark, Austria, Sweden and the Netherlands have dug in their heels, insisting that spending not top 1 per cent of output. **REUTERS**

प्लाज़्मा भौतिकी केन्द्र - प्लाज़्मा अनुसंधान संस्थान
Centre of Plasma Physics
Institute for Plasma Research
NAZIRAKHAT, SONAPUR-782 402, KAMRUP (M), ASSAM
फोन Phone: 0361-2220010, 2313116, फैक्स Fax: 0361-2313110
विज्ञापन संख्या Advt. No. 02/2020
CPP-IPR INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS
Centre of Plasma Physics-Institute for Plasma Research (CPP-IPR), Sonapur-782 402 is a centre of Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhinagar, an aided institute of Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India. Applications are invited from highly motivated students to pursue doctoral research in the broad areas of experimental, computational and theoretical plasma physics.
Educational Qualifications: M.Sc. in one of the following subjects: Physics, Engineering Physics and Applied Physics with a minimum aggregate of 60%. Students must have Physics and Mathematics at the under graduate level.
For more details regarding Eligibility Criteria, Age limit, Stipend and general information, visit Institute's website www.cppipr.res.in.
Application Procedure: Interested candidates can apply with a typed application format which can be downloaded from institute's website www.cppipr.res.in. Last date of submission of application is 31.03.2020.
Sd/-Acting Centre Director

INDRAPRASTHA POWER GENERATION COMPANY LTD.
GM (C&M) Pragati Power Station, I.P. Estate Ring Road, New Delhi-110002
Telepone: 11-23370541
E-mail: solaripgcl1@gmail.com, Website: www.ipgcl-ppcl.gov.in
NIT No. 12 / 2019-20
TENDER NOTICE
Expression of Interest (EOI) for Empanelment of Vendors invited for Delhi DISCOMs for installation of 24 MW Rooftop Solar PV Project for domestic sectors in the state of Delhi
RfS documents for Empanelment of aggregate capacity of 24.0 MW Grid Connected Roof Top Solar PV System for Installations in Domestic Sector for Delhi Discom's (BRPL,BYPL,TPDDL) with 10 Nos. of different categories under CAPEX and RESCO Mode have been uploaded on E-tender web Portal of ITI Limited (A Govt. of India Undertaking) https://ipgcl.euniwizarde.com/ details as under.

Category	Proposed Capacity	Aggregate Capacity	Project Cost
CAPEX-A	1 KW to 3 KW	1.5 MW	INR 8.1 Cr.
CAPEX-B	Above 3 KW to 10 KW	1.5 MW	INR 8.1 Cr.
CAPEX-C	Above 10 KW to 100 KW	3.0 MW	INR 14.4 Cr.
CAPEX-D	Above 100 KW to 500 KW	3.0 MW	INR 13.5 Cr.
CAPEX-E	1 KW to 3 KW Elevated	1.5 MW	INR 8.1 Cr.
CAPEX-F	Above 3 KW to 10 KW (Elevated Structure)	1.5 MW	INR 8.1 Cr.
RESCO-A	25 KW to 100 KW	3.0 MW	INR 14.4 Cr.
RESCO-B	Above 100 KW to 500 KW	3.0 MW	INR 13.5 Cr.
RESCO-C	25 KW to 100 KW (Elevated Structure)	3.0 MW	INR 14.4 Cr.
RESCO-D	Above 100 KW to 500 KW (Elevated Structure)	3.0 MW	INR 13.5 Cr.

Pre-Bid Meeting Date: 28.02.2020 at 10.00 Hrs
Last date of Bid submission for CAPEX A, B, C, D, E&F: 13.03.2020.
Last date of Bid submission for RESCO A, B, C & D: 30.03.2020.
Interested bidders have to submit their bids after logging into the ITI Limited website by using the Login ID and password provided by ITI Limited during registration, details of persons to be contacted in case of any assistance required Mr. Sanjeet Kumar Jha - +91 8882495599, 011-49606060 (e-Wizard System).
Detailed Notification which includes Eligibility criteria, Technical Specifications, various conditions of this notification, formats, etc. are also available on IPGCL website www.ipgcl-ppcl.gov.in.
BSES BSES TATA POWER-DDL
Sd/- GM (C&M), IPGCL
PR-14 Visit our website at : www.ipgcl-ppcl.nic.in

IISER भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
Established by the Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India | Transit Campus: Govt. ITI Berhampur-760010
Tender No. IISERBpr/S&P/2019-20/95 February 20, 2020
Director, IISER Berhampur (Odisha) invites e-bids from eligible and interested manpower agencies for providing manpower services for engagement of suitable candidates in various temporary outsourced jobs at IISER Berhampur. EMD Rs.360000/- Prebid meeting on 27.2.2020 and last date for submission of e-bids 12.3.2020. For details and tender document refer http://www.iiserbpr.ac.in/tender.php and https://eprocure.gov.in. For bidding process refer https://www.tenderwizard.com/IISERBP.
DIRECTOR, IISER BERHAMPUR

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office: First Floor, No.8, Mayor Sathyamurthy Road, FSD, Egmore Complex of Food Corporation of India, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031
Corp. Office: Block-1, Neyveli-607 801, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu
CIN No.: L93090TN1956GOI003507, Website: www.nlcindia.com
CREATING WEALTH FOR WELLBEING
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES (e-Tender Notices Sl.No.1 to 5)
Sl.No. Tender Ref./Scope of Supplies & Qty. Reqd.
1. UNIT:M.M.COMPLEX: ENQ/19-20/003410/MM03(01) dt.18.02.2020: Under Carriage set for BEML BE 700 Hydraulic Excavator. Qty.: 2 Nos. Due date of opening: 17.03.2020
2. ENQ/19-20/003417/MM23(01) dt.18.02.2020: 1000 GPM 150m head submersible pump: 5 set. Due date of opening: 16.03.2020
3. PTE:ENQ/19-20/003419/MM18(06) dt.18.02.2020: Procurement of Bacillus Thuringiensis Israelensis (Bti strain) BIOCIDE- 2100 Ltrs. Due date of opening: 19.03.2020
4. PTE:ENQ/19-20/003421/MM18(06) dt.18.02.2020: Procurement of dissolved acetylene gas conforming to IS : 308/1988 at 27 deg.c 70000 Cubic Meters. Due date of opening: 19.03.2020
5. GTE No.ENQ/19-20/003295/MM01(01) dt.17.02.2020: Toothed Gear Rim Segment for Man SPR. Qty.: 10 Nos. Due date of opening: 17.03.2020
FOR e-TENDER DOCUMENTS/ DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: www.nlcindia.com
PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS : HELP IT TO HELP YOU

INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS
IUCAA
(An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission)
Post Bag - 4, Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Ganesh Khind, Pune - 7. Phone : 25604100 / 25691414 Fax : 25604699
Tender Notice
Supply, Installation , Testing & Commissioning of 320 KVA D G Set at IUCAA, Pune
The Director, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics, Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Ganeshkhind, Pune – 411007, invites Technical & Financial bids for "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 320 KVA D G Set at IUCAA, Pune", from reputed vendors.
Interested vendors may view and download the tender document from Central Public Procurement Portal http://eprocure.gov.in/ eprocure/app, and the same is also available on IUCAA's website https://www.iucaa.in/tenders.
The tender document has to be submitted through CPPP only.
IUCAA reserves the right to reject any or all of the tenders without assigning any reasons.
Administrative Officer (Purchase)

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
E-TENDERS NOTICE
Online percentage/lteme rate tenders are invited through e-tender portal by AGM (Engg -Civil), LBSI Airport, Varanasi on behalf of Chairman, AAI from the eligible contractors for the works of (1). Repair & Maintenance Contract for civil works for Non-Operational Areas (i.e. Residential colony/Car-parking/ancillary buildings etc.) at LBSI Airport, Varanasi (2020-22) [2020_AAI_41910_1] for an estimate cost of Rs. 150 Lakhs (Excluding GST) with completion period 24 (twenty four) months. (2). Repair & Maintenance Contract for civil works of New & Old Terminal Building at LBSI Airport, Varanasi (2020-22) [2020_AAI_41911_1] for an estimate cost of Rs. 150 Lakhs (Excluding GST) with completion period 24 (twenty four) months. (3). Repair & Maintenance Contract of civil works for Operational Area at LBSI Airport, Varanasi (2020-22) [2020_AAI_41912_1] for an estimate cost of Rs. 100 Lakhs (Excluding GST) with completion period 24 (twenty four) months. (4).Construction of 6 High Dependency Units (HDU) and 2 Intensive Care Units (ICU) Hospital near LBSI Airport Varanasi [2020_AAI_43403_1] for an estimate cost of Rs. 247.77 Lakhs(Excluding GST)with completion period 08 (Nine) Months i/c one month rainy season.
The last date & time of sale & submission of ebids of above all works are 02.03.2020 upto 1800hrs. For detailed information, clarification/ corrigendum, log on to CPP e-Procurement Portal https://etenders.gov.in /eprocure/app or www.aai.aero

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR
No. NIT/2019-20/32816-25 Date 20.02.2020
ई निविदा सूचना संख्या-359/19-20
निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिये केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार के अभियांत्रिकी विभागों द्वारा पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:

	कार्य का विवरण	आरक्षित राशि (रु.)
1.	Remaining work of Construction of ROB for LC No. 2 On Ajmer-Daurai Section on DFC Route at Ajmer. UBN No.: RRC1920WLOB00769	1352.43 Lac

ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की अवधि दिनांक 20.02.2020 प्रातः 09.00 बजे से 11.03.2020 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण एवं संशोधन वेबसाइट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in तथा http://roads.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाइट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है।
महाप्रबंधक

THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE SEEDS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
D.No. 4-150, Prasadampadu, Ramavarappadu Post, Vijayawada - 521108.
No.SSDC/Mrktg/G.P./G.Manure/Tender/2019-20. Date: 20.02.2020
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Sealed tenders are invited by A.P.S.S.D.C. Ltd., Vijayawada, A.P. for supply of freshly harvested Greenmanure Crop Dhaincha & Sunhemp seeds in different packing sizes on Outright Purchase basis as specified below for distribution under Government subsidy programmes during the year 2020-21.

Sl. No	Crop Name & Class of seed	Packing size	Qty required	Packing size	Qty required	Packing size	Qty required	Total Qty.	EMD (Rs. In Lakhs)
1	Dhaincha T/L	5 Kg	11482	10 Kg	26873	25 Kg	27175	65530	10.00
2	Sunhemp T/L	5 Kg	4785	10 Kg	10968	25 Kg	10684	26437	5.00

Eligible suppliers are requested to participate in the tender process. The cost of Tender Schedule is Rs.3,500/- including GST.
Sale of tender schedule from : 10.00 A.M. on 22.02.2020 to 1.00 PM on 05.03.2020
Last date for submission of tender : 05.03.2020 up to 2.00 P.M.
Opening of Tender and Negotiations : 05.03.2020 at 2.30 P.M. onwards
Tender Schedule containing detailed information including the terms and conditions will be available in the APSSDCL website: www.apseeds.in
Sd/- Chairman Tender Committee & V.C. & Managing Director

DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NW) III
OVER HEAD TANK ASHOK VIHAR DELHI
PRESS NIT NO. 91 (2019-20)

Item No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement solution	Last date/ time of receipt of tender through e-Procurement
1.	Replacement of old / damaged CI water lines in Anand Vihar area in AC-15 under EE (NW) III	Rs. 62,32,701/-	Tender ID no. 2020_DJB_188424_1 on 20-02-2020 at 3:16 PM	06.03.2020 upto 3:00 PM
2.	Replacement of old/ damaged CI Water lines in Shakti Vihar in AC-15 under EE (NW) III	Rs. 57,66,867/-	Tender ID no. 2020_DJB_188424_2 on 20-02-2020 at 3:24 PM	06.03.2020 upto 3:00 PM
3.	Replacement of old deep/ damaged water line of 100 mm/150 mm dia by D.I water line in A-1 block Janta flats in Paschim Vihar under the EE (NW) III AC-15.	Rs. 44,63,167/-	Tender ID no. 2020_DJB_188424_3 on 20-02-2020 at 3:29 PM	06.03.2020 upto 3:00 PM
4.	Improvement of water supply in Tri Nagar tail ends portion by laying 200 mm dia additional water line from Lawrence Road UGR Gali No 01 Kanhaiya Nagar in AC-16 Tri Nagar under EE (NW III)	Rs. 27,66,554/-	Tender ID no. 2020_DJB_188424_4 on 20-02-2020 at 3:33 PM	06.03.2020 upto 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.
ISSUED BY PRO (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 854/2019-20
Sd/-
Ex. Engineer (NW) III

DVD & BLU-RAY

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD

★★★★

₹1199/-

SHUBH MANGAL ZYADA SAAVDHAN ★★★½

Director: Hitesh Kewalya **Cast:** Ayushmann Khurrana, Jitendra Kumar, Neena Gupta, Gajaraj Rao, Manu Rishi, Sunita Rajwar, Maanvi Gagroo

Boy, It's Love

SHALINI LANGER

HOW far will you go for love? Since time immemorial, stories have flirted with that question. With two men as its lovers, *Shubh Mangal Zyada...* now asks the same. It couches its blows in humour, it takes the shield of a large, boisterous, slightly irritating and often unnecessary family. But, its achievement lies not just in going where Bollywood has not gone before. It is in consistently portraying Kartik (Khurrana) and Aman (a superb Kumar, in his debut film role) as just a couple, not 'homo' or 'hetero'.

The two are already in a relationship when we meet, a disappointingly uncomplicated one in the anonymity of big-city Delhi. Closer home, Kartik's father has snapped ties with him after a sound thrashing. Aman's Allahabad family stumbles upon the nature of their relationship soon after his father catches him kissing Kartik, and can't stop throwing up.

How do the Tripathis, one of the highlights of whose life is boarding the Vivah Special Express train *en famille* to a wedding, cope with this discovery?

Director Kewalya, who wrote *Shubh Mangal Saavdhan* featuring Khurrana memorably in the role of a groom battling erectile dysfunction, throws a lot at Kartik and Aman. The Tripathis use science, blackmail, suicide, shame, even rituals where Aman is "killed off" and "reborn" and, some violence, to separate the two. What Kewalya is trying at all times though is to keep it light and frothy, with the usual bickerings, disagreements, discontents that brew in a large family, spilling out at regular intervals. It all gets a bit much at times, with Aman and Kartik's own story, that required more fleshing out lost in the process. For one, they are very contrasting personalities (Kartik a bundle of extra energy, Aman slight and subdued), and it would have been nice to see them away from Aman's overbearing family, which fits the same small-UP town template that is lately a Bollywood favourite.

Kewalya's excellent cast though makes it all go down easily. Neena Gupta has another winner as Aman's mother, while Gajaraj Rao plays his father who, in what could have been a nice touch, is a small-time scientist behind a black, "germ-free" cauliflower variety. The film ends up stretching this theme of nature-vs-science a bit too far, but Gupta and Rao who gelled so well in *Badhaai Ho* remain a hoot. The years of companionship are visible in their frequent arguments, as is how she is his rock.

It's through the two of them that the film also explores what is its strongest theme: that of unrequited love. Like others before them, and others sure to come after, they carry regrets about a special someone, and "what could have been". *Shubh Mangal Zyada...* doesn't evoke these memories with bitterness or anger but as one of those moments that make up a life.

It raises other pertinent questions, about husbands and wives, fathers and sons, mothers and children. At one point, Aman asks, "Why is that only sons are required to be heroes? Why can't a father be for once?"

It's particularly glaring then how blind *Shubh Mangal Zyada...* is to its women who are not mothers or wives. The three other women characters here are all pining for love or marriage in different degrees, with a physical disability played for cruel laughs (it's to Gagroo's credit that her 'Goggle' manages to rise above this simple outline of her character).

At the same time, the chase of love is what *Shubh Mangal Zyada...* is all about. Love that could spring between two men who look as everyday as Kartik and Aman (Khurrana is good, but Kumar is almost heartbreakingly fragile; full marks to the former for allowing the film to be so much about the latter). Love that ultimately binds families together, and shows up in unexpected ways. Love that goes beyond Romeo & Juliet, Shirin & Farhad, Jack & Jill, even Simran & Raj. Love that sees no colour/class, or the gender of the hand reaching out to help you into a running train.

And love for which you will go the distance, because "*Zindagi baar-baar* Amitabh Bachchan *bana-ne ka mauka nahin deti*".

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Revenge Drama

HUNTERS (AMAZON PRIME)

★★½

Creator: David Weil
Cast: Al Pacino, Logan Lerman Jerrika Hinton, Lena Olin Saul Rubinek Carol Kane, Josh Radnor

EKTAA MALIK

THE GAME of chess has been often used as a metaphor for larger existential questions. It also fills in beautifully as a medium to make a certain point. A chessboard, where the typical wooden pieces have been replaced by miniature, grotesque human figurines, surfaces many times in *Hunters*, the latest offering by Amazon Prime. The chessboard separates Jonah (Lerman) and Meyer Offerman (Pacino) when they have their first heart-to-heart. As Jonah checkmates Meyer, we are taken to another chessboard, a life-size one, at a German concentration camp — where the grass has been chequered to resemble the board and the Jews are pawns to be played with. One is reminded of the scene from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (2001) where Ron is injured in in a similar game of life-size chess, only this one is chilling and fills us with a sense of foreboding that only gets worse as the 10 hour-long episodes progress. *Hunters* is set in two timelines, one in America in 1977 and the other in Germany during World War II. In America of the Seventies, we see Lerman continuing his *Perks of Being a Wallflower* routine. He lives with his Holocaust-survivor grandmother, is into superheroes, smokes up with his friends, and listens to Led Zeppelin. His life is disrupted when his *safta* (grandmother in Hebrew) is murdered in their New York home. Of course, Jonah, who likes Robin better than Batman and is a prodigy with numbers and patterns, figures out that this is not a random house invasion-gone-wrong. And that's how he tumbles into this motley group, led by Offerman, who all the while leading regular lives, moonlight as Nazi Hunters. A large number of Nazis were shipped to the US and led pretty plush lives, hiding in plain sight, courtesy Operation Paperclip. Offerman, who is 'Bruce Wayne' rich, keeps tabs on them, and takes them out when possible. The 'taking out' is, let's just say, long-drawn and violent.

So far so good. This is the kind of alternate history, bordering on fantasy, that keeps us hooked — remember *Inglourious Basterds*? But that doesn't hold true for *Hunters*. There is too much tokenism and ticking off boxes to actually let the message sink. The motley crew is an exercise in diversity, with an Asian-American vet and a tough Black woman. Pacino himself is reduced to quoting from the Talmud, as he carries off his ageing weight and the burden of being an Italian-American, while playing a Holocaust survivor. There is too much happening all the time. With the back and forth between timelines, we are taken through the horrors that were meted out to the prisoners in the concentration camps. Then there are the Nazis themselves with their dream of setting up the third Reich.

Often, it's the idea that keeps us going. This holds true for *Hunters*. The very idea of Nazis being delivered the fate they meted out to so many Jews is seductive and fantastical to the point of being taboo. As Pacino says in the show — "Revenge is the best revenge".

The idea of *Hunters* was also strengthened by Jordan Peele, who has executive produced this and earlier gave us the brilliant *Get Out*. But the weakest link in *Hunters* is the writing, which is sporadically brilliant to downright Tarantino-rehashed bits. Sigh. Sometimes an idea is all you get.

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Taylor Made

MISS AMERICANA (NETFLIX)

★★

Director: Lana Wilson
Cast: Taylor Swift

SUANSHU KHURANA

MISS AMERICANA director Lana Wilson's glimpse into the life of singer-songwriter Taylor Swift opens with the latter tinkering with the ivories and figuring a melody, while Benjamin Button, Swift's feline friend, walks on the keys. Benjamin's compositional skills may still be under question but his presence in this scene, in the recent documentary on Swift and her music, creates a genuine moment in what otherwise is a somewhat studied and strategic attempt to tell the story of a fine musician and performer. Instead of Wilson, it's Swift who seems in control of the narrative she wants people to take home. The other absolutely earnest moments include those where she is seen and heard making music in the studio, sweating it out over a melody, with hardly any make-up on, with only her lyrics and producer Joe Little for company.

Swift begins by talking about being "fulfilled by approval" only from the strangers who heard her music, how she became "a person who everyone wanted her to be" and "someone who has built their whole belief system on getting people to clap" for her. She then takes us through years of feeling hurt after Kanye West interrupted her during her VMA acceptance speech and screamed that "Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time", followed by an eating disorder, being out of action while the world that loved her was calling her names, and later her political awakening — where she had called out to her fans to come out and vote and not choose Republican Marsha Blackburn in her home state of Tennessee so that they don't put "a homophobic racist in office", who is just "Trump in a wig".

But when a documentary filmmaker gets "unprecedented access" to their subject, which Wilson had, one also expects the results to put on display everything about an artiste — the good and the bad, the resilience and the vulnerability, happy and sad and everything in between. And that is what is also at the heart of the problem. The actual story is too cosmetic. There is a scene where Swift is heard, on speaker, talking to her publicist in 2018 about the nomination of her record, *Reputation*, where she hears about not finding a nomination. But the truth of the matter was that Swift was not eligible to be nominated in 2018, as her record had been released in November (nominations are only included till October 31) and she did find nominations in 2019. But why would Wilson include this bit, one doesn't understand. If it is to show that Swift finds other's approval significant, then the artiste says it in as many words. The scene

looks staged and frankly, quite irritating.

Then there is the problem of not going deeper into an issue. One wishes that Wilson had spoken to Swift's parents (who are a part of the documentary) about her eating disorder, or, for example, when Swift speaks about her mother dealing with cancer. It's just left there. One understands the concept of interpretation, but a documentary can't be drawing so many blanks.

The film attempts to triumph with Swift's conversations with her parents about wanting to talk about her stand on politics and being able to make a difference. It could have taken an intrinsic arc, but again, there is no conversation with her parents, her friends, and people who know her.

For Wilson, whose other documentaries include *After Tiller* and *The Departure*, the lessons lie in the exhaustively chronicled life of Amy Winehouse in Asif Kapadia's *Amy*. In this case, she even has the artiste, whom the filmmaker could have drawn out and asked tougher questions.

There are problems when one attempts to editorialise documentaries. In the film, Taylor Swift admits to being extremely conscious about how she is portrayed — at a concert, in an interview, in a newspaper. She may have rid her of the notion, as she says. But the result of a documentary on Swift is actually not a documentary. It's more tailor-made than one would like.

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All at Sea

BHOOT: PART ONE — THE HAUNTED SHIP

★½

Director: Bhanu Pratap Singh
Cast: Vicky Kaushal, Bhumi Pednekar, Ashutosh Rana

VICKY KAUSHAL'S Prithvi is clearly a haunted man. A shipping officer who lost his wife and daughter to a mishap while doing the rapids, an adventure they took at his initiative — that kind of tragedy is hard on the soul, mind etc etc.

However, *Bhoot: Part One — The Haunted Ship*, is far from done with him. Under Prithvi's watch rolls in, against the perpetually grey and clearly fake skyline of Mumbai, a giant ship with no one aboard.

But for the Director General, Shipping, though, no one is intrigued. Even when people who venture into it, start disappearing. That leaves the field wide open for Prithvi to wade in, with loyal-to-death friend Riyaz by his side. There is a nudge, nudge wink, wink between the two friends over "the hand of the neighbouring country" in it.

However, *Bhoot*, starting with that name which Karan Johar has dutifully thanked Ram Gopal Varma for, is focused on only the small ship to fry. So, don't go imagining devil on the deep blue sea. This ship is firmly on terra firma, and given that it is little more than a rotting hull, must have cost Dharma Productions little to recreate on set.

Within its murky labyrinth, with no sense of any direction from writer-director Bhanu Pratap Singh, the film doesn't seem to end. There is a ghost, a love story, a hate story, a smuggling ring, a church, a red dress, a doll, and a lot of clicking of fingers. Pednekar and Rana are there to add brief acting heft, and to do some mantra-reciting ghost-fighting. A large part, however, is left to the able and much taxed shoulders of Kaushal.

The ghost takes its while dying, leaving a glaring and bloody opening for a sequel. (Dharma, dipping its toes into horror, has promised a horror franchise, which is fertile territory given the dearth in Bollywood.)

Prithvi, who has rescued some girls from being smuggled in a container even as we are still settling into our seats, is asked by Riyaz if he is a Superman, Spider-Man or Batman. Singh's inspirations clearly lie elsewhere (think *Shining*, multiple times over, for one). Plus, were any of those superheroes equipped with a machine that started beeping crazily in the presence of ghosts? **SL**

BREAKING DOWN NEWS

Call Me by Any Other Name

Mohan Bhagwat's advice to people to refrain from using the term nationalism has TV channels in a fix, while in China, collateral damage of coronavirus claims the entire staff of a newspaper

BY PRATIK KANJILAL

PREOCCUPIED AS we are with domestic questions of nation, nationality and nationalism, we have little time for international events like the annual Munich Security Conference. Following the UN special envoy to Libya terming the arms embargo on the nation's warring groups as a "joke", the international community at the meet focused on it. Amidst the wearying intricacies of summiteering, there was something of interest, even to us: European foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said that the EU must develop "an appetite for power", "learn to use the language of power", and abandon the principle of unanimity, according to which all 27 member states must agree to military intervention. In the case of a naval mission to Libya, Euronews reports, 26 members had agreed.

Apart from digital issues, on which they have been unfailingly sharp, the institutions of the EU generally limit themselves to issuing pious resolutions and denunciations on international crises, in the manner of the UN, and leave it to member nations to take (or not take) military action. Borrell's statement reveals a Europe that is no longer content with being influential, but is in pursuit of muscular power.

In Ranchi, RSS sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat has also been pondering power and superpower. After addressing the phenomenon of rising divorce rates among the educated and affluent classes — which are apparently crucibles of arrogance — he has now turned his attention to the core matter of nationalism. His last intervention had drawn sharp reactions, and since one of them proceeded from Sonam Kapoor, the TV channels had sucked it up like joy juice. Kapoor had termed Bhagwat's observations on divorce "regressive and foolish". And Abhishek Manu Singhvi had advised him to be more careful in his statements.

That was quite straightforward. Now, at a rally in Ranchi, Bhagwat has confused his flock by advising them against using the term 'nationalism', for fear of being misunderstood. Some guy in the UK has informed him that in the West, the word is associated with "Hitler, Nazi*vad*, Fasci*vad*". "*Aap* nation *kaho chalega*, national *chalega*, nationality *chalega*, nationalism *mat kaho*." It's not clear why they had to wait for this guy in distant parts to enlighten them, since anyone with a passing acquaintance with mass media, anywhere in the world, knows this. Indian social media highlights the connection on an hourly basis. Republic World really had to get creative to present this story. Solution: "RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat spoke about what the true meaning of 'nationalism' was and how it was severely misunderstood." The appraisal season is upon the press. *Chalega*.

Just to let us know that all is well with the world, CNN provided the story of Californian cabbie Rajbir Singh, who has prevented a 92-year-old passenger from being Nigerian-scammed

The collateral damage of coronavirus has claimed the entire staff of the *Wall Street Journal* in mainland China. The whole bureau has been sent packing after the organisation published an opinion article headlined 'China is the Real Sick Man of Asia', which the authorities denounced as racist and anti-national. Al Jazeera reports that this is the first time that "multiple members of a foreign media organisation were simultaneously ordered to leave." The Foreign Correspondents' Club of China has stated that this was an "extreme and obvious attempt by the Chinese authorities to intimidate foreign news organisations by taking retribution against their China-based correspondents." Since last week, there has been speculation that mishandling of the virus outbreak threatens perceptions of Xi Jinping, just a year after he was awarded a term for life everlasting.

A clip from Seven News, Australia's top channel, raises a serious legal question: can a volunteer member of an organisation be fired, since no employment contract exists? It arose when a news video was shared showing volunteer fireman Paul Parker of fire-ravaged Nelligen, New South Wales, stopping his fire engine by a camera crew and asking: "Are you from the media? Tell the prime minister to go and get (expletive) from Nelligen. We really enjoy doing this (expletive), (expletive)." It even made NBC's *The Today Show*, and Parker was reported to believe that he had been sacked by the local unit. This week, thanks to all the publicity, the fire department is investigating what really happened, since its people cannot be dismissed summarily for hooting the PM.

But just to let us know that all is well with the world, CNN provided the story of Californian cabbie Rajbir Singh, who has prevented a 92-year-old passenger from being Nigerian-scammed by a person claiming to be an official of the US Internal Revenue Service. Singh tried every possible means to prevent his passenger from withdrawing $25,000 to pay up, and when he failed, he took her to the police. Singh is reported to have been given a citizen award for his intervention. So much more satisfying than the "alert citizen award" that a BJP leader recently gave to an Uber cabbie for taking to the Mumbai Police a passenger who spoke about communists and Shaheen Bagh, carried a dafli, and was a poet and activist, all deeply suspicious activities.

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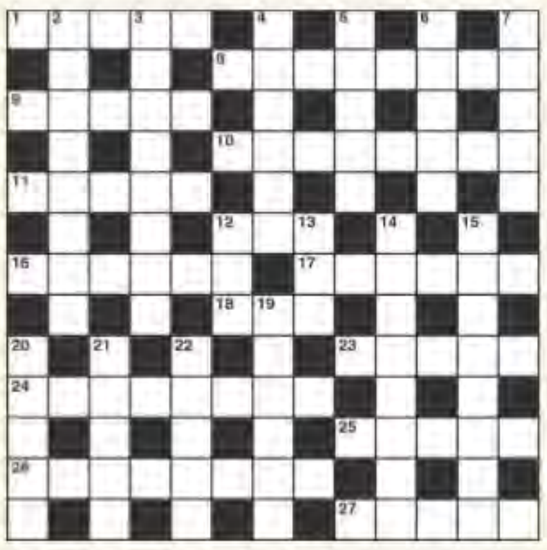
CROSSWORD 4048



ACROSS

1 They join greens and fairways (5)
8 He writes articles about drink (8)
9 Being an employer helps to make you single-minded (5)
10 Drink, long and light (8)
11 Range of a policeman in the South-East (5)
12 Be in the red - in yellow even (3)
16 Famous London columnist (6)
17 Distressing twitch about to irritate (6)
18 The age of the Raj (3)
23 Hopeless - and without purpose (2,3)
24 Dry wines for those taking flight (8)
25 Point to organist's control in bar (5)
26 Some rags woven into a very fine material (8)
27 Ignition takes place at this point (5)

DOWN

2 Centre is replaced on the quiet (2,6)
3 Support for the Royal Mail? (8)
4 Cowardly way to voice pain (6)
5 Army group threshing crops (5)
6 Band that breaks up? (5)
7 A bit of sorrow rather than anger (5)
12 The number is in the telephone directory (3)
13 when to expect a Greek character (3)
14 Drinking song going around America (8)
15 Girl charges for errands (8)
19 Having a decayed property to rent out (6)
20 Rush into the boat (5)
21 The effrontery of some bandsmen (5)
22 He has no settled occupation (5)

Solutions Crossword 4047: Across: 1 Red herring, 6 Scow, 10 Manna, 11 Lumbering, 12 Untoward, 13 Ogres, 15 Escapes, 17 Codicil, 19 Eardrum, 21 Coroner, 22 Alpha, 24 Landmark, 27 Israelite, 28 Calve, 29 Easy, 30 Death's door. **Down:** 1 Rump, 2 Dining car, 3 Erato, 4 Reloads, 5 Nomadic, 7 Crier, 8 Wages clerk, 9 Recorder, 14 Generalize, 16 Partaken, 18 Contralto, 20 Malaise, 21 Context, 23 Parts, 25 Maces, 26 Rear.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson

MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
It's an adventurous sort of a weekend, so don't end up stuck at home if you can help it. There's a slight possibility of a disagreement over who does what, so take the chance to clarify your options. You might actually find that you've been wasting your time.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Venus' mysterious motions set a whole series of social events in motion. Be selective about what invitations you accept, and maintain your high standards in all areas. And at work, a generous gesture will be repaid many times over, so do what you can to help those in need.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You will have to listen to others, which could make quite a change. Seriously, though, there is one particular person who will make you see things through a completely different light. But can you be sure who they are? It's easy to misjudge people, so no jumping to instant conclusions.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
There is one thing to be said about your current stars - that you should keep on the go. Even your family and domestic planets look lively, so feel free to change your plans. Plus, even though you're still a little sensitive, your emotional survival instincts are good.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Your stars favour high-spending, self-indulgence. Free pleasures are included, so don't think that life absolutely has to be extravagant. And don't let work and routine chores hold you up. In addition, of course, you don't want to see rivals getting their way because of your mistakes.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
There are pleasant stay-at-home influences today, but if you are very sensitive to subtle planetary patterns, you'll be brimming with hope for the future. Watch out for differences of opinion and make sure that they don't get out of hand. Perhaps you should try to see what partners really want.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
Mars' most energetic transits tend to drive all Librans into a frenzy of activity, one at a time. The pattern continues, but with added emotional and romantic complications. Here's a word of advice: settle all outstanding disputes now, so that you have a clean slate for the future.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
It is well-known that shopping is a perfect way to cheer yourself up. So, quite aside from profound long-term financial considerations, why don't you just go out and pick up a few bargains? And, how about buying something you always wanted, but never thought was really for you?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
The Moon's emotional presence in your chart reinforces your control of your personal plans today. You'll stamp your mark on family affairs no matter what younger relations may think. Of course, there'll always be people who are difficult to pin down, but you can do your best.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Jupiter and Saturn are a fine combination of planets. It just so happens that while one encourages you to take it easy, the other urges you on head-first. You may be musing over what is best for your long-term security, but it's doubtful whether there's any absolutely reliable answer — not yet, anyway.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
The business situation looks healthy, but you should be considering other things apart from money. For example, there is good reason to stretch yourself socially. Dance all night if you can. There's an additional interesting development, though: that an old friend is likely to get in touch.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Special conditions encourage everything that is best in your character. Your selfless behaviour should lead you in the right direction. When a loved one asks you for help, give it without hesitation. After all, they'll return the favour when the time comes.

JUMBLED WORDS

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

The longer one is alone, the easier it is to hear the_____. - Robert Anton Wilson (4,2,3,5)

NAEER

OPYHNT

OBSTO

OTUFGH

SOLUTION: RANEE, BOOST/BOOTS, PYTHON, FOUGHT
Answer: The longer one is alone, the easier it is to hear the **song of the earth**.
- Robert Anton Wilson

SUDOKU 4128

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

9		5		3		4		
							1	
		6		9	2			
				2	1		4	3
6	4		7	5				
			9	7		5		
	1							
		8		1		3		2

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4127

1	8	4	2	6	3	9	7	5
9	7	5	8	1	4	6	2	3
2	3	6	7	5	9	1	4	8
5	1	8	4	2	7	3	6	9
7	4	3	9	8	6	2	5	1
6	9	2	5	3	1	4	8	7
3	6	7	1	4	5	8	9	2
4	2	9	3	7	8	5	1	6
8	5	1	6	9	2	7	3	4

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CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE

This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/33/2019-2020, invited previously, purchase, submission and Part-I of the e-tender was opened on 15.03.2020 & 16.03.2020 respectively, shall be read as 16.03.2020 & 17.03.2020 respectively.
For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.

Superintending Engineer
Corporate (C&P-II)
No. 141/EE (CM)/UPCL/A-2/Date 20.02.2020
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use L.E.D Bulb to Save Electricity
(Toll Free No. 18004190405 or 1912) Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

NOTICE FOR VENDOR REGISTRATION FOR SUPPLY OF DENTAL MATERIALS IN MILITARY DENTAL CENTRE, AGRA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-21

Vendors interested in supplying Expendable Dental Materials are hereby informed that vendor registration application forms are available in Military Dental Centre, Agra on all working days, 08:30 AM to 02:00 PM. Completed forms along with required documents/certificates are to be placed in a sealed envelope marked as 'VENDOR REGISTRATION APPLICATION' and deposited back **latest by 1200 hrs on 19th March 2020.**

sd/-
Officer Commanding
Military Dental Centre, Agra

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED FEMALE

SURUTI

General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Suruti D/o Sh. Mange Ram R/o A-9, Andheria More Ambedkar Colony, New Delhi.** Age: 19 Yrs., Height: 4'2", Fair Complexion, Round & Face. Wearing Black Jacket & Blue Jeans has been missing/kidnapped since 17.01.2020 from the area of PS Mehrauli, New Delhi.

In this regard a **DD No. 57A, dt. 18.01.2020** has been lodged at **PS Mehrauli, New Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped female may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638
011-24368641
DP/5952/SD/2020

S.H.O.,
P.S., Mehrauli, New Delhi.
Ph.: 011-26645050, 26643200

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Deepanshu @ Kinshu** S/o Sh. Devender R/o H. No. 1916/2, L-1st, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 273/18, U/s 12/9/55 Gambling Act.** has been registered at **P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Deepanshu @ Kinshu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Deepanshu @ Kinshu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Deepanshu @ Kinshu** of **FIR No. 273/18, U/s 12/9/55 Gambling Act.** has been registered at **P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **31.03.2020.**

By order
Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh,
Metropolitan Magistrate
Saket Court, New Delhi

DP/5954/SD/20

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. PC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely (1) Pankaj Chaudhary, (2) Gunjesh Chaudhary Both S/o Pyayag Chaudhary, Both R/o H.No. D-1117, D-Block, JJ Colony, Shiv Vihar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi, (3) Qasim S/o Ko Kai Ram, R/o L-1st, 2574, Gali No. 3, Near Ekta Chowk, Sangam Vihar, Delhi, (4) Jailal Yadav S/o Sh. Ganga Yadav, R/o H.No. D-1118, D-Block, JJ Colony, Shiv Vihar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the Offence FIR No. 559/1997 u/s 376/34 IPC at PS. Hauz Khas, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest themeupon issued that the said (1) Pankaj Chaudhary, (2) Gunjesh Chaudhary, (3) Qasim & (4) Jailal Yadav cannot be found and whereas it has been to shown to my satisfaction that the said (1) Pankaj Chaudhary, (2) Gunjesh Chaudhary, (3) Qasim & (4) Jailal Yadav has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation u/s 82 CrPC is hereby made that the said (1) Pankaj Chaudhary, (2) Gunjesh Chaudhary, (3) Qasim & (4) Jailal Yadav accused of FIR No. 559/1997 u/s 376/34 IPC is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 26.03.2020.

DP/5964/SD/2020-
(Court Matter)

By Order
Sh. Bhupesh Kumar
Additional. Session Judge, N.D.P.S., Room No. 505, 5th Floor, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior
A++ NAAC Accreditated Deemed to be University
Government of India,
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

No.CS/Stationery Tenders /71/ 2020-21 /311 Date: 12.02.2020

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the original equipment manufacturers/distributors /dealers / supliers for the purchase of stationery items for the year 2020-21.

S.No.	Probable cost of stationery items	EMD (Rs.)	Last date & time of submission of tender	Tender opening date
1	Rs. 12,00,000/-	30,000.00	12/03/2020 03.00 PM	12/03/2020 at 03.30 PM

The tender form can be downloaded along with detailed terms and conditions from the Institute's website www.lnipe.edu.in or www.eprocure.gov.in, which is required to be dropped in the tender box alongwith the Demand Draft (earnest money/bid security) of Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees Thirty Thousand only) for purchase of stationery items which should be payable to Registrar, Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior upto 12/03/2020 at 3.00 PM in the room No. 105 of Administrative Building or sealed tenders can be sent by Registered Post /speed post so as to reach to the Institute upto prescribed date and time. No tender will be accepted after due date and time. The institute will not be responsible for any postal delay. Tenderer may remain present at the time and place of opening of tender. Hindi version of this notice is available on our website www.lnipe.edu.in or www.eprocure.gov.in

Registrar

SEARCH OF MISSING

Ajam

General public is hereby informed that one boy (depicted in the photo), **Namely:** Ajam, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Asha Kiran Home for Mentally Challenged, Rohini, Delhi, **Aged:** about 11 years (now 14 years), has been missing from the area of P.S. Kotla Mubarak Pur, New Delhi since 20.01.2016 during participation in games at Tyagraj Stadium, Delhi **vide FIR No. 52/16 u/s 363 IPC, Dated 20.01.2016, has been lodged at P.S. Kotla Mubarak Pur, New Delhi.** His physical description is as under:

Height: about 4' Feet, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Normal, He is mentally challenged, **Clothing:** Black Track Pant, Khaki Monkey Cap and White Shoes in Feet.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing boy, may inform SHO, Kotla Mubarak Pur, New Delhi at **E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641**

S.H.O
P.S. Kotla Mubarak Pur, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-24624825, 24620106, 8607660023

DP/5921/SD/2020.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Savita

General Public is hereby informed that a women namely **Savita, W/o Sh. Randhir Singh, R/o** H.No. 153, Mata Mohlla, Near Allahabad Bank, Gadaipur, New Delhi has been missing from Fathe Puri Beri, New Delhi since 22.01.2020. In this regard a **GD No. 17-A** dated **23.01.2020** has been registered at PS, Fateh Puri Beri, New Delhi.

The description of missing women is as under : **Name:** Savita, **Husband's Name :** Sh. Randhir Singh, **Age :** 24 years, **Height** : 5', **Complexion** : Fair, **Face :** Round, **Hairs:** Black, **Wearing**: Suit & Salwar.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : ciccbi@cbi.nic.in
Fax : 011-230111334
Ph. : 011-23014046, 30115229, 23015218, Extn. 210

SHO
P.S., Fateh Puri Beri,
New Delhi
Ph.: 011-26659511, 26659611, 8750870826

DP/5951/SD/2020

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SOURA, SRINAGAR-190011
E-mail: ammoimports@skims.ac.in Fax: 0194-2403403

IMPORTS SECTION
NOTICE

Subject: Procurement of NEO V LASER Machine on proprietary basis from M/S G.N.S neoLaser Ltd. Israel.

SKIMS intends to procure NEO V LASER Machine for the department of General & Minimal Invasive Surgery on proprietary basis from M/S G.N.S neoLaser 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 E-mail ID/Fax after which the claim of the company who has claimed for the proprietorship of the said item shall be accepted.

No. SIMS-324 LASER 2020-621-27-4270-72
Dated: 21.02.2020

Sd/-
Asstt. Materials Management Officer, Imports.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
Heavy Water Board

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Director (Technical), Heavy Water Board, on behalf of President of India invites tender (e-tender mode) for the following work:

Sr. No: 1. Name of the Work : Design, engineering, construction, supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 65 KLD Capacity Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) based on Moving Bed Bio Reactor (MBBR) Technology along with operation and maintenance for a period of 90 days after successful completion of trial run for a period of 72 hours at Heavy Water Plant Tuticorin.

NIT No : HWB/SXP/STP/2019/01	**Estimated Cost : Rs. 69,00,000/-**
Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 1,38,000 /-	**Time Period : 9 (Nine) calendar months**
Sale of Tender :	**From 25.02.2020 (15:00 Hrs) to 11.03.2020 (15:00 Hrs)**

Interested agencies may visit website **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE** for download / submit / upload of the tender. Contact for assistance / clarifications 24X7 @ 09969395522 (Shri Rudresh) or Tender Wizard Help Desk – (080) 40482000 (9am to 6pm - Mon to Sat), email : **rudresh.tenderwizard@gmail.com.**
Detailed NIT is also available on website **www.hwb.gov.in.**

Director (Technical)

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Vasim Ahmed

General public is hereby informed that a man namely **Vasim Ahmed, S/o** Nasir Ahmed **R/o** H.No. 1267, Gali No. 06 L-1st Sangam Vihar, New Delhi has been missing since 29/01/2020 from the area of P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi at 10:00 a.m. In this regard a **D.D. No. 019-A, dated 02/02/2020 has been registered at P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing man is as under:

Name: Vasim Ahmed, **Gender:** Male, **Age:** 30 years, **Height:** 5'0", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Black colour jacket, green colour pant-shirt and black colour shoes in his feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing Man, kindly inform SHO/ Neb Sarai, New Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Neb Sarai, New Delhi.
Ph. No.: 011-29551326, 29551597

DP/5955/SD/2020

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one unknown dead body of male, Age 22 years, Height 5'6", Complexion wheatish, Identification Mark He was a drug addicted, Wearing Khaki colour jacket and dark grey colour pant was found dead at Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya Hospital, New Delhi (Death in during Treatment) on 13.02.20. In this regard a DD No. 35-A dated 13.02.20 has been lodged at PS Sunlight Colony, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed to the undersigned.

SHO
PS: Sunlight Colony, New Delhi
Ph.: 26347482, 26348324

DP/05/SLC/SE/20

When home becomes the most dangerous place for the child

Violence towards children is culturally sanctioned, especially when it is at the hands of the parents. This usually comes with a convenient justification: 'They know what is best for them'

IMAGINE

BY SHELJA SEN

HOME IS the place we imagine children to be safe. No matter how harsh, rejecting, humiliating the world is, it is supposed to offer a sanctuary where they are accepted, nurtured and loved as they are. But what happens when the home is unsafe and the parents most dangerous for the child? This notion goes so much against the popular discourse that it might seem unbelievable. After all, don't parents love their children unconditionally and want the best for them? Not much is talked about how this love has so many filters of expectations, disappointments and rejections. It may have to do with the child's gender, looks, academic success, social skills, abilities, talents, and so many other aspects that are valued in our society. I am sure if you look at your own extended family, you will find many examples of this discrimination in so many nuances. Love is not a binary where you either love your children or not; love also comes in different shapes, sizes and hues.

Then there is love that is manifested in such a twisted way in the form of violence, abuse and conflict. Where the children are faced with unpredictability in the emotional climate at home on an everyday basis.

An 11-year-old once shared with me that after school, she had taken to sitting in the park for hours, waiting for her father's return from work. Her mother's rages were often directed at her in the form of slapping, kicking and shouting abuses at the slightest provocation. As she sat there, twisting her hands and crying, she said, "I know she loves me a lot. There must be something wrong with me."

A 10-year-old, who had witnessed alcohol induced violent rages in his father, told me that he wished his father was dead and then broke down crying, "I feel so guilty for saying that."

A 13-year-old I met had been groped by her father at night while he was sleeping next to her. She shared it with her mother, who dismissed it as, "He had too much to drink, I think." When I met the father, he was quick in telling me, "It is just her imagination, I love her very much." Would that warped love be enough for these children to feel safe at home?

Every parent is doing the best they can for their children with the resources and skills they have. But sometimes their best is not good enough. How often do we see children being abused, beaten up, screamed at in public? Can you imagine how much worse it can be for them behind locked doors? Children rarely talk about it as there is so much shame and stigma attached to these issues and also because they think it is their fault. The more dangerous the abuse, the higher the level of shame. It breeds in a culture of silence, secrecy and judgement. Sometimes their bruises are there for the world to see, but many times it is just hidden in their furtive, haunted glances and constant vigilance towards the adults and how they might react if they get one step wrong.

Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Then, as they grow older, it spirals out into so many different ways. Some might have many other adults in their lives like grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings who can save them from the clutches of the offenders. But then there are many who carry the trauma with them for the rest of their lives. It might live with them in various forms -- depression, anxiety, addiction, eating disorder or at times push them to repeat the cycle of abuse, generation after generation.

Stand up for child rights

Violence towards our children is culturally sanctioned, especially when it is at the hands of the parents, with a convenient justification — "they know what is best for them". So when parents do get abusive, who will speak up for the children? Children have rights, but they do not have the voice to fight for themselves. Especially when they have been told from early years that they have to be quiet, not question their adults and be obedient. We need a movement #SpeakUpForOurChildren (there can be no movement without a hashtag nowadays). We need to have these conversations and discussions in our schools, colleges, media, public spaces everywhere. And all of us need to be part of it — parents, teachers, doctors, organisations or professionals who work with children. Our children, 470 million of them and more, deserve better. As the clichéd but powerful phrase goes, "If not now, then when? If not you, then who?"

Strengthen the family

It is so easy to shelve this as a problem of some isolated families, "the others". In fact, that idea in itself is so problematic. Till the time we see the problem "out there" and not as none of our business, we will keep feeding it. It is our cultural dismissal of our collective responsibility and the normalisation of violence towards children which is at the core of the problem. Studies have indicated that children who are the most vulnerable are the ones who have a disability, a parent who might be struggling with addiction or a mental health problem, a violent father in a system steeped in patriarchy, or a family structure where the child does not have enough champions to stand up for them. We have learned from well-resourced Western countries that taking the child away from the families does not work; in fact, it multiplies the trauma manifold. POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act) is a significant step by the government but what we need is high-quality child protection services that can be accessed without parents being judged or shamed. The focus needs to be on strengthening safety and not breaking families.

Children are the litmus test of a society

We are all part of this society which is feeding this culture of child abuse in some form or the other. After all, children can be very easy and convenient receptacles for our daily stresses and frustrations. They are silent, helpless and will never turn around and question the abuse. And that is why building emotionally safe spaces is a call to arms for each one of us. It is not rocket science, and no formal degree is required. Respect the dignity of every child, give them a safe environment to grow and accept and nurture their uniqueness. Keep them safe, listen to them, become alert and stand up for them despite all the awkwardness or inconvenience. This is not a sentiment, attitude or a world view, but a practice. A deliberate, daily practice, where we commit to building emotionally safe spaces for them. No matter what.

HELPLINES & NGOs:

HAQ - Centre for Child Rights - **https://www.haqcrc.org**

Childline India Foundation - **https://www.childlineindia.org (Call – 1098)**

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) - **https://ncpcr.gov.in**

UN Convention on the Rights of Children - **https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text-childrens-version**

(Dr Shelja Sen is therapist, writer and co-founder of Children First, a child & adolescent mental health institute) write to shelja.sen@childrenfirstindia.com

Life is better with a half-full glass

The thing is, optimism can be learned. Here are four ways to start walking on the sunnier side of the street

Getty Images

SUSAN SHAIN

WHEN YOU watch the news these days, it's hard not to be pessimistic — and even harder for some people, depending on genes and socioeconomic status.

Yet battling your inner Eeyore can have profound effects. Research suggests that optimists earn more money, have better relationships and even live longer. And the thing is: Optimism can be learned.

"Pessimism is one of the personality traits that's highly heritable, but also modifiable by specific exercises," said Martin Seligman, director of the Positive Psychology Centre at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *The Hope Circuit*.

In other words, you can blame your parents for your bleak outlook, but you don't have to resign yourself to it forever. Here are four ways to start walking on the sunnier side of the street.

Visualise your best possible self

Imagine your dream life in 10 years — what would it look like? How would it feel? Now sit down and write about it: once a week, for six to eight minutes, for one or two months. Spend each session focusing on your "best possible self" in a single domain, such as family, career, romance or health.

Though it might sound like wishful thinking, dozens of studies show that imagining your ideal future can actually boost your levels of optimism.

Sonja Lyubomirsky, a psychology professor at the University of California, Riverside and author of *The How of Happiness*, has employed this exercise with hundreds of subjects. It works, she said, because you are strengthening your "optimistic muscles" by "thinking about all your dreams coming true as opposed to worrying about the worst possible outcome."

Accept the inevitability of disappointment

Constantly expecting the worst? According to Laura Oliff, associate director of the American Institute for Cognitive Therapy, it might be because you are hoping to protect yourself from disappointment.

But by trying to insulate yourself from life's ups and downs, you are missing out on something else, too: the "positive anticipation of events," which Dr Oliff called a "very valuable" and "joyful" feeling. (For proof, just think about the pleasure of anticipating a vacation.)

As Dr Oliff pointed out, "You'll be disappointed at times no matter what." So if your choice is between positive expectations that are occasionally proven wrong or negative expectations that are occasionally proven right, you might as well go with the former.

While this mindset shift is easier described than done, Dr Oliff said it can help to remember that "many of the negative things we predict never actually happen" — and that, even when they do, we usually recover pretty quickly.

Argue against yourself

So your co-worker got the promotion you were angling for. And your mind is filling with thoughts like: I'm bad at my job. I'll never move up the ladder. I might as well quit right now.

When you enter that pessimism spiral, Dr Seligman says the trick is to first recognise the voice making those negative remarks, then argue with it as if it were "an external person whose mission in life is to make you miserable."

How would you argue with your nemesis? You would present evidence to prove them wrong, such as: I'm not bad at my job — my co-worker has been here for two years longer than I have. Or: I'll eventually get promoted — another position is opening up soon.

When you enter that pessimism spiral, the trick is to first recognise the voice making those negative remarks, then argue with it as if it were "an external person whose mission in life is to make you miserable." How would you argue with your nemesis? You would present evidence to prove them wrong

Turning this type of self-argument into a habit requires a little practice. "It's not instantaneous," Dr Seligman said. "But on the other hand, it's not really onerous and difficult. It's something that most people can acquire in a few days."

Put things in perspective

Another evidence-based approach to boost your optimism is to intentionally counteract your extremely negative predictions with extremely positive ones. This will enable you to find the middle of the road — or, as Dr Seligman said, to "put things in perspective."

Let's say you have a doozy of a fight with your partner. She leaves the house, slamming the door on the way out. If you're like many humans, Dr Seligman said you'll naturally be attracted to the "most catastrophic interpretation": This is the end, I'm unlovable, I'm going to die alone.

As a counterbalance, imagine the least catastrophic interpretation, too: Your partner's on the way home with a tub of ice cream and will never mention the disagreement again.

Between those two poles is where you'll find the sweet spot — the realistic interpretation. It might be: She'll come back in a few hours, we'll talk, it'll be weird tomorrow and then back to normal. Though not as pleasant as the ice cream scenario, this outlook is far better (and far more plausible) than the ultra-pessimistic one with which you started.

By consistently practicing the two previous strategies — arguing against yourself and putting things in perspective — Dr Seligman said you can make changes that stick.

"This is not armchair stuff," he said. "These are things that have been tested with literally thousands of people." Over time, he said these exercises can produce long-lasting results that "basically permanently change extreme pessimism into something much less pessimistic."

That sounds like something to be optimistic about. **NYT**

DIET DIARY

How to avoid cross-contamination in a GFD diet

BY ISHI KHOSLA

AS FOOD sensitivities and allergies are on the rise, more people are adopting gluten-free diets. Often, patients continue to experience symptoms despite a gluten-free diet (GFD). These symptoms could be due to either cross-contamination with gluten-containing foods or cross-reactivity. Cross contamination is due to accidental mixing of gluten containing grain, flour or ingredients during food preparation. Cross-contamination can be prevented by adopting the following precautions:

- Use separate dusters.
- Use separate of duplicate utensils, ladles and spoons. Common utensils must be thoroughly washed and cleaned before cooking gluten-free food.
- Gluten-free cooking/baking should preferably be undertaken before other food preparations, to minimise chances of contamination. If possible, gluten-free baking must be done in completely separate environment and the equipment used must be kept solely for gluten free baking.
- For bulk cooking/ baking, fix a day for gluten-free food only.
- Cook gluten-free food in a thoroughly clean area. All surface that comes in contact with gluten-free ingredients must be carefully cleaned before preparing gluten-free meals, and a special check must be made to ensure that there is no gluten-containing dust in the air, on the surfaces, working clothes or on the hands.
- When rolling *chapati* dough, use gluten-free flour and not regular flour.
- When frying gluten-free food items, ensure that the oil is not contaminated with previously cooked items containing gluten.

Cross-reactivity occurs when the proteins in one substance are like the proteins in another.

As a result, the immune system sees them as the same. In case of food sensitivities or allergies, cross-reactivity can occur between one food and another. For example, about 50 per cent of those who are gluten-intolerant are also sensitive to dairy.

The decision to eliminate any cross-reactive grains should be based on individual reactions under the supervision of a qualified professional.

Author is a clinical nutritionist and founder of www.theweightmonitor.com and Whole Foods India

SHORT COURSE

[0-20 YEARS]

Kids who lie well into adulthood may have smaller brain surface area

PEOPLE WHO exhibit lifelong, persistent anti-social behaviour may have smaller surface areas in several brain regions compared to those who do not exhibit the trait, according to a study which may lead to better interventions for juvenile offenders. The study, published in the journal *The Lancet Psychiatry*, noted that individuals exhibiting life-course-persistent antisocial behaviour like stealing, lying, bullying, or violence may have thinner outer brain layer, the cortex, and smaller surface area in regions associated with anti-social behaviour, compared to those who do not exhibit the trait. In the study, researchers compared structural brain differences using MRI scans in people with either life-course-persistent or adolescent-only antisocial behaviour, and those without the trait. They said the results provided the first evidence to suggest that underlying neurological differences are primarily associated with life-course-persistent antisocial behaviour. **PTI**

[20-50 YEARS]

Young cancer survivors have higher risk of health problems later

PEOPLE WHO survive cancer during childhood and early adulthood are more likely to experience severe, life-threatening health problems and die prematurely, a recent study suggests. Researchers followed almost 12,000 young cancer survivors and roughly 5,000 of their healthy siblings for around two decades, until many of them were in their 40s. Even though all of the cancer survivors were tumor free for at least five years at the start of the study, they were still roughly six times more likely to die during follow-up than their siblings. "Before 1960, cancer before the age of 21 years was uniformly fatal, and currently about 83 per cent of anyone diagnosed with cancer before the age of 21 years can be cured," said a researcher. Now, as advances in cancer therapy increase survival odds and transform the disease from a death sentence to a chronic illness for many people, doctors need to focus more on the long-term side effects of treatment. **PTI**

[50+ YEARS]

Mediterranean diet may boost gut bacteria linked to 'healthy ageing'

EATING A Mediterranean diet, which includes meals built around fruits and vegetables, boosts gut bacteria linked to 'healthy' ageing, while suppressing microbes associated with harmful inflammation, according to a study which may lead to better clinical food recommendations. The study, published in the journal *Gut*, noted that ageing is associated with deteriorating bodily functions and increasing inflammation, and the Mediterranean diet may act on gut bacteria in a way that helps curb the advance of physical frailty and cognitive decline in old age. Researchers analysed the gut microbiome of 612 people aged 65 to 79, before and after 12 months of either eating their usual diet, or a Mediterranean diet rich in fruits, vegetables, nuts, legumes, olive oil and fish, and low in red meat and saturated fats. According to the findings, sticking to the Mediterranean diet for 12 months was associated with beneficial changes to the gut microbiome. **PTI**

ON THE TUBE TODAY
INDIA VS AUSTRALIA (PRO LEAGUE)
LIVE ON STAR SPORTS: 7 PM

BRIEFLY

BCB wants Kohli for Mujibur Rahman Centenary games

New Delhi: Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) wants India captain Virat Kohli to be part of the two T20 Internationals, scheduled in Dhaka between March 18 to 22, to celebrate the birth centenary of country's founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The BCCI is considering BCB's request. The Asia XI and World XI teams are yet to be confirmed for the two games but BCB CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury said that the matches will be held in the March 18-22 window. "We are still working on the scheduling and the players' availability for the games and will make the announcement soon. What I can say is that the games will be played between March 18-22 and we are in constant touch with the BCCI over the availability of the Indian players," Chowdhury told *PTI* without referring Kohli's name.

Asked about the Indian players' availability for the matches, BCCI president Sourav Ganguly, who was at the Board headquarters in Mumbai on Friday, said: "We have not yet finalised the names. We can send four to five players." However, a BCCI official revealed that the issue was discussed in the Apex Council meeting on Sunday with BCB wanting Kohli to play in the matches. "BCB wants Kohli to play in the matches and it is understandable considering he is the best player in the world. Also, they want all India regulars for the game. "Since there is a plan that the series will be extended to Ahmedabad, where the third game is proposed at the renovated stadium, the Board is considering BCB's request," the official said. Considering the hectic schedule of the Indian team, it remains to be seen if Kohli makes him available for the games in Dhaka.

'No plans for four-day Tests in England'

London: ECB chief executive Tom Harrison says there are no plans to introduce four-day Test matches in England as debate swirls over the future of the longest form of the game. The International Cricket Council is next month set to discuss a proposal to reduce matches in the World Test Championship by a day from 2023.

The England and Wales Cricket Board said in December that it was "cautiously' supportive of the move towards shorter Tests as a way of reducing players' workloads. But in an interview with The Cricketer magazine, Harrison said he had been incorrectly "positioned as the champion of four-day Tests". "There are no plans over the next few years to introduce four-day Tests in England...certainly not in the World Test Championship...the Ashes," he said.

But he added: "I'm cautiously supportive of four-day Tests, in certain geographies, in certain times of the year, against certain opposition. "In a cluttered calendar, when we're facing enormous pressure on schedules, four-day Test cricket does answer some questions, some of the time. "It's not the answer to all of our problems and our own problems." Asked if the ICC could impose four-day Tests on its members, Harrison was firm in his response. **AGENCIES**

From shooting hoops to scalping stars

How the 6 feet 8 inches NBA tragic Kyle Jamieson became a Test bowler who troubled Indian batsmen with deadly bounce

EXPRESS IN NEW ZEALAND
SANDIP G
WELLINGTON, FEBRUARY 21

BASKETBALL OR CRICKET? It was the 6 feet, 8 inches tall Kyle Jamieson's first dilemma. Lanky, athletic, and an NBA tragic, it's barely surprising that he plied basketball well into his teens. A point-guard with a penchant for three-pointers, he was on a representative squad and did some academy work with the New Zealand Breakers for a year. At the same time, he was making rampant strides in cricket as an all-rounder who opened the batting and took the new ball. But when he was around 11, arrived the moment to pick between the two sports.

His father, Michael, who still opens the batting for Papatoetoe's 2B side, knew he would pick cricket. Not because he wanted him to be a cricketer, or ever forced him to be one, but he had realised the fire in his son when he was barely eight. "We were watching a New Zealand game on the television. I think it was happening at the Basin Reserve only, when he came and told me, 'dad, I want to be a Black Cap."

Not a pushy father, he had just one advice to his son. "So I told him one day, I'm happy to help you. I'm happy to come and throw balls in the nets. If he never made the Black Caps, it wasn't going to be due to lack of trying. If you weren't good enough that's fine, but it wasn't going to be because you hadn't done the hard work," recollects Michael, who had to scramble for a flight ticket from Auckland to Wellington after Jamieson was informed of his Test debut on Thursday.

Jamieson, though, admits he was frankly not good at basketball. "I don't know how far I actually would have gone. My jump height is not the greatest, so look, I certainly enjoyed playing both sports growing up, and it probably hit around year 11, where it just became quite full-on, to balance between the two. So yeah, just stuck with cricket, and I think it seems to be paying off a little bit now," he said after his dream Test debut, wherein he nailed the two pillars of Indian batting, Virat Kohli and Cheteshwar Pujara, besides the in-form Hanuma Vihari.

Low jump height

His jump height is not great when he's bowling either. He decelerates as he approaches the crease, nearly stops in his run-up before he releases the delivery. It's not an unorthodox action. He could send down innocuous deliveries too. Like those he employed to dismiss Pujara and Vihari, full deliveries that held the line or moved away fractionally. Not the usual dismissal modes you'd expect from a gangly bowler. Normally, tall men as him, trade their wickets with back-of-length or short-pitch stuff at top pace. Think of Morne Morkel or Curtly Ambrose. Even Joel Garner bowled full only when he tried yorkers. Jamieson is neither a back-of-length peddler nor a pace machine. His maximum speed was 132 kmph and mostly dwelled on good or full length, though he did illustrate his mastery of different lengths.

So the fuller length, which he intersperses with back-of-length deliveries, surprises batsmen. Explains Jamieson: "I think as a tall guy, naturally your length is further back, but over time you get used to trying to bring it a little bit fuller. With my height, I can afford to go a fraction fuller, especially out here, with the extra bounce," he says. The deceptive blend of height, bounce and movement was incomprehensible to the Indian batsmen, the best of them. Thus, Jamieson has achieved enough in the last month—his dream debut and ODI heroics — to be never afflicted with the road not taken regret.

On his first day in Test cricket, Kyle Jamieson got rid of Virat Kohli, Cheteshwar Pujara and Hanuma Vihari to finish with impressive figures of 3/38. *AP*

Bat or ball?

Not along ago, his idea of a dream debut was reaching a hundred. For he began as a middle-order batsman for Auckland Grammar School. For three successive years, he topped the run charts in school cricket and got picked primarily as a batsman in the U-19 World Cup in 2014, but impressed as a bowler (7 wickets) more than a batsman (29 runs). "He was sort of 60-40, batting over bowling. Always a genuine all-rounder.

Normally batted in the top 4 or 5 in the early stuff and bowled sort of first-change, second-change. Going through high-school in first XI cricket, under-14 under-15 and under-16, he would open the batting and the bowling. Or bat No.3 and bowl first-change," says Michael.

But gradually, as he got beefier and broader, coaches and captains began to harness his bowling. "He still bats well, but there came a time when he subconsciously started to focus more on his bowling. He's really started to get a bit stronger in the last couple of years, and that's really helped with (avoiding) injuries. Earlier he was a tall, lanky lad with not a huge amount of muscle, and he's worked hard on that in the gym which has helped to support his frame. Maybe, it has helped him to be a better bowler," says Michael.

Kyle's father Michael, who still opens the batting for Papatoetoe's 2B side, knew his son would always take up cricket as a profession. *Express*

> **He might have been eight and we were watching a New Zealand game on the television. I think it was happening at the Basin Reserve only, when he came and told me, 'dad, I want to be a Black Cap...So I told him one day, I'm happy to help you. I'm happy to come and throw balls in the nets. If he never made the Black Caps, it wasn't going to be due to lack of trying."**
> KYLE JAMIESON'S FATHER MICHAEL

Focus on fitness

It took an injury for him to start focussing on fitness. He broke a bone down the side of his foot and the doctors put a screw in. Then the screw broke again. Thus, he realised he needs to be fitter. Those were the darkest days of his career.

"You could see it really affected him because it was a case of 'hey, I am not going to get to play the sport I love for a little while' and stuff like that," Michael remembers.

As he leaped over higher levels, his batting became inadequate. "He did struggle to take the step up with the bat whereas he managed to step up with the ball. Then in the last couple of years, he's done a lot of work with his batting and was getting used to the change of roles," he says.

But in the backyard, his father struggles to snatch the bat from him. And India would vouch for his batting skills, the influential role he played.

In an ideal world, Michael wants to see him excel in both batting and bowling. "He's done a lot of work with his batting and was getting used to the change of roles. It's a different role from batting at the top of the order to batting down where you're batting at the end of the innings and you're now starting to look at run-rates and who's at the other end. He now understands his role. And hopefully, you can see more of his batting," he avers.

Returning home

Auckland or Canterbury? It was his latest dilemma. Jamieson moved to Canterbury on a sports scholarship with the Lincoln University when he was 18. There he met the current New Zealand coach Gary Stead, who mentored him, and played five years for them. But then came a time when he was split between staying there or moving back.

After much deliberation, he decided to return home. "I wasn't enjoying it and wasn't really liking the person I was in the field sometimes as well. It was just a shift that I needed to make – I thought that, most importantly, I needed to be happy and I needed to enjoy my cricket and then wherever that might take me, it would," he recently said in a press conference upon joining Auckland.

The fruits of his labour remaining unrequited, he was in a negative state of mind so much so that he consulted New Zealand Cricket's mental skills coach, Pete Sanford to better understand himself. "That mental space is such an important part of life, not just as a cricketer, and that's something I always keep tapping into, to keep things in check," he said. The decision became easier to make after Henrich Malan, who was the NZ A coach, took over the reins of Auckland.

"Kyle just felt Henrich had something to offer him and just a different voice. I think it was just a timing thing. And it's working well," he says. Back in Auckland, the negativity dissipated, he began to enjoy his cricket again and regained his drive. "He's a different person now. Very, very competitive and happy," says Michael. Both happiness and competitiveness have flown into his cricket too. He's in that state of mind where he has no dilemmas.

SCORECARD »
NZ vs India

1st Test | Wellington | Toss: NZ

INDIA 122/5 IN 55 OVERS

P Shaw b Southee	**16** (18b, 2x4)
M Agarwal c Jamieson b Boult	**34** (84b, 5x4)
C Pujara c Watling b Jamieson	**11** (42b, 1x4)
V Kohli c Taylor b Jamieson	**2** (7b)
A Rahane not out	**38** (122b, 4x4)
H Vihari c Watling b Jamieson	**7** (20b, 1x4)
A Turner c Rahul b Saini	**4** (10b)
R Pant not out	**10** (37b, 1x4)
Extras: (lb 1, w 3)	**4**

Fall of wickets: 1-16 (Prithvi Shaw, 4.2 ov), 2-35 (Cheteshwar Pujara, 15.3 ov), 3-40 (Virat Kohli, 17.5 ov), 4-88 (Mayank Agarwal, 34.3 ov), 5-101 (Hanuma Vihari, 41.1 ov)

Bowling:

T Southee	14-4-**27-1**
T Boult	14-2-**44-1**
C de Grandhomme	11-5-**12-0**
K Jamieson	14-2-**38-3**
A Patel	2-2-**0-0**

LESSON FROM DAY 1

In New Zealand, unplayable deliveries are always round the corner

SANDIP G
WELLINGTON, FEBRUARY 21

THE GROUNDSMEN at Basin Reserve hate rain, for they have to sprint nearly 90m and drag the tarpaulin over the square as fast as possible, defying the devilish northerly that can knock you off the ground. The most difficult part of their job is to fasten the edges of the tarpaulin to the ground. "Every time you think you have fastened it, the cover blows off, and then we have to run behind it again. It's bloody hard work, it blows your lid off," shrieks a groundsman.

In a sense, it's symbolic of batting in New Zealand, where the usual method of getting your eye in and tucking in the runs prescribed elsewhere is not foolproof. For, in these shores, a batsman is never really in, no matter how long he had batted or how assured he had looked. When you think you have countered and mastered the conditions and bowlers, neutered the new ball, you get a scorcher from nowhere. It's true that in cricket, a good ball can snare a batsman at any time of the day, but in New Zealand the incidence rate is higher than elsewhere.

It's different from the first days in the subcontinent, where the batsmen need to survive the first 30 minutes and then pile on the runs. On most grounds in Australia or South Africa, where once the batters have dug in, runs and boundaries await them in the bounty. Or in England, where it swings and seams mostly throughout the day and naturally batsmen tend to be more cautious. It was different in Wellington, where the ball would do nothing untoward for overs on end, before, out of nowhere emerges the wreck-ball.

At various stages of the match, three of the five dismissed Indian batsmen oozed assurance, but could not kick on or avert the eventual collapse. Prithvi Shaw looked assured in his short stay; Cheteshwar Pujara was stable and Agarwal settled in. The last two soaked 42 and 84 balls, they're reputed to carry on from there. But it wasn't to be.

Pujara gets a beauty

Take Pujara for instance. Barring a couple of short balls outside the off-stump — one apiece from Kyle Jamieson and Trent Boult — that he unnecessarily stabbed at, he looked the most assured of Indian batsmen. Defending stoutly and leaving emphatically, he seemed in utter control from the first ball.

He was past the 40-delivery mark, where a batsman usually has weathered the storm. It's the phase when Pujara starts scanning the field for boundaries. Moreover, the strip, despite its greenish tint, was not abetting outrageous movement in the air or off the surface.

But suddenly out of nowhere, that he got a peach, full length on off-stump, angled in and held off the seam a fraction. Pujara's only culpability was that he played the ball inside the line. Had the line been wider, he could have left the ball. Had the length been shorter, he would have had enough time to move backwards and defend. Had the delivery not seamed away, he was perfectly-positioned to defend the ball to safety. But the concoction of angle, length and seam movement defeated Pujara. All the while he had looked unperturbed.

Virat Kohli chased a wide, fullish delivery off Kyle Jamieson to unfurl his signature cover drive. Instead, he ended up edging it to Ross Taylor at first slip. *AP*

Agarwal throws it away

Agarwal next. While he can only blame his injudicious shot-selection, pulling into the wind a shortish Trent Boult delivery on the leg-stump, for his eventual exit, there was a phase wherein he looked incredibly unruffled but would get beaten by a delivery that bounces or seams away more than he has been anticipating and more than he has seen hitherto from the pitch.

He was stroking fluently, the drives, glances and clips were unfurled with his typical gusto, before he suddenly grew edgy at the fag end of the first session, getting squared up a couple of times and looking to drive away from the body. So disgusted was he after edging a full length ball of Tim Southee that seamed away, he furiously admonished himself.

Like most batsmen, he was lulled into a force sense of security. You've defused the new-ball, faced 60-odd balls, and the time's ripe to play some shots. Or so he would've thought. But he got only more tentative as his innings progressed, to a point that it started frustrating him, culminating in a self-destructive stroke. Admitted Agarwal: "As a batsman, you never felt that you were completely in because even after lunch, it was doing a little bit."

Shaw gets a Southee special

Likewise, his fellow opener Prithvi Shaw looked in terrific touch, moving his feet well, playing beside the ball, shuffling across nicely, not pushing at the ball, until he got an outstanding delivery — a trademark Southee good-length ball that seamed away marginally. Shaw was caught on the move when looking to drive at a ball that he thought was drivable. Similarly pitched deliveries hadn't moved prodigiously, lest he would have been more cautious. Hence, the baffled look on his face when he walked back to the pavilion.

Even the most comfortable of Indian batsmen on a blustery day, Ajinkya Rahane, would get occasionally beaten by a ripper. Nothing quite like the one Boult served to him later in the day, when he got beaten by an angled-in delivery that shaped away after landing. A little too good to snare his inside edge. It was that kind of a day, wherein neither the groundsmen nor the Indian batsmen could take the eye off the ball. It was hard work and it blew their lid off.

THE NUMBERS GAME

30 Mayank Agarwal became the first Indian opener in 30 years to survive the first session of a Test match in New Zealand. Before him, only Manoj Prabhakar had managed this feat in Napier back in 1990 during his innings of 95.

Slow and steady Yadav wins game

Agra-born leggie drops pace, flights balls to fox world champions Australia in the opening game of T20 World Cup

Poonam Yadav took 4/19 in India's win over Australia on Friday. *AP*

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 21

A SMOOTH, diagonal run-up, and then a delightfully looping — and awfully tempting – delivery. It's easy to get it wrong. When leg-spinner Poonam Yadav stepped up in the 10th over of India's opener against hosts and defending champions Australia in the women's T20 World Cup, her fourth ball was clobbered over long-on for a six by the in-form batswoman Alyssa Healy.

She wasn't perturbed. Yadav had been around long enough, she isn't afraid of giving the ball air. It's a tactic that has helped her stand at No. 7 in the ICC ODI rankings, 12th in T20s. And it would help her on the day as well. All that was needed was a drop in pace — even as low as around the 50 kmph mark. In the fastest format of the game, the slowest deliveries were the most telling.

So slow was the pace, masked perfectly with the flight, that at times the ball barely reached the batters' boot laces. With no elevation, the hard-hitting Australians couldn't play their usual heaves over the ropes. They also struggled to time their shots. Time and again the bat would be swung before the ball them.

On one occasion, Yadav bowled Ashleigh Gardner, but the ball was deemed illegal since it bounced twice before hitting the stumps. But she still came up with a match-winning spell, taking four wickets for 19 runs. The 28-year-old helped India defend its score of 132/4 by playing a pivotal role in the visitors bowling Australia out for 115.

"These are the conditions she thrives in. It's her favourite format. Playing big hitters on pitches that aren't exactly favourable to bowlers," says her coach Manoj Kushwah. "When India touched 120 runs while batting, I knew that 50 percent of the match would not be decided by Poonam. She's a wicket-taking bowler, she read the conditions and she knew how to break the Australian batters."

Hirwani in dugout

Yadav's first wicket was half-centurion Healy, on a delivery that was clocked at 63 kmph – her last wicket was measured at 58 kmph. After the match, Yadav was seen chatting with former India leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani, a consultant with the women's team. Between the two, they had figured out a plan for the Australians.

Killing the pace on the ball meant batswomen – who in this format are used to the ball coming onto the bat well, and can use the pace to generate power - would have to work even harder to get any purchase in their shots. But Yadav was not going to let the settle. As soon as she felt the batswoman was getting used to her speed, rather, the lack of it, she'd toss up a faster delivery to throw her off.

"That's just how she's been. She likes to mix up the pace, put in so much variation that the batter just can't figure out what's coming next. Sometimes it'll be a faster ball, sometimes a googly, sometimes so slow they completely miss it," Kushwah says. "She knows what her strengths are, and she's worked hard to perfect it."

And she had plenty of time to prepare for this moment.

Returning after injury

A fracture to the ring finger of her non-bowling hand had kept her out of action for around six weeks. A surgery was required, and Kushwah remembers his ward getting nervous before the medical procedure. But once the operation was done, and the plaster safely fitted, she was ready to get back into training.

"She was back in the nets, practicing her bowling, doing the cardio work, basically everything she would normally do except for things that needed her to use her left hand," the coach adds. "With the plaster on, she was training and preparing. She wanted to be there for the World Cup."

During that phase, she planned her tactics for the World Cup game against the defending champions. The slow, tantalising yet lethal bowling style has made her the world's highest wicket-taker (39) for the past two years, and now the player of the match in the World Cup opener. For her father, retired army subedar, Raghuvir Singh Yadav, this is where his daughter was destined to be.

Born in Agra, the leg-spinner always had the "junoon" for cricket, practicing with the boys in the open spaces near home, playing through the constant taunting that "girl's shouldn't play cricket" from passers-by. In time though, she'd captain the Uttar Pradesh U-19 team, and become the first woman cricketer from the state to win the Arjuna Award. There was a moment though, when she wanted to quit the game.

"She had gone for a trial for the regional team but did not bowl too well and didn't get selected. She was upset and wanted to quit," recalls her father. "I had met some of her coaches in the past and they had told me that 'yeh ladki ek din India ke liye khelegi.' That was the only thought in my mind when she said that, so I tried to encourage her to carry on."

That single thought fueled the family's desire to see Yadav become the first professional sportsperson from the family, for Yadav to don the national colours, and to make an impact for her team.

And she did just that, slowly.

BRIEF SCORES: India 132/4 (Deepti Sharma 49*, Jess Jonassen 2-24) beat Australia 115 (Alyssa Healy 51, Poonam Yadav 4-19, Shikha Pandey 3-14) by 17 runs.

EXPLAINED

Why Yadav was denied the fifth wicket

IT WAS an unusual no-ball that denied leggie Poonam Yadav a fifth wicket. This happened in the 18th over of Australia's chase when batter Ashleigh Gardner missed a slow, loopy Yadav ball that sneak on to the stumps.

With the legality of the ball in doubt, the field umpires asked for a review. Replays showed that the ball had pitched twice before reaching Gardner. Law 21.7 says that a ball is illegal if it reaches the striker after "bouncing more than twice or rolls along the ground before reaching the popping crease".

A bowler like Poonam is someone who leads from the front. We were expecting a great comeback from her. Our team is looking nice, earlier we depended on two-three players."

HARMANPREET KAUR
CAPTAIN, INDIA

It was great for me to come back from injury and perform like this. It was the third time that I was on a hat-trick but satisfied that I was able to do the job for the team."

POONAM YADAV
BOWLER, INDIA

Aus punish error-prone India in close encounter

Rupinderpal Singh scored a goal for India along with two from newcomer Raj Kumar Pal. *Hockey India*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUBANESWAR, FEBRUARY 21

INDIA FOUGHT hard before losing 3-4 to defending champions Australia in their first match of the two-leg FIH Pro League encounter here on Friday.

Making their debut in the second season of the FIH Pro League, the Indians displayed their potential by claiming five points from a possible six against the Netherlands before claiming another three in a stunning 2-1 victory over Belgium, the reigning World and European champions. The Red Lions bounced back with a 3-2 win in the second match.

But the hosts were made to toil hard by the world no.2 Australia before eventually losing the match in a close encounter. Dylan Wotherspoon (6th minute), Tom Wickham (18th), Lachlan Sharp (41st) and Jacob Anderson (42nd) scored four field goals for the winners. India's goals came from the sticks of Raj Kumar Pal (36th, 47th) and Rupinder Pal Singh (52nd). By virtue of this win, Australia moved up to the third position in the standings with nine points from five games, while India are a rung behind with eight points from as many matches.

Australia showed why they are considered as one of most ruthless hockey teams in the world, taking the lead with the first chance of the match in the sixth minute with Wotherspoon deflecting home Sharp's perfect pass from close range after an excellent break from skipper Aran Zalewski. The Indians tried to bounce back from the early shock but were denied by Australia's confident defensive unit. Wickham doubled Australia's advantage with a cool finish from close range, tapping home a perfectly weighted pass from Eddie Ockenden in the 18th minute, much to the disappointment of the home team.

The Kookaburras went into the breather with a two goal advantage. Five minutes into the third quarter, India earned a penalty corner but Rupinder's drag-flick was brilliantly thwarted by Jake Harvie. A minute later, the hosts pulled a goal back when Raj Kumar scored from a rebound after Rupinder's initial flick from a penalty corner was blocked by Australia goalkeeper Andrew Charter.

Minutes later, India custodian Krishan Bahadur Pathak made a good save to deny Corey Weyer's try from a penalty corner. But Australia kept up the pressure and scored twice in a span of two minutes to take a comfortable 4-1 lead. But the Indians didn't give up and reduced the margin four minutes later when Raj Kumar scored a fine field goal, his second of the day. Eight minutes from the final hooter, Rupinder gave India hope after converting a penalty corner to make the scoreline 3-4.

The Indians got a golden opportunity in the final minute of the game when they were awarded a penalty corner but a Rupinder Singh try went wide of the target.

Ranji: Late-bloomer Das helps Bengal stage late fightback vs Odisha

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
CUTTACK, FEBRUARY 21

AT THE end of the second day's play, Bengal's spin-bowling consultant Utpal Chatterjee heaved a sigh of relief. Three wickets in the last hour had tilted the balance in the visitors' favour, allowing Chatterjee to breathe easier. "The tension was unbearable. They were playing untroubled and wickets weren't coming," he said smiling.

That pretty much summed up the mood of the Bengal dressing-room, where anxiety was writ large when Debasish Samantray and Shantanu Mishra had been putting on a 125-run second wicket partnership. Then, Samantray played a loose shot, Mishra misjudged the line of a Shahbaz Ahmed delivery and the experienced Govinda Poddar was bounced out by Ishan Porel in what turned out to be the final ball of the day.

From 135/1, Odisha suddenly slumped to 151/4 and smiles returned to the Bengal camp. Despite being a five-day affair, this match could well be decided on the basis of the first innings lead. Bengal, after being all out for 332 in their first innings and doing the hard grind for the most part of the day, wrested the initiative.

For the second consecutive day, the pitch eased out post lunch and Odisha benefited from it. Mishra and Samantray were wearing down the bowlers despite going slow. The hosts' run-rate was a shade over one for the first 18 overs. It sauntered to a little over two in the afternoon session. But in a Ranji Trophy quarterfinal, run-rate was never an issue. It was about playing old-school cricket – staying at the crease, taking a few singles and allowing the occasional boundaries to take care of themselves. The two Odisha batsmen had been doing their job to perfection.

As the ball was doing very little, Bengal chose to go on the defensive. They focused on keeping things tight. Medium pacer Nilkantha Das was miserly and his 15 overs, for just 20 runs and two wickets, kept his team in the game. Das has made his first-class debut this season at 31, after slogging it out for over a decade in club cricket. He has proved to be a serious value addition. He bowls at 120-125kph, has his limitations but the best thing about him is that he is aware of them and bowls accordingly. He can bowl at a nagging line and length for hours and his patience paid off, when Samantray went for a wild slash to a delivery, deliberately bowled a little wide outside the off stump.

Samantray was batting on 68 and should have avoided the invitation. He took the bait instead, edging the ball to Shreevats Goswami behind the stumps. The door was made ajar. Das had his first wicket before lunch, when he removed Anurag Sarangi. After the day's play, both Arun Lal, the Bengal team head coach, and senior batsman Manoj Tiwary, were full of praise for the medium pacer.

With the bowlers toiling hard and Poddar surviving a very confident leg-before shout, tempers flew. Goswami threw a ball towards the Odisha batsman and received a talking-to from the on-field umpires, Sai Darshan Kumar and Abhijit Deshmukh. Bengal were trying to get under their opponents' skin and it seemed to have affected Mishra's concentration. After scoring 62 off 214 balls, he played down the wrong line to a delivery from left-arm spinner Ahmed that straightened. The batsman had played for the angle.

Also, Odisha were naive enough to play an extra over that accounted for Poddar. With just four minutes remaining for stumps to be drawn, a bit of time-wasting during the over number 67 would have done it for the day. But the hosts didn't slow down the proceedings and allowed Bengal to have one more over. Porel made one rear off a length in the first ball and Poddar couldn't handle the extra, giving a catch to Anustup Majumdar at slip. As he started walking back to the pavilion, the umpires called 'time'.

The match, however, is not over yet. Far from it. Odisha still have enough batting to play with. Biplab Samantray and captain Subhranshu Senapati are experienced campaigners at this level. Wicketkeeper Rajesh Dhuper, too, has a first-class hundred. But the hosts will have to bat out the first session on the third day to have any chance of progressing to the semifinals. Early morning freshness is helping the ball to move. Also, the second new ball is due after another 12.5 overs. Bengal seamers are expected to go full tilt.

Earlier, resuming on 308/6, Bengal's last four wickets added just 24 runs in the morning. Ahmed couldn't add to his overnight score of 82 and Mukesh Kumar and Porel got out in successive balls. Majumdar took his score to 157 – his highest in first-class cricket – before he was the last man out. For Odisha, Basant Mohanty returned with four wickets.

BRIEF SCORES: Bengal 332 (Anustup Majumdar 157; Basant Mohanty 4/53) vs Odisha 151/4 (Debasish Samantray 68, Shantanu Mishra 62; Nilkantha Das 2/20)

PARTHIV ENTERS 11,000-RUN CLUB

Valsad: **Parthiv Patel got into the 11,000-run club in first-class cricket, as Gujarat had Goa on the mat on the second day of the Ranji Trophy quarterfinal at Valsad.** ***Brief scores:*** **Gujarat 602/8 decl. (Parthiv Patel 124, Roosh Kalaria 118 not out; Felix Alemao 3/86) vs Goa 46/2**

SAURASHTRA IN DRIVER'S SEAT

Ongole: **Chirag Jani's century and his 157-run seventh wicket partnership with Prerak Mankad put Saurashtra in the driver's seat on the second day of their Ranji Trophy quarterfinal against Andhra.** ***Brief scores:*** **Saurashtra 419 (Chirag Jani 121, Prerak Mankad 80; Y Prithvi Raj 3/51) vs Andhra 40/2 (Jaydev Unadkat 2/20)**

SWITCHING ALLEGIANCE

On-demand matmen: Russian XI at Asian wrestling Championship

MIHIR VASAVDA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 21

WHAT WOULD you trade to be at the Olympics? Nurislam Sanayev has given up his identity: his name, country and religion.

The 23-year-old wrestler was born as Arthas Sanaa in Tyva, Russia's wrestling hub, to a family of wrestlers. However, for Sanna, the sport's popularity proved to be a curse. Wrestlers in Russia are as commonplace as footballers in Brazil or distance-runners in Africa. They are in abundance and, considering the intense level of competition, not many make it to the top.

In this crowded space, Sanaa, for years, tried to carve his own identity and make a name for himself in the Russian national team. But he never came close to making the cut. So, in 2014 – after competing for Russia in a few lightweight international tournaments - he changed his nationality and decided to compete for Kazakhstan. Then, just before the Rio Olympics where he competed in the 57kg class, Arthas Sanaa changed his name to Nurislam Sanayev and converted to Islam.

He isn't the only wrestler to have moved out of Russia in search of greener pastures.

Two years ago, Ilyas Bekbulatov won a European Championship silver medal for Russia, and the year before, he had won the gold. Yet, Bekbulatov is considered to be one of the best wrestlers to have never competed in a World Championship or an Olympics as he never got selected for Russia. So, with an eye on the Tokyo Games, the 29-year-old 70kg wrestler switched his nationality effective last month. And on Sunday, the former European Champion will make his Asian Championship debut, representing Uzbekistan.

Sanayev and Bekbulatov are among the 11 one-time Russians who are competing at the Asian Championships this week in New Delhi – four representing Kyrgyzstan, three in Uzbekistan's team, two with Kazakhstan and one each with Bahrain and the Philippines.

"In Russia, the level of competition is very high and all of them dream to go for the Olympics," says Dulat Karybaev, a Kazakh wrestling official who also works for United World Wrestling-Asia. "Since they do not get a chance, they go to another country."

The international body, United World Wrestling, does not frown upon such 'transfers.' In its rulebook, the UWW considers "professional, sports, family or political" issues as reasons for athletes to change nationality, and in fact, they even have provisions for wrestlers to adopt a 'sports nationality' without holding the nationality certified by a passport. They have a 'transfer window' too. The wrestler has to submit all the necessary paperwork and a fee of 5,000 Swiss francs between December 1 and 31. And if everything is in order, the wrestler will get his new 'sports nationality' at the start of the New Year. However, nationality can be changed just once and is definitive, meaning the wrestler cannot return to his previous country.

Russia-born Nurislam Sanayev, who competes for Kazakhstan, changed his name, country and religion to compete at the Olympics. *UWW*

Karybaev says there are a lot of wrestlers who have been taking advantage of this rule. Because of their shared past and culture, a lot of Russians end up choosing one of the former Soviet nations as their new home. Financial considerations, too, are made before making the switch.

Sanayev, for instance, is assured a salary of $1,000 per month by the Kazakhstan federation, according to Karybaev; which is almost five times what he made while in Russia. "If he wins World Championship, he will get $15,000 and for Asian Championship gold, $3000. Apart from that, he gets house, car and other things too," Karybaev says.

The influx of wrestlers from Russia upset the local hopefuls in Kazakhstan, which forced the federation to alter its policy after the Rio Olympics and keep a check on the number of wrestlers they import from there. The Russians, however, had found alternates by then.

In the last few years, richer wrestling federations outside of the erstwhile Soviet bloc have begun to poach the Russians. "You will find Russian wrestlers in France, Hungary, Spain and even Turkey. There are so many of them everywhere," Karybaev says.

In Asia, the Gulf nations have joined the race to woo the Russians. In the 65kg class, for instance, India's medal hope at Tokyo Bajrang Punia could face Haji Mohamad Ali, a little-known Russian who has made Bahrain his new home, in the semifinals on Sunday.

A tougher test, from an Indian perspective, will be in 57kg on Saturday, where world championship bronze medalist Ravi Kumar is likely to meet Sanayev if he reaches the last four. At the Rome Ranking Series last month, Ravi defeated his Russian-Kazakh opponent without much of a fuss. Karybaev says Sanayev is better prepared this time. "Unfortunately (for India), he will be stronger," he jokes. "But then, his target is just the Olympics. He is preparing just for that."

SAKSHI SETTLES FOR SILVER

New Delhi: **Exploiting a weaker field, Sakshi Malik claimed a silver while Vinesh Phogat dominated her bronze medal play-off after losing to nemesis Mayu Mukaida as Indian women team registered its best-ever performance at the Asian Wrestling Championship, returning with eight medals here on Friday. The Indian team had won only one gold medal before this edition but Divya, Pinki and Sarita Mor won three on the opening day. Nirmala Devi came out second best.**
On Friday, Sakshi (65kg, silver), Vinesh (53kg, bronze) young Anshu Malik (57kg bronze) and Gursharan Preet kaur (72kg, bronze) added to India's tally. The win means Sakshi's dream to compete at the Tokyo Games is still alive with Wrestling Federation of India deciding to hold fresh trials in her, as well as 76kg category, to pick women wrestlers for the Asian Olympic Qualifiers. PTI

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BRIEFLY

Chennaiyin beat Mum, secure playoff berth

Mumbai City FC suffered a heartbreak in the most poetic form when Lucian Goian scored the winner against his former club to help Chennaiyin FC qualify for the Indian Super League playoffs after a tightly-contested clash on Friday. Clear-cut chances were few and far between in what was an intense contest that saw Mumbai City reduced to 10-men in the second half. But Goian's 83rd-minute strike was enough for Chennaiyin to win the contest 1-0 and complete the ISL play- off lineup.

Sharath-Sathiyan in Hungary Open final

The Indian pairing of Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyan upset top-seeds Kwan Kit Ho and Chun Ting Wong of Hong Kong to enter the men's doubles final of the ITTF World Tour Hungary Open here on Friday. In a hard-fought five-setter, the Indian qualifiers won 11-7, 12-10, 4-11, 4-11, 11-9 and earned a meeting with the second-seeded pair of Duda Benedikt and Franziska Patrick from Germany in the final to be held on Saturday. The Germans defeated Poland's Dyjas Jakub and Belgium's Nuytinck Cedric 11-4, 11-5, 8-11, 11-3.

Saina ousted in Spain Masters quarters

Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal crashed out of the Barcelona Spain Masters after suffering a straight-game defeat against Thailand's Busanan Ongbamrungphan in the quarterfinals here on Friday. The Olympic medallist from India, seeded fifth here, lost 20-22 19-21 against her third seeded opponent in a women's singles contest that lasted exactly 45 minutes. Busanan will play compatriot and sixth seed Pornpawee Chowhuwong in the semi-finals on Saturday. However, Ajay Jayaram kept India's flag flying by entering the men's singles quarterfinals.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Fists of Fury

Eccentric Brit says he'll let his punches 'fly aggressively' in the rematch vs Wilder

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
LAS VEGAS, FEBRUARY 21

THE MOST-ANTICIPATED heavyweight showdown in nearly two decades will transfix the boxing world on Saturday when unbeaten WBC champion Deontay Wilder faces Tyson Fury in a long-awaited rematch.

In what is the biggest heavyweight collision since Lennox Lewis bludgeoned Mike Tyson into submission on the banks of the Mississippi River in 2002, Wilder and Fury go head-to-head 14 months after battling to a draw in Los Angeles.

Tickets for Saturday's bout at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas have been changing hands for up to $11,000, while promoters predict the event could generate more than 2 million pay-per-view sales in the United States alone. At the centre of the action are two of heavyweight boxing's most charismatic and skilful protagonists, the hard-hitting "Bronze Bomber" Wilder and Fury, the eccentric, self-styled "Gypsy King" from northern England.

Both men will be taking unbeaten records into the 12-round contest, with the 34-year-old Wilder looking to add Fury's name to a tally which reads 42-0 with one drawn and 41 knockouts. The fight is a classic clash of styles, pitting Wilder's devastating knockout power against the more elusive, mobile defensive style of Fury. In their first fight in Los Angeles, Fury recovered from two juddering knockdowns to claim a draw, miraculously climbing off the canvas in the 12th round to hang on for a share of the spoils.

Until that final knockdown, Fury had been on course to snatch victory, outfoxing Wilder with a defensive masterclass which had the 6ft 7in (2m) American unleashing wild haymakers at thin air.

Fury, (29-0-1, 20 knockouts) however has spent the buildup to Saturday's rematch promising to adopt a more aggressive approach, insisting he is targeting an early knockout. "My own destiny lies within my own two fists," the 31-year-old said.

"I'll be letting them fly very aggressively. The mistake I made last time was not making him pay when he was hurt. This time when I get him hurt, I'll throw everything but the kitchen sink at him and he won't know what hit him." Fury's assertion that he is targeting an explosive victory to make the judge's scorecards an irrelevance should be taken with a large pinch of salt. The British fighter is not renowned for raw knockout punching power, and his likeliest path to victory remains via the sort of elusiveness which has marked his most significant career performances.

There are also question marks over Fury's build-up. He required more than 40 stitches to patch up a horrific cut over his right eye in a laboured victory over Otto Wallin in his last fight in September.

That was followed by a split with trainer Ben Davison, who had successfully guided Fury's comeback in 2018 after a three-year hiatus spent battling depression, drink and drug problems. Fury has since turned to Javan "Sugarhill" Steward, the nephew of the legendary late cornerman Emanuel Steward.

Wilder's preparations for the rematch meanwhile have rolled along relatively smoothly. He demolished Dominic Breazeale in one round last May, and then scored a spectacular one-punch seventh-round knockout of Cuba's Luis Ortiz in November.

Although Wilder and Fury shoved each other at a face-off in Las Vegas on Wednesday, the American champion has appeared the more composed of the two men this week. A relaxed-sounding Wilder is sceptical of Fury's vows to pursue a more aggressive gameplan, and in any case doubts the Briton possesses the power to carry it out. "I don't believe nothing Fury says at this moment in time," Wilder said. "He's just a tall big man that can move around the ring. And that's about it. As far as power, there's none there.

"I don't believe he'll be able to develop (power), no matter what trainer he brings in. You just don't develop power in a couple of weeks. It's impossible."

Wilder also believes he has left a lasting psychological mark on Fury after the crushing knockdown in their first meeting.

"Deep down in his heart, I really feel that he's nervous from the first time," Wilder said.

"When you knock a person out and get a concussion, you never forget that."

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