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Year of Exam	Cut-off Marks for General Category	Data from UPSC website	MARKS DELIVERED FROM OUR 10 RED BOOKLETS
2019	99 (Expected)	154	154
2018	98	154	154
2017	105.34	154	154
2016	116	152	152
2015	107.34	168	168
2014	205 (incl. CSAT Marks)	162 (GS) + 140 (CSAT)	162 (GS) + 140 (CSAT)

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### NEARBY



#### Nirbhaya case: SC hearing on plea today

**NEW DELHI**  
The Supreme Court on Thursday agreed to urgently list an appeal filed by the Centre challenging the Delhi High Court's rejection of its plea to separately execute the death sentence of the Nirbhaya gang-rape convicts. A Bench led by Justice N.V. Ramana said the special leave petition would be listed before an appropriate Bench on February 7 for hearing.

**NATION** • PAGE 9

#### HC allows minor to abort 24-week pregnancy

**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi High Court on Thursday allowed termination of 24-week pregnancy of a minor rape victim, following the report of a medical board that there was a significant risk to the girl in continuing with it.

**CITY** • PAGE 4

#### JMI asks students to call off stir outside Gate No. 7

**NEW DELHI**  
The Jamia Millia Islamia administration on Thursday appealed to students to call off protest outside Gate No. 7, saying that the site is being used by various factions of civil society and the students are not distinguishable from the crowd.

**CITY** • PAGE 4  
**FRIDAY REVIEW** • 4 PAGES

## Path chosen by you can lead to anarchy, PM cautions Oppn.

Country can't function when a duly enacted law is not obeyed, Modi says on CAA

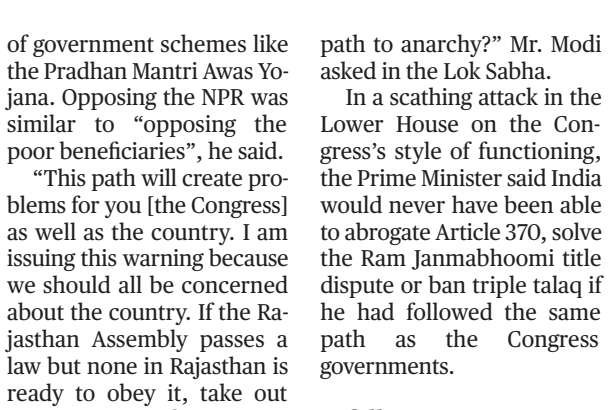
**SANDEEP PHUKAN DAMINI NATH NEW DELHI**  
Putting up a strong defence of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) in both Houses of Parliament, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday cautioned that the ongoing protests might lead to a situation of anarchy and asked what would happen if people in the Opposition-ruled States refused to obey laws enacted by their own Assemblies.

Replying to the debate in the Lok Sabha on the motion of thanks to the President for his address to Parliament, he accused the Opposition of instigating people and sought to assure the members that no Indian citizen would be impacted by the CAA. He contended that the Congress was creating a *kalpanik vai* (an imagined fear), something, he said, Pakistan had been doing to mislead Indian Muslims.

**'Routine exercise'**  
In the Rajya Sabha, Mr. Modi said the National Population Register (NPR) had been introduced by the UPA government in 2010 and argued that the Congress was now misleading people despite its being a 'routine administrative exercise' that was used to identify the beneficiaries

**☞ If the Rajasthan Assembly passes a law but none in Rajasthan is ready to obey it, take out processions and resort to violence.. Your government is there.. What will be the situation? Can the country run like this?**

**☞ For someone's aspiration to become the Prime Minister, a line was drawn on the map and India was divided into two. After Partition, the way how Hindus, Sikhs and other minorities were persecuted is unimaginable**



of government schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Opposing the NPR was similar to "opposing the poor beneficiaries", he said. "This path will create problems for you [the Congress] as well as the country. I am issuing this warning because we should all be concerned about the country. If the Rajasthan Assembly passes a law but none in Rajasthan is ready to obey it, take out processions and resort to violence... your government [the Congress] is there... What will be the situation? In Madhya Pradesh, you are there. If the M.P. Assembly takes a decision and the people of the State go against it... Can the country run like this? Should we go on the

### PM distracting people: Rahul

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi charged Prime Minister Narendra Modi with "distracting" people by talking about "other" issues while remaining silent on unemployment. "Talk about the main issue Prime Minister ji. Tell the youth what you are doing about jobs. His style is to distract the country." PAGE 12

faith in the Kashmiris. Describing Kashmir as India's "crown jewel", he said J&K had seen a massive push in development work. Mr. Modi, who spoke for 1 hour 38 minutes, mostly targeted the Congress, holding it responsible for the Partition, the imposition of the Emergency in 1975 and the anti-Sikh riots. "For someone's aspiration to become the Prime Minister of India, a line was drawn on the map and India was divided into two. After the Partition, the way how Hindus, Sikhs and other minorities were persecuted is unimaginable," the Prime Minister said, without naming Jawaharlal Nehru.

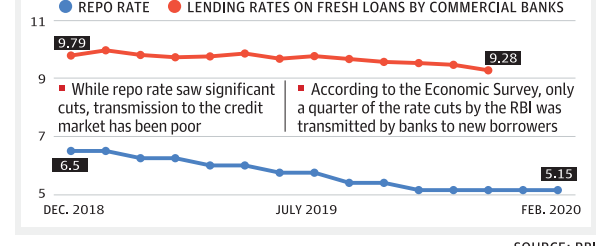
**'A fallout'**  
He also hit out at Jammu and Kashmir politicians, such as Mehbooba Mufti, Omar Abdullah and Farooq Abdullah, contending that their detention was a fallout of the fact that they had tried to instigate the people to rebel, while his government had

## Rates to fall despite RBI's status quo

Repo rate kept unchanged at 5.15%

### Status quo

The RBI on Thursday decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 5.15%. Repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks. Graph shows the change in repo rate and lending rates on fresh loans by commercial banks:



SOURCE: RBI

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI**  
The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided at a meeting on Thursday to keep the interest rates unchanged in the wake of a rise in inflation, but emphasised that there would be space for rate reduction.

This is the second straight policy review meeting where the rates have been kept unchanged. The RBI reduced the rates by 135 bps between February and October 2019 before pressing the pause button in the December policy review.

Thursday's decision was unanimous among all six members of the MPC. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das acknowledged that the market had factored in status quo. "While this decision may be on expected lines, and perhaps widely discounted, it's important not to discount the RBI," he said. "It has to be kept in mind that the central bank has several instruments that can be deployed to address the challenges that the economy faces in terms of the sluggishness in the growth momentum." The central bank took two measures that could ease lending rates further. One, it opened a window to extend ₹1 lakh crore to the commercial banks at the repo rate, which is 5.15%. Second, banks have been exempted from maintaining the cash reserve ratio - which is 4% of the net demand and time liabilities now - for home, auto and MSME loans that are extended from January 31 to July 31.

**CONTINUED ON** • PAGE 12  
**LONG-TERM REPOS** • PAGE 15  
**ON THE FRONT FOOT** • EDITORIAL

## Senate acquits President Donald Trump

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump, impeached by the House of Representatives, was acquitted by the Senate on Wednesday, bringing to a close a bitter process that lasted close to five months.

Senators voted 52 to 48 to acquit Mr. Trump of the abuse of office charge, with Republican Mitt Romney voting alongside all 47 Democrats.

They voted 53-47 as per party lines to acquit the President of the charge of obstruction of Congress.

"The President is guilty of an appalling abuse of public trust," Mr. Romney said before the vote.

Mr. Romney is the first senator in the U.S. history to vote to convict a President from his own party.

Mr. Trump was impeached by the House for conditioning \$391 million in military assistance to Ukraine and a crucial White House meeting with its President Volodymyr Zelensky on the Ukrainians publicly announcing investigations into Mr. Trump's rival and former Vice-President Joseph Biden and his son Hunter.

**'VINDICATION'** • PAGE 14



## Omar, Mehbooba booked under Public Safety Act

Detention of the NC, PDP leaders extended by 3 months

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday slapped the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) against former Chief Ministers Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah.

"Yes, my mother [Mehbooba] received it [the PSA order] around 9.30 p.m.," Ms. Mufti's daughter Iltija Mufti told *The Hindu*.

A National Conference leader also confirmed that Mr. Abdullah was formally served the PSA order.

By virtue of these PSA not-

ices, the detention of PDP leader Ms. Mufti and NC leader Mr. Abdullah is extended by three months, and could be extended further, first up to six months and then one year without trial.

"As a child, I have memories of my mother going from pillar to post to free boys wrongfully detained by security forces. Today, as I fight for her freedom, life has come full circle. We live to fight another day," Ms. Iltija said.

Earlier, the Act was slapped on NC general secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar

and PDP general secretary Sartaj Madni.

This comes on a day when Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in Parliament, accused the regional leaders of attempts to foment trouble in the run-up to the revocation of Article 370 and 35A on August 5, 2019.

Officials said Mr. Sagar, a close confidant of incarcerated NC patron Farooq Abdullah, along with Mr. Madni, uncle of Ms. Mufti, were shifted from MLA Hostel sub-jail to M-5 guest house on Gupkar Road, which is also designated as a sub-jail.

## Hard-fought Delhi Assembly poll campaign concludes

BJP raises pitch in last two weeks; ruling AAP highlights governance and development issues

### JAIDEEP DEO BHANJ NEW DELHI

A hard-fought election campaign that kicked off with Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal asking voters for a second term based on his government's performance ended on Thursday with him calling BJP leaders "fake Hindus" for running an "abusive" campaign. The tenor of the campaign changed drastically in the past two weeks with political parties warring over who can be called a true patriot.

The BJP deployed U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister Anurag Thakur and West Delhi MP Parvesh Sahib Singh among others to assist Home Minis-



E-rickshaws lined up for a roadshow at Nasirpur in support of AAP candidate Vinay Mishra on Thursday. •V.V. KRISHNAN

ter Amit Shah, who was leading the party's campaign in the absence of a chief ministerial face.

Mr. Thakur and Mr. Sahib Singh were both banned by

the Election Commission for 72 hours and 96 hours, respectively, for their controversial statements, leading the Aam Aadmi Party to say that the BJP had no development

to show nor any vision for the Capital, and was resorting to spreading "hate" and running a "divisive" campaign.

Mr. Kejriwal said he was seeking votes for delivering on his free water and electricity promise, and the work done in the fields of education, health and women's safety.

Protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, which found a focal point at Shaheen Bagh, turned into a major election issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking people to vote for the BJP to prevent similar protests and blockade of arterial roads.

Mr. Kejriwal, however, said

the BJP was using Shaheen Bagh as an election issue and the road would be cleared by the Central government immediately after the election.

### Congress evokes Sheila

The Congress, enthused by its performance in 2019 Lok Sabha election, ran a campaign reminding voters of the development that took place in Delhi during the 15-year Sheila Dikshit government and promised to continue all-round redevelopment with a focus on job creation for the youth. Party leader Rahul Gandhi, in his four election rallies, spoke of developing Delhi into a manufacturing hub so that jobs are created.

## Poet's taxi ride ends at police station

Driver reacts to passenger's phone conversation, mentioning 'protest', in cab

### DHAIRYA GAJARA MUMBAI

Little would have Jaipur-based poet Bappaditya Sarkar imagined that his mention of the word 'protest' during a phone conversation while travelling in Mumbai could land him at a police station.

Mr. Sarkar was returning to Kurla from Juhu in an Uber cab on Wednesday, when he called a friend to discuss the ongoing protests in the country against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA). However, unknown to him, the driver was not only overhearing Mr. Sarkar's side of the conversation but also reacting to it. And instead of taking the passenger to the destination, he drove the poet to the Santacruz police station.



**Speaking out:** Bappaditya Sarkar at the Mumbai Bagh protest on Wednesday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In a series of messages, which were later shared on Twitter by activist Kavita Krishnan, Mr. Sarkar narrated his ordeal.

"I was at Silver Beach, Juhu, last night, and booked a cab around 10:30-10:45 to go back to Kurla, where I'm staying. As I got in the cab, I

called a friend of mine and we were talking about protest cultures in different cities, what happened at Shaheen Bagh yesterday, people's discomfort with 'Laal Salaam' and how we could make Jaipur's protests more effective. Some 10-20 minutes into the

conversation, my Uber driver stopped and asked if he could use the ATM. I agreed. Minutes later, he came back with two policemen and that's when I realised he had gotten me to a police station," Mr. Sarkar tweeted.

### Questioned by police

He went on to recall how the policemen started quizzing him, and that he had to explain that he was carrying a *daffli* (a hand drum) because he was at the Mumbai Bagh protest earlier in the day.

Mr. Sarkar said he was ultimately released after being told not to wear a red scarf or carry a *daffli*, given "the times that we live in".

An Uber spokesperson said the company was "reviewing the matter".

## Sheena Bora case: High Court grants bail to Peter Mukerjea

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Thursday granted bail to former television executive Peter Mukerjea, an accused in the Sheena Bora murder case, but stayed his execution for six weeks to give the CBI time to appeal.

A Bench of Justice Nitin Sambre said there was prima facie no evidence against Mukerjea. The court took note of the fact that the statement of Mukerjea's driver Shyamvar Rai, an accused-turned-approver, was recorded multiple times, indicating that he was tutored.

It said Mukerjea's objection to his son Rahul's relationship with his wife's daughter Sheena did not suggest a criminal intention. He was not in the country at the time of the murder. Justice Sambre granted him bail on a surety of ₹2 lakh and asked him not to contact his children Rahul Mukerjea and Vidhi Mukerjea and other witnesses.

He was lodged at Arthur Road Jail since November 19, 2015, and was rushed to J.J. Hospital on March 16, 2019, after he complained of chest pain.

**CONTINUED ON** • PAGE 12

## EC notice to Adityanath, Sanjay Singh for model code 'violation'

Both leaders asked to respond to allegations today

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Election Commission sent a notice to U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday for saying that the BJP did not have the "habit of serving biryani to terrorists as the Congress was doing in Kashmir and the Aam Aadmi Party in Shaheen Bagh".

The BJP leader made the statement at a rally in Karawal Nagar on February 1. He also accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of having ties with Pakistan. The poll panel sent the notice

to the BJP leader, finding him, prima facie, in violation of the Model Code of Conduct. Mr. Adityanath has been asked to respond before 5 p.m. on Friday.

In another case of alleged model code violation, the EC has sent a notice to AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh on a complaint that he told a news agency that the BJP would cause "major trouble" at the sites of anti-CAA protests in Delhi - Shaheen Bagh and Jamia. The poll panel has asked Mr. Singh to respond by Friday noon.