

IDEA EXCHANGE PAGE 12

'RAPID GROWTH SEES EXCESS BANK LOANS... AS BOOM ENDS, THERE IS STRESS... BUT MUST IT LAST 6 YRS?'

MONTEK SINGH AHLUWALIA

SUNDAY STORY PAGE 13

Aiman a.k.a Aman

As a govt hospital starts an OPD for sex reassignment surgery in Mumbai, many born with gender dystrophy finally have an option



HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY

A RED initiative appears in today's edition of *The Indian Express*. This page is an initiative of the marketing solutions team of The Indian Express Group and contains content paid for by advertisers. This page should be read as an advertisement.

THE ROAD TO WELLBEING

A RED initiative appears in today's edition of *The Indian Express*. This page is an initiative of the marketing solutions team of The Indian Express Group and contains content paid for by advertisers. This page should be read as an advertisement.



WINTER GAMES

The first Khelo India Winter Games was inaugurated in Gulmarg, in Jammu & Kashmir, on Saturday. The event ends on March 11. *Shuaib Masoodi* REPORT, PAGE 26

'MONEY OF DEPOSITORS NOT AT RISK'

Yes Bank plan: SBI chief rules out merger, says investors interested

SBI initial investment Rs 2,450 cr, 49% stake, can increase to Rs 10,000 cr



Outside a Yes Bank branch in Mumbai, Saturday. *Nirmal Harindran*

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

THE STATE Bank of India (SBI), which is set to buy up to 49% equity stake in troubled Yes Bank, as proposed in the Reserve Bank of India's reconstruction plan, said on Saturday that several potential investors have approached it to form a consortium to pick up stake in the private sector lender.

While SBI will initially invest Rs 2,450 crore, the investment can later increase to over Rs 10,000 crore depending on the due diligence, final valuation, investor interest and the capital requirement, SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar said. SBI has time till Monday to respond to the RBI



SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar. *Prashant Nadkar*

on its Yes Bank draft scheme. Declining to name other investors who have showed interest, Kumar said Yes Bank needs a credible investor like SBI. He, however, ruled out a merger of

CONG SAYS REVIVAL PLAN BIZARRE PAGE 8

Rana Kapoor questioned on DHFL firm's loan to family company

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY & SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A DAY after conducting searches at premises associated with Rana Kapoor, including his residence, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday questioned the Yes Bank promoter the whole day.

Kapoor is being questioned over a Rs 600-crore loan from a non-banking financial company (NBFC), which is an associate company of Dewan Housing Finance Limited (DHFL), to DoIT Urban Ventures (India) Private Ltd, a company owned by Kapoor's family, at a time when Yes Bank had loan exposure of over Rs 3,000 crore to DHFL. Rana Kapoor was the MD and CEO of Yes Bank till January 2019.

Documents available with the Registrar of Companies under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs show that DoIT was incorporated in 2012 with Rana Kapoor's wife Bindu as its director. It currently has his daughters Roshini Kapoor and Radha Kapoor Khanna as its

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Govt revokes ban on two news channels: 'Value press freedom'

I&B Minister Javadekar says PM expressed concern over ban order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, NEW DELHI, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 7

REVOKING THE 48-hour ban imposed on Friday evening on two Malayalam news channels — Asianet News and Media One News — for their coverage of the Delhi riots, the government said on Saturday that it "values press freedom" and indicated that its officials may have erred in drafting the notices.

While Asianet News was back on air at 1 am Saturday, Media One News resumed telecast at 9.30 am.

Speaking to *The Sunday Express* in Pune, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said the two television channels had violated the broadcasting code of conduct, but the notices issued to them were not properly worded.

The two separate orders, citing alleged violations of the



'Order should have only mentioned code of conduct'

Cable TV Network (Regulations) Act, 1995, had listed "siding towards a particular community" and being "critical towards Delhi Police and RSS" among the reasons.

"We have now asked the officers concerned how this happened. The notice sent to the two media channels should have restricted itself to only mentioning that the code of conduct was not followed. There is a code of conduct for news channels which expects them not to disclose names of places of worship (during riots)," Javadekar said.

"We immediately found out what actually happened, and therefore, we restored the channels. Our basic thought process

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

KUWAIT SUSPENDS INDIA FLIGHTS

Coronavirus count 34: Two cases in Ladakh, one in TN

J&K orders closure of primary classes in some dists; PM holds review meet

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THREE MORE people have tested positive for the novel coronavirus (Covid-19), taking the count of those infected in the country so far to 34. Of the new cases, two are from Ladakh, with a travel history to Iran, and one person is from Tamil Nadu who had travelled to Oman. The Ministry of Health said all patients in India are stable and efforts are on to trace all the people they came in contact with.

Over 150 contacts have been traced of the two US nationals who tested positive for the virus in Bhutan, and placed under community surveillance, sources in the health ministry said. On Friday, Bhutan announced that the two Americans had travelled to various places in India before



Passengers of a river cruise being screened in Jorhat, Assam, on Saturday. *P.T.I* **MORE REPORTS, PAGES 19, 21**

BIG PICTURE
PAGES 14-15
FIGHTING THE VIRUS
The many hours and many hands behind India's battle against coronavirus

entering that country. A flight from Iran has landed in India with the nasal and throat swabs of Indians stranded there. The 108 samples received from Iran on Saturday morning are being tested at AIIMS — only those who test negative can fly to India. Six scientists from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) have been stationed in Iran, and equipment and reagents, worth approximately Rs 10 crore, have been dispatched to enable them to setup a lab there.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

WORLD



3 SAUDI PRINCES DETAINED FOR 'COUP PLOT' PAGE 19

Centre moves on privatisation of BPCL, invites bids

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE GOVERNMENT has invited Expressions of Interest (Eoi) from interested parties with a net worth of at least \$10 billion for the strategic sale of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) — one of the largest oil marketing and oil refining companies in India with a refining capacity of 38.3 million metric tonnes per annum or about 15% of the total refining capacity in the country.

Divestment of the government's 52.98% equity stake in BPCL will form a key part of its Rs 2.1 lakh crore disinvestment target for the next fiscal. The government has, however, excluded BPCL's stake in the Numaligarh refinery, which has a refining capacity of 3 million metric tonnes per annum, from the divestment process as it intends

EXPLAINED
1st step to target of 2.1 lakh cr

BPCL WILL give potential buyers ready access to 15% of India's oil refining capacity and about one-fourth of the retail market share in one of the world's fastest-growing fuel markets. This would mark the first big-ticket disinvestment for this government, effectively setting the stage for its ambitious divestment target of Rs 2.1 lakh crore.

to sell it to another PSU. The Union Cabinet had approved the strategic sale of BPCL, stake sales in Container Corporation of India and Shipping

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

35 yrs after Delhi blasts, 30 acquitted: Court says probe defective, lopsided

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A DELHI court has acquitted 30 of the 59 accused in the transistor bomb blasts of 1985, saying the "investigation conducted in these cases was defective, lopsided, unfair and suffered from various lacunae".

On the evening of May 10, 1985, bombs fitted in transistors went off in buses and other places in Delhi and adjoining areas of Uttar Pradesh and



49 people were killed in Delhi. *Express archive*

Haryana, killing 49 people and injuring 127 in Delhi alone. A Special Investigation Team, un-

der the supervision of then DCP (Central) of Delhi Police, had chargesheeted 59 accused. While five of the 59 are proclaimed offenders and never appeared for trial, the trial court in July 2006 discharged five due to "insufficient evidence". Of the remaining 49 accused, 19 died during pendency of the trial, leaving the 30 accused who have been on bail since 1986.

In his order on March 5, Additional Sessions Judge Sandeep Yadav said, "It is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Global criticism: Getting to know who our friends are, says Jaishankar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday that India is getting to know who its friends really are, as he responded to questions on the criticism from the UN Human Rights chief and Iran over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the recent communal violence in Delhi.

Asked if India was losing its



Criticised UN body on J&K

friends, Jaishankar said, "Maybe we are getting to know who our friends really are."

Speaking at the ET Global Business Summit, he said: "We have tried to reduce the number of stateless people through this legislation. That should be

appreciated... We have done it in a way that we do not create a bigger problem for ourselves."

"Everybody, when they look at citizenship, has a context and has a criterion. Show me a country in the world which says everybody in the world is welcome. Nobody does that. Look at America. Look at the Europeans. I can give you (the) example of every European country. There is some social criterion," he said.

Asked about the UNHRC chief not agreeing with India on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

How a Punjab village hit the ball out of the park with a stadium

RAAKHI JAGGA
DULLEY (LUDHIANA), MARCH 7

"UNTIL 2003, this was the village *shamlaat* (common land) where we grew a few things, usually grapefruit. But nothing much. Look at how it has transformed," says Darshan Singh, the village postman in his mid-50s, facing the ground where an U-14 cricket match is on.

The stadium, spread across 8 acres in Dulley village in Ludhiana district, boasts of three cricket

TRACKING CHANGE
EVERY SUNDAY
For all Change stories, log on to www.indianexpress.com/change
Witness Change? Write to us at change@expressindia.com

pitches. Set up entirely from funds raised by villagers, the stadium was built in 2005 as a memorial for Jathedar Santokh Singh, the chief sewadar of the Gurdwara Falahi Sahib, which

draws pilgrims from across the state to the village.

"The jathedar had a great role in spreading the knowledge of *gurbani* and *kirtan* among several villages around ours. He had even sponsored the education of several underprivileged children. So when he died in 2005, we thought we must build a memorial. And we thought what can be a better memorial than something that inspires the youth and keeps them on the right track," says Teja Singh Dhaliwal, a village resident and



Sarpanch Jasbir Singh (right) with coach Harbhajan Singh at the Falahi Sahib cricket stadium in Ludhiana. *Gurmeet Singh*

president of the Punjab Basketball Association.

Today, the stadium, which draws youngsters from 10 surrounding villages, besides some from Ludhiana, 18 km away, hosts inter-district cricket matches organised by the Ludhiana District Cricket Association (LDCA). Among those who have played here is Baltej Singh, a medium pacer who represented Punjab in the ongoing Ranji Trophy and who is a resident of Kaddo, a village near Dulley.

Other Ludhiana players — including Dipin Chitkara, now a member of Punjab's U-23 cricket team, and Jayesh Jain, who has played over 35 first-class cricket matches, besides a number of U-19 and seniors players of Punjab — have played several inter-district matches at this cricket ground.

Aishmine Kaur, 15, who is representing Punjab in an U-19 women's cricket tournament in Guwahati and was adjudged player of the match in the team's first match against Himachal

Pradesh, says that for two years, she would travel from Ludhiana every weekend to practise at the Dulley cricket ground. "I played with the boys every weekend. The Falahi Sahib cricket ground shaped me as a player," she says on the phone.

Jasbir Singh Dehlon, father of off-spinner Manjot Singh Dehlon, who was part of the Punjab U-19 cricket team last year, says, "Our village is close to Dulley. This ground was a boon to Manjot since there was no

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



DOWNLOAD APP VISUAL STORIES DAILY BRIEFING PODCASTS CUSTOMIZABLE NEWS EXPERIENCE Indian Express 4.6



VIDEO OF THE DAY



SUHASINI GANGULY: ARRESTED DURING, AND EVEN AFTER, BRITISH RULE Suhasini Ganguly's was a life dedicated entirely to the cause of her motherland's freedom. Not much is known of her formative years and of how she developed sympathies for revolutionaries, but academics agree that her transition into a fierce revolutionary fighter occurred in her early twenties.

COMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN DELHI How this father-son duo saved 50 Muslims



EXPLAINED THE CRISIS AT YES BANK Why capping withdrawals is a terrible idea

EXPRESS AUDIO A coronavirus reality check NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Dr Gagandeep Kang, one of India's leading clinical scientists, busts myths about the coronavirus, and talks about why she is hopeful for a vaccine and how climate change affects the spread of such viruses.

FROM PAGE ONE

2 news channels

is that press freedom is absolutely essential in a democratic set-up and that is the commitment of the (Narendra) Modi government," Javadekar said. He said Modi had also expressed concern over the ban order, and promised to take "essential corrective" steps if a wrongdoing was found.

on North-East Delhi violence had been shown in a manner which highlighted the attack on places of worship and siding towards a particular community". In its order against Media One news, the I&B Ministry said: "Channel's reporting on Delhi violence seems to be biased as it is deliberately focusing on the vandalism of CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act) supporters... It also questions RSS and alleges Delhi Police inaction. Channel seems to be critical towards Delhi Police and RSS."

In its order against Asianet News, the ministry cited the "anchor/ correspondent" as reporting that "the Union Ministry claimed that 33 company central forces were deployed but still violence continues in the area and also the Centre gave silent consent for the violence".

It also pointed to a report that the "violence of the previous day had continued from morning" and "turned into communal violence after a group of Hindu people chanted Jai Sri Ram and the Muslims chanted Azadi slogans. The commuters on the roads are forced to chant Jai Sri Ram. Muslims are brutally attacked... The Centre can control the violence within hours, but no action has been taken till now... the Centre give silent consent for the violence".

The ministry said the channels appeared to have contravened rules 6(1)(C) and 6(1)(a) of the Cable Television Networks Rules. These rules prohibit channels from showing any programme "which contains attack on religions or communities or visuals or words contemptuous of religious groups or which promote communal attitudes" and "is likely to encourage or incite violence or contains anything against maintenance of law and order or which promote anti-national attitudes".

The ministry said it had issued showcause notices to both channels on February 28, and took the decision to impose the ban after receiving their responses on March 3.

In their replies to the showcause notices, both the channels had said the reports were done with journalistic rigour, after talking to people on the ground, and it is the media's duty to report facts.

Punjab stadium

such ground nearby. Now my son (who has represented the state in school games) goes to the ground, not only to play but for fitness sessions as well." Harjinder Singh, chief sewaadar of the gurdwara, says, "Of the youngsters who come here to play matches, a number of them are in the Punjab state team. We plan to soon construct a hostel for teams coming from outside Ludhiana to play tournaments."

Dhaliwal says the villagers spent around Rs 20 lakh on the stadium, including on a parking space for around 300 vehicles. "While most of the money came from amongst ourselves, a few NRIs pitched in too. Once, Akali MLA Darshan Singh Shiwalik helped with funds for the fence surrounding the stadium, but otherwise we don't expect anything from politicians. We are self-sufficient and are happy that ground is producing good players," he says.

Harbhajan Singh Kala, who coaches nearly 50 players at the ground (Kala coaches at his private academy in Ludhiana city, but uses the ground for weekend matches), has taken the ground on an annual lease from the village panchayat. "I pay Rs 23,000 per month to the village panchayat. Besides, I spend Rs

SBI to invest Rs 2,450 cr in Yes Bank

the bank with the public sector bank and maintained that depositors' money in Yes Bank is "not at risk".

On Friday, the RBI had unveiled a reconstruction scheme, indicating the possibility of SBI acquiring a 49% equity stake in Yes Bank which was put under moratorium for 30 days.

Addressing a press conference, Kumar said: "What we have to keep in mind is that whatever and whoever is the co-investor, there are two or three things. One is that what are the RBI guidelines? So anybody who wants to go above 5%, they have to make sure that whatever is within our capability, we will try that the resolution plan is approved and implemented much before the timeline set by the RBI. SBI team will not be found wanting on this."

Saying that the depositors' money in Yes Bank is safe, Kumar said: "Maybe because of the Rs 50,000 requirement (cap on withdrawals), it is a matter of a few days that there is some inconvenience. But as far as safety of their money is concerned, Finance Minister and Governor of the RBI, everybody has assured, and I feel it is the right assurance, that depositors' money is not at all at risk."

"So, hopefully, this proposed investment budget approved by the board will also not be against the interest of the shareholders of SBI. We have done our maths. All our capital issues will not be impacted. There is a very marginal impact on the bank's capital adequacy ratio. Whatever is the regulatory minimum, we maintain, as a policy, 50 basis points above that. So, we will continue to do that without any further raising of capital from the market. There is no question of requesting the government for any capital," he said.

On SBI's Rs 2,450 crore initial investment, Kumar said, currently, there are 255 crore shares outstanding. "And as per the draft scheme, we can take up to 49%. The only requirement is that there is a lock-in of 26% for three years, so it sets a boundary... when you're 26% for three years, that is a sort of an obligation. Anything above that, up to 49%, depends on what is the interest from other investors, what is the total capital required... If today, SBI goes solo and picks up 49% stake, then the immediate investment requirement is Rs 2,450 crore."

Explaining the details of SBI's investment, Kumar said: "There is a limit in the sense that what the draft scheme says is that the authorised capital of the company is being increased to 2,400 crore shares and the face value of Yes Bank share is Rs 2. So we have Rs 4,800 crore authorised

capital. Presuming again, it is a presumption, Yes Bank needs Rs 20,000 crore and you issue 2,000 crore shares at Rs 10, so that makes it Rs 20,000 crore. Presuming again that SBI picks up 49%, which we may pick up or may not pick up. But 26% of Rs 20,000 crore, that is a commitment."

"If tomorrow the capital is Rs 20,000 crore, we will pay 26% of the scheme. That is the requirement. So, our minimum investment, over a period of time, is 26% of say Rs 20,000 crore, that makes it about Rs 5,500 crore. And Rs 2,450 crore, we have said from the beginning... this is the total commitment if it is 26%, and if it is 49%, it may be Rs 10,000 crore," he said.

On March 5, the RBI superseded the board of directors of Yes Bank for a period of 30 days "owing to serious deterioration in the financial position" of the bank and capped the deposit withdrawals at Rs 50,000 per depositor. The central bank said "this has been done to quickly restore depositors' confidence in the bank, including by putting in place a scheme for reconstruction or amalgamation". The RBI also appointed Prashant Kumar, former Deputy Managing Director and CFO of State Bank of India, as the administrator of the private sector bank.

ceived the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

Rana Kapoor questioned on DHFL loan to family firm

directors. The company has no employees and in the year ended March 2019, it incurred a loss of over Rs 48 crore on a revenue of Rs 59.36 crore. Morgan Credits Private Ltd is also one of the promoters of DoIT Urban and its directors are Kapoor's daughters Roshini Kapoor, Raakhe Kapoor Tandon and Radha Kapoor Khanna.

RoC documents show that DoIT received loans of Rs 300 crore each in 2017-18 and 2018-19 from a "non-banking financial institution" by pledging the shares of one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

"We suspect this entire transaction was done to offset any pressure from Yes Bank to DHFL over its loan exposure. It is a clear case of quid pro quo," an ED official said.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

an email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

an email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

an email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

An email sent by The Sunday Express to DoIT Ventures for its reaction did not elicit any response.

While, in its filings with RoC, DoIT did not disclose the name of the NBFC from which it received the loan, two sources confirmed that the NBFC is an associate company of the DHFL Group. In fact, the terms of the loan seem favourable as it states that the loan is "repayable in a single bullet payment repayment on 18 July 2023 i.e. at the end of 60 months from the date of disbursement".

and conveyer belt areas". Kuwait has ordered the suspension of all flights to and from India and six other countries, reported PTI.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday chaired a review meeting on the coronavirus situation in the country with officials of all ministries and departments concerned, and asked officers to plan the evacuation of Indians stranded in Iran. The Prime Minister also urged Indians to switch to "namaste" as a standard greeting to check the spread of the virus.

Modi asked officers to "identify best practices for Covid-19 management" from across the world and within the states and ensure their adoption. "He mentioned that in view of the opinion of experts, people should be advised to avoid mass gatherings as far as possible and be made aware of Do's and Don'ts. He directed that an immediate exercise be taken up to identify sufficient locations for quarantine and also for critical care provisioning in case the disease spread. Officials were instructed to plan for early testing and evacuation of Indians from Iran," said a PMO statement.

Among other issues that came up in the meeting were the need for continued vigil at all airports, seaports and land border crossings, community-level surveillance, and ensuring the availability of sufficient beds for isolation. Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan emphasised the need for effective coordination with states for timely response. Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, said that sufficient stocks of medicines, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) and other consumables are available for use in India.

Apart from the 31 patients who are being treated for the virus (the first three cases from Kerala have been discharged), close to 30,000 others continue to be under community surveillance.

"As many as 52 laboratories are now operational across the country for testing Covid-2019 virus. An additional 57 laboratories have been provided with Viral Transport Media and swabs for sample collection," the Health Ministry said.

So far 7,26,122 people who have alighted from 7,108 flights have been screened at airports. Between Friday and Saturday, 73,766 passengers from 573 flights have undergone screening at airports.

As a precautionary measure, the Union Territory administration has ordered the immediate closure of all the primary schools in Jammu & Kashmir till March 31. Biometric attendance across the UT stands suspended and "no large social/official gathering" will be allowed until March 31, the authorities said.

In order to spread awareness, a special Covid-19 mobile phone caller-tune, with basic infection prevention messages, has been launched by all telecom operators. Over 117.2 crore subscribers of BSNL, MTNL, Reliance Jio, Airtel and Vodafone-Idea are being reached out to through SMSs and call backs.

The Ayush minister issued a second "advisory" for infection prevention, but withdrew it. An earlier one had been criticised for publicising unsubstantiated information about a virus of which very little is known.

Delhi blasts

clear that none of the circumstances from which the inference of guilt of the accused was sought to be drawn by the prosecution was proved by cogent and reliable evidence. There are

vital links missing in the chain of circumstances and it could not be proved conclusively that the crime was committed by the accused persons and none else".

Pulling up the police for its "high handedness" and saying the accused cannot be convicted on the basis of "such faulty investigation", the court said, "It is amply clear from the evidence adduced on record that during investigation of the present case, police officials had picked up various persons and made them approvers after pressurising and torturing them. Those persons were warned that if they did not depose as per demands of police, then they would be made an accused in the present case."

The judge said that a "number of witnesses had deposed about the manner in which police pressurised persons to depose on the dotted lines so as to create a false evidence of the alleged conspiracy. Jagjit Singh who turned approver deposed before the Court the manner in which he was tortured and made to sign documents and statements under fear of his life and that of his daughters."

The court in its 128-page order also said the prosecution failed to establish the motive to commit the crime. "It is prosecution's version that accused persons had hatched a conspiracy to create disharmony amongst various communities to take revenge (for) Blue Star Operation and riots that happened in November 1984. However, prosecution miserably failed to prove that any relatives, friends, near and dears of accused persons died in 1984 riots or in Blue Star Operation," Judge Yadav said.

The latest court order, which comes at the end of an investigation and trial that saw eight FIRs, 14 chargesheets, 1399 prosecution witnesses and around two dozen judges, the 30 accused have been acquitted of various charges of the IPC, including murder, attempt to murder, criminal conspiracy and waging war against the government of India, under the Explosive Substances Act and the Arms Act. The cases from UP and Haryana were later transferred to Delhi on the Supreme Court's direction.

The charges were framed only in 2006, by which time many witnesses died or were not traceable and the original chargesheet filed by Delhi Police was misplaced, leading to an FIR and initiation of a departmental inquiry against the "court officials responsible".

"Unfortunately, the original chargesheet filed by Delhi Police itself was misplaced and reconstructed chargesheet was filed by police. Therefore, prosecution cannot establish existence of original documents on the basis of list of documents mentioned in the charge sheet," the court noted.

The police case rested on the "secret information" they received that transistor bombs were allegedly being manufactured at the home of one Kartar Singh Narang in West Delhi. On May 12, 1985, police raided Narang's house and arrested him along with two of his alleged accomplices, Mohinder Singh Oberoi and Manmohan Singh Khalsa. Police claimed to have recovered bombs, gunpowder, electronic devices, pistols and iron rods from the possession of the three men, of whom Khalsa later died in police custody.

While acquitting the accused, Judge Yadav said, "Whenever recoveries were effected... no effort was made by Investigating Officers to associate public witnesses to recovery/search proceedings rendering the same doubtful."

Shaheen Bagh shooter granted bail



Kapil Baisala

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A DELHI court has granted bail to Kapil Baisala, the man who was arrested for allegedly firing two rounds at the Shaheen Bagh protest site on February 1.

Additional Sessions Judge Gulshan Kumar granted bail to Baisala on furnishing a bail bond of Rs 25,000, with one surety of the like amount.

In videos shot by eyewitnesses on the day of the incident, Baisala can be heard saying "Hamaare desh mein kisi ki nahi chalegi, sirf Hindoon ki chalegi (No one except Hindus will have their way in our country)". He also said "ours is a Hindu rashtravaadi desh". It was later alleged by police that he was part of a political party.

Police told the court that Baisala bought a country-made pistol from an alleged weapons supplier, Sachin. He bought 13 rounds and fired two at the protest site.

Baisala's lawyer Narveer Dabas told the court he was implicated in a false case. He told the court there was an unexplained delay of six hours in registering the FIR, and added that the investigation pertaining to Baisala was already complete and no purpose would be served by keeping him in judicial custody.

Since the witnesses in the case were police officers, Dabas told the court there was no apprehension they would be influenced.

Additional public prosecutor Wasi Ur Rahman opposed the bail plea, arguing that the allegations against Baisala were serious in nature.

9,000 BUSES BY NEXT YEAR: KEJRIWAL

100 new AC buses join fleet in capital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

FLAGGING OFF 100 new air-conditioned buses, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Friday said the Delhi government is going to deploy 9,000 buses on the capital's roads by next year.

Kejriwal introduced the new low-floor CNG buses from Rajghat Depot in the presence of Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot and Delhi government officials.

"Hundreds of new buses have been flagged off in the last few months. I have been told that buses have been deployed on the roads after a span of 10 years," he said. "We were hearing claims that the buses were only flagged off because of the elections, but I want to say that the buses are being deployed even after the elections. The Delhi government is going to deploy 9,000 buses on the roads



The new 37-seater buses are equipped with features such as GPS, fire detection systems, panic buttons and CCTV cameras

within the next year."

The new 37-seater buses are equipped with features such as fire detection systems, GPS trackers, 14 panic buttons, three CCTV cameras, and hydraulic lifts and wheelchair ramps to make them disabled-friendly.

Kejriwal said tenders for electronic buses have also been passed and they would be procured by the end of March.

"We will turn the transport

sector of Delhi into a model and modern sector. Following the elections, I have held meetings with the transport department, and we are working in the direction of revolutionising the sector," he said. The buses introduced Friday would ply on routes including Sarai Kale Khan ISBT to Shalimar Bagh, Nizamuddin railway station to Azadpur terminal, and Shivaji Stadium to Shahdara terminal.

Meat causes 'irreligious feelings', let's have 'sattwik mess': IIT club

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE WELLNESS Club of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D) has pitched for starting a 'Sattwik Mess' on campus. In an email to students seeking their opinion, members of the club said 'Rajasik food' like eggs and meat creates "irreligious feelings" and should be avoided.

The club, comprising only of students, sent an email to all students on February 28 "to take opinion on having a common mess for girls and boys which would serve 'Sattwik Food'."

"There's the famous saying in ayurvedic sciences: 'What we eat, how much we eat, and how we eat determines our way of

life'. Tamasik diet is a foundation of pessimism and leads to a painful life...fast foods like pizzas, pastries, burgers, etc is Tamasik whereas Rajasik foods like eggs, meat, pepper, create egotism, anger, greed, and other irreligious feelings," the email read.

"Sattwik diet leads to a healthy life, keeping our minds clear, happy, and at peace. Consuming Sattwik food like fresh juicy fruits, vegetables, sprouted beans etc can lead the person to have the ideal combination of physical, mental and emotional harmony. Keeping the above in mind, Wellness Club wants to take the initiative of having one such mess in campus that would provide healthy Sattwik bhojan to interested students," it added. A form was attached with the email ask-

ing those interested to fill it.

Saurabh Dhabu, a core member of the Wellness Club, claimed the idea came after some students complained about the mess food currently provided. "Some people said they find it very heavy on spices, and some others, like Jains, have a problem eating certain kinds of food so we thought Sattwik food would be good for them too. We read research papers before putting out that email," he said. Dhabu added that of the nearly 500 forms filled, 19% had sent "negative responses" and the club was still discussing whether to take the initiative further and approach the administration.

When contacted, an IIT official said "there are no plans" to start such a mess.





LET'S MAKE EVERY DAY TRULY HAPPY & SAFE FOR WOMEN



Our Women Safety Initiatives

WOMEN HELP DESK
24x7 At All Police Stations

HIMMAT PLUS APP
Contact us in emergency

ALL WOMEN PATROLS
For assistance dial 112

WOMEN HELPLINE 1091
For your safety

SASHAKTI
Self-defence for women

Helpline Against Obscene Calls
1096

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.snshrivastava@delhipolice.gov.in | Write to CP, Delhi at: P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112 TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090



जब आप में है शक्ति सारी, तो क्यों बनें 'बेचारी' आवाज़ उठाएं, 112 मिलाएं

- घरेलू हिंसा से पीड़ित महिलाएं 112 कॉल कर अपना पंजीकरण कराएं
- महिला पुलिस कर्मी घर आएंगी, आपका पंजीकरण करेगी, हिंसक को सचेत करेगी
- अब हिंसा हुई तो होगी 'प्रबल प्रतिक्रिया' (enhanced response)
 - तुरंत पुलिस के 2 वाहन आएंगे
 - कानूनी कार्रवाई करेंगे

अब डर की नहीं कोई बात जब यूपी पुलिस है आपके साथ

@112UttarPradesh +91-7570000100 @112UttarPradesh +91-7233000100

This HOLI only Tribes India



The Art and Soul of India

Presents

RANG BARSE COLLECTION



LOG ON TO TRIBESINDIA.COM for hand crafted masterpieces for all festivals



Tassar Dupatta From Maharashtra

Ikkat Kurta Pajama From Rajasthan

Zari Patta Kota Dupatta From Madhya Pradesh

Jamdani Plain Linen Saree From Odisha

TRIBES INDIA FLAGSHIP STORE IN DELHI
Tribes India, 9, Mahadev Road, Pandit Pant Marg Area, Sansad Marg Area, New Delhi

Type Tribes India in the search bar

amazon snapdeal Flipkart paytm

CONNECT WITH US @TRIBESINDIA



Scan the QR code for Shop Addresses



ATTENTION!

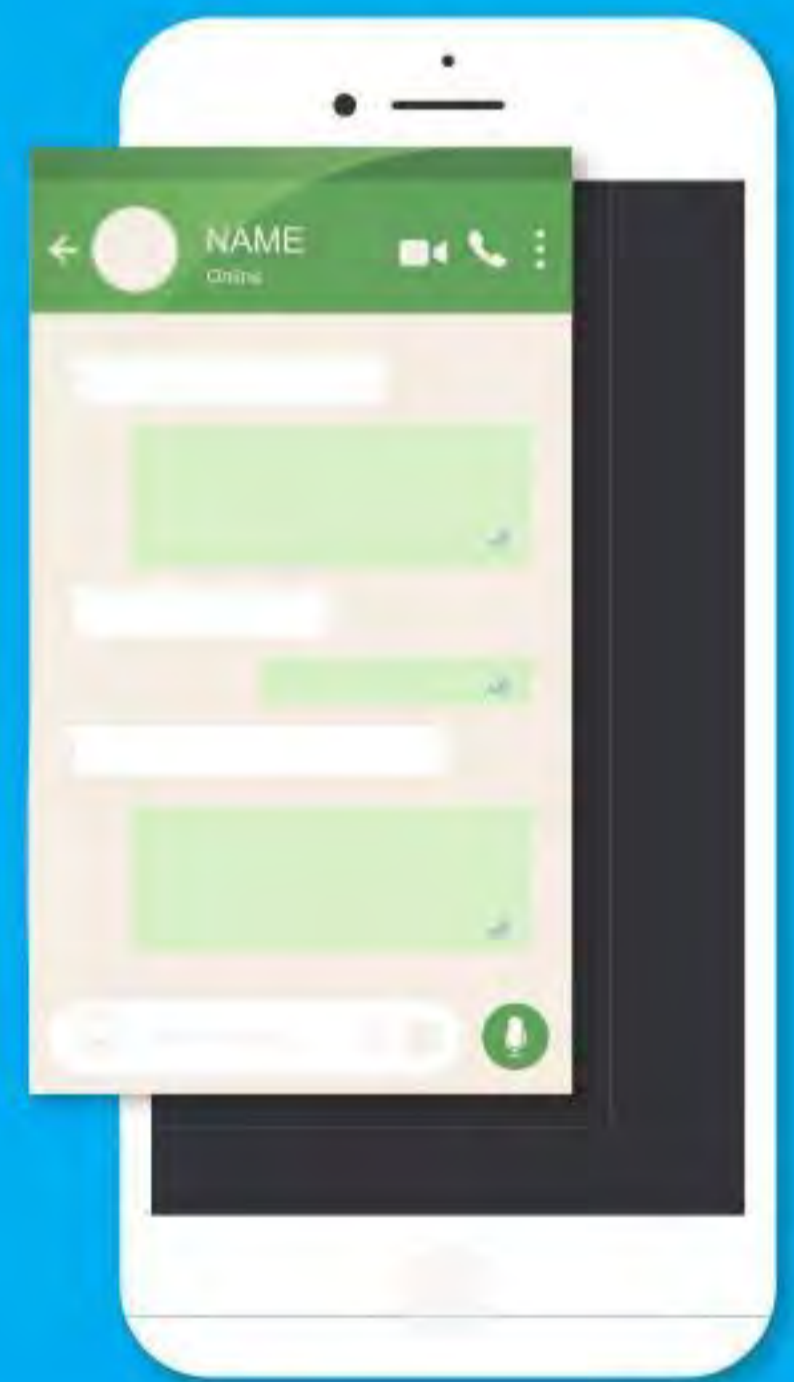
SHARING INFLAMMATORY MESSAGES ON WHATSAPP CAN LAND YOU IN JAIL FOR 3 YEARS



If any individual shares or forwards messages or videos on WhatsApp or any Social Media Platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc) which are inflammatory in nature or incites communal tensions then the guilty will have to serve jail term upto 3 years.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you find anyone sharing communally inflammatory messages or video on WhatsApp or any Social Media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc) then immediately send the screenshot or the video to us on the number given below.



BECOME A PEACE - MAKER

If an F.I.R. is lodged on the basis of your complaint, then **YOU WILL ALSO GET A REWARD OF ₹10,000**

WhatsApp no.  **8950000946**

Email: **DVSCommittee@delhi.gov.in**

THE ROAD TO WELL-BEING

WELLNESS THROUGH AYURVEDA

What inspired you to establish Butterfly Ayurveda?

After I finished my Masters in International and Development Economics from Yale, I came back to India and worked with micro-finance institutions like BASIX, and research organisations like CMF (Centre for Microfinance). As a Research Associate at CMF, I travelled a good deal across India to rural parts of Rajasthan, Orissa and Maharashtra where I conducted research on projects that helped migrant labourers transfer money to their families, and helped women save money for their family's well being.

All these experiences were very enriching until one day I realised that I didn't feel a 'real connection' with my work. Reflecting back, I would say that that was my cue to get back to my passion for dance. I had previously trained in Bharatanatyam for over eight years, and after I quit my job, I auditioned for Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts in Bangalore where I underwent rigorous training for different dance techniques and other movement arts. It was during my stay in Dharamshala, in connection with a Japanese performance art, that I came across a book titled 'Prakriti' by Dr. Robert Svoboda, which nurtured my thoughts regarding Ayurveda and the mind-body constitution and then, I started reading more on the subject.

In 2013, I put together an R&D unit with an Ayurveda doctor and research analysts on board, to start work on Ayurvedic formulations that could help prevent and treat lifestyle related disorders such as high blood sugar, obesity and liver problems. Also, the work flowed into

creating formulations that could be useful in our daily life and encourage healthier choices of consumption. In November 2014, Butterfly Ayurveda was officially established and the company grew from a few teas to a broad range of products including Ayurvedic medicines, teas & infusions and bakery products. In 2019, we launched BA Bakery, Ayurveda inspired baking where we make wholesome cakes, cookies and biscottis. I was also selected as one of nineteen women leaders from across 15 countries for the US Fortune Mentoring Partnership Program in 2019 that immensely helped enhance my entrepreneurial and leadership skills.

It is interesting to see Ayurveda being integrated in your bakery products. What was the thought process behind launching BA Bakery?

Being a person who's really fond of cakes, I thought we could integrate Ayurvedic concepts to make good healthy cakes. So, on an experimental basis, we started making cakes using cow ghee instead of using vegetable oil. Some of our other ingredients include brown sugar, homemade nut butters and whole grain flours. We don't use

any packaged material to make our cakes, everything is freshly sourced and prepared. We offer gluten-free options as well, and our cakes taste just as good as regular cakes, and sometimes even better. They are rich in fibre, protein and calcium, and the recipes are backed by R&D to ensure compatibility of ingredients and help balance the tridoshas.

What are Vata, Pitta and Kapha Doshas?

Just like the universe is made up of five elements—air, space, fire, earth and water, our body is also made up of five elements. A combination of these five elements makes up the Doshas. The Vata Dasha is a mix of Air (vayu) and Space (akash). Pitta Dasha is a combination of Fire (agni) and Water (jal), and Kapha Dasha is Water (jal) and Earth (prithvi).

Vata Dasha is a very airy dosha and responsible for movement. When out of balance it results in problems of flatulence, gas, joint pain and arthritis in the body. Vata people tend to be creative and free spirited.

Pitta Dasha is responsible for metabolism-related activities in the body including digestion, or any kind of transformation that takes place within us. Pitta people tend to be confident, courageous, and can get angry and aggressive whenever Pitta goes out of balance.

Kapha Dasha is responsible for the body's structure. Kapha people tend to be a little heavy and relaxed people. They can be loving, caring, forgiving and quite calm. However, they can be lethargic, overly sensitive, greedy and possessive, if Kapha goes out of balance.

A combination of these Doshas makes up our mind-body constitution and generally we inherit it from our parents. It cannot be changed. However, if we are able to understand our constitution, we can make wiser decisions and choices in life.



Self-knowledge and self-awareness are the key mantras to discover wellness amidst the chaos of contemporary life.

AKSHI KHANDELWAL BHUTANI
FOUNDER & CEO
BUTTERFLY AYURVEDA

In what ways do you manufacture your products and how do you ensure quality?

We believe that research is prime, and our R&D team includes Ayurvedic doctors and research analysts. All our products are natural, licensed by the state department of AYUSH or FSSAI and manufactured at GMP certified units. All our raw materials and packaging materials are sourced from reliable vendors, who meet stringent quality standards.

What makes us unique is that all our tea leaves are sourced from the most esteemed tea estates in Assam and Darjeeling, and blended with top quality whole herbs with no artificial flavours, scents and colours added. All our syrups are prepared using the traditional decoction method by soaking and boiling whole herbs in a given amount of water over a few days, which helps unlock the goodness of herbs and make the liquid more effective than the extract based syrups. We also offer our customers handmade cakes and cookies, and prepare them using cow ghee for a richer taste and healthier experience. It's this attention to detail that makes us stand out in the market.

What are some of the products that Butterfly Ayurveda manufactures that cater to the well being of a person? How are Butterfly Ayurveda Products different from other Ayurvedic products already existing in the market?

We've crafted unique hand-blended packs of dosha pacifying teas for different times of the day, which are a blend of Assam black or Darjeeling green and herbs. We have single herb teas and infusions in cardamom, ginger, tulsi, mulberry, mint, moringa and more. We also have specialised blends for pregnant and lac-



tating mothers, diabetic patients, and for weight management. All these products have numerous health benefits.

For instance, our Shubh Saanjh Chai is an afternoon tea and is best had between 2-6 pm. During this time, Vata Dasha is aggravated in the environment and that is why one may experience gas related problems and feel like taking a walk. This tea pacifies the Vata Dasha by improving digestion. It also helps in refreshing our breath as it has mint and ajwain in it.

Our Ratri Chai is best had between 6-10 pm. This tea works like a nerve tonic and helps you relax your nervous system so that you wake up the next morning feeling refreshed and well-rested. It also aids digestion.

We have a range of medicines as well—Bronchiofly for respiratory health; Livofly for liver problems; Colonofly for relieving constipation; Pancreofly is a blood glucose metaboliser. Of these, Pancreofly has been clinically evaluated to show positive results in negating or minimising the side effects of allopathic treatment for diabetes when taken together. It is particularly recommended for prediabetes. Each one of our products is manufactured in a GMP certified unit and licensed by the State Department of AYUSH.

In what other ways are you looking to diversify in the future?

We are soon going to enter the nutraceuticals market. These are fortified food products. They promote general well being, help in treating and preventing malignant processes in the body. We also plan to expand the BA bakery vertical into a cafe set up. We're starting with Wellness Workshops from April and they will be open to all.

Please tell us about your social media presence.

Butterfly Ayurveda is present across most of the social media platforms. We have recently started a new page @gethealthywithakshi,

BUTTERFLY AYURVEDA'S UNIQUE OFFERINGS

PIONEERING PRODUCTS AT BA BAKERY

Ayurveda inspired bakery products. Sumptuous gluten-free bakery products made with freshly produced organic ingredients

UNIQUE BLENDS OF TEA

Suprabhat Chai, Shubh Saanjh Chai and Ratri Chai

@GETHEALTHYWITHAKSHI

Get daily health tips and notes on dietary and lifestyle habits on Instagram

AYURVEDIC MEDICINES

All medicinal products are AYUSH licensed and manufactured in GMP certified units

DESIGNED FOR YOUR NEEDS

Products like Diabe Infusion help manage blood sugar and cholesterol levels

DOSHA BALANCING

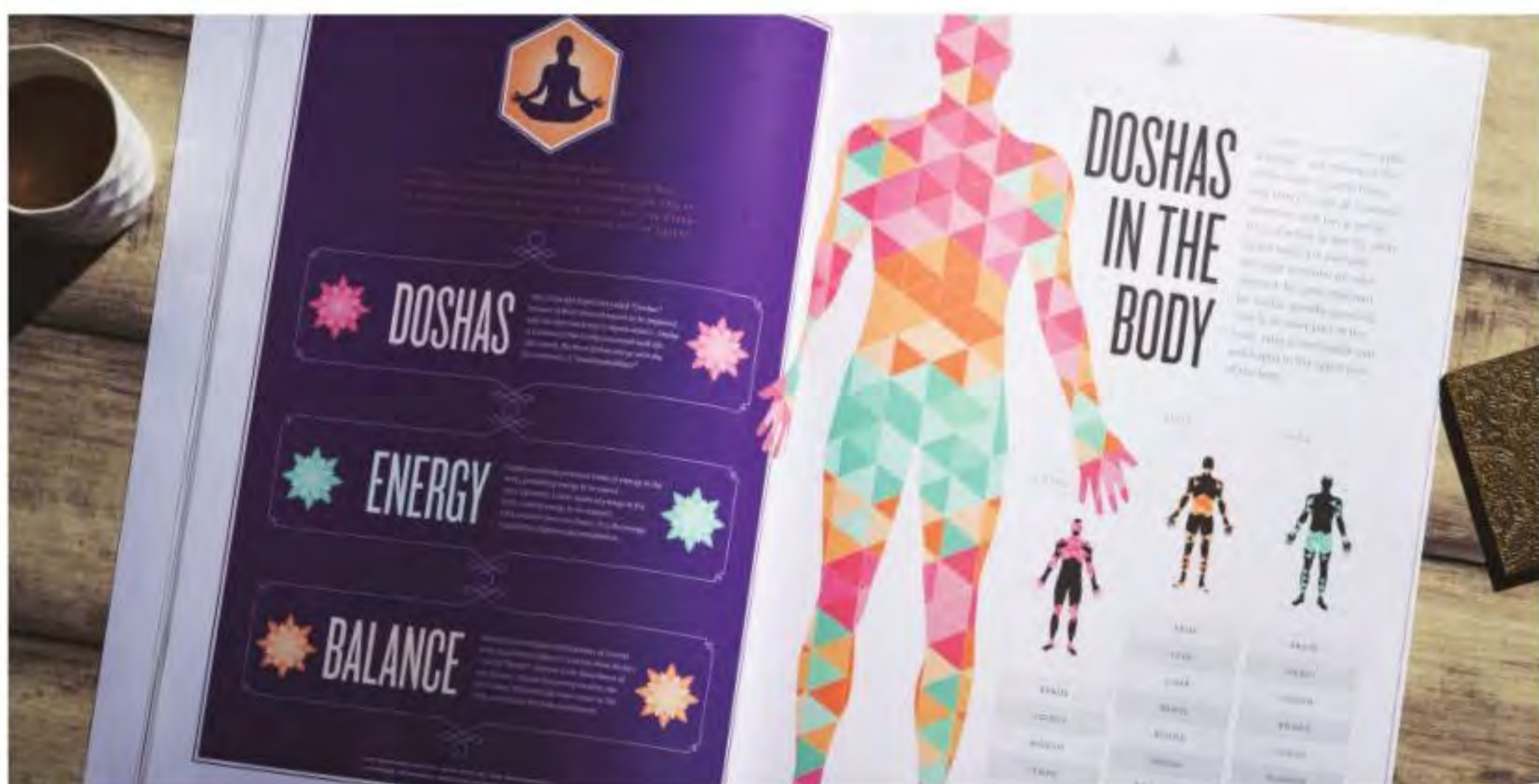
All the products are created to help pacify the Doshas—Vata, Pitta and Kapha

100% natural ingredients with no artificial flavours, scents or colours - All products are backed by proper R&D and stringent quality checks



Just like the universe is made up of five elements—air, space, fire, earth and water, our body is also made up of five elements. A combination of these five elements makes up the Doshas. The Vata Dasha is a mix of Air (vayu) and Space (akash). Pitta Dasha is a combination of Fire (agni) and Water (jal), and Kapha Dasha is Water (jal) and Earth (prithvi).

The single most powerful dosha balancing, fire rekindling, and rejuvenating force in the universe is faith. Faith in nature, and in her ability to cure, actively strengthens the bond between the individual and her cosmos. It boosts the nourishment of all the tissues in the body (dhatus) and the Ojas. Faith in healing is a key to health.



which is directly curated by me. On this page, we talk about Ayurveda, tips and notes about food and lifestyle, routines, somatic practices, and how small tweaks in our day to day living affect our health and life in a big way. We are encouraging people to take to a healthier lifestyle. Social media helps us increase our outreach in the market in a way that resonates with contemporary times.

Finally, your message to the readers...

'Life is happier when you are healthy.' It's important to live with awareness and use the wisdom of such knowledge and life science that helps bring more clarity to your life, which in itself can be very fulfilling. Ayurveda is a great tool to understand the mind-body constitution and increase our self-awareness so we can live a happier and a conscious life.

To learn more about Butterfly Ayurveda, visit <https://www.butterflyayurveda.com>

BRIEFLY

Covid-19: One more positive in prelim test

New Delhi: One more person has preliminarily tested positive for coronavirus in Delhi, although the final confirmation is awaited. Officials of the Delhi government's health department said the suspected case has no travel history, but has a history of contact with persons who tested positive earlier. The person has been kept under isolation at Safdarjung Hospital. As many as 38 contacts in touch with the suspected case have been traced.

Man jumps to death

Noida: A man allegedly jumped to death from the 20th floor of a residential apartment society in Greater Noida Saturday, police said. The victim has been identified as Kamal Bajaj (55), who used to work with a private firm in Noida Sector 62. Police said Bajaj used to live with his wife and son in the apartment. An official said, "We spoke to the family members and they told us that he has committed suicide. They have not given us any evidence as such so far since they are traumatised. We are waiting for the post-mortem report and will proceed with the investigation after that."

'Namaste march' held

New Delhi: Scores of people Saturday took out a 'Namaste march' in Laxmi Nagar to encourage people to revert to the system of greeting in the "Indian culture" to avoid contracting coronavirus.

Two held for bike theft

New Delhi: A 20-year-old man and his accomplice were arrested for stealing many two-wheelers. Police said Lalit Kumar, began stealing after allegedly being spurned by his girlfriend for not having a bike. **ENS**

Riots case: Drug dealer held for help to Shahrugh

Shamli: UP Police Saturday arrested an alleged drug trafficker who helped Shahrugh Pathan, accused of pointing a gun at a policeman during the Northeast Delhi violence, in escaping to Haryana after the riots. Police said Kaleem (28) was approached by Shahrugh on the night of February 27. Kaleem has claimed he had no knowledge of Shahrugh's activities during the day. **PTI**



At a burnt home in Shiv Vihar on Saturday. Amit Mehra

Efforts begin to send people home, many apprehensive

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE OBJECTIVE is to "get life back on track" — spend some time at home, even if during the day; tidy up the premises; sweep the floors; put the furniture back on its feet.

The insistence of Delhi government officials as well as NGO workers that riot-hit families sheltered at relief camps should gradually prepare to return home appears to be a well-meaning one.

But for Nazreen, home was a sofa set, two beds, a TV, a refrigerator and a wash basin, "aayne ke saath (along with her mirror)". Not a hollowed out space where memories float with wisps of acrid smoke.

"Aate waqt haath-paer kaanp rahe the (my hands and feet were

shaking while coming here)," she says, pointing at an unpaved stretch, overflowing with sewage from an open gutter.

The narrow lane leads to her house at Ghonda's Gujjar-dominated Garhi Mendu village, where arsonists burnt down several houses on February 25, forcing residents to take shelter at a community centre at Shri Ram Colony in Khajuri Khās.

While members of the community assisted the displaced families for the first three days, the Delhi government took charge on February 28. With the passing of a week, authorities have started nudging families to gather courage and return. At the relief camp, men and women have been housed on two different floors of the three-storey community centre, which comes under the East Delhi Municipal

Corporation.

"Police are saying go spend the day at home and return to the camp at night. Both they and Delhi government are saying saaf-safai karo (go clean up). Jo jaan bacha li ab woh bhigawa dein (our lives are the only thing that we managed to protect, now do we give that up as well?)," says Zarina, who moved to the village around 12 years ago from neighbouring Khajuri Khās.

Local social activist Chand Bi, who has been assisting the Delhi government in the relief efforts, says initially Muslims started living as tenants in the village, before going on to buy land available at a relatively cheaper cost.

In fact, many families, like that of Mohammed Shakir, continue to stay as tenants at homes owned by Gujjars. And for Shakir, a sewing

worker at a Karol Bagh factory, that acted a shield on the day of the attack, rioters left after looting his home. They didn't set it on fire.

"When I was returning home around 8 pm, I could see attackers were setting houses ablaze. I called up my Gujjar landlord, who rushed home, and the attackers realised it was not a Muslim property," Shakir, who pays Rs 2,800 per month as rent, says.

Zarina, whose house was torched during the violence, says Muslim families fled the village as tension kept escalating, especially with the attack on the sole neighbourhood mosque on February 24.

"When we were told that our houses were being looted, set on fire, we kept calling the police, fire brigade. No one responded. I made at least 12 calls," claims Shakir.

Compensation starts coming in but some say more may be needed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

WITH THEIR livelihoods upended, several victims of the Northeast Delhi riots, who are struggling for a dignified existence, appealed to the Delhi government Saturday to speed up the compensation process. The government, on its part, maintains that till March 7, it had disbursed Rs 2.96 crore in compensation. The amount factors in immediate assistance of up to Rs 25,000 that every riot-hit family is entitled to.

Officials present at review meetings said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia is learnt to have pulled up a few officers after he found their efforts wanting. "The Deputy CM told the officers that rather than saving the government's money, the need to assist people in distress and providing the maximum possible aid should be their priority at this moment. No laxity will be tolerated," officials said.



Haji Ajmeri Malik's footwear showroom was burnt. Somya Lakhani

A two-day special drive was also launched by the government Saturday to verify the total damage claims made by such families in assistance forms, which were made available through teams led by sub-divisional magistrates.

As per official data, 46 out of 97 claims relating to completely destroyed homes have been addressed in the form of immediate assistance, while the 477 claims pertaining to damages of shops

have not been addressed yet.

However, in most cases, such is the extent of destruction that the immediate assistance amount will not cover the repair cost of even a room, let alone helping an individual restart his business. And in cases of commercial establishments, immediate assistance is yet to be released.

Haji Ajmeri Malik, whose footwear showroom and house in Brijpuri was torched by arsonists, leaving it completely gutted, said he has incurred losses of around Rs 60 lakh.

"My showroom was the biggest footwear shop in the area. Now it is beyond recognition. I submitted the damage forms in the DM office last week. So far, I have received Rs 25,000 as immediate assistance for the damaged house. I am staying at my brother's place now," he said.

A few metres away stands Rohit Kapoor's grocery shop, which was also targeted by rioters. "I submitted the forms last week. Ek paisa nahi mila abhi tak. This is the only source of income

for our family of six," Kapoor said.

On Friday, taking cognizance of social media posts about the plight of around 16 families belonging to the lohar community, immediate assistance amount was extended to them. They were residing in a slum in the Shiv Vihar Tiraha area.

In a statement, the government also shared the first-hand experiences of a few victims, including that of one Anarkali, also a resident of Shiv Vihar Tiraha. "We were surrounded by people from all ends and did not have anywhere to go. The Delhi government has provided our family an immediate compensation of Rs 25,000 for rehabilitation," she was quoted as having said.

The government has promised to extend compensation up to Rs 10 lakh in cases of deaths, Rs 5 lakh for permanent incapacitation, Rs 2 lakh for serious injuries, Rs 20,000 for minor injuries, Rs 5,000 for animal loss. In cases of damages to residential units, up to Rs 5 lakh will be extended for every affected floor.

27-YR-OLD WAS NAMED BY EYEWITNESSES

2 weeks after riots, first murder arrest

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

DELHI POLICE Saturday arrested a 27-year-old man on charges of murder and rioting in Northeast Delhi. Identified as Shiv Vihar resident Mohd Shehnawaz, he has been accused of allegedly killing a 20-year-old employee of a sweet shop, Dilbur Singh Negi, on February 24.

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Crime Branch, headed by DCP Rajesh Deo, which is probing all murder cases, arrested Shehnawaz from the area. "Multiple eyewitnesses identified him from the scene of crime on February 24", said a senior police officer.

Additional PRO of Delhi Police, Anil Mittal, said Shehnawaz and other accused allegedly pelted stones, ransacked and torched several shops near Shiv Vihar Tiraha on February 24 after riots broke out. Mittal said, "Shehnawaz entered into a bookstore and a sweets shop go down at Chaman Park in Shiv Vihar and torched both



20-year-old Dilbur Negi was killed on February 24. Both his hands were cut off

places along with other riots. On February 26, the body of a person named Dilbur Singh was found from the shop and a case of murder was registered. Both his hands had been cut off."

At least 53 people have died and over 300 injured in the riots. So far, 690 FIRs have been registered and 2,193 persons have been detained or arrested.

A senior police officer said Shehnawaz sold tobacco products in the area and he has "named more people during questioning, which is being examined". "He was not missing or absconding, he was in the area only... He assumed that the mob frenzy would have acted like a cover and he would not be identified. Multiple eyewitnesses

identified him as the main aggressor," claimed a senior police officer. Police said they are looking for CCTV footage of the incident as well.

Negi, who worked as a waiter at Anil Sweets, hailed from Pauri in Uttarakhand, and had come to Delhi six months ago. After the mob attacked the sweet shop on February 24, Negi had gone missing and his body — which was charred beyond recognition — was found two days later. His brother Devender Negi had told *The Indian Express* that he identified him "based on a rough idea of his features". Devender had said, "Even his arms were missing and I had to understand by the short height and shape of the face."

Meanwhile, Delhi Police also arrested three aides of suspended AAP councillor Tahir Hussain who have been accused of rioting. They have been identified as Tariq Rizvi, Liyakat and Riyasat, and the arrests come two days after Hussain too was arrested. Hussain has been named an accused in the murder of Intelligence Bureau staffer Ankit Sharma.

Message to force from new police chief: Stand by you

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

WITH THE police role in the Northeast Delhi riots coming under scanner, S N Shrivastava, who has taken additional charge of the post of Delhi Police Commissioner, urged police personnel on Saturday to perform their duties fearlessly, fairly, promptly and professionally, and to act at their own level as per law without looking for directions from the top brass.

Shrivastava has started meeting with personnel and assuring them that no strict action would be taken against them without a proper enquiry — and that it will first be established whether their actions were "mala fide or bona fide".

"In a bid to boost the morale of the force, he suggested creating a proper support system for subordinates. The motto of the police force is to treat every citizen of Delhi without discrimination. A sense of security among the general public and a helpful attitude is the need of the hour when it comes to policing at the moment," a senior police officer said.

These are the first meetings Shrivastava is holding with Delhi Police staff after taking charge following Amulya Patnaik's retirement. In his first meeting with the subordinates of the Western Range on Thursday, Shrivastava assured them that he stands with them.

"During his 60-minute interaction with police personnel of the Western Range, comprising three districts of Dwarka, Outer and West, he told them that they should consider their work as a



S N Shrivastava rewarded a constable for preventing spread of rumours

mission for society and not think that they are only working," a senior police officer said.

Discontent among Delhi Police staff had peaked in November last year when over 2,000 personnel sat outside the police headquarters at TIO to protest "inaction" of senior officers following the violence at Tis Hazari. After a parking row at the Tis Hazari district court on November 2 escalated into a clash between police and lawyers, Delhi Police had found itself facing an unprecedented crisis — of policemen and women questioning their leadership and making their displeasure with them known.

Shrivastava told *The Sunday Express* that they are motivating all policemen so their morale is boosted. "We would continue working diligently and that will improve the image of Delhi Police," he said.

During his interaction, he also rewarded a constable from Mohan Garden police station in Dwarka district with Rs 10,000 for working proactively when some people started spreading rumours in his area.

Remark by Kapil had no role in riot: Tiwari

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari Saturday said that the speech given by BJP's Kapil Mishra before the northeast riots had no role to play in the incident.

"Tni badi ghatna mein Kapil ke statement ka koi matlab nahi hai (There is no meaning to Kapil's statement for an incident of this scale). In his statement, he spoke about giving three days (for protesters to vacate the roads), but violence started that day itself," Tiwari told *The Sunday Express*.

He was visiting Northeast Delhi's Shiv Vihar. "I haven't yet visited the relief camp set up by the Delhi government, but I may go there Sunday," he said, walking past burnt homes and shops.

Tiwari inspected damaged schools in the area and spoke to residents about what they lost. He claimed, "Rajdhani School was used as a base to launch attacks, and it appears some buildings were equipped... and preparations had been done in advance. I believe there are five points from where violence started — Shiv Vihar, AAP councillor Tahir Hussain's house, Kardampuri, Chand Bagh, where a protest was on and where DCP Shahdara was beaten up and head constable Rattan Lal was killed, and Noor-e-Ilahi area."

"I met IB officer Ankit Sharma's family yesterday. We are providing food packages to those displaced and will ensure their concerns are heard," said Tiwari, adding that it was his "sense" that both locals and outsiders participated in the riots.

Man who fired at ACP home was making TikTok video: Noida police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, MARCH 7

A 32-YEAR-OLD man was Saturday arrested for a firing incident in Noida's Sector 134, wherein the window panes of a senior Delhi Police officer's flat were broken and the bullets hit the home's ceiling. The accused, Puneet Shishodia, allegedly fired in air from his licensed revolver for making a TikTok video Friday evening, police said. A complaint had been filed by the parents of Vivek Vihar ACP Mayank Bansal, who live on the 17th floor of Jaypee Cosmos. The parents were not home at the time.

"We had received information that multiple rounds of firing were heard outside Jaypee Cosmos Friday evening. While there was no serious damage, but if a person was present it could have caused fatal injuries. Once



Police said Puneet liked making TikTok videos; after his arrest

the accused was identified after due investigation, it was found that he was fond of making TikTok videos and would pose with guns. This was his attempt to bring the virtual world to the real world," said Akhilesh Kumar, Additional Commissioner of Police (Law and Order).

According to police, locals had initially alleged that a man in a black Scorpio would wander around the society playing songs



from the film 'Tere Naam' loudly. They had alleged that the car would be seen taking multiple rounds outside the colony at a high speed but no one had been able to identify Puneet, the vehicle's owner. The accused is a resident of the same society and lives on the 15th floor of a different tower.

Puneet completed his education from DPS in New Delhi and went on to do BBA from IMS

Ghaziabad. He also completed a PG course from APJ in Noida and claims to be working as managing director with a real estate group, police said. The accused's father is a retired auto engineer and runs a motorcycle showroom in Dabri.

The accused developed an interest in TikTok a few years ago and was known for making videos in which he would pose with guns — both fake and real. In order to make the latest video look authentic, he allegedly opened fire from his car in the air and the bullets hit the Delhi Police officer's flat.

Police said they have recovered a .302 bore registered firearm along with 106 live ammunition rounds and an iPhone, allegedly used to make the videos. The police team investigating the incident has been awarded Rs 50,000 for making a quick arrest.

4 days after he went missing, child found dead in drain he fell into

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD boy's body was pulled out of an open drain in Northwest Delhi's Jahangirpuri Friday morning, four days after he went missing.

Police said Azhar was playing in a vacant plot near a jhuggi-jhopdi (JJ) cluster in Jahangirpuri's G block, where his family lives, on the afternoon of March 2, when he went missing. They later found in CCTV footage that he had fallen into a drain near the plot in broad daylight, as people passed by without noticing.

Locals claimed several complaints had been made to the local MLA and municipal corporation to get the drain covered but nothing was done about it. Badli MLA Ajesh Yadav could not be reached for a comment Saturday. The boy's father, Mohammad



The open drain where Azhar's body was found

Anwar (36), said, "He was standing on a cement slab. He crouched to pick up something from the drain below, but fell into it."

A police officer said Azhar's body was found in the drain Friday morning by some locals and was pulled out with their help. The drain is strewn with plastic bags and gives the impression that it is a puddle filled

with wet and dry waste, but locals claim the spot is like a quicksand that is several feet deep.

His father said Azhar was about to begin school in a few months. "We had spoken to a teacher in a government school nearby, where Azhar's sister studies, for his admission and she had agreed. We had even bought a bag for him," Anwar said.

Azhar had three siblings — two sisters aged eight and three, and a nine-month-old brother. His father works as a daily wage labourer at the Azadpur Mandi, earning around Rs 400 per day.

Anwar said he had moved to Delhi 10 years ago from Bihar after his marriage to find work. The family has since been living in a rented brick house in the narrow lanes of the slum cluster.

"After he went missing, we searched day and night for him everywhere. We printed posters and pasted them on lamp posts

and walls. Someone told me they had seen him in the mandi, and I spent two whole days searching for him there," Anwar said.

He alleged that the police's response had been lax.

A police official said, "We registered their complaint on the same day they approached us (March 2) and filed an FIR as well. We followed all the standard operating procedures for such a case, and searched for the boy in hospitals, police stations and other places along with the family."

Anwar also said the authorities should cover the drain to avoid a repeat of the incident, and he intends to approach the court. Anwar also said he should be compensated for the loss.

"Azhar was born here and he died here. He was a fun-loving boy, very sharp and energetic. Every morning as I went to the mandi, he would ask me to bring something to eat," Anwar said.

Happy Women's Day



Your Every Right Decision is a Step Towards a Better You
Curated Specially for you

AU TEJASWINI
Savings Account for Women

Special Offering

6.40% Interest per annum on Savings Account with Monthly Interest Payout

8.00% Interest per annum on AU Bank Fixed Deposits
0.5% extra for Senior Citizens



AU SMALL FINANCE BANK
A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK

OUR OFFERINGS

- Vehicle Loan
- Lockers
- Home Loan
- Secured Business Loan
- Insurance & Investments

*Terms & Conditions Apply
*Basic: 7.75% Interest per annum on annualized returns for the first 24 months. 1 Day to 36 months on FD. *Rate: 8.00% Interest per annum on annualized returns for period of 24 months. 1 Day to 36 months on FD. # on balance above INR 50 Lakhs on incremental amount.

Breaking the barriers

'I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own' — Audre Lorde

■ **Abhishek Pathak**

WOMEN ARE the life and blood of our society and yet they're often condemned to lead an undignified life — a life where every day is a struggle, from mental and physical stress, lack of proper balance between employment and family care, unfair treatment at the workplace, stressful life, to work place discrimination etc. Women from across the world have always been at the forefront to serve in whatever capacity it is required of them. Yet, when talking about their voting rights in a city like New York, it came as late as 1919-20. It is worth acknowledging and even thought provoking that how difficult it must have been then for women to even assert for their basic human rights.

What started out as a mere protest for equality and justice for women in improving every aspect of their living conditions, with respect to their low wages, voting rights, and long working hours, turned into a long drawn-out battle and united women all across the world around a set of common goals. This struggle for equality and justice came to be known as International Women's Day (IWD).

International Women's Day has a long and rich history dating back 108 years. It was on February 28, 1909, in New York City, when 15,000 women protesters campaigned against their long work hours, low pay, and the lack of voting rights. The event was greatly appreciated and celebrated by the Socialist Party of America. During the



time, it was originally observed as "National Woman's Day".

After this, in 1910, Clara Zetkin, a German revolutionary, proposed that March 8 be celebrated and honoured annually as a day in the memory and spirit of working women. On March 8, 1917, thousands of Russian women took to streets demanding change in their living conditions and voting rights. Their unified cry helped them gain suffrage and thus the day marks a national holiday in Russia. The UN began celebrating the day in 1975.

Every year on March 8th, IWD is celebrated to appreciate and honour the achievements of women throughout history and all across the globe, and is typically a day for women from all different backgrounds and cultures to band together to fight for gender parity and women's rights. This year, IWD will be celebrated on the

theme, #EachforEqual, signifying that "collectively, each one of us can help create a gender-neutral world". The IWD 2020 theme is drawn from a notion of 'Collective Individualism'.

"We can actively choose to challenge stereotypes, fight bias, broaden perceptions, improve situations, and celebrate women's achievements," states the organisation site. "Collectively, each one of us can help create a gender equal world. Let's all be #EachforEqual."

Even today, it still marks a day of protest in some countries while being celebrated as the day of womanhood in some. Currently, Government of India (GoI) and NGOs are working fervently towards empowering women through education and providing them an opportunity to earn their livelihood on their own giving them a chance to own a dignified life for themselves. In the recent

past, GoI has launched many schemes and initiatives favouring the girl child.

In the recent past, increasing domestic and international pressure to improve the condition of women and gender issues has enhanced the ability of NGOs to widen their scope of work. There are NGOs working on forming a gender-just society by empowering young girls, educating the youth and lobbying with the state to create a safe city for women. To facilitate this, they have initiated many programmes such as providing free education, scholarships, and capacity-building workshops for girl child to help them break out of their circle of poverty. Some NGOs are focusing on creating cultures of equality and inclusion in organisations and systems to change deep-seated power structures of discrimination and social norms by supporting individuals and groups in systems. GoI and NGOs have launched many initiatives in transforming the lives of orphan girls through the power of education, believing education uncovers options for a brighter future. Many of these programmes are aimed at adaptive learning and skill development to provide quality education to girls.

With over a century of history, IWD is a growing movement centred on unity and strength of womanpower. The globally celebrated occasion is thus a time to reflect on how far women have come, advocate for what is still needed to be done to ensure betterment of their social and professional life, and take action to continue breaking down barriers.

MESSAGE

SKIT: Shaping young minds and building careers

SWAMI KESH-SVANAND Institute of Technology, Management & Gramothan (SKIT) inspired from the learnings of Swami Keshvanand, was established in 2000 by Technocrats and Managers Society for Advanced Learning, in the Pink City Jaipur, Rajasthan. Today the institute is recognised as one of the centers of academic excellence in Northern India. The Institute is approved by AICTE, New Delhi and affiliated to Rajasthan Technical University, Kota for offering postgraduate and graduate courses in engineering and management. Engineering departments of the institute have been accredited by National Board of Accreditation (NBA).

A good number of multinational software and other companies visit SKIT every year. More than 850 students of 2020 batch have been placed so far, out of which 214 have been recruited by Infosys, 141 by Cognizant Technology and many others while the placements are still going on. Great placements at SKIT are only an endorsement of the hard work and effort the institute puts in, in shaping and honing skills of students.



Rachna Meel
Registrar, SKIT

For all the efforts triggered towards perfection and innovation, SKIT has recently bagged the first rank in the consecutive 3rd year among all the RTU affiliated institutes. The rank announced by RTU, Kota has been bestowed to SKIT for maintaining excellent quality framework. Rachna Meel, Registrar, believes in great actions that lead to substantial and concrete results. "It gives us profound joy," maintains Meel, "when we see parents brimming up with pride and satisfaction about their ward's progress."

"The fact that SKIT has carved its space as a premier institute of technical education not only in the north region but across the nation, and that our efforts have been acknowledged by both parents and students, refuels determination to strive better," says Meel. Starting with raw students and changing them into exceptional technocrats has been a definition of SKIT as the belief goes that buildings don't determine an institute's success but it is its students' progress that takes it higher to touch new dimensions of glory.

MESSAGE



Diya Kumari
Member of Indian Parliament

THIS International Women's Day let us reinforce our commitment to ensuring women a safe, secure and encouraging environment to prosper and play a pivotal role in the nation's development. It is essential to celebrate this day to commemorate the inspiring role of the women in our society and honour their incredible contribution.

The need of the hour is to promote girl-child education in society to ignite the spirit and power of women. It will aspire them to reach the pinnacle of success. Holistic efforts must be made by the community to promote education to open up broader avenues for growth and development of women in our society. Not only this, we also need to encourage more women to become entrepreneurs and participate in the country's workforce.

Happy International Women's Day to all!

Celebrating women

Every day I wake up to the beauty and wonder of being a woman to celebrate the woman in me, keep my promises to myself and to set out for new horizons.

What does being a woman mean? It means a joyous celebration of one's self, a proud declaration of one's individuality, an unapologetic assertion of one's identity! Being a woman means living in the realisation that she was born to epitomise God's Creation! Womanhood today means self-confidence, fearlessness, fortitude, resilience and perseverance! It means realisation of one's self. We are not seeking comparisons with men. We are competing with ourselves!

The story of the twenty-first century woman is not merely that of Indira Nooyi or Mary Kom. It is the tale of the woman who clocks

MESSAGE



Jayshree Periwal
Chairperson, Jayshree Periwal group of schools

at work in time, meets deadlines, bakes that great cake on her child's birthday, gifts a holiday to her parents. It is also the narrative of the single mother who fights battles in court for the custody of her children, wipes their tears, inspires them to be strong and resilient.

I have always upheld G D Anderson's statement that

women are 'strong' and the world has to change its perceptions and understand this vital attribute of women. Living in a state that is known to be regressive in its attitude towards women and orthodox in its expectations, I learnt soon enough that my challenges were multiple; that I would be fighting against mindsets that believed that women are essentially weak and frail and that they should be confined to submissive roles.

Are we proud of ourselves? Ask the little girl who enters my school with twinkling aspirations, her head held high, their eyes set on the skies! Ask the woman waiting to catch the next train to work, ask the entrepreneur rushing to her business meeting, ask the maid content with the money her purse holds.

MESSAGE



Rolee Agarwal, Commissioner of Income-tax (Appeals), Jaipur

The time has come

Let your wings unfold, its time to fly, new horizons beckon, yours is the sky. Stand up united, stand up tall, then you will surely have it all. The winds of change are at our door, spread wide your arms, its time for more. Its time to tell the World your story, woman, you deserve all the glory.


MESSAGE

ON this International Women's Day, I congratulate all of you. I firmly believe that economic independence and social equality are the two major pillars of women's strength. Every day when I hear about women breaking new barriers and glass ceilings in various domains, I feel very proud. Yet a lot of ground remains to be covered.

Gender inequality is not only women's problem alone, it is the responsibility of the entire society. I would say sons more than daughters need to be adequately sensitised on this issue. Till the time mindsets are changed, at homes, schools, colleges, and work places including legislatures and parliaments, women's equality would remain a distant dream. While a Capt Tania Shergill leading an all man contingent in Army Day parade and a Shafali Verma hitting the ball out of the park in Australia, may fill our hearts with pride, still there are miles to go.



Nina Singh
ADG, Rajasthan Police



International Women's Day

An equal world is an enabled world.

BANKED NO. 1 FOR 3RD CONSECUTIVE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-20
by Rajasthan Technical University (RTU), Kota

Swami Keshvanand Institute of Technology, Management & Gramothan

Approvals & Affiliations: AICTE, New Delhi, Rajasthan Technical University, Kota, Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Jaipur, PCI, New Delhi

RAMNAGARIA, JAGATPURA, JAIPUR-302017

Website : www.skit.ac.in • Visit us : www.facebook.com/SKITJAIP



SHREE जंग रोधक CEMENT

घर की ढाल, सालों साल



Marketing Office: 122-123, Hans Bhawan, 1 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110002.
Tel: +91-11-2337 0828, 2337 9829.

Corporate Office: 21, Strand Road, Kolkata - 700001.
Tel: +91-33-2230 9601-05

www.shreecement.in

8 GOVT & POLITICS

Revival plan bizarre, SBI not volunteer: Cong

Why couldn't RBI or govt spot spike in Yes Bank's loan book by 35% in last 6 years, asks Chidambaram

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

STEPPING UP its attack, the Congress on Saturday said the Yes Bank "fiasco" is only part of the "mismanagement of financial institutions" under the BJP-led government's watch.

Former Finance Minister P Chidambaram asked why nobody in the Reserve Bank of India or the government detected the spike in Yes Bank's loan book by around 35 per cent per year in the last six years, and demanded a thorough investigation.

His party colleague Manish Tewari, a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance, wrote to the committee chairman, Jayant Sinha, asking him to "convene an urgent meeting" of the panel and summon officials from RBI, Department of Financial Services, and Yes Bank to "explain the collapse". He said the "collapse of Yes Bank is not a red herring, but another sign of our collapsing economy."

Addressing the media, Chidambaram termed the revival plan announced by the RBI as "bizarre". He said the plan "appears to be that SBI will invest Rs 2,450 crore to pick up a 49 per cent stake in the restructured capital of the bank at a price not less than Rs 10 per share (face value Rs 2). This is bizarre, when the net worth of the bank is perhaps zero... I don't get an impression that the SBI is a volunteer in the rescue act. Just as



Congress leaders P Chidambaram and Randeep Surjewala at the AICC headquarters in New Delhi on Saturday. Tashi Tobgyal

LIJ was not a volunteer in the IDBI Bank rescue act. These are command performances."

The Congress leader said: "It is completely beyond my comprehension how no one in the RBI or the government seems to have read the balance sheet. If you had simply read the balance sheet, you would know the outstanding loans are jumping at the rate of 35 per cent. And why did somebody not stop it... sometime, say in 2015 or 2016? This is a matter that must be thoroughly inquired into. How is it that no official of the department of financial services, RBI, no auditor noticed the jump in the loan book at 35 per cent per year?"

The loan books of the entire banking system, on the other hand, grew only at about 9.5-10 per cent per year from 2014 to 2019, he said. "It is difficult to un-

derstand how in a matter of two years — between March 2016 and March 2018 — it rises by 100 per cent-plus. From Rs 98,000 crore to 2,03,000 crore — it is a 100-per cent jump. I don't think there is any bank in India which doubled its loan book in 24 months," he said.

"The RBI must come and tell us what are the irregularities and acts of misfeasance and malfeasance that appear prima facie... from its study of the books of Yes Bank. The board must look into it first.... The attempt should not be to brush everything under the carpet. Accountability has to be fixed," he said.

Chidambaram said the size of gross NPAs may be understated and added that the number will rise once the moratorium on declaring stressed assets of SMEs is lifted on March 31, 2020.

Most absentees at RS panel meetings from TMC, BJP: Secretariat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE TMC tops the list of parties with the highest proportion of members missing from meetings of their respective department-related standing committees in the Rajya Sabha, followed by the BJP, an analysis by the Upper House's Secretariat has found.

The analysis showed that 57 per cent of TMC members and 36 per cent of BJP members in the Upper House did not attend a single meeting of the committees that examined the demands for grants by ministries during the Budget Session recess.

They were followed by Congress, which had 15 per cent of its members absent.

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu had earlier said that as many as 95 MPs, accounting for 39 per cent of the House's strength, did not attend any meeting on the demands for grants.

TMC Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien, who features in the list, said they were "glad" that they were not attending the meetings. "The papers never reach the MPs on time. Papers for a meeting scheduled for the afternoon are sent in the morning. We will not allow standing committees to become rubber stamps. If we attend, we will do so after going through all relevant documents. We challenge the BJP to live-telecast the proceedings of these committees," he said.

When Karunanidhi was blamed for building a family dynasty with Stalin's entry into DMK, the youth wing under Stalin was monitored by Anbazhagan. In January 2017, when Karunanidhi was unwell and declared unable to look after party affairs, it was a DMK general council meeting presided over by Anbazhagan which had declared Stalin as the president of the party, a position held by Karunanidhi since 1969.

(Anbazhagan) was still there for him". "Who is there for me to seek advises now? How will I solace myself?" Stalin wrote.

When Karunanidhi was blamed for building a family dynasty with Stalin's entry into DMK, the youth wing under Stalin was monitored by Anbazhagan. In January 2017, when Karunanidhi was unwell and declared unable to look after party affairs, it was a DMK general council meeting presided over by Anbazhagan which had declared Stalin as the president of the party, a position held by Karunanidhi since 1969.

UK court details role of Indian Coast Guard in capture of Dubai princess by her father

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

IN 2018, armed Indian Coast Guard forces carried out a seaborne assault to capture Princess Latifa, daughter of Dubai's ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, off the Indian coast and returned her to her father in the UAE, a British family court has said in its judgment involving the Dubai ruler's family.

In April 2019, Princess Haya bint Al Hussein, the UAE emir's second wife, fled to London with her 12-year-old daughter and eight-year-old son. A month later, the emir began legal action in the UK, seeking the return of the children. During these legal proceedings, one of the allegations made by Princess Haya was that the Sheikh had masterminded the abduction of two of his eldest daughters from another marriage, Sheikh Shamsa

and Sheikh Latifa.

The fact-finding judgment by the British court, delivered on December 11 last year but made public only on March 5, underlined the Dubai ruler's diplomatic muscle with the Indian government.

This is the first authoritative account of Indian involvement in Princess Latifa's capture. There was no official response from the Indian government to the verdict by the British court.

The revelations in the British court judgment come in the backdrop of increased law enforcement and counter-terrorism cooperation between India and the UAE in the last few years.

In his 34-page judgment, UK Judge Andrew McFarlane mentions India's role at least 17 times. While Shamsa, the emir's elder daughter, had been allegedly abducted from the UK in August 2000, he apparently "or-



Princess Latifa was captured in 2018

chestrated the forcible return" of Latifa twice — once in 2002 from Oman and then from near the coast of India in 2018.

The court relied on Tiina Jauhainen — identified as TJ in the verdict — a Finnish fitness instructor, who gave lessons to Latifa in the Brazilian martial arts form of "capoeira" in 2010 and went on to become a close confidant. They

took the help of a Frenchman, Herve Jaubert (referred to as HJ), to make plans for the escape.

According to the account, Latifa and TJ escaped from Dubai at 7 am on February 24, 2018.

"Latifa and TJ left downtown Dubai at 7 am and drove over the border into Oman where a mutual friend met them with a dinghy. The three then set off with the aim of travelling some sixteen or more miles out to sea. The weather on that day was not good... HJ and another crew member... travelled to meet them... on two jet skis. Latifa and TJ transferred to the jet skis and their mutual friend returned to the shore in the dinghy. It was not until around 7 pm that Latifa and TJ reached the yacht, the Nostromo," the judgment said.

"After six days or so, they became aware of another boat shadowing their passage some miles behind," it said.

"During the night of 4 March

2018, when the Nostromo... was some thirty miles off Goa... it was... boarded by a substantial number of Indian special forces. Smoke grenades or gas, together with gunshots soon led to the crew and passengers being subdued... At one stage, after TJ had been dragged to the deck with her hands tied behind her back, she saw Latifa lying face down on the floor with her hands similarly bound. TJ says that the Indian servicemen kept shouting "who is Latifa" over and over again.

The verdict quotes TJ to say how each member of the crew was "badly treated by the Indian forces". "TJ records that she learnt that the UAE soldiers had been flown to Mumbai from the UAE, picked up by Indian coastguard helicopter and then taken in Indian coastguard boats for transit to the Nostromo," it said.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

UMARIA DIST ADMIN'S CRACKDOWN ON 'ENCROACHMENT'

MP: BJP calls on Governor as part of MLA's resort razed

MILIND GHATAWI
BHOPAL, MARCH 7

ACCUSING THE Kamal Nath government in Madhya Pradesh of misusing administrative machinery to destroy businesses and trade of BJP lawmakers and create an "atmosphere of insecurity" among their families, the opposition party on Saturday sought the Governor's intervention to stop what it called is a crackdown with "political malice."

Leader of Opposition in Assembly Gopal Bhargava on Saturday led a delegation to the Raj Bhavan hours after the Umaria district administration removed portions of a resort owned by BJP MLA and mining baron Sanjay Pathak near Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. This came days after Jabalpur administration shut down a mine owned by his family.

A former Congress MLA, Pathak joined BJP in 2014. He won a by-election and became a minister in the then Shivraj Singh

Chouhan-led BJP government. Senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh had accused Chouhan, Pathak and three others of indulging in horse-trading in a bid to topple the Kamal Nath government.

Umaria collector Swaroachish Somvanshi said Pathak's resort was among 11 properties served notices by the tehsildar to remove their respective encroachments on government land. He said Pathak neither removed the encroachment nor appealed against the notices in court.

On Saturday, the district administration removed a watchtower, a guardroom and a boundary wall built as part of Sana Resorts on nearly 2 hectares of allegedly encroached land.

Somvanshi said encroachment from one more resort was removed and the drive against the others will continue. He said the crackdown began with the MLA's resort because it involves the largest encroachment.

Pathak told the media in

Bhopal that the family had appealed against the tehsildar's order and requested for the land to be measured. He said his family will move the court. He denied that he was involved in a bid to topple the Congress government, and alleged that the ruling party is putting pressure on him to switch loyalty or face more action.

Independent MLA back

Independent MLA Surendra Singh Shera on Saturday met Chief Minister Kamal Nath and said he had not been taken to Karnataka against his wish. He said he went there to attend a family emergency. Before meeting Nath, the Burhanpur MLA told the media that he would become a minister before Holi. After the meeting, he said he would definitely be made a minister but did not give a time. He said he would continue to support the Congress.

There was no word on whereabouts of Congress MLAs Hardeep Dang, Raghu Raj Kansana and Bisahul Singh.

In Ayodhya, Uddhav announces Rs 1 cr contribution for Ram temple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, MUMBAI, MARCH 7

VISITING AYODHYA, and the makeshift Ram Lalla temple, to commemorate 100 days of the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi government, Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday announced contribution of Rs 1 crore for the construction of Ram temple and emphasised that he may have parted ways with the BJP, but not moved away from Hindutva.

With the BJP trying to portray the Sena as having abandoned Hindutva after joining hands with the Congress to form the government in Maharashtra, the Sena chief emphasised that this is his third visit to Ayodhya since 2018 and he would keep visiting.

"Hindutva does not mean BJP — Hindutva is different and BJP is different. We have separated from the BJP, not from Hindutva... Chanting 'Ram, Ram' only before the elections is something I am not going to do," the Sena chief said, hitting back at the BJP.

Thackeray was accompanied by wife Rashmi, MLA-son Aaditya and 18 party MPs and other leaders. Congress leader and Maharashtra minister Sunil Kedar was also present — Kedar said he came to Ayodhya out of "faith".

Thackeray also requested the UP government to provide land

E Bid to woo Hindutva base

UDDHAV THACKERAY'S Ayodhya visit, and the announcement, assumes significance since he seems to have reasserted his party's Hindutva stand despite being part of a coalition comprising the Congress and NCP — a move constantly harped by the BJP to wean away the Sena's core base. His move is being seen as an attempt to please the Hindu voter base, which is also being wooed by cousin Raj Thackeray's MNS.

to construct a Maharashtra Bhavan in Ayodhya for "Ram bhakts" from the state to stay during their visit to the temple town.

While stating that all Ram devotees will construct the temple together, Thackeray said, "I recently spoke with Yogi-ji (UP CM Adityanath)... many Ram devotees from Maharashtra might come here (to Ayodhya) often, and for their stay if Yogi-ji provides us land, then we want to build a Maharashtra Bhavan on behalf of the state government"

Register prospective voters at 17, say EC working groups

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE WORKING groups set up by the Election Commission (EC) after the Lok Sabha polls have made a strong pitch for registration of all prospective voters at the age of 17 and allowing candidates to file their nomination online.

The groups have also reiterated a set of old demands, including limiting the expenditure of political parties, amending Section 126 of the RP Act to cover print media and the introduction of four cut-off dates in a year for youngsters turning 18 to enrol as voters.

Section 126, or the 48-hour 'silence period' before an election, only extends to electronic media. Also, currently, there is only one cut-off date (January 1) to calculate the eligibility age for first-time voters.

The poll panel had set up a total of nine working groups after the Lok Sabha elections to make

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Single, simplified form for change of residence within constituency, deletion of names, correction of entries, etc
- Voters to be provided with electronic version of their voter identification card
- Doorstep delivery of electoral services to physically challenged voters and senior citizens over 80

suggestions on different topics such as electoral roll issues, polling station management, poll expenditure, Model Code of Conduct and voting processes. These groups had senior officers

of the Commission and Chief Electoral Officers of different states as members.

On Saturday, the EC made some of their recommendations public to seek feedback. The pitch for online registration of all prospective voters at the age of 17 has been justified on the ground that it will help in the "smooth transition" of a young citizen into the electoral roll the moment she becomes eligible. The group has called for registration facilities to be set up in schools and colleges.

Another recommendation for the Commission is to explore the feasibility of alternative voting methods to increase the participation of migrant voters.

On the suggestion to allow candidates contesting an election to file their nomination online, the working groups have said: "Creating online facility for filing nomination will help in avoiding errors and will ease the process of filing nomination."

CM, OPS CONDOLE 'IRREPARABLE LOSS'

End of an era: 'Dravidian Everest', gen secy of DMK for 43 years

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, MARCH 7

VETERAN TAMIL leader K Anbazhagan, who served as general secretary of DMK for 43 years, died on Saturday at a hospital in Chennai. He was 97.

He is survived by two daughters and son.

Anbazhagan was admitted to a hospital in Chennai on February 24 following age-related problems. His health condition worsened a week ago.

DMK president M K Stalin, who announced the death in the

early hours of Saturday, declared mourning for a week, with party flags at half-mast in DMK offices.

In a handwritten letter released earlier in the day, Stalin condoled the veteran leader's death by calling it the fall of a "Dravidian Everest". He wrote that Anbazhagan's political wisdom will guide the party in future. If his father, late M Karunanidhi, had brought him up, Stalin wrote that Anbazhagan had moulded him.

He wrote that Anbazhagan played a source of inspiration and encouragement. Even when his father died, Stalin wrote, he took solace in the fact that "Periyappa"

(Anbazhagan) was still there for him". "Who is there for me to seek advises now? How will I solace myself?" Stalin wrote.

When Karunanidhi was blamed for building a family dynasty with Stalin's entry into DMK, the youth wing under Stalin was monitored by Anbazhagan. In January 2017, when Karunanidhi was unwell and declared unable to look after party affairs, it was a DMK general council meeting presided over by Anbazhagan which had declared Stalin as the president of the party, a position held by Karunanidhi since 1969.



K ANBAZHAGAN
1922-2020

Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam, in a

statement, called Anbazhagan's demise an "irreparable loss to Tamil Nadu politics". Stating that they are deeply saddened at the death of a veteran leader who had deep belief in the Dravidian principles, the statement recalled Anbazhagan's close association with Tamil social reformer Periyar, DMK founder C N Annadurai, AIADMK founder M G Ramachandran (MGR), and Karunanidhi.

Paying respects at Anbazhagan's residence, actor-turned-politician Rajinikanth said the entire wealth that Anbazhagan earned in his six

decades of active political life was just high regard and respect.

Known as "Perasiriyaar" (Professor) in Tamil Nadu politics for his decade-long career as a lecturer of Tamil at Pachaiyappa's College in the 1940s and '50s, Anbazhagan was one of the closest friends of late Karunanidhi. He was often referred to by DMK leaders as a man who had spent more time with Karunanidhi in his lifetime than even his extended family.

Anbazhagan resigned as a lecturer and successfully contested the Assembly elections from Egmore constituency in 1957.

While he lost the 1962 state elections, he was elected to Lok Sabha from Tiruchengode constituency in 1967.

Anbazhagan served as four-time minister in state governments under the DMK and was a nine-term MLA. He was elected to the Lok Sabha once. He was one of the few stalwarts in Tamil Nadu who witnessed the evolution of the state's Dravidian politics.

In the DMK's journey as a Dravidian party since Annadurai's death, Anbazhagan is said to have played a key role in Karunanidhi's success, and making his hold over the party unquestionable.

Anbazhagan's death marks the end of an era, for he was among the leaders who led the Dravidian movement in association with Periyar and Annadurai.

A close associate of Periyar and Annadurai, he had read Periyar's writings from childhood. Anbazhagan was against caste hierarchy and the Brahminical power hierarchy in Hinduism. In one of his speeches at a function marking the launch of Justice Party a decade ago, he said that if the British were not in India, "non-Brahmins may still have been reeling under the oppression of dominant caste".

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Mohammad Akhtar S/o Shujauddin R/O 364, Bazar Matia Mahal Jama Masjid Delhi-6 inform that the correct name of my late father is Shujauddin not Sirajuddin. 0040534701-1

I, Kunal Kumar S/o Basant Lal R/O-B-58/322, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Kaushal Kumar for all purposes. 0040534899-1

I, Hitesh Makkar S/O Subhash Chander Makkar R/O C/1201 Vijaya Apts Ghinsa Khand-2 Indrapuram Ghaziabad Up-201014 Have Change My Name To Hitesh Makkad. 0040534831-6

I, Ishahuddin S/O, Bundu Khan R/O 258 Brahmapur Road Ghonda Chowk Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Islamuddin for all purposes. 0040534804-1

I, Muzammil Hayat S/O, Islamuddin R/O 258 Brahmapur Road Ghonda Chowk Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Mohd Muzammil for all purposes. 0040534808-1

I, Rajesh Kumar Jain S/O Sh. Ram Chander Jain R/O 3985, Gali Ahiran, Bahadur Garh Road, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Rajesh Jain for all purposes. 0040534795-1

I, Sanjeeda W/O, Islamuddin R/O 258 Village Ghonda Near Ghonda Chowk have changed my name to Sanzida Begum for all purposes. 0040534806-1

I, Sarop Singh S/O, Gopal Singh Negi R/O 3 House No.723 Baba Farid Puri West Patel Nagar ND have changed my name to Sarop Singh Negi 0040534803-1

I, Shaista Parveen W/O Muzammil Hayat R/O H.No. R-175/2, Ramesh Park, Laxmi Nagar East Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Shaista Parveen to Naista Begam for all future purpose. 0040534812-1

I, 15341783-KL/NK KShatrapal Singh S/O Sh. Munnar Singh R/O Vill & Post-Khalispur, Teh & Distt-Ghaziapur, (UP) 233001 inform that in my service record my wife name and DOB wrongly written as Shweeta Singh & date of birth 01/01/1984 instead of Shweta Singh and date of birth 01/10/1987. 0040534689-1

I, hitherto known as Vandana D/O Chandrapal Singh W/O Tirath Singh, residing at D-1/14, Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Model Town, Delhi-110009 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Vandana Kaur. 0040534827-3

I, hitherto known as VINOD KUMAR alias VINOD KUMAR YADAV employed as TTI/HNZM/NRLY son of Chaman Lal Yadav residing at House No.-5/30, School Block, Nehru Enclave, Shakar Pur, Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereinafter be known as VINOD KUMAR YADAV. 0040534821-1

I, Vijay Beer Singh S/O Narendra Bahadur Singh, H.No.278, Gali.No.3/14, Janta-Vihar, Block-A, Mukundpur, Delhi-42, Have Changed My Name To Vijay Veer Singh. 0040534827-2

I, hitherto known as Rinki W/O Prem Chand Ganganiya residing at H.No-71, Street No-4, Karawal Nagar Extension, Delhi-110094 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rinki Ganganiya. 0040534854-5

I, hitherto known as Prem Chand S/O Late Rajpal Singh residing at H.No-71, Street No-4, Karawal Nagar Extension, Delhi-110094 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Prem Chand Ganganiya 0040534854-4

I, Vidur S/O Manoj Gupta R/O House No. 159, 1st Floor, Sector-24, Rohini, New Delhi-110085, have Changed my name to Vidur Goel for all purposes. 0040534854-3

I, Vicky Sharma S/O Navin Sharma R/O H.No-71, 1ST Floor, Nanakpura, Moti Bagh, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi-110021 Have Changed My Name to Victor Murphy. 0040534827-5

I, Sushma D/o Sadhu Ram W/O Manoj Kumar Gupta R/O-205 New Swastik-Apptt. Sec-9 Rohini Delhi-110085, changed my name to Sushma Aggarwal. 0040534831-1

I, Shalla Nisar D/O Late. Sh. Nisar Ahmad W/O Khaleeq Ahmad R/O C-1/58, Sector-55, Noida U.P have changed my name to Shehla Siddique for all future purposes. 0040534833-1

I, Sarvjeet Singh S/O Shri Gurcharan Singh R/O 1/51, Nirankari Colony, Delhi-110009 have changed my name from Sarvjeet Singh to Sarvjeet Singh Nagi for all future purposes. 0040534823-1

I, MOHD Shan Ali S/O shri Hakim miyan R/O-F-92 New seemapuri Delhi-95 inform that name of mine has been mentioned as Mohd Shan Ali Afzal in my Adhar card and other documents. The actual name of my Mohd Shan Ali. Both are the same person for all future purposes. 0040534854-6

I, Santosh Kumari Sharma C/O Dayanand Sharma R/O A-85 Shani bazar road Vardhman Clinical Kishan Vihar Sultanpuri C Block North West Delhi-110086 have changed my name to Santosh. 0040534854-7

I, Sanjay Jain, S/O-Giri Raj Prashad, R/O-H.No.434, Sector-22A, Gurgaon-opposite Rotary-Public-School, Gurgaon-122015, inform that Sanjay Jain and Sanjay Kumar are both names of mine and same person. 0040534869-2

I, Rajni W/o Sinder Pal R/O 15/3, East Guru Angad Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Inder Kaur, for all purposes. 0040534800-1

I, Rajni Rani D/o Tejbahadur R/O-116/2 Gali No.2 Haiderpur-Village Ambekar Nagar Shalimar Bagh Delhi-88, changed my name to Rajni. 0040534827-9

I, Rajinder Kumar Dubey S/O R.M.Dubey R/O-H.No-96, Pocket-G-27, Sector-3, Rohini Delhi-110085 inform that in Some Documents Written As Rajinder Kumar Dubey The Actual Name Of My Rajinder Kumar Dubey. Both Are The Same Person. 0040534831-4

I, Pramod Singh, F/O: Mr. Ayush Negi R/O 6-F, Raja Bazar, DIZ Area, Sector-4, New Delhi-110001 do hereby inform that my correct name is Pramod Singh instead of Pramod Singh Negi. Pramod Singh and Pramod Singh Negi are the name of same person. 0040534825-1

I, Poonam Devi D/O, Nandi Lal R/O M-223 Gali No.6 Raja Puri Som Bazar Road Sec-3 Dwarka ND-45 have changed my name to Poonam Verma. 0040534827-7

I, Paramjeet Kaur W/O Gurcharan Singh R/O C-56, Vishnu Garden, Delhi-110018 Have Changed My Name To Parminder Kaur. 0040534831-5

I, Navin Chandra Joshi S/O Late Radha Krishan Joshi R/O 88, Qutab Biew Apartment, Katwaria Sarai, Delhi-110016 have changed my name to Navin Joshi for all purposes. 0040534807-1

I, Imtijaj Ali S/O Raj Ali R/O-A-573, Ground Floor, Gali No-13, Part-3, 0 Pusta, Sonia Vihar, Karawal Nagar Delhi-110004 Have Changed My Name To Imtijaj Ali. 0040534854-1

I, Naveen Kumar alias Naveen Kumar Kaila S/O-Late Shri Surender Kumar R/O-2/12 Nirmal-Puri, Lajpat-Nagar-1V New Delhi-110024, have changed; my name, from Naveen Kumar alias Naveen Kumar Kaila to Naveen Kaila for, all purposes. 0040534831-7

I, Naklank Gosai S/O Kali Charan R/O 1-698 Second-Floor Jahangirpuri Delhi-110033 have changed my name to Nakul Singh. 0040534827-10

I, Mudassar R/O 258 Village Ghonda Delhi-110053 have changed my minor son's name from Mudassar Khan to Mudassar for all purposes. 0040534805-1

I, Mohd Yasin S/O Umed Ali R/O 278/10A, Ghaffar Manzil, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 have changed the name of my minor son from Mohd Ata to Mohammad Ahmed. 0040534831-2

I, Mohd Adil S/O Mohd Arif R/O-Mohallah-Lal Bagh-Bazar, Hasanpur, Amroha, Uttar Pradesh-244241, Have Changed My Name To Mohammad Adil Saifi, For All Future Purposes. 0040534831-3

I, Manish Sharma S/O Pradip Bharadwaj R/O-601/602, 6th Floor, Bldg No-5, Sec-6, Shanti Garden, CHS Ltd, Mira Road East, Maharashtra-401107 Inform That in My School Certificate My Father Name Wrongly Mentioned as Pradeep Bharadwaj but actual & Coreect Name is Pradip Bharadwaj. 0040534854-2

I, Mahender S/O Gopi Chand R/O D-37, Kalu Colony, Budh Vihar, Phase-2, Delhi-110086 inform that my name wrongly in my daughter (Muskan) School Living Certificate as Mohinder Kumar. But my actual name is Mahender. 0040534798-1

I, Davinder Manchanda S/O Kuldeep Singh R/O 1069, Vikas Kuni, Vikaspuri, Delhi-110018, have changed my name to Davender Manchanda. 0040534827-4

I, Charu Sharma, D/O Late Sh. Prem Nath Gupta, R/O-H.No.901, Tower-A, Park-Vision Apartment, Sector-5, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad-201012, have changed my name to Charu Gupta, for all future purposes. 0040534869-1

I, Babloo S/O Fakira Khan R/O-Ward No.37 Kaji Colony Abbasi-Mohalla Rajapur Sawai Madhola Ganjastar-322011 changed my name to Mohmmad Hafeez. 0040534827-8

I, Ankita Agarwal W/O Samarth Agarwal R/O A-501, Sansars Tanushree APTS, NH-24, Mehrauli, Dilshad Garden, Ghaziabad U.P-201001 have changed my name from Ankita Rustagi to Anikta Agarwal for all future purposes. 0040534827-6

I, Azimuddin S/O Baseer Ahmad R/O Y-1373, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110083, have changed my name to Hafiz Azi Muddin. 0040534831-9

I, Azimuddin S/O Baseer Ahmad R/O Y-1373, Mangol Puri, Delhi-110083, have changed my name to Hafiz Azi Muddin. 0040534831-9

I, AVADHENDRA KUMAR A K TRIPATHI son of SURENDRA PAL TRIPATHI, employed as Asstt. Amb. Officer in the C.A.T.S (Govt-of-Delhi) residing at S-19 Nangli Vihar Najafgarh New Delhi-110043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as AVADHENDRA KUMAR TRIPATHI. 0040534831-8

LOST & FOUND

I, Drishti Aggarwal, D/O Madhu Sudan Aggarwal R/O-196/7 Shekhwada, old-Faridabad, Haryana-121002, is notifying for the information that my original qualifying examination Marksheet and Certificate of Secondary School Examination of the year-2014, roll number-2113766 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. 0040534854-8

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No.1135, Page No.12204 in Dt. 17/12/2012 before Sub Registrar VIII Geeta Colony, Delhi in respect to the property is built up upon ground floor portion up to the extent of ceiling level area measuring 83.1/2 Sq. Yards comprising of whatsoever therein with all fixtures & fitting fitted therein along with common stairs passage & entrance with the rights to install T.V. Antenna & Water Tank on roof of top floor. All. Founder inform Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, F-104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51, 8987192676

Lost & found
Lost Original A Reg-Registration Deed Dt. 14/12/2012 executed by Yogesh Sharma & Jeevan Sharma both the S/O Late R.K. Sharma in favour of Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma D/o Late R.K. Sharma Reg. No. 26309 Book No.1 Vol. No.7094, page 128-132 Dt. 17/12/2012 Property No. F104/A, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-51 before Sub Registrar VIII, Geeta Colony, Delhi(2) Original Registered with Dt. 14/12/2012 executed Neeta Sharma W/o Late Ajesh Sharma in favour of Yogesh Sharma S/O Late R.K. Sharma, Reg. No. 3277, Book No.3, Vol. No

Court accepts clean chit to CBI's former No. 2 Asthana

ANAND MOHAN J NEW DELHI, MARCH 7



Rakesh Asthana

A CBI court on Saturday took cognizance of the CBI's chargesheet in a bribery case in which the agency's former special director Rakesh Asthana was given a clean chit.

Prasad as accused. Asthana and CBI DSP Devender Kumar, who was arrested in 2018 and later got bail, were named in column 12 of the chargesheet since there was not enough evidence to make them accused.

The court took cognizance of the chargesheet and said there are "sufficient grounds to proceed against accused Manoj, his brother Someshwar Prasad and father-in-law Sunil Mittal."

The court has now summoned both Someshwar and Mittal and asked them to appear on April 13.

The court took cognizance of the offences under IPC Sections 120B (criminal conspiracy) read with 420 (cheating), 385 (extortion), and Sections 7 (expecting to be a public servant) and 8 (taking gratification) of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

CHILD RIGHTS AUTHORITY WRITES TO MP BOARD

Class X paper has question on 'Azad Kashmir', 2 teachers suspended

MILIND GHATWAI BHOPAL, MARCH 7

A CLASS X MP Board examination paper referring Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) as "Azad Kashmir" has sparked off a controversy in Congress-ruled Madhya Pradesh, with Opposition BJP classifying the lapses as seditious.

The Social Science paper used the term "Azad Kashmir" twice — in a question asking students to depict it on India's map, and as one of the options in a "match the following pairs" question.

Both questions, carrying five marks each, were later scrapped, reducing the 100-mark paper to 90 marks.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the lapse, Chief Minister Kamal Nath has ordered strict action.

Teachers Nitin Singh Jat, who set the paper, and Rajneesh Jain, who moderated it, were immediately placed under suspension for the lapse and for showing negligence.

Nearly 11.29 lakh students appeared for the compulsory paper on Saturday morning. Taking suo motu cognizance, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) wrote to the Secretary of Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education (MPBSE), which conducts the Board examination, saying prima facie it appears to be a "criminal offence".

"Such kinds of questions are potentially misleading, which can negatively influence the minds of children since 'Azad Kashmir' is not a constitutionally approved phrase/term. Also, usage of such terms in examination paper by MPBSE is viewed as endorsement of such term/phrase which is not in consonance with the Constitution of India," the NCPCR wrote.

The Commission also sought to know whether the term was part of syllabus taught to children in schools. "If yes, then please share a copy of the same with the commission. If no, how has the term come into the question paper," the NCPCR asked MPBSE.

While seeking information of the action taken against the person responsible in the matter, the NCPCR stated that the probe report should reach it within seven days. "In the absence of compliance report within (the) stipulated time, the commission will be constrained to take further action as per provisions con-

tained in Section 14 of CPC Act, 2005," Commission chairperson Priyank Kanoongo said.

State BJP spokesman Rajneesh Agrawal said, "The same language (calling PoK 'Azad Kashmir') is spoken by Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury in Lok Sabha. Pakistan, separatists, some Congress leaders, and Leftists speak the same language."

Demanding action, former CM and BJP vice-president Shivraj Singh Chouhan said if the Congress is free from its internal squabbles it should focus its attention on the state as well.

In December 2019, the BJP had objected to a question in a Political Science paper of Jiwaji University, Gwalior, which asked post graduate students to differentiate between extremists and revolutionary terrorists.

PROTESTS AGAINST CAA

SC stays HC order granting bail to 22 held for arson in Karnataka

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE SUPREME COURT on Friday ordered an interim stay on the Karnataka High Court order granting bail to 22 men arrested for arson and violence during the anti-CAA protests in Mangaluru on December 19, 2019.

A bench of Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices B R Gavi and Surya Kant issued a notice on an appeal filed by the state government challenging the February 17 order of Justice John Michael Cunha.

Appearing for the state, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the court that the accused were Popular Front of India (PFI) activists and that they had attacked the police, injuring nearly 54 personnel. He contended that the High Court had not considered the "clear evidence" produced by the prosecution to establish the role of the accused.

The accused had approached the High Court after the Sessions Judge rejected their bail plea. Granting bail, the High Court had said that the "material collected by the investigating agency does not contain any specific evidence as to the presence of any one of the petitioners at the spot; on the other hand, omnibus alle-

gations are made against the Muslim crowd of 1,500-2,000, alleging that they were armed with weapons like stones, soda bottles and glass pieces. The photographs produced by learned SPP-I depict that hardly any member of the crowd were armed with weapons except one of them holding a bottle... On the other hand, photographs produced by the petitioners disclose that the policemen themselves were pelting stones on the crowd."

It said that "in an offence involving large number of accused, identity and participation of each accused must be fixed with reasonable certainty. In the present cases, a perusal of the case records produced by the learned SPP-I indicate that the identity of the accused involved in the alleged incident appears to have been fixed on the basis of their affiliation to PFI and they being members of Muslim community."

In its appeal, the state said the HC "has not considered the clear evidence produced by the prosecution by way of photographs, and mobile tower locations of each of the accused... The accused were properly identified in the said photographs... Inspite of the same, the Hon'ble High Court has observed that there is no material produced by the prosecution..."

Students wear black bands as mark of protest at NID convocation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, MARCH 7

SEVERAL STUDENTS of the National Institute of Design (NID) in Ahmedabad wore black bands on their arms at the institute's 40th convocation that didn't have a chief guest on Saturday. The convocation comes nearly a month after the initially scheduled event was abruptly canceled where danseuse Mallika Sarabhai was invited to be the chief guest.



During the convocation ceremony in Ahmedabad. Sohini Ghosh

Students who The Sunday Express spoke to cited several reasons behind their decision to wear black bands.

One post-graduate student said, "We want transparency. On February 2, days ahead of our scheduled convocation on February 7, we received an e-mail saying the event was cancelled. We sent them mails seeking reasons for the same but there was

no response. On February 4 or a day after, 30 to 40 students gathered outside the director's office seeking an explanation but he refused to make any comment."

Another post-graduate student said, "Many students lost money because their parents had booked tickets. Besides, we are protesting against the ad-

ministration's decision to not invite Mallika Sarabhai, and political interference in educational institutions."

Another student said the protest is against the "dictatorial approach going on in our country as well as in our institution."

NID director Praveen Nahar refused to comment.

Naroda Gam riot judge transferred

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, MARCH 7

SPECIAL JUDGE of the designated court appointed for the trial of Naroda Gam riot case in Ahmedabad, Judge Mukesh Kantilal Dave, was transferred to Valsad to take charge as the principal district judge by an order of the Gujarat High Court on Friday.

Judge Dave was also the principal judge of the Ahmedabad city civil and sessions court since January 29, 2018.

The trial is in the stage of submission of final arguments. Prosecution had completed its submissions nearly a year ago and currently final argument submissions on behalf of some of the accused were underway, while those on behalf of some others were already completed. All accused are currently out on bail.

KANPUR PROTEST

21 people told to pay Rs 2.83 lakh damages

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, MARCH 7

THE KANPUR district administration has issued orders asking 21 people to pay Rs 2.83 lakh for damage to property amid violence during protests against the new citizenship law in December last year. The 21 people have been asked to deposit the amount within a week, failing which authorities would initiate the process to attach their properties.

rected 57 persons to pay Rs 1.5 crore, while Muzaffarnagar district administration ordered 53 persons to pay Rs 23.41 lakh.

In December last year, the Kanpur district administration issued notices to 22 people on the basis of report received by Beckonganj police station seeking explanation why recovery for damage should not be made from them. Police had prepared the report on the basis of CCTV footage, photographs and videos of the incident. Most of the persons who were issued a notice submitted their reply.

Additional DM (City) Vivek Srivastava said, "Twenty-one people have been found responsible for damages that occurred during protest. They have been directed to pay Rs 2.83 lakh within a week."

People who have been issued notice are residents of Moolganj, Anwarganj, Bekanganj, Naubasta and Beckonganj.

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA REGIONAL OFFICE: HARYANA, BAY NO. 29-32, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA-134112 E-TENDER NOTICE

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE Office of the Executive Engineer Project (West) Division, Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-20

U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD PARICHHA THERMAL POWER PROJECT PARICHHA JHANSI 1-E-Tender-T-88/O&MC-VIII/BMD-VI/2x250MW/PTPP/2019-20 work of "Fabrication and fixing of lining in Mill reject pit & trench of coal mill reject handling system in unit no. 5 of 2x250MW PTPP, Parichha."

Uttarakhand Urban Sector Development Agency (Urban Development Department, Government of Uttarakhand) 771, Sarbajit Tower, Kirti Nagar, New Delhi-110028

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Health & Medical Education Department Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu MEMORANDUM 1. The Government proposes to initiate departmental proceedings against Dr. Sajan Bijyal, Medical Officer in terms of Rule 33 of the Jammu & Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956.

Bihar School Examination Board VERY SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (Through e-procurement mode only over https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in) e-Tender Notice No.: PR-100/2020

Accused in PNB loan fraud case brought from Oman, CBI gets 3-day custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE CBI on Saturday brought Sunny Kalra, an accused in the PNB fraud case, before a Delhi court after his deportation from Oman on the basis of an Interpol Red Corner Notice issued on the request of the agency in 2016.

Kalra was produced before Special Judge Rakesh Kumar Sharma, who allowed the CBI's request for three-days custody.

"As per prosecution, a conspiracy was entered into by several accused persons, including the present accused for siphoning off public money. To unearth the various facets of the conspiracy, I am of the considered view that custodial interrogation of the present accused is necessary," the court said.

In its remand application, the CBI also named Kalra's wife, who along with Kalra are directors at White Tiger Steel Pvt Ltd, and three public servants on allegations of entering into a criminal conspiracy with Kalra, who on the basis of forged documents obtained a loan of Rs 1,000 lakh from PNB, Darayaganj.

CBI prosecutor Raman Kumar submitted to the court that the agency required Kalra's custody to investigate some private persons regarding wrong evaluation of the property belonging to a third person, given as collateral security was still underway.

Kalra's lawyer, Pradeep Rana, opposed the CBI remand and submitted that "no recovery is to be effected from the accused. All relevant documents have already been seized by the CBI and are already on record."

Follow SC ruling on cases: EC to parties

New Delhi: The EC has told parties to follow the Supreme Court's recent order on highlighting the gravity of criminal cases against candidates in the poll fray. Parties will have to provide information on their candidates with criminal cases in newspapers, on social media platforms and the party's website within 48 hours of finalising the names or not less than two weeks before the first date for filing of nominations, the EC said Friday. Parties will also have to state reasons for selection and say why others without criminal antecedents couldn't be selected. **ENS**

EC okays merger of BJP and JVM(P)

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

THE ELECTION Commission of India has recognised the merger of Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantrik) with the Bharatiya Janata Party. In its order issued on Friday,

following the merger, JVM(P) has ceased to exist as a separate political party in Jharkhand.

Hence, it has been removed from the list of political parties maintained by the commission.

The JVM(P) so far had been a recognised state party of

Jharkhand. The election commission's order said that the party's election symbol of a comb would remain frozen till further orders.

Former Jharkhand chief minister Babul Marandi had merged his JVM(P) with the BJP last month.

Part of Delhi-Jaipur flyover collapses

New Delhi: Six months after the Delhi-Jaipur rail line flyover was inaugurated near Pataudi in

Haryana, a portion collapsed and fell on the road on Saturday morning, a PWD official said.

The flyover has been closed for repairs for 15 days. A probe is on, the official said. **ENS**

Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board
Punarwas Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002

VACANCY FOR APPOINTMENT ON DEPUTATION FOR MEMBER (FINANCE) & MEMBER (ENGINEERING)

Applications are invited to fill up the posts of Member (Finance) and Member (Engineering) in the Board on Deputation basis. The Maximum period of deputation will be 3 years extendable by 1 year on two occasions. The eligibility criteria for these posts are as under:

Member (Finance) - 1 Post
The Officers working in Government Departments like Central/ State Govt/ Public Sector Undertaking/ Semi Govt/ Autonomous or Statutory Bodies of organized services like Indian Audit & Accounts Service, Indian Revenue Service, Indian Civil Accounts Service, Indian Defence Accounts Services, Indian Postal & Accounts Service, Indian Railway Accounts Services etc. with minimum 18-20 years of service are eligible. The pay band of the above is PB-4 the Grade Pay of Rs. 10,000/- (equivalent to level 14 as per 7th CPC).

Member (Engineering) - 1 Post
The Officers of organized services like CPWD, Indian Railway Engineering Services, Delhi Development Authority, Municipal Corporations, Defence Services, Public Sector Undertakings, Urban Development Authorities, Housing Boards and other departments engaged in construction activities etc with minimum 18-20 years of service and degree in Civil Engineering are eligible. The pay band of the above is PB-4 the Grade Pay of Rs. 10,000/- (equivalent to Level 14 as per 7th CPC).

The serving officers with the eligibility conditions prescribed above are requested to apply through proper channel by 15.04.2020 to Director (Administration), Room No-9, Govt of NCT of Delhi, Punarwas Bhawan, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002. The applications must be accompanied with Vigilance Clearance, Integrity Certificate and attested copies of ACRs/ APARs for the last five years. The advance copy of application will also be accepted pending formal nomination by the concerned cadre controlling authorities.

For details, please visit our website: <http://delhishelterboard.in>
E-mail: mjain.delhishelter@gmail.com

Sd/-
(Abdul Dayyan)
Director (Admn.)

DIP/Shabdarth/1440/19-20

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING
Announces
EDUCATIONAL COURSE IN PACKAGING
ACCREDITED BY THE ASIAN PACKAGING FEDERATION
DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING (DPC)
25th Batch (2020-2021) Through Correspondence
Course Duration 18 Months

Eligibility: Graduate in Science, Engineering, Technology, Commerce and Arts from UGC recognized University/Diploma from recognized technical board in Engineering/Technology is eligible for the Course. Candidates should have minimum one year industrial experience in the operational areas like Production, Purchase, Marketing, Quality Control, R & D, Product Development etc.

Last date of Admission 31st March 2020.

INTENSIVE TRAINING CERTIFICATE COURSE IN PACKAGING (ITC)
3 MONTHS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME
Course commences from 1st July, 2020 at Mumbai

Eligibility: 12th Pass / ITI Diploma/ Degree in any branch and a zest to make career in the field of packaging.

Admission: on first-come-first served basis.
Application form and prospectus of DPC and ITC course can also be downloaded from IIP website (www.iip-in.com)

Candidates can submit filled application form through online/in person.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING
E-2, Road No. 8 MIDC Area, Andheri East, Mumbai 400 093.
Tel: 28219803/6751/9469 Ext: 306/310/302/303/304 & 301
Mob.: 9167528570 E-mail: tneip@iip-in.com / tneip1@iip-in.com

EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS)

1. Station Headquarters, Agra (ECHS Cell) invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinic mentioned below for a period of two year, renewable annually:-

Sl/No.	Posts/Vacs	Echs Polyclinics				Date of Interview
		Agra	Etah	Firozabad	Mainpuri	
(a)	Med Spl	01	0	0	0	20 Mar 20 (Agra & Etah) & 21 Mar 20 (Firozabad and Mainpuri)
(b)	Med Offrs	04	02	01	02	
(c)	Dental Offrs	03	01	01	01	
(d)	OIC	01	0	0	0	
(e)	Lab Asst	01	01	01	01	
(f)	Lab Tech	01	01	01	01	
(g)	Pharmacist	01	0	01	01	
(h)	Physiotherapist	01	0	0	0	
(j)	Nur Asst	03	01	01	02	
(k)	Dental A/T/H	02	0	0	01	
(l)	Driver	01	01	01	01	
(m)	Peon	01	01	0	0	
(n)	Chowkidar	0	0	01	01	
(o)	Female Attendant	01	01	01	01	
(p)	Safaiwala	01	01	01	01	
	Total	22	10	10	13	

2. For terms and conditions application form, remuneration kindly see website www.echs.gov.in. For any query please contact Station Headquarters (ECHS Cell), Agra Cantt at Tele No. 0562-2411201. Also approach concerned Polyclinic for details. Last date of receiving applications 17 Mar 20. Interview will be conducted on 20 Mar 20 at 0900h for ECHS PC, Agra & Etah and 21 Mar 20 for ECHS Polyclinic, Firozabad & Mainpuri (subject to change). Candidates will bring original certificates/ degree, photocopy of testimonials/ experience as applicable and two PP size photographs at the time of interview. Applications in respect of the candidates will be required by Registered Post only. Applications of candidates not meeting eligibility conditions will be rejected.

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 Rules 72 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993. In the matter of O.A. No 1199/2019

To, **ANDHRA BANK** Applicant VS. **M/S. JEETIN ENTERPRISES** Defendants

D-1 M/s. Jeetin Enterprises, Through its proprietor, Mr. Jeetin Gupta, House No.57-58 Upper Ground Floor, Pocket-7, Sector-2, Rohini, Delhi-110085. Also at: 115, 1st Floor, Village Sultanpur, Mira Landmark, Near Sharma Clinic, Delhi-110041 Also at: N-61, Sector-1, Bawana, DSIDC, 1st Floor, Delhi-110039.

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 on 23.03.2020 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 07th day of January, 2020. By Order of the Tribunal, Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

NATIONAL HANDLOOM EXPO, NERTPS

Attractions: North East Handloom Products, Silk Stoles, Bags, Dupattas, Summer Waist Coat, Handloom Accessories

Eri Silk Stole, Assam Silk Mix Stole, Kantha Peacock, Embroidered Stole, Naga Print Cushion Covers, Naga Motif Necktie, Handloom Home Furnishing Products & Many More Handloom Items from all over India

Come and witness the uniqueness of Handloom

at IGNCA, Rajpath Lawn, Gate No. 1, Janpath, New Delhi
03rd March to 17th March 2020, Time: 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM

All are invited Entry Free

Organized by: Directorate of Industries & Commerce Govt. of Nagaland

Funded by: Development Commissioner Handlooms Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India

CCS HARYANA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, HISAR
(Established by Parliament Act 16 of 1970)

TENDER NOTICE

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar is inviting Tender for following work :-

Sr.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	Purchase of Hydraulic Tractor Trolley under RKVY scheme for department of FMPE, CCS HAU, Hisar	Date of start of bid preparation and submission on 9.3.2020 (09.00 hours) and Closing on 18.03.2020 upto 17.00 hours. Opening of Technical Bid on 19.03.2020 at 10.00 A.M. & Financial Bid on 20.3.2020 at 10.00 A.M.
2.	Purchase of Ambulance (Maruti Suzuki Eco) for the Deptt. of SMO, CCS HAU, Hisar	Date of start of bid preparation and submission on 9.3.2020 (09.00 hours) and Closing on 23.3.2020 upto 17.00 hours. Opening of Technical Bid on 24.3.2020 at 10.00 A.M. & Financial Bid on 25.3.2020 at 10.00 A.M.

For detail information and e-tendering schedule, please visit the website: <http://etenders.hry.nic.in> and University website: <http://hau.ac.in>.

Note:

- All updates, amendments, Corrigenda etc. (if any) will be posted only on the CCS HAU Website/Tender website. There will not be any publication of the same through Newspapers or any other media.
- Interested bidders are advised to deposit bid security/EMD on or before 48:00 hrs of expiring date and time of bid online so as to get the payment verified.

Sd/- Director (Store & Purchase) CCSHAU, Hisar

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to our earlier tender notice published on dated 20th February 2020 regarding solar power plant, the last date of submission of Tender is extended upto 11th March 2020 at 5.30 pm. Technical discussion will be held on 12th March 2020 & Commercial discussion will be held on 13th March 2020 at 11.00 am. Other terms & conditions remain unchanged.

Managing Director Chairman
Kolhapur Zilla Sah. Dudh Utp. Sangh Ltd., Kop.
B-1, M.I.D.C., Gokul shirgaon, Kolhapur, 416234.

इलाहाबाद बैंक ALLAHABAD BANK
विश्वास की परंपरा A tradition of trust

Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF LANDED PROPERTY/IES
e-auction of Land & Building on 27.03.2020 on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" on the platform <https://www.mstcecommerce.com>

E-auction sale notice for sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 6(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers/ and guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Allahabad Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" basis as on 27.03.2020. The details of bank's dues, Borrower & Guarantors, Reserve Price, Earnest money & Description of immovable properties are given below:

Branch	Name of the Account	Details of Immovable Properties	Name of the Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Amount of Secured Debt	Reserve Price (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit
SAM, Patna	M/s B.K. Industries Ltd.	All that part and parcel of the land and building of cold storage having Khata No.129(Old) 15(New), Plot No.169(Old), 210 & 212(New), Thana No.169, situated at Mouza-Ilmahsnagar, Thana-Khanpur, Sub Registry-Kishanpur, Dist.-Samastipur (Bihar) Purchased vide Registered Sale Deed No.1909 dated 06.02.2012, Area-3.4 Acre in the name of M/s B.K. Industries Ltd. Boundry (as per deed) North-Main Road, South-Mithilesh Kumar Bhagat S/o-Late Ram Lakhan Bhagat, East-Road and Vishnu Kumar adjacent to Road, West-Rita Rani W/o Late Prabhakar Kumar Bhagat AND All plat & Machinery situated over plant site at Ilmahsnagar, Dist.-Samastipur.	1. Smt. Sunita Devi 2. Smt. Archana Raj 3. Mr. B.K. Singh 4. Mr. Ramashis Prasad Singh.	₹ 26,23,11,029/- (Rupees Twenty six crore twenty three lakhs eleven thousand twenty nine only) as on 14.09.2018 and interest, cost & charges thereon till date of realization less recovery, if any.	₹ 14,24,34,450/- (Rupees Fourteen crore twenty four lac thirty four thousand four hundred fifty only)	₹ 1,42,43,445/- (Rupees One crore forty two lac forty three thousand four hundred forty five only)
SAM, Patna	M/s Sarita Concrete Proprietor: Mr. Raju Kumar	All that part and parcel of the land/building along with present/future construction thereon; Lease land of BIADA in the name of M/s Sarita Concrete, Sale Deed No.2789 dated 06.03.2014 situated at Industrial Growth Centre Aurangabad admeasuring (48600 sq.ft.) 1.115 acre, Plot no. NS-4, 5(P), Survey Plot No.-474(P), 475(P), 476(P), 477(P), 478(P), Khata No.-83,80,86,84,78, Vill-Jasoia, Thana NO.-264, Dist.-Aurangabad, Bounded as under; North-Industrial Plot No.K-5, South-Industrial Plot No.N.S-5(P), East-Industrial Plot 60ft wide, West-Industrial Plot No. N.S-1 & N.S-3.	M/s Sarita Concrete 1. Mr Raju Kumar 2 Smt. Pumny Singh	₹ 3,03,93,444/- (Rupees Three crore three lac ninety three thousand four hundred forty four only) as on 09.02.2018 and interest, cost & charges thereon till date of realization less recovery, if any.	₹ 49,79,000/- (Rupees Forty nine lac ninety seven thousand only)	₹ 4,97,900/- (Rupees Four lac seven thousand nine hundred only)
SAM, Patna	M/s Om Jai Vishnu Rice Mill Pvt. Ltd. Director: Mr. Binod Kumar & Smt. Sarita Devi	1. All that part and parcel of the land/building along with present/future construction thereon including Plant & machinery, Fixed asset situated over the factory land at Village-Jamhore, PO-Jamhore, District-Aurangabad, vide Registered Lease Deed No.1372 dated 06.02.2013/2278 dated 25.02.2013. 2. In the joint name of Smt. Sarita Devi W/o Sri Ajay Kumar Mehta & Sri Binod Kumar S/o Late Shambhu Mehta, area measuring 62-Decimil, Sale Deed No.13763 dated 31.10.2012, bearing Book No.1, Zild No.187, Page No.270-276, Khata No.286, Plot No.4016, Thana No.105, Situated at Village-Jamhore, Mauza-Jamhore, PO & PS-Jamhore, District-Aurangabad, Bihar, Bounded as under (as per deed); North-Paine, South-Pind, East-Pind, West-Pind	1. Smt. Sarita Devi W/o Mr. Ajay Kumar Mehta 2. Mr. Binod Kumar Mehta W/o Late Sambhu Mehta. 3. Mr. Ajay Kumar Mehta S/o Late Ram Janan Mehta 4. Smt. Sushila Devi W/o Mr. Late Sambhu Mehta.	₹ 9,35,10,453/- (Rupees Nine crore thirty five lakhs ten thousand four hundred fifty three only) as on 08.06.2018 and interest, cost & charges thereon till date of realization.	₹ 1,02,93,250/- (Rupees One crore two lac ninety three thousand two hundred fifty only) (1) ₹ 1,27,61,350/- (Rupees One crore twenty seven lac sixty one thousand three hundred fifty only) (2)	₹ 10,29,325/- (Rupees Ten lac twenty nine thousand three hundred twenty five only) (1) ₹ 12,76,135/- (Rupees Twelve lac seventy six thousand one hundred thirty five only) (2)

Detail of encumbrance, Outstanding Dues of Local Govt, Electricity, Property tax, Municipal Tax, etc. if any known to the Bank: Nil

Last Date & time for Submission of Process compliance form with EMD amount: 25.03.2020 at Allahabad Bank, SAM Branch, Patna, Near Kotwali Police Station, Budh Marg, Patna-800001 (Bihar) Till 5.00 PM.

Date & Time of e-auction: 27.03.2020 from 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM at the platform of <http://www.mstcecommerce.com> with unlimited extension. Bid incremental amount is Rs.10000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only).

For further details and Terms & Conditions, Contact: Shri Binod Kumar Jha (Chief Manager) Mob.: 9430113022

For downloading further details and Terms & Conditions, Please Visit: (i) <https://www.allahabadbank.in> (ii) <https://www.tenders.gov.in> (iii) <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> (iv) <https://www.ibapi.in>

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS:

Step 1 : Bidder/Purchaser Registration: Bidder to register on e-Auction portal (link given above) <http://www.mstcecommerce.com> using his mobile number and email-id.
Step 2 : KYC Verification: Bidder to upload requisite KYC documents. KYC documents shall be verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days).
Step 3 : Transfer of EMD amount to his Global EMD Wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction portal.

Step 1 to Step 3 should be completed by bidder well in advance, before e-Auction date.

Date : 05.03.2020
Place : Patna

Authorized Officer
Allahabad Bank

ROPEWAYS AND RAPID TRANSPORT SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION H.P. LIMITED (RTDC)
On behalf of
SHIMLA SMART CITY LIMITED (SSCL)
Invites
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

For Designing, Manufacturing / Procurement, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Lifts at Metropol parking building and Old Bakery Building under Smart City Area Based Development including comprehensive operation & maintenance for 5 years on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) Basis

Government of Himachal Pradesh is committed to make endeavors for the improvement of physical infrastructure in the State by creating and enhancing more transport facilities for the general public & tourists. After successful bidding of many projects, Government of Himachal Pradesh through Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation H.P. Limited (RTDC) proposes to design, manufacture/ procure, install, test and commission lifts at Metropol parking and Old Bakery building at Shimla, including comprehensive operation & maintenance for 5 years on Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) Basis:

Sr. No.	Project	Location	Estimated Project Cost including O & M Cost
1.	Designing, Manufacturing / Procurement, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Lift at Metropol parking building	Metropol Parking building, Shimla	Rs. 86 Lacs
2.	Designing, Manufacturing / Procurement, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 2 Nos. of rear side glass Lifts at Metropol parking building	Old Bakery building, Shimla	Rs. 1.75 Crore

For further details i.e. detailed scope of work, minimum eligibility criteria, bidding procedure and other terms and conditions, please refer to the detailed RFP documents hosted (by 06.03.2020) on our website www.himachal.nic.in/transport or contact at the address given below. The interested bidders are invited to attend the pre bid meeting which shall be held on 23.03.2020 at 1500 hrs at RTDC office, US Club, Shimla. For further updates, please visit website periodically.

For further information, please contact

ATTN. OF:	The Chief General Manager Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation H.P. Limited (RTDC), US Club, Shimla
ADDRESS:	US Club, Shimla - 171001
PHONE NO.:	+91-9418481177; +91-9418457129
E-mail ID:	cgmrtdchp@gmail.com

LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL IS ON/BEFORE 16.04.2020 (UPTO 1200 HRS)

“The strength of India is perception that there is a broad consensus on good policy... not a competition between ideologies. Right up to Vajpayee and UPA government, that is the image... That continuity is not being really kept”



WHY MONTEK SINGH AHLUWALIA

One of India's most influential economic policymakers, Montek Singh Ahluwalia served in the 1980s in senior positions in the governments led by Rajiv Gandhi and later V P Singh. Then, in the 1990s, as India battled a macroeconomic crisis and embraced radical economic reforms, he played a central role, first as Commerce

Secretary and later as Finance Secretary. In 2001, he was selected by the IMF as the first director of its Independent Evaluation Office. He returned to India in 2004 as Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission — a position he held till May 2014. He has just written *Backstage*, a book narrating India's growth story



“Populism, in the sense of saying ‘Not a job, but I’m giving you benefits’, is unsustainable because it is unaffordable. It will see government borrowing excessively... It’s just not viable to ignore economic policy, rely on populism

UDIT MISRA: Did the Planning Commission overstay its welcome?

Many of my friends thought that it was a contradiction of sorts for someone associated with liberalisation to become Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. I used to make the point that they had no idea of what the Planning Commission does... It never engaged in detailed direct control. It was always an advisory body. But it did change quite a bit over time. The main task we had, which was effectively executive, was to divide the total development expenditure for the Centre and states... This resource allocation role was much emphasised but I felt that the real job of the Planning Commission should be to push for new policy initiatives...

UDIT MISRA: What is your opinion of the role played by the NITI Aayog?

I don't have good knowledge of it, but I believe that they have no role to play in financial decisions, and that is unfortunate because part of the usefulness of the five-year planning process is that it introduces discipline. Even big corporations have budget processes that are multi-years. Currently, it is not being performed by the NITI Aayog. You could argue that it is being performed by the Finance Ministry. But I don't think it is a good idea because the ministry has a core job, which is to keep fiscal deficit under control...

UDIT MISRA: Isn't it true that many of the issues that the economy is facing at present are because of the UPA government not undertaking any significant economic reforms?

In a competitive political environment, political parties will put across facts in whatever manner suits them. Let's look objectively at what accounted for high growth in the UPA period? There is no doubt that the tremendous reforms initiated in 1991, which were also continued by the United Front and Vajpayee governments, produced an image of continuity and broad consensus which helped generate a pro-investment climate.

The Vajpayee government contributed to this. His openness to FDI was a continuation but it was a new signal from the BJP which had many segments opposed to FDI.

Second, he signalled going beyond disinvestment to genuine privatisation... The United Front was the first to recognise that government equity could go below 51 per cent but they didn't do it... The Vajpayee government was the first to say that they were willing to reduce government equity to 26 per cent. Arun Shourie led the charge with some genuine privatisation but it got embroiled in controversy.

Then came the UPA government. They took many initiatives that ignited private investment. Manmohan Singh's presence was the best signal that could be sent out to the private sector that the government intended to stimulate private investment. The sharp reduction in the fiscal deficit in the first four years clearly helped create room for private investment to expand.

UDIT MISRA: Many argue that there was too much stress on welfare, and while the government created fiscal space, it also gave it up around 2008.

The notion that we created space and then gave it up for welfarism is just not true. Otherwise, the fiscal deficit would not have fallen. Besides I don't believe that the MGNREGA was as negative as people think. The MGNREGA is a mechanism for building assets in rural areas... One of the big things that Mihir Shah (formerly a member of the Commission) and I were pushing for was that we should use the MGNREGA for programmes for water conservation. NGOs were opposed to it because they felt that the projects should be determined by panchayats. So we struck a balance.

The other major steps that were taken were reform-oriented. One was expanding the scope of FDI, both in airlines and telecom. Then there was FDI in insurance, which required legislation and the BJP opposed it. I am glad that when they came to power, they promptly did it.

The GST is another example. The idea was first announced in Parliament in 2005 by P Chidambaram. But then it was stopped again by the BJP, mainly by states such as Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh...

UDIT MISRA: There were also a lot of rights-based schemes such as Right to Education that were introduced. But what about larger structural points such as corporate tax cut, which has happened only now. Why wasn't it done when there was fiscal space?

Can one object to Right to Education? The real problem is that we never recognised what institutional flexibility is needed to deliver Right to Education. And that is a fair criticism. But that is very dif-

‘Rapid growth sees excess bank loans. It’s common.. As boom ends, there is stress... But must it last 6 yrs?’

Former Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia defends UPA against charge of “welfarism”, says it failed to project its achievements, calls decision not to join RCEP “unfortunate”, and gives examples of scope for RBI to be independent



Former Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia with Deputy Associate Editor Udit Misra in *The Indian Express* newsroom. Abhinav Saha

icult and we are not doing it now either. The only area where the government should have acted and didn't is labour. And that is for the same reason why the Central government is not doing it now. Historically, there has been large representation of organised labour in major parties. The opposition of organised labour to labour reforms was enormous.

SUNIL JAIN: Knowing about the twin balance sheet problem, if you were to do it again, would you push bank lending and boost infrastructure without carrying out reforms?

While we were certainly pushing growth, we were not directly pushing bank lending. When growth occurs, there is an enthusiasm; people borrow and banks lend... If you start trying to do everything, nothing will happen. The logic of change is to go ahead and push; watch out what the problem is and try and correct it... In 2014, when Raghuram Rajan was the RBI governor, he recognised the problem... He was criticised for unnecessarily creating difficulties. Frankly, this issue had emerged in 2014-15... The Economic Survey at that time talked about what we have to do — we should recognise the problem, that was done; we had to recapitalise banks, that was done but only partially; and we had to reform banks so that they don't behave in the same way. That reform never happened and that was a pity.

UDIT MISRA: Since liberalisation, we have seen governments of all hues, but there seems to be continuity in terms of the broad economic strategy. Does India have only one economic ideology?

The strength of India depends upon a perception that there is a broad consensus on what is good policy. If the picture portrayed is one of competition between two opposed ideologies, with policy reversals after every change of government, you can assume that we will just be stuck. Right up to the Vajpayee government and then the UPA government, that is certainly the image. Now, some people might criticise the present government for continuing the UPA programmes while renaming them... Continuity, with renaming making it catchier is fine. On the other hand, I don't think that continuity is being really maintained because there has been an increase in Customs duty in the last two-three years... It is possible that we are reacting to a perception that the old stuff about lowering duties is old-fashioned, and the new economics is that we should have higher protection. I personally think it is a mistake. I

also think the decision not to join the RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a proposed free trade agreement in Asia-Pacific) was very unfortunate. The government initially said that we must go beyond 'Look East', and 'Act East'. But refusing to join the RCEP is not Acting East, it is in fact sitting on the shore and saying no thank you very much.

UDIT MISRA: Do you think the Congress had the ability to push reforms?

The 1991 reform was carried out by a coalition government led by the Congress — Narasimha Rao provided the political leadership and Manmohan Singh was the economic architect. They undid an enormous amount of traditional Congress policies. If we could do it in 1991, why can't we do it again?... Admittedly, it is easy to take tough steps in the face of a crisis if you can say that it was caused by somebody else. The experience of 1991 suggests that parties, in this case the Congress, can be persuaded to move in new directions. Not everybody in the top leadership of the party in 1991 was willing to go along, but the changes were made... If there are things that need to be done, they should be done.

PRABHA RAGHAVAN: With India having initiated a review of its existing free trade agreements (FTAs), what bearing do you think it will have on ongoing talks with other nations?

A lot of this desire to scrap FTAs is based on many lobbies arguing that our FTAs have not benefited us. The latest Economic Survey does an analysis of FTAs and says that's not true. The first thing one has to ask is whether the Economic Survey is right or wrong? I believe that the Economic Survey is right. If the Economic Survey is right, then the whole argument against FTAs is false.



ISHAN BAKSHI: Is it time to review the macroeconomic framework that has governed India's policies for the last two decades?

We should always review macroeconomics periodically. A key question is, are we on target in macroeconomic terms? We are not. We no longer have growth targets but the government has set the goal of becoming a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. This requires a growth rate of almost 9 per cent. We are going to end the financial year (2019-20) at 5 per cent or a little less. And next year, may be a little above 5 per cent. At this rate we are not going to get a 9 per cent average unless the growth rate in the remaining four years is well above 10 per cent or so, which is not going to happen.

There is also no chance of achieving the targeted doubling of farm income over a five-year period between 2015-16 and 2021-22. So we do need to revise our expectations and set realistic targets.

SUNNY VERMA: How fair is it for the current government to blame the UPA for the mess in the banking sector? Also, with the economy struggling, what would be your advice to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman?

It should be accepted that periods of rapid growth are accompanied by excess bank lending. This is a common phenomenon. When growth occurs, private capitalists become excessively optimistic. There is no harm in banks supporting enthusiastic investors if they bring enough of their own equity, but this doesn't happen. At the end of a boom, there is a downturn and the economy slows down. A lot of projects aren't able to service their debt. So the banking sector gets stressed. But how long should that stress last? Six years?... I feel what has happened is that

while the problem was clearly identified, corrective steps were not taken.

When it comes to reform of the banking system, it has still not been undertaken. Reform is not something which is done instantly. If you go back to 1991, a lot of reforms were carried out in the financial system... and these took four-five years. The next step was to open up the domestic capital market and the capital account in a cautious manner. And then opening up insurance. This was politically not easy but it was done. We now need to focus on reform of the banks. The P J Nayak Committee recommendations should be implemented. The GST also needs to be fixed.

UDIT MISRA: Is current Indian politics economy proof?

I agree that the economy is under considerable stress... most felt in the lack of creation of job opportunities. Young graduates are looking for much better jobs than their parents had. And unless the economy performs differently, they'll get frustrated soon. Populism, in the sense of saying that 'You are not getting a job, but I'm giving you benefits', is totally unsustainable because it is unaffordable. So it will reflect itself in the government borrowing excessively, directly or indirectly, which will only squeeze out the private sector and make the jobs crisis worse... The notion that you can ignore the economic side and rely on populism is just not viable.

UDIT MISRA: Did the public reaction to demonetisation surprise you?

It was very disruptive, but it is true that it was politically well sold and people did not seem to mind it. They minded the loss of jobs etc, but somehow the political management of demonetisation was such that it was accepted.

RAVISH TIWARI: Where do you think the UPA-II lost the plot?

There are two things that the UPA-II did not do. First, they did not adequately explain to people that the UPA-II had substantial achievements, particularly the reduction in percentages in absolute numbers of poverty as of 2011-12. So it was not just in the UPA-I. I have no answer why they were unable to project these achievements... The PM did mention them. Even Sonia Gandhi mentioned them in some of her speeches. Somehow, it was not part of the dominant political discourse... One of the biggest achievements of the UPA was in the area of health. Polio got eliminated. The director-general of the WHO came to India and made the announcement just before the (general) elections (of 2014)... Particularly because the

Congress was so concerned about education and health, this should have been trumpeted from the rooftops...

The second was the public perception that corruption had reached impossible levels. There were many factors — the Anna Hazare movement, mobilisation by NGOs. Corruption is a problem everywhere. It is not as if India is the only corrupt country in the world. But the way the whole thing was managed, the UPA never got around to making its case that it is being tarred unfairly by a particular brush.

My suspicion is that they did not actually appreciate the fact that social media or new methods of communication — Twitter, Instagram, Facebook — have shifted the arena where these issues are discussed. And they paid the price for that.

UDIT MISRA: Can you think of examples in the past when the Reserve Bank was able to display independence?

The RBI is not legally independent since the law allows the government to intervene if it wishes. However, it has been able to preserve a high degree of independence in the past. This is exemplified by the case of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) in the early 1980s. The BCCI was lobbying hard to get a banking licence but the RBI had reservations. The Finance Ministry felt the presence of the BCCI would send a positive signal to investors and it sought to overcome the RBI's unwillingness by getting the Cabinet to approve a proposal that the power to allow a foreign bank to operate should lie with the Finance Ministry, although the RBI could continue to supervise the functioning of the bank once it started operation. This proposal was approved by the Cabinet, but Manmohan Singh, who was the Governor of the RBI at the time, took up the matter with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He explained that it would seriously damage the credibility of the RBI as an institution, and if the government insisted on implementing it, he would have to resign. After hearing him, the PM actually reversed the Cabinet decision and the withdrawal of powers was never implemented. This is an example of preserving effective independence of the institution. Singh has written about this in a little-known article.

The RBI's reservations were amply justified by subsequent revelations of money-laundering and illegal activities unearthed by US authorities which led to the collapse of the bank. It exemplified the potential conflict between a proactive developmental approach and a regulator's risk mitigation approach.

13 SUNDAY STORY

ON THE bumpy roads of Majalgaon village in Central Maharashtra's Beed district, as they spill out from their brick-and-tin-roof huts to play every evening, young boys often mock Aman. "Tu to ladki tha naa, ab ladke ke kapde kyun pehne hain (You were a girl, no, why are you wearing boy's clothes now)?"

Aman tucks a thumb into the pocket of his jeans defiantly and refuses to answer. Sometimes he hits them and runs away. "We have taught him to call himself a boy, act like a boy," says his mother Naadarjaan Shaikh, although she is as unsure what to say when curious neighbours ask the same questions.

Born as 'Aiman', meaning blessed in Arabic, Aman is 7, making him amongst the youngest in the state to have undergone genital reconstruction surgery. Come April, he will travel 400 km to Mumbai to have a third and final procedure to attach his urethra to his penis, at St George's Hospital — arguably the first government hospital in the country to start a dedicated out patient department for sex reassignment procedures.

A sex change or gender reassignment operation can be complex, and costs around Rs 14-25 lakh in countries like the US or UK, with Thailand a hub. Private hospitals in India charge between Rs 6-10 lakh, with the lower rates in the country drawing patients from abroad in the last few years. St George's, which runs under JJ Group of Hospitals, charges Rs 60,000-70,000.

While there are no figures available for India for gender dysphoria (being born with one gender but identifying with the opposite), the condition manifests itself first in childhood, globally, one in every 30,000 boys and one in every one lakh girls have it. According to Global Market Insights, the sex assignment surgery market was \$200 million in 2017 and is estimated to touch \$968 million by 2024 globally.



Aiman was born to Saeed Shaikh (36), a truck driver, and Naadarjaan (30) on September 18, 2013, in Beed. With a daughter and son already, the couple were delighted at another girl. "Saeed called up all our relatives and informed them he had a daughter," says grandmother Rukaiya Begum.

Despite his meagre earnings of Rs 10,000 a month, on which he supports a seven-member family, Saeed splurged on new frocks, and got Aman's ears and nose pierced. Rukaiya Begum says she would massage Aman every morning, put kohl, dress her up.

Nothing seemed amiss until Aman turned two. Then Naadarjaan noticed with concern that the child would keep scratching her genital parts. "We took her to a private doctor thinking it was allergy. He did an X-ray and said, 'Yeh to ladka hai, ladki nahin (He is a boy, not a girl)'," says Rukaiya.

Naadarjaan remembers crying for several days. "I thought who will marry my daughter." Both Class 7 dropouts, Saeed and Naadarjaan feared Aman was a transgender.

The doctors, in Beed and neighbouring Aurangabad whom the parents approached, were unanimous that Aman was a boy. They explained that the child had a penis concealed under layers of skin and had no female genital organs. A surgery would be able to correct it, they said. "One day I got rid of all of Aman's frocks. I bought jeans, T-shirts. We named the child Aman," Saeed says.

Eventually, the parents started dressing up Aman as a boy at home, and as a girl at family functions to avoid relatives' comments.

Then, in 2017, Saeed read about a Beed police constable, Lalita Salve, who had become Lalit Kumar Salve after gender reassignment surgery. Lalit lived just 15 minutes away, and Saeed rushed to meet him. Lalit told him she had been born just like Aman, with a buried penis, and about the procedure she was slated to undergo at St George's Hospital.

It was after long chats with Lalit over a year that, in 2018, Saeed visited St George's. The doctors asked him to arrange new documents identifying Aman as Aman, and to start putting together money. Saeed says he worked extra time and borrowed from friends and relatives to finally get the operation done in mid-2019. The Shaikhs have spent Rs 1.5 lakh so far, mostly on travel and food.

The family says among their first challenges was to teach Aman how to urinate standing. Gradually, he picked up speaking in the male gender, before the second surgery six months ago. He was also prescribed male hormones as part of the change.

Aunt Yasmeen Khan smiles that since then, he has got more aggressive and picked up the habit of walking with thumbs tucked into pockets. "The doctors said this was the effect of the injections. His interest has shifted from dolls to football," she adds.



Dr Rajat Kapoor, an assistant professor at the Plastic Surgery Department of JJHospitals, recalls a staffer approaching him in 2016 about his relative from Beed with a "special problem". The relative turned out to be Lalita Salve, a shy, diminutive 28-year-old constable with Beed police. "There was an unmistakable boyish charm about her," recalls Dr Kapoor.

He also recalls Salve telling him that a growth she had had as a child in her pelvic area had resurfaced. A simple physical examination showed that this protruding knob was actually a penis. Dr Kapoor broke the news to Salve, adding that while "I could do a surgery so you can continue living like a woman, you are a man from inside".

Salve broke down, and left. Sitting in his one-room quarters at Majalgaon Police Station, Salve, now Constable Lalit Kumar, sports a thin moustache and a hint of a beard. Born in Beed's Rajegaon village, the second of three siblings, Salve grew up as a girl, shy of boys. When a growth was



Aiman a.k.a Aman

As a govt hospital starts an OPD for sex reassignment surgery in Mumbai, many born with gender dystrophy in India finally have an option. **TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA** on a 7-year-old to one who is 28, seeking an end to a long struggle



After the second surgery and hormonal injections, Constable Lalit Kumar got dumbbells to exercise and develop muscle; (top) Aman's family says since the procedure, his interest has shifted from dolls to football. *Nirmal Harindran*

first noticed near her pelvic area, she was four, and the family got it removed, with a private doctor telling them it was a cyst.

As a teenager too, no one suspected anything, though Salve never started menstruating, and was not attracted to the opposite sex. With the topic taboo, the mother and daughter kept hoping that her periods were late.

In 2010, at age 22, Salve was recruited as a constable, and cut her hair short as she found the long length inconvenient. With her brothers unemployed, it fell upon her to support the family.

Then, in 2014, around the time when pressure grew on her to get married, Salve felt another outgrowth in her pelvic region. When she visited a private doctor, the latter said that what she thought was another cyst was in fact testes. Shocked, she stopped consulting doctors in Beed.

Two years later, persuaded by a relative, Salve finally travelled to Mumbai to meet Dr Kapoor. Armed with an X-ray, he explained to her that she had no female organs. She recalls confiding in her mother, who eventually gathered the courage to tell her father.

Recalling her shock, Salve says, "Meine socha mein itne saal ladki banke jee hoon, samaaj kya kahega, mein duniya ko kaise face karoongi (I thought I have lived like a girl all these years, what will society say, how will I face the world)?"

While her family was supportive, Salve slipped into depression and contemplated suicide. By now, including due to the way she dressed, she had started getting mistaken for a man. "I realised if I remained a woman, it would be a constant battle," Salve says, finally opting for genital reconstruction in 2017.

However, there was another problem.

When Salve approached the Beed Superintendent of Police with an application to continue service as a male constable post surgery, she was told this could not be done as service rules were different for the two genders. The media got a whiff of the news, and Salve took to hiding in farms, at relatives' homes, to escape attention. What was meant to be a secret became open gossip, Salve says.

Finally, Devendra Fadnavis, the then chief minister, intervened on Salve's behalf. He requested the home department to look into the case and, soon after, Salve got permission to continue in the police force.



In September 2018, Salve checked into St George's Hospital, where Dr Kapoor had been transferred by then. In his 10 years at JJ Hospital, Dr Kapoor had only once assisted in a sex change surgery. St George's, a 467-bed hospital, had never had such a procedure.

Salve underwent an operation to construct a penis using skin from his thigh and pelvic area, followed by nearly a month in post-operative care. He recalls locking himself up in the bathroom, taking to meditation to get through the period. The eight family members who accompanied Salve slept in the corridors, unable to afford a hotel.

Months later, Salve had a second procedure and, after hormonal injections, got dumbbells to exercise and develop muscle.

With his case becoming well known, Salve started getting calls from strangers seeking advice. One of them was Saeed. In Mumbai, Dr Kapoor too received endless queries. Dr Madhukar Gaikwad, Medical Superintendent, St George's Hospital, says that given the inter-

Rs 60,000-70,000

Cost of gender reassignment operation at St George's Hospital

Rs 6-10 lakh

Cost of the surgery at a private hospital in India

300-350

No. of sex reassignment surgeries conducted in India every year

\$200 million

Global sex reassignment surgery market in 2017

(expected to touch \$968 million by 2024)

One in every 30,000 boys and one in every 1 LAKH girls affected by gender dysphoria globally

While 60% of global sex change surgeries are male to female, India sees more female to male surgeries, including at St George's

Among the few states to have some guidelines is Karnataka, which approved a State Policy for Transgenders in 2017, suggesting free sex reassignment surgeries. However, very few hospitals, such as Bengaluru's Victoria and MS Ramaiah, offer them, and the policy is only for transgenders.

Dr Maithili Unmte, Associate Professor at JJ Hospitals, says that the first thing they do when approached for a gender reassignment surgery is assess a patient's psychological state. "It is life-changing and they need to be sure of what they want," says Dr Unmte. Multiple sessions are also held with family members, especially if they are against the procedure. "We hand-hold the patients as they reveal their condition to their family."

Studies abroad have shown many of those who undergo the operation come to regret it later. It could be due to poor outcome of a surgery, as well as lack of preparedness to deal with changed gender. Dr Miroslav Djordjevic, Professor of Urology at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, documented seven male-to-female cases who underwent reversal surgery between 2010 and 2014, in *Journal of Sexual Medicine*. While the study found them healthy after re-implanting a penis, Djordjevic suggested this showed there was need for strong counselling of people with gender identity disorders.

Speaking to *The Sunday Express*, Dr Djordjevic said that at present, they had a list of 40 such candidates for reversal surgery. Pointing out that such operations are complicated, he says, "The main problem is how to find enough material, tissues for reconstruction of original genital organs. We have had patients who want their male genitalia back... but the new genitalia are not functionally and aesthetically like the original."

Dr Djordjevic recommends psychiatric counselling for at least one year.

Dr Shubhangi Parkar, Head of Psychiatry at KEM Hospital, Mumbai, says she recommends that patients try living like the opposite gender for several days before the surgery. "I had a woman who became a man and regretted it three-and-a-half years later. The reason was breakup with a partner," she says, adding it took a lot of effort to get the patient to drop plans for a reverse procedure.



While 60 per cent of global sex change surgeries are male to female, India sees more female to male surgeries, including at St George's. Dr Kapoor says the reason could be India's patriarchal society, though Dr Unmte points out that no research has been conducted to confirm this.

A woman-to-man surgery, in fact, is more challenging and costly. It involves excising of breast tissues and excess skin, repositioning of nipples, removal of ovaries, uterus, and vagina, injection of androgens hormone to get facial hair and baritone, and creation of a scrotum using, normally, thigh muscles and skin. The trickiest part is phalloplasty or penis implant, in which skin and tissue grafting is done from thigh, pelvic area or arms.

To ensure the recreated penis can have an erection, an implant is placed. It could be a button-like device near the groin which can be pressed to inflate the penis and later to deflate it. Says Dr Kapoor, "While the surgery

can ensure erection and normal intercourse, we can't still ensure sperms."

In case of a male-to-female procedure, penis, scrotum and testes are removed, and the tip of penis restructured to resemble a clitoris. "A cavity is created at the root of the penis to form a vagina, and the excess skin of the penis used for vaginal lining. The nerve bundles at the tip of the penis are restructured near the clitoris," says Dr Nitin Ghag, head of the Plastic Surgery Department at Dr R N Cooper Medical College.

Noting that the cost of a procedure depends on the surgery hours, he adds, "If a person wants a penis but no erection, the cost is less." Indore-based Kabeer Gawlani, who became a male in 2015, says doctors told him at the time to put out two newspaper advertisements before changing his sex. Now, two independent psychiatrists' certificate is permissible for an operation. "I was planning to travel to Thailand for penile reconstruction, but decided to do it in India," he says.

Rita Devi, 34, a rice farmer from Assam's Hojai district, is among those in the waiting list at St George's. A friend told her a year ago about the hospital that provided affordable surgery. The two of them took a train, travelling four days and three nights to Mumbai.

Rita, who underwent breast removal in June 2019, says she is yet to come out to fellow villagers. "My family is also scared. But I felt suffocated, I wanted to become a man."

This month, her genital organs will be removed, followed by a penile implant. After that, she says, she will be known as Rit Kumar Singh.



There are 17 others in the queue at the hospital, including a wholesale dealer from Turki town in Bihar, Krishna Kumar, 27, earlier Usha Kumari. Having got breasts and genital organs removed for Rs 3.5 lakh at a private hospital, Krishna decided to come to St George's Hospital.

Krishna says he was never in doubt, having always wanted to be a boy, and enjoying the full support of his mother. Sporting a small growth of facial hair now, he, however, worries about the money he owes to friends and relatives.

For a long while, he also worried about marriage. Then, earlier this month, he had a chat with Lalit Kumar on the phone.

On February 16 this year, Lalit got married to Seema, 22, a third-year BCom student. Seema says she knows all about him, even has clippings of the news items on him, and researched about genital reconstruction before tying the knot. "He is a complete man" for her.

Lalit, who laughs that he can now remove his shirt in public, recalls another memory, of returning to the village after the first surgery. "My father was waiting for me. We hugged. That was the first time I hugged him."

Villagers now call Lalit 'dada', while the Constable has been given the 'Shakti Pathak' post in the Beed police to help women victims of eve-teasing.

The parents of Aman hope he will be an inspiration too, insisting he be identified and his case known. Oblivious to all this, the seven-year-old is restless to get on with his football. And to return to the Gateway of India in Mumbai — "woh bageecha CST ke paas (that garden near the CST Station)".

A surveillance programme set in place in 2004, tested through outbreaks like Nipah, and involving a network spread down to villages, is now at the vanguard against fast-spreading COVID-19. ABANTIKA GHOSH with ASTHA SAXENA in Delhi, HAMZA KHAN in Jaipur, SREENIVAS JANYALA in Hyderabad, and JOHNSON T A in Bengaluru on the many hours and many hands behind India's coronavirus battle

INSIDE A building in Delhi's Civil Lines that was once the residence of the last commander-in-chief of the British Army in India, 20 people (doctors or PhDs in microbiology/epidemiology) are fielding calls from across the country and abroad. There are two computers to answer emails. When the questions get harder, the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) hands over the call to an additional director. A white board at the back has the day's coronavirus (COVID-19) situation report issued by the World Health Organisation. Barely 10 ft by 20 ft, this is the NCDC control room.

In many ways though, it is just the public interface of a complicated, countrywide network of doctors, epidemiologists and field workers that has been developed since 2004 under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), and which is now serving as the backbone of the massive manhunt at the core of India's coronavirus management strategy.

Envisaged for exactly such a situation, the IDSP has in the past been pressed into service against outbreaks such as Nipah in Kerala and tracks all 33 diseases, including dengue, chikungunya, Japanese encephalitis and typhoid.

Now, across the country, this network is not just getting suspected coronavirus patients to designated hospitals (a total of 106) and laboratories, but also tracking every contact and following them up for 14-28 days to contain the spread of a virus that has affected more than 93,000 people across the world and claimed over 3,000 lives. India has not reported any deaths so far.

Because it is a permanent set-up, a senior NCDC official says, "the systems are robust". The IDSP comprises a Central Surveillance Unit, State Surveillance Units at State/UT headquarters level, and District Surveillance Units in all districts, apart from Rapid Response Teams at the ground level.

It is no less than a sleuth's job. Take, for example, the case of the Kerala student who returned from epicentre Wuhan in China not with the rest of his group but via Bengaluru, using public transport including taxis and trains. "We had information about a group of 40 students who would land at Kollata airport and then travel to Kochi, and we had prepared the screening and isolation paraphernalia to the last T. However, this student — eventually the second case — went to Bengaluru. We tracked down everybody. We did not even have the number of the cab he took. But, based on the time he told us, we asked around and finally traced the driver," smiles an official.

Asked if lessons from the 2018 Nipah outbreak had been incorporated in the COVID-19 protocol, an official says, "These are two different diseases with different modes of transmission. There, it was animal-to-human transmission with fruit bats involved. The lessons we have really learnt are from China — to stay prepared and leave nothing to chance."

The daily drill is less daunting, but as rigorous. Every morning, from 21 airports in the country, the bureau of immigration sends a list of all potential/suspected cases/contacts to the Central Surveillance Unit at the IDSP — shortlisted from thermal screening and self-declaration forms filled out by flyers from abroad. Similar lists come from sea ports and land borders. All, in turn, are circulated to state units, from there to district units and further on to village units. Each state unit has one officer and seven staff members; each district unit a similar set-up.

"The staff visits every person listed, counsels them on precaution and isolation. They are given a mask and told that whenever they show any symptom, they should wear it and go straight to the designated hospital and not anywhere else. From there on, the person is followed up every day for 14-28 days," says a district surveillance officer from Uttar Pradesh, speaking on condition of anonymity.

If a patient or a suspected contact reaches out to the district unit on his/her own, the central control room in Delhi comes in. The person is given the name and number of their local surveillance officer and informed about the designated hospital.

"We get 800-900 calls every day this week. All the 20 lines are buzzing all day. On Wednesday, we got 900 calls during the day, 350 at night. Of those calls, 100-150 are from abroad, Indians wanting to know when they can come back, foreign tourists trying to find out where all in India is safe," says an NCDC official.

Incidentally, even as COVID-19 goes headlines, the IDSP has its eyes firmly on swine flu as well. In 2019, over a thousand died of swine flu in the country.

The friend: Contacts 105
The audit 2 on March 2 came the news that the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had been dead. Twenty-eight days after India had reported coronavirus cases, all in Kerala, the first patient had turned up in Delhi. On the 14th, the



UNTIL THURSDAY

6,49,452

passengers of 6,550 flights screened at airports

29,607

persons under IDSP community surveillance, contact tracing

spilled over to next day, as the Health Ministry started receiving calls from people who had attended the party at the five-star hotel.

Meanwhile, officials coordinated with the Uttar Pradesh administration and NCDC to trace 71 others who had been in direct and indirect contact with 'Case No.4', including his relatives. A team of 179 people from the East District of Delhi, including 40 doctors and 26 pharmacists, were sent out to identify them.

So far, of the contact list of 105 (71 plus 34), most have tested negative (including the five classmates).

Delhi health authorities say they were well-equipped to handle the virus having started active watch of passengers on January 15. As part of the process, field workers made calls as well as visited houses of suspects, armed with a list shared by the Delhi Health Department with all 11 districts in the Capital.

The calls were first made by officers, and if we were unable to contact the passengers, the field workers went. They were told to ensure a distance of minimum 30 metres from the person concerned. The workers enquired about any persistent fever and cough. If a family agreed, it was told to go to RML Hospital for tests, or suggested home isolation for 14 days," says Dr. Baldev Rawat, Chief District Medical Officer, East District.

The Delhi government now has control rooms in all 11 districts along with a central control room at the office of the Directorate General of Health Services in all 25 hospitals have been designated for coronavirus handling.

The Italian tourist: Contacts 215

With most of the cases of coronavirus in India traced to Jaipur, the 46-year-old two-storey Infectious Diseases Hospital (IDH), located in a quiet corner of the 50-acre campus of the Sawai Man Singh Hospital, has emerged as the headquarters of the fight against the virus. Its 30 beds, including six in ICU, have been set aside for COVID-19 suspects, with doctors on duty 24x7. Currently it holds 11 suspect cases.

Jaipur saw its first patient on March 3, a day after Delhi's — a 69-year-old Italian tourist, followed by his wife. While the two of them continue to be at the IDH, the 46-year-old Italian who were part of their touring group and the driver who ferried them out in Delhi, having moved there by the time they were tested and their results came positive.

On March 4, Rajasthan Health Minister Raghunath Singh informed the Assembly that they were tracking 215 people — including the Jaipur hotel where the tourists stayed, at the private hospital they first visited, at SMS, apart from others in five other Rajasthan districts they had visited.

IDH in-charge Dr. Dilip Raj says the coronavirus facility was set up on January 26, when they had their first suspected patient, an MBBS student who had returned from China, who later tested negative. SMS Additional Superintendent Dr. Ajit Singh says they already had an isolation facility at the IDH for swine flu.

Then, around January-end, the government of India chose SMS, the largest government hospital in Rajasthan, as one of the centres for coronavirus testing. A month passed off peacefully, till the March 3 positive test results were received. "We immediately started tracing backwards."

The Italian tourist was found to have flown into New Delhi on February 21, along with 22 others. The same day, the Italian group travelled to Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan on a bus, and subsequently to Bikaner,



Jaipur, before arriving in Jaipur on February 28. That night, complaining of breathlessness, the 69-year-old was taken to hospital from his hotel and kept overnight. With his symptoms suspect, he was referred to SMS and then shifted to the IDH around noon on February 29. While the initial reports for coronavirus and swine flu came out negative, another screening on March 2 tested positive. A second round of testing at the NV confirmed the virus on March 3. The same day, Rohit Kumar Singh,

Additional Chief Secretary, Medical and Health and Family Welfare, directed constitution of Rapid Response Teams at the level of medical colleges across the state. Each team had doctors and epidemiologists and they were told to inspect hotels and tourist sites where the Italian group had stayed or visited. Simultaneously, the districts were asked to ensure that the places are disinfected. So far, while tests of all their contacts except the 14 have returned negative, new suspects continue to be admitted at the IDH.



(From left) 'Asha Sahyoginis' in Jaipur. They have been asked to survey 100 houses a day to look out for high-risk cases; at Gandhi Hospital in Secunderabad. The first case in Telangana was detected on March 2; the National Centre for Disease Control received 800-900 calls every day last week regarding COVID-2019. Hamza Khan/AP/Abantika Ghosh



SMS Superintendent DS Meena says they are setting up a separate ward within the SMS OPD now for coronavirus. Dr. Surjit Singh Rajput, 35, and Dr. Lavina, 26, deployed at the Emergency, say that with no way to tell a regular flu patient from one suffering from coronavirus, "We differentiate looking at their travel history." Dr. Lavina says she only started wearing the recommended N-95 mask since last three days. Among the Health Department's 'Asha Sahyoginis', deployed to conduct surveys, are Pappi Devi, 40, and Kamla Devi, 36, staff

at the Urban PHC in Jaipur's Amargarh Kachi Basti. They say they have been told to look out for high-risk cases — children under 5, elderly over 65 years, pregnant women, and patients with serious ailments. Pappi says she has been a part of such exercises before, like for Zika virus ahead of Diwali last year. "We have been asked to cover 100 houses daily for seven days." Over at the Jaipur international airport, a team of seven doctors and paramedics is screening passengers. Airport Director J S Balhara says there was no significant

has roped in private hospitals, especially those with experience of dealing with swine flu. Around 3,000 beds have been identified in government hospitals for quarantine. There is a helpline in place, as well as a command centre located on the premises of the Directorate of Public Health. Says Rao, "It is not only those who are infected who are in danger but they can infect others. A worker at Apollo Hospital where the techie who tested positive initially went for treatment, for example, was infected."

The 24-year-old software professional returned from Dubai. He was tested positive, the Health Department carried out a sanitation drive of the Mahindra Hills area where he lives. Aquiet, upper middle-class area, Mahindra Hills is home to retired defence forces personnel as well as those working in the nearby IT corridor.

Hundreds of sanitation and health workers spread out over the 3-km radius. Says supervisor Venkateshwarulu, "They were provided masks and suits and went to each house and fumigated and sprayed disinfectants."

Rao led the narrowing of list of the patient's contacts to 88 people, who had come in touch with him all the way back to Bengaluru, from where he travelled to Hyderabad by bus. Forty-six of them were fellow bus passengers, and Rao and his team called them up over the next 24 hours.

"I personally spoke to the patient for 45 minutes to get the details. We covered every possible stop and brief contacts. All were subjected to report to Gandhi Hospital and have their samples taken," says Rao.

After two contacts were suspected to be positive, cleaning was taken up of other public places, including Metro stations and trains. The results of their tests, however, turned out to be negative.

A Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad, Regional Director (Health) Dr. M. Anuradha is leading a group of doctors conducting thermal screening of arrivals.

The Bengaluru complex: Contacts 717

The Karnataka Health Department had been monitoring travellers from COVID-19 affected countries for 45 days when news came on March 2 of the 24-year-old Hyderabad resident who had tested positive. A data scientist with an artificial intelligence tech start-up based in Bengaluru, he was in Dubai from February 16 to 20, went to office the next day, before heading to Hyderabad on February 22.

Around 5 pm, the state communicable diseases unit under Joint Director Dr. B. G. Prakash Kumar and Bengaluru Urban district disease surveillance officer Dr. N. Manohar started tracking down all possible Bengaluru links of the patient.

Among the first stops was an apartment complex with 98 flats, located in south east Bengaluru, where the data scientist lived with a computer engineer, as well as his firm at the technology park in Marathahalli region.

"We were working till late into the night, gathering details of persons to be kept under observation for possible infections," says Dr. Manohar, an epidemiologist and public health expert with the disease surveillance office.

The list was narrowed down to 25 people with whom the data scientist had interacted at his office on February 21. Along with Dr. Rajast, Dr. Manohar kept tabs on them as well as the patient's flat mate, who was quarantined; and the inhabitants of their apartment complex. The flat and work place was fumigated, says Dr. Manohar. One 23-year-old co-worker showed symptoms of flu but tested negative, while the roommate remained asymptomatic.

Meanwhile, health workers of the state surveillance unit kept tabs on passengers who had flown with the patient from Dubai, the cab driver who had taken him home, and the 23 who had travelled with him on a bus to Hyderabad on February 22.

"Health workers from Primary Health Centres nearest to the location of a person who may have come in contact with the patient were delegated the responsibility," says Joint Director Kumar.

A health official says they were well-equipped as they have experience of handling epidemics since the recent SARS and swine flu outbreaks. Karnataka has incidentally seen 542 deaths from swine flu over the last decade, including over 150 in the past two years.

Says an epidemiologist with the disease surveillance office, "This time there is a lot of hype, but we are used to the situation. There is nothing to worry about and positive tests are clearly related to people who have travelled to COVID-19 affected countries or come in contact with people from these countries."

As of now, the state surveillance unit is monitoring health on a regular basis of 300 people with a history of travel to China and other core affected countries.

Case No. 4: Tracing contacts



People deployed to trace the 105 people who came in contact with Delhi's first patient

MARCH 2, 2 PM
A 45-year-old East Delhi resident with travel history to Milan, Budapest and Vienna tests positive for COVID-19

His two brothers-in-law, who travelled with him, also test positive

East District Health Department informs state nodal officer

Calls to trace his contact chain begin — family members (the man's mother, wife and two children), his five office employees, the family physician whom he had consulted, five of his son's classmates whom he had met at school or at the birthday party he hosted for his son, and their parents

Family of Case No. 4 tested at home; calls placed to employees of his office in East Delhi, they are asked to stay put. NCDC officials arrive at the office to take their samples. Calls placed to employees' families on an hourly basis to ensure no one is stepping out of home

34 people traced within 9 hours on March 2-3 between 3.45 pm and 12.45 am

Health Ministry starts receiving calls from people who had attended the birthday party at the five-star hotel

Officials coordinate with the Uttar Pradesh administration and NCDC to trace 105 people who had been in direct and indirect contact with Case No. 4



The Delhi East District team handling COVID-2019. Praveen Khanna

COVID-19 CONTAINMENT PLAN

Scenarios for determining containment and buffer zones

- **SCENARIO**
A small cluster in closed environment such as residential schools, hostels, administrative zones, homes, hospitals
- **CHARACTERISTICS**
Containment zone to be determined by mapping of persons in such institutions; buffer zone of 5-km radius
- **Single cluster in a residential colony**
■ Administrative boundary of residential colony; buffer zone of 5-km radius
- **Multiple clusters (residential colony, schools, offices) in an administrative jurisdiction**
■ Administrative boundary of urban district; buffer zone of neighbouring urban districts
- **Multiple clusters separated in different parts of administrative districts of a city**
■ Administrative boundary of city/town; congruent population in nearby areas as buffer zone
- **Cluster in a rural setting**
■ 5-km radius of containment zone; 7-km radius of buffer zone

If assessment takes time (>12-24 hours), then a containment zone of 3 km and a buffer zone of 7 km radius to be decided

- **ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE**
■ The residential areas will be divided into sectors for the ASHAs/Anganwadi workers/ANMs, each covering 50 households (30 households in difficult areas)
- All IJI (influenza-like illness) /SARI (Severe acute respiratory infections) reported in last 14 days in containment zone will be tracked and reviewed to identify any missed case of COVID-19 in community
- The field workers will perform active, daily house-to-house surveillance in containment zones (8 am to 2 pm). They will provide a mask to suspect case and caregiver. The patient will be isolated at home till examined by supervisory officer
- Supervisory officer will collect data from health workers, collate and provide cumulative data to control room by 4 pm daily

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

SUNDAY PROFILE RASHMI THACKERAY

Mrs Surefire

Bal Thackeray's youngest daughter-in-law is also seen as the hand that rocked the Sena-BJP coalition and helped husband Uddhav to CM seat. With Rashmi Thackeray now editor of *Saamana*, will her voice — and “ambition” — set the tone for a new Sena?

VISHWAS WAGHMODE

IN SEPTEMBER last year, at a gathering of Shiv Sena workers in Worli, where Aadiya Thackeray announced that he would contest the Maharashtra elections — marking the first time a Thackeray was entering electoral politics — on the stage was his mother Rashmi Thackeray. Three months later, when Aadiya became a minister in his father's Cabinet, taking oath as “Aadiya Rashmi Uddhav Thackeray”, it only underlined her growing influence in the Shiv Sena — and over the politics of her husband Uddhav Thackeray and elder son Aadiya.

Last week, the Shiv Sena announced that the 54-year-old Rashmi would take over as editor of the party mouthpiece *Saamana*, a daily founded by her father-in-law Balasaheb Thackeray and of which he was editor for 24 years until his death in 2012. Uddhav had resigned as its editor a day before taking oath as chief minister.

In the widely recorded history of Maharashtra's chief ministers, their wives have only appeared as fleeting forms in the background — from Yashwantrao Chavan's wife Venutai Chavan to Sharad Pawar's wife Pratibha Pawar, who maintained a low public profile.

But that was until Devendra Fadnavis became CM, when his banker-wife Amruta gladly shared the spotlight with her husband. But unlike Amruta, who appeared in music videos promoting the BJP government's schemes and continues to publicly take on her husband's detractors, Rashmi has largely stayed in the background, at least so far.

Many Sainiks who have interacted with Rashmi, whom they call “*Vahini*” or “sister-in-law”, confirm she played a key role in pushing Uddhav, her reluctant, “laid-back”, photography-loving husband, to take on the CM's role. And, more importantly, into making the difficult decision of breaking ranks with the Sena's long-time ally and ideological partner BJP, and tying up with the Congress and NCP.

Party sources also say Rashmi was present in the room when BJP chief Amit Shah discussed the alliance formula with Uddhav ahead of the Lok Sabha polls.

“She was definitely the reason behind the breaking up of the BJP-Sena alliance. She was clear that the Sena had to get the chief ministership and Uddhav the post. There was never any confusion, at least not in her mind, about what would happen if the deal (with the NCP-Congress) didn't work out. She is the undeclared vice-president of the party,” says a Sena leader.

Her supporters, however, dismiss talk of Rashmi's “ambition” or that she is the Sena's command centre.

“Rashmi *vahini* does not interfere in party affairs. We have only seen Uddhavji taking the final call. If discussions happen among them (Uddhav, Rashmi Vahini and Aadiya),

we are not aware of it,” said a senior party leader, requesting anonymity.

Her friends prefer to speak about her “Maharashtrian values” instead.

Shaina NC, BJP spokesperson and Rashmi's “family friend” since their college days, says, “I have always appreciated the way she conducts herself with grace and poise. An affectionate daughter, a loving mother and a committed wife, she is smart, astute and understands politics intrinsically. I have observed her on several occasions as a dedicated life partner to Uddhavji. She has brought up Aadiya and Tejas with good middle-class Maharashtrian values.”

Sena sources also point to how Rashmi's family has found their space in the party. Her sister Swati's husband Satish Sardesai was the go-between in the Sena-BJP negotiations after last year's elections, while her nephew (Swati's son) Varun Sardesai is secretary of the Yuva Sena and controls access to Aadiya. Her younger brother Shridhar Patankar is in the real-estate business.

Despite attempts by *The Sunday Express*, Rashmi Thackeray could not be contacted for this story.

Born into a middle-class family in Dombivli — her father Madhav Patankar runs a family business of chemical production — Rashmi graduated with a BCom degree from Mumbai's V G Vaze College in the late 1980s.

Her friends from college say the two sisters stood out in the largely “middle-class to lower-middle-class” Dombivli. “While all of us had regular aspirations and wanted to be either doctors or engineers, Rashmi was different: she knew she was cut out for bigger things,” says a senior from college.

In 1987, she joined Life Insurance Corporation, where she became friends with Jayawanti, Bal Thackeray's niece and Raj Thackeray's sister. It was Jayawanti who introduced Rashmi to Uddhav, with the two getting married on December 13, 1989.

With Uddhav, the youngest of Bal Thackeray's three sons, never seen as cut out for the Sena's muscular politics, Rashmi was never in the public gaze unlike the more flamboyant Smita, wife of Thackeray's estranged second son Jaidev. But after Bindu Madhav, his eldest son, died in a road accident, Bal Thackeray picked Uddhav as his successor over nephew Raj. With Uddhav getting involved in the party starting 1997 and Smita Thackeray sidelined from Matoshree, it was left to Rashmi to take on the role of managing the Thackeray household and her husband's affairs in the Sena. Rashmi is also director of four companies, including two real-estate firms.

“To those who say she has “emerged from the shadows”, the Sena leader quoted above says that for those in the know of the happenings at Matoshree, Rashmi's “ambition” and “acumen” were always evident.

“During Bal Thackeray's final days, she controlled access to him. She decided who could meet Balasaheb, be it Raj Thackeray or



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

the media. In fact, many blame her for the split in the family,” says the Sena leader.

Rashmi is said to have helped Uddhav through his initial days as executive president of the party in 2003, when Narayan Rane and Raj Thackeray had revolted, leading to a split in the party.

Most of the Sena leaders *The Sunday Express* reached out to made it a point to compare “*vahini*” with Meenatai Thackeray, Bal Thackeray's wife, the matriarch whose unobtrusive presence was felt in every major Sena meeting that was held in Matoshree. “She is like *Maa Saheb* (Meenatai) to us. Despite being the wife of the party chief, she is down to earth, warm and caring and con-

ducts herself with grace,” said a party leader.

But while Meenatai's role was limited to ensuring that the visitors to Matoshree were fed and taken care of, Rashmi is seen as an advisor to her husband Uddhav.

Sanjay Raut, Sena MP and executive editor of *Saamana*, said, “Just like Maa Saheb used to stand behind Balasaheb, we have seen Rashmi *vahini* standing behind Uddhavji, who has faced many challenges, including political. We should not forget that there is always a woman behind a successful man.”

While many see Rashmi's appointment as *Saamana* editor as another pointer to her growing clout, Sena sources insist there is not much to read into. “The newspaper has always been linked to the Thackeray family. Earlier Balasaheb and Uddhav ji were its editors. Since Uddhavji is CM and Aadiyaji is minister and we wanted someone as editor from the family, Rashmi *vahini* has been named to the post,” said a Sena leader, adding that *Saamana* editors rarely visit the newspaper office and that Raut holds editorial charge.

After naming Rashmi as editor, Uddhav, in his interaction with the media, said, “*Saamana*, Shiv Sena and Thackeray can't be separated. We are one family. With Rashmi becoming editor, there is speculation on whether the language of the paper will change. I want to assure you that won't happen... but don't write Rashmi Thackeray criticises Uddhav Thackeray (government decisions).”

Inputs from Liz Mathew

Sena sources point to how Rashmi's family has found their space in the party. Her sister Swati's husband Satish Sardesai was the go-between in the Sena-BJP negotiations after last year's elections, while her nephew (Swati's son) Varun Sardesai is secretary of the Yuva Sena and controls access to Aadiya Thackeray

TAKE 5

FACES ON THE FRINGES OF NEWS

PARVATI DEVI, 50, PATNA RESIDENT; HER TWINS STUDY AT GOVT PRIMARY SCHOOL IN PHULWARI SHARIF

‘Teachers can strike, mid-day meals should have continued’



‘The food is better than home, they get eggs, soya bean.’ Express

A strike by over 3.5 lakh contract teachers seeking pay parity with government teachers in Bihar has led to discontinuation of mid-day meals in 45,000 of 75,000 schools in the state. Almost all govt schools from Classes 1 to 8 depend on contract teachers to monitor mid-day meals

1 Are your children going to school?

My 12-year-old twins study in Class 4. From February 17, their school stopped serving mid-day meals and they have been refusing to go since. The teachers can go on strike but the meals should not have stopped.

2 Has it affected you financially?

Bilkul (of course). My husband is a daily wage earner and earns Rs 8,000 every month. I work as a domestic help and get Rs 4,000. We are a family of six (two sons and two daughters), and can barely make ends meet. The free lunch at school helped me save Rs 70 every day.

3 Did your children like the food served at their school?

The food is better than what we can offer our children at home. They serve eggs once a week, soya-bean curry is also served. My children really like the meals. At home, they often complain about the food.

4 How have your children been spending time at home?

They study only if my husband or I are at home, otherwise they play or just watch TV. I have been insisting that they go to school... They go for a day or two, and then stop. They want the meals.

5 When will they rejoin?

They will go back to school once the strike is called off and mid-day meals are served. Also, teachers should focus on teaching, not mid-day meals.

SANTOSH SINGH

The class is full again

7 months after Art 370 was abrogated, schools are open in Valley. From revising old lessons to tackling new questions, what the teachers, students are up against

ADIL AKHZER

INSIDE CLASS 8 of Srinagar's Green Valley School, teacher Mishbah Shafi is revising English grammar. It's second week of the school reopening after a seven-month break, but Shafi is still brushing up old topics. “Every year, as the new session began in the first week of November, we would finish most of the Unit 1 portion before the winter break in December,” says Shafi. But with students having lost half the classes last year, she wants to bring her students up to Class 8 level first.

Across schools in Kashmir, teachers are racing against time to make up for the missing seven months for over 10 lakh students. While February 17 marked the end of winter break officially, it was actually the first time after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5 that schools opened fully in the Valley. Despite the easing of restrictions, parents had been scared to send children to school. Some schools held extra classes, with students attending in home clothes to avoid attention. Others prepared assignments which parents took home.

In October, despite the schools being shut for three months already, annual exams were held as per schedule.

Now, 15 days in, Mohammed Younis Malik, Director, School Education, Kashmir, says attendance is almost full. “Over the winter

months, we conducted tutorials, attended by almost two lakh students, and remedial classes if needed. We also provided assignments to teachers, and sent these to students,” he says.

Green Valley Principal Mutahir Khan says their staff have been coming to school since September, and parents came once a week to collect the material they prepared.

The decorations the school put up to welcome its 1,400 students back are still hanging. Pointing to the grounds bustling with children, Shafi admits “everyone is happy with the return of students”, but “getting back on track will be tough.”

At Srinagar's International Islamic School, Suzain Shakeel, a Class 10 student, looks anxiously at the blackboard as maths teacher Asif Altaf explains linear equations, starting first with last year's lessons. Thankful to be back in school, Suzain says, “I got so stressed at home... One thought kept running through my mind, what would happen to my future... I had to consult a psychiatrist.” But, the 15-year-old who wants to become a “business tycoon”, fears the long break may have set her back permanently. “Ninth class is considered the base for the next classes.”

As a working woman, mother Safeena says, she had to constantly juggle, including dropping and picking up Suzain from tuitions.

Delhi Public School, Srinagar, is holding “bridge” classes, to clear students' doubts.

“Only then will normal syllabus resume,” says management official Ehsan Qudus.

He talks of the “mammoth” exercise the school undertook to transfer content to parents' devices during the long shutdown, including flying to Delhi to arrange pen drives. “Around 95,000 GB of data was transferred. It was followed by content development, where we recorded around 12 hours of video per day, followed by editing and adding of graphics. At its peak, we were taking prints of 1 lakh pages per day.”

It's more than just picking up and restarting, points out Radifa Nazir, academic in-charge for junior classes at DPS. “The students' concentration span has gone down, they keep fidgeting. We are working on these issues.”

There is also anger. Areeba Rashid of International Islamic School can't get over how the exams were held. “We got question papers home and wrote the answers and delivered them back to school. Is this how an exam is conducted?... It was a joke,” she says.

Humera Rashid, who topped the Class 12 Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education exams in science stream with 98% marks, talks of how in the absence of any contact with school, “books were my teachers.” She is now preparing for medical entrance.

Azim Sajad, just in Class 8 of Green Valley School, laughs about his three “promotions”. “When I was in Class 2 (2014), there were



Teachers at Green Valley School say “getting back on track will be tough”. Shuaib Masoodi

floods, so we were promoted to the next class. In 2016 (following the shutdown after Burhan Wani's killing), I got another promotion, to Class 5. And then last year, there were home examinations... You can understand how we study in Kashmir. It is just a formality.”

Schools say it is hard to convince students the lockdown won't happen again. Mudasir Bashir, a social science teacher at Government Central High School Pulwama, says, “Students ask questions like how long the school will stay open, what happened to Kashmir's special status, talk of a loss of identity.” He had never got such queries before, he adds.

Rouf Ahmad Mir, a teacher of International Islamic School, says his students are agitated, particularly about “how media is portraying

Kashmir”. “Instead of asking questions on the subject being taught, they want to know about Kashmir politics,” he says.

Many, like Qazi Inam, a student from Baramulla in North Kashmir, have shelved future plans. “The forms for JEE (engineering) exams are out, but I am not going to appear for them because I am not prepared,” Inam says, adding that any future road will take him outside the state. “My parents don't want me to continue in Kashmir. At the same time, they fear Kashmiris are not safe outside the state.”

Afroz Ahmad Mir, a computer professional, moved to Delhi last year from Srinagar to ensure his two children could get a good education. “One of them was then in Class 4 and another was yet to join school,” says Mir.

Principal Khan admits a lot of his students have started citing a desire to leave the Valley as the reason for shifting out of International Islamic School.

Zain Khan, a Class 10 DPS student who wants to become a lawyer, says his parents have a “backup plan” ready. “They will send me to Jammu if something happens again.”

Many parents who couldn't send their children to other states packed them off to Srinagar's Parraypora during the winter months, an educational hub that is otherwise a coaching destination. Raqib Sultan, a Class 12 student, and his friends are here from Shopian in South Kashmir.

A 17-year-old Class 10 student from Sambaora village, known for intense stone-pelting, says that just a couple of days ago, he couldn't make it to his computer tuitions as his village was cordoned off by the Army for a search operation. He dreams to be famous one day, maybe as a motivational speaker. “I spend most of my time at school or tuitions, I am taking English and computer training lessons. I study every day as if it is my last day. No one knows what is going to happen tomorrow.”

Regretting how “education has been choked over the last 70 years”, Vijay Dhar, who runs Srinagar DPS, says, “We need to find ways to keep education going in Kashmir, to stop succumbing to situations around. Students and teachers have to find a way because education can't be ignored... We need to know our faults and solve the problems. Discussing the conflict and all is not going to help.”

Praying that things will remain peaceful, Shah of Green Valley says, “If teachers are putting in effort, I would say students are making double the effort. If god forbid, something happens again, their confidence will be shattered. Last year, if someone lost completely, it was the students. Their loss can't be compensated.”

The Rest is Not Noise

An unusual piece of writing on music, TM Krishna's new book captures the issues of caste and purity that underlie the tradition of making and playing the mrdangam



Selvaraj working on a mrdangam TR Rajamani

SUMANGALA DAMODARAN

IN RECENT years, a number of books have been published that lay out the social history of classical music traditions, tracing how social hierarchies based on caste, gender and religion have been important in determining the structures, conventions and institutions of their performance in India. These were mostly written by historians or cultural theorists, with a few contributions by practising musicians like Aneesh Pradhan's *Classical Music in Colonial Bombay* and *Chasing the Raga Dream*, or TM Krishna's *A Southern Music*. Krishna's scholarly work as well as his activism related to music in recent years have laid bare the caste (and class) dimensions of classical music. His new book, *Sebastian and Sons: A Brief History of Mrdangam Makers*, marks a completely new dimension in music publishing — it combines scholarly rigour with the knowledge and experience of the seasoned music performer, and the passion of the ethnographer with the technical acumen of the organologist.

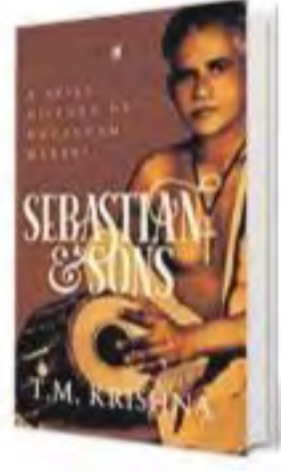
Through 12 chapters running into more than 350 pages he takes the reader through the instrument's beginnings in Thanjavur, the migration of its makers to Madras and the establishment of the crafting tradition there, the specific aspects of mrdangam-making — working with wood, the curing and preparation of hides, other materials used to create tone and timbre — and debates around the aesthetics of the instrument's sound.

Sebastian, or Sevittian, was the son of Arogayam, who is said to have been the first

mrdangam maker, according to oral history uncovered by Krishna. Dating perhaps only to the early part of the 20th century, the mrdangam's precursor was the tavil, and Arogayam was a craftsman of the tavil before he and his son started producing the mrdangam, supposedly at the behest of the player Ratnam. Sevittian is said to have developed the important, and, perhaps most prominent tradition of mrdangam making, the Thanjavur Bani. The story begins with the crafting of the mrdangam by Sevittian under the supervision of Thanjavur Vaidyanatha Iyer, a legendary mrdangam player. Krishna describes how Vaidyanatha Iyer gave lessons to a young boy from Palghat, when the latter travelled with his father from Palghat to get a mrdangam repaired. The young boy, who would become the legendary Palghat Mani Iyer, is credited with highly innovative techniques and the extraction of exquisite tones from the mrdangam. While this is a well-known fact, the relegation of Parlandu, the son of Sevittian, who made mrdangams for Mani Iyer, to the role of a mere "executor" being "unacceptable" marks the starting point of the book's finely-grained arguments.

The first part of the book intricately weaves the story of how Sevittian's three sons S Shengol, S Parlandu and S Antony came to "rule the mrdangam-making industry". The family's social identity is Christian, converts from formerly untouchable castes. One of Krishna's key sources, Selvaraj, the son of Parlandu, facilitates his entry into the streets of Nanganallur in Chennai and then to the bylanes of Thanjavur, as he traces a history of migration of mrdangam-makers from Thanjavur to Madras, and the conse-

quent spread of their art. The second part consists of detailed expositions about wood-work, animal hide, rice paste and *sunnambu* (lime) that are used to produce particular kinds of tone or to play in specific registers. While in the first few chapters, Krishna discusses the people connected with making and playing the mrdangam in Thanjavur and Madras, and how they related with each other through familial ties and social hierarchies, the second part traces the relationship between people through the materials used for making the mrdangam. The third part discusses "outliers" from the citadels of Tamil Nadu, the mrdangam-makers of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, and the women



REVIEW OF SEBASTIAN & SONS: A BRIEF HISTORY OF MRDANGAM MAKERS

TM KRISHNA
Westland Books
366 pages
₹ 799

who have been associated with skin work as well as mrdangam production.

Like an anthropologist, Krishna takes the reader on walks into the field. The descriptions unfold through his view of the present lives of several makers in Thanjavur and Madras, as well as stories about their fathers and grandfathers, to lay out family histories, the emergence of mrdangam-making techniques, the physical processes involved, material procurement chains and the qualitative and normative assessments of all these that are inscribed by caste and gender.

The stories of the mrdangam-makers and their relationships with musicians bring alive the contradictions that dog the playing out as well as the persistence of caste relationships in the world of Carnatic music. There are examples of how some rigid caste boundaries are breached, though this is highly qualified by rules set by the players. Vaidyanatha Iyer, Krishna writes, was "an unusual man... He taught a Muslim lad and a female student...it is safe to assume that, within each one of these uncommon relationships, Iyer had set regulations for both himself and the student, and these allowed him to maintain his own notion of purity."

The ultimate custodian of the aesthetic remains the Brahmin mrdangam player, even as he might rely on the skill of the producer to deliver the requisite quality on the basis of the nuances of the former's judgement. Is this, then, an important dimension of the relationship, the unacknowledged acceptance of the aesthetic abilities of the producer that in turn allows for the breaching of caste boundaries? Krishna finds self-deprecation mixed with pride in the makers' testimonies of how they

learned a lot from observing the artists play, implying a one-way transmission of the demands of the aesthetic, rather than a two-way process of co-creation.

Some players are non-Brahmins, like Rajamanickam Pillai from the Isaivellalar community, but they remain not only much less acknowledged in comparison to doyens like Palghat Mani Iyer, but are also subjected to ritual discrimination, like having to eat separately from the Brahmins, including their own Brahmin students. Krishna dwells on how Palghat Mani Iyer's status got elevated to a level that cannot be explained only by his great artistry and virtuosity, but reveals processes of hierarchisation that characterise Carnatic music.

The book eloquently brings together what could otherwise be an unwieldy and ambitious set of issues that undergird the reality of mrdangam-making in South India. Unusual for music writing in India, descriptions of the materiality of the mrdangam is combined with a nuanced understanding of how social relations unfold through these materials being put together in the production of sound. At the same time, the aesthetic dimensions of the production of percussion sound are explored through his musician's acumen, but with full recognition and detailing of the process of knowledge transmission between the musician and the mrdangam-maker. The book is thus an important contribution to the world of Indian classical music.

Sumangala Damodaran is professor of Economics, Development Studies and Popular Music Studies at Ambedkar University, New Delhi

LOOKOUT NOTICE



FROM OBEROI TO OYO
CHITRA
NARAYANAN
Penguin
319 pages
₹ 399

A FAMILY portrait of the hospitality industry, this book traces the development of the Indian hotel from heirloom properties like the Maidens in the old quarter of Delhi, via heritage properties like Neerana to the contemporary crisis in Oyo. Based on two decades of reporting on the industry, it is particularly interesting for exploring the disruptive effect of the internet, which changed the way the world books beds. As Narayanan points out in her introduction, the inner life of hotels has inspired a lot of popular culture, from Arthur Hailey's *Hotel* to Shankar's Bengali classic *Chowringhee*, but the real-life stories of the professionals behind the scenes are as gripping as fiction. It must take courage to be able to greet guests with a breezy smile when you know that the bottom has just been knocked out of your business model by yet another disruptive wave.

The Hard Truth

A Dalit insider's experiment with touchables

KANCHAILAIAH SHEPHERD

I READ Bhanwar Meghwanshi's *I Could Not Be Hindu* — *The Story of a Dalit in the RSS* in one sitting and started writing this review before its gush of ideas, acts and truth could escape me. It is admirably plain-spoken, and it offers hitherto unknown facts about the 95-year-old Rastriya Swayamsevak Sangh. I am glad this book appeared while I am alive and working.

After Narendra Modi, a Bania with an OBC certificate, became prime minister, there was and is a feeling among both Dalits and Shudras that the RSS and the Bharatiya Janata Party have opened up to all castes and tribes. For decades, when they were perceived to be Brahmin/Bania fiefdoms, the possibility of their capturing power in Delhi and other states was remote. Over the decades, the Sangh has thrown up the odd Shudra leader (Kalyan Singh, Uma Bharti and others), only to use them and cast them aside.

At this juncture, the publication of Bhanwar's book, first in Hindi and now in English, has the potential to change the opinion of Shudras, Dalits and Adivasis with definite proof of the Sangh Parivar's anti-national Brahminism. Bhanwar, a Dalit from Bhilwara in Rajasthan who joined the local RSS shakha at the age of 13 thinking it was just fun and games, became privy to the operational structures and ideology of the Sangh. In about

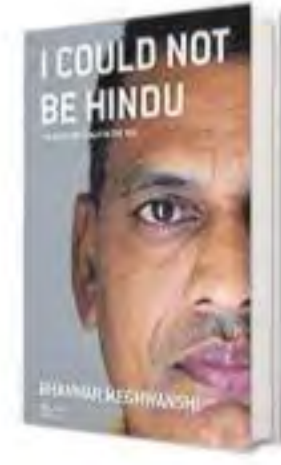
five years, despite his willingness to give his life for the organisation, Bhanwar realised that Manu *dharma* governs the functioning of the RSS. Brainwashed, he participated in the *kar seva* in 1990, harassed Muslims, was high on toxic nationalism and spent time in jail.

One day in 1991, when *kar sevaks* on an *asthi kalash* (funerary urn) yatra led by senior RSS and VHP leaders passed through his village, Sirdiyas, Bhanwar hosted a meal at his home. By that time he was a *karyavah*, the district office chief of RSS's Bhilwara unit. But the *dwija* Sangh leaders turned down the food, saying that eating at an untouchable's home was not part of the plan. They told him to pack the food; they would eat it on the way. But the next day he found that they had dumped all the puri and kheer by the wayside some kilometres away, and dined at a Brahmin home. Bhanwar realised what his true place in the RSS would be. His world was turned upside down.

Facts first. Of the six *sarsanghchalaks* who have headed the RSS, five (KB Hedgewar, MS Golwalkar, MD Deoras, KS Sudarshan and Mohan Bhagwat) are Brahmins and one is Kshatriya (Rajendra Singh). Sourcing internal information, Bhanwar says that in 2003 in a 36-member Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha, the highest policy-making body of the RSS, 26 were Brahmins, five Banias, three Kshatriyas and two Shudras (who comprise nearly 50 per cent of the population). No Dalit

or Adivasi can make it to the top echelons for the next 50 years, nor can a Shudra of any caste become *sarsanghchalak*. The RSS is structurally and philosophically controlled by Brahmins (three per cent of the population). The Banias (three per cent) control Sangh finances. Money collected in donations is kept in their homes, never in banks. The RSS is not a registered body, and these unaccounted sums are laundered in Bania homes. Banias have operated the usury market for centuries, entrapping the poor into paying extortionate interest rates. The RSS makes money out of money. The Shudras who form the rank and file are not deemed dependable for this task.

The Sangh's daily ritualistic prayer, "*namaste sada vatsale mathrubhoome*", swear-



I COULD NOT BE HINDU — THE STORY OF A DALIT IN THE RSS
BHANWAR MEGHWANSHI
Navayana
240 pages
₹ 399

ing "eternal dedication to the Motherland" is a consent-construction instrument that brainwashes people into the dogma of Hindu *parampara*. This is why the RSS catches the likes of Bhanwar and thousands of others at the school level, so that they do not enter university education or adult life with an open mind. They need the Shudra/Dalit/Adivasi cadre for muscle power. They are made to believe that the Muslims are the enemy, and this works like a drug. But the hard truth is that even if all *masjids* in India are destroyed, the Shudra/Dalit/Adivasi will never become the Brahmin's equal.

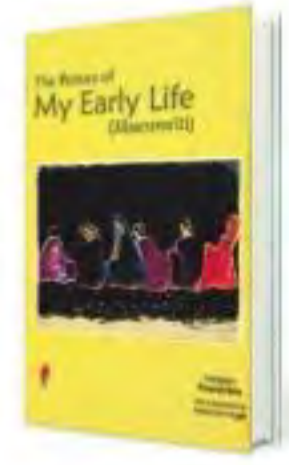
What also struck me was the absence of any talk in the Sangh ideology of people involved in productive labour. Their literature and speeches are only about mythic stories with vague ideas of falsified past glory. Labour, wages or the science of advancing food production are never mentioned. It follows that those who work in the fields are the despised *mlecchas*. The tillers of the land, graziers, shepherds, potters, fishers, carpenters, smiths, shoemakers — all get mobilised as unequal to the Brahmins, Banias and Kshatriyas (*dwijas*) of the Hindu Rashtra. Shadow enemies are constructed on a daily and hourly basis so that the enemy within, caste, is not exposed.

Bhanwar's book has the potential to undo all this scheming. This unputdownable work must be made compulsory reading for all schoolchildren and college and university students, especially among Shudras, Dalits, Adivasis and women. Nivedita Menon's translation from Hindi is elegant and Navayana has produced the volume handsomely.

Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd is the author of Why I Am Not a Hindu and Buffalo Nationalism

Life Everlasting

A translation of Tagore's memoir seeks to take it to a global audience



THE PICTURE OF MY EARLY LIFE (JIBANSMRITI)
RABINDRANATH TAGORE, TRANSLATED BY PRASENJIT SAHA
Frontpage Publications
174 pages
Rs 495

PAROMITA CHAKRABARTI

IT'S A TRUTH universally acknowledged that every Bengali has a Tagore manifesto that is quintessentially their own: A Tagore who leads one through childhood with the Nandalal Bose-illustrated *Shahaj Path* series; a Tagore who yields his humanitarian vision of a national life in his essays; a Tagore who helps one articulate the unspoken through his songs, amorphous like the *parjays* (genres) they are distinguished into; whose expansive literary and political imagination comes to readers through his novels and short stories, poems and paintings. There has been literature enough on his genius but it is through his memoirs — *Chhelebeela* (1940) and the ruminative *Jiban Smriti* (1912), that captures the first 27 years of his life — that one gets an intimate glimpse into the windmills of his mind.

"We do not get the opportunity to view our inner canvas in its entirety... We glance at a picture or two now and then. Most of it lies in darkness, unremembered. But the artist paints continuously — who knows why he paints..." wrote Tagore in the prologue to *Jiban Smriti*. One of the defining features of this palimpsest is Tagore's discomfort with structures, be it in education or in the way it held families together. Formal education showed him its limitations early on — his learning came from the scripture-reading sessions held in the evenings in the domestic helps' quarters, from watching a tiny patch of the earth and the sky from his perch at the window and internalising their unique cadence to create a universe of his own. This would be the creative foundation of his literary career.

Jiban Smriti also captures a young Tagore's negotiation of affection and grief. The vacuum created by the loss of his mother at 14 would only be partially filled by the arrival of Kadambari Devi, his brother Jyotirindranath's wife. But grief would be the leitmotif of his life, with the suicide of this sister-in-law, and, then, later, the untimely deaths of two of his daughters and a son. Towards the end of *Jiban Smriti*, one can see the outlines of Tagore's philosophical engagement with death taking shape.

In taking up *Jiban Smriti* for translation, Prasenjit Saha, an engineer by profession, sets himself a daunting task. As any translator will vouch, a classic is often not a vantage entry point into a literary canon. Comparisons are obvious, so is the question whether the new work has anything of significance to add to the already familiar text. The first English translation of *Jiban Smriti* came out in serialised form in 1916 in Ramananda Chattopadhyay's seminal journal, *The Modern Review*. Called *My Reminiscences*, it was translated by Tagore's nephew Surendranath, under supervision by the author. At Tagore's request, Chattopadhyay sent copies of the translated volumes to two people. One was the Irish poet WB Yeats, whom Tagore had met in 1912, and whose enthusiastic reception of Tagore's translation of his 1910 volume of poetry, *Gitanjali*, would establish Tagore's literary genius abroad; the Nobel Prize would come a year later, in 1913. The other was Welsh writer Ernest Rhys, the founding editor of the publishing house, Everyman's Library, that brought out affordable classics. In 1917, *My Reminiscences* was published as a book by the Macmillan Company (now also available as an e-book on the Project Gutenberg website). Besides a colour portrait of Tagore by artist Sasi Kumar Hesh, the book also contained 12 paintings by another nephew of Tagore's — cartoonist and artist, Gaganendranath.

It's hard to live up to this, but Calgary-based Saha keeps his focus unpretentious. Published on Tagore's 150th birth anniversary, his objective is to demystify Tagore's literary genius for a global audience. In his Translator's Note, he writes, that his intention was to remain "as true to the original as possible". Saha keeps to the tripartite form of the memoir, divided into accounts of Tagore's childhood, adolescence, and youth. Together, they draw an intimate portrait of his early artistic impulse and the social and cultural milieu that shaped him.

What sets the book back is lacklustre editing. There are spelling errors ("pit" in place of "pith", for example, page 17) and turgid syntax ("...the activity was more pushing the footwear rather than moving our feet...", page 16; "The parapet on the roof terrace of the inner portion of our house was higher than I was", page 19). These could easily have been avoided on closer scrutiny. Unfortunately, it undercuts the flow of the narrative and makes it jerky in places. Perhaps, a future edition could rectify these.

INDIAN NATIONAL AMONG 15 NEW CASES IN U.A.E.

Over 1 lakh virus cases globally; US reports more deaths, infections

AGENCIES
MARCH 7

THE NUMBER of cases from the new coronavirus topped 100,000 worldwide as official data Saturday showed a significant hit to Chinese exports after the deadly outbreak brought much of the country to a halt.

The World Health Organisation called the spread of the virus "deeply concerning" as a wave of countries reported their first cases of the disease — which has now killed nearly 3,500 people and infected more than 100,000 across 92 nations and territories.

Officials across the US reported a total of 312 cases of coronavirus and 17 deaths, with Florida reporting the first deaths on the East Coast and, along with Georgia, new cases on Saturday. Florida officials reported on Friday night that there had been two deaths in the state related to the coronavirus.

The US was also battling to contain an outbreak on a cruise ship where 21 people have tested positive for the virus. The Grand Princess has been stranded off San Francisco since Wednesday — when it was supposed to dock — after it emerged that two people who had been on the ship during its previous voyage had contracted the virus. One later died.



Workers disinfect the ground around the Kaaba, in Mecca, on Saturday. AP

US Vice President Mike Pence said the ship will be brought to a non-commercial dock this weekend and all 3,533 passengers and crew will be tested.

An Indian national is among 15 new cases of the deadly coronavirus in the UAE, taking the total number of confirmed infections in the country to 45, health officials have said. The Ministry of Health and Prevention (MoHAP) on Friday said in a statement that 13 out of 15 new cases in the UAE re-

cently arrived from abroad.

The death toll from the novel coronavirus in Iran continued to rise on Saturday with 21 more people killed, including a politician who became the eighth official to succumb to the disease.

Health ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour announced 1,076 additional cases had been confirmed in the past 24 hours, bringing the overall tolls to 145 dead and 5,823 infected.

The number of infections climbed past 7,300 in Europe on

Friday — more than doubling in just three days. France, Britain, Spain, the Netherlands, Italy and others each recorded their biggest one-day increases in cases. Italy's death toll rose by 36 to 233 on Saturday while the cases shot up by 1,247 to hit 5,883.

A cruise ship on Egypt's Nile River with over 150 tourists, including Indians, and local crew was in quarantine Saturday in the southern city of Luxor, after 12 people tested positive for the coronavirus.

EU CALLS FOR SOLIDARITY AMONG MEMBERS

TOP EU officials called for solidarity among members, responding to moves by some to restrict exports on medical equipment

FRANCE, GERMANY and others have imposed limits on the export of equipment, some of which is badly needed but in short supply

JANEZ LENARCIC, a top EU official, said bans were permitted under European treaties but hinted at a desire to have them removed



Greek PM Kyriakos Mitsotakis does a fist bump as a coronavirus 'precaution'. Reuters

CHINA
70 trapped as hotel used for quarantine collapses

REUTERS
SHANGHAI, MARCH 7

ABOUT 70 people were trapped on Saturday after a hotel being used for coronavirus quarantine collapsed in the Chinese city of Quanzhou in Fujian Province, the city's authority said on its website.

Video posted online showed orange-clad rescue workers clamoring over mounds of rubble. It was not clear how tall the building had been before it collapsed, but there appeared to be commercial properties at street level.

The building collapsed at about 7:30 pm (1130 GMT) and 34 people were rescued in the following two hours, the Quanzhou

authorities said.

The official People's Daily said the hotel had opened in June 2018 with 80 rooms and was being used to quarantine people during the coronavirus outbreak. No reason was given for the collapse of the hotel.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the committee responsible for working safety under the State Council, China's cabinet, has sent an emergency working team to the site.

The Fujian provincial government said that as of Friday, the province had 296 cases of coronavirus and 10,819 people had been placed under observation after being classified as suspected close contacts.

Over 7,000 cases in S Korea, most traced to secretive church

JANE CHUNG
SEOUL, MARCH 7

SOUTH KOREA'S coronavirus cases jumped above 7,000 on Saturday, up by 448 from the previous day, with more than half of the total number linked to a secretive church at the centre of the country's outbreak, health authorities said.

The death toll rose by two to 46, according to the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC).

Since mid-February when a woman tested positive after attending services at a branch of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus in the southeastern city of Daegu, the number of infections has ex-



At a hospital in South Korea on Saturday. AP

ploded in South Korea, giving it the most cases outside China.

There are 7,041 cases in total including a new small cluster of cases reported on Saturday at an apartment complex in Daegu, where some members of the church live, the KCDC said.

While 448 new cases remains a sizeable jump, it marked a third straight day of declines in the number of new cases for South Korea. "There is a possibility that new cases increase as tests are still underway," Kwon Jun-wook, deputy director at the KCDC told a briefing.

Lee Man-hee, the founder of the church, apologised on Monday calling the epidemic a "great calamity". The large amount of infections in the country has prompted nearly 100 nations to impose curbs on travelers from South Korea.

On Friday, South Korea said it would suspend visas and visa waivers for Japan in response to Tokyo's travel restrictions on Koreans. **REUTERS**

ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES NEARLY OVER

Biden wins most Super Tuesday delegates

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON, MARCH 7

FORMER VICE President Joe Biden has put an exclamation point on his Super Tuesday victories by winning the most delegates on the presidential primary calendar's biggest night.

The Associated Press has allocated more than 92% of the 1,344 delegates that were up for grabs on Tuesday, and Biden has such a commanding lead that Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders cannot catch up as the remaining votes from that day's 14 state primaries are counted.



Joe Biden. AP/File

Biden built his delegate lead on Tuesday by racking up huge victories in Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia, while scoring a narrow win in Texas. In



all, Biden won 10 states and Sanders won four.

"Look, not long ago the press and the pundits declared this campaign dead, but this week we saw tremendous support across the nation," Biden told supporters by phone Friday

evening. "We changed the whole narrative."

Sanders won California and three other states — Colorado, Utah and his home state of Vermont. Although Sanders won the biggest state, California, he didn't rack up the commanding lead required to surpass Biden's haul.

Biden has won at least 610 delegates from Tuesday's contests, while Sanders has won at least 513, according to the AP delegate count. There are 102 delegates still to be allocated.

Overall, Biden has 664 delegates to Sanders' 573. Sanders started the week with a six-del-

egate lead. Biden's performance was all the more remarkable considering his slow start in the first three contests. Less than a month ago, Biden didn't win a single delegate in New Hampshire.

The contest could now become a drawn-out two-man battle for delegates to win the nomination at the Democratic National Convention in July. It takes a majority of pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses — 1,991 — to win the nomination on the first ballot.

With only two viable candidates left in the race, the prospect of a contested convention is remote.

Three Saudi princes detained over 'coup plot'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
RIYADH, MARCH 7

SAUDI AUTHORITIES have detained three princes including King Salman's brother and nephew on charges of plotting a coup, the US media reported Friday, signalling a further consolidation of power by the kingdom's de facto ruler.

The detentions cast aside the last vestiges of potential opposition to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz al-Saud, a brother of King Salman, and the monarch's nephew Prince Mohammed bin Nayef were accused of treason and taken from their homes early Friday by black-clad royal guards, the Wall Street Journal reported citing unnamed sources.

The Saudi royal court has accused the two men, once potential contenders for the throne, of "plotting a coup to unseat the king and crown prince" and could face lifetime imprisonment or execution, the newspaper said.

The *New York Times* also reported the detentions, adding that Prince Nayef's younger brother, Prince Nawaf bin Nayef, had also been detained. The authorities did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The detentions mark the latest crackdown by Prince Mohammed, who has consolidated his grip on power with the imprisonment of prominent clerics and activists as well as princes and business elites.

Prince Mohammed has also faced a torrent of international condemnation over the murder of critic Jamal Khashoggi inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate in October 2018.

"Prince Mohammed is emboldened — he has already ousted any threats to his rise and jailed or murdered critics



Mohammed bin Salman

EXPLAINED
E

Consolidation of power

THE DETENTIONS come at a sensitive time for the kingdom, when Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman had recently halted pilgrimages to Mecca in a bid to limit the threat posed by the coronavirus. The move, which has few precedents, had drawn complaints within the kingdom, as per reports. Fears about the outbreak have also led to oil prices slumping, in turn affecting Saudi's revenue. In such a volatile atmosphere, the detentions are therefore widely seen as a step up in the crown prince's efforts to consolidate his position.

of his regime without any repercussion," Becca Wasser, a policy analyst at the US-based RAND Corporation, said of the latest crackdown.

Trump abruptly replaces acting chief of staff with close ally

JEFF MASON & STEVE HOLLAND
PALM BEACH, MARCH 7

PRESIDENT DONALD Trump parted ways on Friday with acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and replaced him with conservative lawmaker and close ally Mark Meadows, who was a strong Trump defender during the Democratic impeachment drive.

Representative Meadows takes over as the White House struggles to advance a consistent message about the coronavirus crisis and as Trump goes into a bruising re-election contest.

He becomes the fourth chief of staff in Trump's three years in office, tasked with attempting to bring order to a chaotic presidency.

Meadows is a member of the US House of Representatives from North Carolina and was a combative defender of the president during the impeachment saga, so much so that Trump singled him out for praise at a February 6 event after the Republican-led Senate acquitted the president. **NYT**

TRUMP CAMPAIGN FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST CNN

Washington: The Trump Campaign has filed a defamatory lawsuit against CNN, accusing the cable news network of making false statements that the campaign "assessed the potential risks and benefits of again seeking Russia's help in 2020 and has decided to leave that option on the table".

After *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, this is the third lawsuit by the Trump Campaign. Trump, who is seeking his re-election, has often described these three US media outlets as "fake media".

The lawsuit, filed in the US District Court in Atlanta, seeks to hold CNN accountable for intentionally publishing false statements against President Trump's campaign. **PTI**

FOR THE PEOPLE OF IDLIB PROVINCE, THERE HAS BEEN NO LET-UP IN THE VIOLENCE

Only choice is to wait for death, say Syrian refugees fleeing war

CARLOTTA GALL
IDLIB, MARCH 7

BEFORE THE war in Syria, Idlib city, with its tree-lined avenues and white-stone buildings, was known for its calm, provincial air.

Today it overflows with families who fled the war in other parts of Syria, swelling the population to nearly 1 million people.

To the north, nearly 1 million people are living along roadsides and in olive groves in what is already one of the worst humanitarian disasters of Syria's brutal

nine-year war.

To the south and east, Syrian government forces backed by Russian warplanes are closing in, now just 5 miles away. When they reach Idlib city, its million residents are likely to flee.

Dr Hikmat al-Khatib, an orthopedic surgeon, urged his parents to move to a town to the north. But when it was bombed his mother decided to stay put.

"Her words shocked me," al-Khatib said. "The only choice is to wait for death."

Amina Sahloul was sitting on the floor around a stove in a large

underground room for women and children. She had arrived hours earlier, after fleeing her village in the dead of night, clinging with her five grandchildren behind her on a single motorcycle.

"We came away because of the airstrikes," she said. "They started dropping cluster bombs. It was like fire raining in the sky."

There has been no letup for the people of Idlib province as the forces of President Bashar Assad of Syria, backed by Russian air power, have smashed their way forward, demolishing towns and villages in the south



Tear gas fired near Turkey's Pazarkule border crossing. Reuters

and east of the province with punishing airstrikes.

A cease-fire declared Thursday by Turkey, which backs Syrian opposition forces, and Russia, which backs the Syrian government, seemed to be holding on Friday but few believe it will last. Assad has insisted he will continue his offensive to retake Idlib province, and rebel groups have vowed to resist.

Most of the province's three million people are civilians, and they are desperate for an end to the violence. They cling to the hope that Turkey's growing de-

ployment of troops into the province will stop the onslaught.

"Anything that makes us feel secure or takes the regime away from us is a very good thing," said Abdul Razzaq, the head of the emergency relief for the Syrian charity, Violet. "But Idlib city is huge and where to take them?" he said.

In a camp called Al Nasr, new arrivals have pitched tents just yards from the concrete wall topped with rolls of barbed wire that marks the Turkish border.

Four families were squeezed into one tent set up on top of the

camp sewer. "No one else would take it," said Hannah al-Mijan, a farmworker and mother of seven. "We do not have money to build."

The family had been displaced twice and without work they had fallen into debt. "We are below zero," she said. Her husband, Muhammad, shushed her, telling her not to shame them.

This time they chose to live within 100 yards of the border wall. Were they not scared that this place would also be bombed?

Al-Mijan shook her head, and gestured at the hill opposite. "That's Turkey," she said. **NYT**

20 ECONOMY

BAD LOANS HAD JUMPED FROM ₹46,627 CR IN SEPT 2017 TO ₹1,22,170 CR IN A YEAR

Regulatory measures, resolutions help reduce NPAs in energy sector in 2019

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

AFTER A big surge in non-performing assets (NPAs) of the troubled energy sector in 2018, NPAs declined in 2019, aided by a host of regulatory measures and resolution initiatives of the banking sector.

Gross NPAs in the energy sector fell to Rs 1,06,908 crore as of September 2019 from Rs 1,22,170 crore in September 2018, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said.

In its reply to a query made by *The Indian Express* under the Right to Information Act, the RBI said as much as 18.03 per cent of the energy sector exposure as of September 2019 is still classified NPA, but it has fallen from 20.3 per cent in September 2017 to Rs 1,22,170 crore in a year, a rise of 162 per cent.

A loan is classified as NPA if the principal or interest or both are due for repayment for over 90 days.

While total loan outstand-

EXPLAINED

Cost overruns of over 65% in thermal projects

THERMAL POWER projects have witnessed significant cost overruns on account of delay in receipt of clearances, land acquisition and financial closure. In certain projects, there has been cost overruns of over 65 per cent, leading to loan defaults.

In certain projects, there have been cost overruns of over 65 per cent, resulting in project cost escalating to Rs 7.5 crore/MW as compared to initially envisaged Rs 4.5 crore/MW.

ing of the energy sector amounted to Rs 5,93,052 crore, State Bank of India accounted for a major share of the exposure at Rs 1,97,359 crore. Among other banks, Bank of Baroda has an exposure of Rs 36,588 crore, Canara Bank Rs 32,915 crore, Bank of India Rs 31,272 crore, PNB Rs 31,070 crore and HDFC Bank Rs 29,866 crore, according to the RBI data.

Banks are now wary of funding power and telecom projects. "In the case of power, whatever exposure we have,

that has already been recognised. Some of the exposures in power have been recognised as NPA. Resolutions of two or three major ones will be before March 31. We are not taking fresh exposure in power. In the thermal sector, there won't be any more exposure and, in hydel, it will be to a certain extent. This is because of the lessons we have learnt ... so no exposure to both telecom and power," said the CEO of a nationalised bank.

In June 2019, the RBI relaxed

its February 12 circular on the resolution of stressed loans, after the Supreme Court termed the circular as unconstitutional. The new circular relaxed several provisions, including norms related to consent of lenders and offers more freedom to lenders in implementing the asset resolution plan. Several defaulting power projects got a temporary reprieve following this development.

Several companies in the power, as well as the sugar and fertiliser sectors, had challenged the circular as ultra vires on the grounds that it wrongly classified them as wilful defaulters. They argued that they were stressed because of extraneous reasons beyond their control and could not be treated as wilful defaulters.

An estimated 17,000 MW of under construction power plants are classified as having been stalled for an over three-year period, indicating a huge blockage of funds. Further, there is the issue of capacity around 19,000 MW (43 per cent of total capacity) yet to ink power purchase agreements (PPAs), which is causing the

stress in thermal power sectors causing economic slowdown.

As per the 37th Standing Committee Report on Energy (2017-18), of the scheduled commercial banks' exposure of over Rs 5.9 lakh crore, power generating companies accounted for 86 per cent of the gross loans and advances. The committee had identified 34 stressed power assets, with a total exposure of Rs 1.75 lakh crore (32 per cent of total exposure in power sector).

Power projects are highly capital intensive and have a long gestation period. As a result, experts point out that completion of projects in a time-bound manner is extremely critical for developers to avoid huge time and cost overruns.

In the past, thermal power projects have witnessed significant cost overruns on account of delay in receipt of clearances, land acquisition and financial closure. In certain projects, there has been cost overruns of over 65 per cent, resulting in project cost escalating to Rs 7.5 crore/MW as compared to initially envisaged Rs 4.5 crore/MW.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

FLIPKART HAS the potential to launch an IPO in the long term, officials at parent company Walmart said. The US-based retailer had announced purchase of a 77 per cent controlling stake in Bengaluru-based e-commerce firm Flipkart in May 2018 for \$16 billion, valuing the company at around \$21 billion. Flipkart and Amazon jointly hold 80 per cent of India's e-commerce sector, according to analysts.

Responding to a question on whether at some point it would make sense for Flipkart to be a stand-alone business, Brett Biggs, chief financial officer at Walmart, said: "Yes, we've talked about longer-term that IPO is a potential for that business. I can tell you, it runs pretty independently right now and that's when you buy a business like that, that's what you want it to do." Biggs was speaking at the UBS Global Consumer & Retail Conference held earlier this week. Last month, Walmart said Flipkart led its e-commerce sales in the international seg-

'BUSINESS GROWING AT A GOOD RATE'

Walmart CFO Brett Biggs said although Flipkart's losses "will be pretty similar" to losses the firm recorded last year, the business, nonetheless, is "growing at a good rate"

Filings by Flipkart Private showed the group's total revenues increased 42.32 per cent y-o-y to Rs

43,615.5 crore on a consolidated basis in the year to March 2019. Losses, although elevated, dipped by 63.2 per cent y-o-y to Rs 17,231.5 crore

Last month, US-based Walmart said Flipkart led its e-commerce sales in the international segment

ment. E-commerce contributed about 12 per cent of total segment sales in the three months ended January 2020. Net sales at Walmart International increased 2.3 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to \$33 billion in Q4FY20. Walmart officials, who were in New Delhi in November last year to attend a company event, had said the firm would continue to invest in its India businesses and build on its growth in India, the 'most important' market for it.

Biggs said although Flipkart's losses "will be pretty similar" to losses the firm recorded last year, the business,

nonetheless, is "growing at a good rate."

Filings by Singapore-based Flipkart Private — the Flipkart group's first financial filing post acquisition by Walmart — showed the group's total revenues increased 42.32 per cent y-o-y to Rs 43,615.5 crore on a consolidated basis in the year to March 2019. Losses, although elevated, dipped by 63.2 per cent y-o-y to Rs 17,231.5 crore.

"PhonePe, I'm really excited about and what that could do longer term. They're really changing how that consumer interacts on financial services," Biggs said. FE

BRIEFLY

RCom resolution proposal filed before NCLT

New Delhi: RP of Reliance Communications has approached the NCLT with a resolution plan approved by the creditors of the telco under the IBC, as per a regulatory filing.

Bring Yes Bank under govt control: AIBEA

New Delhi: The All India Bank Employees' Association on Saturday said the RBI must be held accountable and the Centre should start taking all private sector banks under it.

PhonePe now partners ICICI Bank

Mumbai: PhonePe has connected to second-largest private sector lender ICICI Bank to act as a payment service provider in place of Yes Bank to make it possible.

Sunil Mathur is chairman of CII Western Region

Mumbai: Sunil Mathur, MD & CEO at Siemens, has been elected chairman and B Thiagarajan, MD at Blue Star, deputy chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry Western Region for 2020-21. ENS

COVID-19 outbreak: How nations are dealing with the economic fallout

Polymakers have taken a range of approaches to deal with the economic fallout from the coronavirus, from emergency interest rate cuts and big spending packages to a wait-and-see-stance and pledges of action if required. Here is a list of how some of the world's biggest economies and economic blocs have reacted

CHINA

\$15.9 bn: It has earmarked 110.5 billion yuan (\$15.9 billion) to fight the epidemic

Beijing has ramped up funding support for virus-hit regions and the country's central bank has cut several of its key rates, including the benchmark lending rate

INDIA

The Reserve Bank of India plans to infuse fresh cash liquidity into the system through a second round of long-term repo operations (LTRO)

The RBI has said it stands ready to act to maintain market confidence and preserve financial stability

UNITED STATES

The US Federal Reserve cut interest rates by half a percentage point in its first emergency rate move since the height of the 2008 financial crisis

\$8.3 bn:

The US House of Representatives approved a \$8.3 billion bill to

combat the spread of the new coronavirus and develop vaccines for the highly contagious disease, sending it to the Senate for final passage

JAPAN

Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda has pledged to pump more liquidity into markets and step up asset buying.

Japan's central bank may also take steps to ensure companies hit by the coronavirus outbreak do not face a financial squeeze before the end of the current fiscal year in March

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

The ECB, the central bank of the euro zone, has so far avoided cutting interest rate

The ECB has asked euro zone banks to review their business continuity plans and the actions they can take to prepare for and minimise the potential adverse effects of the coronavirus

THE EUROPEAN UNION

The European Union is giving governments fiscal leeway to individually deal with the economic impact of the



A rescue team prepares to go out to transport patients amid the rise in coronavirus cases in South Korea Saturday. Reuters

coronavirus and may decide on a more concerted stimulus if the economy suffers severely

EU finance ministers, who have ultimate control of the application of EU rules that limit government borrowing, discussed on March 4 a response to the impact of the epidemic on growth

GERMANY

Divided house: Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives are split over whether Germany should rush out a fiscal stimulus package to counter any impact of the coronavirus on Europe's largest economy

\$18.9 bn:

Budget experts estimate that the government has the fiscal room for additional measures worth at least 17 billion euros (\$18.9 billion)

10.3 trillion won in treasury bonds will be issued this year to fund the extra budget

BRITAIN

Andrew Bailey, the incoming governor of the Bank of England, has said the central bank should wait until it has more clarity about the economic hit

Finance Minister Rishi Sunak has asked officials to draw up "further measures to support the public health response, businesses and the economy as needed" and will give an update when he presents his first budget to parliament on March 11

FRANCE

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire has said that Europe needs to be ready to use fiscal stimulus to deal with the impact of the virus

The government is allowing companies to suspend payments of some social charges and taxes, and is activating state-subsidised short-time work schemes

IndiGo waives rescheduling fee for bookings amid virus scare

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

WITH COVID-19 cases in the country on a rise and people postponing travel, India's largest airline IndiGo has decided it will not charge any fee for rescheduling of domestic and international flights booked for March 12-31. The airline also announced zero change fees on fresh bookings made between the said period.

The fee waiver will only apply to change of dates of flights but not in case of cancellation. The waiver would be applicable for both domestic and international flights. "We understand that some passengers are concerned about committing to travel, given the current coronavirus issue. To take this anxiety away and make their

NOT APPLICABLE ON CANCELLATION

The fee waiver would only apply to change of dates of flights but not in case of cancellation. The waiver would be applicable for both domestic and international flights.

Put awareness messages in place of ring tones: DoT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 7

DIAL ANY number and chances are high that you might get to hear awareness messages on coronavirus, instead of ringing tones.

The move follows an order in this regard from the government which has shared the audio clip of the message with telecom operators. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) in an email to telecom operators on Friday asked to incorporate audio

clip in the ring back tone till further orders.

One of the telecom operators said the audio clip has not been made available on those numbers where subscribers are paying for caller tones.

Corporates have swung into action to tackle spread of coronavirus. While some of the companies like Paytm, Twitter etc have given their employees the option to work from home, Reliance Jio is learnt to have disabled biometrics system from attendance and asked employees to use an internal app to mark attendance.

ACROSS THE WORLD

China Jan-Feb exports tumble, imports slow

Beijing: China's exports contracted sharply in the first two months of the year, and imports slowed, as the crisis triggered by the coronavirus outbreak caused massive disruptions to business operations, global supply chains and economic activity.

G20 finance leaders pledge fiscal actions

Washington: G20 finance ministers and central bank governors on Friday pledged to take "appropriate" fiscal and monetary measures in responding to the coronavirus outbreak and to protect economic growth against shocks.

FB closes London offices until tomorrow

London: Facebook said on Friday it is closing its London offices until Monday after a visiting employee from Singapore was diagnosed with coronavirus. "An employee based in our Singapore office who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 visited our London offices February 24-26, 2020," Facebook said in a statement. REUTERS

ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 302 CRASH KILLED 157 PASSENGERS AND CREW

'Ethiopian draft report blames Boeing for crash'

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, MARCH 7

A DRAFT interim report from Ethiopian crash investigators circulated to US government agencies concludes the March 2019 crash of a Boeing Co 737 MAX was caused by the plane's design, two people briefed on the matter said Friday.

Unlike most interim reports, this one includes a probable cause determination, conclusions and recommendations, which are typically not made until a final report is issued.

The US National Transportation Safety Board has been given a chance to lodge concerns or propose changes, the people said, declining to be identified because the report is

DESPITE BEING INTERIM, REPORT IS DETAILED

Unlike most interim reports, this one includes a probable cause determination, conclusions and recommendations, which are typically not made until a final report is issued

The US National Transportation Safety Board has been given a chance to lodge concerns or propose changes, the people said, declining to be identified because the report is not yet public

not yet public.

NTSB spokesman Eric Weiss confirmed the agency had received the draft interim report, but declined to comment on whether the agency would suggest any changes. Boeing on Friday declined to comment to Reuters about the report.

According to Bloomberg News, which first reported the

contents of the interim draft, the conclusions say little or nothing about the performance of Ethiopian Airlines or its flight crew and that has raised concern with some participants in the investigation.

The Ethiopian interim report contrasts with a final report into the Lion Air crash released last October by Indonesia

which faulted Boeing's design of cockpit software on the 737 MAX but also cited errors by the airline's workers and crew.

Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 crashed in an open field six minutes after take-off from Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, killing 157 passengers and crew. The Boeing 737 MAX has been grounded worldwide for nearly a year after the two fatal crashes.

Under rules overseen by the United Nations' Montreal-based aviation agency, ICAO, Ethiopia should publish a final report by the first anniversary of the crash on March 10 but now looks set to release an interim report with elements that would normally be included in the final report.

Ethiopian Airlines did not

respond to a request for comment. Ethiopia's Transport Ministry could not immediately be reached for comment.

A preliminary accident report by the Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority released in April last year said faulty sensor readings and multiple automatic commands to push down the nose of a Boeing plane contributed to the fatal crash and left the crew struggling to regain control.

The US House Transportation Committee on Friday released preliminary investigative findings into the two crashes which faulted the Federal Aviation Administration's approval of the plane and Boeing's design failures, saying the 737 MAX flights were "doomed".

PATIENTS ADMITTED IN JAMMU HOSPITAL

Primary classes suspended in 6 J&K dists; two suspected cases

ARUN SHARMA & ADIL AKHZER
JAMMU/SRINAGAR, MARCH 7

WITH TWO suspected coronavirus cases reported in Jammu and Kashmir, the administration Saturday ordered the closure of government and private schools up to the primary level in six districts and suspended biometric attendance across the region till March 31.

"A preliminary report of their samples sent to AIIMS, Delhi, shows they have tested positive. We are waiting for the final test reports before officially declaring them as confirmed cases," said epidemiologist Dr Deepak Kapoor.

A statement by the Union Territory's administration said both are "high viral load cases" and that there is a "high proba-

bility of (their) testing positive".

The two persons, hailing from Satwari and RS Pura, have been isolated at the Government Medical College Hospital in Jammu.

Primary schools in Jammu, Samba, Baramulla, Bandipora, Budgam and Srinagar have been ordered to remain shut till March 31. Biometric attendance across the UT also stands suspended till the end of the month. UT spokesperson Rohit Kansal said.

Large gatherings have been disallowed in Bandipora and officials have ordered the suspension of morning assembly in all government and private schools in Kupwara district till March 31.

The administration has also introduced help desks at Jammu and Katra railway stations, Kansal said, adding that the Vaishnovevi

Shrine Board has introduced measures such as self declaration by pilgrims and thermal imaging. The screening process at Srinagar airport is also being intensified, said an official statement.

Authorities said the suspected coronavirus victims had travelled to Iran and South Korea. They were directed to the hospital after they landed at Jammu airport. The two also triggered alarm bells after leaving the hospital against medical advice after doctors collected their samples on March 4. Those who had come in contact with them have been put under surveillance.

Kansal said 287 people had been put under surveillance and 95 of them have completed the surveillance period of 28 days. Twenty eight samples were sent for testing and 25 of them have tested negative.

Rajasthan: All test negative barring Italian couple

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAIPUR, MARCH 7

BARRING THOSE of an Italian couple, all the samples collected from suspected coronavirus cases in Rajasthan have tested negative, an official said on Saturday.

After two positive cases, the state government has also decided to screen every foreigner who visits the state.

Instructions have been issued to discontinue biometric attendance system in government offices and the use of breath analysers by traffic police.

Bird flu infection detected in Kerala farms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
MARCH 7

TWO STRAINS of bird flu were detected in two poultry farms in Kerala's Kozhikode district on Saturday, Animal Husbandry Department officials said.

The officials said H5 and H7 strains, which fall under Type-A influenza, have been found at the farms. Dr R. Jayachandran, Chief Investigator at the Animal Husbandry Department's Disease Investigation Unit, said: "Chances of it infecting humans is very rare. Infection from bird to human would happen only if there is mutation of the gene. So far we haven't noticed any mutation."

Suspicion of a bird flu infection arose after a large number of chicken deaths at the poultry farms over the last one week. The confirmation came after tests at the High Security Animal Disease Laboratory in Bhopal.

State Forest and Animal Husbandry Minister PK Raju said rapid response teams have been formed to prevent the spread of the influenza.

"All personal protective equipment in Kerala will be moved to Kozhikode. Steps have been taken to purchase 5,000 such equipment kits. A one-km radius of the affected region will be declared as an infected zone," he said.

In Mumbai slums, virus masks made at 'units' for IPL jerseys

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

THE PANIC sparked by coronavirus has become a business opportunity for many in slums and villages where face masks are being manufactured in dingy rooms and homes on sewing machines, and sold at a much higher rate. The most common is a 3-ply face mask. The rate offered in slums is Rs 15-18 while the original cost before the outbreak was Rs 1.5 to Rs 3.

According to the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMED), the country has a capacity to manufacture 20 million masks in a month by standard manufacturers. However, it has risen three-fold by rough estimates.

In Dharavi, a slum in the heart of Mumbai, a tailor has become a trader since a fortnight. He scouts for clients and directs them to another trader in Malad, in Mumbai's suburbs. This trader sources masks for Rs 15 from a slum and sells at Rs 16. His source is a 100-square-foot workshop in Worli Koliwada and another in Dharavi, where 65 sewing machines run for 24 hours, producing 2 lakh masks a day. Until January, this workshop manufactured Indian Premier



Masks being made in unhygienic conditions in dingy rooms. Express

League t-shirts. "In January, someone asked if I can manufacture masks. We had no orders for IPL T-shirts, so I bought a roll of fabric and taught my labourers how to stitch," the owner said. He has over 100 labourers, all slum dwellers, who wear cotton vests, and stitch masks on non-sterile sewing machines using no disinfectant. The raw material used is polypropylene spunbond non woven fabric, commonly used to manufacture masks. It may look

like a normal mask but if one tears it open, the filter layer to prevent bacteria or virus would be absent. The man says he provides a certification of 99.9 per cent purity, but the *The Sunday Express* found no lab's name approving it.

Another trader in Dharavi said he is selling over 1 lakh masks every day. "The punched masks (that are sealed) are for exports, and stitched ones are for domestic buyers," he said. Piles of masks mount in an unclean room he maintains. No sterile packaging is done. Another trader said he takes a deposit of Rs 25,000 and employs women to stitch masks at their home in Malad. "We are thinking of starting stitching gown for coronavirus kit," he said.

"These masks will not filter any bacteria or virus. We look at it and know it is of inferior quality. But a common man will buy it and think he is protected," said Smita Shah, managing director of Mediklin Healthcare, which manufactures protective gear. In the last few weeks, she has been approached by several local manufacturers who wish to sell their stock to her.

Currently, no regulatory body monitors masks. The Health ministry has stressed on avoiding mask unless the person is themselves infected.

At Tripura border post, coronavirus screening team keeps vigil for signs

DEBRAJ DEB
AGARTALA, MARCH 7

AT THE India-Bangladesh border in Tripura's Akhaura, a team of doctors, pharmacists and multi-purpose workers are busy screening visitors for coronavirus. Clad in white aprons, N95 masks and sanitary gloves, and armed with a handheld thermal scanner, the team is on duty for 12 hours, starting 6 am.

Usually, the immigration processing at the Akhaura border post is done by India's Border Security Force and the Border Guards of Bangladesh. However, for the past two months, every passenger has had to undergo a thermal scanner test, answer questions on recent foreign visits, show papers and produce face masks before gain-



A woman gets screened at the Akhaura border. Express

ing entry into India.

The screening team, headed by Prabir Chandra Saha, is looking for high temperature, symptoms of flu, respiratory problems or any visible signs of the infection.

Most of the people crossing the

border are seeing this kind of medical screening for the first time. But Dr Sudhir Chandra Debnath (75) from Ramrail village of Bangladesh's Brahmanbariya district knows what is happening. After waiting in the queue with his

family, Dr Debnath crosses the zero line and moves to the help desk to answer the questions. A Liberation War Honour badge glimmers on his chest. Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Dr Debnath says every passenger should inform authorities about any illness, even if not questioned.

However, there is no such facility at the two border haats at Kamalasaagar and Srinagar villages of Sepahijala and South Tripura districts, as they had been conceptualised to promote cross-border relations and informal trade.

"With so much precaution at the land custom stations, why are the border haats not checked?" an official asked. Many border areas in the state are also unfenced, especially in the rugged hilly terrains of Dhalai district and in parts of Sipahijala district

NIA gets custody of two accused in Pulwama attack

Jammu: Special Judge for NIA Court Subash Gupta on Saturday allowed the NIA 7-day custodial interrogation of two accused arrested by the agency in the Valley on Friday in connection with last year's Pulwama terror attack that killed 40 CRPF personnel.

The NIA had earlier produced Waiz-ul-Islam and Mohammad Abbas Rather in court and sought their remand for a week.

The court said that keeping in view the gravity and heinousness of the crime, custodial interrogation of the accused is imperative.

On February 28, NIA had arrested a furniture shop owner—Shakir Bashir Magrey, from Pulwama—on charges of providing logistical support to suicide bomber Adil Dar. **ARUNSHARMA**

Now, schoolgirls in Malda found singing lewd parody of Tagore song

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, MARCH 7

FOUR SCHOOLGIRLS in Malda were pulled up for posting a video of them purportedly singing a lewd parody of a Rabindranath Tagore song. On Saturday, the school authorities summoned the girls and their parents, who tendered a written apology.

The development comes a day after the Vice Chancellor of Kolkata-based Rabindra Bharati University (RBU), Sabyasachi Basu Roychowdhury, resigned after photographs of some youngsters posing on campus with distorted lyrics of Tagore's songs written on their bodies triggered

an uproar. The V-C withdrew his resignation Saturday.

After the Malda incident, state Education Minister Partha Chatterjee said: "We condemn such acts. Strong action is being taken by the authorities. However, we should also have a conversation with the students. In this world of strong presence of social media, students should be offered proper counselling."

According to school authorities, on March 5, four Class 11 students recorded the parody of Tagore's song with expletives on their phone and posted it online. They recorded it outside their school campus.

The video, which went viral, drew condemnation from all corners. It shows the girls, who are

in their school uniform, purportedly making crude hand gestures and laughing, while singing the lewd parody.

After the students and parents submitted the apology, the school authorities held a two-hour meeting over the issue.

"The school management committee will take a decision over what kind of action needs to be taken against the students. However, since their examination starts from March 12, we will allow them to appear for it," the school headmistress told mediapersons.

One of the girls was also seen apologising on social media. "We never had any plan to defame our school. We apologise to everybody. Please, delete the video."



Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

March 8, 2020

STATE LEVEL FUNCTION

Government Girls College
Sector-14, Gurugram at 10:00 am

Chief Guest
Manohar Lal
Chief Minister, Haryana

Gracious Presence
Kamlesh Dhanda
Minister of State for Women and Child Development (I.C.), Haryana



BEST WISHES
on the occasion of
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



#EachforEqual
सबके साथ समानता

Steps Taken for Ensuring Safety and Nutrition of Women & Girls

- ♀ Poshan Abhiyaan implemented in a phased manner.
- ♀ 'Sakhi' One Stop Centre- All facilities under one roof for female victims of violence.
- ♀ Women Protection and Child Marriage Prohibition Officer appointed in each District.
- ♀ Internal Complaints Committees constituted in all Government Departments, Boards and Corporations.
- ♀ Free treatment & financial assistance of Rs. 1 lakh for female acid attack victims.

On this Occasion Poshan Pakhwara will also be Launched

- State Level Awards**
To women achievers for outstanding work in various fields
- Mass Pledge**
On gender equality & women's safety
- Mass Download**
Of Durga Shakti App
- Launch of Poshan Pakhwara**
To address issues of malnutrition & anaemia

SPECIAL GRAM SABHAS
In All Villages of the State

- Focus on women centric issues such as nutrition especially reducing anaemia & malnutrition and equality for women.
- Promoting participation of men in Poshan Abhiyaan to improve nutritional outcome.
- Encourage women participation in Gram Sabhas.
- Sensitisation of both men and women.

District Level

- Mass Pledge on Gender Equality & Women Safety.
- Mass Download of Durga Shakti App.
- Felicitation of Women Achievers.





Women Helpline 181

BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO

Women & Child Development Department, Haryana

24 SPORTSLINE

The Indian team have set themselves a date with history on Sunday as they take a shot at their maiden ICC title, hoping to win the WT20 World Cup final. Standing resolutely by their side at the Melbourne Cricket Ground are their parents — some boarding a plane for the first time, others putting together a surprise to watch the young women take flight. Ma & Daddy's little girls are now ready to conquer the world in a match made in heaven: battling Australia at home for the World Cup.

Meet the parents

Rohtak man's long journey

VISHAL MENON

WHILE SHAFALI Verma was scorching the run-scoring charts, in faraway Rohtak, father Sanjeev was busy planning his first international sojourn. He had been confident all along that India would progress to the final and hence was leaving no stone unturned to watch his daughter bat at a packed Melbourne Cricket Ground. "Papa had been constantly on the phone to complete the visa formalities so that he can fly to Australia," Sanjeev's son and Shafali's younger brother Sahil told *The Sunday Express*. Two weeks ago, when he finally received his visa, Sanjeev could barely control his emotions.

"It was a proud moment for him because it was his first international trip, and he was getting an opportunity because of his daughter," Sahil notes. However, this will not be the first time Sanjeev will be watching Shafali bat in an international game.

Last year, during the Women's T20 Challenge in Jaipur, the entire family had driven to the Sawai Mansingh Stadium.

Mother Pravin Bala also wanted to accompany Sanjeev to Australia. But "she does not have a passport yet. My father, too, had applied for it only in December," Sahil explains. After landing in Sydney, an excited Sanjeev put out a Whatsapp status — showing a panoramic view of the Sydney Cricket Ground — the venue for the semi-final between India and England, which ironically never took place.

Ahead of the final, Sanjeev continues to spend most of his time on the phone. "Ever since he landed in Melbourne, my father has been regularly checking weather updates on his phone as doesn't want another washout. The other day, he told me that he was very happy because Melbourne was sunny... 'yahaan baarish ki koi sambhavana nahin hai'," he said.

Pravin will watch the final on television with relatives but Sahil prefers to soak up contest in the company of close friends and coaches from his cricket academy, where a gigantic LED TV has been installed.



Once the T20 World Cup started, Jemimah's father couldn't stop himself from traveling to Australia. Later, his wife too followed.

Father, coach, cheerleader

DEVENDRA PANDEY

IVAN RODRIGUES wanted to travel to Australia to watch his daughter Jemimah play in the T20 World Cup but there was a problem. Rodrigues runs coaching classes along with wife Lavita in the Mumbai suburb Bandra, and if both travelled, the students' studies would be affected. However, they decided to apply for a visa, just in case. When a friend showed interest in travelling to watch Jemimah play, Ivan, who is also Jemimah's coach, could rein in his desire no longer.

"I wasn't sure whether I shall go, I was keen to go but there was classes. My friend Sunny, who had once done a video shoot of Jemimah in her childhood days, too was keen. My wife one day suddenly said, 'ok, you go, I will manage'. We boarded the flight before the first T20 game and came here," Ivan told *The Sunday Express* from Australia. Lavita too would eventually join them just before the semifinal.

The father didn't tell Jemimah about his travel plans. So when she saw him at a practice session, she was speechless with joy.

"Many children don't want their parents to see their game because they get tense. In my case, it's a bit different. She likes me to be with her," Ivan adds. Before every game, Jemimah will look out for her dad, whether he had reached the venue or not. He points out, "Whenever she enters the ground, she sees where is her Dadda sitting. I have to wave to her. We encourage, scream and cheer for the whole Indian team."

Ivan's brother lives in Sydney, so things have been easy for the family. The father says his chats with his daughter have only been about remaining positive. They don't talk much about cricket. But after the final on Sunday, things will be different.

Moga to Melbourne for Harman's birthday

NITIN SHARMA

GROWING UP at Moga in Punjab, Harmanpreet Kaur wouldn't have imagined that one day she would be celebrating her birthday at the more-than-150-year-old Melbourne Cricket Ground. That she would also be leading the Indian cricket team in a World Cup final on that day, with her parents, brothers and several classmates in the stands, wouldn't even have featured in her wildest dreams. On Sunday, all of that will come true.

However, considering her storied journey from playing cricket on the streets of Moga to wearing the India Blue at Melbourne, Harmanpreet now wants more. In that happy frame with friends and family at the MCG, she would also want the gleaming World Cup in her hands.

The coming together of her "near and dear ones" for this special 31st birthday wasn't planned. Before leaving for the World Cup Down Under, Harmanpreet had insisted that

her parents accompany her on this important trip. Like most folks, they were reluctant. The anxiety of their first foreign flight, alien land and missing home were among the several excuses they gave. Her mother had never watched her play, and as for the father, Harmandar Singh Bhullar, the last time he went to a ground for her game was when she was in school.

Just before the start of the World Cup, Harmanpreet got a call from Moga. Her parents had this sudden urge to see their daughter lead India. The daughter was delighted. Soon she was on the phone arranging tickets and visas for her parents and brother Gurjinder Singh. By the time the three boarded the flight and landed in Sydney, it was the eve of India's semi-final against England. Excited to watch their Harman play, the Bhullars took their seats in the special ICC hospitality box. However, the washed-out game extended their wait. But the joy of realising that India was one win away from the Cup was overwhelming.

Father Harmandar, speaking to *The*



Harmanpreet's parents will be in the stands as she plays the Women's T20 World Cup final on her birthday.

Sunday Express from Australia, says he can't wait for the final. "We have never travelled out of India. Last week, we told Harman that we would love to watch her hold the World Cup trophy. She arranged for our flight tickets and the visa was processed. Sunday's fi-

nal will be the first time that our whole family will be watching Harman and the Indian team play," he says.

The Bhullars have family in Australia. Harmanpreet's sister is based in Sydney — this being the major reason she preferred playing for a franchise based out of the city in the Big Bash League. Though the responsibility of being the captain and team protocol hasn't allowed the skipper to spend time with her family, she did have a meal with them before the semifinal.

The father informs that she, along with India players Harleen Deol and Radha Yadav, came to meet them. "Harman loves home-cooked food and whenever we used to visit her in Mohali, she would ask us to bring some home food. She really loves pinnis (laddoos). We could not bring some home food to Australia but there are plenty of Punjabi restaurants here. Harman has not played a big knock till now in this tournament but we are sure that she will handle the pressure of playing in the final well and we will have the opportunity to do some bhangra at the MCG," adds Bhullar.

Also in Australia is Harmanpreet's coach Yadwinder Singh Sodhi, who moved out of India in 2016 and is currently working as training coordinator with Mawson Lakes Cricket Club in Adelaide. "I have been talking with Harman over phone prior to the tournament also and I believe that the best batting

position for her is number three. Even though she takes some time to settle, she can hit big shots and can be very destructive, which she has done in the past too. Lately, she has been aiming to play square or behind square and that has resulted in her dismissals. Her strength has been hitting straight towards long-on and long-off and towards mid-wicket and once she regains that, she will play a destructive role in T20Is," shares Sodhi.

The coach, along with close to 10 of Harmanpreet's former school mates from Moga — most are married and settled in Australia — watched the India-New Zealand league game. The same group will be at the MCG on Sunday. "Harman missed the Big Bash league last year due to an injury and we could not watch her play. All of us cheered for Harman and other Indian players last week and took her out for dinner to a Punjabi restaurant in Melbourne. It's important for a player to spend some time off the field to relax and we talked about her early days of training apart from her signing bats for my friends," adds Sodhi.

As for the Bhullar family, they will also be celebrating Kaur's 31st birthday on Sunday and watching her try to give a big return birthday gift to the nation. "It's her birthday on Sunday and to see her hold the World Cup trophy will be the biggest gift for us and for the nation," shares Bhullar.



Sanjeev Verma's first foreign trip has been to watch his daughter play the T20 World Cup.

Nursing niggles and injuries, Aussies look to 'Ice woman' Meg

VISHAL MENON

HOSTS AND defending champions Australia will be bidding for a record fifth World T20 title in front of a packed crowd. India has had mixed success against the hosts of late. Harmanpreet Kaur's side won the Women's T20 World Cup opener just days after they had lost to Australia in a tri-series final. For the Aussies, it has been a bumpy ride to the final. Fighting a spate of injury concerns throughout the tournament, they will be without their talismanic all-rounder Ellyse Perry in the final.

PLAYING NON-STOP CRICKET

Heavy workload and players burnout are issues that one generally associates with men's cricket. However, since the Ashes tour in July 2019, Meg Lanning's team has been virtually on the road, playing a solitary Test, 11 ODIs and a staggering 46 T20Is. India, during the same period, has played six ODIs

and 17 T20Is. Consequently, injuries and breakdowns have been a recurring theme with this Australian team. Before Perry, pacer Tayla Vlaeminck was ruled out of the tournament with a stress fracture. All-rounder Sophie Molineux has been on the watch list because of an injured thigh. However, she is said to be fit now and looks poised to replace Perry in the final. Even captain Lanning missed out on a couple of matches during the tri-series earlier this year due to a stiff back.

PLAYERS TO WATCH OUT FOR

MEG LANNING: She has several nicknames but 'Ice Woman' has stuck with her. That's because adversity and the big occasion bring out the best in the Australian captain. Her glittering international career is laced with numerous such stellar acts, like a 2016 World T20 match against South Africa in Nagpur. Lanning was battling a stomach bug during that game and had apparently dozed off in the dressing room be-



Australia will be gunning for their fifth World T20 title on Sunday.

fore she was woken up by her team-mates. The reason: Australia were reduced to 9/3 chasing 103 for a win. Lanning smashed an unbeaten 19-ball 30 to see her team through. However, she hasn't been at her fluent best in this tournament so far, but India will be wary of Lanning, given her reputation to step it up on the big stage. In the eight semifinals and finals that she has played since 2012, Lanning has stacked up 283 runs at an impressive average of over 40.

SOPHIE MOLINEUX: Sometime last year, all-rounder Sophie Molineux announced that she would be taking an indefinite break from the game to focus on her mental health. An opening batter and left-arm spinner, Molineux burst onto the international scene two years ago, playing a key role in helping Australia clinch the 2018 T20 World Cup in West Indies. Back then, it looked like a promising career would be nipped in the bud. But Sophie returned to international cricket more than six months later during the tri-

series in Australia earlier this year, where she came up with match-winning figures of 3/19 against England in her comeback game. However, a thigh injury relegated her to the sidelines and out of contention from the World T20. But she regained full fitness, and was included as Perry's replacement in the semifinal against South Africa.

MEGAN SCHUTT: Shafali Verma, the dashing 16-year-old Indian opener, has the wood on Schutt. Shafali smashed the pacer for a humongous six during the tri-series, and then struck 16 runs off her opening over during their T20 World Cup opener. Nevertheless, Schutt exuded confidence as she knows what it means to be playing the final in front of a packed house at the MCG. Fresh from her 2/17 spell against South Africa in the semifinal, Schutt claimed that she has a plan chalked out to outwit Shafali and her opening partner Smriti Mandhana. "There are plans that I've worked on which I will be revisiting as a bowler," she told *cricket.com.au*.

World's eyes on the MCG

Twenty20 World Cup final between Australia and India could see a record turnout for a women's sporting event

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MARCH 7

THE NUMBER 90,185 stands for the largest attendance to watch a women's sporting event. It was achieved at the 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup final at the Rose Bowl in suburban Los Angeles when the hosts beat China 5-4 in a penalty shootout after a scoreless 120-plus minutes.

But that attendance record could well be broken on Sunday when Australia and India clash for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup final at the massive Melbourne Cricket Ground. The iconic venue holds upwards of 100,000 spectators and over 75,000 tickets have been sold till a day before the game. As many as 15,000 have been bought after the two finalists were decided.

Australia vs India is the perfect final for the tournament, played on International Women's Day. The home team against the team with the biggest support base has the biggest chance of filling up the MCG and giving a shot in the arm for the women's game.

Apart from not having a reserve day for the semifinals, the organisers have pulled out all the stops. Singer Katie Perry will be performing before and after the match and the American star, who may not know much about the sport, visited the ground on the eve of the clash. And the significance of the moment is not lost on anyone.

When India reached the final of the last 50-over World Cup and faced the hosts England at Lord's in 2017, losing a match they really should have won, it raised the profile of the game in its biggest market. Women's cricket has been around for a very long time - its World Cup predates that of the men by two years - and India have been a decent team for a few decades now without challenging for the big honours often. If India manage to get over the line on Sunday, the tag of world champions would mean there's no looking back. While it will make icons out of the likes of Shafali Verma, Poonam Yadav, Smriti Mandhana, Jemima Rodrigues and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, if it can make the prospect of a women's Indian Premier League a viable one, it would have helped the sport turn a corner. Leagues have been going on in England and Australia, but without the number of eyeballs that India's fan base and financial muscle could bring.

This is the seventh edition of the T20 World Cup - and Australia have featured in every final since 2010. They will be bidding for a fifth title at the MCG. If they prevail, it will be a continuation of the old order. An Indian victory in the most high-profile women's game in recent times, on the other hand, will break new ground and be just what the sport needs.

LIVE: 12:30 pm, Star Sports network



American singer Katy Perry met the Indian women's team on the eve of their final against Australia at the MCG on Saturday. ICC

Harmanpreet worried about playing after break

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MELBOURNE, MARCH 7

A forced eight-day break has affected India's preparations going into the Women's T20 World Cup final on Sunday but the team is ready to rise to occasion in front a record crowd at the MCG, said skipper Harmanpreet Kaur. An unbeaten run in the group stage propelled India into their maiden T20 World Cup summit clash after their last-four clash against England was washed out on Thursday.

India had defeated Sri Lanka in their last game on Saturday, followed by a semifinal washout, which meant the visitors haven't

played for the last eight days and Harmanpreet conceded her team has been 'restless'. "We haven't been outdoors much and we didn't manage to play the important game against England," said Kaur on the eve of the final against record four-time champions Australia.

"We were all in touch and doing indoor training, but it doesn't give you full confidence because the surface is totally different. Everyone was in good touch and thinking what they can do for the team. We did get rest also because when you're playing for a long time, you need a break. No-one wanted to take rest, everyone was so keen, everyone was on the ground and ready to deal with the situation."

Over 75,000 tickets have been sold for the finals and Harmanpreet said her team will look to enjoy the big stage and play positive cricket. "It's a great feeling. It's the first time we're going to see 90,000 people in the stadium and we're really looking positive for that," said Harmanpreet, who has played in front of a sold-out crowd in the 2017 Cricket World Cup Final against England at Lord's.

Rebuke spurred Poonam

It was a stinging rebuke from skipper Harmanpreet Kaur during the tournament opener against Australia that fired up Poonam Yadav, who eventually played an instrumental role in India's march to their maiden Women's T20 World Cup final.

The 28-year-old Indian has emerged as India's wrecker-in-chief in tournament with nine wickets, including a four-wicket haul against defending champions Australia in the opening match. "When I got hit for a six in the first over, she (Harmanpreet) came to me and said, 'Poonam, you're one of the most experienced players in the team, and we expect better from you,'" Poonam said.

"So, that kind of stirred something within me. I told myself if my captain has that much faith in me, I should be able to make a comeback. I took a wicket in the very next ball, and didn't look back since. Now when I look back at that moment, it means so much in the context of my individual performance and run to the final," said the bowler from Agra.

Jani, Saurashtra's jack of all trades, aces the season

DEVENDRA PANDEY
RAJKOT, MARCH 7

"MY MOTHER never wanted me to play cricket; she wished that I would focus more on studies. But you know what has happened now? She screams at me when I get out!" Saurashtra's all-rounder, who is having the best season of his career with 530 runs and 16 wickets with his medium-pace, Chirag Jani laughs at how the past has melted into the present.

Jani, 30, has been one of the more consistent performers this season, apart from their captain Jaydev Unadkat, who has grabbed 65 wickets. Jani has taken 16 wickets and as a middle-order batsman, hit two hundreds and two fifties. In the semi-final, it was his half-century in the second innings that helped Saurashtra set a competitive target as they were tottering at 15 for 5 at one stage.

His early memories are coated with cricket. Jani grew up in Mahuva, a small village in Bhavnagar district in Gujarat, his fa-

ther was a constable in the village and also had played cricket at district level. The five-kilometre walk to the school would throw up thoughts about the cement-pitch ground - and what fun he can have with cricket that day. In the evenings, he would run back, again thinking about tennis-ball cricket in the neighbourhood of his home.

Couple of events led to a dreamy cricketing path. When he was 12, his father Suresh was transferred to Bhavnagar City, one of the earliest places in Gujarat to get underground drainage and a water filtration plant, the largest in Asia then.

Secondly, a cricketing trial for kids was held around the time when Jani's family had moved in. The tennis-ball cricketer went to a rudimentary facility. "Not much facilities. My selection took place after they asked me to knock the ball and take catches. The coaches felt that, 'this boy can hit the ball well and catches well, so he can play.'"

Their instinct proved right, Jani performed in the district games and graduated later to junior and senior teams of

Saurashtra. He made his debut for Saurashtra in 2012 though since he was considered a better fit in limited-overs cricket, his first-class cricket has had its ups and downs.

"I was a good white-ball player but it did take me a while to break into first-class, red-ball game. And when I would get a chance, I would be dropped after a few games," Jani recalls. Prior to this season, Jani has scored two hundreds and seven fifties in 44 first-class games.

He had a reputation for clean hitting in his early days.

During the limited-overs List A debut game in 2012 vs Maharashtra, he had scored a 67-ball 98, after Saurashtra were wobbling at 232 for 9 chasing 308. The IPL call, came. "I was picked for IPL but didn't get many games. Getting the matches and backing is very key for any player, I can't stress enough how important that is. You need someone who can come and say, don't worry, you are there for next four games even if you don't perform. Ask any player what is their biggest fear, they will say, will I be playing the next

game or not," he explains.

A time came when Jani was finding it tough to retain his place in the state side and by 2017, he suffered a back injury twice. It was then his Ranji teammate Sheldon Jackson stepped in to help, from lending a shoulder to instilling confidence. "He too had to wait for four years to make his Ranji debut, he knows and understands things. If this season has been my best, credit should also go to him for the support," he adds.

The right mental space has helped him this season and batting in the lower-order at number seven has made him understand things better. Though scoring runs is a challenge and there have been times when the onus is on him deliver. He says he doesn't think of big goals, instead, he has prepared himself to take ball by ball.

With the Ranji final around the corner, Jani has returned home for a break. Like his team-mates, this year could be special and they could win the title. At home, his mother had a few words for him: "Acha khel ke aana". (Play well).



Saurashtra all-rounder Chirag Jani with his family.

BRIEFLY

Harika settles for draw, retains lead

Lausanne: Indian Grandmaster Dronavalli Harika settled for a draw with Alexandra Goryachkina of Russia in the fifth round to remain in joint lead with 3.5 points at the FIDE Women's Grand Prix chess tournament here. Harika, India's no.2, and Goryachkina opted for a draw in 31 moves in a Semi-Slav game late on Friday. The world no 9 Indian took no risks against the Russian player as the two chose to sign peace. The Indian faces former world champ Alexandra Kosteniuk in the sixth round later on Saturday. In the only decisive game of the day, Georgia's Nana Dzagnidze beat Anna Muzychuk (Ukraine) in 44 moves. World champion Ju Wenjun of China and former world champion Mariya Muzychuk (Ukraine) battled it out for 81 moves before settling for a draw. PTI

Mary, Panghal win away from berth

Amman: Six-time world champion MC Mary Kom (51 kg) and the redoubtable Amit Panghal (52 kg) stood just one win away from securing Olympic berths after the two boxers advanced to the quarterfinals with contrasting victories of the Asian Qualifiers here on Saturday. Top seed Panghal notched a hard-earned 3-2 triumph over Mongolia's Enkhmanadakh Kharkhuu, while the second-seeded Mary Kom produced a typically clinical performance to dismantle New Zealand's Commonwealth Games bronze-winner Tasmyn Benny for a 5-0 triumph. Up next for Mary Kom is Filipino Irish Magno, who dlobbered Hong Kong's Winnie Au Yin Yin to force a win in just the second round of her last-16 bout. PTI

Woods pulls out of Players C'ship

Miami: Reigning Masters champion Tiger Woods will miss next week's US PGA Tour Players Championship with a back issue as the 15-time major winner's return to defend his crown at Augusta National looms. Woods, according to the tour website, told PGA commissioner Jay Monahan he would skip the signature event at TPC Sawgrass, which typically boasts one of golf's strongest fields, just before agent Mark Steinberg announced his 44-year-old client still suffered back troubles. "Back just not ready, Steinberg told Golf Digest and ESPN. "Not concerning long term, just not ready." It's the short term that is becoming of concern for Woods, who will miss the biggest Masters tuneup and have only three weeks of competition before chasing a sixth career green jacket. AFP

Chennaiyin advance to ISL final

Margao: Two-time champions Chennaiyin FC booked their place in the final of the Indian Super League despite a 2-4 loss to a spirited FC Goa in the second leg of their semifinal at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Saturday. Chennaiyin went through to the final 6-5 on aggregate, thanks to their 4-1 victory at home in the first leg. FC Goa were dominant through the first half wherein Lucian Goian's (10th) own goal and Mourtaada Fall's (21st) header gave the home side hopes of a comeback in the tie. However, goals from Lallianzuala Chhangte (52nd) and Nerijus Valskis (59th) after the restart handed the initiative back to Chennaiyin FC. Though Edu Bedia (81st) and Fall (83rd) raised hopes of another comeback, Chennaiyin saw the game out in the end. PTI

Yours gracefully: Jaffer, Ranji giant, signs off

Mumbai: Former India opener Wasim Jaffer on Saturday announced retirement from all forms of cricket after amassing a mountain of runs in a glorious first-class career that spanned almost a quarter century. Since making his first-class debut in 1996/97, the 42-year-old became the highest run-scorer in the Ranji Trophy and Irani Trophy, centuries scoring close to 2000 runs with five centuries in Test cricket.

"After all these years in cricket, it is time to move on. But just like the red ball format which is very dear to me, it's the end of only the first innings," Jaffer said in a statement. "I am looking forward to the second innings in any capacity, be it in coaching, commentary etc., as long as I stay involved with the game as this game has given me so much."

He remembered those who helped him shape his career, his life. "A special thanks to all my coaches, right from my school days to professional cricket, for helping me polish my skills. A heartfelt thanks to the selectors who showed faith in me."

The Mumbai-ite leaves the scene as the only batsman to score 12,000 runs in Ranji Trophy and he also has the highest number of first-class hundreds to his name.

Internationally, Jaffer played 31 Tests, scoring 1,944 runs at an average of 34.11. Besides five tons, he has 11 fifties in the highest format of the game, with 212 being his

best. "First of all, I would like to thank The Almighty Allah, who gave me the talent to play this beautiful game. I'd like to also thank my family - my parents and brothers for encouraging me to pursue the sport as a profession and my wife, who left the cosy life of England to create a lovely home for our children and me," Jaffer said.

The veteran, who made his Test debut against South Africa in 2000, is one of the few Indian batsmen to have scored a double hundred in the West Indies.

Jaffer, the first player to play in 150 Ranji Trophy matches, guided Mumbai to title wins in the 38th and 39th edition of the domestic tournament. He has also won two Ranji titles Vidarbha in the last three seasons.

"My gratitude to all the captains I played under and all my colleagues from whom I learnt so much about the game and shared some lifelong memories. I would also like to thank all the support staff who were a constant pillar of support in my long journey."

The stylish right-handed batsman made his first-class debut in 1996-97 season and went on to score 19,410 runs from 260 matches. Jaffer, who thanked the BCCI, MCA, and VCA, said getting his India Test cap, scoring 202 versus Pakistan, 212 against West Indies and winning the Test series in West Indies and England 2006-07, are among the moments that he will cherish the most. PTI

Wasim was like Buddha in batting

A Mumbai teammate for years speaks about the impact of Jaffer over two-and-a-half decades



AMOL MUZUMDAR

Wasim Jaffer was a complete package, he had it all - the correct technique, temperament, calmness, and the elegance. To play 25 years, retaining the same hunger he had as a debutant, is absolutely extraordinary and remarkable feat.

I still remember the day when he walked into the Mumbai dressing room in 1995 to be part of the team that was about to play a quarter-final against Tamil Nadu. Next season, in '96, he made his debut for Mumbai. There was already a buzz about his big runs in school cricket. He looked special in the Mumbai nets sessions. It was evident that this boy is here to stay. I enjoyed Wasim's company the most in the dressing room.

His calmness was quite something. You have to have a cool head while batting. You can't be hot headed. He had achieved that calmness.

What I liked about Wasim's game was that he batted in a correct way, purists' way as it's said. What I loved most about that quality is that Wasim dominated oppositions with that approach. He had so many levels to his game. Domination can be of any nature - it's not just filled with shots (which he had). It could be a dominance of stubbornness, domination by piling runs and hitting the gaps.

He played many great knocks but two in particular stand out for me, the two that I had seen from the other end.

The 160-odd he scored against Baroda at Baroda in 2001-02 season. We had a big partnership. Mumbai were 5 for 2, I got to my hundred towards the end of the day but his 160 had come before tea! It was unbelievable knock. Between lunch and tea, he was hitting three boundaries in an each over.

There is another knock of 267 against Delhi in 2005 - arrey, baap-rey-baap! What a knock that was. He just slammed fours - in just a day, he scored 206 runs. I can still visualise it - each over, there would be an on drive, straight drive, cover drive. Three boundaries in each over. I just laughed from the other end. I said, 'bhai ka table tennis chalo hogaya!' (Jaffer hit 38 fours and 3 sixes)

Remember this innings came in the pre-IPL era. No fancy shots, just clean hitting. It was as if he was saying, you bowl, I will hit.



Wasim Jaffer scored the most runs (12,038) in the Ranji Trophy, played the most matches (156) and also has the most number of centuries. (40). File

Few people earned the respect as he has done across teams, no one has dared to sledge him; such was the respect.

And fear, I would say. Over the years, we in the Mumbai team have heard the opposition fielders say, "bhai ko jaldi nikalo, warna yeh pahuncha dega" (Get him out, else he will send us packing). If any young generation

player wants to learn the art of batsmanship, they should see Wasim's batting.

Wasim was like Buddha in batting. Never showed any emotions. Even if he had got out for zero or hit a hundred, his body language always remained cool, *ekdam thanda*. He didn't speak much, he used to do his work. And his work spoke louder than words.

Another admirable quality was his commitment to the game itself. He never differentiated, gave it all irrespective of the stature of the match or the teams he played. He may be batting in Times Shield (the corporate tournament), or a local club game, or for Mumbai, or for India - he never compromised, gave it all. At all levels, from *poppawadi* attacks (easy bowling units) to the toughest, he scored runs in his elegant style.

Look, how he scored runs in the recent past, at this age; and not just in India, but in the club and leagues in England. Players like Wasim set a benchmark for themselves; they keep raising their game always. With his talent, I feel he should have played for India more than the 31 Test matches. It wasn't the accurate testimony to his talent; he could have done better and scored a lot more runs. But, at the same time, I feel there will be only one Wasimbhai.

(Amol Muzumdar captained Mumbai. He spoke to Devendra Pandey)

James won't play in empty arenas

NBA mulls games behind closed doors amid coronavirus concerns, superstar LeBron says 'it's impossible'

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
LOS ANGELES, MARCH 7

BASKETBALL SUPERSTAR LeBron James said he won't play if his Los Angeles Lakers have to hold games behind closed doors due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The NBA has reportedly told teams to look into strategies on how to play without fans in the arena amid concerns over the spreading virus.

"Nah. It's impossible," James said after the Lakers' 113-102 win over the Milwaukee Bucks. "If I show up to the arena and there ain't no fans in the crowd, then I ain't playing." The league sent a memo to each team on Friday asking them to develop contingency plans to combat the spread of the virus. One of the alternatives is playing games behind closed doors.

"I ain't never played the game without no fans," James said. "Ever since I started. This



Nah. It's impossible! I show up to the arena and there ain't no fans in the crowd, then I ain't playing.

LEBRON JAMES
LA LAKERS FORWARD

ain't Europe.

"I play for my teammates and I play for the fans. That's what it is all about."

James and Anthony Davis scored all but one of the Lakers' points in the final quarter Friday as they rallied to beat the NBA-leading Bucks and clinch their first playoff spot since 2013.

No high-fives

As fears grow over the spread of the virus, and sports leagues formulate contingency plans, the NBA's Friday memo told teams to start "developing" plans on how to play games with only "essential staff" in attendance, American sports broadcaster ESPN reported. The NBA had sent out a previous memo to teams earlier this week, recommending players to use fist-bumps instead of high-fives with fans. It also said to avoid taking items such as pens, balls and jerseys from fans to sign.

"The health and safety of our employees, teams, players and fans is paramount," the NBA said in a statement on Monday. The NBA said it has been taking advice from the

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"We are coordinating with our teams and consulting with the CDC and infectious disease specialists on the coronavirus and continue to monitor the situation closely." The global spread of COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on the international sporting calendar with Formula One motor racing, golf and athletics among the sports canceling or postponing events. In Italy, the hardest-hit

European country with 148 deaths from the novel coronavirus, all major sports events, including football matches, will be played behind closed doors until April 3. Six Nations rugby games in Italy have been postponed. Davis Cup tennis ties in Italy and Japan are being played behind closed doors this weekend. WHO has called the spread of the virus "deeply concerning" as a wave of countries reported their first cases of the disease.



The National Institute of Health and Family Welfare
Baba Gang Nath Marg, Munirka,
New Delhi-110067

Observance of Institute's 43rd Annual Day

The 43rd Annual Day of the Institute will be observed on **Monday, 9th March, 2020 at 10.30 a.m.** in the Institute's premises. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare will be the Chief Guest on this occasion. All ex-faculty, ex-employees, alumni and friends of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, are requested to kindly attend the function. Programme Details are available on the Institute's website.

DAVP-17153/11/0004/1920

DIRECTOR



TRACKING THE VIRUS

India World Cup qualifiers hit

India's 2022 FIFA World Cup qualifiers match against Qatar scheduled for March 26 has been postponed due to the spread of the deadly virus. AIFF gen sec. Kushal Das said that the match against Qatar in Bhubaneswar has been postponed and a new date will be known next week.

Russian team under scanner

The Russian national women's football team is facing quarantine after playing a game in Germany. Team doctor Eduard Bezuglov told Russian news agency RIA Novosti on Friday that the players' clubs had been given recommendations based on a decree from Moscow.

NHL issues safety guidelines

The NHL has sent a memo to teams urging players to limit contact with fans because of the coronavirus outbreak. NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly confirmed the league issued the memo in an email to The Canadian Press on Friday.

AGENCIES

Paes belies age before young gun Nagal fails

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, MARCH 7

ON A hot September day in 1995, Leander Paes stepped out on a grass court in New Delhi to play a big-serving, hard hitting Croat. This was a World Group Round 1 Davis Cup tie, and he knew that for him to have any chance of beating world no. 7 Goran Ivanisevic, he'd have to go beyond the ordinary. So he decided to face those booming serves by standing at least three feet inside the baseline.

"(It was) unheard of. I just had to get my racquet on the ball, because the ball was coming so fast that if I touched it, his power would ricochet back. And it would go faster to him," Paes had told *The Indian Express* in 2017. "My eye-hand coordination had to really work if I had to catch that serve - see where it's coming, read the toss, read the body language, read the legs where the angles are going and come back and use the speed of the serve."

The tactic worked, as he'd go on to pull off a famous five-set win over one of the biggest names in the sport.

Just under 25 years later, on Saturday, Paes was on court in a doubles match with partner Rohan Bopanna, this time a World Group Qualifier on an indoor hard court at the Dom Sportova in Zagreb. The match was close to its conclusion, but still could have gone either way. Franko Skugor was serving at deuce, 5-6 in the final set of the contest. That's when Paes decided he needed to come up with something extraordinary. He watched, eagle-eyed, as Skugor started his service routine, and found a tell. Once the ball toss

The Paes/Bopanna win over Skugor and Mate Pavic kept the visitors alive in the tie by giving them their first point.

came, the 46-year-old moved to his left, anticipating a body serve that he would convert onto a forehand - the side where he could produce a bigger return.

That's exactly how it panned out. The big Skugor serve came where Paes had been standing a moment earlier, and the veteran used the pace of the serve to slot back an angled return winner to give the Indians a match point chance. Skugor was rattled - he double faulted the next point to hand the Indians a 6-3, 6-7(9), 7-5 win. The Paes/Bopanna win over Skugor and Mate Pavic kept the visitors alive in the tie by giving them their first point, after Prajnesh Gunneswaran and Ramkumar Ramanathan had lost their singles matches on Friday against Borna Gojo and Marin Cilic respectively.

With India trailing 1-2 in the tie, non-playing captain Rohit Rajpal decided to field India's highest-ranked singles player Sumit Nagal (127), for his first match in the tie, against Cilic. The former world no. 3, however, cruised past the 22-year-old Indian 6-0, 6-1 to secure the tie 3-1 for Croatia. Eventually, the doubles match proved to be the only positive result for the Indians in this tie. But that too was a hard-fought win. And in the crucial moments, Paes, the world record holder for most doubles matches won in the Davis Cup (now 45), stepped up.

Khelo India winter games underway in Gulmarg

ADILAKHZER
GULMARG, MARCH 7

THE FIRST-EVER Khelo India winter games was held in Gulmarg on Saturday. It was the first major sporting event to be held in Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5 last year.

Declaring the games open, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju said, "It is not historic for just J&K, but for the whole country."

He added that the government will establish a world class national center of excellence for winter sports in Gulmarg.

An official statement said, "Over 800 players from different parts of the country are participating in around 30 events like snow skiing, night skiing, snowboarding, cross country, snow show, snow cycling and other events." The statement added that athletes from 20 states are participating in the games.

Prem Singh, an athlete from Odisha, said it was his first visit to Kashmir. "We are a team of

nine. Everyone is excited about the games," he said.

For participants from J&K, the event means much more. "It is a big platform, especially for J&K participants. I was waiting for the event ever since we were told that we will be participating," said Saniya Mir, who will participate in ice-stock, a sport similar to curling.

Rouf Tramboob, president of Adventure Tour Operators Association of Kashmir (ATOAK), said the event will send a "good message". "When people will see that kids are participating in the games and they are in Gulmarg, tourists will definitely come to Kashmir. It would help tourism as well."

However, some expressed their reservations over the games due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus. Rijiju, however, said there is no need to worry as all measures are in place. "At five places, Jammu and Kashmir administration has done multiple screenings. There is no need to worry," he said.

The Khelo India Winter Games will run till March 11.



“India is moving from women development to women-led development”

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

We are moving towards a new India. Where our women are able, empowered and true partners in progress.

The indomitable Nari Shakti is excelling in every sphere of activity. With holistic efforts, the Government of India is constantly furthering the empowerment of India's daughters. From granting them freedom from toxic fumes in the kitchen to treating them with dignity and respect by making toilets, from helping them fight gender inequality by abolishing triple talaq to giving them wings by offering a world of opportunities, all such steps have enabled India's daughters to become equal partners in India's growth journey





1 crore beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

1.5 crore beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

8 crore LPG connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

10 crore families benefitted under Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY)

11 crore toilets built

15 crore women beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

Up to 50% increase in the honorarium of Asha and Anganwadi workers

Maternity leave extended up to 26 weeks

Free prenatal health check-ups on the 9th of every month from the 3rd to 6th month of pregnancy

More than 1.67 crore accounts opened under Sukanya Samridhi Yojana

1.92 crore scholarships awarded to girl students from minority communities

Women can avail a loan up to ₹1 Crore under Startup India

This International Women's Day, India reaffirms its commitment towards ensuring the progress of women

HAR EK KAAM DESH KE NAAM