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Rahul to pick winner of CM race

Congress Legislature Party unanimously authorises party chief for selecting the CLP leader in MP

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

After submitting its claim for forming the next Government in Madhya Pradesh before the Governor, a meeting of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) held at the PCC on Wednesday evening unanimously authorising AICC president Rahul Gandhi for selecting the CLP leader. Informing about the CLP meeting, Congress media cell in charge Shobha Oza told media persons that the resolution to authorise the party president Rahul Gandhi for choosing the CLP leader was proposed by senior most MLA Arif Aqueel.

Thereafter, the meet unanimously supported the resolution, she said, clarifying that there was no trouble at all in taking this decision. The two central observers — AK Anthony and Bhanwar Jitendra Singh would also have one-on-one with those MLAs who have something to share on the decision and would leave for New Delhi in the night with the resolution and feedbacks from the newly elected MLAs, said Oza.

The observers are expected to meet Rahul on and the latter could make a decision afterwards.

The meeting was attended by all the senior party leaders, elected MLAs including four rebels, claimed the Congress spokesperson. Asked whether the rebels have returned to the party folds, Oza pleaded ignorance on the matter.

However, enthusiastic party workers had gathered outside the fortified PCC hours ahead of the meeting. Supporters of Kamal Nath and Jyotiraditya Scindia kept raising slogans in the favour of their leaders. However, there was a rumour that Gandhi would seek party workers' suggestions on 'Shakti' App over CM face but party office bear-



Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee president Sachin Pilot waves at the crowd while going to attend the Congress Legislature Party meeting at the party office in Jaipur on Wednesday

ers declined to confirm anything like this.

Early in the day, Kamal Nath accompanied with senior leaders reached Rajbhavan and presented the claim to form the Government. Nath also handed a list of 121 MLAs to the Governor.

Besides 114 MLAs of Congress, four party rebels have extended support to Congress besides BSP's two and SP's one MLA also has announced to support the Congress government. Prior to this, CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan accepting the defeat had tendered his resignation to

Governor Anandiben Patel. Bhupesh Baghel and TS Singh Deo are locked in keen tussle for the CM's chair in Chhattisgarh. Congress' Lok Sabha member Tamradhwaj Sahu's name also figured in the evening before the party decided for the legislature party meeting in the presence of AICC observers Mallikarjun Kharge, AICC incharge for the State PL Punia and other senior leaders. Making the choice of CM in Rajasthan is going to be tough task for Rahul.

Following the differences, Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting in Jaipur.



Madhya Pradesh Congress president Kamal Nath, party leader Jyotiraditya Scindia and other leaders meet Governor Anandiben Patel to stake claim to form a Government, at Raj Bhawan in Bhopal on Wednesday

passed a single-line resolution authorising the party president to decide the name of the Chief Minister.

While the CM's name was yet to be finalised due to disagreements, Congress delegation met Rajasthan Governor Kalyan Singh to stake claim to form a Government. A Congress MLA said there could be another meeting of the CLP on Thursday morning to resolve the deadlock.

"We have full majority and have staked claim to form a Government. We will take along all non-BJP parties and elected members who are against the BJP and are willing to support us," Pilot said after the CLP meeting in Jaipur.

BJP ousted from Rajasthan by just over 1.7 lakh votes

STAFF REPORTER ■ JAIPUR

A total of 1,39,35,201 votes went into the Congress kitty in Rajasthan while the BJP received 1,37,57,502 votes — a marginal difference of over 1.70 lakh votes that ended five years of the BJP rule.

The Congress got 39.3 per cent of the vote spread over 199 Assembly constituencies and the BJP 38.8 per cent vote. The narrow difference led to the ouster of Vasundhara Raje and her Government.

NOTA (None of the Above) accounted for 4,67,781 lakh votes, or 1.3 per cent of the vote, Rajasthan Chief Electoral Officer Anand Kumar said on Wednesday.

Independents got 9.5 per cent vote (33,72,206) and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) 4 per cent (14,10,995 votes).

Overall, 74.69 per cent voting was recorded in Rajasthan on December 7. The statistics show independents and BSP played spoilsport for both Congress and the BJP.

8,7K traders under lens for ₹262 crore cyber-tax fraud

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government has unearthed a cyber-tax fraud worth ₹262 crore committed by over 8,700 traders who were found showing fraudulent tax deposits into 13 banks since 2013, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said on Wednesday.

Sisodia, who also holds the Finance portfolio, said the Trade and Taxes Department has registered a complaint with the Delhi Police's Economic Office Wing (EOW) for registration of FIRs into the matter.

According to Delhi Police spokesperson Anil Mittal, "Reena Toppo, VAT officer Delhi, has given a complaint against some business firms which had claimed input tax credit under GST on the basis of fictitious documents and non-existent bank accounts."

Preliminary amount involved is ₹9.97 crore. Complaint is being examined at EOW, said Mittal. "Delhi Govt tax authorities have unearthed a big cyber-tax fraud. More than 8,000 regis-

tered dealers have been found showing fraudulent tax deposits into 13 banks. The matter has been handed over to EOW, Delhi Police. The AAP Government believes in zero tolerance to any corrupt practices," Sisodia tweeted.

Earlier in the day, the Deputy Chief Minister said during the scrutiny of suspected fraud transactions, it was noticed that such kind of fraud had been continuing since 2013 and it was going on until it was detected by the department.

"The Government has detected cyber-tax fraud of ₹262 crore. As per our initial investigation, around 8,700 traders are involved in the fraud. It is a very serious issue that should be investigated thoroughly," he said.

"The authorities were on high alert for three months following some hints received by the department during verification of the credit of the payments made by the dealers registered with the department," he said.

Continued on Page 4



Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and Health Minister Satyendar Jain address a Press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday

CAPSULE

WILL TRY TO UPHOLD RBI'S AUTONOMY: GUV
Mumbai: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said he will try to uphold the autonomy, credibility and the integrity of the "great institution" and take every stakeholder, including the Government, along in a consultative manner. P10

INDIA TO INCREASE PUBLIC HEALTH SPENDING: MODI
New Delhi: India is set to increase its public health spending to 2.5 per cent of its gross domestic product by 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday, asserting that women, children and the youth will continue to remain at the heart of every policy, programme and initiative of the Government. P5

482 INDIAN FISHERMEN LANGUISHING IN PAK JAILS
New Delhi: A total of 500 Indian fishermen are languishing in various jails of Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the Lok Sabha was told on Wednesday. Altogether 482 fishermen are languishing in Pakistani jails while 18 are in custody in Sri Lanka, VK Singh said in a written reply.

EX-ARMY CHIEF GEN JJ SINGH QUILTS SAD
New Delhi: Former Army Chief Gen JJ Singh on Wednesday resigned from the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) claiming disillusionment with the party leadership.

ED ON MALLYA: WHO DOES MEETING WITH 300 BAGS?
Mumbai: Who goes to attend a meeting with "300 bags", the Enforcement Directorate (ED) asked Vijay Mallya's lawyer in a special court on Wednesday, countering the claim that the liquor baron had left India in March 2016 only to attend an event in Geneva and did not flee the country. Amit Desai, Mallya's lawyer, had on Tuesday told special judge for PMLA cases M S Azmi that his client did not leave the country secretly as claimed by the ED.

BSP, SP change tack, offer support to Cong in Rajasthan, MP

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT ■ LUCKNOW

After taking on the Congress in the just-concluded Assembly polls, the BSP and the Samajwadi Party have offered to support the grand old party in the Government formation in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The gesture is seen as a major development towards stitching a mahagathbandhan in Uttar Pradesh against the BJP.

Nearly three decades after the emergence of caste-based identity politics in Uttar Pradesh and the gradual rise of the SP and the BSP that led to the decimation of the Congress in the three States of Hindi hinterland threatens to unsettle the poll arithmetic of both regional parties in UP.

Before the Assembly polls in MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, both parties had claimed they are not interested in accommodating the



Congress in the grand alliance in UP for the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. Besides the SP and the BSP, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the Nishad Party and the Peace Party are the other constituents of the alliance.

The SP had offered only two seats — Amethi and Rae Bareilly — to the Congress. Both regional parties had adopted strident postures against the Congress.

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Industrial growth 11 months high, inflation slumps to 17-month low

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's industrial output grew at an 11-month high of 8.1 per cent in October mainly on the back of mining, power and manufacturing sectors coupled with higher offtake of capital as well as consumer durable goods. At the same time, retail inflation plunged to a 17-month low in November at 2.33 per cent, mainly on account of decline in prices of kitchen essentials like vegetables, eggs and pulses.

Industrial production measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 1.8 per cent in October last year, as per official data released by the CSO.

The previous high IIP growth rate was recorded in November last year at 8.5 per cent. During the April-October period, industrial output grew 5.6 per cent as compared to 2.5 per cent in the same period of the previous fiscal.

Detailed reports on P10

Dalits, tribals drift apart from BJP for Cong

Saffron party loses 71 SC/ST seats it won in 2013 in 3 States

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP has lost its hold on the Assembly seats reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) /Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The Assembly results indicate that SC/ST and Dalit vote swung in favour of the Congress. As per Election Commission (EC) data, across Chhattisgarh, MP and Rajasthan, the BJP lost 71 of 137 reserved seats won by it in 2013. There are 166 seats reserved for SCs/STs in these three States.

In Chhattisgarh, MP and Rajasthan, where 43 per cent, 36 per cent, and 30 per cent seats are respectively reserved for SCs and STs, except for Rajasthan, the BJP recorded its worst performance in a decade, while the Congress recorded its best.



In Rajasthan, 59 of 200 Assembly seats are reserved for SCs/STs. Of them, 34 seats are reserved for the SCs and 25 for the STs. The Congress won 31 of these seats and the BJP's tally came down to 21 from 50 in 2013. The ruling BJP paid for engaging people from the SCs/STs for the April 2 protests against perceived dilution of the SC/STs Act. A new tribal party Bahujan Tribal Party (BTP) won two seats in Dungarpur district. According to the 2011 census, SCs constitute 17.8 per cent and STs 13.5 per cent of the population in the State. Of 25 seats reserved for Adivasis, the BJP won 12 constituencies, while

the Congress won 11.

The SCs are spread across seven divisions, especially northern and eastern parts in the State. The Congress won 7 out of 8 seats in Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Alwar, Jaipur and Dausa districts. On the other hand, the STs are concentrated in Udaipur, Dungarpur, Banswara, Pratapgarh, Rajasmand and Chittorgarh districts that form the Mewar region. Both the Congress and the BJP focussed on the tribal heartland.

Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje launched her campaign from Charbhujia temple of Udaipur, while the Congress president held Sankalp rally in

Sagwaraod Dungarpur. In Chhattisgarh, 10 seats are reserved for SCs and 15 for STs (Adivasi). Besides, there are 14 seats where ST voters are deciding factors. The BJP's popularity in 29 tribal-dominated constituencies further dwindled from 2013 level. The tribals in the State have voted against the BJP this time around. Seats for SCs/STs together account for 43 per cent of the State Assembly's 90 seats.

The Congress won six seats while the BJP managed to retain only two of the 10 constituencies reserved for SCs. The BSP also won two seats. The party won 9 out of 10 in the 2013 against the 5 it won in 2008.

As per results, the Congress won 18 seats, equalling the number it had won in 2013.

The Ajit Jogi-Mayawati alliance, which was eyeing 13 seats to play the kingmakers role, fell short of its target. Issues related to non-timber forest produce (NTFP) and their relation to women also seem to have played a role, according to experts.

Continued on Page 4

What Google furnished to inquisitive Indians in 2018

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As it does every year for the past decade, American tech giant Google released the most popular searches for 2018 for both the world and India. And the top search string for 2018 for India was for the "World Cup 2018", a sign of just how popular football is becoming in this country.

And it is not as if cricket has lost its allure in India, as "IPL 2018" was the third-most popular search stream, with "Live score" which could be peculiar to cricket and other sports being the second-most

searched term. But politics, predictably took the fourth spot with "Karnataka elections". The football world cup topped the searches for news items, and predictably sporting events in the Winter Olympics surprisingly came in as the fifth-most popular item despite India barely registering a presence at the snowy games held in South Korea earlier this year. What is interesting is that these results are more democratic since they consider the entire country and not just a few cities; many Indians were curious in the "What is" section about the controversial



Section 377 that barred homosexuality.

The Google search history records also give some fasci-

nating insights into what Indians are trying to do. Even though the Supreme Court upheld the right to privacy and limited the scope of the Unique Identity document Aadhaar, the second-most popular how-to item searched by Indians was "How to link mobile number to Aadhaar". Of course, the most popular item searched had to do with social media and people wanted to know "how to send stickers on WhatsApp". The most popular movie this year, at least when it came to searches online, was the recently released Rajnikanth-starrer "Robot 2.0" and no matter if

many in the entertainment industry do not think of Tiger Shroff as a top star as yet, "Baaghi 2" was the top Bollywood movie searched this year. Irrespective of movie's failure the success of its songs, "Dilbar Dilbar" was the most popular song searched for this year.

And the famous Malayalee "wink girl" Priya Prakash Varrier was the top-most searched personality, closely followed by the new Mr Priyanka Chopra, Nick Jonas.

Across the world too, the World Cup dominated searches highlighting just how important the quadrennial event is to the globe. But the second-most popular search item was as a result of a tragic death of Swedish electronic musician Avicii. The British Royal wedding and Meghan Markle also filtered to the top of the search pile showcasing how the world is still fascinated by the British Royal family. And even though Stan Lee passed away recently, the creator of so many superheroes for the Marvel empire must be laughing as four of the top movie searches this year were for Marvel movies with the list topped by "Black Panther".

Now BJP will play role of constructive Opp: Shivraj

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Taking moral responsibility for the defeat in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly polls, outgoing Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan here on Wednesday said that the BJP will now play the role of a vigilant and constructive Opposition.

He said that he did his level best to get Madhya Pradesh out of the pathetic situation after he took as Chief Minister 13 years ago and made every effort for the welfare of the people and development of the State.

While talking to media persons, after tendering his resignation to Governor Anandiben Patel at the Raj Bhavan, Chouhan said, "Despite all the support from the central leadership and pro-people schemes of the Central and the state governments, we could not get the results to our expectations. We fell short of majority and I take all the responsibility for the party's defeat in the state. I could not meet the expectations of people and I failed."

Chouhan said the BJP, which got 109 seats in the 230-member assembly, would play the role of a strong and respon-



sible Opposition. "We will play a constructive role for the development of the state and if need be we will protest and act as a vigilant watchman. We are not those who will take rest after getting defeated. We will start working as opposition from today itself," he said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader hoped that the new Government would continue with the pro-people schemes and projects run by his Government.

He said that now it was the Congress' turn to fulfill the poll promises it made to the people of the State in its 'vachan patra' (manifesto).

"Rahul Gandhi (Congress President) had said that his party would implement the loan waiver for farmers within 10 days after assuming office.

THE BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY (BJP) LEADER HOPED THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE WITH THE PRO-PEOPLE SCHEMES AND PROJECTS RUN BY HIS GOVERNMENT

And he had also said that if the Chief Minister fails to implement the farm loan waiver then he shall be changed. So it is their turn now to fulfill the commitments," he said.

He added that the BJP would also start preparing for the 2019 Lok Sabha polls in the state from now on.

Asked what he discussed with Madhya Pradesh Congress President Kamal Nath, Chouhan said, "It was a courtesy meeting. I congratulated him for the victory. Even when we lost, I called up Kamal Nath to congratulate him."

House burgled, goods worth lacs taken away

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Valuables worth lacs of rupees were burgled from Ivory residency at BDA Colony under Koh-e-Fiza police station area on Tuesday.

Police said that the house of the victim Zahida Parvez who was prime accused in murder case of RTI activist Shehla Masood was targeted by miscreants and escaped with gold and diamond jewelry worth lakhs of rupees.

The victim works as Architect and has an office in MP Nagar where she was present at the time of the incident. In her complaint, she stated police, that on Tuesday afternoon she left for her office in MP Nagar area and after work when she returned home around 7 she found that lock of the main door was broken and valuables were found burgled. The gold and silver jewelry and diamond jewelry were found burgled.

The Investigating Officer KS Thakur said that the victim remains alone at her house and is yet to provide list of goods



burgled and would provide the list after checking the details of the burgled goods. The loss occurred to the victim in the burglary would be provided later.

After the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under sections 457 and 380 of the IPC and started further investigation.

The almirah having the valuables was targeted while other valuables were not disturbed. The domestic help and locals would be questioned in the further investigation, said police. Police have started further investigation and said that the CCTV installed in the nearby areas would be investigated.



Congress State President Kamal Nath addressing Congress legislative party meeting at PCC headquarters in Bhopal on Wednesday. Senior Congress leader and central observer AK Antony, Congress leader Digvijay Singh, Jyotiraditya Scindia and other leaders were also present on the occasion. Pioneer photo

Afghan troupe to woo Bhopalites

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A folk musical group from Afghanistan will woo the city music lovers. The Awayee Band-e-Amir will perform in city at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum on Thursday.

The programme of Awayee Band-e-Amir Cultural Group from Afghanistan is being organised at the 5th International International Folk Dance and Music Festival organized by Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) Regional Office, Bhopal.

This presentation is a part of the fifth International and Music Festival organized by the Council in Delhi. Apart from Afghanistan, cultural groups

from Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, South Korea and Sri Lanka are participating in this festival. Today the Bhopal office has got the opportunity to host the Afghan cultural party.

It is noteworthy that earlier, Afghanistan was also a part of India. Gandhara Mahajanapada was in 700 BC East Zone. The name of Afghanistan started from the reign of Ahmad Shah Durrani. Inside Afghanistan, Bamiyan is a historical city that is situated in the valley of Hindukush mountain range. Where there were many Buddhist monasteries.

Besides, this group was established in 2015, whose aim is to spread the national folk

culture and the international level. This team has established its unique identity internationally through various programs and presentations. This cultural group of Afghanistan (Bamiyan) will present the folk music and dance of Afghanistan which will be really interesting for the Bhopalites to watch. The artists will spread information about different folk songs and music and dance of Afghanistan in Bhopal.

This team will also make Bhopalites spread awareness about the culture and culture of Afghanistan. There will be a total of 10 members in this cultural group of Afghanistan who will present the programme.

Attention Taxpayers!

LAST DATE

31

MARCH, 2019

27

28

29

30

Last dates for filing GST Annual Returns extended!

GSTR-9, GSTR-9A & GSTR-9C

Returns can now be filed till 31st March, 2019.

What is GSTR-9 annual return?

- GSTR-9 form is an annual return to be filed once in a year by specified taxpayers under GST.
- This return requires taxpayers to report summary of outward supplies, inward supplies, details of tax paid under different tax heads i.e. CGST, SGST and IGST, particulars of demands, refunds, etc.
- It consolidates the information furnished in the monthly/quarterly returns filed during the year.
- Taxpayers working under Composition Levy Scheme have to file a similar but simpler return in Form GSTR-9A.

Who should file GSTR-9/9A annual return?

Filing of GSTR-9/9A Return is compulsory for every registered person, other than -

- A Casual Taxable Person
- Input Service Distributor
- A Non-resident taxable person; and
- A Person paying tax under Section 51 or Section 52 of GST Act.

What is GSTR-9C annual return?

GSTR-9C Return is to be filed by taxpayers whose annual turnover exceeds ₹ 2 Crore during the financial year. All such taxpayers are required to get their accounts audited and file a copy of audited annual accounts and reconciliation statement in Form GSTR-9C containing details of reconciliation of Gross Turnover, Taxable Turnover, Tax Already Paid, Additional Amount Payable, Input Tax Credit, etc.

File GSTR-9, GSTR-9A & GSTR-9C returns before the due date.

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Errant officials to be taken to task for non performance

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Amid safety of residents of Bhopal BMC Commissioner Avinash Lavania issued orders of taking action against concern official and employee failing to report overflowing septic tank, septic management and maintenance of sewer network.

According to the orders issued by BMC Commissioner Lavania action would be taken under section 188 of the IPC and spot fine against those would fail to report open sewage and leakages in sewage network and line.

For the convenience of citizens BMC Commissioner issued orders for the formation of Sewage Cell in which cleaning of septic tank, desludging, septic management and sewer network maintenance under the limits of BMC would be done and after receiving information of leakage and overflow of septic tank issue should be addressed immediately and solution would be provided and if the issued is neglected action would be taken.

The rate for cleaning of septic tank by sewage cleaning machine has not been revised. For a capacity of 2,000 liter septic tank the rate is ₹300 while for capacity of 4,000 liter septic tank the rate is ₹500.

The BMC has also implemented orders of state government of spot fine for dumping garbage in open, dumping fecal sludge in open spaces, nullah and vacant plots by any individual, institutions, shops and private desludging operators would be fined Rs 500 for the first time, for the second time the fine would be ₹1,000 and if caught third time fine would be ₹2,000.

In the same manner action under section 188 of the IPC would be imposed and strict action would be taken against offenders

'Best 100' programme to help hindi medium students

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

To prepare Hindi medium students for civil service examination, a special programme Best 100 will be organised in city. The special programme will begin for the candidates from January 1.

The programme will be organised by Civil Service Club. It is to be noted that in the Civil Services Examination every year, the number of youth selected through Hindi medium is continuously decreasing.

The process of entering the first batch under this mission has started. First of all, the 'Civil Services Preliminary Examination -2019', which is to be held on June 2, 2019, has been targeted. For this examination, the club will only give admission to 60 candidates of Hindi medium and work on the strategy to succeed them in the initial examination.

Laxmi Sharan Sharma said that in the total number of competitors who succeed, the number of Hindi medium contestants is barely 4%, while millions of people are still giving these exams through Hindi medium.

Due to the decline in Hindi medium, there is tremendous sense of disappointment in the whole of North India especially the rural background. As a result the candidates have started preparing for other exams except for the IAS, said Mishra.

Elaborating further, he said that 'Civil Services Club' is going to start a mission from January 1 with the aim of finding a solution to this medium of Hindi medium. Under which, in the next two years, the club have to make 100 selections in Hindi medium from IAS Exam. So that the fear of Hindi medium candidates can be overcome and they can showcase their talent and be successful.



An illuminated Pradesha Congress Committee headquarters after party's victory in State Assembly elections, in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

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Cong raises its tally in Gwalior's Chambal

PNS n Gwalior
In an impressive show the Congress won a majority of the seats in the Gwalior Chambal Division. The party raised its tally of 12 seats in the previous election to 27 while BJP was limited to 6 from its earlier tally of 20.

Significantly 4 BJP ministers out of the seven from the region too lost by huge margins. Anoop Mishra, the senior leader of the party and nephew of former Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Bajpai also lost the election from the Bhitwar constituency. In Gwalior, BJP could win in only 1 seat out of the 20 it contested.

This impressive show by the Congress is all the more significant as Modi and Amit Shah had held extensive rallies in the region to solicit support for the party candidates. Addressing a huge gathering in

Gwalior on November 16 Modi had claimed that the Congress has been vaporized in air and that the BJP would win all the seats from the region. At that time he had paraded all the 20 BJP candidates from Gwalior on the stage asking people to elect them with huge margins.

BJP President Amit Shah too had ridiculed Rahul Gandhi for claiming that the Congress would win in Madhya Pradesh. During a meeting in Gwalior on November 26 he had claimed that the Congress party lacks leadership and policies and cannot defeat a stable government.

The BJP leaders had been going all out as they believed that the election results in Madhya Pradesh is a high stake affair as the party has been in power for 15 years. With this impressive win

by Congress in the region the question is being raised in many quarters whether the Modi magic has come to an end and whether Modi has lost his charm.

Despite the persistent efforts of the BJP leaders to erode the Scindia influence in the region the results reflect the people's faith in Jyodiraditya Scindia.

The most noteworthy win for the Congress from the region is the win in Morena district. Last time the party did not have a single seat from this district. This time the party has won in all the six seats.

In a dramatic turnaround around midnight the Congress candidate from Gwalior South Praveen Pathak piqued the BJP candidate and former minister Narayan Singh Kushwaha to win by 121 votes, the narrowest recorded victory margin in the state.

IGRMS to organise Tribal Literature Festival in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal is organizing Tribal Literature Festival with the aim of bringing the cultural and literary reserves of tribal inhabitants into mainstream. This festival will commence from December 14, 2018.

This Programme will be inaugurated by Prof TV Kattimani, Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak and Shrawan Kumar, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of culture at Tribal Habitat from 11 am. The Katha Lekha- An Exhibition on 'Wooden Form of Expressions' and Kanjali- A Workshop on 'Traditional Art and Craft' will be also inaugurated, as well as publishers of Tribal Literature from across the country, will also display a book exhibition. Thereafter, the Panel

Discussion on 'Tribal Literature: Contribution and Concerns', in which the participants will present their thoughts on the topic. As well as the legendary readers of the tribes from all over the country, the scholars of literary traditions will give their presentations.

Cultural presentations programme 'Akhra' will commence from 6 pm, in which the cultural artists from Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh will present their presentations (ie Dhol Cholam, Pung Cholam, Ju-Ju, Jaa-Jaa Danace, and Cherav Dance).

'Jayaka' is the Major attraction of this programme. In this, resident of Bhopal will Enjoy the delights of traditional dishes of Bastar (Chhattisgarh), Manipur, Assam and Madhya Pradesh. This function will last till December 16, 2018.



Madhya Pradesh outgoing Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan along with BJP State President Rakesh Singh talking to media persons at BJP State headquarters in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

Police book 23-year-old youth for sexually assaulting 20-yr-old girl

Accused identified as Abhisek Rajput

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chhola Mandir police have booked a 23-year-old youth for sexually assaulting a 20-year old girl near Nehru Nagar in the month of September this year; a complaint was lodged on Tuesday.

Police said that the accused identified as Abhisek Rajput was booked after the victim lodged complaint against the accused of sexual assault with the help of two of his friends.

The victim in her complaint stated that she met the accused near her uncle's house at Narsinghpur where she became acquainted with her. On September 25 when the victim was on her way to beauty parlour where she works the accused came in a jeep and

offered her a ride and during which he offered water which was laced with sedatives. She was then later taken to Nehru Nagar temple where accused married her and took her to a room where she was sexually assaulted. The accused before leaving threatened her of life and not to report incident.

Police said that the victim kept mum and recently when her marriage was fixed the accused came and intervened after which the victim provided information to the family members and a complaint was lodged with the police.

After the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 366, 376 and 506 of the IPC and started search for the accused. The two accomplices who helped the accused in committing crime would be searched. Police have started search for the accused who lives in Narsinghpur and works with a private firm.

Forest Dept to organise Anubhuti camp from Dec 15

Bhopal: The Forest Department is organising the Anubhuti camp from December 15 this year to enhance sensitivity in school children towards nature, forests and wild animals.

As many as 760 students and 44 teachers from 35 schools will take part in the Anubhuti Camp to be organised in the Kanha Tiger Reserve from December 15 to 20 December 2018 and from January 5 to January 11, 2019.

On the third and final day on December 15, special Bal Sabha will be organized in the presence of parents and guardians in the form of the school's Annual Day. Cultural, sports and other activities of children will be organized in the Bal Sabha. Reviewing the preparations of the event, Director Rajya Shiksha Kendra Irene Scinthia JP said that the quality of school education is our top-most priority. She appealed to all the teachers of the state that should evaluate students and their school fearlessly. Pratibha Parva is an impor-

Pratibha Parva begins from today in Govt's primary, secondary schools

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Pratibha Parva is being organized in the state government's primary and secondary schools from December 13, to assess the skills of the students in the direction of quality education and to further strengthen academic corrective efforts. On the first two days of the 3-day event, academic evaluation of students will be conducted.

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ON THE THIRD AND FINAL DAY ON DECEMBER 15, SPECIAL BAL SABHA WILL BE ORGANIZED IN THE PRESENCE OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS IN THE FORM OF THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL DAY

tant programme of the School Education Department to improve quality of elementary education. The Pratibha Parva will begin simultaneously in 1,14,609 primary and secondary schools of the state. More than 70.20 lakh children studying in Class 1 to 8 will take part in the Pratibha Parva. Academic shortcomings are identified on the basis of the

analysis of the results during the Pratibha Parva and efforts are made to improve them.

Quality will be assessed by the teachers at the school level in Pratibha Parva. The assessments made by the schools will be verified by the Verification Officer appointed by the District Collector after discussion with the children and members of the School Management Committee and after observing the various records available in the school. On this basis of the school's academic upgradation plan, points will be noted in the inspection register.

Sudden inspection will be conducted in schools by District Officers-in-charge at state level during the Pratibha Parva. As per the National Achievement Survey, an OMR sheet will be prepared in view of the child-wise achievement and data analysis in subjects including Hindi, Mathematics, Environmental Studies, Science and Social Science in Class-3, 5, 8 in selected sample schools.

Cultural events organised at Handloom Expo

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Various cultural events are being organized at the National Handloom Expo 2018, Bhopal haat. Under the series of cultural events the visitors enjoyed the ghazal evening here on Wednesday.

Bhopal haat always bring something new for the citizens and this time people got the opportunity to buy handloom materials of different States of the country under one roof. The buyers are being captivated towards the beautifully crafted handicraft stuff. Especially, the batik and bagh print suits, jute materials and Kashmiri Pashmina shawls and stoles.

Further, shopping became more pleasing with different cultural programmes at the haat. A huge crowd is observed before the stage to watch and enjoy the ghazal evening presented by Creative Musical Group, Bhopal. Ghazals have soothing

rhythm, create a light mood and made the shoppers forget the worries. So, around 25 ghazals were presented at the show.

The programme began with a bhajan and the audiences were rapt in its devoting melody. Further, the show was followed up by one of the most famous ghazals of Jagjit Singh and Chitra 'Yeh daulat bhi lelo' made the audiences relive the old memories.

They further presented the ghazals like 'Aapki aankho me kuchi', 'Tujhse naraz nahi', 'Aap jinke qareeb' and 'Jab anchal raat'. Besides, ghazals of Lata Mageshkar, Pankaj Udhas, Chitra and Jagjit Singh enthralled the audiences.

The ghazal night made shopping even more enjoyable for the Bhopalites. It is noteworthy that the National Handloom Expo is organized every year for the shopaholics of the city and evokes really good response.

Rang Sankriti theatre troupe all set to start Sapne Har Kisiko Nahi Aate

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Rang Sankriti theatre troupe is all set to wow the Bhopalites with their new production Sapne Har Kisiko Nahi Aate. The group is doing their final rehearsals these days.

It is to be noted that the play will be staged at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum on Friday. The play is directed by Yatindra Aatre and is written by Rajesh Kumar.

This play is about seven youngsters who have different dreams and how they work towards it forms rest of the story. Whether they are able to fulfill their dreams or not is all about this play. It is to be noted that the play will be performed for the first time in the city.

A theatre workshop is being organised for the youngsters for the same who want to create a niche for themselves in theatre industry or to learn the

This play is about seven youngsters who have different dreams and how they work towards it forms rest of the story. Whether they are able to fulfill their dreams or not is all about this play. It is to be noted that the play will be performed for the first time in the city

skills of stage performance or to even brush up their theatrical skills.

Notably, the participants are being taught the basic act-

ing exercises to strengthen their acting foundation. This training programme further trained the students to free them from self-consciousness and strengthen their concentration through sensory exercises. The participants were given assignments to apply in their theatrical personality and performances.

How to use the props and properties, speech therapy, improvisation of stories, body movements, facial expression with dialogue, footwork on music along with other experimental exercises are being taught by noted theatre personalities of the city. The workshop majorly focuses on Acting techniques, Body Language, Observational skills, Voice Modulation, Diction and Speech. This will provide a unique knowledge practice based techniques, which is very important to acquire in this career.

Free Urology camp organised at Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The 93rd Free Urology camp organized at in Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital concluded here on Wednesday. As many as 93 patients of various urinary disorder, have been operated in the camp. Breakup of various surgeries includes- Urologists have performed 28 surgeries of Prostate enlargement, 32 surgeries of stone in urethra, 3 surgeries of Gal Bladder stone, 3 surgeries of stone in Bladder, 3 surgeries of Hydrocele, One surgery of Hernia, 6 surgeries of Cystoscopy, Five surgeries of URS and 12 other surgeries of different diseases of Urinary disorders.

Dr Gopal Badlani performed 15 surgeries, 4 surgeries by Dr Amish Mehta, 13 surgeries by Dr CP Dewani, 19 by Dr Jitendra Amlani, Ten surgeries by Dr Darshan Shah, 8 each by Dr Dhruvi Kalsaria

and Dr Sameer Joshi, 2 Surgeries each by Dr Anurag Tyagi and Dr Vishal Jain, 9 surgeries by Dr Prashant Jain and 3 surgeries by Dr Jigen Shah. Radiologists Dr Deepak Jhangiani and Dr Teekam Gyanchandani performed sonographic investigations. Responsibility of Pre and Post Operative fitness was looked after by physicians Dr Naresh Himthani, Dr CP Dewani and Dr Sudhir Lokwani. The camp was sponsored by HongKong based Philanthropist Reeta and Kan Lakhani. Managing Trustee of SSEH LC Janiyani and Secretary of Jeev Sewa Sansthan Mahesh Dayaramani have expressed gratitude to the philanthropists.

The 94th Free Urology camp will be held from February 13, 2019. USA based eminent Urologist Dr Brandon Pomroy and his team will treat and perform surgeries of ailing patients.

Pithora art painting exhibition concludes at Hindi Bhavan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The Pithora art painting exhibition evoked a wonderful response by the art of lovers of the city. The exhibition concluded here on Wednesday at Hindi Bhavan.

The exhibition was all about colourful and beautiful Pithora art. As many as 200 paintings created by 200 participants of Pithora Art Workshop were put on display at Hindi Bhavan. It is to be noted that a five-day Pithora Art painting workshop was organized at Hindi Bhavan by expert Mahesh Nema.

The tribals live with their tradition and define it in their creativity. Pithora is a highly ritualistic painting done on the walls by several tribes such as the Rathwas and Bhilalas who live in the central Gujarat, in a village called Tejgadh. In several other villages around Tejgadh, Madhya Pradesh and

AS MANY AS 200 PAINTINGS CREATED BY 200 PARTICIPANTS OF PITHORA ART WORKSHOP WERE PUT ON DISPLAY AT HINDI BHAVAN

Chhota Udaipur district, lives a large population of these tribes where Pithora paintings are found on three inner walls of the house.

These paintings have significance in their lives and executing the Pithora paintings

in their homes brings peace, prosperity and happiness. What is even more interesting is that there is never an attempt to imitate nature. A horse or a bull, which might be a vision of a God, impresses him with only one central quality. This central quality is worked upon and given a form. It might be crude but it is this crudity that adds to the beauty of this painting.

All the paintings have distinctive features portraying the scenes, birds, animals and human faces on dark and vibrant colours. The paintings have brown or black base. The fine lines and geometrical figures painted in red, blue and white acrylic and oil colours make them look more appealing to the eyes.

The spectators could witness the traditional folk art of different tribes under one roof. The exhibition is like a treat for the artists as well as the art lovers.



Newly elected BJP MLA from Govindpura assembly constituency Krishna Gaur being greeted by her supporters at her residence (left) and Congress MLA from Bhopal South-West assembly constituency PC Sharma seeks blessings from his voters (right) in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo



Newly elected BJP MLA from Govindpura assembly constituency Krishna Gaur being greeted by her supporters at her residence (left) and Congress MLA from Bhopal South-West assembly constituency PC Sharma seeks blessings from his voters (right) in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

Police cyber crime cell nab 32-year-old

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Cyber crime cell of Madhya Pradesh police has nabbed a 32-year-old man on the charge of sending of obscene videos to women; accused who is priest and used to send obscene videos to women where he used to offer Pooja, said police.

The accused was social media addict and used to send obscene messages and videos to women using SIM cards issued in the name of other persons. Police said that one of the victim women of Sehore lodged complaint with the Cyber Cell

regarding receiving of porn video and messages.

The victim lodged a complaint with the Cyber Cell regarding the accused who used to send her obscene messages and videos from different mobile numbers. SP Cyber Cell Rajesh Bhadoria said that cyber crime has solved a case of Distorted Mentality and nabbed a miscreant from Sagar. The miscreant nabbed was identified as Jaishankar Katara of Sagar.

During the investigation the accused told the police that he used to watch porn and send obscene messages videos

to women.

Based on the complaint during the investigation it was found that the WhatsApp numbers were operated from Sagar and in the further investigation the accused was narrowed down in Kusum colony in Dewri. He was nabbed and it was found that accused work as priest and targeted women of the houses where he used to offer Pooja.

The accused is a final year student of Bachelor of Arts. Police have registered a case under sections 67 and 67A of the IT Act and sections 354 D and 509 of the IPC.

Free medical check-up camp organised

Bhopal: Under the aegis of BHEL's Corporate Social Responsibility, a Free Medical Health check-up and Medicine distribution camp was organised at village Jamunia Kalan near New By-Pass road, Bhopal. A team of doctors and nurses led by Dr Nutan Hemrom from Kasturba Hospital examined the villagers and offered free medicines. A total of 312 villagers along with students were given medical advice during the camp. In the camp villagers suffering from URI, Bronchitis, Anaemia, Dermatitis, etc underwent physical examination and received free medicines. On this occasion Anant Toppo AGM (TAD), SB Singh (TAD-Planning), Alok Verma DGM (TAD), Avinash Raj SR Executive (HR) and other officials of TAD were present. Staff Reporter

482 Indian fishermen languishing in Pak jails, 18 in SL: MEA

New Delhi: A total of 500 Indian fishermen are languishing in various jails of Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the Lok Sabha was told on Wednesday. Altogether 482 fishermen are languishing in Pakistani jails while 18 are in custody in Sri Lanka, Minister of State at the External Affairs Ministry VK Singh said in a written reply. However, he clarified that Pakistan has acknowledged custody of only 391 Indian fishermen. Singh also said as many as 174 Indian fishermen were released by Pakistan this year while 214 fishermen were set free by Sri Lanka. The Pakistan has also seized 1050 boats



while 10 boats are in Sri Lanka custody, he added. Pakistan and India regularly arrest each other's fishermen who inadvertently enter into their waters due to absence of any proper technology to confirm the coastline border between the two countries near Sir Creek in the Arabian Sea. **PTI**

Who goes to attend meeting with '300 bags'? ED on Mallya

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Who goes to attend a meeting with "300 bags", the Enforcement Directorate (ED) asked Vijay Mallya's lawyer in a special court here on Wednesday, countering the claim that the liquor baron had left India in March 2016 only to attend an event in Geneva and did not flee the country. Amit Desai, Mallya's lawyer, had on Tuesday told special judge for Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) cases M S Azmi that his client did not leave the country secretly as claimed by the ED. "There was no secret departure. He left the country to attend a planned meeting (of World Motor Sport in Geneva, Switzerland)," he had said. However, ED counsel DN Singh countered Desai's claim. "They don't have anything to show that he left India to

attend a meeting... Who goes to attend a meeting with 300 bags and huge cargo," he said. Singh made the submission while arguing before the court on the Central agency's plea to declare Mallya a "fugitive" under the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA). The beleaguered business had left India on March 2, 2016, and is now based in Britain. A court in London Monday ordered the extradition of Mallya, wanted in India for alleged financial irregularities. Responding to another claim of the defence, Singh said the application to declare the former MP a fugitive was filed before the court after all means to bring him back failed to yield any result. Despite issuance of summonses and three NBWs (non-bailable warrants), Mallya refused to join the probe against him, the ED lawyer said. The extradition process is

a proof enough that he is not willing to return, he said. "He is fighting not to come to India. Mallya claimed that he doesn't want to return as the case was 'politically motivated.' He complained the condition in the jail, where he is supposed to be kept, is bad. A video of prison was sent and UK court (which ordered his extradition) was satisfied with the same," he said. The ED counsel also countered Desai's claim that FEOA was "draconian". It is not a "draconian" law but just an act to bring back a person to India to join probe and face trial for offences listed under it, Singh said. Singh said Mallya's lawyers, during their arguments and replies in the court on the ED application, have not said anything about his return to India. "Neither during their reply or arguments they have said anything. Even now (after the extradition order) he has not



made any statement that when he is coming or how he is coming," the ED counsel added. Mallya, facing charges brought by the CBI and the ED, is wanted in India for alleged fraud and money laundering amounting to an estimated ₹9,000 crore.

UK Home Office gets receipt of Mallya's extradition order

London: The UK Home Office has confirmed the receipt of the Westminster Magistrates' Court verdict in favour of Vijay Mallya's extradition to India. After Chief Magistrate Judge Emma Arbuthnot ruled that the "flashy" liquor baron had a "case to answer" in the Indian courts on allegations of fraud and money laundering amounting to nearly ₹9,000 crore, the decision now lies with Home Secretary Sajid Javid to formally order the extradition. Javid, the senior-most British-Pakistani Minister in the UK Cabinet, has two months to make that decision but the extradition process itself would take longer if the entire appeals process is taken

into account. The UK Home Office said on Tuesday it has received the Westminster Magistrates' Court verdict for Mallya's extradition to India. "If after considering the case, the Home Secretary thinks extradition should go ahead he has to order the extradition within two months of the date the matter was referred to him," said a spokesperson for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), which argued on behalf of the Indian Government. "Whatever that decision, the losing side has up to 14 days within which to approach the High Court and seek leave to appeal," the spokesperson said. **PTI**

Yogi Adityanath attends symbolic wedding of Lord Ram in Nepal

Kathmandu: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday attended the symbolic wedding of Lord Ram with Sita and offered prayers at the famous Janaki temple in Nepal's historic Janakpur city. Adityanath, who arrived in Janakpur as head of the Indian delegation to participate in 'Vivah Panchami' celebrations, was welcomed by Chief Minister of Province 2 Mohammad Lalbabu Raut Gaddi at the airport. Janakpur is known as the birth place of Sita. A massive Janaki temple was built in memory of Sita in 1910. The three-storied structure made entirely of stone and marble is 50-metre high and spread over 4,860 sq feet. Adityanath went straight to the Janaki temple from the airport. He offered prayers and circumambulated the temple. Janakpur city was decorated with colourful lights, paper flags and banners. Flowers were showered from helicopter while Adityanath was offering prayer at the temple. In the afternoon, he participated in Ram-Sita 'Swayamvar' and wedding ceremony at famous Rangabhoomi in Barah Bigha ground.

ISRO to launch communication satellite, GSAT-7A on Dec 19

PTI ■ BENGALURU

India will launch its latest communication satellite, GSAT-7A from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota onboard the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle GSLV-F11 on December 19, Indian Space Research Organisation said on Wednesday. The 2,250 kg GSAT-7A is the 35th Indian Communication satellite built by ISRO. It is configured on ISRO's standard I-2000 Kg (I-2K) Bus, the space agency said. The satellite with a mission life of eight years is built to provide communication capability to the users in Ku-band over the Indian region, the ISRO added. Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), in its 13th flight, will inject GSAT-7A into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO). The satellite will be placed in its final Geostationary Orbit (GEO) using the onboard propulsion system, ISRO said, adding GSAT-7A will take a few days after separation from the launcher to reach its orbital slot. GSLV-F11 is ISRO's fourth generation launch vehicle with three stages. The four liquid strap-ons and a solid rocket motor at the core form the first stage of the launch vehicle, while the second stage is equipped with high



Indian Space Research Organisation's latest communication satellite GSAT-7A set to be launched on-board GSLV-F11 on December 19, from the spaceport of Sriharikota, on Wednesday **PTI**

India bats for taking IPCC report into account in climate negotiations

Katowice: India along with three other nations on Wednesday said the UN scientific report — blocked by several countries, including the US, Saudi Arabia, Russia and Kuwait in the ongoing climate conference here — should be taken into account in the climate negotiations. The BASIC group of nations comprising Brazil, South Africa, India and China made their stand clear on the UN report on limiting global warming to 1.5 deg C (2.7 deg F) above pre-industrial levels at a joint-press conference held on the sidelines of the UN climate talks here. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report recommended "unprecedented" action to keep global warming to 1.5 deg C but the four fossil fuel producing countries led by the US refused to embrace the study, hindering negotiations at the conference. "The (BASIC) group believes that the report is very important. It needs to be taken into account and we need to move forward on that," said AK Mehta, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, who is leading the Indian delegation at the UN climate conference. **PTI**

'Disillusioned' General JJ Singh resigns from SAD

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

ASAD is facing, its prominent leader and former Army Chief General JJ Singh (retired) on Wednesday resigned from the party citing personal reasons but adding "disillusionment" with the party leadership. General JJ Singh, also the president of the SAD ex-servicemen wing, had written to the SAD president Sukhbir Badal to inform him about the decision. "I wish to inform you with a heavy heart that I have resigned from the Shiromani Akali Dal and from the position of president of Shiromani Akali Dal ex-servicemen wing with immediate effect due to personal reasons," Singh stated in his letter. Former Army chief's entry to SAD was his first political stint. Even as General JJ Singh has not come out in open to talk about his decision and his future



I wish to inform you with a heavy heart that I have resigned from the Shiromani Akali Dal and from the position of president of Shiromani Akali Dal ex-servicemen wing with immediate effect due to personal reasons, Singh stated in his letter. course of action, it has been learnt that he was unhappy with the functioning of the party, and inaccessibility of its leadership. Sources in informed that General JJ Singh was not happy with the way things were taking shape in the Akali Dal. "Being an Army man, he was doing his bit to contribute in the party. He was the head of ex-servicemen wing and he wanted to expend its base down to the grassroots level. But, it seems thing could not work out," said a senior SAD leader. General JJ Singh has been keeping his cards close to his chest regarding his future in politics.

Govt: No formal invitation was sent to US Prez to visit India in Jan

In October, a White House official said Trump was unable to participate as Chief Guest of India's Republic Day celebrations in January due to scheduling constraints **PTI ■ NEW DELHI** The Government on Wednesday said no formal invitation was sent to US President Donald Trump to visit India in January. Minister of State for External Affairs VK Singh stated this while replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on whether the Government invited the US President to visit India in January. In October, a White House official said Trump was unable to participate as Chief Guest of India's Republic Day celebrations in January due to scheduling constraints. "The India-US joint statement issued on June 27, 2017 states, 'President Trump gladly accepted Prime Minister Modi's invitation to visit India.' No formal invitation has been sent to the US President to visit India in January 2019," Singh said in the written reply. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had invited Trump to visit India during their talks in Washington in June 2017.

BSP, SP change tack, offer support to Cong in Raj, MP

VIRENDRA NATH BHATT ■ LUCKNOW

After taking on the Congress in the just-concluded Assembly polls, the BSP and the Samajwadi Party have offered to support the grand old party in the Government formation in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. The gesture is seen as a major development towards stitching a mahagathbandhan in Uttar Pradesh against the BJP. Nearly three decades after the emergence of caste-based identity politics in Uttar Pradesh and the gradual rise of the SP and the BSP that led to the decimation of the Congress in UP, the success of the Congress in the three States of Hindi hinterland threatens to unsettle the poll arithmetic of both regional parties in UP. Before the Assembly polls in MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh,



both parties had claimed they are not interested in accommodating the Congress in the grand alliance in UP for the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. Besides the SP and the BSP, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the Nishad Party and the Peace Party are the other constituents of the alliance. The SP had offered only two

seats — Amethi and Rae Bareilly — to the Congress. Both regional parties had adopted strident postures against the Congress. The BSP even forged an alliance with former Chhattisgarh CM Ajit Jogi's Janata Congress and contested the recent poll. Even as lofty claims were being made about the emergence of anti-BJP grand alliance in UP, the two caste-based regional parties were keen on protecting their respective core voters and particularly Muslim vote bank. The two parties which had become used to dictating terms to the Congress in UP for fighting communal forces' share a chequered history of the ties with the Congress. But with radical change in the Congress poll fortunes, both SP and BSP have extended

unsolicited support to the Congress in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. They are now preparing for working out a seat-sharing formula with the resurgent grand old party. SP chief Akhilesh tweeted about his decision to support the Congress in MP only after Mayawati addressed the media in New Delhi on Wednesday and announced her party's support to the resurgent party. The SP has got one seat in Madhya Pradesh while the BSP bagged two seats in MP and six seats in Rajasthan. In 1996 UP Assembly poll, Congress and BSP fought in alliance where the Congress won over 40 seats. In the following elections, the BSP refused alliance with any party saying its votes were transferred to the electoral partner while it never got the vote of the ally. Meanwhile on Monday Akhilesh Yadav said, "We welcome the mandate. We didn't perform well but we would like to thank the public of Madhya Pradesh for supporting us. We have decided to support Congress in MP. The BJP has spread hatred and deceived the public. They will be given a befitting reply by the people in 2019 Lok Sabha poll." Asking the Congress to fulfil the promises made to the people of Madhya Pradesh and other States, Akhilesh said the farmers' loan waiver announced by the Congress should be implemented. "The alliance in Madhya Pradesh is an old matter and now everyone is looking towards the coming Lok Sabha polls where a united Opposition would give a befitting reply to the BJP," he said.

Industrial growth 11 months high, inflation slumps to 17-month low

New Delhi: India's industrial output grew at an 11-month high of 8.1 per cent in October mainly on the back of mining, power and manufacturing sectors coupled with higher off-take of capital as well as consumer durable goods. At the same time, retail inflation plunged to a 17-month low in November at 2.33 per cent, mainly on account of decline in prices of kitchen essentials like vegetables, eggs and pulses. Industrial production measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 1.8 per cent in October last year, as per official data released by the CSO. **PTI**

BJP performed better than prediction: Tiwari

STATE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS **STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI** Reacting to the results of Assembly Elections in five States, Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party chief Manoj Tiwari said the results clearly show that the election surveys proved to be wrong and BJP performed better than the predictions. Targeting Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Tiwari said that the AAP is very much enthusiastic about the results but it should remember that the people of Delhi had elected its 67 Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) in 2015 but in 2017 this party could not win even 67 wards whereas BJP has contested very well in these states even after ruling for 15 years. "AAP should take a lesson from these elections because all its candidates have forfeited their security deposits and have been rejected by the people. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is working for the expansion of his party in other states other than for the development in Delhi," Tiwari said.

Women must be treated with dignity at workplace: Delhi HC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI Women should be honoured and treated with dignity at workplace, the Delhi High Court said on Wednesday and observed that employers must be considerate and sympathetic towards a pregnant employee. The high court said the employer must realise the physical difficulties that a woman would face in performing her duties at the workplace while carrying a baby in her womb or looking after the child after birth. The court's observations came while directing the Delhi government to include a woman in the panel for guest teachers and utilise her services as and when required by any school

here, subject to her medical fitness. "Women who constitute almost half of the segment of our society have to be given due weightage and honoured and treated with dignity at places where they work to earn their livelihood. To become a mother is the most natural phenomena in the life of a woman," Justice Suresh Kait said. "Whatever is needed to facilitate the birth of child to a woman who is in service, the employer has to be considerate and sympathetic towards her and must realise the physical difficulties which a working woman would face in performing her duties at the workplace while carrying a baby in the womb or while looking after the child after birth," the court added.

Indifferent attitude towards public cost...

From Page 1 counting, another police officer, citing the similar reason, accepted that the police personnel voted against the BJP. However, going through the results of the elections, it was clear that the voters taught the leaders a lesson for their rude behavior, no matter whether the leaders belong to Congress or the BJP. Prominent faces, who lost elections due to this reason included Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly Ajay Singh, Deputy Speaker in the State assembly Rajendra Singh and 11 Ministers including Revenue Minister Umashankar Gupta. It was a clear message in the air that Gupta has not been cordial with the people and never worked for the people of his constituency, South-West Bhopal. On the contrary, Congress candidate PC Sharma was considered close to the public, because he used to visit anybody, who approached him in problems. The victory of PC Sharma is considered a major one, because he always demanded Congress ticket from Bhopal Madhya (Central) constituency, but he was fielded from South-West, which did not have his committed vote bank. It has been quite fateful that Leader of the Opposition, who had been thriving for past three terms for forming Congress' government in Madhya Pradesh, lost the election, when Congress is forming government.

Dalits, tribals drift...

From Page 1 In MP, there are 82 seats in reserved category. Of them, 35 are reserved for SCs while 47 for STs. The BJP recorded its worst performance in these constituencies, losing 25 of 82 reserved seats. The Congress gained 26 seats from these categories this year over 2013. The BJP won 13 seats, 15 down from the 28 it had won in 2013 and 25 in 2008. Congress this time made major gains in tribal-dominated Dhar, Jabua, Alirajpur, Barwani and Khargone districts. It wrested four constituencies from BJP in Dhar and wiped out BJP from Jabua and Alirajpur districts. The impressive show was repeated in Khargone and Barwani where it trumped BJP in eight constituencies. Obviously anti-incumbency went against the BJP in the

region. Congress wooed tribal voters — most of whom are indebted small land owners by focusing on new jobs and loan waiver. As per reports, many farmers stopped repaying loans soon after Congress president Rahul Gandhi announced plans to waive farm loans up to two lakh in 10 days after coming to power. There was strong sentiment against the BJP among tribals month before the polls were declared. Of 678 seats in MP, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram -- the Congress won 305 seats and the BJP has won 199 seats. The Congress won Chhattisgarh with 67 of 90 seats (from 39 in 2013) and Rajasthan by winning 99 of 199 (from 21 in 2013), MP went to the wire with the Congress on 114 (from 58 in 2013) and the BJP on 109 (from 165 in 2013).

8,7K traders under lens for ₹262 crore cyber-tax...

From page 1 According to the note issued by Delhi's VAT/GST Commissioner Rajesh Prasad, "During the verification of the payments made by the dealers, the system branch of the department found that some of the payments claimed to have been made through banking channel were received by the Government exchequer." The note stated that the system branch scrutinised the available records and necessary official letters were sent to some banks in order to verify the veracity of few credits of payments shown in the VAT and CST returns of some dealers. "In response to our letters, these banks have confirmed that the said payments have not been credited to the

Government exchequer," the note stated. During further scrutiny, it was noticed that the fraud was happening since September 30, 2013. The scam continued to happen during financial years 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, it reads. "It further noticed that during the period between September 30, 2013 and September 26, 2018, a total number of 8,758 dealers have been identified who made 31,027 transactions amounting to ₹262,62,73,327," the note said. As per the note, the preliminary scrutiny has revealed that the dealers involved have executed the scam as part of a criminal conspiracy in order to cheat and commit fraud to the Government exchequer.

Let CISF security man VIPs: House panel

ASKS CENTRE TO RELIEVE BORDER GUARDING PARAMILITARY FORCES FROM THE DUTY

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

A parliamentary panel has advised the Centre to expedite hand over VIP security duties to the Special Security Group (SSG) of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and relieve border guarding paramilitary forces like ITBP and BSF as also CRPF of personal protection roles.

"The committee takes note of the (Home) Ministry's plan to progressively assign security of all VIP protectees, apart

from high risk protectees, to the SSG. The committee recommends that the ministry should implement this plan at the earliest and put an end to the issue of multiple forces being assigned the task of VIP security," the panel noted in its report tabled before the Parliament on Wednesday.

The CRPF provides security cover to 76 VIPs including BJP president Amit Shah and former Bihar CM Lalu Prasad Yadav. ITBP protects 18 high profile persons including judges of the Supreme Court and politicians from Jammu and Kashmir. The ITBP that is the border guarding force for Indo-China frontier has been engaged in VVIP security deployment since early nineties. The National Security Guard (NSG) protects 15 VIPs,

including Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh.

The counter-terror force NSG has urged the Home Ministry to relieve it from VIP security duties. VIP protection assignments often hit the core operational roles of the paramilitary forces. It also affects their reserve component of the forces leading to the lack of leave to the jawans. The CRPF has deployed as many as six battalions (6,000 personnel) of CRPF are engaged in VIP security duty which adversely affects the reserve factor of the force. Under reserve category, the personnel are engaged in training and such postings are given after hard postings.

Personal protection of the VIPs is provided in four categories that include Z-plus (38 guards), Z (24 guards), Y (11

guards) and X (2 guards). VIP security entails an annual expenditure of Rs 390 crore, officials said.

Following the Kargil misadventure, a Group of Ministers had in 2002 recommended the designation of CISF for VIP security duties and also advised that one force will guard one border but that has also been tinkered with and the border guarding paramilitary forces are engaged in anti-Naxal deployments and counter insurgency roles.

The home ministry provides security cover on the basis of threat assessment to some individuals on the basis of inputs of the Intelligence Bureau. The assessment is subject to periodic review based on which it is continued/withdrawn/downgraded/upgraded.

Akbar, Tejpal suspended from Editors Guild

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Editors Guild of India on Wednesday suspended the memberships of former Union minister MJ Akbar and ex-Tehelka editor-in-chief Tarun Tejpal over allegations of sexual misconduct.

The Guild had sought the views of its Executive Committee (EC) on what action should be taken against Akbar, a dormant member at present and one of its past presidents, Tejpal and senior journalist Gautam Adhikari "in light of sexual misconduct allegations levelled against them",



a statement said. A majority of the EC members suggested that Akbar and Tejpal's memberships be suspended. Office-bearers of the Guild discussed the EC's comments and concurred with the view that Akbar and Tejpal should be suspended from the Guild, it said. The Guild decided it would seek Adhikari's response before deciding on his membership.

INSHORT

CBI BOOKS FORMER HEAD OTHERS OF SAINIK SCHOOL

New Delhi: The CBI has booked the then principal Col Nabarun Roy, vice principal Sanjay Kumar and administrative officer Lt Col Shishir Kumar along with teachers Dhananjay Kumar and Manoranjan Patthak besides officer superintendent VK Trivedi of prestigious Sainik School, Talaiya for alleged leak of All India Sainik School Examination 2018 question papers.

SC ASKS JUDGE WHETHER HE SHARED REPORT

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Wednesday asked former apex court judge JS Bedi, who chaired a committee monitoring the probe into the Gujarat fake encounter cases, whether he had shared his final report with other members of the panel.

CHARGESHEET READY: CBI INFORMS APEX COURT

New Delhi: The CBI Wednesday informed the Supreme Court that chargesheet in the Muzaffarpur shelter home sexual abuse case was ready but the agency was discussing whether to file a consolidated final report or have a separate one on each victim.

SPORTS BIGGEST GIFT TO SOCIETY: HRD MIN

New Delhi: Sports and art are one of the biggest contributions of human beings to society and nurturing students in these areas right from the beginning should be the focus of schools, Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar said Wednesday while addressing the gathering at the inaugural session of "Kala Utsav" at Bal Bhavan here.

DEFENCE MIN TO MEET RUSSIAN COUNTERPART

New Delhi: Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will meet her Russian counterpart Sergei Shoigu on Thursday during which they will discuss ways to strengthen defence ties between the two nations, officials said.

SC COMMUTES DEATH PENALTY TO LIFE TERM

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday commuted to life imprisonment the death penalty awarded to a man for hacking to death six members of a family in Kerala in 2001.

INDIGO MOVES SC, CHALLENGES HC VERDICT

New Delhi: Indigo airlines on Wednesday moved the Supreme Court challenging the Meghalaya High Court direction to all commercial operators and the Ministry of Civil Aviation to urgently take a decision to start flights from Umroi airport, 30 km from capital Shillong.

SC asks forensic auditors to examine trail of homebuyers' ₹3K cr diverted by Amrapali

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked forensic auditors to examine the trail of around ₹3,000 crore, the homebuyers' money allegedly spent by the Amrapali Group on buying shares of its sister companies and asset creation.

Amrapali Group CMD Anil Sharma, directors Shiv Priya and Ajay Kumar returned to the court a total amount of ₹1.55 crore of home buyers money "lying" with them.

The top court grilled several accountants of the group as to how they have prepared the accounts statements which were submitted in the court and on what basis they created the accounts this year for financial years 2015-16, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

It directed the forensic auditors to ascertain the numbers of flats which were 'benami' property, doubly booked or booked on a nominal value by Amrapali Group.

A bench of Justices Arun Mishra and U U Lalit directed Debt Recovery Tribunal, Delhi to conduct the valuation of Amrapali's five-star hotel Tech Park in Greater Noida and sell it by January end.

It also questioned Sharma about the sub-leases granted to the family members of Amrapali directors and where the Rs 3,000 crore of home-buyers' money has gone.

The bench after failing to get a satisfactory reply asked the two forensic auditors Pawan Kumar Aggarwal and Ravi Bhatia to examine the trail of around ₹3000 crore.

"More than ₹2,990 crores were taken out from nine companies of Amrapali Group in the name of assets creation and purchase of shares of sister companies. You should examine the trail of the money as to how and where did it go, and the assets created by the fund," the bench told the forensic auditors.

The court asked the company to file the details of the assets it created with ₹2,990 crore and the board resolutions which allowed ₹1,100 crore to be spent for purchasing share capital.

It directed the forensic auditors to also examine whether any siphoning of funds was done by granting sub-leases or any favours were doled out in such transactions.

The top court noted that pursuant to its last order in which one last window was given to the directors and other officials of the company to return home buyers money, Sharma and two directors Shiv Priya and Ajay Kumar returned ₹1.25 crore, Rs 20 lakh and ₹10 lakh respectively.

The court sought an affidavit from Sharma and the two directors to declare that they do not have any more money of home buyers lying with them.

India to hike public health spending to 2.5% of GDP: PM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

By 2025, India's public health spending will be 2.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), up from the present 1.15 per cent with women, children and the youth at the heart of every policy, programme and initiative of the Government.

Stating this at the 2018 Partners' Forum here, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said high out-of-pocket expenditure incurred by families to avail medical care in India worried his Government and to address the issue, it launched the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, which has a two-fold strategy.

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana provides cashless health insurance cover up to ₹5 lakh per family per year, covering 500 million poor citizens.

"This number is almost equal to the population of Canada, Mexico and the US taken together. We have already provided free treatment worth ₹700 crore to 5 lakh families under this scheme within 10 weeks of its launch," Modi said.

The other arm of Ayushman Bharat, Modi said, is the provision of providing comprehensive primary care at a facility near the community, for which the Centre will start 1.5 lakh health and wellness centres by 2022.

The community will also be able to receive free screening and care for common dis-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Health Minister JP Nadda and global representatives releases a coffee-table book during the inauguration of the 4th Partners' Forum 2018, a global meet on infant and maternal health in New Delhi on Wednesday

eases including hyper-tension, diabetes and three common cancers — of breast, cervix and oral. The patients will receive free medicines and diagnostic support close to their homes, he said.

At the event, Modi said the government is set to increase its spending on public health to 2.5 per cent of the GDP.

"This will mean an actual increase of 345 per cent over the current share, in just eight years. We will continue to work for the betterment of people. Women, children and youth will continue to remain at the heart of every policy, programme or initiative," he said.

Modi informed that India's immunization programme, "Mission Indradhanush", will be featured as a success story, among 12 others from all over the world, in the two-day forum.

Under the "Mission Indradhanush", he said the government reached 32.8 million children and 8.4 million pregnant women over the last three years while the number of vaccines has been increased from 7 to 12.

He said India's story was one of "hope. Hope that roadblocks can be overcome. Hope that behavioural change can be ensured. Hope that rapid

progress can be achieved". The PM said that India was one of the first countries, to advocate focused attention on adolescence and implement an extensive health promotion and prevention programme for adolescents.

Modi said when his government assumed office in 2014, "India was losing more than 44,000 mothers". The Centre then launched the "Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan", as part of which doctors pledged one day of service per month to this campaign and 16 million antenatal care check-ups were performed.

Modi said that to deal with the issue of malnutrition among children, the government has launched "POSHAN Abhiyan" and is also implementing "Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram", which has provided 800 million health screening check-ups and free referral treatment to 20 million children in the last four years. He also talked about small deposit savings scheme for girls called 'Sukanya Samridhi Yojana' and the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana which is expected to benefit more than 50 million pregnant women and lactating mothers.

Opp stalls both Houses, Parliament adjourned

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Parliament on Wednesday was adjourned without transacting much business after the Opposition stalled proceedings in both the Houses on a variety of issues including Rafale jet deal, Ram temple and Cauvery river water. However, the Rajya Sabha managed to pass the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (Amendment) Bill amidst the din.

It was the second consecutive day when Parliament was adjourned after the winter session commenced on Tuesday. On the first day, both Houses were adjourned after paying homage to former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and union minister Ananth Kumar.

On Wednesday, the Lok Sabha was adjourned for the day just after noon following protests by opposition members on various issues including the Rafale deal, construction of Ram Temple and Cauvery river water.

Immediately after the House was reconvened at noon, Congress, Shiv Sena, TDP and AIADMK members trooped into the well with placards and started shouting slogans in support of their demands.

Similar scenes were earlier witnessed when Question Hour began after obituary references to former MPs.

Congress members were demanding a probe by a Joint Parliamentary Committee into the alleged corruption in the Rafale aircraft deal while Shiv Sena MPs staged protests demanding immediate construction of the Ram temple in

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Ayodhya. Members belonging to the AIADMK raised slogans demanding justice for Tamil Nadu farmers living along the Cauvery delta and TDP members demanded a railway zone at Vishkapatnam. Speaker Sumitra Mahajan tried to pacify members and finally adjourned the House for the day.

The Upper House was adjourned twice in the pre-lunch period and for the day around 2.15 pm as the two main political parties of Tamil Nadu -- the AIADMK and DMK -- staged protests on the Cauvery river issue. In fact, the AIADMK made its intentions clear right in the beginning after the proceedings began in the morning. The agitated members trooped into the well carrying placards reading "protect the lives of Cauvery Delta farmers."

Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu tried to pacify the members and first adjourned till noon at 11.10 am and then again till 2 PM soon after the Question Hour started at 12 pm. Earlier, Naidu said notices were received from several parties for discussion on issues

of urgent importance. Though he had not allowed the issues to be raised under Rule 267 (suspension of business to take up a matter), all issues would be taken up for discussion, Naidu assured members.

As the two parties continued to protest, Naidu said only on Tuesday people in some states have shown their "confidence in democracy" and asked members to respect sentiments of the people.

Protests continued when the House met again at 2.00 PM. Amid noisy scenes, The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 2018 was passed. The proposed amendments entail fixing the term of the Chairperson of the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism and other Disabilities.

Moving the bill for consideration and passage, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot said a Chairperson could not be appointed even after several attempts since 2012 as a suitable candidate meeting the stringent selection criteria could not be found. Gehlot said the amendments will ease the procedure related to appointment of a Chairperson

"Opposition parties, including Trinamool, keen to discuss all issues in #Parliament We want Parliament to run and hold this Govt accountable. However, BJP fielding its 'ally' from TamilNadu to disrupt proceedings," tweeted Derek O' Brien, Trinamool Congress' Parliamentary Party leader in the Rajya Sabha with a hashtag 'MatchFixing' peeved over the adjournments.

SC extends time for filing claims for inclusion in NRC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday extended to December 31 the deadline for filing claims and objections for inclusion of names in the National Register of Citizens for Assam by those who have been left out in the draft NRC.

The draft NRC was published on July 30 in which names of 2.89 crore of the 3.29 crore people were included. The names of 40,70,707 people did not figure in the list. Of these, 37,59,630 names have been rejected and the remaining 2,48,077 are on hold.

A special bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice R F Nariman considered the plea of Assam government that the deadline of December 15, fixed for filing claims and objections by those left out in the draft NRC, be extended by till January 15 next year.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Assam government, said that out of 40.70 lakh left out persons, so far 14.28 lakh persons have filed the claims and objections with the authorities for inclusion in the NRC.

There has been surge in such applications in last few weeks and hence, the deadline be extended by one more month, he said.

The apex court, however, said that it would extend the deadline by another 15 days and now the left out persons can file their claims and objections till December 31.

POLL RESULTS

It's victory against BJP's negative politics: Sonia

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Booyed by the electoral gains of the party, UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday termed the Congress's win in three Hindi heartland States ruled by the BJP as a victory against the ruling party's negative politics.

"I am happy with 3-0 score line... It is a victory against BJP's negative politics," Sonia said talking to reporters outside Parliament after results to five state elections were declared.

This was her first reaction over the poll success and in over all also the first reaction to election results after she handed over the party reins to her son Rahul Gandhi last year. She had served as the longest serving chief of the grand old party for almost two decades and during the tenure she anchored two successive Congress UPA governments.

The Congress was edged out of Mizoram and didn't make an impact in Telangana despite a grand alliance with Chandrababu Naidu's TDP and other parties. But in the three politically-crucial BJP states, the Congress is set to form a government.

The Congress was a clear winner in Chhattisgarh state, and fell one seat short of a majority in Rajasthan and two in Madhya Pradesh. Both Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh had been ruled by the BJP for 15 years.

Haryana, Punjab DGPs to continue in office till Jan 31: Apex court

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Wednesday allowed the Director Generals of Police (DGPs) of Punjab and Haryana to continue in office till January 31.

The police chiefs -- Suresh Arora (Punjab) and B S Sandhu (Haryana) -- were due to retire on December 31.

The Punjab and Haryana governments moved the apex court recently, seeking modification of its earlier order directing the states to mandatorily take the assistance of the UPSC in shortlisting the names for appointing DGP.

The states had said they have enacted separate laws for the selection and appointment of police chiefs.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi said it will hear their pleas seeking modification of the January 8 order and allowed the current DGPs to continue in office till January 31.

The top court had on July 3 this year passed a slew of directions on police reforms in the country and chronicled the steps for appointment of regular DGPs.

It had said the states will have to send a list of senior police officers to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) at least three months prior to the retirement of the incumbent.

The commission will then prepare a panel and inform the states, which in turn will immediately appoint one of the persons from that list, the apex court had said.

15 breeds of livestock registered for better conservation of genes

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 15 new breeds of livestock and poultry have been registered in country with six of them of goat, three of buffalo, two of cattle and of a donkey giving them national recognition and paving way for their better conservation and preservation of their genes.

The breeds which have been registered are two cattle breeds - Ladakhi (Jammu and Kashmir) and Konkani Kapila (Maharashtra and Goa); three buffalo breeds - Luit (Assam and Manipur), Bargur (Tamil Nadu), Chhattisgarhi (Chhattisgarh); one sheep breed - Panchali (Gujarat); six goat breeds - Kahmi (Gujarat), Rohilkhandi (UP), Assam Hill (Assam & Meghalaya), Bidri (Karnataka), Nandidurga (Karnataka), Bhakarwali (Jammu and Kashmir); one pig breed - Ghurrah (UP); one donkey breed - Halari (Gujarat) and one chicken breed - Uttara (Uttarakhand).

According to Ministry of Agriculture, the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) has approved registration of record 15 new breeds of livestock and poultry this year alone taking the total to 40 during 2014-18. The NBAGR, the nodal agency of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), for registration of new breeds has recognized 55 breeds since 2010. Between 2010 and 2014, only 15 breeds were given national recognition.

Names of these breeds are derived either from the origin of their tract or due to their distinct features. Officials said that both the Halari donkey and Panchali sheep are named because their origins are traced in Halar region (Jamnagar district) and Panchal region

(Surendranagar) of Saurashtra. Kahmi is local name of the two-coloured goat.

Interestingly, Halari breed is the second donkey breed to be recognised in the country after Spiti - the donkey breed which is indigenous to Spiti valley region of Himachal Pradesh. Luit are found in some areas of Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland bordering Assam. Luit is a medium sized black coloured buffalo with compact body and strong built up. Forehead is broad with conical face and wide muzzle.

Kahmi goat is native to Saurashtra region of Gujarat. It Coat color is unique - neck and face are reddish brown while rear abdominal part is black, locally called Kahmi. Ears are long, tubular & coiled, locally called veludi. Wattles are present in majority of goat. These goats are used both for meat & milk.

According to Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh, these native breeds are renowned for heat tolerance, disease resistance and thriving on low input system. "The process of identification of animal breeds and their documentation is not only important in providing value to the ingenious animal breeds and introducing various development programs of the government for their improvement but also plays a special role in preserving the biodiversity of the country," Singh said.

Rajasthan has 26 registered indigenous breeds and is the top in the list, followed by Gujarat having 19 registered indigenous breeds and poultry. India has about 15 percent of total cattle, 57 percent of total buffalo, 17 percent of goat, 7 percent of sheep and 4.5 percent of chicken of the world.

New dilemma

The Congress has to now deal with its old coterie and be decisive about leadership issues



The Congress celebrations, now that everybody has labelled the Assembly results as the nose-in-the-ground anointment of its new chief Rahul Gandhi, need to simmer down and its top brass should get working on the troublesome issue of State leadership at hand. Should the party go with the old guard or prop up the new, if only to demonstrate that Rahul Gandhi is indeed capable of bringing the vigour of youth instead of relying on handed down logic? Besides, Gandhi has to dispel the myth that he would still love to be cushioned in princeling comforts and not be overshadowed by talented challengers. If he has to send out a message of a new-found sense of purpose and appeal to the younger demographic of voters, then he indeed has to accommodate his young leadership and peers in power positions. A clearer verdict would have no doubt given him the muscle but now that the Congress has slender margins of victory, it cannot afford to alienate the older and more importantly, the loyal watchguards of the organisation. Dissenters in the Congress are notorious for harming the party and in the two States could even shop in Opposition camps. Unlike the monolithic grassroots matrix of the BJP, the Congress votebank is harvested in pocket borough style by regional leaders. At this point, when the party needs to work on its organisational depth for 2019, it could hardly afford to crank up the senior leaders. In Rajasthan, a young Sachin Pilot worked the ground but was tasked with the superhuman feat of pulling up seat strength from 21 to 100 plus. And though he staked his strengths, he has yet to reach the over-arching and harmonising capabilities of the seniority and experience of an Ashok Gehlot. The Congress does need his expertise to keep the flock together. Though the two leaders chose to brief the press from their residence, it was the senior Gehlot who was pragmatic enough to call on his junior for the right optics.

In Madhya Pradesh, where the Congress is tipping on needle point, and where Jyotiraditya Scindia is an equal claimant to leadership, the experience of the old guard has to be banked upon. A strategist like Kamal Nath was needed to begin talks with post poll allies like Mayawati's Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the Samajwadi Party, Gondwana Gantantra Party and independents. The party needs 116 to form the Government. For Mayawati, it is a shot at relevance as she has realised that a pre-poll partnership would have worked far more for mutual benefit and that tricky territory needs delicacy and soft-treading of ego issues which the senior leaders are expectedly more adept at. One doesn't deny the imperatives but do the old warhorses have the maturity to be the *margdarshak* and give up the hot seat instead? The Congress has to deal with its coterie clout and seem to be decisive about leadership issues, give credence to the bottom-up approach rather than the one handed down by the high command.

Privacy pitfalls

Pichai appeared far more confident than Zuckerberg, but tech companies need to be regulated on privacy matters



Google Chief Executive, the Indian-born Sundar Pichai, appeared confident and answered quite succinctly all questions posed by United States Congressmen at a hearing. His hearing was not the media circus that the hearing of Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg was, because Pichai did not appear shifty or deflect questions the way Zuckerberg did. But that does not take away the persistent concerns that users and Governments have about the power of the American technology giants such as Amazon, Facebook and Google. And these companies have been lax in responding to these allegations, with hopes that they will pass through. So much so that Facebook sent a middling executive with little knowledge of the issues at hand to a multinational parliamentary hearing recently in London.

Far too many people have been bothered by the flippant way America's technology giants have treated privacy concerns, but the fact is that almost every technology company or service provider has been treating data irresponsibly. As some have commented that 'Data is the new Oil', the problem is that we are burning that oil irresponsibly and spilling it all over the place. The practice of deep packet inspection by some Indian telecom companies of their Internet traffic is disturbing as is the fact that Facebook and Google mine information from your phone calls and messages to suggest friends and new services to you. Even more worrying is the use of a phone microphone at all times to ostensibly listen for the name of their artificial intelligence driven assistant, something that is even being copied by car companies today in their latest models. Can this information be weaponised? Several Chinese handset manufacturers have become popular in India. Can they burrow through conversations and emails to compromise Indian democracy? Have the actions and inactions of Facebook already compromised elections? These are questions that we hope our smarter legislators can ask, but across the world, thanks in no small part to the power of these technology companies, populists with limited education and knowledge are being elected, which serves the interests of the technology companies to keep doing what they are doing with little or no regulation.

Indeed, it has been very disappointing that the Indian legislature has not done much to further the Supreme Court's landmark Right to Privacy judgement and gone after the technology majors for the way they use data from India and data of Indians. Not just the American tech giants, but Chinese handset operators, Indian telecom operators as well as companies that have started under the Digital India initiative, have to be questioned by our legislators in public hearings. Otherwise, we are just selling souls online.

Tango or foxtrot?

How the Congress' win in the three Hindi heartland States informs the dance of democracy and steps gingerly around the *mahagathbandhan*



ISHAN JOSHI

The very credible electoral success of the Congress in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan has justifiably given the Grand Old Party a spring in its collective step. But the thing is that this achievement, and it is a major one to come back virtually from the dead against multiple-term incumbents from a dominant ruling dispensation, has also caused some consternation among the bevy of regional political heavyweights arrayed against the BJP in their respective States who are crucial players in a putative Opposition grand alliance or *mahagathbandhan*. To use an analogy from the dance floor, it takes two to tango but when one partner breaks into a foxtrot the other tends to get breathless keeping pace.

Messrs K Chandrashekar Rao, Naveen Patnaik, Mamata Banerjee, MK Stalin, Mayawati, Akhilesh Yadav, Sharad Pawar, Deve Gowda, Arvind Kejriwal and, arguably, the BJP's perennially suspect ally Nitish Kumar would clearly prefer a non-BJP, non-Congress Federal Front which could control a substantial chunk of over 250 MPs that will be elected to the Lok Sabha from their respective States of operation as opposed to a UPA kind of arrangement with the Congress as *primus inter pares*. Even N Chandrababu Naidu, often compared to the late CPI-M general secretary HKS Surjeet who played the role of a good-faith mediator in setting up non-Congress non-BJP coalitions at the Centre in the 1990s for his current efforts at building Opposition unity, could easily be co-opted into this arrangement if and when push comes to shove.

Rahul Gandhi's perfectly valid comment during his Press conference on the evening of December 11 as the results of the Assembly polls came in, speaking of the 'resurgence' of the party he heads, has therefore been seized upon by those in the Opposition ranks with a deep vein of anti-Congressism running through them as evidence of the latent hegemonic ambitions of the Congress finding play. And that is the crux of the matter. Not because the AICC does not have an unalienable right to build its organisational strength, reposition aspects of its philosophy to stay in tune with an overarching sense of an Indic heritage and make a concerted effort to recover lost electoral ground over vast swathes of India, but because the political landscape today means these attempts will run into opposition not merely from the BJP, which is the other pan-India political party in the fray, but regional forces that militate in theory and practice against the unitary impulse of the Indian state.

The immediate task for the Congress is to assuage the apprehensions of the



regional parties to prevent anti-BJP forces from splintering in the run-up to 2019 while, in the medium term, rebuilding the party on the lines of the Pachmarhi resolution which senior party leaders understandably do not find it politic to mention in public these days. This is obviously not lost on the leaders of the putative Federal Front whose support base and ideological orientation precludes any adjustment with a Narendra Modi-Amit Shah controlled BJP but replace the duo, if you will, with a collective leadership of more moderate faces and all bets are off. After all, apart from the Congress and Communists, there is not a single regional party not counting the comparatively recently founded AAP and TRS, which has not, at some stage over past three decades, been a BJP ally.

So, what can the Congress do and how should it go about doing it? Well, back to the dance floor for answers. The first step: A close cinch in a slow dance is strongly recommended on the principle that one keeps one's friends close and enemies even closer; think BSP. The temptation to break into a waltz will be ever-present but needs to be resisted; remember what happened to the Congress in Uttar Pradesh in the 1990s when the late Narasimha Rao first tried it on with the late Kanshi Ram.

“ IF INDIA IS TO HEAD TOWARDS A TWO-PARTY/ALLIANCE SYSTEM, THERE IS NO BETTER TIME FOR IT TO COME TO FRUITION THAN IN 2019. WITH THE REGIONAL PARTIES ON EITHER SIDE STRONG ENOUGH TO COMMAND RESPECT AND DEMAND AUTONOMY FROM THE NATIONAL PARTY THEY ALIGN WITH, THE PROSPECTS OF SUCH A BIPOLAR POLITY LASTING AND TAKING ROOT ARE MUCH BRIGHTER THAN EVER BEFORE ”

The DMK and Kamal Hassan in Tamil Nadu ought also to be firmly in the close dance embrace. Ditto, the Nationalist Congress Party in Maharashtra and Janata Dal (Secular) in Karnataka.

Next, the Congress needs to jump generations and look at a breakdance where one can do one's own thing but in one's partner's vicinity who is probably more adept at it; and if the number is well-choreographed, it can give the illusion of both dancers being in sync. Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Trinamool Congress, and AAP all probably fall in this category.

The temptress' dance — and the phrase used here in a gender-neutral political sense obviously — is of the essence for the Congress to perfect for the likes of the Janata Dal (United) and possibly even the YSR Congress of Jaganmohan Reddy in Andhra Pradesh if the TDP number goes awry in those parts. Samajwadi Party, too, would perhaps need a bit of the old Vera of the Seven Veils treatment, as it were, in conceding a few seats to it in States other than Uttar Pradesh.

But it can't just be one happy-hippy beach party grind for the Grand Old Party if it is serious about reclaiming its position as the second pole of national politics, the BJP having firmly ensconced itself as the other despite the electoral setbacks in the Assembly polls.

In States where it is still the main Opposition to a ruling regional party and has some organisational heft albeit with the BJP breathing down its neck, the Congress may have to dump its potential dancing partners for the 2019 Lok Sabha poll even while maintaining surface camaraderie. The CPI-M in Kerala and Biju Janata Dal in Odisha are two such.

There will surely be some in the Congress and among those simpatico who will think of the above as a very cynical assessment of the political lay of the land as India heads into a General Election. They would be right. But they would be naïve to think that the regional parties that constitute the opposition to the BJP in many States will be working in anyone's interest but their own, as it's their right.

If India is, at long last, to head towards a two-party/alliance system, there is no better time for it to come to fruition than in 2019. Because with the regional parties on either side today strong enough to command respect and demand autonomy from the national party they align with, the prospects of such a bipolar polity lasting and taking root are much brighter than ever before. (The writer is a senior journalist, an independent media consultant and commentator on contemporary affairs)

SOUNDBITE

There has to be a free, fair, objective and frank discussion between the Government and RBI. All issues can be resolved through discussions.

RBI Governor —Shaktikanta Das



The friendship between India and Myanmar is not driven by short-term goals, but by a lasting quest for mutual peace and prosperity. Our destinies are inter-twined.

President —Ram Nath Kovind



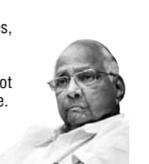
I have seen the worst and highest of times in the last few years but I just feel really fortunate for everything that I have gone through.

Actor —Katrina Kaif



BJP indulged in a vicious campaign in the five States, even making personal attacks on the Nehru-Gandhi family. This was not approved by the electorate.

NCP president —Sharad Pawar



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Securing throne

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Rahul's day dawns" (December 12). Congress president Rahul Gandhi must be congratulated for his party's performance, especially in the Hindi heartland States — Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan. He has proved that he can emerge as a leader. It is now largely felt that election victories to these States will help the grand old party emerge as a 'fighting force' against the BJP for the 2019 general elections. With the Congress rising to the occasion it is only clear that India will not be Opposition-mukt. All political parties must take lessons from these election results and prepare well for 2019.

M Ratan Via email

Welcome gesture

Sir — It is laudable that sinking all differences Bahujan Samaj Party supreme Mayawati has readily offered her party's support to the Congress to form a

Obsession with casteism

This refers to the article, "High cost of reservations" (December 12) by Prafull Goradia. It is an irony that a large section of the population continues to identify itself on the basis of caste. This is the very reason why caste credential forms the very basis of the Indian election process. Right from the Lok Sabha poll to panchayat elections, candidates are offered tickets after a careful analysis of the demographic picture of the concerned constituency is done. Even poll promises and sops bear shrewd caste angles. Will casteism ever get uprooted if in the name of caste such muscle-flexing is entertained? When a large section of the population has been delivered the taste of gaining entry into a particular sector based on caste, they would never give up this unfair practice that they enjoy over their meritorious counterparts.

It is, therefore, unlikely that reservations can be abolished abruptly or even in a phased manner. Our lawmakers,



Kajal Chatterjee Kolkata

who enjoy the fruits of electoral dividend by playing on caste factors, would continue bringing more such groups under the ambit of reservation. Unless our leaders and the electorate rise above petty barriers, casteism and reservation will continue to gain more strength in this supposedly united country.

Unpredictable results

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Rahul's day dawns" (December 12). The much-hyped *achhe din* seem to have come for the Congress even as all exit polls predicted that the grand old party would have an edge over the BJP in the five States that recently went to polls.

The Congress' coming out with flying colours in these Assembly elections has justified that its president Rahul Gandhi suits well as prime contender to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Rahul Gandhi deserves to be at the helm of the proposed grand alliance — the *mahagathbandhan* of non-BJP parties — that aims to take on the BJP-led NDA in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

Political pundits have opined that results to the Assembly elections were the semi-finals for 2019 that set the tone and tenor for the crucial parliamentary election. Looks like the grand finale will be played between the UPA and the NDA teams. However, politics is said to be a game of surprises. It can take bizarre twists and turns. Therefore, we must wait. There's long way to go.

Azhar A Khan Rampur

Don't be mistaken

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Rahul's day dawns" (December 12). Certainly, the Congress has reasons to cheer but the present wins cannot be considered as 'victory'. And if the party believes so, it is deluded. For, the election results have come out as a result of people's anger against the ruling BJP. They are not a reflection of love for or confidence in the Congress.

Radha Subramanian Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Ramblings in winter

It is not just the chill but the chilling future that must send down shivers



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

If autumn, pace Keats, is a season of "mist and mellow fruitfulness", winter, some say, is one of discontent. One would perhaps not be presuming too much if one believes that they have perjured their description from either or both works of literature that are widely known. The English types must have taken it from the Bard of Avon, William Shakespeare's play *Richard III*, which contains the line, "Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious by the sun of York." Of course, the reference was not to the Yorkshire weather, which is not celebrated for its sunshine, but the House of York, one of the dynasties fighting the House of Lancaster in the Wars of the Roses which wracked England from 1455 to 1485 (according to some historians 1487).

It does not take a great leap of imagination to realise that all that intermittent, but terrible, blood-letting was for England's crown, which the Yorkists and the Lancastrians fought under the symbols of the white and rose respectively. At the end of it, the prize went to Henry Tudor, who became king under the name of Henry VII.

All this was a long time ago. But Shakespeare is an eternal literary eminence and the source perhaps of the majority of literary quotes in English that make the rounds even now. The one cited has had a second coming in the form of the title of Nobel Laureate (literature) John Steinbeck's last novel, *The Winter of Our Discontent*, published in 1961, which, I believe is the secondary source of the description. Though not a towering, perennial icon like Shakespeare, Steinbeck was a literary stalwart of his time known for novels like *The Grapes of Wrath* and *East of Eden*.

That, however, is another matter. An important reason why the description has come to stay is that winter brings, in some parts, bone-chilling cold that sends shivers down to the extremities even when one is swaddled in warm clothes. No wonder the Bard associated the season with rough weather and wrote in *As You Like It*, "Under the greenwood tree/Who loves to lie with me, / And turn his merry note/ Unto the sweet bird's throat, /Come hither, come hither, come hither:/ Here shall he see/ No enemy/ But winter and rough weather."

The perennially contended who scan sentences and paragraphs for their most uncharitable interpretation, might claim that the stanza's underlying idea is that winter and rough weather are our enemies. While one cannot rule that out, I would rather believe that this would be stretching matters a bit too far and what we are really witnessing is no more than yet another example of poetic hyperbole.

That this is so would become clear if one looks at the next stanza:

"Who doth ambition shun/ And loves to live i' the sun, / Seeking the food he eats, / And pleased with what he gets, / Come hither, come hither, come hither:/ Here shall he see/ No enemy/ But winter and rough weather."

There is here no trace of anger and rancor that one associates with enmity. Instead one finds an invitation to an idyllic existence in the enchanted Forest of Arden, which, in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, transforms every person who arrives, making him or her mellow and relaxed through contact with nature. In fact, the focus is on the charms of such a life and the reference to winter and rough weather as the only enemies one would have to face there, is purely incidental.

Life like the one in Arden, with its simplicity and relaxed pace, doubtless has its charms for many, particularly those long in city pent. Advance of civilisation, however, is constantly expanding the web of demands for essentials, comforts, luxuries and entertainment, arising from production for commerce. It is a web from which it is most difficult for the trapped to extract themselves, particularly in the current age with the growing incidence of psychic manipulation through advertising, the cutting edge of market economy and culture.

The web is increasingly drawing humankind into a pattern of existence that is as bland and pleasurable as it is artificial. Even now, people remain, as Desmond Morris has shown in *The Naked Ape*, members of a hunting tribe in their defining character orientation. This is the way they first emerged and survived on earth and this is the way in which they had lived for hundreds and thousands of years before urban civilisation began taking giant strides in time. Palliatives like creating social, economic, cultural and political groups that resemble tribes, have not helped much. A life in an unnatural and claustrophobic environment makes homo sapiens fractious and irritable, sometimes setting off sub-conscious accumulation of resentment in explosions of individual and mass violence.

The winter of our discontent, therefore, arises, at the societal plane, from discontent over our existence. The latter needs to be addressed seriously, which, unfortunately, does not seem to be happening.

(The writer is Consultant Editor, The Pioneer, and an author)

POINT COUNTERPOINT

CAPT AMARINDER SHOULD REFRAIN FROM DOING OR SAYING ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BECOME A PRETEXT FOR BLOCKING THE KARTARPUR SAHIB CORRIDOR.
 —SAD PATRIARCH
 PARKASH SINGH BADAL



BADAL'S STATEMENT IS IN LINE WITH HIS APPROACH OF EXPLOITING RELIGIOUS ISSUES TO FURTHER HIS POLITICAL INTERESTS.
 —PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER
 AMARINDER SINGH

Enjoyment not for business

The capitalist market economy is investing in generating suspicion and addiction through the social network that seems to be a profitable business of human emotion



MOHIT KUMAR

Slavoj Žižek in a film argues that "in postmodern society, we are obliged to enjoy. Enjoyment becomes a kind of wired perverted duty." These lines point to the existence of new means of profit in human emotions invented by the prevailing capitalist economic structure. Capitalism in its course has developed more effective and violent means of controlling human emotions through Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and many more. It is pertinent to any individual attempting to understand contemporary times to know how social networking sites, like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, have fashioned and internalised new rules of enjoyment.

It is relevant to ask ourselves a few questions: Do these new mediums of expression actually address the question of human liberation or simply re-structure our very understanding of liberation?

The systematic deployment of new rules of morality or immorality, good or evil, and right and wrong has given enough reason to its user to believe that the discovery of Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp has been a great source of entertainment and symbol of a blissful life. It seems as if these social networks of entertainment have empowered them by providing absolute charge to its user on control of its handling that seems to be a spectacular phenomenon. Though the user has a monopoly on the use of social network account in the sense that they can write and post whatever they feel, these domains have also constrained or more importantly violated individuals in several manners.

The social networks have encroached into the personal domain of an individual's secrecy as WhatsApp and Facebook give its user an option to know whether a person is online or when s/he was last seen. This created a new addiction among its user for its use to judge the action, reaction, trust and loyalty of others.

Behind the screen, one plays the role of a detective to watch over the behaviour of their loved ones. It created a kind of suspicion which resulted in animosity and secret revenge that oblige its user to use it not for the communicative purpose but as a mean of surveillance. They start playing the role of a watchman carefully watching the suspicious activities of a concerned person on these platforms.

The complex system of these social networks designed its feature in such a way that suspicion gets



internalised as a factor that dominates the activities of its users. It is important to know that suspicion and addiction go hand-in-hand. The capitalist market economy is investing in producing suspicion and addiction through the social network that seems to be a profitable business of human emotion.

Another hidden rule that needs critical reflection is how social networks have imposed new understanding of enjoyment. It means we have reached a stage where we have confirmed certain ways of enjoyment which define whether we are enjoying or not. If one is not part of the confirmed scheme of enjoyment, s/he is not performing his moral duty. Scientifically and psychologically, sense of enjoyment is associated with the mood of an individual. It is interesting to note that enjoyment becomes kind of a burden because mood does not have an independent identity. It has to function in relation with the social factors eg morality, good, bad and evil.

If we study history carefully then we will find that the process of defining, inventing and forming morality, good and evil, is undemocratic because few were assigned this task. If it is so, how can something that comes out of an undemocratic process be democratic?

But it does happen because all those who are not given a share in defining enjoyment are made to believe that the list of enjoyment keeps

“
 THE NEED OF THE HOUR IS TO EXAMINE THE UNEXAMINED RULES OF ENJOYMENT, TO CHALLENGE THE PRODUCERS OF ENJOYMENT DISCOURSE WHO HAVE PLAYED AN AUTHORITARIAN ROLE IN GIVING MEANING TO OUR EMOTIONS WITHOUT OUR CONSENT. WE NEED TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE INDIVIDUALITY OF ENJOYMENT TO MAKE IT WORTHY
 ”

a good care of all and it is in common interest. The maker and the giver of enjoyment ask the taker of enjoyment not for their opinion but their conformity and through their conformity, they make enjoyment as a part of their duty and not of their right.

The sense of enjoyment shifts from the self to the others. Here, I mean we need others to make ourselves believe that we are happy. In post-modern society, we have become the seller of enjoyment. The interesting psychological fact about the seller is that s/he never consumes or relishes little of what he/she produces or sells. It is because of the burden or duty of selling that we compromise our basic and natural instinct of enjoyment.

Friedrich Nietzsche, in his work "Thus Spoke Zarathustra", argued that "ever since there have been humans, the human being has enjoyed himself too little: that alone, my friend is our original sin." I think that this statement is relevant to the present context of post-modern society. Now the question arises: Where do we sell or buy our enjoyment? Today, we have created several means or networks where we can buy and sell enjoyment eg Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and WhatsApp.

It is interesting to note that we are no longer free to enjoy but we are forced or obliged to enjoy. We check our Facebook and Twitter account to get some enjoyment. The desire of enjoyment is very natural to us and

there is nothing wrong to have it. But my problem is with the pretence of enjoyment.

The moment we open our Facebook account, we become subject to certain rules which put limitations on the self-mastery or individuality of enjoyment. For example, sometimes we like those photos or posts of friends that we do not want to like but have to like because we also want to get our posts and photos liked. Therefore, we create a market for those products which give us a sense of enjoyment.

It is because of a discourse that Facebook is always treated as an instrument of spreading happiness. But with a closer psychological analysis we will find that it is at the same time an instrument of spreading jealousy, enmity, and unhappiness. The problem with this new market and its product of enjoyment is that it tells us how we can make ourselves happy, and not how we can make ourselves worthy of happiness.

The need of the hour is to examine the unexamined rules of enjoyment, to challenge the producers of enjoyment discourse who have played an authoritarian role in giving meaning to our emotions without our consent. We need to preserve and protect the individuality of enjoyment to make it worthy.

(The writer is Assistant Professor at Department of Political Science, Bhagini Nivedita College, University of Delhi)

Advent of inevitable water wars

Water is largely limited and has no alternative. Global demographics are changing and population is spiking like never before. These factors call for a cohesive international effort to forestall the water shortages of the future. And by so, we will be able to forestall the conflicts as well



KOTA SRIRAJ

Each one of us have already experienced the impact of water shortages at some point of our lives and definitely expressed our gratitude when the scarcity passed. However, these instances of water shortages might come back sooner than expected and might, perhaps, stay permanently. Water scarcity is the lack of sufficient available water resources to meet the demands of water usage within a region. It affects every continent and around 2.8 billion people across the world at least one month out of every year. More than 1.2 billion people lack access to clean drinking water.

Water scarcity can manifest itself as water stress, shortage or

deficits and water crisis. While the concept of water stress is relatively new, it may refer to the difficulty in obtaining fresh water sources and the deterioration and depletion of the available water sources.

Water shortages may be caused due to climate change factors such as altered weather patterns, including droughts or floods, increased pollution, rise in human demand and overuse of water. Water crisis is a situation where the available potable, unpolluted water within a region is less than that demanded by the region. Many countries across the world are already grappling with different manifestations of water problems.

Given the sensitivity of the issue of water scarcity, the World Economic Forum has already listed this problem as one of the largest global risk in terms of potential impact over the next decade. Currently, a mere 0.014 per cent of all water on Earth is fresh and easily accessible. Of the remain-

ing water, 97 per cent is saline and a little less than three per cent is hard to access.

Though there is sufficient amount of freshwater on the global scale, due to unequal distribution and worsening climate change, some geographic locations have ample availability whereas the rest are exceptionally dry. This accompanied by a sharp rise in global freshwater demand in recent decades, driven by industry, is causing humanity to experience water crisis like never before. If this continues, the demand for water is expected to outstrip supply by 40 per cent by 2030. This is bound to give rise to conflicts.

The ongoing tussle between India and Pakistan over Indus waters is an apt example of the conflict that we are increasingly bound to notice in other parts of the world as well. For decades, the Indus Waters Treaty kept the two countries from entering into a full-fledged conflict but that seems to be

a thing of the past as exploding population, worsened by climate change, is forcing the neighbours to fight for every bit of the natural resource. So much so that even cross-border terrorism is now a subject of discussion around which the sharing of waters is concerned. This was bound to happen.

Where there is sufficient resource, there is never a conflict but when the same becomes scarce, it brings conflicts of scale. Tired of one-way courtesies from its side in the face of relentless cross-border and state-sponsored terrorism by Pakistan, India is now changing gears and water has become a diplomatic leverage weapon. India recently fast-tracked hydropower projects worth \$15 billion in Kashmir. Projects in the form of nine dams will be completed following the due procedures and requisite clearances. These dams will help Pakistan understand that the act of abetting terrorism has led to a cost where an already scarce resource is

all set to become even scantier.

Apart from this, many other countries across the world are already locked in conflict over water resources. The Nile basin water, for instance, has been a source of dispute between Egypt and Ethiopia as is the Turkey, Syria and Iraq conflict over the waters of Tigris-Euphrates. These conflicts seem to be only rising.

Even within the country, India has seen ample disputes between various States, such as the Cauvery river dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. As climate gets worse, aided by global warming, these face-offs will only get worse. The solution is to change the focus from right-based claims on waters to need-based claims.

Countries need to appreciate that some regions have more need for water than the other, purely due to the punishing impact of climate change, population explosion or a recent drought. In these circumstances, stakeholders must put aside

matters of rights over waters and adopt a humanitarian approach and let the other side survive through the tough period by getting access to more water.

In order to allow humanitarian spirit guide the water matters, Governments must be strong enough to allow mature dialogue between stakeholders. This will surely dissuade conflicts and discourage warmongers who tend to accelerate resource clashes into bigger conflicts for certain gains.

This, unfortunately, results in armed engagements which results in loss of lives. Water is largely limited and has no alternative. Global demographics are changing and population is spiking like never before. These factors call for a cohesive and united international effort to forestall the water shortages of future. And by so, we will be able to forestall the conflicts as well.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



FOREIGNEYE



HARPING ON BIAS ALLEGATIONS

Google has gotten ahead of the impending debate by signaling its support for a federal privacy framework, but it's up to lawmakers to turn vague protection principles into meaningful policy. That means ensuring users know and have some say in what data companies are collecting from them, exactly what it is being used for and who else is getting to see it.

(The Washington Post editorial)

MISSING/KIDNAPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl, **Namely: Chandni, D/o: Shrawan Kumar, R/o: D-3, Gali No. 20, G-Block, Kunwar Singh Nagar, Nihal Vihar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnaped since 19.11.2018 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard, a **Case Vides FIR No. 747/18 U/S 363 IPC Dated 20.11.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.** Investigations has been carried out but despite best efforts, the girl could not be traced. The description of the missing/kidnaped girl is as under: **Name: Chandni, D/o: Shrawan Kumar, R/o: D-3, Gali No. 20, G-Block, Kunwar Singh Nagar, Nihal Vihar, Delhi, Age: 16 years, Height: 5' Feet, Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Pink Top, Black Jeans Pant and Black Shoes in feet.** If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnaped girl, then please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Chandni

S.H.O P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946700, 25946710

CONG WINS 3 STATES

Boost for Cong-JD(S) in K'nataka

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

The coalition Government of the JD(S) and Congress in Karnataka which was always on the threat of being poached by the BJP through operation Lotus is rejoicing after the saffron defeat in the Hindi heartland. The Congress victories in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh have given the coalition Government in Karnataka a shot in the arm to take on the BJP in the 2019 elections.

The Kumaraswamy Government which came into existence was a master initiative by the Congress to stitch a Mahaghatbandhan to take on the Modi - Shah Combine in the ensuing general elections sometime in 2019 and the congress victory has given more teeth to this initiative of Opposition unity with minor and local parties like that of JDs.

BJP has been trying to finish off all Opposition parties through dubious means. Now, the people have shown them the door and restored democracy in all these States

—HD Kumaraswamy

Hindi heartland has given an aggressive political posture to take on the BJP in the run up to the general elections.

Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy who is till now riding a fragile coalition said in Belagavi that it is the clear indication of what will happen in 2019. He said on the sidelines of the winter session of the Assembly "BJP has been trying to finish off all Opposition parties through dubious means. Now, the people have shown them the door and restored

democracy in all these States."

Former Chief Minister and chairman of the coordination committee Siddaramaiah tweeted "A wind of change is sweeping across the country. Kites of false campaign are falling down. This is not a time to boast about victory. We need to become ideologically stronger and fight till the end."

However a senior Congress leader on the condition of anonymity said "with the resounding victory why should we piggyback on the JD(S)."

Karnataka is the only State in South India where BJP scored well in 2014 by winning 17 of the 28 seats. Now, as the Congress-JD(S) looks to regain ground, BJP may find it tough to retain its seats. The victory is also an eye opener for the BJP which is planning to get more number of seats and also planning to topple the JD(S)- Congress Government in the State through poaching which is called operation Kamala(Lotus).

A senior BJP leader said there should be an introspection at the national level and

Cong sees victory coming in Bengal



West Bengal Congress president Somen Mitra waves during a rally in Kolkata on Wednesday

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Booyed by heartfelt victory the Bengal Pradesh Congress — otherwise a divided house — on Wednesday projected a united face and floated a comeback dream before an impressive rally in Kolkata.

The Pradesh Congress leaders led by PCC president Somen Mitra, his predecessor Adhir Chowdhury, State Opposition Leader Abdul Mannan — all leaders pulling at different directions — told a rally that "the victories in the Hindi heartland has once again proved that Congress is the name of a 'way of life' and cannot be obliterated from people's heart."

Those who feel that the party is dead and gone "must take a lesson from the Assembly election results in the three heartland States. We will definitely come back in Bengal one day," Gaurav Gogoi the Congress' observer for the State said adding the party would soon hit the streets with its various programmes and visit door to door with its policy proposals.

Mitra, a septuagenarian veteran who had joined the Trinamool Congress to become its MP in 2009 before returning to the parent organisation said "the election results of Tuesday has shown that Congress' acche din is back," adding "low tide should not be mistaken for a dry river. Congress has not dried up and will soon witness tidal waves in Bengal."

Calling upon workers and leaders who had left the party to join the Trinamool Congress and more so the BJP, to return to the party fold the PCC chief said, "we are waiting for your ghar wapsi. You must return to strengthen your parent party from where you had one day started your political career and restore it to its former glory. The days are not far when the Congress too will come back to power in Bengal."

"The Congress will however not demand a BJP-less Bengal he added. "We don't want a BJP-less Bengal as they had envisioned (a Congress-mukt Bharat). In our political schemes plurality will be the buzz word as it had always been," he added.

केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग ई-टेंडर्स आमंत्रण सूचना

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से कार्यपालक अभियंता, 'एस' मंडल, कोलॉनोफोवो, रामा कुशा पुरम, नई दिल्ली द्वारा अधोस्थित कार्यों के निष्पादन हेतु कोलॉनोफोवो के approved and eligible उकेदारों से ऑनलाइन प्रतियार दर निविदा प्रणाली आमंत्रित की जाती है।

1. निष्पादनार्थ 115/EE/S Div/2018-19 (Recall) Name of Work "Repair/Rehabilitation of Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha Qtrs at Vasant Vihar, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Blocks no. 66 & 74)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 25,47,973/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 50,959/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-02 (दो) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 24.12.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
2. निष्पादनार्थ 120/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work "Special Repair to Type-IV Qtrs at Sector-2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg. 2018-19 (SH: Attending day to day various type of pending complaints)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 12,18,382/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 24,368/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-05 (पांच) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 24.12.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
3. निष्पादनार्थ 121/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work "A/R & M/O to Type-IV quarters at Sector-2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Internal Finishing work)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 13,14,288/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 26,286/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-06 (छ) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 24.12.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
4. निष्पादनार्थ 122/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work "A/R & M/O to CGO Building East block 1 to 10 and Trikot 1 to 3 Bhikaji Cama Place, R. K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Providing services of Computer Operator in Circle, Division and Subdivision office)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 10,37,698/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 20,754/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-06 (छ) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 24.12.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।

नोट:- बिड प्रपत्र और अन्य विवरण वेबसाइट www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। प्रेस विज्ञापन www.eprocure.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध है।

Zoramthanga to be sworn in as Mizoram CM on Saturday

Aizawl: Mizo National Front (MNF) president Zoramthanga would be sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Mizoram at the Raj Bhavan here at 12 noon on Saturday, officials said on Wednesday. Governor Kummanan Rajasekharan formally invited Zoramthanga on Wednesday to form the next Government after receiving the signed notification of the result from EC officials, Raj Bhavan sources said. **PTI**

Scribe murder case: Shahabuddin produced before court through video-conferencing

Muzaffarpur: Controversial RJD leader Mohammad Shahabuddin and five others were on Wednesday produced before a court here in journalist Rajdeo Ranjan murder case. Shahabuddin, who is currently lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail, was produced before the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge Birendra Kumar through video conferencing. The five other accused were present in court. Two other accused persons could not be produced in the court due to ill-health.

The CBI is probing the case and has named Shahabuddin and seven others as accused in its charge sheet.

The other accused are Azahrudin Beig alias Laddan Mian, Vijay Kumar Gupta, Rohit Kumar Sony, Rajesh Kumar, Rishu Kumar Jaiswal, Sonu Kumar Gupta and Sonu Kumar Sony.

Beig and Vijay Kumar Gupta, who are lodged in Bhagalpur jail and Muzaffarpur jail, respectively, and undergoing treatment at different hospitals, could not be produced in

the court due to ill-health, defence lawyer Sharad Sinha said.

The court has completed the hearing on two discharge petitions filed by Sonu Kumar Sony and Rohit Kumar Sony, he said.

It fixed December 19 as the next date of hearing for framing of charges against all the accused persons in the case.

The accused have been charged under sections 120B (criminal conspiracy) and 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code and section 27 of the Arms Act. **PTI**

WISEMORE ADVISORY PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN : U74999DL2017PTC10359
Regd. Office : 138, Ansal Chambers-II, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110 066
STATEMENT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 2018 (INR in millions)

Particulars	6 months ended 30 th Sept., 2018	
	Unaudited	Unaudited (refer note 7)
Total Income from Operations	0.90	0.75
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(239.66)	(170.76)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(239.66)	(170.76)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(239.66)	(170.76)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	498.39	570.39
Paid up Equity Share Capital	813.34	813.34
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	1,035.00	561.32
Net worth*	1,848.34	1,374.66
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	2,725.64	2,070.50
Debt Equity Ratio*	1.47	1.51
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)		
1. Basic :	(2.95)	(2.10)
2. Diluted :	(2.95)	(2.10)
Debt Redemption Reserve	-	-
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	(0.00)	(0.03)
Interest Service Coverage Ratio	(0.00)	(0.03)

Disclosures pursuant to Regulations 52(4) and 52(7) Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

- Credit Rating : CARE BB (SO)
- Change in credit rating : No
- Asset Coverage Ratio Sept. 30, 2018 : 207.06%
- Debt Equity ratio : mentioned above
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio : mentioned above
- Interest Service Coverage Ratio : mentioned above
- Previous due date for the payment of interest/ repayment of principal of non convertible debt securities and whether the same has been paid or not (as on Sept. 30, 2018)
- Previous due date for the payment of interest : None
- Previous due date for the payment of principal : None
- Next due date for the payment of interest/ repayment of principal of non convertible debt securities (as on Sept. 30, 2018)
- Next due date for the payment of interest : January 30, 2022
- Next due date for the payment of principal : January 30, 2022
- Outstanding redeemable preference shares (Quantity and Value) : Not Applicable
- Net Worth* Sept. 30, 2018 INR : 1848.34 Million
- Net profit after tax : mentioned above
- Earning per share : mentioned above
- Debt redemption reserve against listed debentures Sept. 30, 2018 : NIL
- There are no material deviation in the use of proceeds of issue of Non Convertible Debentures from the objects stated in the offer document (Regulations 52(7))

Notes:

1. Ratios have been computed as follows :
- Earning per share = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares
- Debt Equity Ratio = Total Debt (Long-term borrowings, short-term borrowings and current maturities of long-term debt but excluding unamortized fees) / Total Equity (Issued, subscribed and paid up equity share capital plus reserve and surplus. Reserve and surplus includes share premium, debenture redemption reserve, share based payment reserve and retained earnings)
2. Interest Service Coverage Ratio = Cash profit after tax # plus total interest expense / Total interest expense
3. Debt Service Coverage Ratio = Cash profit after tax# plus total interest expense / Total interest expense + principal repayment
4. Asset Coverage Ratio = (Total assets less current liabilities) / Total debt
- * Net worth represents issued subscribed and paid up capital plus reserves and surplus. Reserves and Surplus includes Capital Reserve, General Reserve, Debenture redemption reserve, Securities premium account and Profit and loss account balance. # Profit after tax plus depreciation
2. The company is in the business of management consultancy services. There is only one segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".
3. Tax expense includes Current Tax and Deferred Tax charge.
4. The above financial results have been approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 12th December, 2018.
5. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), on 28th March 2018, notified Ind AS 115 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" as part of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2018. The new standard is effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1st April, 2018. The adoption of the standard did not have any material impact on the above financial results of the Company.
6. The Balance Sheet as at September 30, 2018 as per Schedule III of the Companies Act, 2013 is attached as Annexure 1. For the half year ending Sept. 30, 2018, submission of Ind-AS compliant Balance Sheet for the previous year ended March 31, 2018 is not mandatory, therefore the same has not been presented.
7. The figures of the half year ended 30th September, 2017 represent the information compiled by the management, which was not subjected to an audit or limited review by the statutory auditors.
8. For the half year ending Sept. 30, 2018, submission of Ind-AS compliant financial results and Balance Sheet for the previous year ended March 31, 2018 is not mandatory, therefore the same has not been presented.
9. Previous period figures have been regrouped wherever necessary.

Place : Gurugram for WISEMORE ADVISORY PRIVATE LIMITED
Date : December 12, 2018 **SUMANT SINHA, DIRECTOR (DIN : 00972012)**

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION U.T., CHANDIGARH

E-Tender Notice

The Executive Engineer C.P. Division No.6, U.T. Chandigarh Re-invites online the percentage rate tenders on behalf of the President of India from eligible reputed contractors/agencies fulfilling the eligibility criteria mentioned below which shall be uploaded and received on <http://etenders.chd.nic.in/nicgep>.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Tender Amount	Earnest Money	Time Limit	Last date of submission of Bid	Date of Opening of Bid
1	Restoration, preservation, conservation and management of capital complex (world Heritage) Chandigarh Punjab & Haryana High Court (Composite Work)	(a) Civil Component: Rs. 4,02,50,039/- (b) PH Services : Rs. 30,85,000/- (c) Electrical Installation: Rs. 1,09,89,939/- Total: 5,43,64,977/-	Rs. 10,87,300/-	09 Months	19-12-2018 11:00 AM	19-12-2018 12:00 PM

DAI- Executive Engineer, C.P. Division No.6, 2nd Floor, Additional Deluxe Building, Sector 9-D, U.T. Chandigarh. Ph. No. 0172-2740094 E-mail: xencp6@gmail.com

Memo No. 9359-66 Dt. 12-12-2018

POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank
ICICI Bank Limited

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara-390007.
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., 2nd floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn, New Delhi.

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Gulati Retail India Ltd / Manmohan Singh Gulati / Gulati Export House / Pritpal Singh Gulati / Amanjot Singh Gulati / Rajpreet Kaur Gulati / LBGUR00001756067	Shop no. DGL- 020, DLF Galleria, Mayur Vihar, Delhi / 08-12-2018	Nov 29, 2012 / Rs.5,69,962/-	Delhi

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 days Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : 13-Dec-2018
Place: Delhi/NCR
Sd/- Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Billu S/o Daya Nand, R/o Gali No.4 Arya Nagar, Bahadur Garh, (HR)**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 181/05 u/s 78, 61 Excise Act.** has been registered at **P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Billu S/o Daya Nand**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Billu S/o Daya Nand** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Billu S/o Daya Nand** accused of **FIR No. 181/05 U/s 78, 61 Excise Act.** required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 30.03.2019.

DP/1673/OD/18- (Court Matter) In Order Sh. Anurag Thakur Metropolitan Magistrate (North-West)-02, Room No.113, First Floor Rohini Courts Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one lady namely **Anjali Sharma W/o Sh. Ajay Kumar Shah, R/o H.No 16/480 H-Block, Bapa Nagar, Delhi Age: 19 yrs., Height: 5', Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Face: Oval, Wearing: Mahroon colour Suit Salwar and Chappal in feet, ID Mark: A old cut mark on forehead** has been missing since 20.11.2018 at 04:00 PM. In this regard a **DD No. 055 dated 21.11.2018** has been lodged in PS Prasad Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the lady but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this lady kindly inform to the following

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/5907/CD/18

SHO PS Prasad Nagar, Delhi Ph.: 011- 25725652, 25751048 M.: 8750870432

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Sagufita D/o Babu Hasan R/o H.N. A-236, Gali No.04, Kachchi Khajuri Khas, Delhi** has been kidnapped since 20.11.2018 In this regard, a case **FIR No. 591/18 dated 24.11.2018 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi.** The description of the kidnapped/missing girl is as under.

Age: 17 Years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black Colour Suit, & Red Chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the Kidnapped/missing girl then please inform P.S. Khajuri Khas Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- S.H.O. P.S. Khajuri Khas Delhi Ph. 011-22962735
Fax No. 011-24368639

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Neha D/o Dinesh, R/o H.No. A-4/54, Nand Nagri, Delhi, Age : 22 yrs., Height : 5'2", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Round, Built : Thin, Wearing : Suit and Salwar, has been missing / kidnapped since 10.11.2018 from the area of P.S. Nand Nagri. In this regard a case DD No. 16-A dated 10.11.2018 has been lodged at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned**

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO DP/6722/NE/18. PS. Nand Nagri, Delhi Ph. No. 011-22583307, 875087030

EAST PATEL NAGAR BRANCH-9006
7, Setthi Bhawan Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008
E-mail: br.9006@syndicatebank.co.in
Phone: 011-2586 0574, 25727117, 2575 2545

FORMAT-M
POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)*
APENDIX-IV under the Act - Rule-8 (11)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Syndicate Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 20.09.2018 calling upon the Borrower and also owner of the property/surety to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 11,29,990.83** (in words Rs. Eleven Lacs Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety and Paise Eighty Three Only) within 60 days from the date of the said notice

The owner of property Smt.Smt/Mrs. Umesh Kumar Singh and Others having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the owner of property and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on the 7th Day of **December** of the year 2018.

The owner of property in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Syndicate Bank, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi Branch for an amount of **Rs. 11,29,990.83** and interest thereon, cost etc.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of **Flat No. S-2, (Second Floor) MIG Plot No. B-1/135, DLF Disha Extn. 2, Bhopura, Loni Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201005**

Bounded:
On the North By : PLOT NO. B-1/134
On the South By : PLOT NO. B-1/136
On the East By : 30 FT. ROAD
On the West By : SCHOOL PLOT

Date : 07.12.2018
Place : Delhi

Authorized Officer
Syndicate Bank

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a girl **Namely: Deepa, D/o Jai Pal, R/o: 20 MCD Flats Nand Nagri, Delhi, Age: 23 Years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Normal, Wearing: Suit and Salwar, has been missing since 20.09.2018 from her house. In this regard DD No. 4-A, dated 21.09.2018, has been lodged at PS. Nand Nagri, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing girl please inform undersigned.**

Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Extn. 2101
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/6622/NE/18

SHO PS, Nand Nagari, Delhi Ph.: 011-22583307, 22585985

BJP'S ATTACK ON NEHRU-GANDHI FAMILY

It boomeranged on BJP: Pawar

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI



chief said.

NCP president Sharad Pawar said here on Wednesday Prime Minister Narendra Modi's frequent attacks on the Nehru-Gandhi family members had not gone down well with the public, leading to the BJP's debacle in the Assembly polls in three States.

"During the recent Assembly poll campaign, Modi forgot all the promises he had made during the 2014 polls. All he did was to talk about one family. Here is a man who had not seen Pandit Nehru and Indira Gandhi. But he continued to attack one family all through the campaign. The BJP is paying for the Modi's folly," Pawar said.

Slamming the Modi Government for its questionable governance during the last four and a half years, Pawar said: "Such is the nature of interference of the Modi dispensation in various established institu-

tions is there for everybody to see. First of all, four senior most Supreme Court judges had come out openly to address a press conference. Then, it was the turn of Government appointed RBI Governor Urjit Patel who resigned. We are still to resolve the mess created by the Govt in the CBI. There have been attacks on the Constitution from the Government's side from time to time."

"We were thinking that the BJP would suffer a jolt from Adivasis and farmers. But, the BJP has suffered 50 per cent setback even in urban areas. The process of change in government at the Centre has started," Pawar said.

the NCP president said.

Holding that the people had accepted the Congress' decision to hand over the leadership to the new generation (read Rahul Gandhi), Pawar said that there may not be a federation opposition front at the Centre, but the Opposition parties should rise over their differences and come together to take on the BJP during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

"We may not have a UPA or a third front during the Lok Sabha polls. But, the Opposition parties should sink their differences and come together to fight the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls," Pawar said.

Poll results, warning for BJP: Hazare

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Termining the defeat in the State Assembly polls in three States as a wake-up call for the BJP, noted social activist Anna Hazare said on Wednesday that if the ruling party at the Centre did not keep its various made in the previous elections, the people would teach a lesson to it in the 2019 Lok

Sabha polls. Talking to media persons at Ralegan-Siddhi, Hazare said: "Before and after coming to power at the Centre, the BJP sold dreams to the people. But, all the promises made by the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have remained on paper. Through their mandate in the Assembly polls in five States, the people have

exposed the Modi Government and its false promises," Hazare said.

"The Assembly poll verdict is a wake-up call for the BJP. If the Modi Government does not fulfil its promises made in the run-up and after the 2014 polls, then the people would teach a lesson to the ruling BJP in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls," Hazare added.

Let's welcome true devotees to Sabarimala, says Kerala's literary Bheeshmapitamah

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Kerala's political skyline which has been turned tumultuous due to the Sabarimala controversy and has been vitiated by the hour is waiting for the counsel from the State's Bheeshmapitamah. The solution to the issue arising out of the Supreme Court verdict of September 28 allowing women of all age into the holy shrine in Western Ghats lies with 93-year-old Akkitham Achuthan Nampoothiri, (Akkitham for short) the States's last word in all spiritual cultural and literary issues.

But the celebrated nonagenarian poet (the one and only Mahakavi or the great poet in the State) is silent on this controversial issue and refuses to speak out his mind. "Of only Akkitham opens up his mind, people belonging to all sections will fall in line," said S Rameshan Nair, the Tamil Nadu-born Malayalam poet who was honoured with this year's Sahitya Akademy Award for poetry.

Akkitham refused to divulge what was in his mind about the Sabarimala stand off which has affected millions of Lord Ayyappa devotees all over south India. "It is a matter of belief, custom and tradition. But I don't want to speak anything about it. The sentiments and feelings of devotees should be respected," the poet told *The Pioneer*. This scholar, internationally accepted as the father of modernism in Malayalam poetry for his work *Epic of the Twentieth Century*, has



Akkitham Achuthan Nampoothiri

also fought for eradication of untouchability and was engaged in teaching Vedas to the members of the depressed and oppressed classes in the society.

"I am against segregation or discrimination of devotees based on their gender or caste or religion. But customs and traditions considered as sacred by the society should not be violated. Let's welcome the true devotees," said Akkitham while speaking to this newspaper on Wednesday.

There is not a single Malayalee anywhere in the globe who has not heard his lyric "Light is sorrow, dear child;

Darkness is happiness," pointed out Nair, who has been a close associate of the poet for more than five decades. "These are the lines from *Epic of the Twentieth Century* which has no parallel in contemporary literature. That's why people in Kerala have accorded him the status of an iconic figure irrespective of their caste, creed and political ideologies.

Literary critics like Prof M Krishnan Nair had described Akkitham as a poet who integrated spirituality, philosophy and humanity in his works. His latest poetic work is the Malayalam translation of *Shrimad Bhagawata*, comprising 14,613 verses spread across 2400 printed pages. The respect commanded by Akkitham could be understood from the fact that his is the only poems from Malayalam which has been translated into French and published in "Europa", the quarterly literary journal in France.

"Poetic images built out of drops after drops of fear and laughter after laughter that will not burn down to ashes in the efflux of time, that will not dissolve and not washed away in the torrential flow of time and that will not be thrown away and shattered to pieces in the swirling typhoon drift of time are the essential basic characters of Akkitham's poetry," says Prof M Leelavathi, the legendary literary critic who is also a nonagenarian like Akkitham.

It is time Kerala society listened to his words of wisdom, at least in the Sabarimala issue.

PMO returns money order of farmer who got pittance for onions

Mumbai: A money-order sent by a farmer in Maharashtra's Nashik district, who had got a princely sum of ₹1,064 after selling 750 kg of onions, has been returned by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

Sanjay Sathe, a farmer from Niphad tehsil of Nashik district, had sent ₹1,064, his earnings from onion sale in the wholesale market, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 29 as a protest.

A few days ago, the local post office informed him that the money-order was not accepted.

"I went to the office of India Post in Niphad Monday and received the amount of ₹1,064," Sathe told PTI on Wednesday.

"My only intention was to prompt the Government to take some steps to ease the financial stress farmers are suffering from because of the crashed prices," he said.

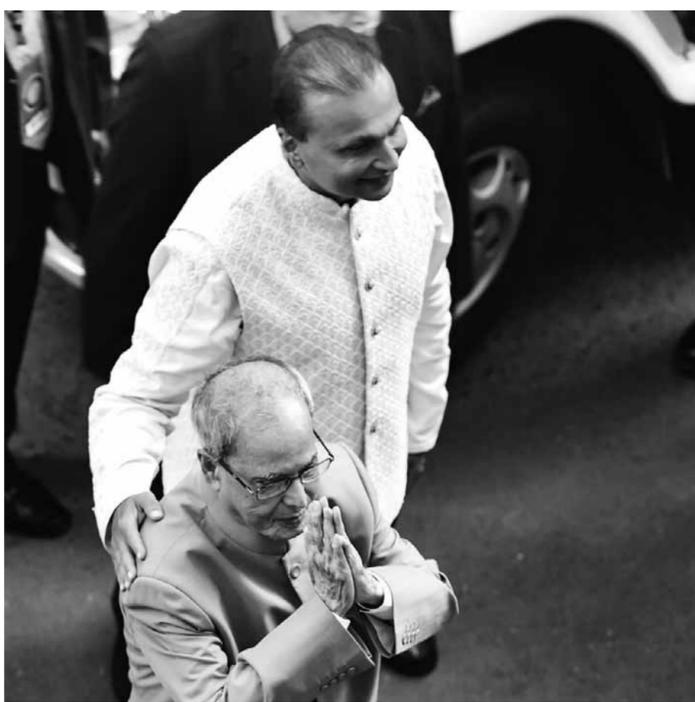
Sathe, who had taken his onion crop to Niphad wholesale market, had received a paltry rate of ₹1.40 per kg

Sathe, who had taken his onion crop to Niphad wholesale market, had received a paltry rate of ₹1.40 per kg.

His act of donating the money to the disaster relief fund of the PMO by making a money-order had made headlines.

"I wanted to draw the Government's attention to our problems. I am not associated with any political party," he said.

"I hope the Union and State Governments will take some steps so that onion growers earn more," he said.



Former president Pranab Mukherjee with industrialist Anil Ambani arrives for the wedding ceremony of Mukesh Ambani's daughter Isha at Antilia in Mumbai on Wednesday

Who's who from all walks of life attend Ambani wedding

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Prominent personalities from various walks of life, including, former President Pranab Mukherjee, former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, business tycoons, film stars, sports celebrities turned out for the "royal wedding" of scions of two top business conglomerates — Isha Ambani and Anand Piramal — here on Wednesday.

The celebrations began in the afternoon with the traditionally attired groom Anand arrived in a "baraat" (wedding procession) at the Ambanis' Cumballa Hill palatial mansion 'Antilia' in south Mumbai. The Piramals were seen dancing enthusiastically when they arrived at the wedding venue accompanied by some professional dancers.

The road leading up to "Antilia" was decorated with multi-hued fresh flowers, colourful lights and festoons to welcome the guests to the wedding. The video clips of both lit-up and decorated road

went viral on social media all through the day.

The 27-storied Antilia, which is believed to be the most expensive private residence in the world, was decked up taste-

fully to welcome the guests.

Mukesh Ambani, Anant Ambani, Akash Ambani and Shloka Mehta accorded a grand welcome to the groom family members.

India joins elite club with submarine rescue vessel

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

India joined a select league of nations worldwide with the sovereign capability in fly away configuration to search, locate and rescue crew from a disabled submarine, as Admiral Sunil Lanba, the Chief of Naval Staff, formally inducted the Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV) and its associated equipment at the Naval Dockyard in south Mumbai on Wednesday.

Speaking at the induction ceremony, Admiral Lanba, the Chief of Naval Staff, who is also the Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee, said: "I wish we should not use it, but in case we need to use, the intention is to rescue each and every life".

"The induction of the vessel has put the Indian Navy into a small league of navies that have an integral submarine rescue capability...It is a red-letter day for the Indian Navy and its submarine arm...we have acquired it after years of focused effort," Vice Admiral Girish Luthra, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Mumbai-headquartered Western Naval Command (WNC), said.

The first DSRV's first vessel, inducted on Wednesday, would be based in Mumbai, while another similar one is expected to join the Indian Navy in the next and it will be based in Visakhapatnam, the headquarters of Eastern Naval Command (ENC).

The newly inducted DSRV has a Side Scan Sonar for locating the position of the submarine in distress at sea, providing immediate relief by way of posting Emergency



Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of the Naval Staff unveiling the plaque inducting Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV) and its associated equipment (Right) The DSRV being put into sea for a demonstration, after its induction into the Indian Navy

Life Support Containers with the help of Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and thereafter rescuing the crew with the submarine using the DSRV itself.

Currently, the Indian Navy currently operates submarines of the Sindhughosh, Shishumar, Kalvari Classes as

well as the nuclear powered submarines. The operating medium and the nature of operations undertaken by submarines expose them to high degree of inherent risk. In such an eventuality, traditional methods of search and rescue at sea are ineffective for a disabled submarine.

Advance Indian Naval Dental Centre Commissioned at Colaba

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Indian Naval Dental Centre Danteshwari, a first of its kind dental centre providing world class multi-speciality dental facilities under one roof, was commissioned at Colaba in south Mumbai.

Mumbai Surgeon Commodore (D) Bisheshwar Mukherjee read out the commissioning warrant as the first Commanding Officer of INDC Danteshwari in the presence of Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral

Girish Luthra, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command and Lt General SM Londhe, Director General Dental Services, while Mrs Preeti Luthra, president NWWA WR unveiled the commissioning plaque.

INDC Danteshwari became the first commissioned dental unit of the Indian Navy in order to meet the growing demand for quality dental health care facilities in the armed forces, at par with international standards.

Remove restrictions, barricades at prime spots at Sabarimala, Kerala HC directs police

Kochi: The Kerala High Court on Wednesday directed police to remove barricades at prime spots in the temple complex of the Lord Ayyappa hill shrine at Sabarimala.

It also directed police to lift restrictions like blocking pilgrims at Sharankutti, en route to the 'sannidhanam' or temple complex, after 11.30 PM.

A division bench of justices Ramachandra Menon and N Anil Kumar said its earlier order that there should not be any protest in Sabarimala stands intact.

The bench also approved the report of the three-member monitoring commission appointed by it on November 28 to oversee the pilgrimage at Sabarimala temple.

The court had appointed the three-member panel to oversee the pilgrimage at Sabarimala temple and said there should not be any more protests at the shrine, which witnessed a series of violent incidents after the September 28 Supreme Court verdict, allowing women of all ages into the shrine.

It had, while hearing a bunch of petitions questioning restrictions at the temple, said the three observers would monitor the pilgrimage and report to the court.

The court Wednesday said that depending on the intensity of the crowd, police can take appropriate measures to manage the crowd and inflow without causing inconvenience to pilgrims. PTI

CORRIGENDUM

This is inform the general public that a Public Notice was published on 09/12/18 in 'The Pioneer' English Newspaper and 'Pioneer' Hindi Newspaper in which inadvertently mentioned as Attorney for Bank of India it should be read as Attorney for Bank of Baroda.

Sd/- Samadhan Legal Solutions (Attorney for Bank of Baroda) A-21, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sini Narula, W/o Rajeev Narula, inform and seek help from the finder of my handbag which was snatched on 07.12.2018 in model town III around 7.15pm containing my original residence E-3/22nd Floor Sector 7, Rohini, ND-85 papers along with my mobile phone, 6 Bank locker and residence keys, my wallet 2 debit cards, 1 IDBI Bank cheque book and 10000 rs cash if any of these item is found by any one please contact at 9990574069/ 9891754556 or send/deliver at given address.

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that my client, Smt. MEENAKSHI MEHRA, W/o SH. MAHESH MEHRA, R/o House No. 3822, Sector-23-A, Caterpillar Ailas Daulatpur, Noida-201305, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122017 is the madamowner of DDA, Plot No. 22, on East Road, Block-C/2C, File No. F-5(1317)2H, has applied for conversion of the aforesaid property from lease hold to freehold in DDA. The original documents (i.e. Allotment Demand Letter, Site Possession Letter, Site Possession Slip and NCC for Water & Electricity Connection) of the aforesaid property have been lost or mislaid by my client and are not traceable inside of his/her best efforts. An FIR/NCR to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station, Crime Branch, Delhi (LR No. 27636/2018 dated 10.12.2018).

Any persons claiming any rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents may write/contact with above named person at above. Address within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write, Deputy Director, JAB (Housing), Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110048, within 7 days from the publication of the Notice after which period no claims will be entertained and the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificates. Sd/- Madhukar, Abhishek & Sudha Goel

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one female namely Reena Devi @ Maya, W/o Vipin Kumar, R/o: H.No. B-797, GD Colony, Mayur Vihar, Delhi, Age: 50 years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Identification: Mentally disturb, wearing Brown colour Sweater & Navy Blue Saree, has been missing from the area of PS Gazipur since 24.11.2018. In this regard a DD No. 32A, dated 24.11.2018 has been lodged at P.S. Gazipur, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about her please inform undersigned.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641 S/O P.S. Gazipur, Delhi Ph.: 011-22610068, 22610094 DP/6575/ED/18

NLC India Limited
(Formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited)
Navratna - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office - First Floor, No.8, Mayor Salimghatty Road, FSD, Egmore Complex of Food Corporation of India, Chennai - 600 031.
Corp. Office - Block-1, Neyveli-607 801, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu.
CIN No. : L93000TN1956GQ003507, Website: www.nlcindia.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR SUPPLIES (e-Tender Notices Sl.No.1 to 9)

Sl.No.	Tender Ref./Scope of supplies & Qty. reqd.	Due date of opening:
1	UNIT: M.M.COMPLEX: PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003597/MM01(05) dt.04-12-2018 :4 items of rollers	07-01-2019
2	PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003602/MM01(01) dt.04-12-2018 : 3 Items of six wheel bogie	09-01-2019
3	ENQ/ 18-19/003608/MM22(01) dt. 05-12-2018 : Pick & carry crane of lifting capacity not less than 8 ton.	07-01-2019
4	ENQ/18-19/003667/MM18(04) dt.06-12-2018: Procurement of Hydrozine hydrate 36% by weight packed in 30 kgs HDPE carboys. 20000 Kilograms. Due date of opening: 07-01-2019	
5	PTE.ENQ/18-19/003668/MM18(03) dt. 06-12-2018 : Procurement of Sodium chloride in crystal form. 10000 Tonnes. Due date of opening: 07-01-2019	
6	PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003665/MM01(05) dt.06-12-2018: Discharge boom slew gear box with output pinion 3.7 KW for 1571-74. As per drawing no. SME 4321. Qty: 2 Nos. Due date of opening: 17-01-2019	
7	PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003672/MM01(06) dt. 10-12-2018 : Cam with washer and nut for SPR. 429/430/431 & MTC-405/406/1541 material: 42 Gr M04 heat treated, as per drg.no.SME-8180 Qty: 150 Nos. Due date of opening: 18-01-2019	
8	PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003675/MM01(05) dt. 10-12-2018 : 10 items of Pionis. Due date of opening: 17-01-2019	
9	PTE.No:ENQ/18-19/003676/MM01(01) dt.10-12-2018: 9 items of Bucket Wedges. Due date of opening: 18-01-2019	

FOR e-TENDER DOCUMENTS/DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: www.nlcindia.com
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(R-II) DIVISION, CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPTT.
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
ZONAL CENTRE, TILAK LANE, NEW DELHI

e-Procurement Tender Notice

- S/ROF ROADS IN NDMC AREA.
- SH:-INSTALLATION OF BARBED RAZOR WIRE FENCING IN LODI COLONY
- SH:-HIRING OF OPEN BODY TEMPO/TATA-407 FOR TUGHLAK LANE SERVICE CENTRE IN THE AREA OF SUB-DIVISION-(R-II)

E/Cost: Rs.15,90,935/- TENDER ID:-2018_NDMC_163542_1
E/Cost: Rs.7,21,774/- TENDER ID:-2018_NDMC_163540_1
E/Cost: Rs.6,61,119/- TENDER ID:-2018_NDMC_163546_1

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution: 11.12.2018
Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution : 24.12.2018 at 16.00 hours.

Further details can be seen at www.ndmc.gov.in or <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

Note:- To participate in e-tender in NDMC publication with application services provider (ASP) of DGS & DS is mandatory.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R-II)

To be The Global Benchmark for a Capital City

IIP grows fastest in 11 mths at 8.1% in Oct



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's industrial output grew at an 11-month high of 8.1 per cent in October mainly on the back of mining, power and manufacturing sectors coupled with higher offtake of capital as well as consumer durable goods.

Industrial production measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew 1.8 per cent in October last year, as per official data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Wednesday.

The previous high IIP growth rate was recorded in November last year at 8.5 per cent. The growth for September

remained unchanged at 4.5 per cent compared to provisional data released last month.

During the April-October period, industrial output grew 5.6 per cent as compared to 2.5 per cent in the same period of the previous fiscal.

Manufacturing sector, which constitutes 77.63 per cent of the index, recorded 7.9 per cent growth in October as against 2 per cent year ago. Mining sector posted 7 per cent growth during the month as against a contraction of 0.2 per cent in October 2017.

The power sector output also grew by 10.8 per cent in the month compared to 3.2 per cent a year ago.

The capital goods sector

saw a 16.8 per cent output growth in the month, up from 3.5 per cent a year ago. Consumer durables expanded at 17.6 per cent as compared to a contraction of 9 per cent a year earlier.

In terms of industries, 21 out of 23 industry groups in the manufacturing sector have shown positive growth during October 2018.

As per use-based classification, the growth rates in October 2018 over October 2017 are 6.0 per cent in primary goods, 1.8 per cent in intermediate goods and 8.7 per cent in infrastructure/construction goods. The consumer non-durables have recorded growth a 7.9 per cent growth.

Nov retail inflation slumps to 17-month low on easing food prices



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Retail inflation plunged to a 17-month low in November at 2.33 per cent, mainly on account of decline in prices of kitchen essentials like vegetables, eggs and pulses.

Retail inflation, which is calculated on the consumer price index (CPI), for October this year has been revised slightly up at 3.38 per cent from 3.31 per cent earlier, data from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) showed Wednesday.

In the year-ago period (November 2017), it was at 4.88 per cent.

Retail inflation, a key input for the RBI to decide on its monetary policy, was lower than this in June 2017 when it stood at 1.46 per cent, as per data by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI). The

CSO comes under MOSPI.

The overall food inflation showed a negative print of 2.61 per cent in November against an uptick of 0.86 per cent in October.

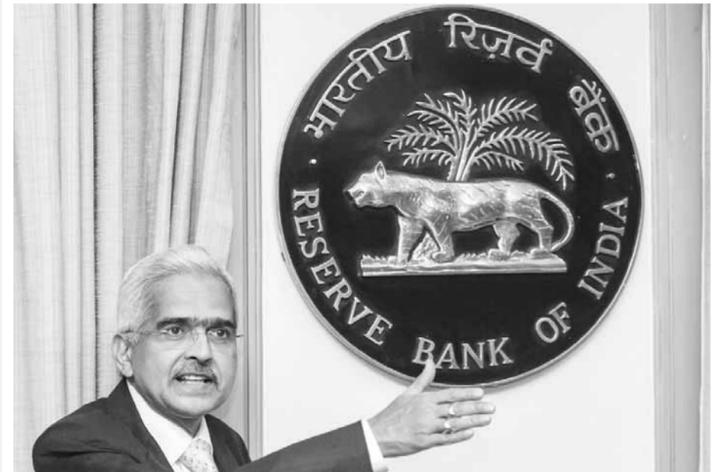
Vegetables prices showed a sharp decline with inflation standing at (-)15.59 per cent in November as against (-) 8.06 per cent in the previous month.

For pulses and its products, the rate of deflation slowed a tad at (-) 9.22 per cent from (-) 10.28 per cent. Protein rich eggs inflation came in at (-) 3.92 per cent as against 2.21 per cent in October.

For fuel and light category, the rate of price rise eased to 7.39 per cent during the month from 8.55 per cent.

However, meat and fish turned costlier at 4.99 per cent from 3.02 per cent. For fruits, the inflation moderated to 0.21 per cent from 0.35 per cent.

Will try to uphold RBI autonomy, credibility, says new Governor Das



PTI ■ MUMBAI

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das Wednesday said he will try to uphold the autonomy, credibility and the integrity of the "great institution" and take every stakeholder, including the Government, along in a consultative manner.

The former bureaucrat, who took over the reins of the Reserve Bank earlier in the day following the resignation of Urjit Patel, said he will take measures which the economy requires in a timely manner and as the first step, will meet the heads of public sector banks.

Addressing media hours after taking over as the 25th

Governor of RBI, the former Union finance secretary who was the pointsman for the Government during the demonetisation in November 2016, describing the bank as a "great institution".

"I will uphold the autonomy, integrity and credibility of RBI as an institution. I will ensure that it is intact," he said. "The RBI is a great institution, has a long and rich legacy," he added.

The Government is the key stakeholder and the owner which run the nation, he said.

Das parried queries on differences with the Government that led to his predecessor's resignation Monday.

"I wouldn't go into the issues between RBI and

Government but every institution has to maintain its autonomy and also adhere to accountability," Das said.

"I don't know whether the Government-RBI relationship is blocked, but I feel stakeholder consultations have to go on," he said.

On the Parliamentary mandate on RBI as an inflation targeting central bank, he said it's heartening to know that inflation is on target with a benign outlook.

"Inflation targeting is an important function as it is a mandated requirement of RBI now," Das said.

The RBI central board meeting will take place on December 14 as scheduled, he said.

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS DURING FOG

During the foggy weather the following Passenger trains will remain cancelled from 14.12.2018 to 15.02.2019 as under:-

Train No.	Train Name	Cancelled on Frequency/Day
64517	Ambala Cantt. - Nangal Dam MEMU	Fri, Sat, Sun
64518	Nangal Dam - Ambala Cantt. MEMU	Fri, Sat, Sun
74994	Ambala Cantt. - Kurukshetra DEMU	Daily
74993	Kurukshetra - Ambala Cantt. DEMU	Daily
54765	Dhuri - Bhatinda Passenger	Daily
54766	Bhatinda - Dhuri Passenger	Daily
64483	Kurukshetra - Ambala Cantt. MEMU	Daily
74912	Jalandhar City - Hoshiarpur DEMU	Daily
74911	Hoshiarpur - Jalandhar City DEMU	Daily
74641	Jalandhar City - Amritsar DEMU	Daily
74643	Jalandhar City - Amritsar DEMU	Daily
74642	Amritsar - Jalandhar City DEMU	Daily
74984	Fazilka Jn. - Kot Kapura DEMU	Daily
74981	Kot Kapura - Fazilka Jn. DEMU	Daily
74648	Jalandhar City - Ludhiana DEMU	Daily
74647	Ludhiana - Jalandhar City DEMU	Daily
74675	Amritsar - Pathankot DEMU	Daily
74672	Pathankot - Amritsar DEMU	Daily
74931	Jalandhar City - Firozpur Cantt. DEMU	Daily
74938	Firozpur Cantt. - Jalandhar City DEMU	Daily
74973	Firozpur Cantt. - Fazilka Jn. DEMU	Daily
74976	Fazilka Jn. - Firozpur Cantt. DEMU	Daily
54051	Ludhiana - Firozpur Cantt. Passenger	Daily
54052	Firozpur Cantt. - Ludhiana Passenger	Daily
74201	Partapgarh - Lucknow DEMU	6 Days a Week
74202	Lucknow - Partapgarh DEMU	6 Days a Week
64207	Lucknow - Kanpur Central MEMU	Daily
64212	Kanpur Central - Lucknow Jn. MEMU	Daily
64205	Lucknow - Kanpur Central MEMU	Daily
64210	Kanpur Central - Lucknow MEMU	Daily
54281	Sultanpur - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54284	Lucknow - Sultanpur Passenger	Daily
54261	P. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Jaunpur Passenger	Daily
54262	Jaunpur - P. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Passenger	Daily
54293	Partapgarh - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54294	Lucknow - Partapgarh Passenger	Daily
54110	Faizabad - P. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Passenger	Daily
54109	P. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Faizabad Passenger	Daily
54201	Lucknow - Rahimabad Passenger	Weekly
64274	Lucknow Jn. - Barabanki MEMU	Daily
64275	Barabanki - Lucknow Jn. MEMU	Daily
54375	Prayag - Jaunpur Passenger	Daily
54376	Jaunpur - Prayag Passenger	Daily
54255	Varanasi - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54256	Lucknow - Varanasi Passenger	Daily
64213	Lucknow Jn. - Kanpur Central MEMU	Daily
64254	Kanpur Central - Lucknow Jn. MEMU	Daily
54102	Kanpur Central - Prayag Passenger	Daily
54101	Prayag - Kanpur Central Passenger	Daily
54251	Lucknow - Saharanpur Passenger	Daily
54252	Saharanpur - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54232	Lucknow - Faizabad Passenger	Daily
54233	Faizabad - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54254	Lucknow - Prayag Passenger	Daily
54253	Prayag - Lucknow Passenger	Daily
54371	Prayag - Faizabad Passenger	Daily
54372	Faizabad - Prayag Passenger	Daily
54228	Rae Bareilly - Unchahar Passenger	Daily
54227	Unchahar - Rae Bareilly Passenger	Daily

Train No.	Train Name	Train to terminate at/originate from station	Train to remain partially cancelled between stations
54283	Sultanpur - Lucknow Passenger		Daily
54282	Lucknow - Sultanpur Passenger		Daily
51915	Delhi Jn. - Farukhnagar Passenger		Daily
51916	Farukhnagar - Delhi Jn. Passenger		Daily
54059	Delhi Jn. - Shamil Passenger		Daily
54060	Shamil - Delhi Jn. Passenger		Daily
54641	Delhi Jn. - Firozpur Cantt. Passenger		Daily
54642	Firozpur Cantt. - Delhi Jn. Passenger		Daily
64032	Shakurbasti - Ghaziabad EMU		Daily
64034	Ghaziabad - Shakurbasti EMU		Daily
64087	H. Nizamuddin - New Delhi EMU		Daily
64092	H. Nizamuddin - H. Nizamuddin EMU		Daily
64093	H. Nizamuddin - Shakurbasti EMU		Daily
64096	Shakurbasti - H. Nizamuddin EMU		Daily
64097	New Delhi - Shakurbasti EMU		Daily
64403	Ghaziabad - Delhi Jn. EMU		Daily
64428	New Delhi - Ghaziabad EMU		Daily (Except Sat & Sun)
64431	Ghaziabad - New Delhi EMU		Daily (Except Sat & Sun)
64449	Ghaziabad - New Delhi EMU		Daily (Except Sat & Sun)
64450	New Delhi - Ghaziabad EMU		Daily (Except Sat & Sun)
64555	Anand Vihar T. - Meerut City MEMU		Daily
64556	Meerut City - Anand Vihar T. MEMU		Daily
64553	Moradabad - Anand Vihar T. MEMU		Daily
64554	Anand Vihar T. - Moradabad MEMU		Daily
64913	Delhi Jn. - Rohtak MEMU		Daily
64916	Rohtak - Delhi Jn. MEMU		Daily
64036	Shakurbasti - Ghaziabad EMU		Daily
64019	Palwal - Shakurbasti EMU	Sat & Sun	
64064	Delhi Jn. - Palwal EMU	Sat & Sun	
64439	Ghaziabad - Delhi Jn. EMU	Sat & Sun	
64406	Delhi Jn. - Ghaziabad EMU	Sat & Sun	
64423	Ghaziabad - New Delhi EMU	Sat & Sun	
64430	New Delhi - Ghaziabad EMU	Sat & Sun	
64221	Lucknow Jn. - Shahjahanpur MEMU		Daily
64222	Shahjahanpur - Lucknow Jn. MEMU		Daily
54377	Prayag - Bareilly Passenger		Daily
54378	Bareilly - Prayag Passenger		Daily
54307	Moradabad - Delhi Jn. Passenger		Daily
54308	Delhi Jn. - Moradabad Passenger		Daily
54353	Aligarh Jn. - Bareilly Passenger		Daily
54354	Bareilly - Aligarh Jn. Passenger		Daily
54311	Bareilly - Moradabad Passenger		Daily
54312	Moradabad - Bareilly Passenger		Daily
54313	Chandausi - Moradabad Passenger		Daily
54314	Moradabad - Chandausi Passenger		Daily

SHORT TERMINATION/ORIGINATING/PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAIN FROM 14.12.18 TO 15.02.19

Train No.	Train Name	Train to terminate at/originate from station	Train to remain partially cancelled between stations
64113	Khurja Jn. - Shakurbasti EMU (Daily)	At Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad - Shakurbasti

The position will be reviewed on the basis of local weather conditions.

Note: Train no. 54371/54372 Prayag - Faizabad - Prayag Passenger, 54375/54376 Prayag - Jaunpur - Prayag Passenger, 54101/ 54102 Kanpur Central - Prayag - Kanpur Central, 54253/54254 Prayag - Lucknow - Prayag Passenger may be restored in view of Kumbh Mela - 2019 from 11.01.2019 onwards

Note: For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passenger Complaint Helpline No. 138

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India's air connectivity grew fastest in five years, says IATA

PTI ■ GENEVA

India's air connectivity has grown the fastest in the last five years and there is "strong growth" ahead in terms of domestic passenger numbers though there are infrastructure challenges, according to global airlines' body IATA.

India is the fastest growing domestic aviation market in the world, IATA's Chief Economist Brian Pearce said. The country registered double-digit growth in domestic aviation market for the 50th consecutive month in October.

An analysis by the International Airport Transport Association (IATA) showed that air connectivity grew the fastest at 114 per cent in the five-year period from 2013-2018.

"Many of the markets where connectivity has grown fastest, unsurprisingly are in Asia - India (114 per cent), China and Indonesia..." the grouping said in a presentation during the Global Media Day here.

As per the IATA, which is a grouping of around 290 air-

lines, connectivity is the "extent to which a country is integrated into the global air transport network".

In recent years, many foreign as well as Indian carriers have commenced flights to and from various Indian cities. About domestic passenger growth, Pearce said that there is strong growth ahead but the challenge is with infrastructure and that airports are crowded.

"We need more terminals and runway capacities... We have seen concession (agreements) for many airports leading to large rises in airport charges," he noted.

On steps being taken in India to address the infrastructure issues, he said additional capacity is being put in place and some very good modern airports being built which is a "real positive".

Noting that the cost of using those airports is high, Pearce said it is because the "economic regulations have not been strong as we would have hoped because concession agreements were made with very large royalties".

Legacy staff cost, tariff war, absence of 4G service plaguing MTNL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Wednesday said legacy staff cost, cut throat tariff war, and absence of 4G services are some of the major reasons for losses at State-owned telecom firm MTNL.

Telecom Minister Manoj Sinha informed the Lok Sabha that the Department of Telecom has received revival plan of MTNL, which has been declared 'Incipient Sick', as per the Department of Public Enterprises guidelines.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has licence to operate in Delhi and Mumbai.

"One of the major reasons for losses of MTNL is huge legacy staff cost. Besides, the service revenue is declining due to intense competition resulting into cut throat tariffs, inability of MTNL to infuse capital expenditure (CAPEX) to upgrade its network. All pri-

vate telecom operators are offering 4G services leading to churn in mobile segment of MTNL. Due to this MTNL's revenue from operation has reduced," Sinha said.

In the second quarter ended September 30, 2018, MTNL reported widening of its loss to ₹859 crore and the company's total income declined by 21 per cent to ₹621.26 crore on standalone basis. The employee cost accounted for 92.2 per cent of total income of the company and around 29 per cent more than its revenue from operations at ₹572.83 crore.

The annual loss of MTNL has been stagnant at ₹2,970 crore during 2016-17 and 2017-18.

Rupee tumbles 16 paise, breaches 72-mark vs USD

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee declined by 16 paise to close at 72.01 against the US dollar Wednesday amid strengthening of the greenback and rising crude oil prices even as the equity markets staged a sharp upmove.

At the Interbank Foreign Exchange (forex) market, the local unit opened lower at 72.10 and fell further to touch the day's low of 72.17.

The domestic currency, however, pared some losses and finally ended at 72.01 per dollar, down by 16 paise against its previous close.

On Tuesday, the Indian rupee had plunged 53 paise to 71.85 per US dollar.

The weakness in the rupee comes amid the prompt appointment of former bureaucrat Shaktikanta Das as the new RBI Governor.

Fitch Ratings on Wednesday said the resignation of Urjit Patel as Reserve Bank Governor highlights the risks to RBI's policy priorities and increased Government influence on the central bank could under-



mine the efforts to address bad loan problems.

Forex traders said the rupee came under pressure following strengthening of the dollar against major global currencies overseas and rise in crude oil prices. However, a significant surge in domestic equities capped the fall.

The BSE Sensex zoomed 629.06 points, or 1.79 per cent, to end at 35,779.07, while the broader NSE Nifty rallied 188.45 points, or 1.79 per cent,

to 10,737.60.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, was trading at \$61.23 per barrel Wednesday, higher by 1.71 per cent.

The Financial Benchmark India Private Ltd (FBIL) set the reference rate for the rupee/dollar at 72.0407 and for rupee/euro at 81.5928.

The reference rate for rupee/British pound was fixed at 90.0393 and for rupee/100 Japanese yen was 63.50.

Axis Bank launches QuikPay Home Loan; a Monthly Instalments Plan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Axis Bank, the country's third largest private bank, today launched 'QuikPay Home Loan', a home loan offering that will let home buyers save the interest amount component of the loan. QuikPay Home Loan will offer an alternative repayment structure, wherein the customer repays an equal amount of principal every month along with interest on the outstanding balance.

Thus an equated principal amount combined with reducing interest amount component will lead to reducing monthly instalments. As a result, there will be an overall reduction in total interest amount component paid over the entire tenure of the home loan, thereby benefiting the customer.

Instead of EMIs (equated monthly instalments), the customer will pay reducing monthly instalments. While the initial instalments will be higher (than the EMI on the same loan amount for the same tenure), the instalment amount keeps reducing throughout the loan tenure.

May to face no-confidence vote

PTI ■ LONDON

Embattled British Prime Minister Theresa May will face a vote of no-confidence on Wednesday triggered by her own party lawmakers over her handling of the controversial Brexit deal, as she vowed to fight the latest challenge to her leadership with "everything I have got".

May is set to face a vote of no-confidence in her leadership after the required 48 MPs from her Conservative Party filed letters with the influential 1922 Committee, which represents rank-and-file Conservative MPs in the House of Commons.

"I will contest that vote with everything I have got," May said in a statement at Downing Street, warning that the leadership challenge will delay or even cancel Brexit.

"I stand ready to finish the job," the 62-year-old Prime Minister said.

May, who has been prime minister since shortly after the UK voted to leave the 28-member European Union in June, 2016, has faced criticism in her party for the Brexit plan she has negotiated.



Theresa May leaves 10 Downing Street to attend the weekly Prime Minister's Questions session, at Parliament in London on Wednesday

The vote, triggered amid ongoing divisions over her Brexit deal, will take place in the form of a secret ballot on Wednesday evening.

May will need to convince a majority of MPs (158 out of 315 Conservative MPs) to be able to win the vote and then her leadership cannot be challenged for at least a year under Tory party rules.

According to some reports,

so far at least 147 Tory MPs have publicly said they will vote for her, with many of her Cabinet ministers coming out in her support.

However, if she loses, the party will have to elect a new leader who will then go on to become the next British Prime Minister.

Some possible frontrunners being named in the UK media include former foreign

secretary Boris Johnson, current foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt, home secretary Sajid Javid and work and pensions secretary Amber Rudd. But there does not seem to be a candidate with consensus across the pro and anti Brexit wings within the Tory party.

If there are multiple candidates, Conservative MPs hold

a series of votes to choose two to go forward to a vote of all party members. As leader of the largest party in the House of Commons, the new Conservative leader would then be expected to be asked to form a government and become Prime Minister, without the need for a general election.

British PM faces angry MPs with Brexit deal in limbo

AFP ■ LONDON

Prime Minister Theresa May faces an angry parliament on Wednesday after delaying a key vote on her Brexit deal in a desperate move that leaves the agreement and her own future in limbo. The British leader toured European capitals on Tuesday in an attempt to salvage the deal, after MPs savaged its provisions on the issue of the Irish border.

May said she wanted "assurances" from EU leaders that if Britain ever entered the so-called "backstop" arrangement for the border, this would

only be "temporary". But she also said it was "the best deal available", adding: "There's no deal available that doesn't have a backstop".

She received sympathy from EU partners but firm rejections of any attempt to reopen the agreement, which was approved by EU leaders last month following tortuous negotiations.

"There is no room whatsoever for renegotiation but of course there is room, if used intelligently, to give further clarification," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said ahead of talks with May on Tuesday.

Blow to Prez as Lankan Parl adopts confidence motion on ousted PM

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's ousted prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe emphatically proved his majority in Parliament on Wednesday, weeks after being sacked by President Maithripala Sirisena in a controversial move that plunged the island nation into a political turmoil.

As many as 117 out of 225 lawmakers in Parliament voted to pass a confidence motion in his leadership.

The motion's approval could be seen as a blow to President Sirisena who has



steadfastly refused to reappoint 69-year-old Wickremesinghe due to his personal dislike of the ousted prime minister.

Sri Lanka is going through a major political crisis since October 26 when President Maithripala Sirisena, in a controversial move, removed Wickremesinghe and installed

ex-strongman Mahinda Rajapaksa in his place.

Rajapaksa has so far failed to prove his majority in Parliament. The main Tamil minority party TNA voted in favour of the confidence motion. However, the Marxist JVP, which has protested Sirisena's extra constitutional action, abstained from voting.

If the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP)'s six lawmakers had voted in his favour, Wickremesinghe would have commanded an unassailable majority in the House despite the president's refusal to reinstate him.

Pope removes 2 scandal-hit cardinals from inner circle

AFP ■ VATICAN CITY

Pope Francis has removed two prominent cardinals from his inner circle months after they were tainted by paedophile scandals.

Australian Cardinal George Pell and Chilean Cardinal Francisco Javier Errazuriz were both removed from the so-called C9 Council of Cardinals, an international advice body set up by Francis himself, the Vatican said Wednesday.

The last time the C9 met in September, Errazuriz, who is accused of ignoring reports of abuse in Chile, and Pell, who faces charges in Australia related to historical child sexual offences, were both absent, and the council said it was considering restructuring.

Malaysian ex-PM slapped with new charge over 1MDB scandal

AP ■ KUALA LUMPUR

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak was charged on Wednesday with tampering with the final audit report on a defunct state investment fund, adding to a long list of corruption allegations against him since his ouster in May elections.

Najib was charged along with Arul Kanda Kandasamy, the former head of the 1MDB fund, which is being investigated in the US and other countries for alleged cross-border embezzlement and money laundering.

Najib pleaded not guilty to abusing his power in ordering the modification of the report

UN PUSHES FOR TRUCE CORRIDORS AT YEMEN

Mediators in UN-brokered talks on Yemen pushed on Wednesday for a truce between warring parties as a crucial step to allow aid deliveries, with 24 hours left in the negotiations. Mediators are seeking a de-escalation of violence in two flashpoint cities: rebel-held Hodeida, a port city vital to the supply of humanitarian aid, and Taiz, Yemen's third largest city, scene of some of the war's most intense fighting.

27 TERRORISTS KILLED IN SINAI, BORDER WITH LIBYA

Egypt says its security forces have killed at least 27 suspected terrorists in the restive northern Sinai Peninsula and along its porous border with Libya.

SWEDEN FREEZES SUPPORT TO UNAIDS

Sweden said on Wednesday it was freezing its support to UNAIDS until its executive director is removed, after an expert report blasted the agency's leadership for systematically failing to address bullying, abuse and sexual harassment. The Swedish Govt has no confidence in Michel Sidibe to lead the organisation.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Bhutte** S/o Ram Charan, R/o West Kamal Vihar, Gali No. 7, Nathupura, Burari, Delhi also at - H. No. 217, Jahangir Puri, Delhi, also at : Village Vilan Cakkar Pura pichune, Thana Ujian, Tehsil Roopwara, Distt. Bharat Pur (RJ) has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **F.I.R. No. 186/11 u/s 325/341/34 IPC P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon that the said **Bhutte** could not be found and where it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Bhutte** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Bhutte** in **F.I.R. No. 186/11 u/s 325/341/34 IPC P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **02.03.2019**.
By Order
Sh. Anurag Thakur,
Metropolitan Magistrate, (North-West)-02, (Court Notice) Room No. 113, 1st Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a girl **Namely: Priyanka, D/o Late Joginder Singh, R/o: H. No. D-37/2, Swaran Park, Nangloi, Delhi, Age: 14 Years, Height: 4'9", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Hair: Black, ID Mark: Cut mark on Nose & forehead, Wearing: Pink colour Suit-Salwar and fancy black chapple in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 15.11.2018 from the area of PS Nangloi. In this regard **FIR No. 452/18 u/s 363 IPC, Dated 17.11.2018**, has been lodged at **PS. Nangloi, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing girl please inform the undersigned.
E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in **SHO**
Fax: 011-24368639 **PS, Nangloi, Delhi,**
DP/1652/OD/18 **Ph.: 011-25947225, 25949470****

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Q-Division, CPWD, East Block, R.K. Puram, New Delhi on behalf of President of India invites online percentage rate (CPWD-7) tender from the approved and eligible contractors of CPWD for the following work
1. **NIT No. 64/EE/Q-Divn./2018-19** Name of work:- Upgradation to C-I, C-II and D-II flats at Moti Bagh under 2/Q Sub-Division dg. 2018-19 (SH: Civil Works) **Estimated Cost:- Rs. 26,97,315/- Earnest Money:- Rs. 53,946/- Period of completion:- 03 Months, Last date and time of submission of bid 20.12.2018 at 12:00 P.M.**
The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD or www.eprocurement.gov.in

Hunt for gunman after Strasbourg market attack kills three

AFP ■ STRASBOURG
Hundreds of security forces were on Wednesday deployed in the hunt for a lone gunman who killed at least three people and wounded a dozen others at the famed Christmas market in Strasbourg, with the French government raising the security alert level and reinforcing border controls.
Some 350 people, including police, troops and helicopters were on the heels of the attacker who had "sowed terror" in the city, Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said.

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD. CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE

This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/21/2018-2019 is invited previously for three phase (10-60A) meter with box are hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs of 26.12.2018. Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 27.12.2018 at 15:30 hrs.
Other terms and conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, Please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.
No. : 640/EE(CM)/UPCL /A-2 **Superintending Engineer**
Date : 11.12.2018 **Corporate (Contract & Procurement-I)**
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONS" Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll Free : 1912) "Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org"
(For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185 / Fax No. 0135-2760191)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed this person **Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 26 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 5 inch, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Cream colour shirt and brown pant, has been found dead at in Mathura Road, Ali Red Light, Badarpur, Delhi on dated 08.12.2018 at 11:57 AM.**
In this regard a FIR/DD No. 16 A, dated 08.12.2018 has been registered at P.S. Badarpur, New Delhi.
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.
Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.
SHO
P.S. Badarpur, New Delhi
DP/7284/SE/18 **Ph.: 011-29894753, 8750870933**

Pakistan rejects US blacklisting over religious freedom violations

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD
Pakistan on Wednesday rejected as "unilateral and politically motivated" the US' decision to place it on its blacklist of nations that infringe on religious freedom, saying the Muslim-majority country is a multi-religious and pluralistic society where people of diverse faiths live together.

WESTERN RAILWAY MUMBAI DIVISION BULK ADVERTISING RIGHTS

For information of public - It is informed that the following tenders have been uploaded on internet as E-tenders. All are requested to please visit our website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> to download the tender document, corrigendum and further details. **Sr.No.1. Tender Notice No. : CA11_BulkSTN_CCG NTKT_2018** Dated: 05/12/2018. **Work and Location :** Bulk Advertising Rights of Churchgate Station Non-Ticketing Area for a period of 5 Years. **Approx. Cost of Work : ₹ 7,27,71,469/- EMD : ₹ 14,55,500/-** **Date & Time of Opening : 27/12/2018 at 15:30 hrs. Sr.No.2. Tender Notice No. : CA11_BulkSTN_DDR-FOB_2018** Dated: 07/12/2018. **Work and Location :** Bulk Advertising Rights of Dadar Station Foot Over Bridge for a period of 5 Years. **Approx. Cost of Work : ₹ 5,70,20,575.04/- EMD : ₹ 11,40,500/-** **Date & Time of Opening : 28/12/2018 at 15:30 hrs. Sr.No.3. Tender Notice No. : CA11_BulkSTN_DDR-PF_2018** Dated: 06/12/2018. **Work and Location :** Bulk Advertising Rights of Dadar Station Platforms and Booking Offices for a period of 5 Years. **Approx. Cost of Work : ₹ 5,65,81,951.53/- EMD : ₹ 11,31,700/-** **Date & Time of Opening : 28/12/2018 at 15:30 hrs. Office Where Tender Form Available: For Sr.No.1 to 3 ACM(PM)-BCT.**
Follow us on : twitter.com/WesternRail

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public that original documents of the property bearing No. 426, 2nd and 3rd floor, Sita Ram Bazar, Delhi-110029, has been lost and in respect of thereof filed FIR No. 2642951/2018 Hauz Kazi, Police Station. Detailed description of the document are as under:
Sale Deed Date 23.08.1971 executed by Shri Vidya Swaroop and Shri Ramesh Chand in favor of Smt. Maya Devi registered as document No. 4581, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 2598 on Page No. 100-104 on dated 23.06.1971 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Delhi.
Mr. Anil Gupta has mortgaged aforementioned property by availing business loan facility with Syndicate Bank, New Delhi.
All persons, financial institutions or bank having any claim i.e. sale, exchange, gift, possession, mortgage, lease, lien, trust or otherwise (if any) may send their objection in writing to Syndicate Bank, RML-C/I address : 7, Sethi Bhawan, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008 Phone 25711266 email- br.9207@syndicatebank.co.in
Within 10 days of publication of this notice, any claim received after 10 days shall be treated illegal and void and mortgage created with the syndicate bank shall have priority over any claim in respect of aforementioned property.
Anil Gupta
426, 2nd and 3rd floor, Sita Ram Bazar
Delhi-110006 Ph. 9873898960

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION

The Executive Engineer, (C) KKD Court Division, PWD Under Akshardham Flyover, Metro Pillar No. 50, Noida Mor Delhi-91 invites percentage rate tender on behalf of the President of India, from Approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, and also MES, BSNL and other state Govt. Departments dealing with buildings and roads and others experienced contractors by E -Tendering for the following work
1. Name of Work : Providing and fixing aluminium window & replacement of door in chambers of D-block at KKD Court, dg.2018-19.
NIT No 110/EE/KKD COURT DIVN./PWD/NIT/2018-19 ID No. 2 0 1 8 _ P W D _ 1 6 3 2 4 6 _ 1 Estimated Cost. Rs. 30,17,277/- Earnest money Rs. 60,346/- Period of completion 60 Days
2. Name of Work: A/A to KKD court, Shahdara, Delhi dg.2018-19 SH:- Replacement of damaged doors, windows & misc. civil work in lawyers chamber 'G' block. (Balance work)
NIT No 112/EE/KKD COURT DIVN./PWD/NIT/2018-19 ID No. 2 0 1 8 _ P W D _ 1 6 3 2 5 3 _ 1 Estimated Cost. Rs. 15,22,322/- Earnest money Rs. 30,446/- Period of completion 60 Days
3. Name of Work: A/A to KKD court, Shahdara, Delhi dg.2018-19 SH:- Replacement of damaged Doors, windows & misc. civil work in lawyers chamber 'E' block. (Balance work)
NIT No :- 113/EE/KKD COURT DIVN./PWD/NIT/2018-19 ID No. 2 0 1 8 _ P W D _ 1 6 3 2 6 7 _ 1 Estimated Cost. Rs. 17,21,861/- Earnest money Rs. 34,437/- Period of completion 60 Days
4. Name of Work : A/A to KKD court, Shahdara, Delhi dg.2018-19 SH:- Replacement of damaged Doors, windows & misc. civil work in lawyers chamber 'F' block. (Balance work)
NIT No :-114/EE/KKD COURT DIVN./PWD/NIT/2018-19 ID No. 2018_PWD_163282_1 Estimated Cost. Rs. 13,09,619/- Earnest money Rs. 26192/- Period of completion : 60 Days
Last date and time of Receipt of tender up to 15:00 PM on 20.12.2018 Date & time of opening of bid on 20.12.2018 at 15:30 PM Execution of similar works please see in NIT Earnest Money in favour of Executive Engineer CBM Divn. M-231, PWD Other details of tender can be obtained from the website: <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
DIP/Shabdarth/2443/18-19

UJVN LTD. (An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax- 0135-2763507
CIN No.-U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com
e-Tender Notice
For and on behalf of UJVN Limited, office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-I), UJVN Limited, Guptkashi, Rudrapurag, invites e-tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :-

Tender No.	02/Ee(Civil-I)/Guptkashi/Srikot/2018-19
Name of work	First Stage Completion of Civil works for partially constructed old office building at Srikot Srinagar (Garhwal)
Estimated Cost	Rs. 38.98 Lakh
Earnest Money deposit	Rs. 97,500/-
Tender Fee	Rs. 2360/- (Including GST)
Date & Time of availability of bid Document on the portal	12.12.2018 at 15:30 Hrs
Last Date & Time for submission of bid on the portal	11.01.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs
Last Date/Time for receipt of hard copies of relevant documents	15.01.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs
Date/Time for opening of bid on the website	17.01.2019 at 11:00 Hrs

Full & Further details of tender can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"
Letter No. 723
Dated 12.12.2018
Executive Engineer (Civil-I)
Guptkashi, Rudrapurag
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

ICICI Bank

Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakki Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara, Gujarat 390007.
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400051.
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan, New Delhi -110055
PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
(See proviso to rule 8 (6))
Notice for sale of immovable properties
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured assets with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding (In ₹)	Reserve Price (In ₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (In ₹)	Date of Property Inspection and Time	Date & Time of Auction
1.	PGT Components Ltd, Urshelha Mehta, Ramesh Grover, Bhupendra Nath Mehta (LBND00001615605, LBND00001756207)	Plot No. 65, Block A, Sector 5, Noida (201301) Area- 804 Sq Ft.	Rs. 6,23,23,326/- as on Nov 17, 2018.	Rs. 4,26,20,000/-	Rs. 42,62,000/-	January 10, 2019 From 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM	January 21, 2019 From 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM

The online auction will take place on the website of auction agency **Shriram Automail India Ltd. (URL Link - <https://e.auctions.samil.in/>)**. The Mortgagors/ Noticee are given last offer to pay the total dues with further interest till **January 19, 2019 From before 5:00 P.M** failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.
The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with aforesaid earnest money deposit (as referred in column No. (F) in a sealed envelope superscribed "offer for purchase of property" so as to reach at **ICICI Bank Limited, 2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi 110055** or our marketing agents **Shriram Automail India Ltd** having their office at **2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi - 110034** on or before **January 19, 2019 before 5:00 P.M.** The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. EMD DD / PO should be from a Nationalised /Scheduled Bank favouring "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.
For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact on Mobile no. **8584874809/9650193259** of ICICI Bank Limited or **9910453434** of **Shriram Automail India Ltd.** The tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/e-auction vendor official and registered before the cut off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction.
The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any reasons therefor. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit [ICICI Bank Ltd website at <https://www.icicibank.com/notice-board/properties-for-sale/properties.page?>
Date : December 13, 2018
Place : Delhi/ NCR
Sd/-
Authorised Officer
ICICI Bank Limited](https://www.icicibank.com/notice-board/properties-for-sale/properties.page?)

SALAH, ALISSON SEND REDS THROUGH

Mohamed's first-half strike prove decisive as Liverpool manage to beat Napoli 1-0 in final group fixture to avoid early exit; Spurs leapfrog Inter after Barca stalemate

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Mohamed Salah's first-half goal and a stunning late save from goalkeeper Alisson saw Liverpool edge into the Champions League knockout stage after a tense 1-0 win over Napoli on Tuesday, while Lucas Moura's late strike saw Tottenham progress with a draw at Barcelona.

Last year's runners-up Liverpool knew victory by two goals or a 1-0 triumph would put them through to the last 16 from Group C, and Salah's cool 34th-minute strike proved enough as they finished ahead of Napoli on goals scored.

"Wow, what a game. I am not sure a manager could be prouder of a team than I am," Reds boss Jurgen Klopp told *BT Sport*.

Paris Saint-Germain reached the knockout rounds as group winners thanks to a 4-1 victory over Red Star Belgrade, with Neymar, Kylian Mbappe and Edinson Cavani all on the scoresheet.

Liverpool grabbed the crucial goal at a raucous Anfield, as Salah jinked past Kalidou Koulibaly inside the area and slotted the ball beyond goalkeeper David Ospina.

Salah, who had already wasted an earlier chance with a heavy touch, continued to run Napoli ragged early in the second half, but Ospina saved from Jordan Henderson and James Milner curled wide as Carlo Ancelotti's men stayed a goal from turning the group on its head.

The atmosphere around Anfield became increasingly tense as the



Premier League leaders continued to miss opportunities, with Ospina springing to his left to tip away Salah's attempted lob before denying Mane from point-blank range. Senegal forward Mane was guilty of two further snatched efforts in front of goal, and Napoli almost made the Reds pay in the dying

moments. The ball fell for substitute striker Arkadiusz Milik unmarked in the area, but Alisson raced from his line to keep out the Pole's strike with his legs. "I have no idea how Alisson made a save like this," gushed Klopp. "It was amazing."

PSG went into their match in Belgrade knowing that victory would send them through, and Edinson Cavani gave the French champions the perfect start by tapping in after an excellent run and pass by Kylian Mbappe. Neymar's strike five minutes before half-time appeared to have



put the game to bed, but Red Star, who had already beaten Liverpool and held Napoli in Serbia earlier in the campaign, pulled one back before the hour mark through Marko Gobeljic. But PSG finally sealed their spot in the last 16 as Marquinhos headed in Angel Di Maria's free-kick with 16 minutes to go and Mbappe added further gloss to the scoreline in added time. "We made mistakes, but I re-

ly liked the reaction after Belgrade's goal. We controlled the match," PSG coach Thomas Tuchel told *RMC Sport*.

SPURS COME BACK

Spurs went into their final Group B game at the Camp Nou needing to match Inter Milan's result against PSV Eindhoven in Italy, but Mauricio Pochettino's side fell behind in only the seventh minute as Ousmane Dembele scored a wonderful individual goal.

Hirving Lozano gave PSV a shock early advantage at the San Siro, though, to leave Tottenham heading through as it stood.

The English club had plenty of half-chances against a much-changed Barca, who had already won the group, but Philippe Coutinho almost made it 2-0 when his low shot struck the post.

Mauro Icardi levelled for Inter against PSV with 17 minutes left to leave Spurs needing to score at least once.

Tottenham, who were facing an early elimination when trailing

PSV in their fourth group match before rallying to win and then beating Inter, continued to push and Moura met Harry Kane's low cross in the 85th minute to cap a dramatic group-stage revival.

"I always believed it was possible to win the game," Spurs manager Pochettino told *BT Sport*. "We fully deserved to go through with Barcelona. We were the best (two) teams in a difficult group."

Borussia Dortmund snatched top spot in Group A with a 2-0 win over rock-bottom Monaco, as Atletico Madrid were held to a goalless draw at Club Brugge.

Raphael Guerreiro tapped in Maximilian Philipp's low cross in the 15th minute against Thierry Henry's crisis-hit Monaco, before slamming in a second late on.

"It's a perfect evening. On the whole it was a deserved victory," said Dortmund coach Lucien Favre.

Earlier on Tuesday in Group D, Galatasaray secured a Europa League last-32 place despite losing 3-2 to Porto in an entertaining game which saw two of three penalties scored.

SINGLES

MANIKA WIN BREAKTHROUGH STAR AWARD

NEW DELHI: India's Manika Batra on Wednesday became the first Indian Table Tennis player to be decorated with the 'Breakthrough Table Tennis Star' award at the prestigious International Table Tennis Federation Star Awards in Incheon. "I am really honoured and happy to have received the award. I feel, 2018 has been the best year of my career so far and I am happy for what I have achieved," Manika said at the ceremony. "I would like to thank the Government, the Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) and most importantly, my family, who has been there for me and motivated me along this journey," she added.

CONSTANTINE NAMES PROBABLES FOR CAMP

NEW DELHI: As many as 18 under-23 players figured in the list of 34 probable named by India football coach Stephen Constantine for the preparatory camp ahead of next year's AFC Asian Cup to be held at United Arab Emirates from January 5 to February 1. All the players will be reporting to the camp in Delhi from December 16 onwards, with a squad of 28 members flying to Abu Dhabi for the final phase of preparation on December 20. As part of their preparation, the Blue Tigers are slated to play an International Friendly against Oman in Abu Dhabi on December 27. They then move on to challenge Thailand in their first match in the Asian Cup at the Al Nahyan Stadium in Abu Dhabi on January 6 next year.

JAPAN SHUN KAGAWA TO WIN ASIAN CUP

TOKYO: Japan dropped former Manchester United star Shinji Kagawa from the Blue Samurais' bid to reclaim the Asian Cup, opting instead for a squad filled with young Europe-based talents. Coach Hajime Moriyasu on Wednesday selected several players with only a handful of caps to their names for Asia's showcase football tournament in the United Arab Emirates starting in January. The likes of Ritsu Doan of Groningen, Shoya Nakajima of Portimonense and Takumi Minamino of Salzburg will lead Japan's bid for a record-extending fifth title. But there was no place for midfielder Kagawa, 29, now struggling for playing time at Borussia Dortmund.

NEHA TAKES THREE-SHOT LEAD

KOLKATA: Neha Tripathi carded two-under 70 to take a three-shot lead after the opening day of the 18th Leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour here on Wednesday. Neha, who skipped the Ladies European Tour Qualifying School to work on her game and go for the Chinese LPGA in January, shot five birdies against three bogeys at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club here. She was three shots better than second-placed Afshan Fatima (73). Smriti Mehra who was three-over in the first eight holes had pars on her last 10, as she scored 75, while three players Amandeep Drall, Khushi Khanjani and Siddhi Kapoor shot 77 each to be Tied-fourth.

NOBLE EXTENDS WEST HAM CONTRACT

LONDON: West Ham have given captain Mark Noble a contract extension that ties him to the Premier League club until 2021. Noble made his Hammers debut in 2004 and has gone to make 446 appearances for the team. The 31-year-old midfielder has started West Ham's last three matches and his return to the side has sparked a revival from Manuel Pellegrini's men, who have won all three fixtures to climb away from the relegation zone. "It was an option in my contract that I signed a few years ago now, and it's an extra year, which is fantastic for me and my family," Noble told West Ham's website. "I've been at this club all my life. I've always said I wanted to be at this club and I think we're moving in the right direction." Agencies

'Dhoni must play domestic cricket to be eligible for India selection'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India all-rounder and selector Mohinder Amarnath feels M S Dhoni and other senior players must play domestic cricket to be eligible for selection in the national team.

Having being dropped from the Twenty20 side recently and retired from Tests long ago, Dhoni now is a certainty in only ODI cricket.

Despite having the time, the former captain did not play the 50-over Vijay Hazare Trophy this year and will go into the three-match series in Australia next month without any match practice.

"Every individual is different but one thing I have always believed in is that if you want to play for India you have to play for your state as



well. I think they (BCCI) should change this policy altogether. A lot of senior players don't play domestic cricket," Amarnath said on sidelines of an event organised by *Royal Stag* in collaboration with the ICC.

"The BCCI should make it an eligibility criteria. Not only a number of games, you should be playing regularly for your state if you are not playing for India and not only just before the India selection. Then only you can judge how good the guy is playing. Whatever you have achieved is all in the past. What is important is current form," said the hero of India's World Cup triumph in 1983.

"Even if you are playing one format, you should be playing all formats at least in domestic cricket to be considered for selection," the former selector said.

'AUS WILL GIVE TOUGH FIGHT'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Talking about the ongoing Test series in Australia, former great Mohinder Amarnath feels India are a superior unit but the depleted hosts are capable of giving them a run for their money.

"Australian cricketers think differently. It is not the first time they are going through this kind of phase. They are in the process of building a new team. But from what I watched in the first Test, some of the players are really good. You can't just rule Australia out of the series. Of course India are more superior but again they have to continue playing good cricket.

"First Test was a fantastic Test match from a cricketing point of view. The only difference was Cheteshwar Pujara. It shows we are here for a thrilling series with advantage India," said the 68-year-old, who played 69 Tests and 85 ODIs.



How will India do in the second Test starting Friday in Perth?

"It depends on nature of wicket. If the wicket is doing a bit, some of the batsmen struggle with their technique. It is not how aggressive you play, the key in Test cricket is that when you leave good deliveries, you occupy the crease for a long time. It is not that they don't have that in them but they have to adapt."

Pacers need to be protected like race horses: Arun

PTI ■ PERTH

The impressive Indian fast bowlers are like race horses, who need to be protected and handled carefully, says India's bowling coach Bharat Arun, who avowed that the current lot is one of the best the country has seen.

The Indian pacers, and the entire attack as a whole, has been impressive on all overseas tours this year.

"I can say that not only now for what they did in Adelaide but what they've done over a period of time in South Africa, in England and now in Australia. This is probably one of the best group of fast bowlers India has ever had," Arun said ahead of the second Test against Australia.

"Fast bowlers are a precious commodity and they need to be taken care of, like what you do with a racehorse and that's exactly what's happening," he said.

Arun said the pacers — Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Ishant Sharma — have improved because they have found consistency.

"Consistency was a bit issue (on previous tours) and that's something we've addressed with the bowlers. It's something we've really worked hard on. We insist on one-person form factor even during practice, and the bowlers have responded exceptionally well. That's showing dividends right now.



"It's very simple work. Each time they come to the net and they bowl, they need to be aware of their plans and what they need to execute. Each time it's a little different of what they need to execute. We just test as to how far they've executed each time. That feedback allows them to be more consistent," said Arun.

The second Test begins at the Optus Stadium on Friday, and will be the first Test to be staged here with reports that pitch will plenty of pace and bounce.

Arun said that bowling at the new Perth Stadium pitch would be a temptation for their current attack, which is capable of adapting to any conditions across the world.

"Obviously the bowlers would love to bowl on those type of wickets. Whatever is in the offing, we are happy with. We haven't really taken a look at the wicket.

"Irrespective of what the conditions (are), we said we'd come here and look at it as our home conditions whatever conditions we get. We are up for it and we are prepared for any conditions that may exist at the ground," he added.

India never miss chances: Harris

PTI ■ PERTH

Australian opener Marcus Harris said he didn't feel out of depth during his debut Test at Adelaide even though there was hardly any margin of error against a quality side like India in the opening match.

"You always doubt yourself as a person, you're not sure if you're going to fit in Test cricket. So, it was good to spend time in the middle in both innings. I didn't feel out of my depth at all," said Harris, who scored a matching 26 in both the innings on debut.

"But I realised pretty quickly they don't bowl any crap and they don't miss any chances that you give them. So you've got to be switched on from ball one.

"I felt like my game stood up

Outwitted by R Ashwin and Mohammed Shami in the two innings, Harris said he is working on his plans to tackle the Indian bowlers at the Perth Test beginning on Friday.

"I worked hard in between the first and second innings on some plans against Ashwin and now I'm just working on guys coming around the wicket and stuff like that to work on plans India will use against me," he said.

"It has given me great confidence to be able to bat a decent period of time and occupy the crease for a bit."

Australia lost the first Test narrowly by 31 runs and Harris said the hosts will take confidence from the close finish and the onus will be on the top-order

to take responsibility from the batting exploits of their tail-enders.

"I think we took some good confidence from the fight we showed, it got down to 30 runs. I know when I looked at it as a batter I thought I wish I could've got 60 or 70. So we got pretty close and hopefully we could take some momentum into the game on Friday," he said.

"I think the wicket will suit us a little bit more with the conditions, that's taking nothing away from India, but I just think a little bit of momentum.

"We would've loved to win the game, but the boys bowled really well and they also batted really well. It's probably on us batters to take a bit of the weight from them."



WFI upgrades Sushil, Sakshi's contracts

MUMBAI: Terming it as a mistake, the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) on Wednesday announced that the contracts of star grapplers Sushil Kumar and Sakshi Malik have been upgraded to Grade A from B.

When the WFI announced the contracts, both Sakshi and Sushil, Olympic medalists were given grade B contracts. However, rectifying the error, an announcement to upgrade their contracts was made by WFI President Brijbhushan Sharan Singh on Wednesday.

"With your support, we implemented the grading system for the players A, B, C, D, E and F grades.



"We all unanimously agreed that such players like Sushil (Kumar) and Sakshi Malik, who gave the country the first medal when Indias medal tally (at the Rio Olympics was empty) should not be kept in B grade," Singh said while explaining the

WFI's change of mind.

"So I would like to admit that it was a mistake (on our part) and we are rectifying the mistake and are now including both the players (Sakshi and Sushil) to A grade, added the WFI President.

"After Singh's announcement in Grade A, there are five wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat, Pooja Dhandha, Sushil Kumar and Sakshi Malik. The players in Grade A will get ₹ 30 lakh annually.

"Players did not complain about it (grades), neither the media did. But we have rectified the mistake," Singh informed.

Now there are no players in Grade B.

vivacity

ARJUN RAMPAL
TO MAKE
DIGITAL DEBUT
- P14



How to reverse your aging

Processed foods, stress, toxins and low-nutrient diets accelerate aging. Protect yourself from harmful chemicals while getting enough sleep, relaxation and exercise and maintain a healthy glow, says **Team Viva**

There may not be a fountain of youth, but the food we eat and how we treat ourselves can prevent or even reverse aging. Your body needs the right nutrients to fight off damage, and your skin is no different. Nutrients help the cells replicate and have more energy. Processed foods, stress, toxins and low-nutrient diets will accelerate aging. Protecting yourself from harmful chemicals while getting enough sleep, relaxation and exercise will all help you maintain a healthy glow.

There may not be a fountain of youth, but the food we eat and how we treat ourselves can prevent or even reverse aging. Your body needs the right nutrients to fight off damage, and your skin is no different. Nutrients help the cells replicate and have more energy. Processed foods, stress, toxins and low-nutrient diets will accelerate aging. Protecting yourself from harmful chemicals while getting enough sleep, relaxation and exercise will all help you maintain a healthy glow.

Free radicals form in our bodies and cause major damage to our cell structures. The different nutrient-rich foods we eat neutralize them. You need to consume the widest variety of antioxidants you can to fight off the different kinds of free radicals. Think about what colors you've missed throughout the day, and try to incorporate them into your next meal. Hydration is key to clear skin. Dehydration causes breakouts, because the skin overcompensates and produces more oil than necessary when it's dry, which in turn causes you to break out. Drink more water!

Small amounts of daily sun produce vitamin D and are beneficial, but too much sun

will damage your skin. Don't forget to wear your sunglasses, and use zinc or titanium dioxide sunscreen.

Opt for natural skin products. Many skincare products contain harsh chemicals because the skin absorbs them. Own a plant. Indoor pollution levels can be even higher than outdoor levels. A plant in your home or by your desk at work will act as an air filter.

Use non-toxic cleaning products. It is imperative to limit exposure to toxic chemicals because the skin absorbs them. Own a plant. Indoor pollution levels can be even higher than outdoor levels. A plant in your home or by your desk at work will act as an air filter.

Get enough vitamin C. A diet rich in vitamin C leads to fewer wrinkles. Researchers have found that skin exposed to vitamin C for long periods of time can produce up to eight times more collagen!

Avoid sugar as it leads to damaged collagen and elastin, which cause wrinkles. Incorporating foods such as avocados, olive oil, flax seeds, nuts and fish into your diet is important. The fatty acids are crucial for your skin to look youthful.

A build up of toxins in the body due to the air, water and food causes damage to the body as well as aging. Detoxing by way of a juice cleanse is recommended for the body to be able to focus on energy production and eliminating toxins. Having a glass of water with squeezed lemon first thing in the mornings is also very cleansing.

High levels of stress will compromise your skin. Consider yoga or meditating. Eliminate problematic people and activities from your life. Confide in your friends and openly talk to them about your worries and troubles.



You skin rejuvenates and repairs itself mostly while you are asleep. Make sure that you not only sleep for eight hours a night, but that it is quality sleep.

It increases the circulation of oxygen and nutrients and releases toxins through sweat, which leads to clearer, firmer skin. Remember to smile. It's the best exercise for your face.

To get rid of anybody acne, make sure you don't "stew in your own sweat;" shower with salicylic acid wash immediately after you workout to avoid clogging your pores.

If you're going to pop a pimple at home, do it the right way. Sterilize your hands and

A BUILD UP OF TOXINS DUE TO THE AIR, WATER AND FOOD CAUSES DAMAGE TO THE BODY AS WELL AS AGING. DETOXING BY WAY OF A JUICE CLEANSE IS RECOMMENDED TO BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON ENERGY PRODUCTION AND ELIMINATING TOXINS

a small needle with rubbing alcohol, then gently puncture the whitehead of the pimple, just enough to break the skin. Using a clean cotton swab, press on either side of the pimple until it's drained. Cover with a bandage to keep the area clean while it's healing.

Oil from your hair will get onto your pillowcase as you sleep, so change your pillowcases once a week to avoid sleeping on oil all night long. Rosewater is both balancing and soothing, making it great for all skin types to even out redness and calm any irritation that may be happening.

Contrary to popular belief, putting

Vaseline on your face nightly will not prevent wrinkles. However, if you put a thin layer of Vaseline over damp skin, moisture will be sealed in and your skin will be much smoother in the morning.

Eating too much chocolate could be the cause of breakouts, but the acne is likely just from the sugar in the chocolate or the fact that you're eating chocolate before your period, so your acne could actually be hormonal.

You should always be avoiding skin care products containing alcohol, but take special note if you've got dry skin. Alcohol will only dry out your skin even more, making for a dry, flaky situation.

You should also avoid skin care products with a fragrance, whether it be a face or a body wash. Fragrances can irritate skin, causing redness and allergic reactions.

During your morning beauty routine, it's best to style your hair before doing your makeup. If you've got makeup on your face before you start using a blow dryer, the heat begins to melt your makeup, sealing it into your pores and making your skin much more susceptible to breakouts.

If you've got an ingrown hair on your face, use a hot compress on the area to open up pores for about 10 minutes, softening the hair. Then, use a slanted tweezer to pluck the hair, followed by washing the area to avoid infection.

Stop touching your face throughout the day! You pick up bacteria from every surface you touch from your keyboard to your cell phone to elevator buttons to menus at a restaurant, and all of those bacteria floods your face once you start touching your skin. Hands off, and you'll see less breakouts.

Trend Slazer

Arjun to make digital debut

Actor **ARJUN RAMPAL** will make his digital debut with *The Final Call*, a web series which is an adaptation of author Priya Kumar's book *I Will Go With You*. Arjun said, "I am thrilled about my digital debut with ZEE5 for *The Final Call*. This story is special and you will see me in a very different avatar. We just wrapped up our first shoot schedule in Kashmir and I cannot wait to present the final product to the viewers." The series is slated for an early 2019 release.



'I am very happy to be receiving the Norwegian award. It's such an honour. Any type of award especially this, really means a lot to me. Any encouragement means the world to me. I hope to keep on doing good work which makes my audience happy.'
—Janhvi Kapoor



Actor **SUNIL GROVER**, who will be next seen in Ali Abbas Zafar's directorial *Bharat*, has said that he doesn't know any human being and artist who is as disciplined as **Salman Khan** in the film industry. Sunil was interacting with the media at the 18th edition of Indian Television Awards (ITA) 2018. Sunil said: "I haven't seen a more disciplined human being and artist than Salman. He does a lot of work at one time. He does shoots for his current films and at the same time, he listens to scripts which he will be doing in the year 2032. He is a very busy artist."



Pratt lost a little weight with fasting

Actor **CHRIS PRATT** says intermittent fasting has helped him to lose a little weight.

The star, 39, is famously fit after years of training for his various superhero roles, and this time around he is trying out the popular diet plan, which involves fasting for most of the day and eating only during a shortened time period. "I'm doing intermittent fasting; don't eat till noon, try to get my cardio in the morning. It's super exciting actor stuff." Pratt joked on his Instagram story.



The tech industry is sitting on the edge of a major turnaround with new breakthroughs happening every third day. At this time, it becomes important that we look-out for what the future of industry would be like. We haven't seen an era in which such fast-paced and rapid technological changes took place every day. In 2018, there were overnight transformations in domains like artificial intelligence (AI), cloud computing, machine learning and more. The year 2019, however, is bound to bring even better hopes and prospects for the industry. Moreover, since technology is directly connected to trade and growth in industry, it is bound to have implications on business development on a global scale. Here are six major IT trends to watch out for in 2019.

CHATBOTS WILL GET MAINSTREAM
Owing to Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing (NLP) is taking multiple strides forward. NLP allows companies to gain immense insight into the users and customers so that the customer services can be improved and better products can be built. It is predicted that more than 40 per cent of the companies will adopt it by the end of 2019 for better services and products.

CONNECTED CLOUDS WILL GROW
There seems to be a growing dependence on cloud support for services such as storage, data analytics, optimisation and much more. Organisations such as Amazon and Alibaba have been providing these services for a while now and they are only bound to grow branching into many different domains and verticals. Multi Clouds and Hybrid Clouds seem to be the buzzwords and the major things they provide include seamless, secure and streamlined services.

MILLENNIUM TECH

From facial recognition to autonomous driving, technology has been backed by some overnight changes in the past year. Here are a few IT trends that are predicted to grow big in 2019. By SUMIT PEER



THE ESSENCE OF BLOCKCHAIN

Blockchain technology has been under the limelight for quite some time now and has been projected to be the next big tech break. Although it does seem like

blockchain still requires a lot of clean-up before it can be implemented in mainstream markets, especially in financial sectors. This might be the year of realising the better potential of the block chain

and in a couple of years, we will see the traction that it has promised.

DATA SAFETY AT FRONTLINE

Data protection regulations such as

GDPR aim to provide a huge layer of data protection to various users. As of now, data protection and safety is still not the priority of various organisations such as news reporting companies, which deal with huge amounts of information. In 2019, however, it would be common as informed customers will understand, require and seek the companies which truly protect their data and can be relied upon.

C-SUITE PROFESSIONALS WILL TAKE CHARGE

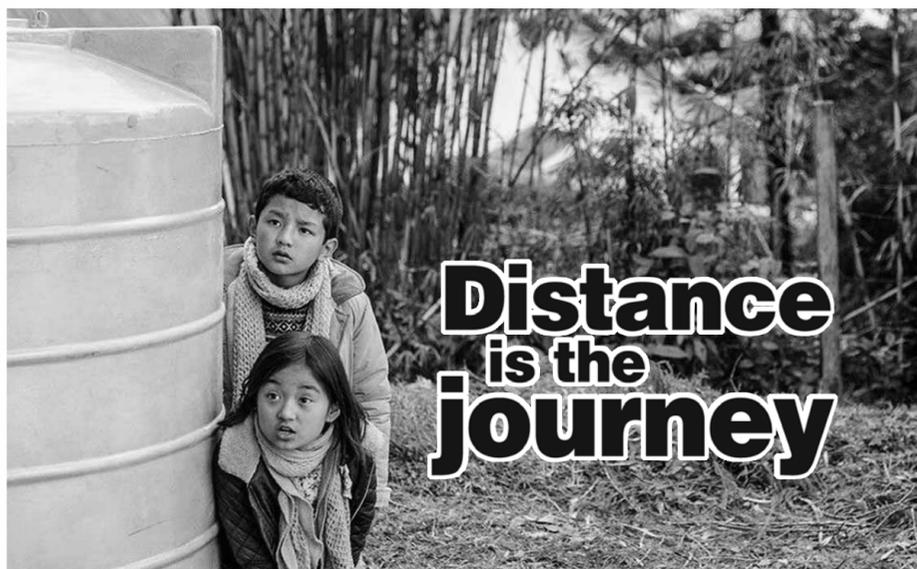
C-Suite professionals are bound to start taking charge according to the demands of digital transformations. The management will make it a priority to hire and take steps in the direction of alignment with the digital transformation.

Furthermore, they would have to understand that they require a critical nature in their organisation that ensures that is geared for change and reformation as and when required by the tech industry.

DUELLING AI

AI and Machine Learning have been growing in the past couple of years and Duelling AI is possibly the next big breakthrough. This concept is termed as "generative adversarial networks" which essentially makes use of two separate learning networks that make each other learn and in the process train each other to become more efficient.

(The writer is Founder and CEO of Aurelius Corporate Solutions.)



Actor-turned-director, **PAAKHI A TYREWALA's** unusual viewpoint comes forth in her film *Pahuna, The Little Visitors* that talks of displacement and identity. By **SAIMI SATTAR**

What are you telling children when they see Bollywood? You go, fall in love and that is the end of life. Or that you should go find a villain and beat the crap out of him. We are constantly reiterating that either you are a hero or a cricketer or you are no one," says Paakhi A Tyrewala, director, *Pahuna, The Little Visitors*, a film that looks at displacement from the point of view of two young children and an infant. She feels that her upbringing in Delhi's Press Enclave, where "Bollywood was never a part of the conversation, rather we heard about Nelson Mandela and Africa, academics and theatre music, which made for a rich experience while growing up," has influenced the subject as well as the sensibilities of the films that she prefers to make.

"The whole reason for creating content for children is to put forth that it does not matter whether you are a hero or a superhero but if you are yourself, you are special. This inculcates self-worth and also gives them good values. My film is about peace," she says. The idea of displacement is emmeshed with that of identity as well as communal disharmony. "The fear of the other — that of Muslims, Hindus or Christians — gets transferred to children." The film tackles all these issues — communal fear, displacement or different language, discord in society and how children suffer on account of it. It was the opening film at the Smile International Film Festival for Children and Youth (SIFFCY) 2018.

The film is shot in Sikkim, which makes for a gorgeous backdrop. Paakhi says, "Like every beautiful woman, it is difficult. The oxygen level is low, the weather is inhospitable and every location is at least one to two hours away. It wasn't easy but was worth it."

The film courted controversy on account of its location as its producer Priyanka Chopra inadvertently said that



Sikkim was a disturbed state while it is one of the most peaceful ones in the country. Paakhi says that she is glad that the issue came up because it helped to bring the state on the national TV and map. "Do you know that the average footfall of Sikkim tourism off season was the highest this year? So we are not complaining, neither is Sikkim. It was a mistake she made and sometimes that is a good thing," she says. Paakhi has been a child actor who went on to star opposite actor John Abraham in *Jhootha Hi Sahi* (2010). She was an assistant director. She believes that each of her profiles added to her craft. "I did not go to a film school. Each of my job was my schooling. When I directed my first song in *Jaane Tu Ya Jaane Na*, it gave me confidence to direct my first short film, *Kajal*. Acting made me more sensitive to actors. It is not easy to be natural in front of the camera. Costumes, lighting, everything takes time and since I have worked in each of these, I understand what goes into every department. This has given me not only patience but also taught me how to manage people which is the primary job of a

director. One has to get the best out of people and every department," says Paakhi.

While she has worked in different aspects of filmmaking, her family was far removed from it. "My mother was a theatre actor in Delhi with a group called Abhyant. Then she became a lecturer at NSD. My father was a journalist and my brother went to FTII. So I had always been surrounded by a creative atmosphere. Plus I was a child actor in Doordarshan serials and advertisements," says the director who acted in a movie called *Dance of the Wind* with Rajan Khosla.

Paakhi is also keen to explore the digital format. "The format is longer and it is much more satisfying. For both the writer and the director, it is amazing to develop a story over seasons while the film is two and a half hours long. It also gives you a platform to tell stories where you can play with the shades of the characters," she says.

However, many of the digital formats have been garnering negative publicity for the lack of censorship and explicit content. "Initially when they were making content, they were only focussing on delivering sex and it did not do well. Indians do not like their women naked. They will watch porn if they want to. Now, everybody is making edgy content with alcohol, cigarettes and violence but not sex," she says.

So does she see content finally having its place in the sun as opposed to the intense focus on superstars? "I hope the story will in the spotlight one day. Even actors like Rajkumar Rao, Sushant Singh Rajput or Vicky Kaushal have now become stars. The producer says that if you can't get the Khans, you can at least cast them. No one is ready to take first timers. Once that happens, I'll believe content is king. So that way things haven't really changed," she says as she signs off to further expand her horizons.

'Acting skills aren't technical'

Kannada actor **YASH** tells **CHAHAK MITTAL** how diving into the mindset of the audience helps him select his roles and films

There may be a difference in *dal aur roti* and *sambhar aur dosa*, but North and South India is united in its choice of films. People love everything — Bollywood, Tollywood and Kollywood. The popularity of South Indian cinema has peaked in north, with films like *Baahubali* and *Kaala* breaking all box office records.

Actor Yash, who will soon be seen in Prashanth Neel's *KGF: Chapter 1*, believes that South Indian cinema has a lot to offer and with its growing popularity, it is gaining worldwide acclaim.

The film, set in the 1980s in the Kolar Gold Fields of Mysore, showcases him as Rocky, who is "highly ambitious, loves his wife while his mother is his greatest inspiration. He is someone who isn't bothered about the world." The film focusses on slavery and oppression of the downtrodden sections of the society who worked at the gold fields.

Yash explains that even though he could relate to the character who is ambitious and stylish, strong and lovable, there were a number of challenges that he faced. "The biggest challenge while playing any character is to understand it deeply. I related to some of Rocky's elements, emotions, and style, that was not it. Portraying his laidback attitude towards the world, which I had to express through my body language, was a challenging task. It had to be subtle yet strong. There were minimal but very impactful dialogues."

The film's trailer, that was released in November, presents high definition visuals, that would remind one of Rajamouli's *Baahubali*, which was the most expensive film in South Indian cinema. *KGF* is also projected to be one of the largest Kannada productions. So will it be as big as *Baahubali*?

Yash says, "It's great that the trailer was received so well by the viewers. But since the themes and background vary, both the films cannot be compared." *KGF* will be released pan India in five lan-

guages including Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil and Telugu on December 21.

The actor is known for his roles in numerous Kannada films like *Googly*, *Lucky*, *Gajakesari*, *Modalasala*, *Thamassu*, *Jaanu*.

So how does he select his roles? Yash explains that understanding the audience's mindset is the most important thing while choosing a particular role.

"I don't just pick up a certain character to play. I first try to become one among the audience, re-read the scripts over and over, understand what they will think about the character and the film, and then choose any particular role."

The audience's point of view is really important because eventually they are the ones who judge a film and determine its popularity. Humans and their emotions are universal. So when you understand the audience's perspective, you understand the film too."

The actor who always "wanted to be a hero," holds a similar approach when it comes to being an actor as well. He says, "It's a filmy story. I always wanted to be an actor since childhood. But I realised that understanding life is the key to becoming an actor. Acting skills aren't technical. You just need maturity to contain them." He laughingly tells how his parents were against sending him to an acting school.

The actor believes that the Indian industry has evolved to a higher discourse from the 'boy meets girl or girl meets boy' film era. "There is a very high level of exposure today. Its source is more international content that is now coming in. The films are based on a more realistic content these days, either on a famous personality or any historical event. *KGF* is a fictitious film but is based on the realms of the Kolar gold fields which were a great heritage of India."

He believes that with the advent of digital space, "variety of films and genres have expanded."

ZERO WILL CONNECT WITH CHILDREN

Director-producer Anand Rai believes that children will enjoy the film *Zero* and Anushka Sharma's character is the primary reason. Anand Rai, throughout the shoot, used to tell us on the sets that Anushka's character will have a huge connect with kids. When he wrote the character, he had this in mind



and always called Aafia a very special character. She is a very lovable and smart person, she is a genius and has

her heart in the right place. She is full of life despite her disabilities, which is a hugely positive angle in the film and the director always felt that it will be one of the strong emotional reasons why people, especially children will love Aafia," reveals a source. Anushka has gone all out to prepare for her role in *Zero*.

She went through a rigorous three month prep and worked with two professional trainers — an occupational therapist and an audiologist — to get into the skin of her character, who is suffering from cerebral palsy. She used wheel-chair all the time on set to stay in her character. The film releases on December 21.



HAIL AND 'HEARTY'

The state-of-the-art technology and expertise of the doctors at the Indraprastha Apollo Hospital ensured that a 20-day old baby boy underwent a successful arterial switch surgery for the treatment of 'transposition of great arteries'



His body was turning blue so, the parents took him to a local doctor in their area where his echo was done. The reports revealed that he has transposition of great arteries. In transposition of the great arteries, the aorta is con-



Dr. Muthu Jothi

ected to the right ventricle, and the pulmonary artery is connected to the left ventricle, which is the exact opposite of a normal heart anatomy."

At the time of admission at the Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, the child was on ventilation and weighed only 2.2 kg. The doctors had earlier decided to allow the child to grow a bit and weigh at least 2.8 to 3 kg before performing the major, open heart surgery. For the same, the baby was kept in critical care on ventilation for a week, but unfortunately his condition didn't improve and he was not able to come off the ventilator. Every time the doctors tried to take him off the ventilation or lower the ventilation, he would experience breathlessness and turn blue. Considering the criticality of the baby's

condition, Dr Jothi, along with team of expert cardiologist, anaesthetist and intensivists, decided to perform the five hour-long surgical procedure on the child

"Considering the weight of the child being 2.2 kg, the surgery had a high risk. We had performed many such surgeries before, but this patient weighed the lowest and we generally don't perform a surgery on a patient with this low weight. I had quoted a risk of about 25-40 per cent, which is a huge risk, but considering the child's condition and only after the family's consent, we performed the surgery. In order to treat the disease we performed an Arterial Switch Operation, in which the aorta and the coronary arteries are disconnected from their place and are adjusted in the right place. Along with the arterial switch, the closure of VSD and ASD were done," explained Dr Jothi.

Post the surgery, the child recuperated enough to be sent home after 10-12 days which is not usually the case. The child is now doing absolutely fine and is also gaining weight gradually, informed the doctor.

The father of the baby boy, Vinod, commented, "We cannot thank Dr Jothi enough for the miracle that he has done. He successfully performed the surgery even when our child was underweight and today, he is alive, all because of him. Our child has got a new life at the Apollo Hospitals."

Identifying some of the causes to such a disease, Dr Jothi elaborated, "There is no specific cause behind this disease. However, factors such as, an elderly primi i.e. mother is of an old age, consanguineous marriage i.e. marriage with a close cousin or within the family, poor nutrition during pregnancy, or if the mother catches an infection and is on antibiotics in the initial three months during foetus development, or women who smoke or drink excessively, have higher chances of giving birth to babies with this condition."



Rooting out child marriages in Bihar

India continues to be home to the highest number of under age brides globally and Kishori Clubs are trying to address the issue in Bihar, says PRIYANKA SHAH

Adolescent-led girls' groups in Bihar have shown leadership to deal with an issue that affects them directly—child marriage. Over 3,000 girls are a part of the Kishori Clubs set up by the Population Foundation of India, in four blocks of the Nawada and Darbhanga districts in Bihar. The groups have been galvanised as part of a programme to improve the health and rights of the adolescents.

The adolescent girls of the Kishori Clubs raise awareness in their communities and families, and take action to stop child marriages. They have successfully prevented at least 92 child marriages in their villages.

Mausam Kumari, a Kishori Club member from the Nawada district, recounts one instance where they intervened to stop a child marriage. She says, "One day, I received a call from my mother while in college, asking me to come home early. She told me that a 16 year-old girl, in the neighbouring area, was being 'married off' and that we should intervene to stop it. After reaching the venue, we found that all preparations for the wedding, including the DJ, had already been set up. We tried to intervene by explaining to the family that child marriage is illegal and that nobody will be happy after the marriage. We said, don't get your daughter married for your selfish reasons. Giving birth at a young age will put your daughter's life at risk."

When the families refused to call off the wedding, the girls involved the police. They then managed to prevent the marriage, along with a signed undertaking, stating that the family will not get their daughter married before she turns 18



years. Mausam says that her life changed after joining the Kishori Club. "Earlier, we were not allowed to leave the house but now, we travel more freely. We have had to be stubborn and fearless to deal with the people judging us, but we have been able to convince others to join the Club as well. The Club allows us to talk about issues we cannot discuss at home. It has given us confidence to be self-reliant," adds Mausam.

Child marriage robs one of their childhood, an education and the right to live a healthy and safe life. Despite child marriage being a criminal offence, India is home to the highest number of child brides in the world. Approximately 20 per cent girls (15-19 years) in Bihar were married off before the age of 18 years, according to the 'India Child Marriage and Pregnancy Report' based on the National Family Health Survey-IV (NFHS) data. Despite all odds, Mausam and her friends continue to exemplify valour in the face of deep-seated prejudice and violence. Safe spaces, like the Kishori Clubs, play an important role in harnessing youth leadership in hard-to-reach communities and empower girls to have a voice of their own.

—The author is programme officer, Population Foundation of India

NSIC EMPOWERS THE YOUTH WITH TECH

The Chairman cum Managing Director of the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), Sudhir Garg, inaugurated the new training programs for the youth and budding entrepreneurs at the NTSC Advance Training Centre (Okhla) titled—'Augmented Reality (AR) Program', which is based on technology enriching the real world with digital information and media such as 3D models and videos, overlaying in real-time, the camera view of the smartphone, tablet, PC or connected glasses. The other programme, titled—'Virtual Reality (VR) Training Program', is based on interactive, computer-generated experience, taking place within a simulated



environment, that incorporates mainly the auditory and the visual, and also other types of sensory feedback like haptic. In addition

to these, another certified program, titled—'Cisco Certified Network Associate/Professional (CCNA/CCNP) Certified',

was also inaugurated which would help the youth in installation, configuration and operation of LAN, WAN, and dial access ser-



VICES for networks. This NSIC-Technical Services Centre initiative aims to enhance the professional

skills of the entrepreneurs and the youth working in the various Information and Technology sectors.

CORPORATE BRIEFS



AAI'S WOMEN WING-KALYANMAYEE LAUNCHES MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PROJECT

The Airports Authority of India Women's Welfare Association, has launched 'Kalyanmayee', a sanitary napkin usage and menstrual hygiene project. This three-year project aims to create awareness about menstrual hygiene practices and busting the myths and taboos attached to menstruation. The project provides alternative low cost, lab tested napkins. The project also includes installation of sanitary napkin vending machines and incinerators in schools in 20 cities and conducting awareness camps in the slum areas. Some of these locations include Amritsar, Varanasi, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Patna, Trivandrum and Mangalore.

SCOPE ORGANISES WORKSHOP ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH

SCOPE organised a national workshop on occupational safety and health titled—'Strengthening Safer and Healthier Workforce' at Lucknow. The workshop was organised with the support of the Ministry of Labour and Employment (DGFASLI) and the International Labour Organisation. The director general of SCOPE, Dr U D Choubey, while inaugurating the workshop, highlighted the importance of occupational safety and health in the public sector enterprises. He suggested that a board level review should take place periodically on all the initiatives taken by the company.



CONFERENCE ON SMART CITY STANDARDISATION

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the International Electrotechnical Commission jointly organised the 'BIS-IEC International Conference on Smart City Standardisation' on December 10 in Varanasi which was inaugurated by the secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Durga Shanker Mishra. Mishra stated that the standardisation efforts in India need to be prioritised with habitat being top priority, followed by mobility, smart infrastructure and ICT and governance. He assured the participation of the MoHUA officials and the CEOs of the smart cities in this effort of the BIS.

NTPC BAGS 7 AWARDS BY PRSI FOR 2018

NTPC has bagged seven awards in different categories at the 40th All India Public Relations Conference, which was organised by the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) from December 8 to 10 at Dehradun. The NTPC Corporate Communication received the second prize for NTPC CSR Coffee Table Book as a Special/Prestige Publication and for the internal communication application—SAMVAAD and the third prize for its company website. The NTPC Projects and Regional Head Quarter received four awards—the NTPC Vindhyachal won the first prize for 'Best CSR' for child care; second prize was awarded to NTPC Rihand Corporate Film (Hindi); the third prize was awarded for the 'Best e-newsletter NTPC-NR' and the 'Best Public Awareness Campaign' award was given to NTPC- Rihand.

EAST HIMALAYAN EXPO TO BOOST TRADE IN THE REGION

The 10th edition of the East Himalayan Expo-2018 is being organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) with the support of the Commerce and Industries Department, Government of Meghalaya from December 10 to 17 in Shillong, Meghalaya. The expo, inaugurated by the Governor of Meghalaya, Tathagata Roy, aims to widen trade horizons and enhance business links in the Eastern Himalayan region especially when there is a focus of the Government on 'Act East Policy'. With over 200 leading companies from the North East region, this year, the expo elicited triple response as compared to the last edition.



The secretary of the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) Rashmi Singh, gave away the Swachhta Award for the month of October, November and December to 42 safai sevaks, four beldars, six school children and 12 drivers at the Convention Centre of the NDMC headquarter at New Delhi. The chief medical officers, Dr Ramesh Kumar, Dr R N Singh and Dr S Shrivastava, were also present on the occasion.

1ST MEDIA SCHOOL FOR DALITS AND TRIBALS

The Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaaawarchand Gehlot, announced the commencement of nationwide admissions in the Dr B R Ambedkar School of Media Empowerment, to train Dalit and tribal youths. This, first-of-its-kind school to train these communities in journalism, is supported by the Indian Institute for Mass Communication (IIMC). The school will have its branches in Pune, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other parts of India.



RUMI'S WORK NOW CONSOLIDATED IN INDIA

The Kala Nidhi Division of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), organised the launch of the book—'A Descriptive Catalogue of the Manuscripts and Editions of Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi's Works in India', by Prof S H Qaseemi and Dr Ramesh C Gaur. This is the first such catalogue on Rumi's works in India. His Excellency Ambassador of Republic of Turkey, Sakir Ozkan Torunlar, and His Excellency Ambassador of Iran, Dr Ali Chegeni, along with the director of UNESCO New Delhi Cluster office, Eric Falt, and the MS of IGNCA, Dr Sachchidanand Joshi, formally released the book.

NAQVI PATS NHRC'S BACK

The Union Minister for Minority Affairs, Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi praised the work done by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to promote a culture of human rights since its inception. He was speaking at the Human Rights Day Function organised by the NHRC in New Delhi which was attended by the NHRC chairperson, Justice H L Dattu, senior officials and a large number of intellectuals from different fields. Naqvi said, "The NHRC has always played an active role in protection of human rights of the people of the country. The NHRC also organises Camp Sitings and Open Public Hearings in different state capitals at regular intervals to ensure speedy disposal of cases." He further added that it is encouraging that the NHRC has selected 28 most backward districts in the country to spread awareness about human rights in the administration and to monitor the effectiveness of the various socio-economic welfare programmes of the government.



The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, led the nation in paying homage to the Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr B R Ambedkar, on his 63rd Mahaparinirvan Diwas at the Sansad Bhavan Lawns in the Parliament House complex. The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Sumitra Mahajan, offered a floral tribute to the Father of the Indian Constitution. Other leaders present included the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr Thaaawarchand Gehlot, Ministers of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Ramdas Athawale and Vijay Sampal.

NTPC'S SINGRAULI STATION RECORDS 100% PLF IN NOV

The flagship power station of the NTPC, Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station, has achieved 100.32 per cent plant load factor (PLF) in the month of November. The 2000 MW station has five units of 200 MW and two units of 500 MW. The NTPC-Singrauli continues to deliver the rated performance even after 36 years of operations. The first 200 MW unit of the station was synchronised in 1982.



The World Travel and Tourism Council, India Initiative (WTTTCII) has announced the appointment of its new office bearers for 2019. Rajeev Talwar, the chief executive officer of DLF, has been appointed as the Chairman of WTTTCII while Ajay Singh, the chairman and managing director of Spicejet Limited, has been unanimously appointed as the Vice Chairman of the association.



To raise awareness on the Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) and its rising incidence amongst women in India, the Bayer Zydus Pharma, in association with the Delhi Gynecologist Forum (South), organised the 'Face of Confidence' Walkathon in New Delhi at the Major Dhyanand National Stadium. Around 250 gynecologists and health experts attended the event to initiate a conversation on this hormonal disorder.



INDIA CHASE SLICE OF HISTORY

Manpreet & boys look to capitalise golden opportunity against Netherlands and seal semifinal spot

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Their shoulders are burdened with weight of expectations but it won't be easy for India to end a 43-year long wait when they take on mighty Netherlands in the quarterfinal on Thursday.

Boasting a rich hockey legacy, India last played in the semi-final of the World Cup way back in 1975 when they went on to lift their maiden title.

Of late, the game has witnessed an upward trend in the country but the history does not favour the hosts against the mighty Dutchmen, whom the Indians have never beaten in the World Cup.

In the six earlier meetings at the quadrennial event, Netherlands defeated India five times while one ended in a draw.

And if Manpreet Singh and his men get past the Dutch on Thursday, they will not only break a jinx but also rewrite history and ink their names in the one of the golden chapters of the Indian hockey.

Going by present form and rankings, there is hardly anything to differentiate between the two sides.

While Netherlands are placed fourth in the current world rankings, India are a rung below in the fifth position.

The last time India and Netherlands faced each in the Champions Trophy earlier this, the match had ended in a 1-1 draw.

The over-all head-to-head record belongs to Netherlands. In the 105 games played between the two sides so far, India have won 33, lost 48 while the rest ended in draws.

However, the two sides have shared the spoils since 2013. India and Netherlands have faced each other nine times since 2013, winning four apiece while one game finished in a draw.

And for India captain Manpreet Singh past results hold significance.

"The past results matter a lot



Indian players celebrate after scoring goal against Canada in the last pool C group fixture. India beat Canada 5-1 in the final game to seal direct place in World Cup quarterfinal

Hockey India



because Netherlands have a better result against us. But, we have played well against them recently. We have also beaten them, drew against them at the Champions Trophy. Indian hockey has improved a lot. The match will be tough and whichever team plays better will win," Manpreet said.

The India-Netherlands duel is expected to be a fast-paced, attacking encounter with both the teams

INDIA AGAINST HOLLAND IN HOCKEY							
Type	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	Success%
Overall	106	33	48	25	216	238	42.92
World Cup	6	—	6	—	11	26	100.00

INDIA-HOLLAND IN WORLD CUP			
Year	Venue	Result	Score
1973	Amstelveen	Holland beat India	2-2 (4-2 penalty shoot out)
1982	Mumbai	Holland beat India	4-3
1990	Lahore	Holland beat India	5-3
1994	Sydney	Holland beat India	4-2
1998	Utrecht	Holland beat India	5-0
2006	Mönchengladbach	Holland beat India	6-1

Faisal Features

conceded three, the Dutch have pumped in 13 goals and conceded five.

In the likes of captain Billy Bakker, Seve van Ass, Jeroen Hertzberger, Mirco Pruijser, Robbert Kemperman, Thierry Brinkman, the Dutch have got plenty of experience in the midfield and its strike force. It will be a real test for the Indian defence on Thursday.

The Indians too would be relying on their strikers - Mandeep Singh, Simranjeet Singh, Lalit Upadhyay and Akashdeep Singh - to continue their good work.

With the Kalinga Stadium expected to be packed to its full capacity, there will also be tremendous pressure on the Indian team and the Dutch will be more than happy to exploit any mistake.

"This will not be the first time. We have played in front of big crowds in pool games and in the past as well. We are used to playing in front of big crowds," Netherlands coach Max Caldas said.

"We always try to play in our own pace, whether it is fast or slow. We like to dictate. We are not concerned about India because we can't influence what India will do."

Netherlands skipper Bakker added: "The Indian team also has lot of pressure. They need to perform in front of their home crowd. So I feel the pressure is more on the Indian team than us."

Meanwhile in the first quarterfinal, Germany will take on Belgium.

We are ready to answer call of 1.3 billion Indians: Harendra

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Standing on the verge of creating history, Indian hockey coach Harendra Singh on Wednesday said his team is ready to take on any challenge thrown by the Netherlands and answer the call of "1.3 billion" Indians in the quarterfinal.

World No 5 India are set to take on World No 4 Netherlands in the last quarterfinal here on Thursday, and Harendra said they have left no stones unturned and their preparation for the crucial clash are spot on.

"Hoga to wahi jo hum chahenge (Eventually, it is what we want that is going to happen)," Harendra declared when asked about Thursday's vital encounter.

"We want what 1.3 billion people want. Indian team is mentally and physically ready. We have done our homework on Dutch aggression. Whatever challenge they throw, we are ready to solve that, not just accept it," he added.

India has never defeated Netherlands in the history of the World Cup, but Harendra refused to dwell on the past.

"History is only to read, not to understand," he quipped.

"They (Netherlands) have come prepared, Every team comes to win. Indian team has made history in the last six months. You have to face every team, it is World cup. You are bound to play the top team," he added.

Harendra said it will be an equal contest on Thursday and whoever takes their chances will come out winners.

"We won't do anything different. There are some minor adjustments. They love to play attacking hockey, so do India. It is an equal contest. In Thursday's match, you can't afford to miss even 25 per cent chances," he said.

Harendra said penalty corner conversions is an area of concern for the Netherlands which they will try to explore.

"When we analyse a match, we study grey areas of the opponents. Penalty corners is their grey area. We don't ignore Holland outright. From 1971 to 2018, their base of hockey is penalty corners. We can't ignore that. India is ready to solve that challenge," he said.

It is expected to be a full house on Thursday at the Kalinga Stadium like any other India match, and Harendra said "crowd support" will provide India extra motivation to go for the kill.

"I think they are forgetting that whenever the crowd is behind us, it becomes 12th man, extra energy. As a coach I like that," he said.

"There is no chance that opponents can easily sit on their back. I think it's not pressure, it's your thought how you enjoy it. So far in any tournament, not just the World Cup, we have learnt how to go with the crowd. We are enjoying."

Harendra said India cannot afford to drop their intensity at any point of time during the match.

"I agree that we have dropped our intensity during the course of a game, which we cannot afford against a team like Holland," he said.

"I have told them to keep that intensity not just for 60 minutes but 74 minutes, including half-time and quarter-breaks. We have discussed and they have agreed."

India captain Manpreet Singh said they are determined to create a history.

"If you talk about Olympics it was two years ago. The team has improved, especially since Harry sir (Harendra) has come. We are playing attacking hockey. We want to change history. The focus is that we don't leave out even the 50:50 chances."

ENGLAND SHOCK ARGENTINA 3-2

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

England stunned Olympic champions Argentina 3-2 to book their place in the semi-finals on Wednesday.

England, who conceded the lead in the 17th minute, staged a superb comeback to make their third successive semi-final appearance in the history of the tournament.

England scored three field goals through Barry Middleton (27th minute), Will Calnan (45th) and Harry Martin (49th), while Gonzalo Peillat (17th, 48th) struck both the goals for the losers at the Kalinga Stadium.

Argentina, the Bronze medallist in 2014, had themselves to blame for the defeat as they missed chances galore and got into panic mode after conceding the third goal.

Both Argentina and England were levelled 1-1 till 45th minutes but three goals in the last quarter changed the whole scenario.

Will Calnan made it 2-1 for England before Peillat drew parity in the 48th minute.

But a minute later Martin shocked the Los Leones with a field strike to hand England the decisive lead.



Earlier, realising that slow pace is not helping them, England raised their tempo and that paid dividends as they earned their first penalty corner in the 11th minute.

Luke Taylor's effort from the resultant set piece earned them another penalty corner immediately but Argentina defended stoutly to keep their rivals at bay. Argentina secured its first

penalty corner in the 17th minute and drag-flick expert Peillat scored with a powerful flick to take the lead.

Thereafter, the Los Leones surprisingly adopted a defensive approach and that worked in England's favour.

Mark Gleghorne's fine run down from the right flank and his subsequent cross was cleared by England defenders which laid in front of an unmarked Middleton, who slotted home with a powerful shot past goalkeeper Juan Vivaldi to level the scores.

Buoyed by the equaliser, England went on the offensive

but failed to get past Argentina's crowded defence.

Argentina, on the other hand, adopted a wait and watch policy to launch counter-attacks.

But it was not to be as England striker Zachary Wallace made an impressive run into the Argentine circle and was brought down inside, which earned the Los Leones back-to-back penalty corners but they wasted both.

In the last quarter, Argentina equalised through Peillat's corner conversion before Martin struck a minute later with a field strike to hand England the unexpected winner.

Kookaburras in semis

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Two-time defending champions Australia are well on course to create a rare history as they defeated France 3-0 to progress to the semi-finals Wednesday.

World No 1 Australia scored all their goals from penalty corners through Jeremy Hayward (4th minute), Blake Govers (19th) and skipper Aran Zalewski (37th) at the Kalinga Stadium.

However, the final scoreline was far from convincing from Australia's point of view, especially against a side which ranked lowest in the tournament at 20th.

The Frenchmen played good hockey in bits and pieces but were undone by the Kookaburras' vast experience and skills.

Despite the loss, the Frenchmen would return home with pride, especially with the superb show here that includes a shocking win over Olympic champions Argentina in the pool stages.

Australia will play the winner of Thursday's last quarterfinal between India and Netherlands in the semi-finals on Saturday.

Four minutes into the match, Australia earned their first penalty corner when the ball found Francois Goyet's foot and Hayward made no mistake in



converting the opportunity to hand his side the early lead.

Australia continued to dominate the proceedings with repeated forays as the French defence found itself in shambles to the back of France's net to take a 2-0 lead.

Just at the stroke of half time, France earned their first penalty corner which they wasted as Australia went into the halfway break with a comfortable 2-0 lead.

Seven minutes into the third quarter, Australia tripled their lead when Zalewski converted Kookaburras' third penalty cor-

ner with a variation. The Australians kept up the pressure on the France defence and secured another penalty corner in the 41st minute but this time they failed to make use of the chance.

The final quarter witnessed a neck-and-neck fight between the two teams as France tried hard to forge a comeback into the match but the Australians defended in numbers to deny any inroads.

The Kookaburras too tried to extend their lead over their less-fancied opponents but failed to create any real scoring opportunities.

Australia eventually secured their 3-0 lead and now wait for a mouth-watering semi-final clash against either India or Netherlands.

PTI ■ GUANGZHOU

Olympic Silver medallist shuttler PV Sindhu eked out a hard-fought win over world number two and defending champion Akane Yamaguchi in the opening women's singles group A match of the World Tour Finals, here on Wednesday.

Sindhu, who had finished runner-up at the last edition in Dubai, dished out a superb game, mixed with patience and aggression, to defeat the Japanese 24-22, 21-15.

However, Sameer Verma, who is the second Indian men's player after Kidambi Srikanth to qualify for the tournament, couldn't adjust to the pace of world No 1 and world champion Kento Momota, going down 18-21, 6-21 in the opening group match.

Sameer, who defended his title at the Syed Modi International to qualify for the \$ 1,500,000 event, will have to beat Thailand's Kantaphon Wangcharoen and Indonesia's Tommy Sugiarto in the other group B matches to salvage hopes of qualifying for the knockout stage.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Gujarat Fortunegiants continued their fine form as they beat Haryana Steelers 47-37 in Vivo Pro Kabaddi Season 6 clash at Vizag.

The raiding duo of K Prapanjan and Sachin led the charge for Gujarat and both achieved a super 10 each to score 22 points. Parvesh Bhainswal and

Sunil Kumar led the defence for Gujarat and contained Haryana raiders throughout the match.

Haryana Steelers are now out of contention of making the playoffs and suffered throughout the match as their defence couldn't get going.

Monu Goyat with 11 points for Haryana Steelers topped the proceedings for Gujarat Fortunegiants with a two-point

raid in the second minute as they led 4-1. Haryana Steelers crumbled under Gujarat's fast start and suffered an all out as early as the 4th minute. Monu Goyat tried to restore some parity in the first half with a couple of good raids. After 10 minutes of play, Gujarat Fortunegiants led 18-9.

Naveen made a super raid in the 12th minute as Haryana Steelers reduced the deficit to

seven points and trailed 12-19. But the raiding duo of Prapanjan and Sachin were relentless in the first half. Gujarat's defence joined the scoring with a super tackle in the 18th minute. At the end of the first half, Gujarat Fortunegiants enjoyed a 12-point lead.

Haryana Steelers defence struggled in the first half as they scored just two tackle points.

Gujarat made a two-point raid in the 27th minute to extend their lead to 32-19. Gujarat Fortunegiants inflicted another all out in the 29th minute to lead 36-20.

The last 10 minutes were more about Haryana Steelers reducing the margin of defeat. Vikas Kandola made a two-point raid in the 35th minute as Haryana Steelers trailed 27-40. Monu Goyat made a two-point raid as Steelers inflicted an all out in the 36th minute to reduce the deficit further by eight points.

Fortunegiants crush Steelers hopes

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