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USUALSUSPECTS SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Our 'little tradition' too needs judicial sympathy

The suggestion that the higher judiciary is unresponsive to public sentiment has often been heard. A study of the Parliamentary debates in 1951 on the First Amendment to the Constitution that, among other things, insulated the zamindari abolition legislations from judicial scrutiny, would indicate that this sentiment is also very Nehruvian. It was also heard during the high noon of Indira Gandhi's socialist phase when there was a demand for a 'committed judiciary' to complement a 'committed bureaucracy' and 'progressive' politics. The belief that the judiciary in India has transformed itself into a self-perpetuating, unelected oligarchy may have a contextual basis. However, like most political formulations that arise from the heat of the moment, it is often overstated. There may well be a handful of conservative judges who sincerely believe that the separation of powers is sacrosanct and that it is the business of the judiciary to interpret the law, probe and adjudicate the unforeseen grey areas between different laws and leave law-making to the legislature. They would hold that Article 21 of the Constitution guaranteeing citizens the right to life and personal liberty cannot be extended by judges to include the rights to healthcare, clean air, privacy and, in line with the American Declaration of Independence, the "pursuit of happiness", at least not without the endorsement of the legislature. Alas, in this age of hyper-activism, such a judicial philosophy is likely to be dismissed as being fuddy-duddy.

The larger question of the relationship between the judiciary and public opinion has no clear-cut answers. There have been moments when judges have been accused of playing to the galleries and pandering to the anti-corruption lynch mob. Moreover, many of the Court's interventionist guidelines came at a time when a politically unsure executive found itself vacating its governance responsibilities. There was a definite political context to India's history of judicial activism. It will be interesting to track the judiciary's approach if, say, India has a prolonged period of stable, majority governments capable of passing laws through both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The first four years of the Modi Government has been a grey area. The National Democratic Alliance Government enjoys a comfortable majority in the Lok Sabha but has struggled with Bills in the Rajya Sabha. It is on the issue of social policy that the relationship between the judiciary and public

Relationship between the judiciary and public opinion is more complicated. By applying a uniform constitutional criterion on all religious customs, judges may have viewed the Hindu way of life through Semitic prism with troubling consequences. Ayyappa cult may not be a separate religious denomination but it has to be given autonomous space

opinion is more complicated. In the recent past, the courts have made important interventions to decriminalise homosexuality, remove adultery as a criminal offence, ban unilateral triple talaq divorces among Muslims and permit women's access to shrines such as Haji Ali in Mumbai and Sabarimala in Kerala. Apart from Sabarimala, these judgments have not been greeted with significant opposition in the court of public opinion, although there have been murmurs that changes to the Indian Penal Code should have been left to Parliament to work out.

The Sabarimala judgment belongs in a different league altogether. Apart from the 1986 Shah Bano judgment – recognising the principle of alimony to divorced Muslim women – that provoked a fierce reaction in Muslim society and compelled the Rajiv Gandhi Government to pass remedial legislation, there has been no other judgment that has triggered such a backlash. The unhindered right of all women of all ages to worship at the Sabarimala temple – thereby removing a ban on all women of child-bearing age – has led to mass protests all over Kerala and unease among Hindus all over the country. The protests, that included a very large number of women devotees, were significant enough to force the Communist-led State Government of Kerala to call off attempts to allow some women – who turned out to be activists, rather than devotees – to enter the temple under police protection.

Whether the unique traditions of the Sabarimala temple – other Ayyappa temples allow women access – should be protected or subsumed by the larger principle of gender equality is worthy of serious debate. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has suggested that whereas institutions such as marriage, divorce, adoption and inheritance must be governed in line with Article 14, the rites of worship and certain customs deserve protection under Article 25. He suggested that it is for the courts to evolve a harmonious relationship that gets rid of harmful and obnoxious customs without affecting the body of faith. In the Sabarimala case two factors are consequential. First, women devotees of Lord Ayyappa seem to feel that faith demand they wait until they have crossed the age of 50 before entering the temple. Belief in Lord Ayyappa also involves a belief in his sacred celibacy. In the Sabarimala controversy, gender justice through Article 14 has been contested by women themselves.

Secondly, the Hindu way of life involves a chaotic blend of the 'great' and 'little' traditions that are not prone to codification. There are unique beliefs and customs that may strike modernists as bizarre but are nevertheless real and, more important, a part of local societies. Some of these have undergone modifications keeping in mind both convenience and evolving sensibilities but others have remained unchanged over the centuries. By applying a uniform constitutional criterion on all religious customs, the judges may have viewed the Hindu way of life through a Semitic prism with troubling consequences. The Ayyappa cult may not be a separate religious denomination but it has to be given autonomous space. It is the fight for that space that has propelled the mass upsurge of Hinduism in southern India. It is ironic that the modernists and non-believers were in the forefront of charging the Ayodhya movement of attempting to create a 'Semitic Hinduism' and riding roughshod over 'little' traditions. Today, the boot is on the other foot.

Kharge moves SC over Alok Verma

Adds twist to CBI saga, says CVC or Govt can't curtail CBI chief's tenure, sending him on forced leave illegal, arbitrary

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday moved Supreme Court challenging Union Government's decision to send CBI Director Alok Kumar Verma on forced leave and called it "completely illegal and arbitrary". This has brought new twist to the already controversial case of CBI versus CBI over the past few days.

Kharge, who is also a member of the three-member statutory committee that selects the CBI Director, questioned the Government's decision to send Verma "on leave". In his intervention application, Kharge sought quashing of the October 23 order of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and that of the Centre's Department of Personnel and Training vesting the CBI Director on the ground that the same were passed in derogation of powers conferred upon the



Statutory Committee under the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act.

Kharge said neither the Central Vigilance Commission nor the Government can curtail Verma's tenure. Along with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, Kharge is the third member in the selection committee of CBI Director. "The transfer of an incumbent Director, CBI in an extraordinary situation, including the



need for him to take up a more important assignment, should have the approval of the Selection Committee..." the petition says. "The applicant being a member of the Statutory Committee was not consulted nor was he a part of any meeting or privy to any decision to divest Alok Kumar Verma of his powers as Director, CBI", Kharge's petition adds.

The petition reads, "It is also not in public domain that any such meeting of the statutory committee was convened. In his application, Kharge has said that even though he is a member of the committee, he was neither "consulted nor was I a part of any meeting or privy to any decision to divest Alok Kumar Verma of his powers as Director, CBI".

"It is also not in public domain that any such meeting

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The decision to divest Alok Kumar Verma of his powers was taken by the political executive in complete contravention of the provisions of the DSPE Act, CVC Act and the directions of this Hon'ble Court in Vineet Narain's case, it adds

of the Statutory Committee was convened," the petition reads. It further says, "It is therefore clear that the decision to divest Alok Kumar Verma, IPS, of his powers as Director, CBI was taken by the political executive in complete contravention of the provisions of the DSPE (Delhi Special Police Establishment) Act, CVC (Central Vigilance Commission) Act and the directions of this Hon'ble Court in Vineet Narain's case."

Asserting that the law provides for a two-year term, Kharge's intervention application in Verma's petition has termed the Government's move as "arbitrary and illegal". Kharge alleged that Verma's ouster be "set aside to maintain the institutional sanctity and integrity of the CBI".

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CVC seeks files on allegations against Asthana from CBI

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) that is vetting the allegations of alleged misconduct leveled by CBI Director Alok Verma against his deputy Rakesh Asthana has called for the relevant files from the investigating agency, top CBI sources said on Saturday.

Through a "Secret Note" on October 21, 2017 to the CVC, Verma had claimed that Asthana's role was being probed in at least half a dozen cases.

However, despite a lapse of over a year, the CBI did not furnish an action taken report to the CVC with regard to the probes against Asthana. The CBI did not submit a report even after the agency registered a case of alleged bribery against Asthana, sources said.

"The CVC has called for the relevant files related to the allegations against Asthana and the agency is in the process of sending the files sought by the Commission," an official said, adding, clarity on the issue will come once the CVC examines the files related to the allegations against Asthana.

In response to the secret

note, the CVC had through a letter to Verma on November 9 last year, sought a report on his note and sent several reminders conveying to the CBI Director that the Commission wants the report "immediately" and if the enquiries have not reached finality, an interim report bringing out the investigations carries out against Asthana along with the outcome of the probe be submitted to the Commission by October 3, 2018.

The CVC again sent a letter on October 15 to Verma reminding him to send a report on the Note by October 22 but it was not submitted till October 23, the day the CVC divested both Verma and Asthana of any supervisory role in the CBI.

Despite registration of an alleged bribery case on October 15 against Asthana, Deputy SP Devender Kumar and two alleged middlemen, the CBI did not send any report to the CVC despite the Commission sending repeated reminders on the progress of investigations against Asthana as flagged by Verma in his secret note to the CVC.

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CM's brother-in-law Sanjay Singh Masani joins Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chhauhan's brother-in-law Sanjay Singh Masani joined the Congress here on Saturday, saying the state needs the party chief Kamal Nath not Chouhan as the CM.

Masani is the brother of Chouhan's wife Sadhna Singh. He joined the Congress in the presence of its Madhya Pradesh unit president Kamal Nath and another senior state leader Jyotiraditya Scindia and said the state needs a leader like Nath not Chouhan.

"Madhya Pradesh does not need Shivraj but Nath. We all know how Chhindwara has been developed and is identified with Kamal Nath (who represents Chhindwara in the Lok Sabha). The state also

"MP does not need Shivraj but Nath. We all know how Chhindwara has been developed and is identified with Kamal Nath"

needs to be identified with him," Masani said.

Seemingly upset over the ticket distribution for the assembly elections, Singh alleged that the BJP was now shifting to the dynasty politics.

While he lashed out at the BJP for ignoring kaamdars (those who toil) at the cost of naamdars (big names), he said he should not be projected as a family member of Chouhan but only as his relative.

Breathing in Delhi equal to smoking 20 cigarettes a day, say doctors

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhiites are perhaps facing their worse days in terms of breathing freely. As the pollution levels go severe, doctors in the national Capital on Saturday said that the effects of pollution in Delhi are equivalent to consuming 15 to 20 cigarettes a day.

"Each winter, Delhi's air pollution rises to critical levels. We have to act immediately to control this menace otherwise the health consequences will be disastrous. We are already seeing an increasing number of patients in our hospital continuously complain about cough, irritation in throat and nose," said Dr SP Byotra, Vice-Chairman, Board of Management, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital.

According to Dr Arvind Kumar, Founder Trustee, Lung Care Foundation and Chairman of Centre for Chest Surgery, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, the situ-



A view of Humayun Tomb engulfed in smog in New Delhi on Saturday PTI

ation in Delhi has gone bad as now even the teenagers are coming with black lungs.

"I've seen a change in the colour of lungs over the past 30 years that I've been operating. Earlier, I used to see black deposits only in smokers and others would have pink lungs. But, nowadays, I only see black lungs. Even teenagers have black

spots on their lungs," he said.

Amidst this, to show people how bad air turns lungs black, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital along with Jhatkaa, a Bangalore-based organisation and Lung Care Foundation Delhi unveiled a set of humungous lungs at the hospital as a part of their 'Help Delhi Breathe'.

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Army chief sees 'external bids' to revive militancy in Punjab, Assam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat on Saturday expressed concern over attempts to "revive insurgency" in Punjab and Assam through "external links" and warned if early action is not taken it will be too late.

Asserting that insurgency cannot be dealt with military force, he favoured adopting an approach in which all agencies, the Government, civil administration, military and police work in an "integrated manner".

Expressing these views here in a conference on "Changing Contours of Internal Security in India: Trends and Responses", he said attempts are being made through "external links" to "revive insurgency" in Punjab and Assam through "external abetment".

Detailed report on P5

Congress declares first list of 155 candidates

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

After a prolonged deliberations, the AICC on Saturday night declared its first list of 155 candidates. In Bhopal South-West constituency, former MLA PC Sharma has been fielded against Revenue Minister Umashankar Gupta. Another nomination of Arif Aqeel has been declared from Bhopal North.

Former Union Minister and former PCC Chief Suresh Pachouri has been pitted from Bhopur assembly constituency from where he has been defeated in last elections.

The AICC re-nominated several party MLAs, trying out youths and fielding several leaders of national repute. Tickets have been denied to three sitting MLAs. Not experimenting too

much, the party has tried doing a balancing act keeping in mind the regional and caste equations. However the party ignoring party chief Rahul Gandhi's advice offered tickets to several turncoats including those from BJP and BSP.

Most of the constituencies from Bhopal and Indore are on hold. Among three sitting MLAs denied ticked include Manoj Kumar from Anuppur, Shakuntala Khatik from Shivpuri and Govardhan Upadhyay from Sironj in Vidisha.

Tickets on Bhopal district's Huzur, Bhopal Central, Narela and high profile Govindpura seats are yet to be declared.

Among other candidates connected to Digvijay Singh, his brother Laxman Singh sided in MP Congress for long has been fielded from Chachora, Surendra Singh

Baghel from Kukshi and ex-Samajwadi Party leader Hamid Qazi has been fielded from Burhanpur.

The Congress has also fielded Jai Advivasi Yuva Shakti (JAYS) national convener Heeralal Alawa from Manwar against ex-minister Ranjana Baghel.

As announced earlier the party has offered ample representation to the youth offering tickets to NSUI state president Vipin Vankhede from Agar, Youth Congress state head Kunal Chaudhary from Kalapipal, Sachin Yadav, brother of ex-Union minister Arun Yadav, Priyavrat Singh, Digvijay Singh's Jaivardhan Singh, industrialist Nilay Daga from Betul, Jitu Patwari, Dr Vikrant Bhuria from Jhabua from Rau and others.

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SHOW TIME

Go for the visuals



THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS
ing: Keira Knightley, Mackenzie Foy, Eugenio Derbez, Matthew Macfadyen, Richard E Grant, Misty Copeland, Helen Mirren, Morgan Freeman
Rated: 6/10

There would be very few who would not have heard of the Nutcracker — a two-act ballet originally choreographed by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov with a score by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Many would have even seen the 1993 movie or some of the animated version made over the years.

Now in 2018, Walt Disney comes out with The Nutcracker and the Four Realms. Is this a good thing? Well, in some ways definitely as it is a delightful reimagining of the popular ballet.

The film follows the life of Clara played by Mackenzie Foy who wants a key — a one-of-a-kind key that will unlock a box that holds a priceless gift from her late mother. The golden thread, presented to her at godfather Drosselmeyer, played by Morgan Freeman annual holiday party. She then disappears into a strange and mysterious parallel world. In this world Clara encounters a soldier named Phillip (Jayden Fowora-Knight), a gang of mice and the regents who preside over three Realms: Land of Snowflakes, Land of Flowers and Land of Sweets. Clara and Phillip must brave the Fourth Realm, home to the tyrant Mother Ginger (Helen Mirren), to retrieve Clara's key and hopefully return to her world.

What is good here is that this parallel world is full of wonder and the set designs are beautiful and brilliantly done. There there is the CGI. With the latest technology, Disney has gone all the way when it comes to great effect that will leave the kids in awe. With great visuals, directors Lasse Hallström and Joe Johnston have brought this story alive in new, fresh and exciting ways.

TELLYTALE



DIWALI SPECIAL WITH BAPPI LAHIRI

The top eight contestants of Sony Entertainment Television's *Indian Idol 10* are all set to take you on a festive spree with Diwali Special episode where Javed Ali will take the judge's chair and singing legend Bappi Lahiri and yog guru Ramdev Baba dignified the stage with his presence. The episode will feature contestants singing some amazing songs of Bappi Lahiri will take everyone on a roller coaster ride on his pop-music. Enhancing the festive mode watch out for the amazing performances, Bappi Lahiri's melodious medley's, Ramdev Baba giving Manish Paul a yoga challenge, Salman Ali's soulful performance, Manish Paul's craziness along with Neha Kakkar, Vishal Dadlani and Javed Ali on judges chair.

Keep watching *Indian Idol 10* this Saturday and Sunday, 8PM only on Sony Entertainment Television!

A DHAMAKEDAAR ENTRY IN BIGG BOSS

The festive spirit has kicked in and like every year, Bigg Boss wants the contestants to celebrate these auspicious days with enthusiasm. With various surprises planned to brighten up and cheer the contestants as they remain locked in, this Diwali they're in for a treat!

Known for her strength and Winner of Bigg Boss season 11, Shilpa Shinde along with mastermind and audience's favorite, Vikas Gupta will make a grand entry in the Bigg Boss house to surprise the contestants. As Diwali is just around the corner, Vikas and Shilpa will enter as special guests and will be living with the contestants to celebrate the festival of lights. The duo will also engage them in fun tasks during their stay.

Dividing the contestants in two groups — one captained by Shilpa and the other by Vikas, they will need to lure contestants into choosing to join their



team. Tempting them, convincing them, making sure their offers are better than the other, contestants will have to decide whose team is worthy of joining.

Known to always change frowns into smiles, sadness into laughter, Bigg Boss has a grand mela also planned for these lucky contestants. They will be surprised as they will be royally treated with master chefs cooking up delicacies for them, magicians stunning them with various acts and dancers setting in the mood for celebration.

Commenting on her entry into the house that gave her a lot of memories, Shilpa Shinde said: "Bigg Boss is home for me. This show has given me so much and I love coming back here. This house takes me back to when I was a housemate and the walk down memory lane is always special. I am excited to meet the contestants once again but this time to enjoy and celebrate diwali. I hope all of us have a lot of fun together with various activities that have been planned and I do hope we can make it special for them."

Adding further, Vikas Gupta exclaimed, "I have already entered the house earlier and met the contestants. But this time I am eager, because I will get to interact with all of them and spend some quality time with them. Also, the activities planned will be extremely entertaining for the contestants and the viewers as it's a Diwali special and it's a grand mela which they will be surprised with. We hope to spruce up the entertainment quotient in the house."

Tune in to Bigg Boss 12 everyday at 9pm on Colors.

DIWALI WITH YOUNG CANCER PATIENTS

Dharmesh Yelande, the most loved judge on StarPlus' dance reality show *Dance +4*, yet again won millions of hearts with his sweet gesture this diwali. He along with the contestants surprised the young children at a NGO — AccessLife Association Foundation which is a home to young cancer patients.

Dharmesh's visit brought a smile to the faces of the children. Not just that, he bought a lot of presents/ gifts and played with them. His visit would be incomplete without him shaking a leg on his favourite dance numbers with the children.

"Spending time with these kids made me feel at home. Seeing them smile, laugh and play was the biggest Diwali gift. To be happy regardless of the circumstances was a teaching I'll take back from them and would love it if they come on the show and be a part of it for a day. This is the best thing I did this diwali and would love to come back here soon," Dharmesh says.

Plan Your Week



Waffle Fest 2.0

WHERE: The Plaza, Select Citywalk, Saket, New Delhi

WHEN: Till November 4, 2018

This Diwali, Select Citywalk invites you to the most exciting carnival for all the waffle lovers - Waffle Fest 2.0. From 20 plus waffle stations to over 40 plus varieties of waffles to live band performance and digital fireworks, the Waffle Fest 2.0 will surely make you fall in love with waffles all over again.



Diwali at Khandani Rajdhani

WHEN: November 5 to 9, 2018

VENUE: All Khandani Rajdhani outlets

The rotational menu at Khandani Rajdhani's Diwali celebrations has been carefully curated by its expert chefs who bring together the most favourite seasonal delicacies from India's heartland. Be ready to gorge on the crunchy Methi Puri, crisp Chakli, melt-in-mouth delicious Mohanthal Ladoo, perfectly done Kaju Katli, unmatched Kesar Shrikhand and Akhrot Halwa. This is in addition to Khandani Rajdhani's year-round signature dishes.

Kala Drishti's Diwali mela

WHEN: Till November 5, 2018

VENUE: Cross River Mall, Shahdara, New Delhi

TIME: 1 pm to 8 pm

Kala Drishti, a Delhi-based NGO creating a platform for upcoming artists and help in their upliftment, is organising a Diwali exhibition that will have a wide array of colorful *diyas*, candles, potli bags, table mats and many other handicrafts for your home, apparels and accessories. The artists at Kala Drishti are known for their eco-friendly and creative artefacts and handmade décor items. So, this Diwali get your hands on some of the best handicrafts from this exhibition.



Great Noida Fest

WHERE: Gaur city stadium Gaur chowk, Greater Noida

WHEN: November 3 & 4, 2018

TIME: 12 noon onwards

With the onset of festival season, Investors Clinic in association with Gaurs Group is all set to host the gala musical fiesta- The Great Noida Fest. Popular singers of the North like Parmish Verma, Punjabi actor, singer and director; Mannat Noor, Sukhe amongst others will raise the temperature with their peppy beats. The peppy music numbers will be followed by an array of lip-smacking food.

Diwali craft mela & Deep Utsav

WHERE & WHEN: Dilli Haat Janakpuri on November 4 and Dilli Haat INA till November 7, 2018

TIME: 11 am to 10 pm

Delhi Tourism adds to the festive cheer with a special Diwali Crafts Mela being organized at Dilli Haat Janakpuri and Deep Utsav at Dilli Haat INA. Alongside the ornate handicrafts that the Dilli Haats are renowned for, the festival will offer various products for Diwali including *diyas*, handcrafted lamps, candles, traditional decorative items and the like. Encapsulating the essence of the much-loved festival of lights, Dilli Haat Janakpuri and Dilli Haat INA will also bring forth food stalls, shopping street, cultural performances, and special swings and camel rides.



Gazi is one rare soul: Aamir

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tonight's *KBC Karamveer* episode is going to be an episode giving out a strong message about hard work, grit and patience. This season, Sony Entertainment Television's *Kaun Banega Crorepati 10* has seen some very strong individuals who have single handedly taken up a cause to help the common man and with a 'Never Give Up' attitude, have crossed the storm and come out victorious.

The viewers will see Karamveer Gazi Jalaluddin who runs two schools by only charging ₹5 a month on the show tonight along with Bollywood's perfectionist superstar Aamir Khan who claimed that he would move mountains to help people like Gazi.

Gazi, who proudly supports child education blessed the set. Being a poor and unprivileged person, he found out various ways of getting others educated by learning and driving a taxi in Kolkata. Interestingly he has helped others



learn riding a taxi on the condition that they spare ₹5 from their income and should help at least two people by donating ₹5 for his cause. He also comes up with various ways of marketing his cause and some of them have been very unique.

Gazi promotes his cause by pasting banners and posters on his own taxi. Amitabh Bachchan and Aamir Khan were highly impressed with his marketing skills.

Khan while talking about Gazi on *Kaun Banega Crorepati 10* says, "When I heard Gazi's story, it touched my heart and I thought that I should come support him. On this Karamveer special episode, I want to also help the good deed he (Gazi) is working on and everyone who are watching this show should come ahead and help him. He is one rare soul who helps hundreds of people when he in fact has nothing to spend."

Watch *Kaun Banega Crorepati 10*, every Monday to Friday, 9 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television!

New show on SAB

Sony SAB keepings its promise of spreading happiness, will soon be launching a new show *Mangalam Dangalam-Kabhi Pyaar Kabhi Vaar*. Produced by Ashvini Yardi of Viniyard Films, the show is a hilarious take on the quintessential *dangal* between a father-in-law and his son-in-law. The show will premiere from November 13, Monday to Friday at 7:30 pm.

Due to strong emotional bonds, it's never easy for a father to give his daughter away in marriage. But love charts its course and the time comes for the girl to leave her father's comfortable nest to be with the man of her dreams. This show revolves around the bond between a prospective groom — Arjun, and his prospective father-in-law, Sanjeev Saklecha. While Arjun is willing to stop at nothing to convince Sanjeev that he is the best man for his daughter, Sanjeev is of the firm opinion that his princess deserves better than the best.

Neeraj Vyas, Business Head, Sony SAB, PAL, Hindi Movies and Music said: "The happiness of our viewers is of paramount importance to us. As part of our brand promise, 'Haste Raho India', the upcoming weekday fiction offering 'Mangalam Dangalam' lends a unique perspective to a relationship between a father and his prospective son-in-law. This is a show that viewers will surely relate to since it has an exceptional cast and delivers the right melody of humor and love straight to the television sets."

Ashvini Yardi, Founder, Viniyard Films said: "Getting their daughters married is a worry that all Indian fathers have since their birth, the viewers will now meet Saklecha, an overtly possessive father who believes that no man is good for his daughter Rumi."



'I will work even at 52'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sayantani Ghosh, who has been a part of the Indian television industry for more than a decade, is at present, working on her latest show StarPlus' *Karn Sangini*. She is happy where she is and hasn't yet planned a Bollywood foray. "I belong to the TV industry. It is my identity. I did not join TV just to become one or two-show heroine. I can see myself working for small screen even at the age of 52, the actress says."

Ghosh has recently worked for a Bengali web-series and is waiting for the right project before she starts her stint in Bollywood. "Right now, I have not decided to make a foray into Bollywood. It happens organically and if it happens, of course I would love to do Hindi films. But right now my focus is on television and I want to give my 100 per cent to the current project."

Sayantani has undergone a lot of training for her role as Kunti, which is set on the backdrop of Mahabharat but is a fictional take. Talking about the show, she adds, "It is unlike most other mythological serials. In 'KarnSangini', there is a blend of fiction and true events. So, we went through a lot of training and had to attend workshops. I had to work on my language as in the show, viewers will get to see us speaking in *shuddh* Hindi."

Watch Ghosh essay Kunti in *Karn Sangini* Mon-Fri at 7 pm only on StarPlus.



ECO-FRIENDLY DIWALI

Where some TV actors like to celebrate Diwali with orphan children, friends and family, others enjoy it on set with extended family but in an eco-friendly way. SUNDAY PIONEER reports



'CELEBRATE WITH ORPHANS'

Diwali to me means going on a shopping spree, performing Laxmi puja, preparing sweets and spending time with my loved ones. Every Diwali, I decorate my house with *diyas* and rangolis. The season is about festive celebrations and spending time with family and friends.

This year, I plan to visit an orphanage and spend some time with the kids there, feed them with sweets and chocolates. Spread love and happiness this Diwali and here's wishing you a happy Diwali

—Aditi Sharma, who plays Meera in *Kaleerein*

CELEBRATE THE TRADITIONAL WAY

Diwali is one of our biggest festivals and is celebrated with lots of sweets and lights. I have many memories from my childhood, especially the one where we used to do the Diwali cleaning at home. The most important and

'POCKET FULL OF POKER CHIPS'

I've never burst a cracker even when I was a kid. My mother, who was an artist, used to ask us to get your rooms in place, decorate them and keep your wardrobes clean. There was something new or different that used to happen in decoration. We used to do a lot of best out of waste by making pouches out of old sarees, applique work bed covers out of old jari sarees and much more. But we don't get that kind of time anymore now. We just go to the market and buy something. Meet old and new friends and playing cards on



Diwali is fun, but of course not with crazy money but with plastic poker chips. My idea of celebrating Diwali is by decorating and redoing your house, meeting old friends and gorging on Indian delicacies.

—Actor Saumya Tandon



'DIWALI WITH MY EXTENDED FAMILY'

Owing to my busy schedule, I will not be able to visit my family in Delhi, so I am going to celebrate it on the sets of *Kundali Bhagya* with my extended family. I have many memories of Diwali as our entire family would get together, my Grandfather would bless us with *shagun* and while grandmother would make us delicious halwa. For me, Diwali is all about togetherness, positivity and happiness. I frequently visit schools in villages and meet kids suffering from cancer at Tata Memorial hospital to celebrate the festival with them. This year, I am going to visit an orphanage and spend time with the children there. Lastly, I urge all not to burn crackers and pollute the environment

—Manit Joura who plays Rishabh in *Kundali Bhagya*

SHARE HAPPINESS WITH OTHERS

Diwali being a festival of new beginnings and positive energy brings with it warmth of togetherness and happiness. It is this very thought that has always built a desire within me to make another person's Diwali special for them.

While I do make it a point to spend some extra time with my family and friends, in some small ways, either by visiting an NGO with Diwali gifts or donating food, I ensure that another person also gets to celebrate their Diwali. I have always believed in celebrating a quiet and peaceful Diwali and hence feel that fire crackers must be kept to bare minimum use. I feel a complete ban on crackers might deprive the citizens of their celebrations, but it's time the latter realise the harmful effects of its usage and accordingly curb their actions

—Guru Randhawa, judge on *Love Me India*

'BURST BALLOONS, NOT CRACKERS'

Last year, I had celebrated Diwali on the sets of *Siddhivinayak*. I bought chocolates and small gifts for my entire unit and I will probably do the same this year too. Crackers are my only biggest disappointment of this festivity. I've seen children light crackers on the tails of street dogs which is so disturbing. Animals, new born babies, and sick people suffer the most due to the increased noise and pollution. We could use balloon crackers which is actually a concept where a string of balloons are put into a machine to burst and the sound of it is exactly like crackers but without any pollution and the level of sound is much lower.

—Farnaz Shetty, who plays Siddhi in *Siddhivinayak*

special part of this festival is when our friends and relatives get together to celebrate this day. The festival brings along the trend of bursting fire crackers which produces a lot of air and sound pollution and I really appreciate the decision made by the Supreme Court on the limited time allowed

NO NOISE, PLAY MUSIC

Every year, I decorate my home with special LED lights and rangolis along with organic flowers and scented candles. I have a pug Simba who feels very troubled due to the noise of crackers and air pollution. For Simba we have to shut all the windows of the house and put some music on so he doesn't get scared of the sound from the outside. A lot of people should think about this and try and celebrate



eco-friendly Diwali. This festival is much more fun without bursting crackers too. It's all about celebrating together with families. Eating homemade food and sweets. It is also better on the pocket and pollution will decrease to some extent.

—Actor Shefali Jariwala

1ST DIWALI POST WEDDING

Every year, I wait for this festival of lights and this year, it is even more special for me since it's my first Diwali after my wedding. I have planned to cook some Diwali



delicacies myself for our family. I am looking forward to decorating our house with beautiful twinkly lights and making a rangoli. I was never a fan of crackers, so my idea of Diwali is just family get-togethers and good food and all in a merry time with the close ones.

—Rubina Dilaiq, who plays Angoori Shakti. Astitva Ke Ehsaas Ki

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Insurance employee held for misappropriation of funds

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The MP Nagar police have arrested a contractual employee of United Insurance at MP Nagar for misappropriation of funds of Rs 4.56 lakh by depositing stolen cheques in his friend's bank account using forged authorized signature of the company.

Police said that accused identified as Sanjay alias Surendra Malviya was arrested for fraudulently withdrawing more than Rs 4 lakh by stealing and using cheque leaves by forging signatures in the year 2017.

The complainant Senior Divisional Manager JK Sablania lodged a complaint with the police and based on the complaint accused was

A COMPLAINT WAS LODGED WITH THE MP NAGAR POLICE STATION

nabbed. Accused was produced in the court and was sent under judicial custody.

A complaint was lodged with the MP Nagar police station and in his complaint the victim stated that in the audit it was found Rs 4.56 lakh were withdrawn using cheque leaves of the company and in the enquiry it was found that the fraud was committed by contractual employee Sanjay alias

Surendra Malviya.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 420 of the IPC and have started further investigation. The accused returned the amount after the company found him guilty and later company lodged a complaint with the police.

Meanwhile, director of Avani Sai Homes Private Ltd was booked by Kolar police for selling same property to two different people. Police said that the victim Anchal Sharma bought a property from the accused identified as director of Avni Sai Homes Opc Private Ltd Durgesh Sharma. The police have registered a case under Section 420 of the IPC and have started further investigation.

Bike borne miscreants snatch 36-year-old woman's mobile

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 36-year-old woman was robbed of her mobile by two bike borne miscreants near Nav Yuvak Parishad under Bairagarh police station area late in the night on Friday.

According to the police, Seema Murjani was on her way to home after shopping when she was attacked by two bike borne miscreants and escaped with the mobile phone.

The victim approached lodged a complaint with the Piplani police and claimed that she had gone to market and while she was returning she was attacked by two bike borne miscreants who escaped with mobile phone she was carrying in her hand.

The victim was not able to

ACCORDING TO THE POLICE, SEEMA MURJANI WAS ON HER WAY TO HOME AFTER SHOPPING WHEN SHE WAS ATTACKED BY TWO BIKE BORNE MISCREANTS AND ESCAPED WITH THE MOBILE PHONE

provide the loss and told the police that she would produce bill receipt of the mobile phone. The incident took place at around 11 in the night. Police claimed that the

victim had not sustained injuries as but was not able to save mobile phone from been robbed. At the time of the incident the road was deserted. The victims raised alarm for help but before she could be helped miscreants escaped.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 392 of the IPC and have started further investigation. The victim was not able to provide details of the miscreants and bike due to darkness.

Police suspect that the victim was followed from the market where she was shopping and targeted as she was alone and escaped with the mobile phone which she was carrying.

INBRIEF

SBI ORGANISES VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

Bhopal: SBI organised a Vigilance Awareness programme at Govt Subhash Higher Secondary School, Bhopal for students, in which many competitive programmes among students were conducted. In this Vigilance Awareness programme, Naval Kishor Sharma, Deputy General Manager, SBI explained to the students regarding Vigilance Awareness, how to cope-up with corruption and how to complain about corruption around us and the its process. Sharma has also awarded the prizes for the winners of impromptu speech competition among the students. MA Haque, Deputy General Manager (Vigilance), Kamesh Sharma, Assistant General Manager, along with Principal Sudhakar Parashar and students and guests were also present in the programme.

41 NOMINATION FORMS FILED IN MADHYA PRADESH

Bhopal: According to the information received till now, 41 nomination forms have been filed in the state till 6.00 p.m. on November 3 after the release of Vidhan Sabha Election-2018 notification. Total 59 nomination forms including 18 on Friday and 41 on Saturday have been filed in the state.

The nomination papers in 26 districts were filed on November 2 and 3 including 7 in Dewas, 5 in Rewa, 4 in Indore, 3 each in Chhindwara, Vidisha, Morena, Guna and Seoni, 2 each in Bhopal, Dhar, Hoshangabad, Ujjain, Gwalior, Ashoknagar, Sagar, Satna, Sidhi and Balaghat and one nomination form each in Ratlam, Badwani, Narsinghpur, betul, Agar-Malwa, Damoh, Harda and Singwari district.

27,671 NON-BAILABLE WARRANTS SERVED

Bhopal: Chief Electoral Officer VL Kanta Rao has informed that 27,671 non-bailable warrants have been served from October 6 to November 2, 2018 since the model code of conduct has come into effect in the state to ensure law and order. Total 2,590 illegal firearms have been confiscated and 2,51,500 firearms have been deposited in the police stations during this period.

Under the property defacement, 15,66,565 cases have been registered and out of this action has been taken against 15,14,388 cases. A total of 12,10,399 cases of government property defacement have been registered and action has been taken in 11,77,742 cases. Similarly, 3,56,166 cases of private property defacement have been registered and action has been taken in 3,36,646 cases. In addition to this, 9,812 cases of misuse of vehicles have been registered during this period.

DIRECTIVES ISSUED TO DM, SP

Bhopal: Directives have been issued by the Home Department to all the District Collectors and District Superintendents of Police that implementation of Supreme Court's directive must be ensured in connection to the time limit 8 pm to 10 pm fixed for fireworks on Deepavali. It was said in the directives that the concerned police station in-charge will be held personally responsible in case of violation of the Supreme Court's directives.

The District Administration has been instructed to provide detail information in connection to the order of the Supreme Court to all the police station in-charges to ensure its compliance and to avoid contempt of court. The Supreme Court's order/directives in this connection are available on the website of the court.

FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING IMPARTED

Bhopal: Fire fighting training imparted by Col Nitin Raj Deshpandey of IGRMS on the occasion of Vigilance Awareness week-2018. He has explained causes of fire, method of control/prevention/extinguish the fire to security staff and other visitors present. A Demo is also conducted regarding use of fire extinguishers on various types of fires. Programme has been concluded by 4.30PM at Avriti Bhawan Auditorium of IGRMS.

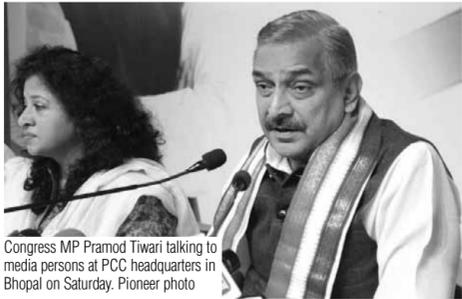
Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS explained the importance of programme and stressed on the requirement of honesty, hard work and willpower to perform any task. Strong willpower is required to eradicate the corruption from India. Society will not be free from corruption, until and unless we became aware about corruption. Vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Shrikant Gupta, Museum Associate.

ALLAHABAD BANK OBSERVES VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

Bhopal: Allahabad Bank, which is celebrating its glorious 154th anniversary in the services of the Nation, observed Vigilance Awareness Week with effect from October 29 to November 03. During this period various functions/events were held at Zonal Office, branches and different schools/colleges. The theme this year was 'Eradicate Corruption-Build a New India'.

On October 29, Mukti Nath Patel, Field General Manager (Central) along with SSP Roy, Deputy General Manager and Zonal Head, Bhopal, administered oath to the Officers and staff. On various dates, functions were organized in schools such as IPS School, Sheel Public School and Campion School. SSP Roy, administered Integrity Pledge as also exhorted the students the need for honesty, integrity for every ones life. Quiz programmes were conducted and students were given prizes in each programme. Bank also conducted a Walkathon Event on Saturday at VIP Road Bhopal, in which a large number of officers and staff participated.

Crime against women in State on rise: Cong



Congress MP Pramod Tiwari talking to media persons at PCC headquarters in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Congress Member of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh Pramod Tiwari here on Saturday alleged that there was an enormous rise in crime against women in Madhya Pradesh under the Shivraj Singh Chouhan Government.

While talking to media persons, Tiwari said, "The overall crime graph in the state has risen. "Cases of abduction of women and girls have gone up by 75 per cent under the Chouhan government between 2004 and 2016. The number of cases of abduction of women was 584 in 2004, which went up to 4,994 in 2016," he said, adding that the number of cases of rape of minor girls was 710 in 2004, which reached 2,479 in 2016.

A report by a reputed management consultant firm has dubbed Madhya Pradesh the country's most insecure state for working women, and the

rising crime has hampered the state's progress, he said.

During Chouhan's 13-year-rule, 30,000 murders, 46,000 rapes and more than 2.25 lakh heinous crimes were reported, the Congress leader alleged. The conviction rate is very low and 79 per cent of cases were pending in courts as of 2017-end, he said.

"There is a competition between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh as to which state would secure the first place in crime. The top two places are secured by these two BJP-ruled states," he said.

Reacting to Tiwari's claims, state BJP spokesperson Rajnish Agrawal said that outside leaders were trying to tarnish Madhya Pradesh's image.

"Under the rule of Congress's chief minister Digvijay Singh, MP led in atrocities against Dalits and tribal women. The state was infested with dacoits and Naxals," he said.

BHEL organises Concluding Ceremony of Vigilance Awareness Week

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

BHEL Bhopal organised Concluding Ceremony of Vigilance Awareness Week 2018 on Saturday. AGM HOD (Vigilance) Amit Sharma, welcomed all the guests and informed about events and competitions organized by vigilance division during the vigilance awareness week, in BHEL and in various schools and colleges in Bhopal.

The Chief Guest of the ceremony, ED DK Thakur said, "In BHEL there are established systems and procedures for all works and these are also reviewed time to time taking into consideration vigilance advices also." The guest of honour, Jaideep Prasad IPS, IG Bhopal in his address said that Departmental instructions and procedures must be strictly followed, and records must be maintained properly. This way, there will be little chance of corruption. He also said that corruption in our country is going down slowly, and the future is also very bright.

On this occasion, winners of Slogan competition held among employees and winners of Speech, Essay and Poster Competitions held in different schools and colleges, were also awarded. All the GMS and senior officials of BHEL Bhopal were present in the ceremony. The program was conducted by AGM (Vigilance) Sanjay Dhavle, DGM (Vigilance) Pankaj Jha and Senior Engineer (Vigilance) BN Choudhary.

CM Shivraj's son records statements in district court in defamation case



Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's son Kartikeya Singh Chouhan records statements in connection with the defamation case filed against Congress President Rahul Gandhi, in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's son Kartikeya Chouhan on Saturday recorded his statements here in a district court in a defamation case he has filed against Congress President Rahul Gandhi for alleging his name had appeared in the Panama Papers.

The Panama Papers leak in 2016 revealed the names of politicians, movie stars and business leaders across the world who had stashed money

in tax havens.

Kartikeya Chouhan told, "He levelled allegations against me from a public platform and said I was involved in the Panama Papers leak. He was wrong. False allegations were levelled against my father and me. I have recorded my statements in this regard today."

On Tuesday, Kartikeya Chouhan had demanded an apology from Gandhi within 48 hours. Kartikeya Chouhan's lawyer claimed that Gandhi had committed a criminal offence. He said the court would hear the

case next on December 17.

On Monday, Shivraj Singh Chouhan had threatened to file a criminal defamation case against Gandhi for accusing him and his family of being involved in the Vyapam and the Panama Papers scams. In response, the Congress president said he had been confused among the scams as the BJP was involved in many corruption cases. The next day, Gandhi told media persons that Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh's son was involved in the case.

People who lack education face struggle in life: Guv



Governor Anandiben Patel addressing a teachers workshop at IES Institute in Bhopal on Saturday. Pioneer photo

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Governor Anandiben Patel while addressing a Teachers' Workshop organized in IES Institute said that people who lack education face struggle in life, whereas educated people lead life easily like a game.

Students who follow the path shown by teachers lead a zestful life. The right education is that which protects youth from following the wrong path. Teachers should make efforts for mental development of students too. They should be entrusted with responsibilities to become self-dependent. The Governor also honoured best students. The International Fame Life Coach Prof Prashesh Toksi was special guest on the occasion.

Besides, the Governor mentioned that the society is suffering from many kinds of evils. We should make efforts to eliminate these evils and should pay special attention on education of girls. She further stated that a single literate girl becomes medium for complete literacy in family. Our culture teaches us to help others. We should always help weak people. The Governor said that a habit to read books other than the text books should be developed in students and teachers should also read these types of books.

Endorsing the need for environment conservation, the Governor said that all the students should do plantation and also take responsibility to protect it. She further stated that tableau focusing life of Mahatma

Gandhi should be installed in the academic institutions this year during his 150th anniversary. Prepare a questionnaire related to Mahatma Gandhi and let students write answers. This will give an opportunity to youth to know about the life of Gandhi Ji.

Besides, Patel said that teachers should educate students to live together, rising above the discrimination in the interest of the country.

The International Fame Life Coach Prof Prashesh Toksi mentioned that moral and cultural education is essential for all. He urged students to use education wisely for the country, society and family. The Chairman of IES Institute BS Yadav, Chief Director Sunita Singh and teachers took part in the workshop.

Two-day 14th Annual Cultural Fest culminates in Sagar Public School

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Sagar Public School, Gandhi Nagar culminated its two-day 14th Annual Cultural Fest with students of senior wing presentation 'Jagat Guru-Illuminating Souls', connecting with 'The Preamble'. The two-day annual festival comprised of Junior and Senior categories in which students exhibited their talents and values inherited of the quintessence of humanism and élan - 'Humanity is Our Religion'.

Madhav Deo Saraswat, Principal, The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior was the esteemed Chief Guest on the occasion. The show on the second day began with lighting of lamp and seeking blessings of 'Bharat Mata' followed by floral welcome of esteemed Guest by Chairman Sudhir Kumar Agrawal and Principal Jaishree Kanwar.

Siddharth Sudhir Agrawal, Managing Director, Sagar Group, Sagar Agrawal, Director, Sagar Group, governing members of Sagar Public School and SISTec, Parents, guests and invitees were also present on the occasion. A vibrant and colourful programme marked the celebration based on the theme 'Jagat Guru- Illuminating Souls' depicting 'The Preamble' and leadership of our nation

Religion'. The Red Fort created at centre stage with tricolour lights created ambience of empowerment of our nation as Sovereign, Secular, Democratic, Republic, Respect, Solidarity, Equality, Justice, Liberty, Fraternity state showcased by Sagarites inform of journey by the Jagat Guru. Sagarites exhibited classical Kathak, classical Bharatnatyam and staged 'Captain Sahib' play in Hindi establishing the past and present. The progressive India was depicted in Jagat Kalyan with Mohiniattam, Ballet Dance showcasing The Rising India. Swaragini depicted envisaging India as the Super Power with Illuminating souls providing solutions to the world for prosperity and peace making the world a better place to live. A memento was presented to chief guest Madhav Deo Saraswat by Sudhir Kumar Agrawal, Chairman, Sagar Group and Principal Jaishree Kanwar.

A vibrant and colourful programme marked the celebration based on the theme 'Jagat Guru- Illuminating Souls' depicting 'The Preamble' and leadership of our nation

However, it has been brought to the notice of the administration that the over-enthusiastic flying squads are using the code of conduct to harass the public. A delegation of the Gwalior Chamber of Commerce and Industries called on the District Collector, Ashok Verma and apprised him of the seriousness of the situation. They also requested the collector to look into the matter and do the needful.

Speaking at the meeting with the collector, Praveen Agarwal, the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries said that the police are impounding money from even colonies and side lanes. He further said that the total impounded money till date has gone over Rs 35 Lakh and that most of this amount belongs to small scale businessmen and the general public who are in no way connected with election activities. Agarwal further said that this practice of seizing money from

Gwalior Dist Admin constitutes flying squads to curb money, liquor practices in polls

PNS ■ GWALIOR

With an objective to keep a check on the misuse of money and distribution of liquor during the assembly elections scheduled for the month-end, the District Administration had constituted a few flying squads. The police officials in charge of the flying squads had been instructed to remain alert for the proper implementation of the model code of conduct and to initiate action in case of any violations of the code.

Earlier the Divisional Commissioner BM Sharma, during a meeting with the Collector, SP and other administrative officers too had expressed displeasure at the functioning of the flying squads. He had said that seizing money from a Dengue afflicted patient was inhumane and that he was deeply pained to read about it. He had further said that carrying Rs 50000, especially during

all and sundry will certainly have a negative impact on the festive season sales.

the festive season is a common thing, and that the concerned officials must employ their intelligence while dealing with such incidents.

Taking note of the objections of the business community and the stern stand of the DC, the District Administration has made some changes in the functioning of the flying squads. From now onwards every Flying Squad will be accompanied by a Magistrate and money can be impounded only after getting his orders.

CORRECTION OF NAME		CORRECTION OF NAME	
I Thota Sreenivasulu son of Thota Pedda Ramaiah age 42 years resident of Thurimella village Thurimella post Cumbum mandal Prakasam district Andhra Pradesh state pin 523372 declare that my son name TVSS KAUSIK KUMAR is incorrect. My son correct name is T.vss Koushik Kumar. I have corrected this name vide affidavit sl no 13208 dated 24-9-2018 at Giddalur court Prakasam AP	I Thota Sreenivasulu son of Thota Pedda Ramaiah age 42 years resident of Thurimella village Thurimella post Cumbum mandal Prakasam district Andhra Pradesh state Pin 523372 declare that my wife name S SUBASANI is incorrect. My wife correct name is THOTA SUBHASHINI. I have corrected this name vide affidavit sl no 13207 dated 24-9-2018 at Giddalur court Prakasam AP		

OFFICE OF THE S.E. (P&W), SHREE SINGAJI THERMAL POWER PROJECT, MPPGCL,			
Dongalia Dist. Khandwa (MP)			
E-mail ID: sepnw.sstpp1@gmail.com, Phone 09425611006			
No. 515-1700/SSTPP/MPPGCL/P&W/5516		Date 03.11.2018	
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER [Website: www.mppgcl.mp.gov.in]			
Tender Particulars/Tender Number	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Tender Cost Rs.	Last date and time for e-sale of tender
Work contract for Deployment of 20 nos. Retired Army personnel as security guards per day for round the clock security of 2x660 MW SSTPP, Stage-II, Dongalia, Khandwa for a period of 12 months. (T-8341)	75,64,315/-	5000.00	21.11.2018 up to 14.00 hrs
For extension & other details, the bidders are requested to please visit e-portal of GoMP at www.mpeproc.gov.in			
---sd--- SE (P&W)			

AAP suspends Sukhpal Khaira, Kanwar Sandhu from party

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

After weeks of suspense, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday suspended rebel leaders Sukhpal Singh Khaira and Kanwar Sandhu from the party for indulging in "anti-party" activities.

The decision was taken by the core committee of AAP Punjab unit, chaired by MLA Budh Ram in Chandigarh.

"Both Sukhpal Singh Khaira and Kanwar Sandhu have been suspended for indulging in anti-party activities," AAP legislator and leader of opposition in Punjab Assembly Harpal Singh Cheema said.

He said the core committee has taken the consent of the Political Affairs Committee for the suspension of Bholath and

Kharar legislators Khaira and Sandhu respectively.

Later, the party in a statement said Khaira and Sandhu had been indulging in "anti-party" activities and continuously attacked the central and state party leadership.

It said it has decided to suspend the two leaders with immediate effect after exhausting all avenues.

Reacting to his suspension from the AAP, Khaira described the decision as "dictatorial" and said he will hold a meeting with legislators and party activists to decide his next action.

"We will go to the people's court. Unity talks were torpedoed under a conspiracy after announcing five Lok Sabha candidates. It seems it is a planned strategy and conspir-

acy," Khaira said.

The suspension came nearly three months after Khaira was removed from the post of Leader of Opposition and two days after AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal's visit to Chandigarh on November 3.

During his visit, Kejriwal had virtually snubbed Khaira by saying, "My politics is not Sukhpal Khaira".

"My politics is towards the people of this country. My politics is for a corruption-free India. My politics is for providing good education, setting up hospitals," Kejriwal had said.

Khaira is leading a group of eight dissident legislators who had revolted against the party after he was removed from the post of the Leader of Opposition in July. Thereafter,



they set up a parallel adhoc political affairs committee.

The rebel group has been seeking autonomy for the State unit, which they say was

- They were suspended from the party for indulging in "anti-party" activities
- Party statement said it has decided to suspend the two leaders with immediate effect after exhausting all avenues
- The rebel group has been seeking autonomy for the State unit, which they say was being controlled by the Delhi leadership
- Out of the total 20 MLAs, Khaira group has eight legislators on its side. They are Kanwar Sandhu (Kharar), Primal Singh (Bhadaur), Jagdev Singh Kamalu (Maur), Nazar Singh Manshahia (Mansa), Master Baldev (Jaitu), Jai Krishan Singh Rori (Garhshankar) and Jagtar Sibgh Jagga (Raikot)



being controlled by the Delhi leadership. Talks between the rebel group and other AAP leaders of Punjab unit were held this month in an attempt to iron out the differences ahead of 2019 Lok Sabha polls. But the talks "failed" to end infighting after rebel group charged the party for unilaterally announcing five candidates for Lok Sabha polls and appointing some district presidents. Khaira had accused the

AAP leadership of not being serious about the differences. He had given the party an ultimatum till November 8 to withdraw new appointments or he and other rebel leaders would start setting up parallel organisational structure of the party in Punjab.

His group had blamed the defunct organisational structure for the party's defeat in Gurdaspur Lok Sabha byelection, Shakkot assembly byelection and zila parishad polls.

Out of the total 20 MLAs, Khaira group has eight legislators on its side. They are Kanwar Sandhu (Kharar), Primal Singh (Bhadaur), Jagdev Singh Kamalu (Maur), Nazar Singh Manshahia (Mansa), Master Baldev (Jaitu), Jai Krishan Singh Rori (Garhshankar) and Jagtar Sibgh Jagga (Raikot).



Supporters of BJP MLA Velsingh Bhuria from Sardarpura in Jhabua district protesting at CM's residence in Bhopal on Saturday over denial of ticket for State Assembly elections. Pioneer photo

STRIPPING OF GIRLS IN FAZILKA SCHOOL Punjab CM orders probe

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Taking serious note of the alleged stripping of girls after the discovery of a sanitary pad in a toilet, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Saturday ordered the transfer of two teachers of a Fazilka Government school pending inquiry.

The Chief Minister has also directed Secretary Education Krishan Kumar to complete the investigation into the incident by Monday and take further action as necessary.

The incident was brought to the notice of Capt Amarinder Singh after a video showed girl students of Government Girls School, Village Kundal, Fazilka district, crying and complaining that they had been stripped by the teachers in the school premises. The teachers were reportedly trying to find out which of the girls was wearing a sanitary pad, after one was found in the school toilet.



The incident was brought to the notice of Capt Amarinder Singh after a video showed girl students of Government Girls School, Village Kundal, Fazilka district, crying and complaining that they had been stripped by the teachers in the school premises

Instead of educating the girls about proper disposal of the pads, the teachers decided to strip them, the Chief Minister was informed, prompting him to issue prompt and stringent orders for immediate action.

The District Education Officer was asked to visit the school and, on questioning the students and their parents, found prima facie evidence of the involvement of the two teachers. Based on this, the Chief Minister asked the

Education Secretary to immediately issue orders transferring the teachers out of the school on administrative grounds.

Further disciplinary action, as per conduct rules, will be taken once the formal report is received after recording the statement of the students, said an official spokesperson, adding that the Chief Minister had asked the Education Secretary to personally monitor the investigation and update him with the final inquiry report on Monday.

Markfed District Manager suspended over sexual harassment charges

Chandigarh: The District Manager of Markfed, Kulwinder Singh stationed in Amritsar was suspended over sexual harassment charges on Saturday.

A committee formed by the Markfed for carrying out a comprehensive probe into the matter has begun its work, a Government statement said.

After being accused of sexual harassment by a female staff member, the District Manager Kulwinder Singh of Markfed has been suspended with immediate effect by the orders of Punjab Cooperation Minister, Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa who took very serious note of the matter.

During the period of suspension, the headquarters of the suspended District Manager would be Chandigarh head office. Managing Director Markfed Varun Roojain said that the orders were issued late on Friday for suspension with immediate effect. PNS

Kharge moves SC over Alok Verma

From Page 1

Also, the action by the CVC and the Department of Personnel and Training against Verma is a direct and concerted attempt to impede the independent functioning of the CBI, added Kharge.

"The October 23 orders were passed in violation of powers conferred upon the Statutory Committee under Section 4A and 4B of the DSPE Act which provides that Director of CBI shall be appointed on the recommendations of the statutory committee and transferred also only with its consent," Kharge said.

Kharge's petition comes amid Congress allegations that Verma was "removed" from the post as he wanted to investigate the Rafale fighter jet deal. Party chief Rahul Gandhi on Friday alleged that French firm Dassault Aviation paid Rs 284 crore as "first instalment of kickbacks" to Anil Ambani's company.

It is to be noted that the Supreme Court Bench headed by Chief Justice on October 26, had ordered the CVC to complete its investigation into the bribery and misconduct allegations against Verma in two weeks.

The Bench appointed former Supreme Court judge AK Patnaik to supervise the probe.

3K sants gather in Delhi to raise pitch for Mandir

From Page 1

The "Dharmadesh" organised by the Akhil Bhartiya Sant Samiti (ABSS), is taking place to decide their strategy on the construction of the Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya. In this regard, the Samiti is expected to pass a resolution on Sunday and condole the killing of Kar Sevaks in Ayodhya in police firing on October 30, 1990, and November 2, 1990.

Scores of seers representing 127 Hindu organisations, Shankaracharyas and top Hindu saints, including the firebrand Sadvhi Rithambara took part in Saturday's Dharmadesh meeting. Earlier, Rithambara had sparked off controversies while protesting during the 1992 mass movement over Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri masjid issue. Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) leader Sadvhi Prachi, who attended the meet, also said the temple will be constructed in Ayodhya and the foundation will be laid on December 6, 2018. She added that they do not need anyone for setting up the temple.

Yoga Guru Ram Dev on Saturday said if Ram temple will not be constructed at the Ram temple site then where will it be constructed? He expressed hope by claiming that towards the end of the year, people of the country will surely witness the joy of the positive verdict for the Ram Mandir issue.

Breathing in Delhi equal to smoking 20...

From Page 1

Saying that the central as well as State Governments have failed the people, Dr Reecha Upadhyay, Campaigns Director, Help Delhi Breathe said, "The impact of air pollution on our health is evident. Yet both the Delhi Government and the Central Government have failed the citizens. As citizens, we need to hold our representatives accountable for the environment. This election year citizens should say loud and clear: 'Saans Nahin Toh Vote Nahin.'"

CVC seeks files on allegations against Asthana from CBI

From Page 1

The note was sent to the CVC just ahead of a CVC meeting last year for consideration of elevation of then Additional Director Rakesh Asthana as Special Director in the CBI. The CVC had through a unanimous decision elevated Asthana as the Special Director of the CBI. Subsequently, the Supreme Court had rejected a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging CVC's decision to elevate Asthana as the number 2 in the CBI.

In response to the CVC's repeated reminders for submitting the files related to allegations leveled by Asthana against Verma, the CBI through a letter on September 18 this year told the CVC that the concern on the integrity of the officer turned out to be true.

The CBI also said in the letter that it has found evidence of criminal misconduct in at least half a dozen cases and that Asthana is aware of possession of evidence of his criminal misconduct by the Bureau. However, the CBI did not furnish the report to the CVC.

CBI spokesperson Abhishek Dayal remained incommunicado despite repeated attempts when approached for comments.

Make people aware, they will get their rights: J'khand CM

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Minister Raghubar Das on Saturday said it is the responsibility of the Information and Public Relations Department to make people aware about Government schemes and save the common man from being misled.

Inform people through various mediums such as Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc. Public relations is a fair and effective medium to defeat negative forces said the CM while speaking to the officials present at a review meeting of the Information and Public Relations Department at Project building here on Saturday.

The CM said that specific work being done in the society and the State should be publicised. Inspirational work should also be publicised. The District Public Relations Officer should coordinate with all departments and promote scheme. Make direct contact with people and aware them about their rights, he instructed.

Das said that Jharkhand is the first State in the country where the Agriculture and Food Summit is going to be held on November 29 and 30. To ensure farmers from remote area take its benefit, promote it with modern technique and technology.

The CM said that there are many people, farmers and



Chief Minister Raghubar Das holds review meeting with IPRD officials at Project Building in Ranchi on Saturday. Pioneer photo

women self-help groups which are working for the benefit of people. Bring their success story in public, congratulate them on social media and honor them for their work. It will encourage other people to do the same.

The Chief Minister said that in Krishi Samagam it has been announced by the State government that 28 lakh farmers of Jharkhand will get free mobile phones. Publicize this information to the farmers living in remote area.

Das said that LED vans are being run in all the districts of the State for the widespread publicity of the schemes. Ensure LED van run in rural areas instead of urban area. People in urban areas become aware of schemes through newspapers and TVs, but peo-

ple of rural areas use such medium relatively less. Publicity should be done in regional language for better understanding.

The Information and Public Relations Department should do unconventional work, which later be followed by other states. In this era of publicity, the government's scheme will be a success only if we get involved with the general public.

Secretary Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal said that giving benefit of welfare schemes to public is the priority of state government. He said that in rural areas, publicity of schemes is done less than urban areas; hence priority should be given to promotion of schemes through LED mobile van. He said that in the districts where the number of

LED mobile vans is less, the number should be increased. Audio visuals run in LED mobile van are now being run in the local language which is a good thing. Broadcast from LED screen should be done till 11pm in crowded place. He said that the display signage screen should be installed in the Collectorate hall. A large display signage screen should be installed in Project building and Nepal House lobby in a month.

The meeting was attended by Director, Information and Public Relations Department Ram Lakhan Prasad Gupta, Additional Secretary Ramakant Singh, all Deputy Secretaries, Deputy Directors, Under Secretary, Assistant Directors and District Public Relations Officer.

Restrict phone use at night to avoid snipers: Army to jawans

RAHUL DATTAMOHI KANDHARI ■ NEW DELHI/JAMMU

The Army has issued strict instructions to its troops guarding the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu & Kashmir and vital installations, including their camps, from using mobile phones as their faces are lit up during night presenting an easy target to snipers to shoot them. The direction came after a soldier on sentry duty of 42 Rashtriya Rifles in Tral last week was killed reportedly after he used his mobile phone at night. One other soldier was wounded in the sniper attack.

Moreover, the Pakistan Army and ISI backed militants have launched "two-front" attempts to smuggle in weapons in huge quantities besides ultras through the

LoC and International border. The two-pronged strategy has seen militants trying to smuggle in weapons from North Kashmir across from across the LoC and through Jammu and Punjab from across the International Border.

As regards the instructions about mobile phones, officials in security establishment said here on Saturday the sentries are generally posted in a shift of two to three hours to keep them fresh and alert. The Army has earlier too issued instructions as part of standard operating procedure asking the soldiers to refrain from using their phones.

In the latest incident, the militants had sneaked within a range of 200 metres or so and when the soldier responded to the mobile phone call thereby lighting up his

face he was shot, sources said. The militants had used telescope fitted rifle for the attack, they added.

Alarmed over this critical lapse, the Army reiterated its instructions about the use of mobile phones, said officials, adding the terrorists are desperate to attack army camps in the coming days. At least 14 such attacks on Army camps have taken place this year so far. However, only two such attacks claimed casualties. These included six soldiers killed when the militants stormed an Army installation in Sunjwan near Jammu earlier this year and one soldier killed in the sniper attack on the Rashtriya Rifles camp last week.

While Army Chief General Bipin Rawat earlier this week said the Army is verifying reports about two sniper groups of three to four

trained militants each of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) infiltrating into the Kashmir Valley in September, security forces are not taking any chances and have launched a hunt for these two groups. They reportedly carried out three attacks on security forces camps, including the Rashtriya Rifles incident within a span of five to six days last week.

The security establishment, moreover, is concerned over militant handlers sitting across the border in Pakistan waging a "two-front" war against the Indian security agencies in Jammu & Kashmir. Elaborating upon this aspect, officials said the Pakistan Army and ISI are pushing in heavily armed militants from across the LOC in North Kashmir and the International Border from Jammu region.

Khadi fashion melas to be organised in Haryana

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board will organise Khadi Fashion Melas in 2019 to popularise khadi products and make them easily available to people.

Chairperson of Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board, Gargi Kakkar on Saturday said that first online Khadi Selling Centre of the state has already been launched and Khadi selling stores would be opened at the

district level and also outside the State.

Kakkar said through the Board's initiative of online Khadi selling centres, Khadi would reach the common people, adding that spinning cotton on Charkha has taken a bigger form and today wearing Khadi has become fashion.

She said the Government has been requested to arrange an adequate budget to the Board to promote Khadi production.

"Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board would complete its 50 years in February 2019," she said, adding that no previous governments had ever taken such initiative for the promotion of khadi as taken by the present government under chief minister Manohar Lal.

She said all efforts would be made to establish the identity of Khadi products of Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board in the country as well as abroad.

Congress declares first list of 155 candidates

From Page 1

Party's prominent tribal face from Jhabua-Ratlam Kantilal Bhuria managed tickets for his kin Kalawati Bhuria, Veer Singh Bhuria and Vikrant Bhuria who is his son.

Party senior MLAs including Leader of Opposition Ajay Singh, Mukesh Nayak, Govind Singh, Govind Singh Rajput, Ashwin Joshi, Rajendra Singh, Deputy Speaker in State assembly, and others have been given re-nomination.

PUNJAB & ASSAM

Army chief sees external bids to revive militancy

New Delhi: Army Chief General Bipin Rawat on Saturday expressed concern over attempts to "revive insurgency" in Punjab and Assam through "external linkages" and warned if early action is not taken it will be too late.



Asserting that insurgency cannot be dealt with military force, he favoured adopting an approach in which all agencies, the Government, civil administration, Military and police work in an "integrated manner."

Airing these views here in a seminar on 'Changing Contours of Internal Security in India: Trends and Responses', he said attempts are being made through "external linkages" to "revive insurgency" in Punjab and Assam through "external abetment."

"Punjab has been peaceful but because of these external linkages, attempts again are being made to revive insurgency in the State," he said, adding, "we have to be very careful." "Let us not think that

Punjab (situation) is over. We cannot close our eyes to what is happening in Punjab. And, if we do not take early action now, it will be too late," he said. Punjab saw one of the worst phases of insurgencies in the 1980s.

Former Uttar Pradesh police chief Prakash Singh also highlighted the issue and referred to a pro-Khalistan rally organised recently in the UK aiming for a 'Referendum 2020'. Hundreds of people had turned out at Trafalgar Square in London on August 12 in support of a pro-Khalistan rally as well as to counter the event with an Independence Day celebrations.

Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) had said its rally was intended to raise awareness for a non-binding referendum in 2020, calling for Punjab to be granted

independence. The "We Stand With India" and "Love My India" events were organised by Indian diaspora groups as a reaction to the pro-Khalistan "London Declaration for a Referendum 2020".

Touching upon the issue of internal security, the Army Chief said threat to internal security is one of the biggest problems in the country, but question is "why we have not been able to find a solution, because it has external linkages."

Asserting that insurgency cannot be dealt with Military force, he pitched for adopting an approach in which all agencies, the Government, civil administration, military and police work in an "integrated manner."

The resolution of Naga insurgency can be forerunner to the Manipur insurgency situation. There are some linkages between the two. But, if that resolution does not satisfy Manipurites then the insurgency at that State will take a different turn, Rawat said.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

ASTHANA BRIBERY CASE

Middleman Prasad's bail plea dismissed

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Saturday dismissed the bail plea of alleged middleman Manoj Prasad arrested in connection with the alleged bribery case against CBI Special Director Rakesh Asthana.

Special CBI judge Santosh Snehi Mann denied bail to Prasad contending it was not a fit stage to grant him relief.

The CBI had opposed the application saying that the accused was an influential person and if released on bail, he may tamper with the ongoing probe and flee from justice.

In his bail application, Manoj Prasad had averred that he was not required for the custodial interrogation and no purpose will be served by keeping him in further custody.

Manoj Prasad who was arrested on October 17 is at present undergoing judicial custody.

The court had on October 31 granted bail to co-accused and CBI DSP Devender Kumar after the agency did not oppose

his bail plea.

The CBI had registered an FIR against Asthana, Kumar and two private persons on a written complaint of Hyderabad-based businessman Sathish Sana on October 15.

Besides Asthana, Manoj Prasad and Devender Kumar, another alleged middleman Somesh Prasad has also been named as an accused in the case.

The FIR had alleged that Devender Kumar, being the Investigating Officer (IO) in the case against meat exporter Moin Qureshi, was repeatedly calling the complainant to the CBI office to harass him and compel him to pay a bribe of ₹5 crore for getting a clean chit in the case.

The complaint had also alleged that a part of the bribe was paid by Sana. Earlier, through a complaint to the Cabinet Secretary on August 24, Asthana had alleged that Sana who is an accused in the Moin Qureshi case had allegedly paid a bribe of ₹2 crore to get relief in the case.

EC orders removal of Mizoram's Principal Secy of Home Dept

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) ordered immediate removal of a Principal Secretary (Home) Lalnunmawia Chuaungo accused of meddling in revision of electoral rolls in poll-bound Mizoram. Chuaungo, a 1987-batch Gujarat-cadre IAS officer, has been serving in Mizoram on an inter-cadre deputation from Gujarat.

The decision came in the wake of a complaint filed by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Mizoram, S B Shashank who accused Chuaungo of "direct interference" by the State Government in preparation for the November 28 Assembly polls.

"The Election Commission is satisfied that the continuance of Lalnunmawia Chuaungo as Principal Secretary (Home) in State Government of Mizoram will have adverse impact on conduct of smooth, free and fair election process in Mizoram," the EC order States. The order of the EC

signed by Secretary SB Joshi also stated that the poll panel in Delhi also approved the name of Lalrinliana Fazaia, a 1997 batch AGMUT cadre officer to be the new Secretary (home). The election commission decision sparked off protests from political and civil society Mizo groups.

On October 29, Shashank had written to EC complaining about interference by Chuaungo in revision of electoral rolls of Bru refugees from Mizoram residing in Tripura and had asked for his removal from the present post. The CEO has cited interference of the department of home affairs in the electoral revision process by asking the District Election Officers not to consider the identification slips for any purpose other than repatriation of refugees. The Mizoram Government, Shashank is learnt to have said, did not seem keen to have any new Bru voters enrolled.

The EC also directed that he should be relieved of his current responsibilities with immediate effect and not be assigned any work related to the state till the

elections are over. In its Friday order, the EC observed that a series of incidents had happened in Mizoram causing concern about completion of summary revision of electoral rolls and successful conduct of free and fair polls.

It mentioned how enrolment forms of Bru voters were stolen in August 23 and how the Mizoram government directed that identity slips issued to Bru families (which were being used to identify eligible voters) were declared not to be used for enrolment.

The EC noted how Chuaungo gave "evasive replies" on why the direction regarding identity slips was issued. It also mentioned how the IAS officer questioned deployment of central armed police force for the polls.

"Provisions would be made during future elections to the Lok Sabha and the legislative assembly of Mizoram for exercise of franchise within Mizoram by Bru (Reang) voters living in Tripura enrolled in voter lists in Mizoram," the EC order had stated.

ANOTHER CBI VS CBI CASE

DSP Mishra levels serious allegations against 3 IPS officers

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In yet another case of CBI vs CBI, an agency DSP NP Mishra has levelled serious allegations against three IPS officers Sharad Aggarwal, Abhishek Dular and Ramgopal Garg for corruption and manipulation of evidence in journalist Umesh Rajput murder case of Chhattisgarh.

"The officers of the CBI namely Sharad Aggarwal, the then DIG, now JD, Abhishek Dular, the then SP, KS Negi, DSP/IO of the case and AK

Singh, Sr. PP have changed the statement so as to save high profile criminal Manoj Aggarwal and others, who is the main culprit in Umesh Rajput murder case and Sushil Pathak murder case," Mishra alleged in his complaint.

Umesh Rajput was murdered only because he was blackmailing Manoj Aggarwal as this blackmailing by Umesh Rajput not only endangered the life and status of Manoj Aggarwal but also that of all the doctors of Chhattisgarh Medical College, Bilaspur and Dr BR Ambedkar Medical

'The aforesaid officers of the CBI in order to save the real accused/culprit concocted/created false evidence in the case and filed a false chargesheet in the court. He also alleged that the statements recorded by him have not been filed with the chargesheet of the case,' he alleged

College and "henchmen" police officers of Manoj Aggarwal, who were helping

Manoj Aggarwal by issuing/accepting false and fabricated certificates in the name of Manoj Aggarwal," Mishra alleged in his complaint to CBI Director Alok Verma.

"The aforesaid officers of the CBI in order to save the real accused/culprit concocted/created false evidence in the case and filed a false chargesheet in the court. He also alleged that the statements recorded by him have not been filed with the chargesheet of the case," he further alleged.

"Copies of actual state-

ments are with me in my computer and I can handover the same if required," Mishra claimed.

The letter sent "through proper channel" also sought from CBI Director Alok Verma.

When contacted CBI Spokesperson Abhishek Dayal said, "He (Mishra) keeps filing complaints against other officers and enquiries are conducted. I do not know how the CBI carries on with the investigations with such officers."



Lanterns are displayed on a street for sale in Mumbai on Saturday

AP

Stalin, Dhinakaran alliance likely ahead of TN's by-poll

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

For the first time in recent history, Tamil Nadu will see the spectacle of strange political permutation and combination which was once unthinkable. The DMK, the main opposition party, struggling to regain power which it lost in 2011 is likely to forge strategic and tacit understanding with the TTV Dhinakaran-led Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) to fight the upcoming by-elections from 20 assembly constituencies in the State.

The by-polls were necessitated because of the disqualification of the 18 legislators belonging to the AIADMK and owing allegiance to Dhinakaran and his aunt V K Sasikala (the former aide to former Chief Minister late J Jayalitha serving jail term in Bangalore in connection with the disproportionate asset case verdict) and the demise of two serving legislators.

The DMK had a tacit understanding with Dhinakaran in the by-poll held from RK Nagar in December 2017. Though there was no



formal announcement about this alliance, the DMK fielded a political novice Marudhu Ganesh to facilitate the victory of Dhinakaran who fought as an independent in the hustings against the AIADMK's official candidate. While Dhinakaran romped home, the DMK candidate forfeited his security deposit, something which was unheard of in the RK Nagar where the party's candidate Shimla Muthuchozhan had given a scare to the then chief minister Jayalitha in the 2016 assembly election.

While Muthuchozhan had polled more than 57,000 votes against Jayalitha's 97,218 votes, Ganesh could poll hardly 24,000 votes in the 2017 by-poll. While the Tamil media celebrated the failure of BJP to score the votes polled by NOTA, the fall in the DMK



votes went unnoticed. It was known to all that there was a secret deal between the DMK and Dhinakaran. "Yes, we have every reason to doubt that there was a tacit understanding between the DMK and Dhinakaran. The DMK is yet to explain why Muthuchozhan was overlooked during the by-poll," V Mythreyan, MP, AIADMK, had told *The Pioneer*.

Though M K Stalin, president, DMK, issues daily statements condemning the AIADMK and Chief Minister Edappadi Palaniswamy, it is interesting to note that neither he nor any other leaders in the DMK have attacked Dhinakaran, Sasikala or other members of the Mannargudi clan.

The AIADMK has to win at least 18 of the 20 seats going to the by-polls to continue in

office. This is because of the precarious position of the AIADMK in the assembly where it is surviving only because of a fragile majority. In the Tamil Nadu House which has an effective strength of 234, the ruling dispensation should have at least 118 seats to sustain the government. But the AIADMK has hardly 115 members as on Saturday and there are reports that four to five members may jump fence to Dhinakaran camp anytime from now.

The DMK, which commands the support of 97 members, too have to win all the 20 seats to dream of toppling the Palaniswamy Government. The next option available to the Dravidian major is to enter into a strategic or tactical alliance with Dhinakaran's AMMK and facilitate the defeat of all the AIADMK candidates by transferring votes.

This is the most likely scenario since both Stalin and Dhinakaran want the Palaniswamy Government to go. Since the alliance between the AMMK and the DMK is likely to cause the ire of the AIADMK voters, for the time being Stalin and Dhinakaran may keep the deal a low key affair.

Forced by parents to marry Aishwarya, says Tej Pratap

FAIZAN ■ AHMAD PATNA

No positive result seems to have emerged after an adamant son met his ailing father in prison hospital in Ranchi on Saturday.

Tej Pratap Yadav, who has filed petition for divorce from his wife of less than six months Aishwarya Rai in the court, heard his father Lalu Prasad patiently but insisted that he was not ready any more to spend a "suffocating life with her." The hearing of the case is slated on November 29 and he said he would reveal everything only in the court. "I don't want to be tied to any bandhan (bonding)," he reportedly told his father.

Prior to reaching Ranchi and meeting RJD supremo, Tej told media people in Gaya that his decision was final and there was no question of withdrawing his petition. He said he was reluctant to marry her but was forced by parents who made him a "pawn."

"Ghut ghut kar jeene ka koi fayda nahi. Main Krishna hoon par Aishwarya meri Radha nahi hai," (no use of living in suffocation. I am like Krishna but she is not my Radha), said Tej and added that there was no coordination between them as she belonged

to high society. Som reliable sources disclosed that Tej was under great influence of a Baba in Vrindavan (Mathura) and it is suspected that the Baba told him that he was like Krishna but Aishwarya was not his Radha so better they should separate. Tej last met that Baba only three days back in Vrindavan. Baba's influence on Tej is more than his parents have on him. That could be a reason that he was accusing his parents, Lalu and Rabri Devi, for coercing him to marry Aishwarya, daughter of RJD leader and MLA Chandrika Rai.

The attitude of Tej has shocked the families of Lalu-Rabri and Chandrika Rai beyond words. Rai with daughter Aishwarya rushed

to the house of Rabri Devi on Friday late evening but all attempts to reach Tej failed as he had left by car for Ranchi and refused to take any call. However, he made a night halt at Gaya and resumed his journey Saturday morning.

Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, who was not keeping well and had postponed his yatra two days back attended a party meeting on Saturday in a bid to show that party was not perturbed over the family feud.

When newsmen asked about the incident, a tense looking Tejashwi shot back, "No need to take interest in family matter. This is our problem and leave it on us. You people better look at the problems of Bihar and India and the youths and their unemployment." Prodded further the former Deputy CM said tersely, "If you start discussing family problems in public no family will escape whether it is of the PM (Narendra Modi) or the CM (Nitish Kumar)."

In related development two of the friends of Tej were called at Rabri Devi's house and were beaten by Chandrika and also by Rabri who hit one of them, a lawyer, with a remote. They were let go with warning not to say anything outside.

Mentally disabled man shot by security forces in Shopian

PNS ■ SRINAGAR

A "mentally disabled" man was shot dead by the security forces on Saturday morning at a village in south Kashmir's Shopian district, police said.

According to a police official, "At around 3 am a mentally unstable man was trying to walk into the army camp of 34 RR located at Pahnoo village of south Kashmir's Shopian district.

The slain man was identified as Rayees Ahmad Wani, resident of Begam Kulgam. Meanwhile, a sit-in protest was held by the family members and relatives of slain man along with his body at Batapora Chowk

"Some warning shots were fired by a sentry in air but the man did not stop, he then directly fired some shots upon him, which killed him on the spot, he added.

The slain man was identified as Rayees Ahmad Wani, resident of Begam Kulgam. Meanwhile, a sit-in protest was held by the family members and relatives of slain man along with his body at Batapora Chowk.

They were demanding for justice of the slain man and the arrest of erring army personnel. According to a family member Rayees Ahmad was missing since Friday afternoon.

Meanwhile, a lady in Khanyar locality of old Srinagar made fervent appeal to her son to shun militancy and return home, a day after his impersonated photograph posing as IS terrorist went viral on social media.

Ehtiham, a B.tech student went missing on last Sunday from his hostel at Sharda University in Greater Noida, nearly after a month, when he was assaulted during a group clash at the university between Indian and Afghani students.

A gun-wielding picture of Ehtesham along with a claiming audio message surfaced on social media.

Kashmir gets season's first snowfall

- The early snowfall caught the Governor's administration unaware and unprepared
- Orchardists in south Kashmir region and saffron growers in Pampore apprehend huge economic losses

KHURSHED WANI ■ SRINAGAR

Normal life came to a grinding halt in Kashmir following the season's first blanket snowfall that triggered road blockades and power outages forcing people to resort to traditional methods to fight the bone-chilling cold wave.

The early snowfall caught the Governor's administration unaware and unprepared while the orchardists in south Kashmir region and saffron growers in Pampore in the



A man rides a bicycle during season's first snowfall in Srinagar on Saturday PTI

outskirts of Srinagar apprehend huge economic losses. The rare November snowfall has occurred third time in past 18 years, a MET official said. The weather is likely to improve from Monday.

He said Srinagar registered a minimum temperature of minus 1 degree Celsius, down from the previous night.

Qazigund, the gateway town to the Valley, recorded 11 degree Celsius, compared to 16 degree Celsius on Friday.

The strategic 434-km Srinagar-Leh highway remained closed due to the heavy snowfall for the third consecutive day as 3 feet thick layer of snow has accumulated across Zoji La pass. The Srinagar-Jammu

pass. The Srinagar-Jammu

National Highway was also closed for vehicular traffic even as the authorities tried hard to keep it through for the passage of Durbar Move employees. The government offices are re-opening in winter capital Jammu on Monday, 10 days after they were closed in Srinagar on October 26.

The freaky weather has caused anguish among thousands of students writing their examinations for tenth and twelfth classes.

Orchardists from southern and northern parts of Kashmir said that the sudden change in weather pattern has potential to harm them economically. "The full apple crop has not been harvested. Some fruit is still on trees and the plucked harvest is in the process of grading and packaging," Murtaza Ahmad, an orchardist said.

The summer capital Srinagar witnessed a cold wave for last three days as the upper reaches witnessed early snowfall.



A Shikarawalla rows his boat across Dal Lake during the season's first snowfall, in Srinagar on Saturday PTI

PTI

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI
4th FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, PATEL CHOWK, NEW DELHI- 110001.
ICICI BANK VS. MS. NIDHI GARG
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

R.C. No.143/2015 "ORDER" Dated: 19.09.2018

As per my order dated 19.09.2018 the under mentioned property will be sold by e-auction sale in the matter of ICICI BANK VS. MS. NIDHI GARG. The auction sale will be through "online e-auction" www.drtauctions.com.

Date and Time of Auction: 02.11.2018 between 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. (with auto extension clause in case of bid in last 5 minutes before closing, if required)

Description of Property: Property bearing House/ Flat No. SH-207, Block-H, Sector GMP-16, Shastrri Nagar, First Floor, Ghaziabad, UP-201001.

Reserve Price: Rs. 31,76,000/- Lakhs (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Only)

Earnest Money: Rs. 3,17,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Seven Thousand Only)

Terms & Conditions

1. Auction/ bidding shall only be through online electronic mode through the website.
2. The intending bidders should register the participation with the service provider- well in advance and get user ID and password for participating in E-auction. It can be procured only when the requisite earnest money deposit be paid by prescribed mode. RC 143/2015
3. EMD Shall Be Deposited By 31.10.2018 By Way Of DD/ pay order in favour of recovery officer-II, DRT-III, Delhi. EMD deposited thereafter shall not be considered for participation in the e-auction.
4. On depositing the EMD photocopy of the copy of PAN card, address proof and identity proof, E-mail ID, Mobile No. and in case of the identity company or any other document confirming representation/ attorney of the company and the receipt/ counter file of such deposit should reach to the said service provider or CH Bank by e-mail and also deposit hard copy with this Tribunal by the said date.
5. Prospective bidder may avail online training from service provider M/s e-Procurement Technologies Ltd. (ABC procure), A- 201/208, Wall Street-II, Opp. Orient Club Near Gujarat College, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad- 380006 Gujarat (India) Tel: +91 079 40018600 Fax +917940016876 Contact person Mr. kushal kothary Mobile No. 08980690773 email: kushal@auctiontiger.net
- For further details contact: for further detail contact: Sanjeev Singh, Authorized Officer of the CH Bank, Mob. No. 7042290362.
6. Prospective bidder are advised to go through the website <http://drt.ii.auctiontiger.net> for details terms & conditions of sale before submitting their bids.
7. The property shall not be sold below the reserve price.
8. The bidder shall improve offer in multiple of Rs. 1,00,000/-
9. The property shall be sold "As Is Where Is Basis and As is What is Basis".
10. The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% of the sale proceeds after adjustment of EMD on being knocked down by next day i.e. by 3.00 PM in the said account as per detail mentioned in para 3 above. If the next day is holiday or Sunday, then on next first officer day.
11. The successful highest bidder shall deposit the balance 75% of final bid amount on or before 15th day from the date of sale of the property. If the 15th day is Sunday or other Holiday, then on the first bank working day after the 15th day by prescribed mode as stated in above para. In addition to the above the purchaser shall also deposit **poundage fee with Recovery officer-II, RC 143/2015**
12. DRT-III @2% upto Rs. 1000/- and @ 1% of the excess of said amount of Rs. 1000/- through DD Favour of Registrar, DRT-III Delhi.
13. In case of default of payment within the Prescribed period, the deposit, after defraying the expenses of the sale, may, if the undersigned things fit, be forfeited to the government and the defaulting purchaser shall forfeit all claims to the property or the amount deposit. The property shall be resold, after the issue of fresh proclamation of sale. Further the purchaser shall also be liable to make good of any shortfall or difference between his final bid amount and the price for which it is subsequently sold.
14. EMD of unsuccessful bidder's shall be returned to him/ them on the same day of auction by CH Bank by Crediting/ transferring into the account of bidder mentioned in bid form.
15. CH Bank to publish the E-auction notice in English as well Vernacular Language in the newspaper having sufficient circulation in the locality where the property situated and CDs reside are work for gain. C.H. Bank may also give wide publicity by way of circulating pamphlets and beat of Drum etc. till the date of auction and submit a report to this Tribunal.
16. The counsel for C.H. Bank is directed to Authenticate the veracity of the paras here in above

Matter be listed for filing affidavit of service of sale proclamation and for further proceedings on 25.10.2018.

(Vikas Jaitly)
Recovery Officer-II
DRT-III, Delhi

IT, infra heads to drive India's growth: Report

London: India's information technology and infrastructure sectors will be central to its journey of becoming a \$10-trillion economy by 2030, according to a new report released in London.

The Indo-European Business Forum (IEBF), which works as a facilitator of business ties between India and Europe, highlighted that the sustained reforms by the Indian Government have opened up the prospect of growth in these particular sectors as well as renewable energy, defence and logistics.

According to its analysis, information technology (IT) services exports are projected to add \$10 billion during this fiscal year, to touch \$126 billion.

In the field of infrastructure, India will become the

third-largest construction market globally by 2022 and the real estate sector is estimated to grow to \$650 billion by 2025 and surpass \$850 billion by 2028, to touch \$1 trillion by 2030.

"Today India represents a land of infinite opportunities. Its young demographic profile combined with its strong industrial base, rapid digitisation, growing infrastructure, resilient start-up ecosystem and clear growth vision from the government, offers India a significant competitive advantage vis-a-vis other developing economies," said Sunil Kumar Gupta, India Leader of IEBF, at the Global Investment Conclave on Investment Opportunities in New India in the House of Lords complex on Friday.

The annual IEBF investors' summit which began on Friday

ran for two days, with Prime Minister of Malta Joseph Muscat among the special guests alongside some of the prominent IEBF Advisory Committee members such as Baroness Sandip Verma, Member of the House of Lords and Chair of the European External Affairs Committee, and leading Indian-origin businessman GP Hinduja.

A delegation of Indian companies with investment experience and future expansion plans for Europe were also among the participants.

"IEBF was started 11 years ago to promote business ties between India and Europe and today, notwithstanding the Brexit uncertainties, it is playing an active role to facilitate trade and investment flows both ways," said Vijay Goel, founder-chair of IEBF. **PTI**

ONGC posts 61% rise in net profit to ₹8,265 cr in Sept qtr

New Delhi: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) on Saturday reported a 61 per cent jump in its September quarter net profit as higher prices offset a dip in oil production.

Its net profit was ₹8,265 crore in July-September as compared to ₹5,131 crore in the same period last year, the company said in a statement.

The company got ₹73.07 for every barrel of crude oil it pro-

duced and sold in the second quarter, up 48 per cent from \$49.43 per barrel realisation a year ago.

Because of the depreciation in rupee, ONGC's realisation soared 61 per cent to ₹5,117 per barrel. ONGC bills its customers in US dollars.

It got \$3.05 per million British thermal unit for natural gas as opposed to \$2.48 per mmBtu last year. The PSU oil

major's turnover was up 47.6 per cent to ₹27,989 crore.

Oil production fell 7 per cent to 4.9 million tonnes but gas output was up 3 per cent at 6.1 billion cubic metres.

ONGC reasoned the decline to contractor not delivering a production unit for western offshore WO-16 Cluster. Non-delivery of the facility, which was scheduled to come at the beginning of the fiscal year, "led to a loss of oil production of about 0.35 million tonnes", ONGC said. **PTI**

Govt. of Punjab
Tender Notice No. PAU/SPO/GA/2018/ 3927 Dated: 2-11-2018
The Department of Store Purchase Organisation, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana invites online bids for the following:

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1.	Purchase of LED (Outdoor display for Mobile Vans)	6 Nos.

Closing date and time: 13-11-2018 at 11.00 A.M.
For details long on to: www.eproc.punjab.gov.in and www.pau.edu.
Note: Any corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

Admn cum Accounts Officer,
Store Purchase Ludhiana
P.A.U. Ludhiana
DPR/2NOV18/ C-3132 Dt. 2-11-2018

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL DIVISION, RTIC KATHUA
Telefax:- 01922-238973, Email ID:- mdvrtic@gmail.com

No. MDK/RTIC/1354-62 GIST of e-Tender Dated: 01.11.2018
e-NIT No.18 of 2018-19 Dated: 01-11-2018 due on 09-11-2018
For and on behalf of Governor of Jammu & Kashmir State, Executive Engineer Mechanical Division RTIC Kathua invites e-tenders from well reputed contractors/workshop holders/ in two covers for Partial rewinding to rotor assembly of 1500 HP/HT motor of unit No.06 installed at lift Irrigation station Basantpura turnkey basis. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be Seen/downloaded from the Govt. Website www.jktenders.gov.in from 01-11-2018 (16.00 hrs).

1. The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 02-11-2018 (10.00 hrs) to 08-11-2018 (16.00 hrs) in two covers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Mechanical Division,
Ravi Tawi Irrigation Complex, Kathua

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Boy namely **Himanshu Mani Tiwari S/o Avinash Chand Mani Tiwari, R/o H.No. 60, DDA Flat, Pandav Nagar, Shadipur Depot, Delhi, Age : 17 yrs., Height : 5'6", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Round, Built : Thin, Hair : Black**, has been missing / kidnapped since 24.06.2018 from his house. In this regard a case **FIR No. 184/18 dated 30.06.2018** u/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped Boy but no clue has come to light so far. if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped boy please inform undersigned. Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

DP/5837/CD/18. **SHO PS. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi Ph. No. 011-25704008, 25704009, 8750870436**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED BOY

General Public is hereby informed that a boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Sunny, S/o: Sh. Shyam, R/o: WZ-406K, Plot No.51, Janak Park, Hari Nagar, Delhi, Aged-12** Years has been reported missing/ kidnapped since 23.08.2013 from his residence vide **FIR No.356/13 u/s 363 IPC dated 25.08.2013** has been registered at Police Station-Hari Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Fair, Height: 3'0" Physique/Build: Thin, Face: Round, Clothing: Red Colour Kurta and Blue Jeans.

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped boy, may inform SHO, Hari Nagar, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/7965/WD/18

Sd/-
SHO, Hari Nagar, Delhi
Ph: 011-28525719
08750871130

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Tele No.: 011-24368638 or 24368641
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/7965/WD/18

Sd/-
SHO, Hari Nagar, Delhi
Ph: 011-28525719
08750871130

212 firms went for liquidation under IBC: Official

Kolkata: Around 212 firms were sent for liquidation under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) till September-end, a top official said on Saturday.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) whole-time member Navrang Saini said 1,198 corporates were admitted into the resolution process, of which 52 had been successfully resolved.

"Most of cases were inherited from the erstwhile BIFR (Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction). This is why the number of companies going for liquidation is high," Saini said during an interaction at the Merchants Chamber of Commerce & Industry here. **PTI**

Business Corner

NSIC CMD PATS YOUTH ON RASHTRIYA EKTA DIWAS



NSIC CMD Sudhir Garg interacts with the students, trainees participating in the essay/quiz/debate competitions being held at NSIC-Technical Service Centres (Okhla) on 'ideas for taking benefits of technology to address challenges for masses in rural areas' on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas. Speaking on the occasion, Garg motivated the students to regularly enhance their skills and set up their own units and become entrepreneurs

WESTERN RAILWAY E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/43/2018 Date 02/11/2018

S.N.	Tender No.	Description of Material	Quantity	EMD (₹)
983	09-16-5030	Main Air Compressor	12 Nos.	66100
984	04-18-1665	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 15mm (ERW)	21013 Mtr.	31600
985	04-18-1666	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 20mm Medium	17744 Mtr.	43900
986	04-18-1667	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 25mm Medium	17986 Mtr.	49900
987	04-18-1672	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 80mm	1845 Mtr.	20900
988	06-18-5050	Transformer	2 Nos.	500000
989	10-18-5091	11 KV (E) Grade 3 Core X 185 SQ MM Cable	2880 Mtr.	48000
990	15-17-2331	Notice With Braille Script	9294 Nos.	2800
991	15-18-2086	Wheel Set Earthing Equipment	351 Set.	153200
992	15-18-2225	Must Change Kit	78 Set	500000
993	15-18-2227	Must Change Kit For 6th year Maintenance SCH	8 Set	500000
994	15-18-5033	Bio Digester Tank	144 Nos.	341800
995	22-18-4091	Set of Axle Box Assembly	7 Set	119400
996	30-18-3117	Cylinder Low Pressure	42 Set	92000
997	30-18-3121	Various Child Parts of Water Cooled Air Compressor	8618 Nos.	69600
998	30-18-3166	Gauge Complex With Air Flow Indicator for HHP Locomotive	67 Nos.	90400
999	04-18-1669	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 40mm	6383 Mtr.	30200
1000	04-18-1670	G.I. Mild Steel Tubes 50mm	3531 Mtr.	26700
1001	14-18-5318	4 Quad Cable	20.5 Km.	84300
1002	16-18-1998	Exhaust Manifold Sub Assembly	64 Nos.	44500
1003	22-16-5196	Set of Axle Boxes Complete Without Roller Bearing	10 Set	97900
1004	04-18-1673	G.I. Mild Steel Tube 100mm	1458 Mtr.	23800
1005	04-18-3183	Pair of Leather Hand Gloves	17828 Pairs	32800
1006	15-18-1023	Packing Ring to 254 ODX120 ID X 22mm Thick for Wheel Tread Wear	19656 Nos.	68000
1007	15-18-1740	Sprinklers Flexible Pipe	7500 Nos.	37000
1008	16-18-2051	Locoguard Exhaust Manifold Thermal	54 Set	74400
1009	30-18-2687	Kit Gasket Cylinder Head	586 Nos.	4800
1010	30-18-3107	Cooling Fan for Cab	183 Nos.	23000

Tender Opening Date for above tenders are Sr.No. 983:- 22/11/2018, Sr.No. 984 to 998:- 26/11/2018, Sr.No. 999 to 1003:- 27/11/2018, Sr.No. 1004 to 1009:- 28/11/2018 & Sr.No. 1010:- 29/11/2018. Regarding detailed notice containing cost of tender document (Non-refundable) for manual tenders, EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.reps.gov.in and www.westernrailways.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered.

For Principal Chief Materials Manager
ABOUT ITEMS NEEDING NEW VENDORS, DETAILED INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON PORTAL "E-EXHIBITION FOR VENDOR DEVELOPMENT" ON THE HOME PAGE OF WESTERN RAILWAY WEBSITE.
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: twitter.com/WesternRly

APOLLO TRICOAT TUBES LIMITED
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS BEST STEEL LOGISTICS LIMITED)
CIN: L74900DL1983PLC014972
Registered Office: 37, Hargobind Enclave, Vikas Marg, Delhi-110092
Corporate Office: 36, Kaushambi, near anand vihar terminal, behind wave cinema, Ghaziabad-201010
Website: www.apollotriccoat.com, E-Mail: info@apollotriccoat.com, Tel: 0120-4041400

Extract of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2018
(figures in lakhs except EPS)

Particulars	Quarter ended 30.09.2018	Half year ended 30.09.2018	Quarter ended 30.09.2017
Total Income from Operations	81.00	546.01	9,961.69
Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	63.99	266.81	578.08
Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	63.99	266.81	578.08
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax	47.07	200.72	291.38
Total Comprehensive Income for the period	47.07	200.72	291.20
Equity Share Capital	514.00	514.00	370.00
Earnings Per Share (face value of ₹ 2/-)			
Basic:	0.18	0.78	1.58
Diluted:	0.15	0.66	1.58

Notes:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of unaudited Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2018, filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.
2. The full format of unaudited financial results for quarter and half year ended September 30, 2018 are available on the website of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and on the Company's website www.apollotriccoat.com.

Place : Ghaziabad
Date : November 2, 2018
Sd/-
Rahul Gupta
Managing Director

perfectpac limited
Regd. Office: 910 - Chiranjiv Tower, 43 - Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019
Phone No. 011-26441015, Fax No. 011-26441018
E-mail: complianceofficer@perfectpac.com, website: www.perfectpac.com
CIN No.: L72100DL1972PLC005971

EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
(₹ In lakh) except EPS

Particulars	Quarter Ended 30.09.2018	Half Year ended 30.09.2018	Quarter Ended 30.09.2017
Total income from operations (net)	2,121.08	4,174.39	2,301.83
Net Profit for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	167.99	267.85	157.39
Net Profit for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	167.99	267.85	157.39
Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	120.49	202.36	98.02
Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	120.49	202.36	98.02
Equity Share Capital	133.26	133.26	133.26
Earnings Per Share (Face value Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) (not annualized)			
-Basic	9.04	15.19	7.36
-Diluted	9.04	15.19	7.36

NOTES:
1. The above results were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved subsequently by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on **November 03, 2018**.
2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter and half year ended September 30, 2018 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarter and half year ended September 30, 2018 are available on the Stock Exchange websites i.e. www.bseindia.com, www.cse-india.com and on company's website www.perfectpac.com.
3. This statement has been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and other recognized accounting practices and policies to the extent applicable. Beginning April 1, 2017, the Company has for the first time adopted Ind AS with a transition date of April 1, 2017.

Place: New Delhi
Date: November 3, 2018
Sanjay Rajgarhia
Managing Director

केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग ई-टेंडर्स आमंत्रण सूचना

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से कार्यपालक अभियंता, एस मंडल, कोलोनोनिओ रामा कृष्ण पुरम, नई दिल्ली द्वारा आयोजित कार्य के निष्पादन हेतु कोलोनोनिओ को approved and eligible ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाइन प्रतिशत दर निविदा प्रणाली आमंत्रित की जाती है।

1. निओआसू सं 65/EE/S Div/2018-19 (3rd-Call) Name of Work: "Providing and fixing anti-skid tiles in Lok Sabha Residential Multistories quarters at Sector-2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19, अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 7,76,874/- घरोहर राशि: ₹ 15,537/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 03 (तीन) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
2. निओआसू सं 104/EE/S Div/2018-19 (Revised)-(2nd-Call) Name of Work: "A/R & M/O to various types of qtrs. at Sector-1, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Providing Male Security guard)", अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 5,94,177/- घरोहर राशि: ₹ 11,884/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 12 (बारह) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
3. निओआसू सं 106/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "A/R & M/O to CGO Building East Block 1 to 10, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg 2018-19 (SH: Attending Day to Day complaints of Sewerman, Carpenter, Beldar etc.)", अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 8,38,130/- घरोहर राशि: ₹ 16,763/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 6 (छः) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
4. निओआसू सं 107/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "Upgradation work in Type-IV GPRA Qtrs at Sector-3, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg 2018-19 (SH: Provision of new kitchen cupboards in occupied qtrs.)", अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 26,44,606/- घरोहर राशि: ₹ 52,892/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 04 (चार) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
5. निओआसू सं 108/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "Upgradation work in Type-IV GPRA qtrs at Sector-3, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg. 2018-19 (SH: 5 Nos. Civil work and 6 Nos. Electrical work in Occupied Qtrs)", कुल अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 34,96,462/- (Civil Rs. 26,17,840/- + Elect. Rs. 8,78,662/-), घरोहर राशि: ₹ 69,929/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 04 (चार) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।
6. निओआसू सं 109/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "Upgradation work in Type-III GPRA qtrs at Sector-3, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg. 2018-19 (SH: 6 Nos. Civil work and 6 Nos. Electrical work in Occupied Qtrs)", कुल अनुमानित लागत: ₹ 28,74,980/- (Civil Rs. 23,58,290/- + Elect. Rs. 5,16,690), घरोहर राशि: ₹ 57,500/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि: 04 (चार) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 12.11.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।

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

Will help Pak in financial crisis: China

By IANS ■ BEIJING

China on Saturday assured Pakistan of its full support to "tide over" the financial crisis, clearly signalling Beijing's readiness to give fresh loans to its all-weather ally which is in deep economic distress.

During the on-going China visit by Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan, Beijing also told Islamabad to "push forward" the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the heart of the Chinese Belt and Road project the feasibility of which Pakistan has begun to doubt over debt concerns.

India is opposed to the \$60 billion CPEC whose planned route is through the disputed Kashmir held by Pakistan.

"The Chinese government will provide necessary support

and assistance to Pakistan in tiding over the current economic difficulties," China's Vice Foreign Minister Kong Xuanyou said.

The minister gave no specific information about China's financial assistance, saying the details were being discussed.

He was talking to reporters after Khan and his Chinese counterpart Li Keqiang held talks at the Great Hall and supervised the signing of 16 bilateral deals.

Khan, who met Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday, is understood to have sought financial help for Pakistan which is in dire straits due to the ballooning foreign debt.

"The relationship between the two countries has deepened since then because the CPEC in 2013 was just an idea. Now it

is on the ground. And it has caught the imagination of the people of Pakistan," Khan said while meeting Li.

"We feel that this is a great opportunity for our country to progress, to attract investment, it gives us an opportunity to raise our standard of living, growth rate. You will see the difference because a lot has happened since 2013. One of the things, of course, is my party has come to power."

Pakistan which has already secured a \$6 billion loan from Saudi Arabia thinks the amount is not enough to clear the financial mess and has also sought a bailout package from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF wants Pakistan to disclose all the financial details of the Chinese-funded CPEC

for providing the bailout package.

The Chinese are wary of Islamabad going to the IMF, dominated by its rival the US which opposes the Belt and Road project.

Experts say that the Chinese have pushed Pakistan into heavy debt through the CPEC, a charge denied by Beijing.

Some ministers in Khan's new government have expressed concerns over the Chinese investments in Pakistan, with one slashing the budget of a rail project by \$2 billion.

However, Khan has pledged to work to implement the CPEC and has assured Pakistan's full support for it.

"The vision of Xi Jinping for jointly building the Belt and

Road initiative is being turned into a reality. Against such a backdrop, the CPEC also has new opportunities and need to be further pushed forward," said the Chinese Vice Foreign Minister.

"The two sides will firmly move forward the CPEC while ensuring the smooth operation of completing projects and advancing the ongoing projects." "The two sides will gradually bring the dimension of industrial cooperation to the CPEC and extend it to other parts of Pakistan," he said.

Kong said the project will also focus on the social sector.

"The two sides have agreed to establish a foreign-ministerial dialogue mechanism to make overall planning and coordinate in various fields," he added.

Asia Bibi's lawyer leaves Pak citing threats to life

By IANS ■ ISLAMABAD

The lawyer of Asia Bibi, a Christian woman who was acquitted of blasphemy charges after eight years on death row, left the country on Saturday, saying his life was under threat.

Following the Supreme Court's decision last week, religious parties staged protests in major cities across the country and incited violence against lawyer Saif-ul-Mulook as well as the judges.

Mulook claimed he was facing threats from sections of lawyers and it was difficult for him to practise in the prevailing situation, the Express Tribune reported.

The apex court on October 31 ordered Bibi's immediate release stating that blasphemy charges could not be proven against her. She was accused by two women of insulting Prophet Muhammad in 2009 and a court sentenced her to death in 2010.

The protests were called off after radical Islamist group Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) and the Government reached an agreement, with the Government promising to immediately initiate a legal process to place Bibi's name on the Exit Control List.

As party of its deal with the TLP, the Government said it would not oppose petitions

filed against the top court's verdict. According to the agreement, all protesters arrested since Bibi's acquittal will be released and any violence towards them will be investigated.

Campaigners blasted the deal as akin to signing her "death warrant".

Talking to the Express Tribune, Malook said that he would return to Pakistan to represent Asia at hearing of the review petition if the Army provided him security.

"My family is also facing immense security threat and the federal Government should provide security to them," he said.

Indian-American charged with H-1B visa, mail fraud

By IANS ■ WASHINGTON

An Indian-origin man has been charged in the US with H-1B visa and mail fraud, officials said.

Kishore Kumar Kavuru, 46, was arrested on Friday and was presented before US Magistrate Judge Susan van Keulen, the US Department of Justice said in a press release.

He was charged with 10 counts of visa fraud and 10 counts of mail fraud in connection with a scheme to maintain a pool of foreign workers for the clients of Kavuru's consulting companies.

If convicted, Kavuru faces the sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count of visa fraud. The defendant also faces up to 20 years in jail and \$250,000 for each count of mail fraud, federal prosecutors said.

According to the indictment, Kavuru, a resident of Sunnyvale, California, held himself out as a staffing specialist for technology firms based in Santa Clara County and elsewhere seeking to fill temporary positions with foreign workers.

Since at least as early as

2007, Kavuru was the owner and Chief Executive Officer of four consulting companies — Scopos Consulting Group, Inc.; ITECH Analyst Corp; Infinity Methods Corp; and Orian Engineers Incorporated.

The indictment described how Kavuru used the consulting companies to process and submit fraudulent applications for foreign workers to obtain permission to work in the US under the H-1B visa programme.

He was accused of submitting fraudulent documents to both the Department of Labour and the Department of Homeland Security, containing details of bogus work projects awaiting the foreign workers.

US soldier killed in 'apparent insider attack' in Kabul: NATO

Kabul: One US soldier was killed and another wounded in an "apparent insider attack" in Kabul on Saturday, NATO said, in the latest such assault on international forces in Afghanistan. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the third so-called "green-on-blue" attack in less than three weeks that have rattled foreign troops tasked with training and assisting the war-torn country's military. **AFP**

Pak summons Indian diplomat to condemn 'unprovoked firing'

Islamabad: Pakistan on Saturday summoned India's Deputy High Commissioner J P Singh and condemned the "unprovoked firing" on the Line of Control by Indian troops that killed a woman. Foreign Office spokesman Mohammad Faisal summoned Singh and "condemned the unprovoked ceasefire violations" by the Indian forces, the Foreign Office said.

Faisal said that the firing killed a 22-year old woman,

Munazza Bibi, in Bhimbar Sector on Friday.

"The deliberate targeting of civilian populated areas is indeed deplorable and contrary to human dignity, international human rights and humanitarian laws," Faisal said.

He claimed that the Indian forces along the Line of Control and the Working boundary are continuously targeting civilian populated areas with heavy weapons and carried out more

than 2,312 ceasefire violations so far in 2018, resulting in the death of 35 civilians.

Faisal said this unprecedented escalation in ceasefire violations by India is continuing from the year 2017 when the Indian forces committed 1970 ceasefire violations.

"The ceasefire violations by India are a threat to regional peace and security and may lead to a strategic miscalculation," Faisal said. **PTI**

IS KILLS 3 IRAQ VILLAGE CHIEFS IN A WEEK: OFFICIALS

Kirkuk (Iraq): Jihadists have killed three village chiefs in less than a week in Iraq's restive north, local officials said Saturday, as the targeting of State representatives escalates.

OPEN TO NEW DEAL WITH IRAN: TRUMP

Washington: US President Donald Trump has suggested he was open to a new comprehensive deal with Iran, saying that till then the toughest-ever sanctions on the Middle-East country that kicks off on Monday would continue.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one female, **Name:** Sheela Devi, **W/o:** Pinku, **R/o:** WZ-283/59, Maddi Wali Gali, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi has been missing from her home since 16.10.2018 at 04.30 pm. In this regard, a **DD No. 23A Dated 17.10.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Khyala, New Delhi.** Investigations has been carried out but despite best efforts, the female could not be traced. The description of the missing female is as under:

Name: Sheela Devi, **W/o:** Pinku, **R/o:** WZ-283/59, Maddi Wali Gali, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi, **Age:** 30 yrs, **Height:** About 5', **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Pink Colour Saree. Any person is having any information/clue about this missing female, may inform SHO, Khyala, Delhi & **E-mail:** cic@cbi.gov.in or **website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **Tele No.:** 011-24368638 or 24368641. **S.H.O** **Ph. No.:** 011-24368638, 24368641 **Ph. No. 011-28335696**

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that a male **Name:** Sonu Ray, **S/o** Krishan Nath Ray, **R/o:** WZ-316, Basai Darapur, Delhi, **Age:** 27 Years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Body:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue & White colour lining shirt and brown colour pant and red colour hawai chappal in feet, has been missing from his home, since 02.10.2018. In this regard **DD No. 22A**, dated 03.10.2018, has been lodged at **PS. Moti Nagar, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing male but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing male please inform the undersigned.

E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in **SHO** **Ph. No.:** 011-24368639 **PS, Moti Nagar, Delhi** **DP/7956/WD/18** **Ph.:** 011-25101150, 25935888

Sportking INDIA LTD.

Regd. Off: 5/69, Guru Mansion, First Floor, Padam Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005.
CIN No.: L17122DL1989PLC035050, Email: es@sportking.co.in, website: www.sportking.co.in, Ph. (11) 25794885, 25747028

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER/HALF YEAR ENDED 30TH, SEPTEMBER 2018 (Rs. in Lacs)

PARTICULARS	Quarter ended 30.09.2018 (Unaudited)	Six months ended 30.09.2018 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2018 (Unaudited)
Total Income From Operations (Net)	27723.24	55418.09	27694.85
Net Profit (+) Loss(-) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	1167.55	2157.15	989.60
Net Profit (+) Loss(-) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	1167.55	2157.15	989.60
Net Profit (+) Loss(-) for the period after tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	702.77	1334.33	631.56
Total Comprehensive income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other Comprehensive income (after tax))	720.21	1334.33	614.12
Equity Share Capital (Face value of Rs. 10/- each)	356.10	356.10	356.10
Reserve (excluding Revaluation Reserves as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year)	-	-	-
Earning Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) Basic & Diluted	19.74	37.47	17.74

Notes:
The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results for the Quarter/Half Year Ended 30th September, 2018 filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on BSE website i.e. www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website i.e. www.sportking.co.in.

FOR SPORTKING INDIA LIMITED
Sd/-
MUNISH AVASTHI
MANAGING DIRECTOR
DIN: 00442425

Date: 03-11-2018
Place: Ludhiana

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

MAHARASHTRA KRISHNA VALLEY DEVELOPEMENT CORPORATION, PUNE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Ujjani Hydro Electric Division, Indapur.

E-mail - ujjanihydroindapur@yahoo.in Phone-0211-225777

e-Tender Notice No. B1/EE/10/ (Third call) /2018-2019

E-Tender in B-1 form is invited by the Executive Engineer, Ujjani Hydro Electric Division, Indapur for and on behalf of Executive Director, Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation, Pune. The contractor must have electrical contractor license issued by I. E. & L Department, Govt of Maharashtra. Tender documents can be downloaded on the portal - <https://mahatenders.gov.in> Right to accept or reject tender is reserved by the Executive Engineer, Ujjani Hydro Electric Division, Indapur. Conditional tenders will not be accepted.

Name of Work	Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 11/0.415 KV switchyard equipments, & 11 kV Line, operation, maintenance, Watch & Ward for two years from commissioning for Korle -Titeghar Vadtmury Lift Irrigation Scheme Tal. Bhor Dist. Pune
Amount put to tender Rs.	2,00,13,163/-
e-Tender availability period	Date 05/11/2018 to 14/11/2018
Opening of e-Tender	Date 19/11/2018

All information about e-tender available on below portal.

- <https://wrd.maharashtra.gov.in>
- <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

(Any changes in this tender notice will be uploaded on above website)

- Copy to Notice board - Executive Engineer, Ujjani Hydro Electric Division, Indapur.
- The Tenderer shall register on above portal for participate in e-tendering process.
- If any assistance is required regarding e-tendering (upload & download) please contract NIC e-procurement toll free (24 x 7) 0120-4200462, 0120-4001002.
- The cost of the work shown here, is without GST, and will be paid extra, on accepted tender cost and as per the latest Government rules, applicable on time-to-time
- All subsequent corrigendum/amendments regarding this tender shall be available on **website:- www.mahatenders.gov.in**. Hence tenderes are advised to visit website until the tenderprocess is finalised.

No. UHED/AB-2/Tender/1792 **Sd/-**
Office of the Executive Engineer, Executive Engineer,
Ujjani Hydro Electric Division, Indapur
Date:- 31/10/2018
DGIPR/2018/2019/4076

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Corporate Identity No. UA40109UP2001SGC0258672358
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwar Lal, Dehradun, Tel. No. 0135-2763672-76 Fax No. 0135-2760289

E-TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE

This office e-tenders specification No. CCP-I/308/31/2018-2019 invited previously, for supply of Revenue Receipt Book as per format size 6"x12", SBM Rolls of size 57mmx58mm of 30 Meter Long on 70GSM paper and Revenue Receipt Book respectively are hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tenders can be purchased and submit upto 17:00hrs of 15.11.2018. Part-I of the e-tenders shall be opened on 16.11.2018 at 16:00hrs, 16:15hrs respectively. Other terms & conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.

Tender No. - 587 / EE (CM) / UPCL / A-2 **Superintending Engineer Corporate (C&P-I)**
Dated: 03/11/2018

"Save Electricity in The Interest of The Nation" Use L.E.D Bulb to Save Electricity(Toll Free No-1912) Pay Electricity Bill Online 24 x 7 from www.upcl.org (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185) fax No. 0135-2760911

DELHI JAL BOARD

GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(NORTH WEST)-I
H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR INDL., AREA
PEERA GARHI CHOWK NEW DELHI-41

NIT No-43/EE(NW)(2018-19)
Press Notice Tender

S. N	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.)	E/M (Rs.) & Processing Fee's	Dt. of release of tender procurement/ I.D. No.	Last dt./time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1	Restoration of settled sewer line by Auger boring method near H.No. E-770 to E-526 and A-181 to MCD Sanitation store adjacent to B-Block main road in Mangolpuri AC-12 under ZE-III(EENW)-I	46,41,103/-	92,900/- 500/-	31/10/2018/ 2018_DJB_161394-1	15-11-2018 at 3.00 PM.
2	Replacement of old /damaged/Corroded 80 mm dia under size water line in various khancha's of Pkt. G-30 Sec-3 Rohini AC-12 Under ZE- V(EE(NW))	49,44,507/-	98,900/- 500/-	31/10/2018/ 2018_DJB_161405-1	15-11-2018 at 3.00 PM.

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) **Sd/-**
Adv. No. J.S.V. 494/2018-19 **EX. ENGINEER(NW)**

BCL INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Formerly known as BCL INDUSTRIES & INFRASTRUCTURES LIMITED)
Regd. Office: Hazratganj Link Road, P. Box No. 71, Bathinda - 151 001 (Punjab)
Phone: 9184-2240443, Email: cs_bcl@bclindia.com CIN: L24219PB1979PLC003524

NOTICE

Notice pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations) is hereby given that a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at Regd. Office, inter alia, to consider and approve unaudited financial results of the Company for the quarter / half year ended September 30, 2018.

Further in accordance with SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulation, 2015 read with Company's Code of Conduct to Regulate, Monitor and Report Trading by Insiders, the "Trading Window" for dealing in the Equity shares of the Company shall remain closed for the purpose of Consideration of Unaudited Financial Results with immediate effect till 48 hours after announcement of the results to Stock Exchange (BSE) (both days inclusive). The said notice is also available on the website of the Company www.bclindia.com and on the website of BSE India Ltd. at www.bseindia.com.

For BCL Industries Limited
(Formerly known as
BCL Industries & Infrastructures Ltd.)
Sd/-
(RAJINDER MITTAL)
Managing Director

Dated : 02.11.2018
Place : Bathinda

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Deputy Director (Hort.) Horticulture Division No. 1, CPWD, South Avenue, New Delhi (Ph: 23018234), e-mail hort.dhdd1@yahoo.in on behalf of the President of India, hereby invites online tenders from eligible contractors registered under CPWD (Horticulture Category) for the following works.

- NIT No. 100/DD/HD-1/2018-19, Name of Work:-** M/o G.A. attached to GOB's Bungalows under Sub-Divn. 1/HD-1, CPWD, New Delhi dg. 2018-19. (SH: Complete maintenance of garden features). **Estimated Cost:** 30,62,742- **Earnest money:** 61,255/-, **Period of completion :** 12 Months, **Last date of submission of bid 15.11.2018 upto 11:00 AM, Date of opening of bid 15.11.2018 at 11:30 AM.**
- NIT No. 101/DD/HD-1/2018-19, Name of Work:-** M/o G.A. attached to Sub-Divn. 3/HD-1, CPWD, New Delhi dg. 2018-19. (SH: Complete maintenance of garden features at 17 Akbar Road and 31 APJ Abdul Kalam Road). **Estimated Cost:** 20,50,440/- **Earnest money :** 41,008/-, **Period of completion :** 12 Months, **Last date of submission of bid 15.11.2018 upto 11:00 AM, Date of opening of bid 15.11.2018 at 11:30 AM.**
- NIT No. 102/DD/HD-1/2018-19, Name of Work:-** M/o G.A. attached to Sub-Divn. 3/HD-1, CPWD, New Delhi dg. 2018-19. (SH: Complete maintenance of garden features of GOB's Bungalows at Tuglak Road, Tuglak Lane, Akbar Road, and APJ Abdul Kalam Road). **Estimated Cost:** 44,30,046/- **Earnest money :** 88,601/-, **Period of completion :** 12 Months, **Last date of submission of bid 15.11.2018 upto 11:00 AM, Date of opening of bid 15.11.2018 at 11:30 AM.**
- NIT No. 103/DD/HD-1/2018-19, Name of Work:-** M/o G.A. attached to Bhagwan Mahavir Vanasthali under Sub-Divn. 2/HD-1, CPWD, New Delhi dg. 2018-19. (SH: Complete maintenance of garden features). **Estimated Cost:** 23,74,160/- **Earnest money :** 47,483/-, **Period of completion :** 12 Months, **Last date of submission of bid 15.11.2018 upto 11:00 AM, Date of opening of bid 15.11.2018 at 11:30 AM.**
- NIT No. 104/DD/HD-1/2018-19, Name of Work:-** M/o G.A. attached to Sub-Divn. 2/HD-1, CPWD, New Delhi, dg. 2018-19. (SH: Complete maintenance of garden features of GOB's Bungalows at Kushak Road, Teen Murti Marg, Mother Teresa Crescent and Tyag Raj Marg). **Estimated Cost:** 44,86,083/- **Earnest money :** 89,721/-, **Period of completion :** 12 Months, **Last date of submission of bid 15.11.2018 upto 11:00 AM, Date of opening of bid 15.11.2018 at 11:30 AM.**

The Bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD. The Press Notice is also available on www.eprocure.gov.in.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Open Tender for Commercial Advertisement Rights through LED Screens (Video Walls) of 5x4 meters at New Delhi, Delhi, Hazrat Nizamuddin and Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Stations over Delhi Division, Northern Railway for a period of five years.

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ Coaching, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites sealed Tenders up to 15:00 hrs on 05.12.2018 for allotment of contract for Commercial Advertisement Rights through LED Screens (Video Walls) of 5x4 meters at New Delhi, Delhi, Hazrat Nizamuddin and Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Stations over Delhi Division, Northern Railway for a period of five years from the date of award, which will be opened soon thereafter in the Commercial Branch of DRMs office, State entry Road, New Delhi.

Detailed Tender document alongwith Notice Inviting Tender, Tender form, Terms & conditions alongwith detail of stations is available on the Web site of Northern Railway www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in, and the same can be downloaded from there. It can also be obtained from the office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ Coaching, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi on any working day during working hours up to 13:00 hrs of 05.12.2018 on payment of prescribed (non-refundable) Cost of Bid Document.

No. 7 PUBL/LED DISPLAY/WIDEWALL/2011 Dated: 02.11.2018 2971/18

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

INDIA FACE T20 TEST, WI SEEK REDEMPTION

After wrapping up ODI series, India face world champion Windies in shortest format

'Dhoni's absence is opportunity for Pant'

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The 'end of Dhoni era' notion has been dismissed unequivocally but then India, for the first time, will still be without the figure with a monumental body of work when they face West Indies in the opening T20 International on Sunday.

India vs West Indies
Live from 7:00pm IST
STAR SPORTS 1 & 1HD

Less than a week after two-time World Cup-winning skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni was left out of India's T20I squad, captain Virat Kohli has said he remains an integral part of India's plans.

Chief selector MSK Prasad also said that it was not the end of the road for Dhoni in T20Is.

With Kohli rested for the three matches, Rohit Sharma will lead the side against the reigning T20 champions.

Under Jason Holder, West Indies were mauled 0-2 in the Test series in six days' of action. In the following five-match ODI series, they posed some challenge before being thrashed 1-3 with a nine-wicket loss in Thiruvananthapuram in the final one-day.

But it will not be an easy task for India against the Carlos Brathwaite-led team as the two-month long series begins its final leg, giving the visitors a chance to regain some pride.

Brathwaite will be back at the same venue where he hit four consecutive sixes off Ben Stokes to break the hearts of English fans by winning their second World Twenty20 title in 2016.

The Windies, who missed the big names in the Test and ODI series, will be bolstered by the arrival of star players Darren Bravo, Kieron Pollard and Andre Russell, who will be back at his IPL home venue.

The stats also favour the World T20 holders who have a five-two record from eight exchanges from 2009-17.

India failed to overcome Brathwaite's men in their last four encounters and the Windies ended the home team's campaign in the 2016 T20I World Cup, defeating them in the semi-finals in Mumbai.



India's last win against West Indies came way back on March 23, 2014 in the World T20 in Bangladesh, and Sharma will have his task cut out in his quest to start well at his happy hunting ground.



Indian players train during the practice session in Kolkata ahead of first T20 clash of three match series: (left) Indian T20 skipper for Windies series Rohit Sharma plays a shot during final ODI at Trivandrum PTI

ANDRE RUSSELL OUT OF T20I SERIES

KOLKATA: Andre Russell will miss Windies' T20I series against India due to injury. Russell, who was initially part of the 15-man squad announced to take on India, was yet to join the squad on the eve of the first game. While the Carlos Brathwaite-led side practised at the Eden Gardens on Saturday (November 3), Russell wasn't with the team during their sessions. Cricket Windies released a statement later with the Chairman of Selectors, Courtney Browne saying that Russell was "injured at this time."

Leopards in the Afghanistan Premier League game on October 9, a day before Windies announced the limited-overs squad for the India tour. While he was named in the T20I squad, he was left out from the ODI team with Cricket West Indies citing an injury as the reason for his exclusion. Windies are already without several front-line players like Chris Gayle, Evin Lewis, Sunil Narine and Samuel Badree due to various reasons. Recently, Ashley Nurse was also ruled out of the T20Is as a result of a shoulder injury. PTI

PERFORMANCE IN T20 INTERNATIONALS

Team (Rankings)	P	W	L	T	N/R	Success%
India (2)	104	65	36	1	2	63.94
West Indies (8)	101	47	47	3	4	50.00
India vs West Indies	4	1	2	-	1	37.50

INDIA-WINDIES T-20I MATCHES

Date	Venue	Result
09-05-2010	Bridgetown	West Indies won by 14 runs
23-03-2014	Dhaka	India won by 7 wickets
27-08-2016	Lauderhill	West Indies won by 1 run
28-08-2016	Lauderhill	No result

Faisal Features

PTI ■ KOLKATA

India captain Rohit Sharma is confident that young Rishabh Pant will use the upcoming T20 series against West Indies as an "opportunity to express himself" in the absence of the talismanic Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Dhoni, whose batting form has been on the wane, is not a part of the shortest format presenting Pant with a golden chance to consolidate his place in limited overs cricket. Not to forget that senior pro Dinesh Karthik also get a fresh lease of life despite a career plagued by inconsistent form.

"Dhoni has been such a massive player for us, over the years. His experience in the middle will be missed but again Rishabh (Pant) and Dinesh (Karthik) have great opportunity to come and perform and show what they are capable of as well. It gives them an opportunity to express themselves," Rohit told mediapersons on the eve of the game.

Even though India will be playing the T20 format, Rohit termed the three-match series as an extension of the ongoing World Cup preparation.

"We cannot go into the World Cup with limited resources. We need to have options. This gives you a great platform to try and test all these guys," Rohit said, laying emphasis on the bench strength.

"It's very important because the amount of cricket we play, at the same time we got to see what our bench strength is. The players we are talking of are possible replacements to come and fill in. We have to see the guys who are knocking the door and what they bring to the table."

"Not just the 15 players we got to see what is outside the 15 players we have. There are a lot of new faces in the team," he said. India have named uncapped left-arm spin duo of Krunal Pandya and Shabbaz Nadeem, who returned with a world record List A figures of 8/10 for Jharkhand in the recently concluded Vijay Hazare.

West Indies: Carlos Brathwaite (Capt), Fabian Allen, Darren Bravo, Shimron Hetmyer, Keemo Paul, Kieron Pollard, Denesh Ramdin (wk), Andre Russell, Sherrane Rutherford, Oshane Thomas, Khary Pierre, Obed McCoy, Rovman Powell, Nicholas Pooran.

RISHABH PANT T20 STATISTICS						
	M	Runs	HS	Avg	SR	100/50 4/6
T20I	4	73	38	24.33	105.8	0/0 5/2
IPL	38	1248	128	35.66	162.71	1/8 115/67

SINGLES

WILLIAMS, MASAKADZA RULE EVEN DAY 1

SYLHET: Sean Williams and skipper Hamilton Masakadza slammed a fifty each as Zimbabwe made 236-5 on the opening day of the first Test against Bangladesh in Sylhet on Saturday. Williams topscored with 88 off 179 balls after Masakadza hit 52 in his 105 ball knock to lay the initial foundation for Zimbabwe at the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium, which was hosting its maiden Test. Bangladesh made some regular breakthroughs, mostly by their spinners, but lacked the penetrating power to completely unsettle the visiting side playing their first Test in 2018.

MUMBAI GAIN BIG FIRST INNINGS LEAD

NEW DELHI: Young pacer Tushar Deshpande recorded his career-best figures of 6 for 70 to help Mumbai earn a sizeable first innings lead against Railways on the third day of their Ranji Trophy group A encounter here on Saturday. Deshpande's second five-wicket haul in first-class cricket saw Mumbai dismiss Railways for 307 in their first innings thereby taking a 104-run lead. At stumps, Mumbai were 57 for 2, consolidating their overall lead to 161 going into the final day of the opening round clash.

SQUAD ANNOUNCED FOR OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

NEW DELHI: The Indian senior national women's team will travel to Myanmar for the first round of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics qualifying tournament later this month, the squad for which was announced on Saturday. Coach Maymol Rocky named the final squad of players that will make the trip to Yangon. Over the last two weeks, the players were camped in Mumbai as they prepared for the task ahead. A total of 10 teams will move forward to the second round and if the Indian team is to progress, it will be a remarkable achievement for the women's team, which has never crossed the first hurdle at Olympic level in the past.

NAPOLI BACK TO SECOND IN SERIE A

MILAN: Dries Mertens scored a hat-trick as Napoli warmed up for next week's crucial Champions League game against Paris Saint-Germain with a 5-1 thrashing of Empoli to go back to second place in Serie A and put the pressure on champions Juventus. Napoli, with 25 points from 11 games, move three points behind champions Juventus. Lorenzo Insigne opened the scoring for the hosts after nine minutes with Belgian Mertens also scoring in the first half. Mertens added two more after the break in the 64th minute and in stoppage time with Poland's Arkadiusz Milik also getting on the scoresheet in the last minute.

DAVID EARNS POINT FOR AIZAWL IN I LEAGUE

KOLKATA: David Lalrinmuana's brilliant strike deep into the second-half stoppage time helped Aizawl FC hold Mohun Bagan to a 2-2 draw in an I-League match here on Saturday. Playing at home for the first time this season, Mohun Bagan looked all set for their first win of the season with their star striker Sony Nordie giving them a 2-1 lead in the 69th minute after starting from the bench. But there was heartbreak in store with the 25-year-old former Mohun Bagan Academy graduate turning into home team's nemesis. Lalrinmuana curled in from 32 yards out in the 90+3rd minute into the top corner beyond the reach of goalkeeper Sankar Roy to help Aizawl return with a point.

SEHWAG, KINGS XI PUNJAB PART WAYS

NEW DELHI: Virender Sehwag on Saturday announced that he will not be part of the Kings XI Punjab dressing room next IPL after mentoring the team in the previous three seasons. "All good things must come to an end and I've had a wonderful time at Kings 11 (sic) Punjab, for 2 seasons as a player and 3 as a mentor. My association with Kings 11 (sic) comes to an end and I am thankful for the time I have had here and wish the team all the very best for the times ahead," tweeted Sehwag. The former India opener had become KXIP's mentor in 2016 after being a player for two seasons. Agencies

Rayudu retires from first-class cricket

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's ODI specialist Ambati Rayudu Saturday announced his retirement from first-class cricket to focus on one dayers and T20s.

The 33-year-old Rayudu is one of the key members of the Indian ODI side but has never played Test cricket.

"This is to inform that Ambati Rayudu, Hyderabad captain and member of the India ODI team, has decided to retire from longer version of the game including Ranji Trophy (multi day) to focus on limited overs cricket and T20 cricket," Hyderabad Cricket Association said in a press release.

"He will continue to play international and domestic matches of shorter version. He has thanked BCCI, Hyderabad, Andhra, Baroda and Vidharbha Cricket Association," the release further stated.

Rayudu, who recently made a comeback in the Indian team by virtue of a successful IPL for Chennai Super Kings, is being seen as India's number four batsman going into the ODI World Cup in England.

He recently had a productive ODI series against West Indies, scoring 217 runs with a hundred and half-century, prompting both skipper Virat Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri to single him out for special



praise. There is a possibility that Rayudu, who will next play for India in January and February in eight ODI matches against Australia and New Zealand, wanted to conserve his energies as he doesn't want to fail another fitness test.

Earlier this year, Rayudu had failed to make the ODI tour of England despite being selected after he failed to clear the mandatory Yo Yo test. It was then widely believed that due to the exhaustion of IPL, where he scored 600 plus runs for CSK, the Hyderabad batsman couldn't clear the 16.1 mark.

According to sources in the know of things, Rayudu probably

didn't want to exhaust himself by playing gruelling Ranji Trophy as it might affect his Yo Yo test performance before the tour of Australia.

With virtually no chance of donning the India whites, Rayudu called time on his 17-year-long first-class career in which he scored 6151 runs from 97 games. This included 16 hundreds at a healthy average of 45.56 and highest score of 210.

It was only natural that Rayudu, who has scored 1447 runs in 45 ODIs at an impressive average of 51.67, decided to concentrate on the format which has paid dividends for him. Also the fact that he is an IPL regular made his choice easier.

Pak beat NZ in 2nd T20, seal 11th successive series

AFP ■ DUBAI

Pakistan lived up to their billing as the world's best Twenty20 team with a six-wicket victory over New Zealand in Dubai on Friday to clinch the three-match series 2-0.

Mohammad Hafeez (34 not out) and Shoaib Malik (ten) added 34 quickfire runs to help Pakistan overhaul the 154-run target in 19.4 overs at Dubai stadium, pocketing their 11th consecutive series and eighth successive T20 match.

New Zealand were lifted to 153-7 by Corey Anderson and Colin Munro who made 44 each after Kane Williamson won the toss and opted to bat on a slow paced pitch.

Pakistan won the first match by two runs in a last-ball finish in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday.

Hafeez, who hit Adam Milne for the winning boundary, and Malik came together with 50 needed off the last five overs. Hafeez hit two towering sixes off leg-spinner Ish Sodhi in the 17th over to bring the target down to 23 in the last three overs.

Hafeez hit two sixes and a boundary in his 21-ball innings.

Since Sarfraz Ahmed took over as captain in September 2016, Pakistan have beaten England (1-0), West Indies (3-0 and 3-1), a World XI (2-1), Sri Lanka (3-0), New Zealand (2-1), West Indies (3-0), Scotland (2-0) and Australia (3-0).



They also won a tri-series against Zimbabwe and Australia this year. Babar Azam (40), Asif Ali (38) and Fakhar Zaman (924) also chipped in with useful runs.

Pakistan captain Sarfraz Ahmed described the win as a team effort.

"It's down to the effort of the players," said Sarfraz. "We have a good balance, with Hasan Ali at 10. We know we can get 150-160. So if we start well and if we don't let too many dot balls in the middle, we have the experience of Hafeez and Malik as well."

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson gave credit to Pakistan.

"Credit to the way Pakistan played. They have a clear pattern of play which they've executed here in the UAE," said Williamson. "I thought the first half was clinical from us. Got a good score on the board. It's a game of really small margins."

Earlier, New Zealand were again derailed in the middle overs after Munro, who has the best strike rate of 163 amongst current Twenty20 players, lifted spinner Imad Wasim for six off the very first ball of the match as New Zealand raced to 50 without loss in just 5.3 overs.

Colin de Grandhomme (four) and Ross Taylor (three) fell in quick succession before Williamson (37) and Anderson added 42 for the fifth wicket. Shaheen finished with brilliant figures of 3-20 in his four overs. The third and final match will be played in Dubai on Sunday.

Australia face SA in 1st ODI

AFP ■ PERTH

Australia coach Justin Langer vowed on Saturday to put a smile back into cricket as South African skipper Faf du Plessis said he expects the sledging to be toned down in their one-day series.

The two sides meet in Perth on Sunday for the first time since the Test series in South Africa this year boiled over with Australian players attempting to alter the ball with sandpaper.

Langer, Lehmann's replacement, has pledged to change the win-at-all-costs culture and said he hoped the first game of the summer at home would be a step in winning back fans.

"It's sad, isn't it. Everyone seems to be at each other. There's lots of criticism," he said of the atmosphere surrounding Australian cricket.

"What we can do is we can prepare well, we can play good cricket, and be entertaining and put on a good show so Australians can start smiling a bit.

"One thing sport can do and the Australian cricket can do is put smiles on faces rather than everyone throwing stones at each other."

Australia have lost 16 of their past 18 one-day internationals and are desperate to get off on the right foot in Perth, with two more one-dayers and a Twenty20 against the Proteas to follow.

Du Plessis said he expected less verbal ban-



Du Plessis, Aaron Finch pose with the trophy ICC

Australia vs S Africa
Live from 8:50am IST
SONY SIX NETWORK

ter on Sunday than in the past. "An Australia-South Africa series is always going to be competitive but I do suspect this series will be a little bit more toned

down, especially from the Australian side," he said on Saturday.

Despite Australia being without Smith and Warner and their poor one-day form, Du Plessis said his team won't be taking the home side lightly.

"Whenever you get a chance to play against Australia it feels like you're playing against a very good cricket team," he said.

"When you look at what they've got in their squad at the moment on paper there are some fantastic names there with the ball and with the bat."

Marijne, John did not treat me well: Sardar on retirement

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Former India hockey captain Sardar Singh on Saturday claimed that former coach Sjoerd Marijne and current high performance director David John forced him to make a shock retirement in September.

The veteran singled out an incident which took place last year during India's triumphant campaign in the Asia Cup in Dhaka, where he was called to John's room in the presence of Marijne.

"I was called to his (David John's) room just before the match against Pakistan in Asia Cup. The coach (Marijne) was also there. He (John) said I committed mistakes and I was playing a lot of individual game. Just before an important match I was called to tell this. You could imagine how I was feeling, he could have told me later," the star mid-fielder claimed.

After the Asian Games, Sardar was not named among the probables for the Asian Champions Trophy in Oman, forcing him to think about his



future.

"I was dropped from important tournaments, the World Hockey League and Commonwealth Games. I thought I will be brought back, I was sent with a junior team in Malaysia. I slowly began questioning myself what is going on. After Asian Games, I was thinking of continuing till the 2020 Olympics. I was very fit, one of the fittest in the team. But then I decided to quit (after being dropped again)," he said.

Sardar also said that he was not told the reasons each time he was left out.

SARDAR'S STATISTICS			
Years	Team	Apps	(Goals)
2006-2018	India	314	(16)

"There was a lot of change of players. It is all right if you change 2-3 players but you are making so many changes before important tournaments. Moreover, you have to tell the reasons to the players. Sadly, it was not done."

He mentioned an instance in national camp in Bengaluru where the team list was pasted on the rooms' walls.

"The news of the team selection was told at the breakfast. We were told that the team list was pasted in front of rooms and those who are in should proceed to the field and those who are not will be told the reasons later. My name was not there, I did not go for team practice."

He said he hopes to keep himself fit to continue playing in European clubs for the next two years and ruled out coaching in the foreseeable future.

the pioneer agenda

The questions I'm asking myself are, 'What makes me happy? Where do I want to be? What will make me happy at 50, 60, and 70?' —Courteney Cox



Bhopal's French connect

Indira Iyengar traces her French roots back to Akbar's court, where Jean Philippe de Bourbon, fleeing from his motherland, found refuge



6 Goodbye, Jack Sparrow?

After playing Captain Jack Sparrow in five *Pirates of the Caribbean* films over 15 years, actor Johnny Depp will not appear in any further films



7 Loyalty as a virtue

It is not necessary that loyalty as a value may be at odds with loyalty as a virtue. There's a subtle difference that needs to be understood



Indira Gandhi flanked by Aziz Ahmed (left) and Haksar, New Delhi, August 1973, after signing of agreement between India and Pakistan

(Pic: Simon & Schuster India)

THE IRON LADY'S ALTER EGO

Jairam Ramesh's *Intertwined Lives: PN Haksar and Indira Gandhi* — the biography of Haksar, one of the best known civil servants and Indira's right-hand man — offers an insight into the past of both the person and the country he served. An edited excerpt:

Indira Gandhi was preparing for her upcoming election campaign when she received this note from PN Haksar five days into the New Year, on January 5, 1971: "The PM may kindly see the report placed below prepared by the Research & Analysis Wing (R&AW). I have long been feeling a sense of uneasiness about the intentions of Pakistan in future. The recent political developments in Pakistan have added to my anxieties. With the overwhelming victory of East Pakistan wing [Sheikh Mujibur Rahman], the solution of internal problems of Pakistan have become infinitely more difficult. Consequently, the temptation to seek solution to these problems by external adventures has become very great. I think that the time has come when our Armed Forces need to make a very realistic assessment both of Pakistan's capability and our response. I have a feeling that there are many weak spots in our defence capabilities. These need to be remedied without loss of time. I know how busy the PM is. And yet, I venture to suggest that the PM should call in all the three Chiefs of Staff, Defence Secretary, and the Defence Minister and share with them her anxieties and ask them to urgently prepare their own assessment and make recommendations of what the requirements of each of the Services are so that we can feel a sense of security. I suggest that such a meeting should be held quietly and without any publicity..."

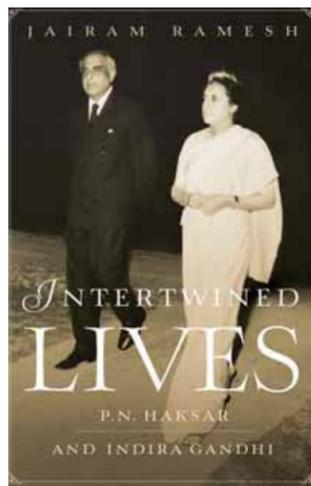
Just as Haksar was worrying about Pakistan based on his meetings with Kao, Ritwick Ghatak cropped up again. The eccentric Bengali filmmaker had made a film on Lenin but it had run into controversy. On January 6, 1971, a day after sharing his worries about Pakistan with the Prime Minister, he told her: "In matters of this sort, one is apt to be carried away by somewhat exaggerated notions that our society, such as it is, would be seriously deflected from its course of evolution by a film on the life of Lenin as produced by Ritwick Ghatak. Generations of people all over the world have seen far more inflammatory films by Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Rossellini and others. These films, at any rate, were shown on a mass scale.

"And nothing very much really happened. Even if the film is certified as it is, hardly any cinema would show it on a commercial basis. I myself saw the film and I cannot say with any sense of realism that Ritwick Ghatak's film on Lenin will bring the revolution even fraction of a second earlier. However, I am rather more oppressed by the poverty of Ghatak, who has staked up a little money with the help of some hapless financier and they are both desperately trying to sell this film to the Soviet Union. It would be great fun exporting Indian Lenin to the Soviet Union! I hope the Soviet soci-

ety survives the depredations. It is really quite comic that so many hours of official time should have been wasted in considering the solemn question whether the film should or should not be released. I feel that we can well afford to let the film go giving it 'A' certificate."

After dictating the note, Haksar realised that he may have been carried away by his liberalism and suggested to the Prime Minister that she may agree to having the film certified 'for adults only' subject to deletion 'only of that portion of the commentary on land grab sequence'. The Prime Minister agreed! Thereafter, the Prime Minister plunged into her campaign in right earnest. Haksar was fully involved in the campaign at every step — writing substantial parts of the manifesto, suggesting possible candidates and getting feedback from his band of political and non-political friends in different States. People approached him with suggestions which he duly passed on to Indira Gandhi, and some even met him to offer themselves as candidates. One such person was a distinguished Army man, who had done India proud in the 1965 war with Pakistan. Haksar informed Indira Gandhi on January 16, 1971: "General Harbaksh Singh called on me today at 12.30 pm. He said that he had been approached by the Akali Party to stand from the Sangrur parliamentary constituency. He said that he belongs to this area. He further said that there are hundreds of thousands of people, especially amongst ex-servicemen, who are just fed up with the low level of Akali politics. He will have nothing to do with them. In fact, Punjab needs to be rescued from the Jathedars. They have no morals, no scruples and no ideology of any sort. He would, therefore, be glad to place his services at the disposal of the Prime Minister and would like to give a fight... Generally speaking, I take a dim view of soldiers, sailors and airmen entering politics. I must say that I was agreeably impressed by the earnestness and sincerity of General Harbaksh Singh. Maybe, he is an exception."

The next day, Indira Gandhi asked Haksar to speak to the president of the Congress Party in Punjab, Giani Zail Singh, about the General but it is obvious that his candidature went nowhere. On January 30, 1971, Haksar reported to the Prime Minister: "General Harbaksh Singh telephoned me this morning to say how depressed he felt the way the Congress party was dealing with him. He said that the PM can make enquiry from any independent sources to discover what wide support he enjoys in Sangrur parliamentary constituency. He said he is anxious to give a fight to the Akalis. He added that he had heard that he was accused of flirting with the Akalis. This, according to him, was a strange allegation when one knows that Giani Zail Singh



ON JANUARY 5, 1971, HAKSAR WROTE TO INDIRA: "THE PM MAY KINDLY SEE THE REPORT PREPARED BY R&AW. I HAVE LONG BEEN FEELING A SENSE OF UNEASINESS ABOUT THE INTENTIONS OF PAKISTAN... THE RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN PAKISTAN HAVE ADDED TO MY ANXIETIES... THE TEMPTATION TO SEEK SOLUTION TO THESE PROBLEMS BY EXTERNAL ADVENTURES HAS BECOME VERY GREAT

and Sardar Swaran Singh were themselves carrying on with the Akalis... and now Sardar Swaran Singh tells him that he cannot get Sangrur because the need for adjustments with the CPI has arisen. The General said that he had nothing against the CPI, but there is no chance for that party to win from Sangrur... I cannot say that General Harbaksh Singh is being unreasonable. In fact, the method of handling some of these people could certainly be greatly improved."

As it turned out, the General did not contest. Surjit Singh Barnala of the Akali Dal won this seat and many years later would become the Chief Minister of Punjab and later the Governor of Tamil Nadu.

That Haksar was intimately associated with the distribution of the Congress tickets for the 1971 elections is evidenced by a note that he would send on February 4, 1971, to the Prime Minister when it had almost been decided to leave the New Delhi seat to the CPI in preference to Mukul Banerjee, an active Congresswoman:

As per the PM's directions, I dutifully saw Mukul [Banerjee] and Bavani [her husband] and when I finished hearing what they had to say, I did not have the heart to suggest to Mukul that she might accept an assignment. Such an offer would have been, rightly, construed as adding insult to injury. They remain and will remain, loyal, devoted workers, but obviously the PM has to find a solution to their problem. To put it simply, their problem is that they have neither a position in the party organisation nor a position in public life. They have no money and live under conditions of destitution.

"A political party or leader which fails to look after such people will have to do a lot of accounting. In many matters, I exercise self-restraint but the way things are happening, it is becoming increasingly difficult for me to bottle myself up. It is a particularly bad day for me. I have had the misfortune to hear another story from Goa... If the PM has got the impression that a crook and criminal like Bandodkar should be encouraged and Sequeira and Kakodkar sacrificed, I feel that there is hardly any point in carrying on."

"Even ordinary courtesies and decencies are not being shown. Kakodkar was called to Delhi and he is being made to cool his heels here. One does not do such things even to one's enemies, let alone to one's friends. And I feel that having allowed certified enemies to enter the gate, the time has come to cry a halt." Mukul Banerjee finally did get the Congress ticket for New Delhi and won handsomely. But from this note, it is clear that Haksar was getting increasingly frustrated and was even thinking of quitting as we shall see very soon.

On January 18, 1971, Haksar sent Indira Gandhi a note whose significance

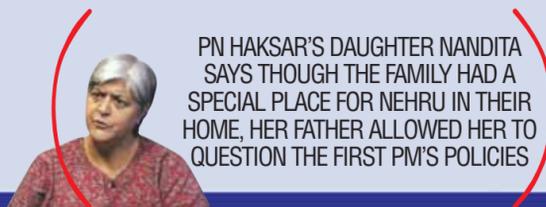
would be revealed much later. He wrote: "I have received a programme drawn up for the PM to tour her own constituency on February 1, 1971. I find that helicopter is being used twice. The PM has to consider this carefully. Also whether this was done in 1967. Use of helicopter, which West Bengal is advising in the interest of security, is one thing. Its use in going to inaccessible places is also understandable. Whether similar justification exists for its use by the PM in her own constituency, requires, I submit, careful consideration."

Some months later, after the election results were declared and she had won handsomely in a landslide, her opponent Raj Narain would petition the Allahabad High Court that Indira Gandhi was guilty of a series of electoral malpractices, including the use of Government helicopters for her campaign. I will be discussing that case a little later. Suffice it to say for the moment that she was held 'not guilty' by the judge of the charge of misusing helicopters because she had confined it to specific areas on security considerations as advised by Haksar. As it is, she would be held guilty on two counts. There may well have been a third court had she not heeded Haksar's advice on the use of helicopters in her own constituency of Raebareli in Uttar Pradesh.

The election campaign was in full swing and Indira Gandhi had returned to New Delhi to take part in the Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 1971. Just the previous day, Haksar delivered a bombshell of sorts to her: "I was born on September 4, 1913. I, therefore, reach the age of superannuation on September 4, 1971. Under Fundamental Rule 86, it is provided that leave at the credit of a Government servant in his leave account shall lapse on the date of compulsory retirement provided that if in sufficient time before that date he has formally applied for leave due as preparatory to retirement and been refused it, or ascertain in writing from the sanctioning authority that such leave, if applied for, would not be granted — in either case, the ground for refusal being the requirements of public service, then the Government servant may be granted, after the date of retirement, the amount of leave so refused subject to a maximum of six months."

"My leave account standing as on December 31, 1970, shows that I have the following amount of leave due to me: (i) Earned leave — 180 days (ii) Half pay leave — 440 days

"In accordance with the provisions of Fundamental Rule 86, I, therefore, apply for leave preparatory to retirement for the entire amount of leave due to me with effect from February 1, 1971."



PN HAKSAR'S DAUGHTER NANDITA SAYS THOUGH THE FAMILY HAD A SPECIAL PLACE FOR NEHRU IN THEIR HOME, HER FATHER ALLOWED HER TO QUESTION THE FIRST PM'S POLICIES

SOCIAL MEDIA LAW: KNOWING THE RIGHTS OF PRIVACY

The idea that one needs privacy on social media platforms has come to being after that privacy has been violated. Clearly, there's an urgent need for awareness about the laws governing the virtual space, write SUMIT BATRA and NARESH ARORA

Information and communication technology has changed rapidly in the past two decades. With the emergence of social media, the world is changing at an unbelievable speed. However, there's a flip side to this, too. Constant violation of regulations related to social networking has resulted in civil and criminal cases that need urgent attention. With repeated cases of fake news and trolling, the laws governing social media need to be understood.

Social media in India is regulated by the Information Technology Act, enacted in 2000. This was put in place in order to regulate the problems that stemmed out of usage of Information Technology. Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India, 1950 guarantees "Right to freedom of speech and expression". This is a fundamental right guaranteed to all citizens of India. However, it must be kept in mind that freedom of expression does not give 'complete' freedom to anybody. This does not ensure that they can write or say anything they wish to. The context or the intent behind any news or information being circulated through social media/networking channels must be regulated and evaluated. The authenticity must be verified as it can have a vast impact on the population which receives such information. While the law in this particular field is still at nascent



stage, it is evolving with time. Recently, the Supreme Court struck down Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 which led to arrests

of many people for posting allegedly objectionable content on the Internet. The Court also rejected the Centre's plea that it was committed to free speech and would

ensure the provision was administered in a reasonable manner. While the need of the hour might be to have effective and robust mechanism to govern the content

over social media and networking sites, the Government must not forget that they cannot curb the constitutional and fundamental rights and prevent people from expressing their views over the issues concerning their appreciation or displeasure on the functioning of the Government. The content writer and forwarder must act as a responsible citizen and ensure that such transmission of content does not lead to loss of life, reputation or dignity of any citizen. The Government must not forget that acts like Information Technology Act, 2000, were enacted to safeguard the citizens. That in no way should act as a deterrent or a tool in the hands of the Government to keep the citizens from exercising their constitutional rights. Advocate Sumit Batra says, "Though no law can ever completely insulate the users of social media and networking from the issues or problems cropping out of technological advances, some basic guiding principles can take care of a lot many issues. While it is permissible to create, transmit and circulate news or information in social media, the big question that often arises has to do with a personal sense of discretion — something might be offensive for me but not offensive for others." Trolling has become a part of internet culture and has started affecting many peo-

ple's personal lives. The virtual and the real have been coloured as one. One has to be constantly careful to prevent such untoward situations from taking a toll on their personal life. For instance: If you are travelling alone, avoid posting the details on social media portals. Considering the nature and rate of criminal actions these days, one also needs to be cautious while posting the pictures of children on such portals. Naresh Arora, Social Media expert and Director at DesignBoxed, says, "As a society, we often fail to value privacy. It is starkly reflected in the absence of privacy policies. The discourse on privacy policies has been brought forward in the public domain only when privacy has been breached. It made us realise that we had privacy on social media to begin with! This also brings forth the glaringly obvious idea that we do not really know how to utilise social media and its channels. On social media platforms, regulations to protect the personal information of users should be absolute. In a country like India, a major thrust on the awareness regarding the privacy policy becomes the onus of the Government, which should ensure through an effective law structure that the consumers of social media platforms understand their rights and duties." Batra is an advocate; Arora is a social media expert and director at DesignBoxed

FROM PAGE 1

The Iron Lady's alter ego



Haksar was clearly telling the Prime Minister that he wanted to leave. She sat on Haksar's note and a few days later, on February 2, 1971, sent him an extraordinary note of her own: "You know that I am neither morbid nor superstitious but I do think that one should be prepared. The thought of something happening to me has haunted me — not so much now, as during the last tour — and I am genuinely worried about the children. I have nothing to leave them except very few shares, which I am told are hardly worth anything. There is some little jewellery, which I had divided into two parts for the two prospective daughters-in-law. Then there are some household goods, carpets, pictures, etc. It is for the boys to decide. I personally would like everything to be as evenly divided as possible, except that Rajiv has a job but Sanjay doesn't and is also involved in an expensive venture. He is so much like I was at his age — rough edges and all — that my heart aches for the suffering he may have to bear. The problem is where they will live and how... I can only hope and trust for the best. But I should like the boys and some to feel that they are not quite alone, that they do have someone to lean on."

This was a most unusual Indira Gandhi — emotional and baring her soul out to her aide. Was she telling him that she still needed him and that he should not press his resignation?

Excerpted with permission from Jaïram Ramesh's *Intertwined Lives: P.N. Haksar and Indira Gandhi* published by Simon & Schuster, ₹799



Haksar (seated right) with his parents and siblings



Haksar alongside Indira Gandhi, 13 days after his family had been harassed and humiliated, New Delhi, July 1975



Homi Bhabha with Haksar and his wife, in Vienna, 1964



Nehru at the Conference of Indian Ambassadors and High Commissioners in Western Europe and North America, Switzerland, 1953. Haksar standing second from right



Haksar with Raja Ramanna (with tie) at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, 1967



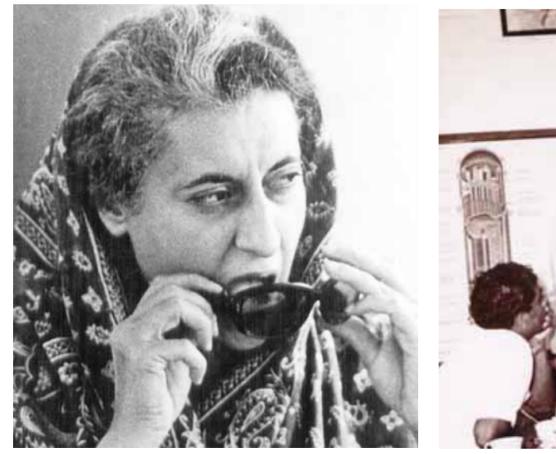
Indira and Bhutto after signing the Simla Agreement, July 1972. Haksar is behind Indira



Nehru and Indira Gandhi, the President of Nigeria and his wife, along with Haksar, in Lagos, 1962



Haksar and his wife with Nehru on the eve of departure to Nigeria, March 1960



Indira Gandhi as photographed by Haksar

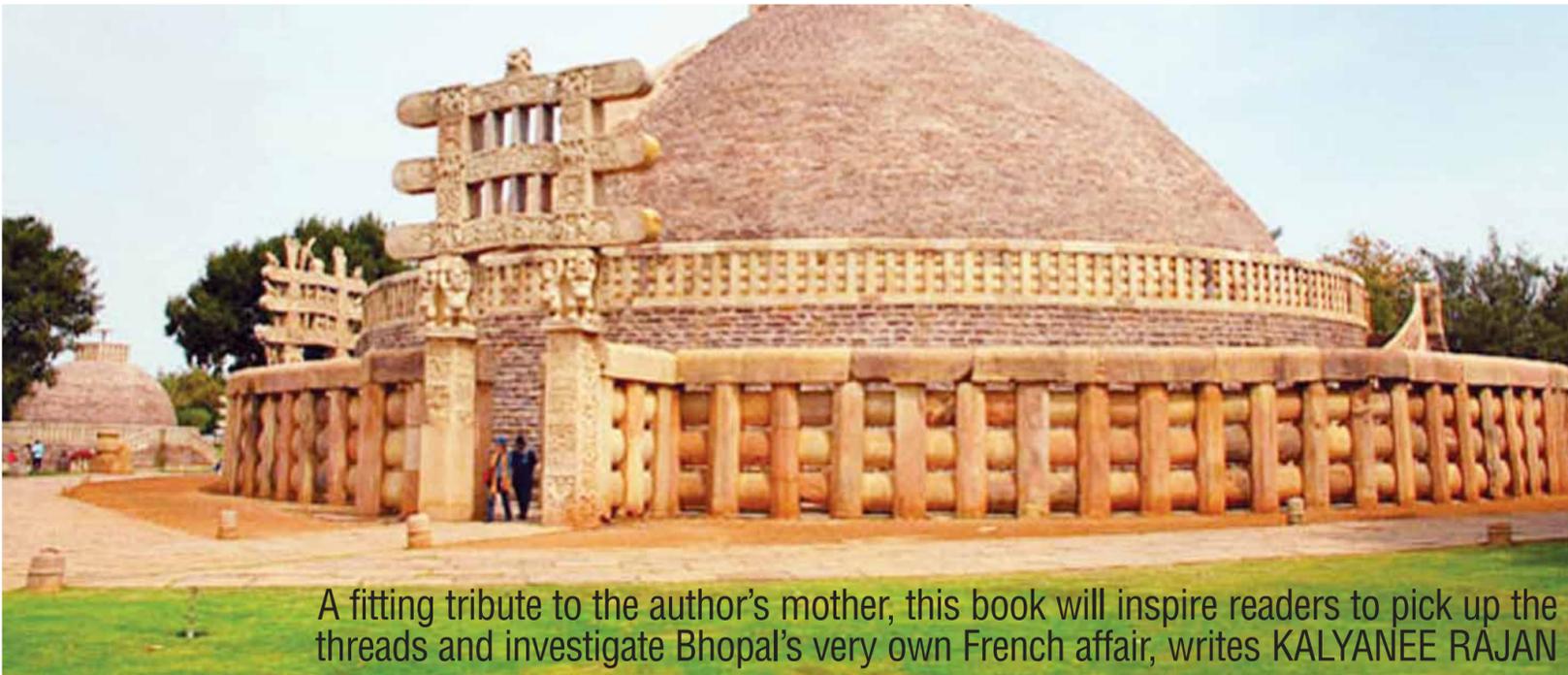


Haksar with engineers involved in putting up India's first atomic power plant, Tarapur, October 1967



SHE WOULD DEFEND HERSELF, SAYING THAT LOVE, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IT MIGHT BE, WAS A NATURAL TALENT — GABRIEL GARCÍA MÁRQUEZ

BHOPAL'S FRENCH CONNECTION



A fitting tribute to the author's mother, this book will inspire readers to pick up the threads and investigate Bhopal's very own French affair, writes KALYANEE RAJAN

In one of his lesser known short stories titled 'Dara Shikoh's Durbar', Premchand gives a prominent role to a French traveller named Dr François Bernier, as one of Prince Dara Shikoh's valued courtiers. He attributes the presence of several European courtiers in the court to the assumption that they would be free of the bitter communal prejudices which divided the Hindus and Muslims. In the story, Bernier is seen rooting for peace and logic in the face of several failed expeditions of Dara Shikoh to Kandahar. In *The Bourbons and Begums of Bhopal: The Forgotten History*, Indira Iyengar carries out a labour of immense love and commitment as she sets about to excavate her French roots going back to the famed court of Mughal Emperor Akbar, where Jean Philippe de Bourbon fleeing incognito from his motherland, found refuge. He not only married into Akbar's extended family, but was also given the title of the Bourbon Raja of Shergarh. Iyengar's research reveals that Jean Philippe is understood to have married the sister of one of Akbar's Armenian wives, and that she worked as a doctor for the Royal Harem of Akbar. Several such fascinating nuggets of information are peppered throughout the volume, which is more a product of love than practicality as the book is printed on glossy, fully-coloured, thick paper, adding more weight perhaps to a certain venerability of tradition meticulously excavated and laid out.

In 10 long chapters complimented by two ample appendices and several coloured plates from the author's private collection, the reader is plunged into a saga of deracination, settlement, heroism and consolidation of an empire spread over centuries. Iyengar confesses how as the eldest of the family of Bourbons in India, she felt it was her duty to write about the "gallant past" of her family which "the Mughals appreciated and the Nawab Begums of Bhopal trusted". The book is a tribute to her mother Magdalene Bourbon — "a historical account with a personal flavour".

Having accessed the confidential records of the Agra Archdiocese to examine the history of the Agra Church, Iyengar puts forth convincing arguments based on significant documents connected with the Bourbons and their association with the development of the State of Bhopal. The exhaustive foreword by Bhopal historian Rizwan Uddin Ansari attests to the "painstaking effort" of the author. Iyengar's writing style is that of an emotionally charged historian, who researches and narrates with passionate vigour. She ventures to put on record a compelling legendary tale, pauses to validate it with sources, and resumes her heroic narration. However, some of the cited sources might fail the test of authen-

ticity as they come from individual, previously undocumented memories. Her primary source is her mother's memories — the "backbone of this book".

The first chapter, titled "Arrival of Jean Philippe de Bourbon in Akbar's Court" talks about how Jean Philippe and his wife Juliana helped to build the first Catholic Church in Agra which was completed on 1588. Jean Philippe's French origins are discussed in detail: He being a natural son of Duke Charles III de Bourbon (1490-1527) famously known as Connétable de Bourbon. The fascinating anecdote of Jean Philippe having to escape France at the age of sixteen because he had killed a French Lord in a duel is also related. The chapter documents observations about several graves of Agra Cemetery where many Bourbons are believed to have been buried. The second, third and fourth chapters titled "The Bourbons of Shergarh and Narwar", "The Bourbons of Bhopal" and "Balthazar Bourbon, alias ShahzadMasih" respectively delve in detail into the Armenian as well as Christian connection of the Narwar fort which was thought to

be second only to Gwalior Fort in yesteryears. It also housed a chapel with several resident priests. These three chapters provide details of the massacre of the Bourbons at the Narwar Fort. They show how Salvador Bourbon fled to the Gwalior Fort with a handful of remaining family members, to become a General in Bhopal State Army under the rule of Manji Mamola Bai. The book reveals that Mamola Bai also bestowed a Muslim name "InayatMasih" upon Salvador to pacify the orthodox Pathans of the State. Most of the third chapter is written in anecdotal style, with details of various fights and sieges in the ensuing struggle for power that the Bourbons fought jointly with Wazir Mohammad Khan and his son Nazir Mohammad Khan. Talking about the former, Iyengar's emotional pen pours forth: "He was a real hero in the history of Bhopal; he repeatedly saved Bhopal in difficult times. He was, in fact, the real Nawab, though he never acquired the title".

The fourth chapter combines with the third to firmly establish the connection between the Bourbons and Bhopal: How

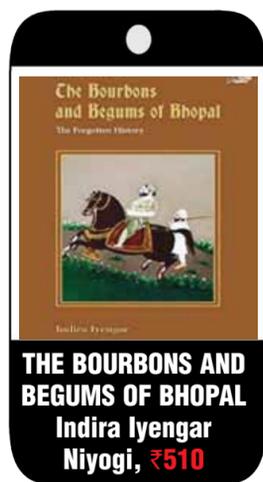
Salvador and his son Balthazar consolidated the Bhopal rulers by saving them from Maratha invasion and assisting in the crucial Treaty of Raisen with the Honorable East India Company in 1818 ratified by the Governor, Lord Hastings. The life and times of Balthazar Bourbon, his impeccable service as advisor to Bhopal's fabled Qudsia Begum and his beautiful Farsi and Urdu poetry "Dewans of Fitrat" is documented in the fourth chapter. Iyengar says that these verses have never before been quoted or traced, while she has managed to retrieve and translate a few of them: "Paayanaho Buland kyon uske Kalaamka, Wasif Jo hoMaseey Alay Hus Salam ka" meaning "Why shouldn't the status of his poetry be high, Of the person who is a follower of Jesus (the prophet) peace be upon him".

The rest of the book deals with Madam Dulhan and her heroic acts including that in the uprising of 1857, the French Architectural influences in Bhopal especially the Shaukat Mahal, the decline of the Bourbons in Bhopal, the life and times of the writer's mother and finally

the first ever complete reconstruction of the family tree of the Bourbons in India.

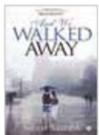
Iyengar fastidiously relates the transition of French Bourbons into the mould of local Bhopali lifestyle, with Muslim names fusing with their European nomenclature and identity, as well as their adoption of local dressing, customs (observing *pardah*) and food: After offering prayers in the holy month of Lent, the whole family consumed *roti* and *baingan kabhurtha!* Historian Rizwan Uddin Ansari notes that the meticulously compiled family tree is "a major contribution of this book" which also "fills a huge gap in the literature regarding the contribution of the Bourbons in Bhopal's history".

Most of the rare photographs dating back to the 18th century from the author's private collection passed on over generations are also treasure troves brought out in the public domain for the first time. Several handwritten letters and documents recording land deeds and bequests reproduced in the appendices are simply invaluable.



NEW ARRIVALS

AND WE WALKED AWAY
Subrat Saurabh
Notion Press, ₹200



Abhimanyu, a well-known author returns to his engineering college in Bangalore after a decade and notices a lot of changes. It reminds him of how he met his ladylove, Naina on the first day of college and fell in love with her at the first sight. Abhimanyu, being an impulsive, stubborn and impatient guy decides to propose to her in a rush. She doesn't believe in love and has her own reasons for it. Eventually, a trick helps him melts her heart. But, destiny has a different plan.

THE CONTENDERS: WHO WILL LEAD INDIA TOMORROW?
Priya Sahgal
Simon and Schuster, ₹399

Priya Sahgal, profiles sixteen emerging political leaders (under the age of 55) who will dominate India's political landscape over the next decade. *The Contenders* captures a potentially transformative moment in Indian politics, as new leaders step up in a generational change-of-guard in most political parties. From the north to the south, this is a flash bulb moment of baton passing — with Rahul Gandhi, Akhilesh Yadav, Tejashwi Yadav, the Badal juniors, and Karunanidhi's heirs taking charge.

MASTER GROWTH HACKING
Apurva Chamarla
Penguin Portfolio, ₹599



How did Hotmail amass 30 million active members before getting acquired? How did Netflix build a user base of over 125 million worldwide? How did Facebook acquire more than two billion users? The answer is simple: Growth hacking. Growth hacking is a combination of coding, data intelligence and marketing. It doesn't take a lot of investment — just a whole lot of creativity, smart data analysis and agility. It has now emerged as the preferred term for growth used by start-ups and entrepreneurs in India and across the world.

Assimilating an alien culture

This book is a promising attempt at translating the works of Walt Whitman into Maithili and making his potent ideas available to a larger community of readers, says SACHIDA NAND JHA

Selected poems of American poet Walt Whitman have been translated into Maithili for the first time and published in a book titled *Ei Thik Jeevan* (This is Life) by a practicing poet, Hare Krishna Jha. The selection of poems as well as their translation is worthy of attention and appreciation. Both in terms of consistently maintaining a certain kind of faithfulness to the source text and showcasing flawless fluency in the target text, Jha has done a wonderful job at translating the poems representing an apparently alien culture.

While groping in the dark, struggling to find clues to the future after abandoning his studies of Engineering and Physics, Hare Krishna Jha came across a book — *The Conquest of Happiness* by Bertrand Russell. In the very beginning, Russell talks about what Whitman said in his "Song of Myself": "I think I could turn and live with animals/They are so placid and self-contained... No one is demented with the mania of owning things". These lines touched Jha and made him realise that poetic expressions can be so simple, yet so profound, so direct, yet so moving if ideas and emotions are told the ways Whitman does.

Whitman has been consistently understood as a path breaking poet who very effectively gave a materially complex and spiritually nuanced voice to the persona of his poems and in turn to the millions of anonymous, even voiceless others across the world who read his poems. They could relate with his ideas even though he in America which was perceived to be place of infinite opportunities for enterprising human beings. Scientific and technological advancements had opened up



possibilities of diverse kinds. People were preoccupied with the explorations of all those available opportunities which constituted what is popularly termed as the American dream.

In countries like America, England, India and other parts of the globe, Whitman evidently made tremendous impact on generations of people. These included prominent literary figures like Emerson, D H Lawrence, George Bernard Shaw and Pablo Neruda. They were so overwhelmed with the creative versatility of Whitman that they chose to bestow enormous praise on the influential poet in ways more than one. Emerson found his poetry so stunning that he wrote him a letter of appreciation immediately after he finished reading his poetry.



Lawrence understood him as a visionary poet of cosmic consciousness. And Pablo Neruda found in him not just a poet par excellence but also an excellent mentor who kept influencing and inspiring him for the entire span of his literary life.

Indian sage Aurobindo considered him the most remarkable poet after Valmiki and Homer. Whitman had another admirer in Swami Vivekananda who found his collection of poems "Leaves of Grass" spiritually satisfying and termed Whitman a spiritual genius capable of uplifting the consciousness of his readers to the transcendental level of blissful experiences. Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore went on to say that Whitman had been a champion of mystic

consciousness. Tagore also expressed his indebtedness to Whitman's way of writing poetry in free verse in which the latter also wrote poems later.

Despite all kinds of accolades thrown the way of the American poet, Hindi and Maithili literary world remained rather indifferent to Whitman for a long spell of time. Whereas TS Eliot, an English poet of American origin, proved to be a kind of pervasive presence in Indian academia and Pablo Neruda an enduring influence on some of the major writers, Whitman was for some reason ignored in spite of the fact that Neruda unequivocally acknowledged the tremendous influence of Whitman in enabling him to grow as a poet. The kind of reception an inspirational poet like Whitman deserves in the literary cultures of Hindi heartland was conspicuous by its absence.

As far as Maithili literary universe is concerned, not only the majority of common readers but also some of the writers had not much information about what the poetry of Whitman has to offer till Jha discovered him. Once discovered, he could not part ways with the visionary poet who cast a spell over him. Indeed Whitman shook and moved his inner core to the extent that he kept reading, rereading and passionately reciting the poetry of Whitman whenever and wherever he got any opportunity to do so. His persistent efforts to imbibe and internalise Whitman continued for years before he began to translate some of his poems into Hindi during the period of 1977-80. He showed his translations to his literary friends, acquaintances and his favorite teachers. Despite all their encouraging words about his translations, he did not feel confident about the quality of his

own translations. Utterly disappointed, he soon abandoned the acts of translation altogether.

But his political activism and love for Maithili motivated him to write poetry. And his preoccupation with poetry writing encouraged him to read poems of other poets. So, he came across Pablo Neruda whose "Memoirs" had already dominated the domain of world literature having attained the status of a classic. Soon, he started translating Neruda into Maithili instead of Hindi. This time, his translations worked well and it turned out to be an extremely satisfying experience. Such satisfaction prompted him to translate Neruda in Hindi too. Both Hindi and Maithili translations made him almost entirely engaged with the poet whose unequivocal acknowledgment of indebtedness to Whitman kept reminding him of his own translations of the American poet.

Soon, Jha restarted translating Whitman in Maithili. And it proved to be a very fruitful exercise. His abilities to integrate himself with the poetic consciousness of the poet helped him throughout to translate the selected poems of Whitman in a highly meaningful way.

It is his passionate desire to absorb and assimilate the essence of Whitman's cultural thought to the best of his receptive capabilities that governed his translation works. And he fairly succeeded in his efforts to obtain Whitman, as he attempted, in his mother tongue, Maithili. It is noteworthy that his translation has indisputably raised the bar for the activities of literary translations in Maithili. In fact, this poet-translator has set a precedent which holds the promise to become the benchmark for future translations of Whitman's poetry into Maithili in particular.



MANAN DWIVEDI

Long shadow of India-China war of 1962

A lot of water has gone under the bridge since the Chinese aggression. The Wuhan Summit in 2018 is an ample symbol of intent by both China and India. In the age of new diplomacy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made a searing attempt to pave the way for normalisation of relations with Beijing despite the past

It was the treacherously tumultuous period between October 20 and November 21, 1962, when the “Han” invaded India with the first incursion being at NEFA fealty — India’s North Eastern Frontier Agency — which witnessed the massacre of the Rajput battalion who were caught surreptitiously unaware in the dreary heights in 1962. The war which was more than a border skirmish was initiated with India defending with about 10,000-20,000 soldiers which were pitted against the 80,000 odd soldiers of the People’s Republic of China. The war ended when the Chinese declared a ceasefire on November 21, 1962. Some Cinematic portrayals, such as the flick Haqeeqat, beautifully portrayed the unmatched valour and singularly aesthetic spirit of sacrifice which the Indian forces displayed in the freezing heights of NEFA despite limitations imposed by a want of war fighting equipment and a lack of an appropriate infrastructure.



New Delhi was caught napping as in the few roundtables between Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Commissar Mao, the rant of Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai befooled the Indian Government and the nation was not prepared for a warring victory over the multitudes which were let loose on India in deluges after deluges. The shadow of the war still lurks behind India’s foreign policy and the Chinese hegemonising and containment strategies which are the final outpouring of all Chinese ministrations. It is these antecedents which prevent the normalisation of relations between New Delhi and the Han, and a veil of ubiquitous uncertainty and an anachronous trust deficit is in place as the mortal issues of territorial claims by the Chinese still mar the dialogues and Tibet remains a sticking point between New Delhi and Beijing. The facts and the depictions by Western chroniclers such as Edgar Snow pinpoint towards the power centric and sturdy ministrations of the Han nation, both in dealing with its internal turbulence and in its transactions with India. The rowdy and the fighting

spirit is depicted in, *Red Star Over China*, which forms a substantial premise upon which the entire edifice of China is premised upon. The Chinese stratagem has always been the formulaic inaction of lying low and hibernating only to emerge as the powerful aggressor after gaining girth. It’s no tale that the Indian reaction to the Chinese invasion was knee jerk and the record was straightened out with the partial victory over Pakistan and the Nathula skirmish in 1967 as poignantly portrayed in the recent Cinematic creation, titled as *Paltan*. Provocations by the Chinese to

arouse and inflame the Indian contingent at Nathula in 1967 remains a practice in the expanse of uninhabited frontiers. As *India Today* reports, “Around 3,250 Indian soldiers were killed. India lost about 43,000 square kilometres of land, captured by China in Aksai Chin. It is of the size of Switzerland. The 55th anniversary of the India-China war has a shadow of Doklam stand-off hovering over it. The anniversary is also significant in the view of the CPC Congress, where President Xi Jinping has emerged as the most powerful leader of the country in its history.” Thus, the singular-

ly trenchant trend in China happens to be that of centralisation of power and the beginning of a new personality cult akin to what Mao Tse Tung developed around himself. The Long March and the other revolutionary systemic changes of the sixties and seventies in China are a matter of retrospect and till now the Chinese economic union with the rest of the international system is partially well managed and orchestrated sufficiently, if not to perfection.

There is a Prisoner’s Dilemma and Chicken hunt game revolving around the India-China border dispute. Both the

sides are fundamentally distrustful of each other. The Chinese jingoistic veneer was at a full-mast-display at the time of the Donglang area will end up with the Indian troops in retreat. The Indian military can choose to return to its territory with dignity or be kicked out of the area by Chinese soldiers.” Even in the JP Dutta’s war movie classic, *Paltan*, the heated verbal exchange between Indian commander Arjun Rampal and the Chinese Commissar makes for an interesting watch and analysis. When the Chinese Commandant at Nathula declares and threatens that the Indian contingent will suffer. Arjun Rampal stoutly counters by contending, “Do whatever you can, we are ready to suffer anything.” These instances might flare up the relationship’s chasms further, but for the nation, themes of moral uprightness and fealty to the nation along with the grandiloquent spirit of sacrifice are there to be given unmatched importance in the Indian military myth and lore. It is here that the sinews of the nation attains its synergy to defend its borders and sustain self pride which might seem anachronistic to a certain section living in the world of a conjoined geo-economics with the United States its President Trump straining at their leashes to isolate and counter the Chinese trade juggernaut all across the global polity ranging from Africa, Latin America to the neighbouring Indo-Pacific. Unfortunately, it was India which played a prominent role with others to mainstream the Chinese in search of durable and credible peace at the border. In the light of the 1962 border clash, Arun Jaitley contended that India in 2017 is different than what it was in 1962 referring to its improved and enhanced military strength in the contemporary context.

China’s two territorial claims are the rattling elements for New Delhi. One being the claim over Aksai Chin in the north-eastern section of the Ladakh region in Jammu & Kashmir. The other claim is

premiered upon the demand of the territory of Arunachal Pradesh. The Chinese claim that in the Tri-party talks at the Simla convention in 1913-1914, the Tibetan side was taken to a separate room and the Chinese delegation was not adequately shown the documents, as also referred in the Neville Maxwell’s, *India’s China War*. Sir Henry MacMohan detailed the Macmohan line between British India and Tibet which is based upon the highest watershed principle which the Han deny and do not accept as the correct demarcation of the boundary. These rationales exist as the “historic reasons” why the Chinese Maps portray a different scale of demarcation vis-a-vis the border. The original Chinese claim crosses these arid and mountainous regions, the way to the plains of Assam. Chou En-Lai had proposed that both the nations withdraw their forces for about twenty kilometres beyond the Macmohan line, which was a policy course rejected by India. The area of this disputed region is three times the terrain of Taiwan, six times the size of Beijing and ten times the size of Malvinas.

A lot of water has flown down the bridge since the mayhem of 1962. The Wuhan Summit in 2018 was an ample symbol of intent by both China and India. Xi Jinping’s outreach to the Japanese leader and PM Modi can be perceived as a striving to cement a Sino-centric world order to replace the US-led global order, sans the American grand strategy. The Wuhan dialogue need not be belittled as an attempt in optics and verbiage but it needs to be comprehended by observers as an informal summit with an eye to create the correct pitch for the both the nations to bat on to some concrete themes such as border solutions. In the age of New Diplomacy, Modi has made a searing attempt to pave the way for a steady and normalisation of relations with Beijing despite the past.

(The writer teaches International Relations at Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi)

PERSPECTIVE

‘Trump moment’ in Brazil: Bolsonaro’s election

As a large number of voters wanted to get rid of corruption, rising crime and an economic slump caused by Centrist and Leftist politicians, they elected Jair Bolsonaro to cure their country of the illness. However, the moot question is whether Bolsonaro’s radicalism will gel with the hopes of the masses



MAKHAN SAINIK

Jair Bolsonaro’s election to the office of the President of Brazil signals the coming of the “Trump moment” to the Latin American nation. Bolsonaro, the right-wing conservative presidential candidate, won 55.2 per cent of the vote against the Left-wing Workers’ Party candidate Fernando Haddad, who got only 44.8 per cent, despite the backing of former President Lula.

Bolsonaro displays an unusual trend in Brazilian politics. His rise is compared with the coming to power of Rodrigo Duterte in the Philippines, Viktor Orban in Hungary, and Donald Trump in the US. All these leaders have promised to fight the establishment and settle for a new order of sort in their respective countries. Born to parents of Italian descent, Bolsonaro served in the Brazilian Army from 1971 to 1988 and was first elected as a City Councillor for Rio de Janeiro to represent the Christian Democratic Party. In 1990, for the first time, he was elected to the federal assembly from the same party. By the end of July this year, the far-right Social Liberal Party declared him as the presidential candidate. From then, his very short journey to “The Planalto” (The Palácio do Planalto in Spanish language) has just begun. He is finally taking over as the President of Brazil in January 2019.

Bolsonaro has been making headlines by espousing populist and nationalist rhetoric from the very beginning of his campaign. He is a vocal opponent of same-sex marriage, abortion and migration. He has courted major controversies by releasing one of the ugliest statements particularly against women, gays, black community, foreigners and indigenous peoples. His derogatory remarks have no end. For example, once he suggested that all social schemes for escaped slaves are mere wastage as “they do nothing. I don’t think they even serve for reproduction”.

What has led to Bolsonaro’s rise? This former Army captain’s journey to the centre of Brasilia did not start in a day or two. He has spent nearly three decades in the Brazilian Parliament, but couldn’t be considered as one of prominent statesmen of the country. This makes his journey to the top post of the country interesting. To explain the mysterious rise, we need to go back to the ignominious reign of two former presidents, Rouseff and Temer (the incumbent). Today, Brazil is gripped by a

spate of corruption scandals involving top political leaders, including the outgoing President Michel Temer. The roots of these scandals started in 2014. The most controversial of these scandals is the Operacao Lava Jato (Operation Car Wash) which came up during the reign of former President Dilma Rouseff. The investigation revealed that the top executives at the state oil company, known as “Petrobras”, had accepted bribes from a number of construction firms to award them contracts at inflated prices. What was surprising was that as the tentacles of the Operation Car Wash fanned out, other scandals involving politicians, business executives and government officials started coming to light.

The largest South American nation has been witnessing a spate of political crises after the very end of the glorious Lula regime in 2010. Though Lula had carefully installed his protégé Dilma Rouseff as the first woman President of the country in 2011, her rule was marred by the much talked about Lava Jato scandal. And this has landed her, along with her mentor Lula, in jail. When Temer took over after Rouseff’s suspension from office in 2016, he miserably failed to restore the faith of the populace in the fragile democratic system of Brazil. The worst came to Lula’s Workers’ Party when it was alleged that money from the Lava Jato scandal was funneled to pay off politicians and buy votes and help in election campaigns to bring back Rouseff to power. The data revealed by the Public Prosecutor’s office in October shows that Lava Jato had resulted into more than 200 convictions for crimes, including corruption, misuse of the global financial infrastructure, drug trafficking and money laundering. Along with giant corporate houses, a number of foreign political dignitaries were implicated, including two former Presidents — Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia and Pedro Pablo Kuczynski of Peru, and the current Venezuelan President Nicholas Maduro.

Another scam came to light in March 2017 through an investigation called ‘Operacao Carne Fraca (Operation Weak Flesh)’. It was the result of the Operation Lava Jato only. This Operation Weak Flesh pursued mounting allegations that some employees of the JBS and BRF, the world’s largest beef and poultry exporters, continuously bribed food inspectors to approve the sale of spoiled products. Once



the scam was public, the European Union, China, the US, Egypt, Japan and Mexico suspended their meat imports from Brazil with immediate effect. What has heralded more chaos to the political atmosphere of Brazil was subsequent scandals that rocked the country such as: Operacao Panatenaico, which exposed alleged bribes paid by construction companies in return for contracts to build stadiums for World Cup Brasilia in 2014; Oeracao Green Field, an investigation into the alleged fraud at the pension funds of state-run companies and finally, Operacao Zelotes, that is investigating kickbacks allegedly paid by corporate, including JBS and Ford’s Brazilian subsidiary to tax officials to reduce their liabilities. Thus as the economic crisis deepened, political leadership gradually failed to restore the confidence of the public on the public institutions.

These scandals have led to extreme level of complications to revive the ailing economy amid its biggest downturn in more than a century. Meanwhile, the largest of the corporate houses of the country have faced major setbacks and people have started losing their trust in them. And the fallout of all these scandals reverberated through the just concluded presidential election in Brazil.

Bolsonaro’s sudden rise within a year was supported by these complicated elements both in the political and economic scenes. People came out to streets across Brazil and demanded strict action on the high-profile public personalities. In a nutshell, what commoners longed for was radical political transformation and a leadership that can prevent mega corruption scandals and crime in Brazil.

And, this has made Bolsonaro’s long and arduous road to presidency rather too short. He and his party fully exploited the

raging public anger against the establishment. While drawing attention from populace, he unleashed a purely populist campaign unlike all his opponents. He even showered praise on his country’s military dictatorship that existed between 1964 and 1985, advocated death penalty, etc. Besides, he has praised the long ruled late Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet, expressed support for tortures and wanted political opponents to be shot in his country. When it comes to foreign policy, he is planning to improve relations with America. On the economic front, he is continuously arguing for a market friendly and fully privatised economic system. At best, his entire political style can rightly be called as truly provocative and extremely polarising. Despite his aggressive and ultra-nationalist style, many in Brazil wanted an iron fist to fix the system.

On record, the country has registered

a record number of 64,000 murders last year. People are hopeless about the law and order. That is why it was possible for Bolsonaro to crush presidential candidates with temperate views and impressive track records. Looking at the final runoff election result, it can be easily concluded what common Brazilians rebelled against — corruption, crime and financial crisis of the nation — than what they voted for in this presidential election.

What has surprised the world is that the business leaders of Brazil have finally decided to back Bolsonaro. They have done so for the very simple reason that their free market capitalism can no longer suffer under an extremely confused and corrupted regime of Temer. And, finally the corporates have decided to back a fascist like Bolsonaro than risking Haddad’s moderate Left-wing.

However, Bolsonaro’s coming to power is sending missed signals to the international community, and the Brazilians. His will be another illiberal regime at the backyard of America. His policies if not crafted properly will not be able to revive the falling economy of the biggest country of South America. Now, Brazilians see a civil-military coalition government at the centre under Bolsonaro. He has already indicated that he will appoint personnel from the Army as ministers of his Government. When he formally takes over, he would face very little resistance from fellow Congressman on the issues such as flexibility on gun control and lowering the age of criminal responsibility. But he may soon face popular protests both from within and outside the Congress on matters like reducing pension spending and privatising the state owned enterprises. Though he is trying hard to paint himself as the “Tropical Trump”, for all his outrageous and hateful speeches, he has already earned the label of the “most misogynistic, hateful elected official in the democratic world”. It is better if he can bring back Brazil to normalcy by cracking down on corruption and crime. Else, the country will further slip into a permanent mess. And, the same voters who elected him to the hot seat may turn violent and demand his ouster sooner or later. Thus, he should tread cautiously.

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)

How Sikkim became a part of India

GBS Sidhu gives an insider's view of the chain of events that led to the merger of Sikkim with India in 1975, and outlines the interplay of personalities involved, such as Indira Gandhi, Chogyal, Kazi, and the intelligence agencies

The merger of Sikkim with India in May 1975 was a historic event in more than one way. Firstly, it undid the wrong done by India to the people of Sikkim by denying them the right to accede to, and finally merge with, the Union of India through the signing of the Instrument of Accession, as was the case with the rest of the 565 Indian princely States, which like Sikkim, were also members of the Chamber of Princes and the Constituent Assembly of India, before the country attained Independence on August 15, 1947.

Secondly, to protect its strategic interests in this vulnerable and heavily defended sector along the Sino-Indian border, India no longer had to depend upon the whims and fancies, and the growing unpredictability, of the Chogyal who had long cherished the ambition to secure an independent status for Sikkim like that of neighbouring Bhutan. Imagine the implications of a dissatisfied, sulking or even a revolting Chogyal in the background of a Doklam-like face-off between China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the Indian Army, with the Communist Party of China's People's Daily publication, *Global Times*, threatening to incite revolt in Sikkim against India.

Thirdly, through it, India's international borders achieved a finality, which will continue to remain the same unless minor adjustments, if any, are made based on mutual agreements with some of our neighbouring countries with whom we have festering territorial disputes. Though seven more States have been added to the list of member States comprising the Republic of India since 1975 (taking the total from 22 to 29), these were carved out through internal realignments of existing boundaries.

R&AW's operation relating to the merger of Sikkim continued to remain shrouded in mystery since it was first conceived by legendary spy and R&AW's founder head Rameshwarnath Kao sometime towards the end of December 1972. It was approved by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and launched in early February 1973. It was a unique operation, unlike any other of this magnitude and significance. Within the department, knowledge of its existence was confined to three people: Kao in New Delhi; PN Banerjee, joint director and regional head of R&AW's office in Calcutta; and the OSD

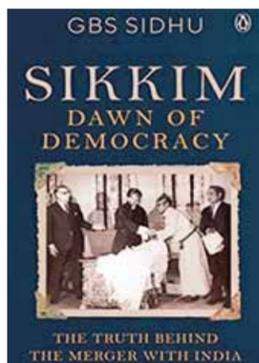


(P) Gangtok, who was head of the R&AW's set-up in Sikkim.

In Sikkim, initially, only Kazi, president of the Sikkim National Congress (SNC); and SK Rai, general secretary of the KC Pradhan-led Janata Congress, were taken into confidence about the scope of this operation. They were clearly told that the GoI had finally decided to lift its protective hand from the head of the Chogyal. Unlike in the past, when Tashi Tshering's (president of the Sikkim State Congress) 'no tax, no rent' campaign launched in 1949 was sabotaged by India, it would no longer stand in the way of the pro-democratic and pro-reform demands of the parties that had been fighting for political, administrative and other reforms since India's Independence. However, Kazi was the only one who was told that India would accept the demand

for the merger of Sikkim in case he was able to build overwhelming support in its favour, both amongst the general public and in the yet-to-be-elected Assembly. Kazi, to his credit, did not share this information with anyone else till the last moment.

When I started writing this book, some of my friends advised me against mentioning the role of the R&AW in the merger of Sikkim. I did not know how such a book could be written or what useful purpose it would serve. Appreciating their suggestion made in good faith, I told them that it was Kao himself who had asked me to write this book in 1988. Had there been any chance of me disclosing any information that could go against the interests of national security, an extremely security-conscious person like Kao would not have



asked me to write about the R&AW's role in Sikkim's merger in the first instance. Actually, there are situations where withholding such information from the public domain any longer

becomes counterproductive and allows certain parties or individuals to push forward their predetermined conclusions in the hope that such facts as could counter their hypothesis would continue to remain buried under the thick cover of secrecy.

It was over 43 years ago that Sikkim merged with India. It is high time that the truth behind the merger be brought out. That would help remove the cobwebs of doubt, or even confusion, created in the minds of the people by some others to make them believe that there was no popular demand for Sikkim's merger and that the State was 'annexed' against the popular will of the majority of Sikkimese people, which was not the case.

The truth must be revealed, if nothing else, at least to redeem Kazi, who devoted his lifetime to

free Sikkim from the Chogyal's yoke, but was unfortunately accused of selling his 'country' to India. The worst part of all this was that while Kazi was being accused in the immediate aftermath of the merger, of selling his country to India, no Indian agency or person in authority could — or they chose not to — do anything to neutralise such false and motivated propaganda. Instead, they continued to remain mute witnesses to Kazi's agony.

I joined the R&AW in February 1972. After completing my training, I was posted as JAD (Joint Assistant Director, a post equivalent to that of an under-secretary) in charge of two of the personnel branches. I finally landed in Gangtok to take charge as the OSD (P) Gangtok on August 27, 1973.

Insofar as operational work was concerned, before the merger-related spl ops were launched, the R&AW's main role in Sikkim was to collect Tibet and China-related intelligence. This had to be shared by the OSD (P) with the Chogyal, Palden Thondup Namgyal, through personal meetings at regular intervals. However, given the new requirements of planning and implementing the spl ops, my predecessor, AS Sayali had, in early February 1973, constituted a three-member team comprising himself, Senior Field Officer (SFO-equivalent in rank to a deputy superintendent of police) Padam Bahadur Pradhan (a Nepalese) and Deputy Field Officer (DFO-equivalent to a sub-inspector) Myngma Tshering (a Bhutia) for the job.

By the time I took over as OSD (P), the developments that followed the anti-Chogyal and pro-democracy demonstrations in April 1973 — in Sikkim in general and in Gangtok in particular — had already forced the Chogyal to sign the May 8, 1973, tripartite agreement with the then Foreign Secretary Kewal Singh and the leaders of the major political parties. This agreement had significantly curtailed the powers of the Chogyal and laid the grounds for holding fresh elections in April 1974 under the aegis of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The April 1974 elections resulted in a landslide victory for Kazi's Sikkim Congress (31 seats out of 32). Based on this, the next phase of the spl ops had to be planned and executed. While we awaited directions from New Delhi, we had to ensure that the Sikkim Congress Legislature Party remained a single solid block behind Kazi, and that he was able to withstand or block any Chogyal-inspired move to create dissension within its ranks.

In that context, while the magnitude of the Sikkim Congress's victory reduced the probability of any serious dissidence within the party, we had to be careful about the moves of some of the senior leaders of this party, such as the mercurial KC Pradhan and the shifty BB Gurung. Also, the Sikkim Congress's newly developed proximity (encouraged by the R&AW) with the Lepcha group led by Rinzing Lepcha had to be nurtured and strengthened.

Excerpted with permission from GBS Sidhu's *Sikkim: Dawn of Democracy* published by Penguin Viking, ₹599

Donald Trump has revealed he wants to remove the right for children of illegal immigrants born in America to automatically get US citizenship, triggering a heated debate about the legality of such a move. The US President said he would sign an executive order ending so-called birthright citizenship, which was enshrined in an amendment to the US Constitution 150 years ago.

Trump revealed he was planning the move during an interview with the political website, *Axios*, though the exact wording of such an order and when it would be implemented remains unclear. "It was always told to me that you needed a Constitutional Amendment," said Trump, who proposed the move in August 2015 during his presidential campaign. "Guess what? You don't."

Pushed on whether that was correct, Trump added: "You can definitely do it with an Act of Congress. But now they're saying I can do it just with an executive order." "We're the only country in the world where a person comes in, has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States with all of those benefits. It's ridiculous. It's ridiculous. And it has to end."

Actually, around 30 countries grant automatic citizenship. The plan has emerged just a week before the US midterm elections and adds to a growing list of claims and policy moves Trump has made over illegal immigration. He has already sent 5,200 soldiers to the southern border to counter a migrant caravan

Trump pushes for ending birthright citizenship

Close to the midterm elections, President Trump has announced his plan of using an executive order to deny automatic citizenship to babies born to illegal immigrants, says BEN RILEY-SMITH

approaching through Mexico. A second caravan of more than 1,000 migrants is now in Mexico after forcing its way across the river from Guatemala.

The attempt to push the issue up the agenda comes with the US President needing his supporters to turn out on November 6 to protect Republican majorities in the House of Representatives and Senate. Trump's claim that such a fundamental change in America's citizenship laws could be solved by an executive order — a decision made unilaterally by the President — provoked a fierce debate.

Paul Ryan, the most senior Republican in the House of Representatives, directly contradicted Trump, saying: "You cannot end birthright citizenship with an executive order." The debate focused around how the exact wording of the 14th Amendment, which outlined the rule and was adopted in 1868, should be understood in the context of 21st Century mass migration.

The 14th Amendment reads: "All persons born or naturalised in the United States, and subject



to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

Those on Trump's side of the argument believe that the words

"subject to the jurisdiction thereof" refer to people who have full political allegiance to America, which would exclude illegal migrants. However, many consti-

tutional lawyers reject such an interpretation. Were Trump to implement the policy, it would likely be challenged and ultimately decided in the Supreme Court.

'We're the only country in the world where a person comes in, has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States with all of those benefits. It's ridiculous. And it has to end' — Donald Trump

The number of US births to illegal migrant parents was below 1,00,000 a year before 1990, but rose to a peak of 3,70,000 in 2007, according to the Pew Research Center. It then began to fall after the global financial recession, reaching 2,75,000 in 2014. That year, such births made up around seven per cent of the four million total births in America.

Removing birthright citizenship has been an issue pushed by parts of the Republican Party for decades. Legislation proposing

such a change has been tabled in every Congress since 1991. A Bill currently in the House of Representatives backing the change has 50 co-sponsors.

Lindsay Graham, a Republican Senator, said he would propose a Bill making the change in the Senate. Graham, an ally of Trump, tweeted a series of comments detailing his plans on the issue. His first tweet said, "The Supreme Court has never ruled on the issue of whether birthright citizenship applies to children born of illegal immigrants in the United States."

In another tweet that followed, he said, "This is a case of 'first impression' and I support President @realDonaldTrump's efforts to have the court review this matter."

With his third tweet on the topic, he managed to get 11,000 'likes' and 34,000 retweets. It said, "I will be introducing legislation to deal with the issue of birthright citizenship for children of illegal immigrants — in a prospective manner — as I have always contended it has become a magnet for illegal immigration in modern times."

The Daily Telegraph



THERE'S SOMETHING MORE
POWERFUL THAN BOMBS,
AND THAT'S YOUR VOTE.
PEOPLE MUST VOTE
— ROBERT DE NIRO

CULTURE LANE

Depp leaves *Pirates of the Caribbean*

Johnny Depp will not appear in any further *Pirates of the Caribbean* films, according to reports. Original screenwriter Stuart Beattie nodded when it was suggested that Depp's time as the star of the series was over. "I think he's had a great run," he said. "Obviously, he's made that character his own, and it's become the thing that he's most famous for now. And kids all over the world love him as that character, so I think it's been great for him. It's been great for us, so I'm just very, very happy about it."

Depp, 55, has played the louche Captain Jack Sparrow in five films over 15 years in the Disney franchise, most recently in 2017's *Dead Men Tell No Tales*. Recently, it was reported that Disney was considering rebooting the series by drafting in *Deadpool* writers Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick. The previous films — inspired by a fair-ground ride — have in total made more than \$3bn, but there have, broadly speaking, been diminishing returns with each episode.

Depp will next be seen in *Harry Potter* prequel *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*. The actor has



experienced a backlash amid claims of domestic violence from ex-wife Amber Heard, as well as counterclaims of financial blackmail.

The actor's finances have also come under scrutiny after a lawsuit filed in May by former bodyguards attacked Depp's record on wages and working conditions. In July, he was sued by a crew member allegedly punched by the actor on the set of a film about the murder of Notorious B.I.G. A month later, the film's planned release was shelved.

Cox to take over BBC Radio 2 show

Sara Cox will take over BBC Radio 2's *Drivetime* show from Simon Mayo and Jo Whiley after the pair's departure was announced last week. Mayo has presented *Drivetime* for eight years but said he would be leaving to focus on writing after only a few months co-presenting with Whiley in what proved to be a divisive change of format. Whiley will remain with the station but move to a 7 pm-9 pm slot from January. Cox became favourite to take over as presenter and has now been confirmed in the role. Cox, who said she was "proud" to take on the 5pm-7pm slot, had previously been heavily tipped to take over presenting duties on *Chris Evans's Breakfast Show*, but lost out to Zoë Ball.

Cox said of being handed the time slot: "I've been proud to be part of the Radio 2 family for a few years now and the opportunity to present such a big show as *Drivetime* — playing fantastic music and hopefully making people smile as they cook tea or head home after a day's graft — is the icing on what is already a very brilliant cake. "I'm beyond chuffed to be given



this role and to directly quote my mum on hearing the good news, it is indeed 'fandabbyruddydozy.'" The BBC has not yet announced when Cox will begin presenting *Drivetime*.

Cox has experience on the station, most recently as a stand-in presenter on the *Breakfast Show*. She joined the BBC in 1999 and worked on Radio 1's *Breakfast Show*. There was consternation from some audience members when the *Drivetime* show was reformatted.

Yayoi Kusama on 'Chinese fakes'



Celebrated Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama is considering legal action against the organisers of several exhibitions in China made up entirely of fake works credited to her. Counterfeit works by Kusama and her fellow contemporary Japanese artist Takashi Murakami have been shown in at least six Chinese cities since the spring, according to the artists' lawyers. Most of the exhibitions were free of charge but a joint Kusama-Murakami event in Changsha, Hunan province, charged a US\$10 admission fee, Japanese media said. Earlier this month,

organisers shut down an exhibition in Shanghai after receiving a written warning from Kusama's legal team, but the show in Changsha is still open to the public. Kusama's lawyers are trying to identify the organisers of the other fraudulent exhibitions and could pursue both civil and criminal action for copyright infringement and violations of Chinese laws, Japan's public broadcaster NHK said. Murakami's lawyer, Hiroshi Kamiyama, told the Nikkei Asian Review he was considering taking similar action, describing the fake exhibitions as "extremely malicious".

**MEET QUEEN SONJA,
THE ARTIST**

Queen Sonja is an accomplished artist, who once sat for Andy Warhol. CLAIRE WRATHALL went to Oslo for an audience with a queen who was once ostracised for being a commoner

Short of a toad that turns into a prince, the life of Queen Sonja of Norway has the hallmarks of a fairy tale. Born in 1937, Sonja Haraldsen grew up in the Oslo suburb of Vinderen, in effect an only child. Her two much older siblings left for Sweden in 1940 at the start of the German occupation, and another brother had died. So her parents kept her close and, hoping she would work in and eventually take over her father's dress-making and ladieswear shop in central Oslo, sent her at 16 to learn tailoring at Oslo Vocational School and thence to Lausanne for two years — "I chose Switzerland so I could go skiing, but then I got hooked on learning French," she tells me — to study accounting and fashion design at the École Professionnelle des Jeunes Filles.

Back in Oslo, she was 21 when she met Crown Prince Harald at a party thrown by a mutual friend, a classmate of the heir apparent. The Prince was poised to leave the Norwegian Military Academy and invited her to his graduation ball. It would be glib to say the rest was history. The Royal House of Norway was having none of it. No European heir or crowned head had married a commoner: The Prince's mother had been born Princess Märtha of Sweden, his grandmother was the British King Edward VII's youngest daughter, Princess Maud of Wales. It was only after nine long years that the

palace relented and their engagement was announced. Within six months, in August 1968, they were married. Their son, Crown Prince Haakon, was born five years later, and two years after, they had a daughter, Princess Märtha Louise. But since the accession of King Harald V to the throne in January 1991, the nation has taken Queen Sonja to its heart. Each year on May 17, Norway's National Day, the Palace Park, one of Oslo's main public spaces, is thronged with flag-waving citizens come to watch the royal family wave from the palace balcony.

Last summer, Queen Sonja's childhood home, a white clapboard house with a red-tile roof, built in 1935 in the Funk (for functionalist) style, became a museum, after its exterior was carefully dismantled and moved from its original site to Maihaugen, near Lillehammer, where it was restored. It is, nevertheless, a far cry from where she resides today. Elegantly dressed in trousers and a long cardigan, she greets me with a warm smile and a handshake in what my instructions refer to as Her Majesty's Audience Chamber, but which the liveried footman who has shown me upstairs to the piano nobile of the palace, calls the Queen's study.

It is a splendid room: Crimson damask on the walls, furniture heavy with ormolu. The reason for my audience is her print award, the world's largest international prize for printmaking. Established by the HM Queen

'I WAS 10 OR 12 WHEN I GOT MY FIRST CAMERA,' SHE SAYS, ADDING THAT SHE HAS BEEN TAKING PICTURES EVER SINCE. IT WASN'T TILL 2006, HOWEVER, WHILE VISITING SPITSBERGEN IN ARCTIC NORWAY, THAT SHE UNDERSTOOD PHOTOGRAPHY'S TRUE POTENTIAL AS A MEDIUM

Sonja Art Foundation in 2011, this year's winner will be announced at an award ceremony at London's Royal Academy of Arts on November 8. Art is a subject close to her heart, not just as a patron and collector, but as an artist and printmaker. As a child it never occurred to her to want to be an artist, but, "I was 10 or 12 when I got my first camera," she tells me, and she has been taking pictures ever since. It wasn't till 2006, however, while visiting Spitsbergen in Arctic Norway, that she understood photography's true potential as a medium. She had descended, on foot, deep into a meltwater tunnel.

"It was completely dark," she recalls. Her torch wasn't working, so she had to rely on the light from her camera. "And suddenly through the screen I saw these lines and colours, beautiful things we simply couldn't see with our eyes."

These extraordinary images inspired her to start making abstract art shortly before she turned 70, specifically prints, which she learnt to make on a visit to Atejlé Larsen, an eminent studio in Helsingborg, Sweden, with two celebrated Norwegian artists, the late Kjell Nupen and the great landscape painter Ørnulf Opdahl. Here she experimented with monotypes (a single print taken from a painted design), learning to manipulate colour — her work is all about colour — with multiple layers of ink and sometimes subsequent applications of watercolour.

The Daily Telegraph

ODDLY ENOUGH

'CORPSE FLOWER' THAT SMELLS LIKE DIAPERS TO BLOOM SOON

Just in time for Halloween, a rare 'corpse flower' that gets its nickname from its putrid smell is expected to bloom next week at Dartmouth College's greenhouse. Named Morphy, the titan arum is native to Sumatra's equatorial rainforests and has a long, pointy stalk with a skirt-like covering and tiny yellow flowers at its base. It blooms just for several days. When it does, it has an odor described as rotting flesh, a decaying animal or even soiled baby diapers.

The plant is decorated with bats, spiders and an arm reaching out of the soil, holding a sign that says, "Help me!" It's been growing several inches a day. By Friday morning, it reached 1.82 m. Visitors can go to the greenhouse or see the plant on Dartmouth's webcam. The 15-year-old lime green and burgundy plant last

bloomed in 2016, and before that, in 2011. Last time, it reached a height of 1.98 m.

"The older a corpse plant gets, the more likely it's going to flower more often," greenhouse manager Kim DeLong said. Morphy's getting bigger, too. DeLong said after the last bloom, the plant grew a large leaf that reached 3 m, nearly touching the greenhouse ceiling. The leaf stayed open for 13 months and was busy photosynthesizing and storing up energy.

Once the leaf died in June, greenhouse staff reported Morphy's swollen underground tuber, which weighed 36 to 41 kg. In 2016, it was only about 14.6 kg.

AUTHORITIES NAB NEW JERSEY SERIAL DIAPER DUMPER

Authorities say they've captured a man suspected of dumping his grandson's soiled diapers along several New Jersey roadways over the past year. Franklin Township police say an officer acting on a hunch spotted 68-year-old William Friedman leaving a load of diapers in

the area of Routes 47 and 40 around 3.15 am Sunday. He was taken into custody after a traffic stop.

Friedman allegedly told police the diapers came from his grandson, adding that leaving them around town without getting caught "almost became a game." Authorities say a motorcyclist crashed in June after running over a diaper Friedman had allegedly dropped. The former suffered injuries and his bike was totaled. Friedman has been charged with interference with transportation. He faces up to \$1,000 in fines.

SOAP BELIEVED TO BE COCAINE LANDS DEALERS BEHIND BARS

A sarcastic sign in the window of a Connecticut restaurant asking people not to let their dogs pee on the eatery's outside flower pot has earned the owner a \$250 fine. Duc Nguyen, owner of Duc's Place in New Haven, said that he was disgusted with people allowing their dogs to urinate on his pot. He thought a humorous sign was a good way of discouraging dog walkers from letting pets relieve



(UPI)

themselves there. It read: "Attn: dog owners. This is a pay-per-pee flower pot. (Pay inside or leave your address and we'll kindly return the favor.)" Honda Smith, the city's public space enforcement officer, said Nguyen broke two city ordinances for being a public nuisance and issued the fine. Nguyen says he plans to appeal.

CAT WAKES UP SLEEPING OWNER TO ESCAPE FROM FIRE ON FARM

Police in New Zealand said a man was able to escape from a fire thanks to his cat jumping on him and waking him up. Fire and Emergency NZ said a crew from the Gisborne Station was dispatched along with Tolaga Bay volunteer firefighters Tuesday night when a fire was reported on a Whangara farm.

"When we arrived the building was fully involved in fire," Gisborne Station Officer Chris Grimson told the Gisborne Herald. "Our main priority was to stop the fire spreading to the nearby hillside and the trees and other vegetation on it." Firefighter said no one was injured in the fire as the structure's only human

occupant was saved by his cat.

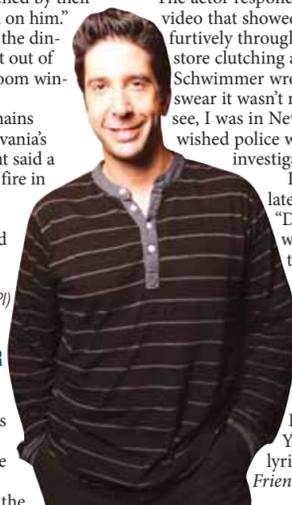
"There was a couple living there and the man was asleep when the fire broke out. His partner was away in town," Grimson said. "He was awakened by their cat when the animal jumped on him." "He got up to find smoke in the dining and kitchen area, and got out of the building through a bedroom window," he said.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation. Pennsylvania's McKeesport Fire Department said a couple were able to escape a fire in their home in March of this year when their cat ran into their bedroom in a panic and alerted them to smoke and flames inside the house.

WANTED: SCHWIMMER LOOKALIKE SHOPLIFTER

British police are hunting a shoplifter who bears a striking resemblance to Ross Geller, the character played by David Schwimmer on the TV show *Friends*.

Facebook users noticed the



similarity when police posted surveillance-camera footage of a man carrying a carton of cans from a restaurant in Blackpool, northwest England.

The actor responded with a Twitter video that showed him scuttling furtively through a convenience store clutching a carton of beer. Schwimmer wrote: "Officers, I swear it wasn't me. As you can see, I was in New York." He wished police well with the investigation.

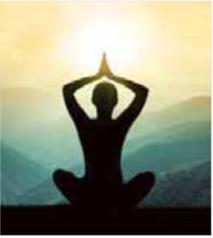
Lancashire Police later confirmed that "David Schwimmer was in America on this date."

Britain's *Daily Star* newspaper ran a story about Schwimmer's lookalike under the headline "Til Beer There for You," a play on lyrics from the *Friends* theme.

(AP)



BRIEFLY
speaking



MEDITATION
CAN HELP BOOST EQ

Finding it hard to cope with work-related stress? A silent form of meditation at your workplace can lead to significant improvement in emotional intelligence as well as perceived stress, according to a study. The study found that those who meditated more regularly scored higher on total emotional quotient and had lower perceived stress, also known as psychological stress — the most common occupational health problem affecting workers worldwide. They also showed improvement in intrapersonal awareness and reality testing. This indicates that emotional intelligence has a moderating effect on psychological well-being and mental health, the researchers said. "With a growing body of research on the value of emotional intelligence and the harmful effects of psychological stress, organisations are looking to give their employees tools for reducing stress and developing self-awareness and empathy," said Laurent Valosek, Executive Director, Center for Wellness and Achievement in Education.

TALL PEOPLE
AT GREATER CANCER RISK

While for most cancers, risk increases dramatically with age, a recent study has found that the height of a person could also make them more prone to cancer. The University of California study examines data from four large-scale surveillance projects on 23 cancer categories. Each of these cancer studies established that tall individuals are at an increased risk of cancer, with overall risk increasing by about 10 per cent per 10 centimeter (4 inch) increase in height. Other researchers have proposed that factors acting early in life — nutrition, health, social conditions — independently influence height and cancer risk. But Nunney, a professor of biology, challenges this hypothesis. "I tested the alternative hypothesis that height increases cell number and that more cells directly increase cancer risk," he said.

GUT MICROBIOTA
PRODUCTS AND DIABETES



A new study has revealed that gut microbiota, which is the complex community of microorganisms that live in the digestive tracts of humans and other animals, has the ability to affect how cells respond to insulin, and can thus contribute to type 2 diabetes. The study was published in the *Journal of Cell*. Scientists at Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, showed that the gut microbiota of people with treatment-naïve type 2 diabetes can be linked to a different metabolism of the amino acid histidine, which is mainly derived from the diet. During recent years, the gut microbiota has been associated with health and several disease conditions. However, only a few studies have investigated whether an altered gut microbiota can directly affect disease. This, in turn, leads to the formation of imidazole propionate, a substance that impairs the cells' ability to respond to insulin. Reducing its amount be a new way of treating patients with type 2 diabetes.

For the skeptics, even modern science has proof that the soul is immortal. Meditation can help us experience this truth and guide us through the door that leads to worlds of eternal bliss, light, and love, writes **SANT RAJINDER SINGH**

Our Soul is immortal

The soul is immortal; it knows no death. Yet many people fear death because they are not aware of their immortal nature. By connecting with our soul, we will have answers to what awaits us beyond death. All religions in the world recognise the immortality of the soul. The description in the scriptures of the soul's journey after life differ from religion to religion, but one common thread runs throughout them: The soul survives the death of the physical body. But can modern science confirm this?

NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES

A medical doctor, Dr. Raymond Moody, Jr, discovered that those patients who had clinically died but were brought back to life through the wonders of modern medicine had similar experiences. Many of them reported finding themselves looking down at their body from a vantage point in the room such as the ceiling. They were able to watch the medical practitioners trying to bring them back to life, and they could hear conversations in the room. Some found themselves floating through the walls to the waiting room where they could see and hear their relatives, and later, after the patient was revived, relatives and friends confirmed the accuracy of the overheard conversations. The subjects then found themselves being sucked through a dark tunnel, at the end of which was a bright light. Although the light was extremely bright, brighter than any they had ever seen on earth, it was not scorching; rather, it was a warm light, which they described as being filled with love. Many of them were met by a being of Light who enveloped them with a love greater than they ever felt on Earth. Following this, many went through a life review in which everything they had done in their life flashed before them. They could see not only the event, but could also experience what they and the other people involved thought and felt. Thus, if they did something hurtful, they could feel the pain they caused the other person. If they did



something loving, they could feel the happiness of the other person. As a result of this life review, most people underwent a transformation. They realised that when they crossed the borders to the afterlife, it did not matter how much money they earned, how much property they had owned, what position of power they had held, or whether they were famous or not. What mattered was how loving they were to others.

In many cases, they began to devote themselves to being a more loving. They also spoke of being given a choice of whether they wanted to remain in the life beyond or return. Many of them experienced so much bliss in the beyond that they did not want to return. But ultimately, they were told that their life on earth was not over and they would have to return. At that point, they found themselves being sucked back into their body. At that moment, any medical efforts to revive them bore fruit, and their heartbeat and breathing suddenly resumed.

Over eight million people reported having a near-death experience, according to a 1982 Gallup poll. The startling number has caused many doctors and scientists to take notice. Do near-death experiences prove the existence of the soul? They are proof to the people who have had them.

THE SOUL'S IMMORTALITY

There is striking similarity among the accounts of the journey of the soul as related by enlightened ones from different world religions. The

WE NEED NOT EXPERIENCE THE TRAUMA OF A NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCE IN ORDER TO FIND OUT WHAT LIES BEYOND. WE CAN EXPERIENCE THE SOUL'S IMMORTAL NATURE WHEN WE GO WITHIN. THROUGH MEDITATION, A WHOLE NEW WORLD OPENS UP FOR US

common thread among them is the belief that the soul lives after the demise of the physical body, undergoes a physical in which its good and bad deeds are either rewarded or punished, is placed in heaven or hell according to its deeds, and ultimately reaches a stage of union with the Lord or the Source. There is also a similarity between these and the accounts of people who have had a near-death experiences. Their descriptions correspond with the scriptures that describe the initial moments when one's soul departs from the body. The near-death experiences take us as far as the threshold of the inner realms. But since the narrators did not die, their journey ended there.

Although the accounts of saints and those alive today who have had near-death experiences may give us hope and inspiration, they alone cannot provide proof to our selves. They merely present second-hand knowledge. Real proof comes when we experience our soul's immortality for ourselves.

We need not experience the trauma of a near-death experience in order to find out what lies beyond; we can experience the soul's immortal nature when we go within. We can learn how to do this by examining how the saints and mystics from all different religions conducted their inner journey. We can learn the technique of meditation they used and begin to practice it ourselves. Through meditation, a whole new world opens up for us.

The writer is a spiritual leader



HIDDEN SOULS
PRAMOD PATHAK

Loyalty as a virtue



Loyalty has been considered as a noble value since ages. But defining loyalty is not easy and understanding its true nature is even more difficult. Dictionaries leave much to be desired when consulted for a meaning of the concept. Loyalty is suggested as anything ranging from devotion to faithfulness to even blind trust towards persons, regions, religions, etc. Some philosophers believe that it is strictly interpersonal and only human beings can be the object of loyalty. Law and political science consider it as fidelity of an individual to a nation, king or kingdom. But these definitions hardly do anything to clear the haze that surrounds the concept of loyalty. And there is another question — can there be dual loyalty? Difficult to resolve as this dilemma is usually a classical case of an approach-approach conflict. But more than finding out the basic nature of loyalty what we need to discuss is the critical issue of loyalty as a value vs loyalty as a virtue. Often, people consider these as synonymous. But we need to go deep into the concepts of a value and a virtue. While value is a cause one strives for, something close to one's heart, virtues are innate moral qualities within people that support individual moral excellence. Thus values can be the goal but virtues are the means to attain the goal. Thus, though not always, there can be a conflict between a value and a virtue. A value is an individually, culturally or organisationally accepted norm. But it is not necessary that it may always be a virtue. Examples ranging from Ku Klux Klan to the modern day Islamic State are ample indications to suggest that a value cannot always be a virtue. *Ramayana* throws a beautiful illustration about this through the dialogue between Ravana's brothers Kumbhakaran and Vibhishan. While the essence of Kumbhakaran's argument to dissuade Vibhishan from joining Rama is based on loyalty as a value, Vibhishan's stand contradicts this establishing primacy of virtue based on righteousness that can override loyalty. So, loyalty can be a value if it is blended with the right cause but it cannot always be a virtue. In the Mahabharata war this has been emphasised time and again. While value has more of emotional content, virtue is largely ethical in nature. Though Vibhishan is looked down upon and his unfaithfulness to his brother has brought a kind of eternal stigma to the name as used in Hindi idioms and phrases, the fact is that he was more an embodiment of virtue rather than treachery and deceit. Judgment and context then are the essence of this debate between loyalty as a value versus loyalty as a virtue. Human beings are supposed to be thinking beings whose judgments need to be based on righteous decisions and judicious observation of a situation. It is not necessary that loyalty as a value may be at odds with loyalty as a virtue, but there is a subtle difference that needs to be understood. If loyalty is backed with right cause it is a virtue to be cherished, but if it is loyalty for the sake of loyalty without any consideration for the right and the wrong it becomes a vice. Both means and ends are important and rationality lies in exercising the right choice between where to be loyal and when to defy. The moral judgment of course is based on a very highly developed sense of maturity.

Pathak is a professor of management, writer, and an acclaimed public speaker. He can be reached at ppathak.ism@gmail.com

Can we? Yes. But it is not very easy. Let me explain what I mean by leaving it to God. We all know our limitations. For example: There is a nice couple who have two children. This family is highly spiritual. They pay a lot of attention to the upbringing of their children. Still, thoughts do come about their future. Because of their spiritual background, they leave the matter to God. Isn't God the most capable of being omnipotent?

This sounds very exciting to folks who worry endlessly and suffer greatly. Logically, it makes a lot of sense because we are limited to doing our duties only. What more can we do except worry about the results or leave it to God. Leaving it to God makes a lot of sense for us small souls. However, there are three difficult steps to get there.

The first step is to develop faith in God. This is very different from casually mentioning God in our conversations. It is extremely difficult but not impossible. Personally, I had

great difficulty in gaining faith in God even though I was exposed to God since childhood due to the spiritual/religious leaning of my family. I knew in my heart about the various benefits God can bestow. Therefore, I began doing what a logical person would do. I began collecting all the evidence which could convince me about the existence of God. Many facts emerged but strong faith was not so forthcoming. But it became better over the years. So far, I have managed thirty-one factors which strongly point towards the existence of God. I must admit that God helped me in this endeavour because good faithful beings are assets to His creation. If someone tries to get close to



God; He does likewise. And unlike us, He is not limited.

The next step, which of course must run concurrently, is to become deserving of God's intervention in our affairs. Knowing God is fine but He must have compelling reasons to help. I began by looking at my behaviour. How I spoke to others; how I looked at them; did I care to listen to them; etc? Was I inclined to cooperate with them? God will not do something special for one who goes against what pleases Him the most. Was I prepared to make sacrifices for others — an essential quality for gaining favours from God?

How was I doing on the lust front? Is the world meant for my enjoyment or do oth-

ers deserve my respect for their contribution to the society? Was I being greedy, ie trying to grab what did not rightfully belong to me? Was anger a part of my personality or was it just to be used when absolutely essential? Was I jealous just because someone else was better than me in some respect? Was I being dutiful? And lastly, was I following *dharma*, which is most dear to God? Slowly, the feeling of being good came over me. I was ready to gain special favours from God.

The third step was the most crucial because it went against how I instinctively feel. What is basic to us? That we are the best persons to safeguard our interests. Whom will we trust the

most? Ourselves only. Then, where is the question of leaving it to God? Does such an act not go against our ego? That someone can help us better than ourselves even though that person is God? Faith helped and I began to place more trust in God than in myself. Slowly, many benefits began to materialise.

I realised that I was helpless in any case having done my duties. This kind of mind-set began to reduce my propensity to worry. I began to feel more relaxed, somewhat peaceful. I was beginning to see prospects of better results because God was getting involved. God was not a silent spectator either; He was encouraging me in many subtle ways. He appeared to be quite active in my life, no longer a silent spectator. This made me more God conscious. I became more serious about connecting with God. I realised that it was in sync with the cosmic design.

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LEAVE IT TO GOD

The biggest leap of faith that human beings need to master is to stop trying to control the results of their actions and truly submit to the wisdom of God and the cosmos, writes **AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI**



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

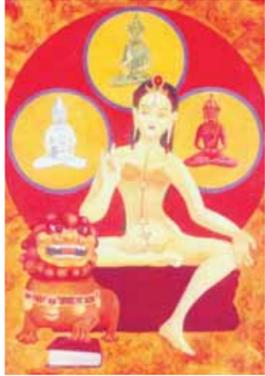


MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This week you will experience positive energy and will feel as fresh as a teenager. You must channelise this energy into something creative. This is a very good time for you to actually dream, play and be inventive like a child. Enjoy this phase and your creative surge; it will enrich your life. On the career front, your potential will be duly recognised. Your financial position will also improve. A gift from your ancestral side may come your way. You will be happy. You will also feel the positive vibrations at the work place. Money gain through property or planning to invest in a property in a prime location is indicated. This week you may not be lucky in love. If you like someone, go and express yourself to him/her.
Lucky number 23
Lucky colour Indigo
Lucky day Friday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

You will have harmony between body, mind and soul. If you have any ongoing health issue that hasn't gotten better, then you may benefit greatly by alternative therapy like nutritional counselling, dietary restriction, and so forth. A spiritual teacher may appear in your life who will be an excellent mentor and will help you to have a new lease on life. On your career front, you may need a counsellor to sharpen your skills. Therefore, being a part of a short course or workshop may help you in your goals. This week, get involved in group work as you will learn from them in a very positive way. You will be lucky in relationships as the people around you hear you with respect and value your ideas. You are likely to make an impression on your partner with your positive approach. You will feel the warmth and affection of dear ones.
Lucky number 11
Lucky colour Pink
Lucky day Friday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

This week you will feel creative and optimistic. You will believe that everything will turn in your favour. You will be generous and ready to share. You have learned to accept your flaws and adjust with others. It gives you the strength to be what you want to be. Overall, the health will be good. In professional life, you need to give your time and attention to your work. You need to ensure that your work balance is where it needs to be. Be honest towards your work. A disciplined approach like working within the norms and traditions of your organisation will be appreciated. Avoid conflicts with people in the work area. In the area of romance, you need to stop fantasising about the person who doesn't feel the same way for you. When love is true, you don't have to struggle to make it work.
Lucky number 7
Lucky colour Yellow
Lucky day Monday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

You will overcome all the health challenges and will feel on top of the world. You will be applauded and appreciated for accomplishing something at work. This will encourage you. Blessings from elders will radiate and reflect in your personality. After dealing with a problematic situation, you will experience positive energy and inner satisfaction. Your career looks good this week. Some of you will be promoted or will be assigned an important task which will uplift your career. A seminar or a training session is indicated that will enhance your skill. Luck is in your favour and you will enjoy the results of your hard work. In your love life, be cautious as you might be tagged as incompatible. Due to some back biting, your newly developed relationship might get affected.
Lucky number 16
Lucky colour Orange
Lucky day Thursday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You will have great stamina this week that will enable you to stay confident and be in the best of your health. You will soon reap the fruits of your health efforts. If you are facing any health issues, then do not hesitate to consider any alternative ways to deal with it. You will face your daily life with sensible views. At work, things will be better. You will get support from a powerful person. This is the right time to seek increment or change in job. You may owe some money to your close ones. Those who are considering for a fund or a bank loan for a venture should go ahead — you will experience success. In the context of love, it's important to give your partner some space. You also need to choose the right person with whom you can feel emotionally strong.
Lucky number 9
Lucky colour Brown
Lucky day Sunday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

It is advisable to avoid anger and aggression this week. Listen to your inner voice and act accordingly. Seek the advice of some elderly person in the family. Homemade remedies will give you relief when it comes to health problems. You need nurturing and caring that will sort out half of your problems. This week at the work place, you will feel as ease as things are going in your favor. Great things come in small packages and this is what is going to happen with you. A business in the field of Agro, horticulture, land, property etc. will be profitable. Those in a job are likely to get promoted. New career opportunities are indicated. Those seeking employment will get a job in their desired field. With regard to love life, you do not have a clear picture of your future spouse yet.
Lucky number 20
Lucky colour Pastel colours
Lucky day Wednesday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

This week some health challenges are indicated. You may face many problems like indigestion, gastric trouble, blood pressure fluctuation, etc. This might make you restless. This will affect your emotional health as well. It is advisable for you to spend more to relax and to find out your own comfort zone. In professional life, things are likely to go your way. Those in the private sector can expect a raise in income or a promotion. Chances for an overseas job/ education opportunity seem to be bright this week. Stay focused. Reaching out to a senior official will be helpful for you this week. Relationship wise, this week is satisfactory. You need to talk to your partner and sort out the chaos which has been created knowingly and unknowingly between you both.
Lucky number 13
Lucky colour Parrot green
Lucky day Tuesday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Your efforts to stay healthy will pay off. This week you will be full of energy, creativity and versatility. You are likely to re-create your purpose in life. You will keep yourself busy in activities like Yoga, Pranayam and other healing exercises to stay fit and rejuvenated. Those facing health issues may now feel at ease. On the career front, you need to take a break and consider professional counselling. If required, seek advice from a senior for the better results. Someone's guidelines will help you boost your career and attain control over your domain. Indulging in group task or discussions will prove to be beneficial. In the domain of love, tension is indicated. You may face rejection or break up. Singles will take time to find their love partner. This is the time to make thoughtful bonding in marriage.
Lucky number 22
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Saturday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

The week starts with never ending activities and you will be busy with meeting, travel, journeys and attending to guests. This will exhaust you and give no time for yourself. There are chances to get bruises or you may hurt yourself. Stay safe and use all safety measures to avoid any unpleasant situation. They are legends who were not geniuses per say but had a great capacity of strong will and determination to get things done. You will try your level best to achieve what you want in life. Those who awaiting judgment in a legal hassle will be pleased to get the case in their favour. Relationship wise, you are demanding and very strict, and this attitude will not go in married couples' favour. A mother figure may interfere in your relationship, whether she means to or not.
Lucky number 31
Lucky colour Green
Lucky day Friday



CANCER June 21-July 22

You are likely to be confused about your life's direction. Your fluctuating health conditions will affect the quality of life. You may need guidelines to reap the results of your past behaviour. Observe your belief system. If you are hassled regarding your time and energy, take two seconds out of your day to think positively. On the career front, you will face challenges and tough situations but you will take hold of the situations and emerge as the winner with the help of your determination. Legal issues might be sorted this week. When talking about love, you will glow and blush as this week your life will be focussed around love. This could be either a new relationship, or a powerful re-bonding of an old one. You are likely to share your joy with those around you who need it.
Lucky number 18
Lucky colour Peach
Lucky day Monday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

This week you need to come out of your past wounds in order to move forward. Holding on to the past may affect your health. You need to look within yourself carefully for the areas where you are fearful. Spend some time to learn about the energy centres in the body and meditate on how you are functioning. At the work place, you will experience a feel-good factor that will bring a smile to your face. You are likely to find the support of colleagues and seniors, and there is chance that your name may be suggested for a promotion. Your professional skills will be at their best. Ensure to make the best use of this time. In terms of love, you will find success. You are likely to become the centre of attraction at an event and draw your partner's attention.
Lucky number 19
Lucky colour Black
Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week, health looks promising. You will regain your health and feel a new spark of creativity within. Try a new healthcare approach, especially preventative care. A basic health regime like exercise, proper diet, and enough sleep can be applied now with great success. If required, don't hesitate to try a new healer. On the career front, transfer or relocation is indicated. Since this will be your desired posting, you will be filled with hope and aspiration. You are likely to prove your potential with new avenues of progress. Some of you are expected to travel overseas on a professional trip. This week romance is not your priority. Due to your busy schedule, your existing relation might suffer. Try to stay in touch through the internet or through messages.
Lucky number 9
Lucky colour Grey
Lucky day Thursday

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ASTROTURF
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

Diwali calls for change of mindset

I wish the valued readers a very happy Diwali due next Wednesday. On this festive day, the devout have a meeting with Mother Goddess Lakshmi, the deity identified with *sampada* (wealth) in major part of the country. May your prayers bear desired fruits, I wish. But remember, nothing comes just to one's asking. One would need to be well geared by oneself. It is in this spirit that the devout try to rekindle their work-spirit afresh. Also, pursue aspirational urges literally in a prayer mode as we worship the Mother for the best result. Bear in mind; the word: *Sampada* is not limited to just material wealth. It also includes physical prowess and wisdom, but for which fruition of creative urges would not be possible.

The preparation for this festivity begins much in advance. We thoroughly clean up our houses, work stations, and the adjoining areas. We clear off all the junk piled up during the previous year. We refurbish and give a fresh look to our houses and work places. It is driven by the belief that Mother Goddess Lakshmi shuns filth and would make presence only in a clean environment, and hence so much of importance to cleanliness. The paradox, however, is that once the

festival gets over, the sense of cleanliness just takes a back seat. That is what forced the Government to relentlessly carry on the clean India campaign.

The occasion also calls for giving equal emphasis to ensure a healthy living environment. Truth, however, remains that blindly chasing our materialistic urges we have unthinkingly polluted the air and water resources so much that it is now threatening healthy existence. Ever since the environmental pollution level has acquired dangerous proportion, every year we have been witnessing a debate over the need to avoid playing firecrackers to contain pollution. The blind believers are bent upon carrying on the tradition unhindered. The environmentalist, on the other hand want the practice banned and have been seeking court intervention. Shall we ever wake up to the call of securing healthy existence all by ourselves? Can court interventions clean up our hardened attitude?

Let me add here that our age old Hindu tradition has never been rigid, we have rather evolved with time and adapted ourselves with the callings of time. A look into the history will reveal that in Vedic times, we worshipped abstract deities like Indradeva,



Varundeva, Agnideva, and the like. They now find mention in our old books only. As of now, the deities like Durga, Lakshmi, Saraswati, and Ganapati are in circulation. For, the educative import of these symbolic imageries directly relate to human attributes of practical relevance. It is high time we give up our hardened attitudes in our own interest.

Even more important is the cleansing of mind on a daily basis. Remember, all that we encounter in life, good or bad, finds space within our memory, major part of which gets into our subconscious. Over a period of time, mind gets too cluttered with baggage load of inconsequential and even negative thoughts, thus restricting the mind-space available. We are, thus, not left with the space necessary to process our thoughts objectively. Consequently, we fail to see things in the right perspective and with obvious consequences. These thoughts also keep rattling us from within, not allowing scope to pay due attention to our priority preferences. That makes it incumbent upon us to self-reflect on a daily basis and to at least clear off the clutter within.

On this occasion, it is important to make note of hypocrite mind-set of Indian populace. When it comes to reli-

gious practice, we identify all aspects of creativity with Motherly-forms — Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswati. The concept, evidently acknowledges that female is at the root of creativity. Accordingly, we put in all our emotions to clay/stone moulds of the above deities seeking power. But when it comes to our domestic, social, and work atmosphere, we do not hesitate harassing our women folk. Many of the animalistic minds would not spare even kids. Otherwise, the need for spearheading the 'Me too' campaign against the mighty by such a huge number of harassed women would not have arisen.

Now that time is ripe for offering our prayers to Mother Goddess Lakshmi, let us be reminded that the living mother of *Sampada* in our families too are accorded a dignified status. In Eastern India, especially in West Bengal and adjoining areas, Mother Goddess Kali is worshipped on the occasion of Diwali. The underlying concept will be followed up in the coming issue.

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