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Death halts tigers' translocation

Upset at newly-shifted big cat's death by poaching, NTCA reviews safety in tiger reserve

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The ambitious project to repopulate Odisha's Satkosia Tiger Reserve by translocating big cats from outside the State has gone haywire after one of the relocated tigers died, most probably due to poaching, while the other, a Royal Bengal tigress, has been kept in captivity following public outrage that it killed two people.

Unhappy at the State Government's failure to protect the big cats and sensitise the community towards wildlife, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has now kept the translocation plan in abeyance till the "environment becomes conducive for the big cats" in the tiger reserve spread over four districts — Angul, Cuttack, Nayagarh and Boudh.

NTCA ADG Anup Nayak told *The Pioneer*, "Following the mishapening at the reserve we are reviewing the safety situation in the tiger reserve. We cannot allow the big cats to be translocated from other States and meet the fatal end."

"The death of the male tiger shows that sufficient steps were not taken to protect the animal. Also, the State Government must answer why the tigress had strayed outside the forest even though she was under constant observation of the forest officials."

The tigress had to be tranquillised and kept in a zoo after the villagers in the vicinity alleged that she had maulled

locals and their cattle.

Nayak said there are reports that the move to bring the big cats has met with violent protests from members of local communities on the outskirts of the reserve as they apprehend their safety and that of their livestock.

The body of MB2, the male big cat which was shifted from Madhya Pradesh's Kanha tiger reserve in June this year, was found in Raiguda range on Hindol-Narsinghpur border — the core area of Satkosia Tiger Reserve (STR) in Angul district a few days ago.

Nayak said the exact reason of radio-collared MB2's death is yet to be ascertained, but preliminary report suggests that it could have died of infections after it was caught in a snare trap laid by poachers.

The body was found by officials who were searching for MB2 after there were no signals from his radio collar for days. The tiger's death came just a few weeks after the tigress which was brought from Bandhavgarh Tiger reserve in MP in August was tranquillised and kept under observation in an enclosure. This was after villagers in the vicinity of the reserve alleged that she had killed two persons.

The tigers' fate has put a question mark on the NTCA plan to translocate three pairs of tigers from Madhya Pradesh to Odisha. This was the first ever inter-state tiger translocation in India. So far the tigers have been shifted from one reserve to another within

the State itself, like for instance in Rajasthan where big cats were translocated from Ranthambore tiger reserve to Sariska tiger reserve.

Odisha has three tiger reserve — Satkosia, Sunabeda and Simlipal. According to the 2016 tiger census, Odisha has 40 Royal Bengal Tigers — 13 males, 24 females and three calves. The relocation is part of a tiger recovery programme to shore up the floundering population of tigers in Satkosia where tigers vanished due to biotic pressure.

Conservationist Biswajit Mohanty, who had been opposing the relocation plan since beginning, feel it is bound to happen as though the poor prey base in Satkosia has shown a recovery in the core area, it is not enough to sustain a significant tiger population.

Continued on Page 4



Carcass of tiger MB2 inside Satkosia Tiger Reserve

3 tiger cubs mowed down by train in Chandrapur

PTI ■ NAGPUR

Three tiger cubs were found killed after being hit by a train in Maharashtra's Chandrapur district on Thursday, officials said.

Chief Conservator of Forests SV Ramarao said while two cubs were found dead in the morning, another dead tiger cub was found half a kilometre away in the evening. The cubs, around six

months old, were apparently hit by Balharshah-Gondia train between Chandrapur and Nagbhid stations around 7.30 am, said Rishikesh Ranjan, general manager of the State-run Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra.

Pug marks of a tigress, which could be the cubs' mother, were found in the vicinity, said Ramarao.

Cubs of murdered Avni spotted alive in Maharashtra forest

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

The orphaned cubs of a man-eating tiger killed in a State-sanctioned hunt have been spotted in a forest in Maharashtra and could be rescued and rehabilitated, officials said on Thursday.

The mother was shot dead in early November after being accused of killing more than a

dozen villagers, capping off one of the country's most high-profile tiger hunts and angering conservation activists.

The months-long search deployed 200 hunters using paragliders, infrared cameras, sharpshooters on elephant back, and even Calvin Klein fragrance to lure the big cat.

Maharashtra forestry department's AK Mishra said the cubs are "healthy and are surviving".

All-party meet on Sabarimala row abortive

No consensus on women entry; Cong, BJP slam CM for obduracy

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The all-party meeting convened by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday to sort out imbroglio over the entry of women in child-bearing age to Sabarimala Temple in Kerala's Western Ghats ended in failure. A meeting of the Chief Minister held later in the day with the representatives of the Pandharam Royal Family — the customary owners of the temple who enjoys certain privileges as part of traditions — and the chief priest (Thanthri) too failed to break the deadlock.

Thanthri Rajeevaru, the chief priest, while speaking to the media after the meeting made use of the opportunity to plead with the women in the 10-50 age group not to come to Sabarimala and stay off the temple. Later, speaking to *The Pioneer*, the Thanthri said he enjoys certain privileges as the chief priest of the temple. "I am not a paid employee of the Government. I am reporting to Lord Ayyappa and has the authority to order purification

ceremonies and atonements," said the Thanthri.

Ramesh Chennaithala, Leader of Opposition in Kerala Legislative Assembly, walked out of the meeting alleging that the CM's intransigent stance on the issue led to the failure of the talks. BJP's Kerala chief PS Sreedharan Pillai, who has been spearheading the agitation against the entry of women in the 10-50 age group, later told reporters that the NDA would go ahead with the agitation from Friday against women devotees making it to the temple.

"We just pleaded with the Government to keep the Supreme Court order in abeyance till the court disposes off the review and writ petitions filed against the September 28 verdict. The Supreme Court Bench which heard the petition on Tuesday was not an appellate authority and that is the reason why the September 28 verdict was not stayed," said Pillai, himself a leading lawyer in Kerala.

The breakdown of the all-party meeting has created a war-like atmosphere in the holy shrine as the police have prevented the entry of mediators to the temple premises. The temple reopens on Friday evening as a prelude to the 41-day Mandala Pooja, which begins on Saturday morning. Continued on Page 4

CAPSULE

EC REMOVES MIZORAM CEO AFTER PROTESTS

New Delhi: Accepting the demand of some civil society groups, the Election Commission on Thursday removed SB Shashank as chief electoral officer of poll-bound Mizoram and appointed IAS officer Ashish Kundra in his place.

'SUPER-EARTH' FOUND ORBITING A STAR

London: Astronomers have discovered a frozen 'super Earth' orbiting the closest solitary star to the Sun, a breakthrough that could shine light on our planet's nearest planetary neighbours. P12

DELHI AIR QUALITY IMPROVES AFTER RAIN

New Delhi: Delhi's air quality fell in the 'poor' category improving slightly from severe on Thursday as light showers brought down the pollution level slightly, authorities said. The overall air quality index was recorded in poor category, according to Central Pollution Control Authority (CPCB) data.

KHAFSGGI MURDER: 5 OFFICIALS FACE DEATH

Riyadh: Five Saudi officials face the death penalty for the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi who was dismembered inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate, but Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was not involved, the prosecutor said on Thursday. P12

Wages of sin: Fashion designer killed by staffer Tailor and two accomplices surrender at police station at night

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Annoyed over unpaid dues, three men allegedly killed a fashion designer and her domestic help in South Delhi's Vasant Kunj Enclave locality on Wednesday night. After murdering her and her servant, they ransacked the entire house and looted cash and jewellery, and fled the spot. However, they themselves went to Vasant Kunj South police station and surrendered. They reportedly told the police, they feared that the police will trouble their family if they run away.

It was around 2.45 am between the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday when the three men approached the police station and confessed to their crime as to how they had committed the twin murders and bodies were lying in a flat of Vasant Enclave, following which officials rushed to the spot to verify the details.

Police recovered the bodies of 53-year-old Maya Lakhani, who ran a boutique called Tulsii Creations in Green Park, and her domestic help, 50-year-old Bahadur, a Nepalese national, with multiple stab wounds in the bungalow early on Thursday. The



Three accused Rahul Anwar (24), Rahmat (24) and his friend Wasim (25) arrested in connection with the killing of fashion designer Maya Lakhani (inset) at Vasant Kunj, in New Delhi on Thursday. Pioneer photo

bodies were lying in a pool of blood.

"The accused looted jewellery and ransacked the house after killing the two, estimating that the incident took place between 10 pm and 11.30 pm on Wednesday," Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) South west district Devendra Arya said. Identified as Rahul Anwar (24), the master tailor

who worked with Lakhani, his cousin Rahmat (24) and his friend Wasim (25) have been arrested in connection with the killings, the DCP said.

The tailor, with the help of two of his relatives, killed Lakhani as she had not cleared his dues. When she cried for help, her servant came to help her who was also stabbed.

"One of the accused Rahul

Anwar was working as a tailor at deceased fashion designer's workshop and was staying in her home for the last three years. He committed the crime with two of his relatives in an attempt to loot," Joint CP Ajay Chaudhary said.

A case has been registered and the three accused have been arrested, the DCP added.

Continued on Page 4

PM to address public meetings from today: Rakesh Singh

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a number of public meetings in the poll-bound Madhya Pradesh from Friday. He will attend a public meeting in Shahdol district.

The Prime Minister will also address two public meetings, mostly on alternative days, starting Friday, state BJP chief Rakesh Singh said.

Singh further said that after the rally in Shahdol, PM Modi will be in Gwalior to address another rally before flying back to Delhi. He will return and address public meetings in Chhindwara and Indore on Sunday before returning to Delhi, he added.

The prime minister will visit Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday and address public meetings in Jabua and Rewa districts. Three days later, on Saturday, he is expected to address public meetings in Mandasaur and Chhattarpur districts. On November 25, PM Modi will deliver speeches in Vidisha and Jabalpur districts.

Madhya Pradesh BJP

Prime minister will also address two public meetings, mostly on alternative days, starting Friday, state BJP chief Rakesh Singh said

spokesperson Anil Soumitra said PM Modi's visits will immensely benefit the party which he claimed will win over 200 Assembly seats out of 230 in the upcoming elections.

Congress spokesperson Pankaj Chaturvedi, however, said PM Modi's visit will not have any impact, adding that the state government is facing a strong anti-incumbency wave. Assembly polls are scheduled for November 28 while the results will be declared on December 11.

Fadnavis calls for celebration after receiving report on Maratha quota

PNS ■ MUMBAI

A head of a fresh round of agitation threatened by the Maratha Kranti Morcha from November 25 to demand reservations for their community members, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday indicated that his Government would come out with a formal announcement about reservations for Marathas in Government jobs and educational institutions on December 1.

"I request all of you to prepare yourselves for celebrations on December 1," Fadnavis said, while addressing a public rally at Ahmednagar in western Maharashtra.

Fadnavis' announcement came hours after Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission (MSBCC) member-secretary DD Deshmukh submitted the Commission's voluminous report on the socio-economic status of the Marathas to State Chief Secretary DK Jain.

On August 7, the Bombay High Court had set November 15 as deadline for MSBCC to submit its report to it.

Detailed report on P7

Bengal BJP urges Shah to subdue NRC rhetoric

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Weeks after senior BJP leaders demanded an Assam-like National Register for Citizens in Bengal and in the wake of an intensified political campaign by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee highlighting the anti-Bengali venom that laces the NRC regime, the State BJP unit has asked its national leadership to tone down the NRC rhetoric -- at least till the next year's general elections, sources say.

According to inside sources, the State BJP has written to party president Amit Shah to go slow on NRC as the idea was creating large-scale apprehensions among the people. In fact, State BJP president



Dilip Ghosh on Thursday clearly said the State leadership was more in favour of the Citizenship Bill than the NRC.

"I think once the Citizenship Bill is tabled and enacted the NRC will not be required because that will provide enough evidence of a person's citizenship credentials," Ghosh said.

Continued on Page 4

K'taka jumps on statue bandwagon for Mother Cauvery

₹1,200 crore 125-foot statue of Goddess Cauvery aimed to boost tourism

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

The politics of statue has infected Karnataka as the JD(S)-Congress coalition Government is mulling a proposal to build 125-feet high statue of Mother Cauvery at world famous Brindavan Gardens, adjoining the Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) that too will be developed on the lines of Disney land.

The whopping ₹1,200 crore project includes increasing the height of the KRS dam to around a 12-storey building, while the Goddess Cauvery will stand atop a museum complex on the "amusement park" spread in 300-400 acres.

However, the State Government will not spend any money on the public-private partnership project and the cost would be borne by the construction company.

According to Water Resources Minister DK Shivakumar, the proposal was tabled in the Assembly during the Budget Session and was passed in the Budget Bill. On Wednesday Shivakumar along with Tourism Minister SaRa Mahesh held a meeting with officials from the water resources and the tourism departments to discuss the blueprint. A certain fixed amount will be paid to the Government on yearly basis as



revenue generated from the earning from tourists.

Shivakumar said, "It is not a statue per se, it is an amusement park. We want to showcase the heritage and culture of

Mysore to rest of the country. It is still in planning stage and features can be changed."

The BJP criticised the Government for calling it an amusement park. BJP

Spokesperson S Prakash said, "We welcome the statue, but one can't call it an amusement park. It's an insult to Goddess Cauvery. Congress attacked BJP over statue of Unity, now

their duplicity is seen, hypocrisy is in their DNA."

At present, the Government earns ₹6 crore from the KRS dam annually. After development, the income may rise up to ₹300 crore, and the State Government share will be ₹30 crore a year.

Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy in his first-ever Budget presented on July 5 had proposed to bring back the grandeur of Brindavan Gardens and KRS dam by developing it on the model of America's Disneyland with public-private participation. Global industrialists are eager to invest in the project, Kumaraswamy, who also holds Finance portfolio, had said in his Budget speech, while providing ₹5 crore to prepare the detailed project report.

Miscreants target BHEL employee's house

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

House of a BHEL employee was targeted by miscreants and valuables worth Rs 1 lakh were burgled from A- sector Barkheda under Govindpura police station area in the evening on Wednesday.

Police said that the victim Mahesh Thakkar was at work while his wife and daughter have gone to market and when they returned valuables were found burgled.

A complaint was lodged with the police by the victim stating that he left the house for work while his wife and daughter have gone for shopping at nearby market in the evening around 6 and when they returned after one hour locks were broken and valuables were found burgled. The wife of the victim informed victim

POLICE SAID THAT THE VICTIM MAHESH THAKKAR WAS AT WORK WHILE HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER HAVE GONE TO MARKET AND WHEN THEY RETURNED VALUABLES WERE FOUND BURGLIED

and later a complaint was lodged with police.

On entering the house they found that the gold and silver jewelry, documents, SIM cards and Rs 20000 were burgled. The total loss in the burglary

was around Rs 1 lakh.

The police said that as part of the investigation, CCTV cameras of the locality and nearby areas will be checked for establishing the identity of the miscreants. The neighbors have expressed ignorance over the burglary.

During the investigation police found that within one hour miscreants broke the lock and escaped with the valuables which suggest that the miscreants were aware of the whereabouts of the victim and committed the burglary within a short period of time.

Police said that domestic help and security guards would be questioned in the further investigation. Police have registered a case of burglary against unidentified miscreants and started further investigation.

Miscreant booked for minor's molestation

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Misrod police have booked a miscreant for molesting a 17-year-old girl at Shangrila colony under Misrod police station area in the night on Wednesday.

Police said that the miscreant was identified was Rajnish Kumar who molested the victim when she had gone to ask for lowering down loud music played by miscreant. The accused was a tenant at victim's house of the past two years.

In her complaint, the victim stated that the accused along with his friends was playing loud music in his room. Victim's mother asked the victim to tell the accused to lower the volume and to instruct the accused when the victim had gone to the room of the accused he molested her. The victim managed to escape and reported the incident to her

parents.

A complaint was lodged with the Misrod police and a case of molestation and sections of POCSO Act were also imposed. The accused went absconding after the act and remained missing. Police have started search for the accused.

Meanwhile, two miscreants were booked for molesting a 14-year-old girl in Pansheel Nagar; TT Nagar police have registered case and started investigation. Police said that the victim was molested and harassed by the two miscreants Akash Yadav and Deepak Gothe of Panchsheel Nagar.

In her complaint victim stated that on Wednesday the two accused asked her to become friend and tried to hold her hand on her refusal. Victim lodged a complaint with TT Nagar police and a case of molestation was registered by police and started search.



Rajput Karni Sena Chief Lokendra Singh Kalvi talking to media persons in connection with State Assembly election in Bhopal on Thursday

Raj Kapoor's 1949 classic screened at Bharat Bhawan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

On the third day of Ekagra film festival Raj Kapoor's classic film 'Barsaat' was screened at Bharat Bhawan. The film was screened here on Thursday.

Barsaat is a 1949 Bollywood film directed by Raj Kapoor. The film stars the famous duo of Kapoor and Nargis as well as Prem Nath. It was also the introduction of actress Nimmi in her first film role. Barsaat was one of the first major hit films directed by Kapoor. This success allowed Kapoor to buy RK Studios in 1950.

The film revolves around two love stories, Pran (Raj Kapoor) and Reshma (Nargis), Gopal (Prem Nath) and Neela (Nimmi). Two friends with opposite personalities, the rich but sensitive Pran and the womanising Gopal both have

affairs with two mountain girls while holidaying in the valley of Kashmir.

While Pran and Reshma's love is true and reciprocated, Gopal is a womanising villain, who disregards the faithful Neela (Nimmi) and condemns her to wait faithfully for his return with the barsaat (rainy season). Many plot intrigues follow through with Pran and Reshma facing many trials on the path to true love, including parental opposition, accidents and an attempted forced marriage of Reshma to an uncouth fisherman. The couple then finally reunited.

Gopal on the other hand finally becomes a reformed character and rushes to claim the ever faithful Neela who has been pining away, only to arrive to find his true love dead. The film ends with Gopal lighting Neela's funeral pyre as the rains finally come.

U-19 basketball championship inaugurated



Principal of St Joseph's Co-Ed school Fr Varghese Shiju and School Manager Fr Ronaldo Kardoza at an introduction with participants during inauguration of three-day Bhopal Sahodaya complex under-19 inter-school basket ball tournament in Bhopal on Thursday

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A three day U-19 inter-school basketball championship began here from Thursday at St Joseph's co-ed school.

School Manager Father Ronald Cadorsa was present as the special guest on the

occasion. Besides Principal of the school Father Varghese Shiju inaugurated the U-19 inter-school basket ball championship by lighting of the lamp. Father Codorsa was welcomed with gifting a plant sapling. Besides, the sports coaches of different schools were welcomed with flower

bouquet.

The championship began with a musical performance. To boost up the confidence of the players, a motivational song 'Khele Ji Chalo Khele, Jiya or Dil Lagake Hum Khele' was performed by the students.

Father Codorsa while

addressing the inaugural ceremony interacted with the students. He said that sports inspire and motivate lives of people. So every individual should have sportsmanship. He congratulated the participating teams and wished them luck for their performance. He then made an opening announcement of the tournament. It is to be noted that the tournament will have teams of 13-13 players.

Later, the students gave a colourful dance performance on western song leaving the audience totally enthralled.

The tournament opened with the match between girl's category. The first match was played between St Joseph's Co-ed School and Asia Pacific. Giving a tough fight to each other, Asia Pacific School emerged as the winner of the first match.

Next match was played under boy's category. First match in this category was played between St Joseph's Co-ed school and Anand Vihar School. In this match St Joseph's Co-ed school bagged the winner's title.

Screening of Premchand's sensitive story 'Mahateerth' won hearts

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A Hindi film that showcases human love is as equivalent as going to a pilgrimage 'Mahateerth' (The Great Pilgrimage) was screened at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum. The film was screened here on Thursday under the regular film screenings Ullas.

Ullas is organised every Thursday for youngsters of the city. In Ullas movies related to children are screened which is evoking is great response by the Bhopalites.

Here on Thursday Mahateerth was screened. The film is directed by Kedar Sharma.

The film narrates the story of an old lady and her long lasting desire to go on a pilgrimage. But what stops her from going to the pilgrimage formed the rest of the story.

Kailashi is an old lady. She serves as the nanny to Munna,

the tiny son of Munshi Indramani. After a new maid servant is appointed in Kailashi's place, Munna misses his old nanny and demands her recalls.

Kailashi meanwhile is getting ready for a pilgrimage. Hence when she is recalled she is faced with the predicament of choosing between the two.

In the end she chooses her duty towards the little boy as she believes that taking care of little Munna is no less than a pilgrimage. Mahateerth is based on a short story by Munshi Premchand.

Writer, director actor and producer Milind Ganesh Dastane is associated with both Hindi and Marathi films. He has been part of many commercial films, television series and documentaries with many renowned directors in both the languages. 'Aaji Ajoba' is Milind's first film as a director and co-producer.

Various events organised on Mukta A2 Cinemas 4th anniversary

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Observing the fourth anniversary of Mukta A2 Cinemas various fun events were organised in the city.

The Bhopalites showcased their skills at their best with showcasing a huge participation in events like nail art, painting and much more. It is to be noted that Mukta A2 Cinemas is among one of India's established chains of cinemas with theatres across the country and in the Middle East. The brand is celebrating the fourth anniversary of their Bhopal property located at the popular hot-spot People's Mall in the city.

The company has refurbished the property to add technological and structural upgrades. In addition to the new development, the cinema chain will celebrate the fourth anniversary of the property with their patrons by hosting exciting activities like nail art, hairstyling for men and women and make-up booths.

The events were held for two days i.e. Wednesday and Thursday. A huge participation was observed in these events.

Talking on the occasion, Rahul Puri, Managing Director, Mukta A2 Cinema said, "It gives us immense pleasure to celebrate the anniversary of our Bhopal branch, while also bringing our patrons, technological

ly and advanced theatres in this city. We are glad to bring new offerings to our consumers who have constantly supported and motivated us in our journey of providing an indelible movie experience. We hope our patrons enjoy this celebration and we build a better relationship in the coming years."

Movie lovers have been enjoying their experience at Mukta A2 cinemas because of their state of the art technology and their welcoming ambience. By providing quality services like comfortable seating and a variety of Food and Beverage options at an affordable price they have become the cinema of choice for many, he added.

84-year-old lady donates eyes to Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Eyes of 84-year-old late Eshanti Devi Gandhi have been donated to Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital by her son Bharat Gandhi. It is learnt that resident of Kalpana Nagar, Bhopal late Shanti Devi Gandhi died on Wednesday November 14. With this donation two blind persons would now get eyesight.

As many as 1,611 free cornea transplantations have so far been performed in Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital. Trustee LC Janiyani paid homage to the

departed soul and expressed gratitude to the family members for this donation.

Harda: Young Changeloomers celebrate Child Rights week

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

To Mark the World Children Day Child Rights Week is being celebrated by the young Changeloomers in Harda district. During this Child Rights Week a series of programs is being carried out by the young Changeloomers with the support of Synergy organisation in collaboration with UNICEF which is part of project Youth for children.

As a part of this event, a Flash mob on child rights theme has been performed at three places - Narayan Movie Theater, outside and inside of Nehru Stadium in the district. The young Changeloomers

raised child issues like child labor, significance of sports for children, child nutrition, child abuse and education through the Flash Mob. Let's make Child Friendly environment with lots of love and care everywhere, a strong appeal highlighted in the message given by the youth in blue in their flash mob to sensitize the people of Harda on child rights.

Total 25 youth including 20 Changeloomers- Toshiba, Hema, Suruchi, Janardhan, Shubham, Ganesh, Sulochna, Yogesh, Sateesh, Vinita and Jai, Harshita, Anuj, Yogita, Raviraj, Shivani, Sangeeta, Girija, Antima, Rakesh, Divya, Lalit, Abhishek, Shikha and Neha

participated enthusiastically in the event. Former Changeloomer Akram Khan also took part with their 20 students of their own dance institute to spread the message. Around 700 people participated in the event in Harda.

Changeloomers are the group of youngsters who are serving themselves to raising child rights issues like new born care, sanitation and education in Harda district. Training and workshops on child rights and related concerns organize for the young Changeloomers time to time which is a part of Youth for children project.

Bike borne miscreants snatch gold chain from 30-year-old woman

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 30-year old woman was robbed of her gold chain worth ₹ 50,000 near Sai Temple in Rachna Nagar under Govindpura police station area on Wednesday evening.

Police said the victim Swati Dayal Lalchandani was relieved of her gold chain by two bike borne miscreants while she was on her way to temple.

The incident took place at around 7.30 pm when the victim was on her way to temple when bike borne miscreants attacked and managed to get only part of the gold chain as it broke and remaining part of the gold chain fell on the ground. The shocked victim raised alarm but the miscreants

Police said the victim Swati Dayal Lalchandani was relieved of her gold chain by two bike borne miscreants while she was on her way to temple

managed to escape.

The victim lodged a complaint with the Govindpura police. The police have registered a case under section 392 of the IPC and have started further investigation. Based on the details provided by the victim, the police have started search for the miscreants.

Meanwhile, two employees of Cinepolis were robbed at

knife point late in the night near Chetak Bridge; MP Nagar police have started search for the miscreants.

Police said that the victims Akash Arora and Bansilal were on their way to home when they were stopped by two bike borne miscreants and asked to shed money at knife point.

Akash works as manager with Cinepolis while Bansilal is the employee of the Cineplex. The two shed Rs 1200 to the miscreants and managed to notice registration number of the vehicle which was MP-04-NS-5721.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police registered a case under section 384 of the IPC and started further investigation.

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Six member gang of Shabad Salias Zehreela were paraded by TT Nagar police who were involved in arson, extortion, opening fire at police personnel and threatening of witness and created chaos in the TT Nagar area on Wednesday.

CSP TT Nagar Satish Samadhya said that all the five accused who were involved in creating nuisance in TT Nagar area on Wednesday were nabbed and paraded on Thursday.

The main accused Shadab has been booked for over 20 cases of serious nature and is a watch list criminal of TT Nagar police. The gang members have been nabbed. Shadab was wanted in other cases also, he added.

The six accused were identified as Shadab alias



Miscreants involved in attempt to murder, robbery and arson case in a parade by TT Nagar police in Bhopal on Thursday

Zehreela(33), Golu alias Teji (26), Arbaz Khan (18), Chotu alias Shahid (22) of Banganga,

Sohail Khan (25) of Rajeev Nagar and Shehzaad Khan(24) of Koh-e-Fiza.

The police have registered a case under section 392, 435, 427, 341, 307, 353, 294 and 34

of the IPC.

The main accused Shadab was booked under NSA on Wednesday.

On November 13 notorious criminal Shadab went on crime spree he along with other gang members threatened and pressurise Pintu Kashyap at Jawahar Chowk for withdrawal of attempt to murder case, set car of owner of Kohli sports late in the evening after he refused to extort money. Shadab escaped from the spot and later opened fire at police personnel of Charlie team when the police personnel tried to chase and nab him where he was nabbed by the police personnel.

After the incident police swung into action and all police stations, check posts and patrolling parties and police personnel were alerted to nab the accused.

BJP feeling heat of anti-incumbency in polls

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The 15-year-old anti-incumbency is giving tough time to the BJP leaders in the poll-bound Madhya Pradesh.

While the elections are just a couple of weeks away, the BJP leaders including wife of Chief Minister and his son are facing ire of voters.

Videos of voters expressing resentment are doing rounds on social media for past few days. Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's wife Sadhna Singh and son Kartikeya Chouhan have been campaigning on behalf of Shivraj Singh in Budhni, which is being represented by Chouhan for past five terms.

One video which went viral on the social media sites shows the CM's wife Sadhna Singh being shouted away in Rehti village during the election campaign. Women of Rehti have been complaining about the drinking water problem for

Elections are just a couple of weeks away, the BJP leaders including wife of Chief Minister and his son are facing ire of voters

the last one decade.

Besides CM Chouhan, BJP minister Umashankar Gupta, Deepak Joshi, Bhopal MLA Surendranath Singh, Member of Parliament Manohar Untwal, Morena BJP candidate Gabbar Shankar and Indore candidate Sudarshan Gupta, too, have been shouted away by the voters during the campaign. On some place, black flag had been shown to them.

The videos which are wide-

ly circulating on the social networking sites and messaging apps are causing embarrassment to the ruling party leaders.

The reason for the voters' ire is the series of unfulfilled promises made by the BJP government and local leaders. In some places they are complaining for basic amenities like drinking water, roads, etc.

When the cabinet minister and MLA from Bhopal South-West Umashankar Gupta, went to meet voters in his own constituency, a group of women started complaining about the problems prevailing in the locality which upset the minister and he left the place in a hurry.

Similar public anger was aimed at the district BJP Chief and MLA from Bhopal Madhya Surendranath Singh. The voters waved black flags and demanded him to go back.

Rahul suffering from Modi phobia: BJP Chief

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

BJP president Amit Shah on Thursday accused Congress chief Rahul Gandhi of suffering from Modi phobia, which forces him to chant Modi-Modi all the time.

Addressing a public meeting at Barwani, Shah said while the Bharatiya Janata Party under Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Centre and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in the state progressed, the Congress had no development stories to tell, hence the Modi-chants.

"It's not your fault Rahul Baba, one can visit from Kutch to Kamrup, PM Narendra Modi has taken over the hearts of commoners everywhere," said Shah while addressing an election rally in Barwani.

He (Rahul Gandhi) chants Modi-Modi so much so at times it's difficult to understand whether he is addressing a Congress rally or a BJP event, chuckled Shah.

Attacking previous Congress government at the Centre, Shah said Rahul Gandhi often asks what have



BJP National President Amit Shah addresses a public meeting for State Assembly election at Badnagar in Ujjain district on Thursday
Pioneer photo

been Modi government's achievements in last four years, but never tells the public what the Congress which remained in power after independence did for the country. "Rahul Baba never shares information on corruption of the Congress governments."

Accusing the Congress of

not caring about development in all these years, the visiting leader asked whether the tribal villages received 24x7 power supply in their rule, whether every household had toilets, whether every kitchen had cooking gas connections or whether kids were given opportunities to

study and progress in their careers.

Saying that on one side there is a Jannayak and Jansevak like Shivraj Singh Chouhan and on the other, there were Raja-Maharaja and industrialist, the BJP chief urged the public to make a choice who should be in the

ADDRESSING A MEETING AT BARWANI, SHAH SAID THE BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY UNDER PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI AT THE CENTRE AND CHIEF MINISTER SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN IN THE STATE PROGRESSED, THE CONGRESS HAD NO DEVELOPMENT STORIES TO TELL, HENCE THE MODI-CHANTS

next government.

Addressing rallies in Shajapur and Badnagar the BJP president attacked Congress for its pro-farmer stance. "Congress rakes up farmers' issues in highest possible pitch but let them reply what their governments did for peasants in last 70 years."

INBRIEF

ST MARY'S SCHOOL WON KARATE C'SHIP

Bhopal: Exhibiting a brilliant performance at National Karate Championship, the karate players of St Mary's School, Tulsī Nagar bagged the winner's trophy.



The championship was organised in Goa wherein the players showcased their extraordinary talent and won the championship. It is to be noted that earlier the karate team of St Mary's school exhibited the brilliance at district and state level championships as well and brought laurels to Bhopal.

Besides, this time too, the players exhibited a wonderful performance. It is noteworthy that players from as many as 12 States of the country participated in the championship. According to the players, this time the competition was really tough. They said that each team was string and competitive. Besides, the players were also good as they gave a tough competition to each other. The players returned to Bhopal on Wednesday and were given a warm welcome by parents, friends and the staff of the school. The players were welcomed with a bang on railway station with music and dance.

NEW POSTINGS TO FOUR IAS

Bhopal: The State government has given new posting to 4 officers of the Indian Administrative Service. As per the order issued by the General Administration Department, Mukesh Kumar Shukla has been posted as Additional Secretary, Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development Department, Ashish Kumar as Deputy Secretary, Culture Department, Religious Trust and Endowment Department and Director, Culture and Director, Religious Trust and Endowments and additional charge as Chief Executive Officer, MP Pilgrimage and Fair Authority.

Mujib-ur Rehman Khan, General Manager, MP Textbook Corporation and Director, Public Instruction (Additional Charge) has been posted as Deputy Secretary, Revenue Department and Swarochish Somvanshi, Deputy Secretary as Project Director, State Wide Area Network (SWAN) and MP. State Electronics Development Corporation.

PROHIBITORY ACTION AGAINST OVER 1.5 L PEOPLE

Bhopal: After imposition of Model Code of Conduct, prohibitory action has been taken against 1,50,855 people for law and security in the State between October 6 and November 14, 2018. Meanwhile, 43,340 non-bailable warrants have been issued. In addition, 4,225 illegal weapons have been seized and 2,61,513 weapons have been deposited in the police stations.

Total 17,96,034 cases have been registered under property defacement out of which action has been taken in 17,42,020 cases have been proceeded. Out of 13,11,981 cases registered, 13,45,979 cases have been taken up under government property defacement. Out of 4,50,055 cases registered under private property defacement, 4,30,039 cases have been processed. During this period 12,270 cases have been registered over misuse of vehicles.

BHEL LADIES CLUB REMEMBERS PT NEHRU

Bhopal: BHEL Ladies Club the other day celebrated the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru with great zeal & fervor at the club's Vocational Training Centre premises. On this occasion Dr. Shrimati Pratibha Thakur President BHEL Ladies Club was present as the Chief Guest. Vice President Shrimati Pushpalata Mishra, Shrimati Nikita Mathur, Shrimati Savita Kinra and all other members of the club were also present in the programme.

Dr. Thakur through her motivational speech encouraged the students and wished for a bright future of the students. During the programme a drawing competition on the theme of "Children's Day & Environment Conservation" was also organized.



Children wear masks of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan dance in support of BJP candidate (left) and Union Minister for Textiles Smriti Irani addresses a public meeting in support of BJP candidate from Bhopal north constituency Fatima Rasool Siddique (right) at an election meeting for State Assembly election in Bhopal on Thursday
Pioneer photo



Kamal Nath attacks Shivraj, claims 15-yr-old 'Vikas' missing

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Ridiculing the governance of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, MPCC president has shared a tweet claiming 15-year-old 'Vikas' who is sunken, malnourished and suffers from various diseases has gone missing.

Nath intending attacked CM Shivraj's rule saying the Vikas has gone somewhere from the State. The youth has put on shredded green and orange vest and cancerous shoes, taking a dig at the shoes distributed by Shivraj to

the tribals, which the Congress alleged were laced with cancer causing chemicals.

"A 'Mama' had allured him saying he would nurture him and would bring him up properly." For showing up it to the world, Mama talks big of him in advertisements, rallies and speeches but the neighbours have claimed that Mama tortures him badly, claimed Nath in the tweet.

Mama burdened him with Rs 1.87 lakh cr loans and did not arrange any physician for him and also did not make

arrangements for his studies and even gobbled his nutritious food, said the veteran leader hinting at nutritious food scam in MP and growing debts on the state exchequer.

Taking a swipe at growing crimes in MP, Nath stated "Vikas" was terrified with surging rapes, murders and abductions and had even lost his voice out of trauma when farmers were shot dead in Mandasaur.

The nine-time Chhindwara MP concluded claiming he has kept well care of 'Vikas' in Chhindwara.



Congress State President Kamal Nath arrives to address a public meeting in support of Congress candidate Naresh Gyanchandani from Bhopal Huzur Assembly constituency at Sant Hirdaram Nagar during an election campaign for State Assembly election in Bhopal on Thursday
Pioneer photo

Modi to hold rally in Jyotiraditya's fort today

PNS ■ GWALIOR

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi is scheduled to hold an election rally in Gwalior today. The rally will be held at the Mela Grounds at 5.30 pm.

According to official sources, the PM will arrive at the Air Force station by a special flight at 5.15. Covering a distance of 8.1 kilometers in 12 minutes he will arrive at the Mela Grounds at 5.30 pm. The PM is scheduled to return to Delhi at 6.15 PM after the meeting.

The election rally will be attended by party workers and officials from the four districts of the Gwalior-Chambal Division. All the 20 candidates from Bhind, Morena, Datia and Gwalior will be sharing the dais with the PM.

According to Gwalior District President of the party, Devesh Sharma, Union Minister, Narendra SinghTomar, State President Rakesh Singh and other leaders too will be on the stage.

Talking to the media persons, Devesh Sharma said that party workers in huge numbers from Gwalior and neighboring districts will be attending the meeting. Among the coordinators of the PM's election rally are the Gwalior Mayor, Vivek Shewalkar, Jay Singh Kushwaha, Rakesh Jadon and Abhay Chowdhary.

Elaborate security arrangements have been put in place across the city for the PM's one hour visit. The top brass of the District Police along with the SPG team and the District

Administration officials reviewed the security arrangements in and around the meeting place.

According to sources, platoons of police force will be deployed at every nook and corner of the city. All the routes to the meeting place at the Mela Grounds will be barricaded and traffic will be either stopped or diverted in a few roads from 5 to 6.30 in the evening.

Meanwhile Jyodiraditya Scindia, while addressing a meeting at DD Nagar took a dig at Modi over demonetization and said it was one of the biggest scams India has seen. He was speaking at an election rally to solicit support for the party candidates, Munnalal Goyal and Praveen Pathak. Scindia reminded the audi-

CAUTION NOTICE

This caution notice is issued by Sony Pictures Networks India Private Limited ("Sony") (CIN: U92100MH1995PTC111487), having its regd. office at Interface Bldg. No.7, 4th floor, Off. Malad Link Road, Malad (W), Mumbai - 400 064 in relation to the signals of all their following channels:

SET, SAB, PAL, SET MAX, MAX 2, SONY WAH, SET PIX, MIX, SIX, SONY ESPN, TEN1, TEN 2, TEN 3, AXN, SONY BBC EARTH, SONY YAY!, SONY AATH, SONY MARATHI, SET HD, SAB HD, MAX HD, PIX HD, LE PLEX HD, SONY ROX HD, SIX HD, SONY ESPN HD, TEN 1 HD, TEN 2 HD, TEN 3 HD, TEN GOLF HD, AXN HD AND SONY BBC EARTH HD ("Sony Channels")

This is to inform the subscribers of ACN Digital Private Limited and Reachnet Cable Services Pvt Ltd. that signals of the subscribed television channels of Sony have been disconnected to the platform of the said operator since 27.09.2018 and 12.06.2018 respectively for the reasons of non-payment of subscription fees and the issue is currently sub-judice before the Hon'ble TDSAT being Broadcasting Petition Nos 425/2018 & 494/2018 and 436/2018 & 437/2018 respectively titled Sony Pictures Networks India Pvt Ltd vs. ACN Digital Pvt Ltd and Sony Pictures Networks India Pvt Ltd vs Reachnet Cable Services Pvt Ltd wherein vide order dated 15.10.2018 for ACN Digital Private Limited and 24.08/2018 Reachnet Cable Services Pvt Ltd respectively the above mentioned operators have been refrained from re-distributing the Sony Channels on its network viz. areas of Madhya Pradesh ("Territory").

By this Notice, Local Cable Operators/Service providers/Affiliates of ACN Digital Private Limited and Reachnet Cable Services Pvt Ltd are hereby informed to take note of the above and cautioned to refrain from re-transmitting the signals to the Sony Channels in the Territory. Any non-compliance in this regard may kindly be brought to the notice of Company on mail IDsameer.kukreja@setindia.com / mohit.sakhuja@setindia.com and Sony shall be constrained to take such actions as may be available under law and equity.

Place: Mumbai
Date: 16-11-2018

PRESS TENDER NOTICE FOR e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer (Electrical), Civil Construction Wing, All India Radio, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001, invites on behalf of the President of India, online item rate e-tenders from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD and those on appropriate list of Department of Post/BSNL/MTNL/MES/Railways and M.P. State PWD for the following work:

S.No.: 1. NIT No.: 08/EEE/NGP/DRG/NIT/2018-19, Dated: 14.11.2018. Name of work: Replacement of existing FM 6 KW FM Transmitter by 10 KW Transmitter under 12th plan at AIR Bhopal. (SH: Providing of service connection cable from Doordarshan LT room including MCCB & Change over switch and for newly installed DG set). Estimated cost put to tender: ₹ 6,35,437/-. Earnest Money: ₹ 12,709/-. Period of Completion: 2 (Two) Months. Last Date & Time of on-line submission of bid: On 25.11.2018 at 20.00 Hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/AIR. For any Addendum/Corrigendum, bidders are requested to visit the website as the same would not be published in the Newspaper.
Executive Engineer(E)

RERA Act is beneficial for all sections: Anthony DeSa

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Speaking at the National Conference in New Delhi as a special spokesperson, Chairman of Madhya Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Anthony DeSa said that the successful implementation of the RERA Act is beneficial for all sections of the society. The Act has an important role in providing quality accommodation on time to the needy. This will

also contribute in empowering the country's economy, while benefiting the real estate sector.

DeSa said that it is essential to register under construction and new residential projects, under the RERA Act by running a campaign. This will make it easy to solve the problems of allottees. He said that by resolving the complaints under the Act the problems of allottees will be solved and the real estate sector will also be encouraged. DeSa

explained the need to make the RERA Authority more powerful.

Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India DS Mishra, emphasized the need to create a favorable environment in the states towards the RERA Act. He said that the RERA Authority will have to show presence in the states by reaching out to various zones so that the resident parties get the proper benefit of the provisions of the Act.

Hry Guv sanctions to prosecute former CM Hooda in AJL

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Trouble seems to be mounting for the former Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Bhopinder Singh Hooda, as Haryana Governor SN Arya has sanctioned to prosecute him in the Associated Journals Ltd (AJL) case on illegal re-allotment of land to the promoters of an English daily, *National Herald*.

The Manohar Lal Khattar Government had handed over the case of "illegal" re-allotment of a plot to AJL to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The decision to hand over the probe to the CBI into the AJL case was taken after receiving the report of Haryana Vigilance Bureau (SVB) which had in May 2016 registered a case of cheating and corruption against former Chief Minister and then HUDA chairman, Hooda.

Giving details, senior Haryana Minister Anil Vij on Thursday said that the CBI would soon file charge sheet in the court against former Chief Minister in National Herald case.

For this, Haryana

Governor had given approval to CBI, he said.

Vij said that after completing the investigations on this matter, the CBI had asked for approval from the Governor for prosecuting Hooda.

However, the two-time former CM Bhopinder Singh Hooda on Thursday reiterated that he was a victim of "political vendetta" and has done no wrong in the case involving allotment of a plot of land to AJL.

"I have been maintaining that I am a victim of political vendetta," Hooda said while

talking to the mediapersons on the sidelines of a Congress workers' meeting.

He said, "I have been saying this earlier too that political vendetta was being unleashed against me. This case was part of that vendetta and witch-hunt. Nothing wrong has been done during my tenure (as CM) and in this case too, the rules were followed."

Reacting to Hooda's statement, Haryana Minister Anil Vij said that the former CM had allotted land to Congress on throw away prices in

National Herald case which caused a huge financial loss to the state.

It has been alleged that Hooda-led Congress regime had bend rules to give 3,360 square metres land in Panchkula's Sector 6. The resumed plot was allegedly re-allotted to AJL at a price lower than the prevailing market rate, allegedly in contravention of rules.

Vij said that central agencies are investigating this matter so there should not be any political resentment.

The AJL is linked to UPA

chairperson Sonia Gandhi and President Rahul Gandhi as The National Herald newspaper is the legacy of the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Notably, the case of cheating, corruption and criminal conspiracy, registered by the Haryana Vigilance Bureau against Hooda and AJL for alleged irregularities in allotment of a plot of land in Panchkula to the firm had been taken over by the CBI last year.

Registered against former CM Hooda in his ex-officio

capacity as Haryana Urban Development Authority chairman, the FIR also named HUDA's former chief administrator amongst others.

The CBI FIR, quoting the Haryana Government's complaint, said the AJL filed an appeal against the HUDA's decision before HUDA administrator, who dismissed the appeal on July 26, 1995.

AJL subsequently challenged the HUDA administrator's decision before the Haryana's Town and Country Planning Commissioner who too set aside the appeal, the CBI

FIR said.

The FIR further alleged that abusing his official position as HUDA chairman and contravening HUDA's policies, the then Chief Minister Hooda went against the advise rendered to him by the officials and ordered re-allotment of the plot to AJL at original rates plus interest on August 28, 2005.

The investigation carried out by the Haryana police after the BJP government came to power concluded that allotment was made in an "arbitrary manner" and in complete violation of the HUDA Act.

SIT to interrogate Badal at his residence in Chandigarh today

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

Even as the Special Investigation Team (SIT), probing the 2015 sacrilege and related firing cases, is set to interrogate former Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal at his Chandigarh residence on Friday, the Akali patriarch on Thursday demanded the removal of Punjab Police IG Kunwar Vijay Pratap Singh from the SIT for "demonstrating unprofessional conduct, disobedience of the law of the land, his malice and his political leanings".

Kunwar Vijay had issued the summons to Badal, along with the SAD president Sukhbir Badal and Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar to appear before it at Amritsar circuit house on separate dates.

However, considering Badal's old age, the SIT has issued fresh summons to the former Chief Minister giving him reprieve to give his "place of convenience" for interrogation, in case he did not wish to appear before it at Amritsar.

Even as the SAD maintained that the five-time Chief Minister would fully cooperate

with the SIT, the party insisted on removing Kunwar Vijay from the SIT as member, besides initiating "appropriate disciplinary proceedings" against him under the relevant provisions of law and conduct rules for "his utterances and actions unbecoming of the high office he occupies".

ADGP Prabodh Kumar underlined that section 160 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) mandates no male person above 65 years of age shall be required to attend at any place other than the place in which such male person resides

Cong delegation meets State Election Commissioner

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A delegation of Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) met the State Election Commissioner and demanded that cases against Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, Cabinet Minister Madan Kaushik and Mussoorie MLA Ganesh Joshi should be registered for violating the model code of conduct enforced in the State for elections to urban local bodies.

The Congress delegation led by chairman of its disciplinary committee, Pramod

Kumar Singh met the state election commissioner (SEC), Chandra Shekhar Bhat and submitted a memorandum to him. The Congress leaders said that in a case of open violation of model code of conduct, the Mussoorie MLA Ganesh Joshi is distributing cash to the voters to influence them. A video of the BJP MLA distributing money to the women on the occasion of Chhath has gone viral on social media. Similarly the congress delegation pointed out that the senior cabinet minister and government spokesperson Madan Kaushik

is trying to mislead people by making false claims that the High Court (HC) has ordered a stay on encroachment done on Nazul land. The congress leaders said that the fact is that the state government has filed no petition in the HC on the issue and the statement of the cabinet minister on the issue is mischievous and aimed at influencing electorate in the ULB elections.

The congress leaders also handed over CDs as evidences against Ganesh Joshi and Madan Kaushik to the state election commissioner.

Several teams formed to nab Pathankot car snatchers: Police

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Four persons, who had snatched an SUV from its driver at gunpoint near Madhopur in Punjab's Pathankot district, continue to evade police.

The incident took place Tuesday night when the driver stopped the car after one of the passengers complained of vomiting.

We are on the job to nab them, a senior Punjab Police official said on Thursday.

Several teams have been formed to crack the case, police said, adding that personnel in border districts of Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Batala, Amritsar (Rural) and Tarn Taran have been asked to remain alert and maintain vigil. The instruc-

tions were issued as in 2016, terrorists, who had launched attacks on the Pathankot Air base, had snatched a Punjab Police officer's car to get to the air base.

The suspects, who were speaking in Punjabi, had booked the car from the Jammu taxi stand. The Punjab Police is coordinating with the Jammu and Kashmir Police to trace the suspects.

Several checkpoints have been set up in border areas and on highways, and vehicles are also being thoroughly checked, police said. Photos of the suspects procured from CCTV footage have also been given to the checkpoints, the police official said. Terror angle could not be ruled out till they are caught, the official said.

Suspended by ABVP on fake degree, Ankiv quits as DUSU chief

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) president Ankiv Baisoya has tendered his resignation in the aftermath of fake degree row. Baisoya was asked by Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) to relinquish the post.

The ABVP has also suspended Baisoya from the organisation till further enquiry in the 'fake degree case' drawing criticism from the rival National Students' Union of India (NSUI) that the decision was taken under pressure ahead of the High Court hearing.

Baisoya won the post this year. After his election as the DUSU president, the Opposition party started to allege that he submitted a 'fake' bachelor's degree to fight elections.

"The moment ABVP won DUSU elections by 3:1, NSUI and other student organisations

started raising questions on the authenticity of Baisoya's previous degree and his admission. Keeping in mind students' struggle, emotions and expectations and in order to maintain the genuineness, the ABVP asked Baisoya to resign from his post and also removed him from all the responsibilities of the organisation till DU completes its verification process," said ABVP spokesperson Monika Chaudhary.

The High Court is hearing the case on a plea of NSUI student leader Sunny Chillar, who has sought from the court that Baisoya's election be set aside after news reports said the registrar of Thiruvalluvar University had "unambiguously and unequivocally" declared Baisoya's certificate "fake and forged".

Chillar has also alleged that DU was "deliberately delaying" the verification process as no fresh polls would be held for DUSU.

Doctor Didi gets Jharkhand Samman

PRAGYA PALLAVI ■ RANCHI

She does not hold a degree in veterinary surgery or has received any specialisation in biotechnology but she is no less than any qualified veterinary general practitioner.

Popularly known as Doctor Didi among the rural populace of Angara Block located approximately 27 Km away from the State headquarters, Balamdina Tirkey has made a distinct name in merely a few years among those associated with 'Veterinary Para Cadre' here in Jharkhand.

Tirkey who has emerged as the State's Brand Ambassador in the particular cadre for her incredible role as a 'Pashu Sakhi' was felicitated by Governor Draupadi Murmu and Chief Minister Raghubar Das in the presence of several dignitaries on the occasion of 18th Statehood Celebration ceremony organised in Ranchi on Thursday. Interestingly, a woman who loves to treat livestock and has been aiding the farmers of several panchayats at her block in keeping the

domestic animals fit and healthy has just received formal education up to class five.

The State which is trying to maintain a harmonious accord in promoting industrialisation as well as bringing changes in the lives of the cultivators by endorsing a number of beneficial schemes had recently introduced a concept of 'Pashu Sakhi' - Animals friend.

The specialised cadre trains the interested women folks laying emphasis on vaccination, de-worming and treatment of minor disorders/ ailments of animals.

The idea has proved a boon for farm animals and has aided in taking ahead animal rearing businesses like pisciculture, poultry farming, pig rearing etc there.

After receiving training as 'Pashu Sakhi' under the guidance of Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS), Tirkey has been providing essential medical assistance to a huge number of livestock at her respective block which comprises 82 villages and 23 panchayats at a nomi-

nal cost. With the support of the facilities being provided to the Pashu Sakhis, the villagers now do not have to wander from one place to another for getting their domestic animals treated, in case of any emergency.

Nearly all basic medical facilities are made available at the doorsteps of those in farming sectors. Tirkey leads a satisfied life with the patronage given to her by JSLPS including assistances provided to her by the villagers in cash or a kind. "After receiving the training, I am specialised in treating a few big domestic animals like pigs, oxen, cows, buffaloes, goats. In search of leading a dignified life, I chose to make my career as 'Pashu Sakhi'. I am associated with a Self Help Group (SHG) named 'Juhi'.

The SHG often gives chance to its members to attend the workshops organised under the guidance of JSLPS. My life has completely transformed after getting associated with SHG," said the Doctor Didi recalling her early days.

Tirkey's twinkle in her eyes reveals her journey from a

homemaker to a professional.

Further sharing the details about her achievements, Tirkey added that she is also imparting training to a group of women who hails from Bihar about the preliminary methodologies of treating animals.

Notably, Jharkhand's women SHG model has received much applaud from various States and the concept is being adopted by a number of organisations working under other different State governments. "I have been identified as Chief Resource Person (CRP) in formulation of SHG in Bihar Government including other States too.

It is a matter of pride for Jharkhand as well as for me to incorporate my learning and experience among all those who wants to take their respective States ahead in animal rearing sector," she asserted.

Recollecting the facts about her past going down the memory lane, Tirkey said that during her struggle days, she used to travel in bi-cycle and sensitive public about animals' well-being.

SHGs to be roped in for Phase-II drive

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

With overwhelming participation and unprecedented support of people to Phase-I of the campaign Pree Pain Kathatie launched from May to June this year in the State, the Government has geared up for Phase-II of the campaign as a post-follow-up long-term action plan.

A high level meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi wherein Director General of Police Dr Rajendra Prasad Sharma outlined the issues for discussion and IG Police Asit Kumar Panigrahi presented the proposed roadmap for the Phase-II of the campaign.

Reviewing the progress and people's feedback in support of the campaign during Phase-I, Chief Secretary Padhi directed to prepare the convergent action plan for integrated operation at various levels during Phase-II.

It was decided to continue the campaign for creating a safe and protective environment for the children between 0 and 18 years of age.

The Chief Secretary further directed to conduct orientation camps for field level officers of departments like Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj, Labour and ES, School and Mass Education, Sports and Youth Welfare, Culture and Law

High level meeting was held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Aditya Prasad Padhi wherein Director General of Police Dr Rajendra Prasad Sharma outlined the issues

about the objectives and methods of operation of the campaign.

It was further decided to constitute a State Level Coordinating and Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary, an Advisory Committee headed by the Director General of Police and district level Committee headed by the Collector for carrying forward the campaign.

Chief Secretary Padhi directed all concerned departments to designate a senior level officer as the nodal officer to the Advisory Committee.

It may be pertinent here to mention that Pree Pain Kathatie is an initiative of the Odisha Police launched in technical partnership with Unicef.

During the first phase of the campaign, 15 Pree Express vehicles went round all 30 districts of the State for 15 days. They covered 44,787 km and conducted around 1,400 community outreach programmes in different parts of the State.

Around 1.2 million people

participated in the campaign through direct community outreach programmes and around 1.3 million people were connected through social media outreach.

The campaign focused on preventing sexual abuse of the child and received unprecedented appreciation and participation from people from cross sections of society.

It was decided in the meeting that convergent action plan would be prepared involving different departments, agencies and institutions developed under different Acts, policies and flagship programmes relating to child right, child protection, education, prohibition of child labour, rehabilitation of vulnerable children, integrated development of the child, prevention of child marriage and implementation of Juvenile Justice Act etc.

The IG Police Panigrahi said that Pahse-II would focus on carrying forward the campaign through SHG members at village level.

Each member would vow that no girl below 18 years of age would be given in marriage and no child of her family would be sexually abused. She would bring two of her neighboring families under the same vow within a year.

The campaign aims at creating protective environment for around 1.5 crore children in the age group of 0-18 years.

Bengal BJP urges Shah to subdue NRC

From Page 1

Incidentally, senior BJP leader and party's observer for Bengal Kailash Vijayvargiya had earlier said that "the NRC will definitely be conducted in Bengal if the BJP comes to power here as it is also facing severe infiltration issues."

Ghosh's statements came almost in tandem with renewed attack from Mamata who called the BJP a party of riot mongers that was more involved in creating religious and linguistic divide among the people so as to capture power in Bengal.

Criticising the Chief Minister for "backing the infiltrators" he wanted to "ask Mamata Banerjee why she is siding with the infiltrators". Attacking the Trinamool Congress leaders for playing vote bank politics he said, "Unfortunately some people are more concerned about indulging in appeasement policies and vote bank politics than the progress of the nation."

Meanwhile, once again upping the ante on the BJP for dividing the people along religious and linguistic lines Mamata told a congregation of

Matua community (a large part which migrated from Bangladesh to Bengal and even Assam) in North 24 Parganas how the BJP was throwing out the Bengalis out of Assam and Biharis from Gujarat and Maharashtra besides creating a division within the Matua society.

Bengal has about a lakh Matua voters in North 24 Parganas and Nadia.

"They are unnecessarily harassing a great majority of people who are Indian citizens. They are threatening to throw these citizens out of the coun-

try though they have genuine identity cards, caste certificates or similar documents," Mamata said attacking the BJP and assured "you all not to get scared as no one can snatch your citizenship."

Mamata was addressing the Matua community --- at Thakurnagar in North 24 Parganas --- on the 100th birth anniversary of the community's religious head Binapani Devi.

Aware that the BJP was trying to take out a slice of Matua vote by offering tickets to some of Binapani Devi's family members, Mamata said none had

done so much for the community as her Government did.

"Now we will set up a Matua University in the name of the Matua religious head Guruchand-Harichand Thakur," Mamata said adding the Government would also construct two huge gates identifying the Matua headquarters.

Incidentally Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also promised a great deal for the Matuas during his pre-electoral campaign in 2014 but "they have done nothing for you save giving lip service," Mamata said.

All-party meet on...

From Page 1

"The Government is duty-bound to implement the Supreme Court order allowing women of all ages into the temple. We will not make any amendment in the Supreme Court verdict delivered on September 28," Vijayan told reporters after the all-party meeting. The CM said the Government is willing to set apart certain days exclusively for women to worship at the temple. "Beyond that we will not do anything to dilute the court verdict," said the CM.

Chennithala accused Vijayan of creating troubles at Sabarimala. "This is not good either for the CPI(M) or the people in Kerala," said the Leader of the Opposition.

Sasikumara Varma, head of the Pandharam Royal Family, said though the talks

with the CM was cordial, there was no consensus because of the intransigence of the latter. "We will have a meeting with the priests and then decide the future course of action," said Varma.

The Kerala Government is deploying nearly 1,000 women cops at Sabarimala as part of beefing up the security around the temple. Services of women cops from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka too have been requested and it is expected that they would take position by Saturday morning. Interestingly, leaders of various Hindu organisations told this newspaper that they would lay siege to the temple to prevent the entry of women to the sanctum.

The 2018-19 festival season in Sabarimala Temple is going to be a season of tension

and turmoil because of the intransigence of the anti-Hindu Marxist Government," said BJP chief Sreedharan Pillai.

DEATH HALTS TIGERS' TRANSLOCATION

From Page 1

"Satkosia had poor prey base earlier. However, there is recovery in the last four years in the core area. But as a tiger landscape it cannot sustain more than four to five tigers that too only if they stay in the core area and do not stray to the buffer zone. The area has 102 villages in both core and buffer zones. There are villages surrounding it on all sides. At least 50,000 cattle enter the park everyday," Mohanty said.

UNDP team discusses scope for cooperation in U'khand

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A team from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) held a meeting with Chief Secretary Utpal Kumar Singh and other State officials here on Thursday.

During the meeting, the chief secretary sought cooperation from UNDP pertaining to technical support and skilled human resources for the schemes implemented in the state in the field of waste management, sustainable development partnership, livelihood, solar and wind power, micro-hydel project, health and drinking water. Singh said that the state has adequate sources of income available but to increase

them, there is need for technical assistance from UNDP. He sought utilisation of UNDP's experience in the state regarding the work done by it in different countries in the area of climate change.

UNDP consultant Jacob J Simonsen talked about providing technical support to Uttarakhand in the field of tourism, climate change, disaster management, aromatic plants, small scale industries, self-help groups, branding of products, livelihood security and other aspects. Additional country director of UNDP, Rakesh Kumar said that in the field of climate change, necessary efforts will be made by UNDP.

Gaping hole

Since Delhi is land-locked, it needs a comprehensive action plan at the neighbourhood level to contain pollution



Nothing could be a sadder comment on our tolerance levels than the fact that we smile at clear skies after a spell of rains and breathe easy at Delhi's official air quality dipping to "very poor" from the "very severe" category. Looks like we have renegotiated our terms of endurance rather than those of our healthy survival and choose to work around everything else but our comfort zone. Which is why we should collectively ponder why the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has turned alarmist, suggesting that all non-

CNG vehicles be kept off the road in cycles or all road users follow the odd-even scheme, depending on the density of pollutants despite the season. EPCA chairperson Bhure Lal has asked the CPCB to discuss options with the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) task force and revert as early as possible. Although stubble burning, the main culprit of the pollutant overload, is on the wane now, industries have been reined in on waste and effluent discharges and commercial diesel trucks regulated, there has not been a significant or substantial dip in air quality indices. This drives home the point that we desperately need to address the elephant in the room, vehicular pollution. According to EPCA, vehicles contribute 40 per cent of the total emission load in Delhi and around 30 per cent of emissions in the NCR. What's even more worrisome is that unregulated private vehicles have led to a sharp spike in nitrous oxides and particulate matter, those that have direct impact on our respiratory comfort zones and cause premature infant deaths and health epidemics. So that needs immediate redressal, therefore.

Given Delhi's woeful lack of viable public infrastructure — even the Metro is overstretched and the CNG bus fleet is bursting at the seams — any restriction overburdens the daily commuter, both in terms of cost and productivity. Alternate transit and encircling routes, that some world cities have worked on assiduously, need to get off the drawing board now so that their incubation time can be minimised. Curbs need to be all-pervasive and though diesel cars have been demised enough, there needs to be a clampdown on private two-wheelers that are as carbon-spewing. Paris, too, has not exempted motorcycles. Apart from a rationed plan, that could include tagging of vehicles according to fuel type, year of make or odd-even number plates, equal emphasis needs to be given on ensuring enforcement and compliance of their maintenance norms. And learning lessons from Beijing, where emergency protocols have been in place sparing school buses, office shuttles, collective travel and medical transport, what has worked most is the insistence on green norms and denying violators vehicle insurance for a year. Meanwhile, the rollout of electric and hybrid cars has to be incentivised and backed up with allied infrastructure if it is to appeal to the family buyer. But since that process has just about got a governmental push and auto-makers are readjusting their moves, there is a gaping hole of an eco-friendly mass public transport that needs to be augmented immediately, not just in Delhi but in NCR. Since Delhi is land-locked unlike coastal metropolises that are geographically blessed with natural air dispersal cycles, it needs a comprehensive and contiguous action plan of its immediate neighbourhood to contain pollution. Micro-climate management simply won't work in this clouded scenario. Of course, there is the other issue of de-scaling the Delhiite's aspiration, which has so far prided itself on riding on cars. Would we limit our vehicle buys to two per family? Could we go for self-imposed curbs and see luxury in sharing green transport? Could we let go of our swanky bigness and make a virtue of going sociably micro? Point is there is no time to make a call. We just have to make good of available circumstance.

Rajasthan rumble

Congress can smell a win in the State Assembly poll. So, it's balancing internal power structures to avert a last-minute mishap



Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje, as her political opponent and Congress State unit chief Sachin Pilot put it on a television show a couple of days ago, is the only BJP leader who has managed to get the better of her national party president. His reference, of course, was to the open secret that Amit Shah and the BJP top brass were contemplating a change of leadership in the State earlier this year given the pretty strong anti-incumbency mood there but Vasundhara Raje was having none of it and she eventually prevailed. That, however,

may be the last major political victory for her this year. For, the ground reports are getting quite unambiguous — the Congress looks like it's on the comeback trail in Rajasthan, helped in no small measure by a coherent poll campaign, led by former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Pilot with former Union minister CP Joshi too given due respect, which seems to have succeeded in leveraging the anti-incumbency sentiment against the BJP Government. Sensing the wind, BJP leaders including a couple of sitting legislators have joined the Congress which has also got its caste/community social coalition right this time around with only the Rajput community and the urban middle-class and trading communities seemingly not wildly keen on it though here too the Vasundhara administration does draw some flak.

The Congress has got wide acceptance in the OBC, Gujjar and Brahmin communities (projecting Gehlot, Pilot, Joshi would have helped) and has made sizeable gains among the Jats after their agitation against the State Government demanding reservations. The Meena community is being assiduously wooed by the Congress and the minority vote seems headed their way too. But the Congress has become adept at snatching defeat from the jaws of victory in recent years, not least because of internal dissensions and sabotage. To prevent precisely such a situation from coming to pass, the leadership has adopted the ploy of announcing, in advance of the issuance of its official list of candidates, that both Gehlot and Pilot will be contesting the Assembly poll. There is no word yet on CP Joshi, another contender for the chief ministerial chair, most likely as a compromise candidate if the two dominant factions led by the former Chief Minister and the PCC president get recalcitrant in the event of a Congress win at the hustings. While the party has been careful not to let this decision appear as counting their chickens before the eggs have hatched, it does show that the leadership is not fooled by the surface bonhomie on display. It augurs well for the party that is getting hard-nosed about its internal power dynamics. Now, for the little task of actually winning the election!

opinion

Truth has been a major casualty in modern-day conversations and the Trump saga exemplifies the global implications of power mixed with ignorance, bravado and stereotypes



BHOPINDER SINGH

US President Donald Trump is a Presbyterian Protestant, with a self-confessed affinity to the rites of the Holy Communion to 'feel cleansed'. He follows a long tradition of White Anglo-Saxon Protestants (WASPs) as Presidents of the US which was broken by the 'half-WASP' Barack Obama and the Roman Catholic, JF Kennedy in recent times. Given the mass immigration of multi-cultural and multi-religious populace, the US had become a melting pot of the most diverse, inclusive and 'accepting' profundities.

The constitutional segregation of the Church and the State notwithstanding, religious identity has played a part in the functioning of participative democracy in the US. The relevance of 'moral values' amongst candidates, a euphemism for religiosity amongst the 71 per cent Christian population, is unmistakable, especially during electioneering. The ethno-cultural-religious pattern of the polity has veered and demarcated certain preferences along political party lines — yet the fate of the six per cent minorities (Muslims, Hindus, Jews, *et al*) along with that of the self-declared 23 per cent population with no-religious-affiliation had remained progressively 'inclusive' till recent times. By 2017, the second biggest democracy (after India), had slipped from being rated as a 'full democracy' to a 'flawed democracy' as per the Global Democracy Index.

While even the likes of the widely accepted and transformational, Barack Obama, had to reassert and reiterate his 'practicing Christian faith and status', the societal and governance discourse had remained essentially civil and 'accepting'. While the world was witnessing religious extremism, Obama made assuaging statements like, "empowered by faith, consistently, prayerfully, we need to find our way back to civility. That begins with stepping out of our comfort zones in an effort to bridge divisions." However, the advent of Donald Trump on the US center-stage had regressed the narrative, and early signs of the same were visible in run-up to the Presidential elections with the inelegant allusions made in the name of the fallen US soldier, Captain Humayun Khan.

Soon the electoral success of Donald Trump was marked by his signing of the Executive Order 13769 (titled Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States) that was infamously known as the 'Muslim ban'.

The spirit behind Trump's actions militated against the Immigration and Nationality Act of the US which stated, "No person shall receive any preference or priority or be discriminated against in the issuance of an immigrant visa because of the person's race, sex, nationality, place of



birth, or place of residence." The pettiness extended to various symbolic acts like the doing away of the Eid-celebration Iftar dinner at the White House, a tradition that was started in 1996 by the Democrat, Bill Clinton but duly retained by Trump's fellow-Republican, George W Bush, for eight years of his Presidency.

Donald Trump's ignominous status along with perceived notions and stereotypes of people of certain religious denominations is unprecedented in recent times. During a Republican fundraiser by people of Indian-origin preceding the elections, that he had stated incredulously, "I am a big fan of Hindu and I am a big fan of India. Big, big fan." Shockingly, the still-to-be-elected President of the USA had earlier admitted that he wasn't aware that India also had a large population of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists *et al*.

The existence of over 260 proud Indians (approximately 20 per cent of minority-faiths amongst the 1.3 billion Indians) had escaped the knowledge of the man who was poised to hold the most powerful office in the world.

Today, Donald Trump is still holding sway with acute ignorance intact, as he tweeted post the Diwali celebrations at the White House, "Today, we gathered for Diwali, a holiday observed by Buddhists,

RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM IS A GLOBAL REALITY AND ALL MAJOR RELIGIONS ARE COMPLICIT IN FANNING SENTIMENTS. THE ONUS IS ON THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO BREAK THE MONOPOLY OF THE SUPREMACIST AND REVISIONIST FORCES BY SEGREGATING RELIGIOSITY FROM GOVERNANCE

Sikhs, and Jains throughout the United States and around the world. Hundreds of millions of people have gathered with family and friends to light the *diya* and to mark the beginning of a New Year."

Expectedly, the embarrassing omission of the 'Hindus' in the Diwali tweet was roasted and his spin-doctors went on the overdrive to attribute the mistake to a lame 'out of sequence' posting issue, and then proceeded to delete the initial tweet and re-tweet a more correct, "It was my great honour to host a celebration of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, in the Roosevelt Room at the @WhiteHouse this afternoon. Very, very special people!"

Donald Trump's ignorance and whimsically flippant behaviour should be a warning to those who get carried away by any specific rant of his, which might resonate temporarily with the sensibilities of the person or a nation, at that moment. Even though India and Indians are not amongst his pet-peeves (Pakistan certainly is), yet India has not been spared his boorish and churlish insinuations and sarcasm. The ostensible 'good friend' of Prime Minister Narendra Modi had mocked his Indian accent, routinely accused India as the 'tariff king' and true to the patent falsehood threatened with reciprocal tariff on the 'thousands and thousands' of

Indian motorcycles getting exported to the US. Today, even strategic allies, like Canada, Mexico, NATO nations *et al*, are insulted with impunity, as was recently witnessed with Trump's undignified, personalised and factually-incorrect attack on French President Emmanuel, while on French soil, as the France was in the midst of observing the somber anniversary of the worst terrorist attack in France.

Religious extremism is a global reality and all major religions are complicit in fanning sentiments. The onus is on the political leadership to break the monopoly of the supremacist and revisionist forces by segregating religiosity from governance — especially in the big democracies like the US, which ought to be a lodestar, for those suffering under intolerance, bigotry or dictatorship.

Truth has been a major casualty in modern-day conversations, and the Trump saga exemplifies the global implications of power mixed with ignorance, bravado and stereotypes. The US in particular, and the world at large needs statesmen who speak the language of inclusivity, probity and progress without pandering to the subliminal dark-instincts that are easy to rouse, but dangerously difficult to control once unleashed.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry)

SOUNDBITE

Pakistan can't handle its own country. How will it manage Kashmir? The Valley is a part of India and shall remain so.



Home Minister —Rajnath Singh

Undeclared war between Afghanistan and Pakistan must end. Talks between the Taliban and Afghan Government are needed.



Afghan President —Ashraf Ghani

I am not for censorship on digital platforms. We are in fact fighting against censorship even in films.



Proudcer —Ritesh Sidhwani

Kerala CM and DGP will be responsible if there is an attack on me and my colleagues ahead of our visit to Sabarimala.



Woman activist —Trupti Desai

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Temporary respite

Sir — Supreme Court's refusal to stay women's entry into Sabarimala temple has come as a good news for those who believe in gender equality. It means the law of the land as of now allows women of all ages to enter the temple. At least, now the die-hard protesters should not prevent women from visiting the temple. They are most likely to be disappointed if they pin their hopes on the Supreme Court's nod for an open court hearing of a raft of review petitions.

The Court is least likely to overturn the judgement pronounced with so much reasoning and conviction. When the constitutionally guaranteed right and 'public opinion' conflict, the choice for the apex court is obvious. The young women who registered online for *darshan* at Sabarimala should not be blocked on their way to the temple during the two month-long Mandala-Makaravilakku season. The joy of worship should not be denied on the ground of gender.

G David Milton Maruthancode

Nehru and his undermined legacy

This refers to the editorial, "Nehru's legacy" (November 15). India lost Gandhi in 1948 and Sardar Patel in 1950 and then former Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, was standing tall among our great leaders. Nehru could have easily followed the crooked path of becoming a dictator like his contemporaries in other countries and undermined our democratic institutions and the Constitution. But he never did it. Rather he always treated the opposition leaders with honour.

Nehru served India as a Prime Minister for 17 years and strengthened — democracy, secularism, socialism and unity — the four pillars of our Constitution. His death even made a young leader in the Opposition in Atal Bihari Vajpayee say, "The loss to Parliament is irreparable. Such a resident may never grace Teen Murti again. That vibrant personality, that attitude of taking even the Opposition along,



that refined gentlemanliness, the greatness we may not again see in the near future." Indeed, Jawaharlal Nehru has become more relevant now as a role model in democratic institution-building. Agree or not, whatever we are today, both good or bad, we owe in great measure to this man.

Sujit De Kolkata

Unanswered questions

Sir— There can be no second opinion that the BJP Government is in a sticky wicket as far as the Rafale deal is concerned. At the outset, the statement made in such a hurry by the CEO of Dassault, Eric Trappier, defending the Indian Government, particularly on a

day when the matter was being taken up by the apex court for discussion, raises many questions.

All along, the Government was refusing to announce the purchase price of the Rafale jets saying it would lead to a security breach as the neighbouring enemy states would be able to find out the capabilities of the Rafale jets once the price

is made public.

Now, it has come to light that most of the security norms including obtention of guarantees by the French Government have been given the go-ahead by the Indian Government.

Doesn't all these tantamount to the dilution of security to cover thousands of crores of tax payers' money?

While all this would lead

even a novice to confirm that the Rafale deal is shrouded with many mysteries and unanswered questions, there can be no doubt that the judges would have understood the murky deal much better and would deliver a fair judgement.

Shalini Gerald Chennai

Et tu, Dassault?

Sir — Whatever said and done, Dassault's CEO Eric Trappier's hurried statement refuting the charge that he was covering up for the Narendra Modi Government appears to be well-orchestrated, that too, particularly when it had been voiced on the day when the Supreme Court was slated to hear the alleged Rafale scam case.

The Dassault's CEO seems to be well-tutored to defend the deal and save the Narendra Modi Government. This is also inevitable for Dassault lest they lose such a big deal.

Anna Mary Yvonne Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

The emerging New India

There are a few who look beyond the traditional paradigm of idolising political leadership and evaluate leaders based on what they deliver



NAVNEET ANAND

Damu Tirkey is a passionate young man. Attached to a political social outfit, he works tirelessly for tribal welfare across 501 villages in Sundargarh district. Belonging to the Oram tribe, he takes immense pride in the fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi got a village Pitamahal, a back of beyond habitation in Odisha's Sundargarh district without even any access to roads, wired, and electrified. First time in 70 years, when I met him early this week, Tirkey pointed out to me three gram panchayats that he was aware of where electricity had reached for the first time since Independence — Chhatam, Budham and Pankadihi. While the first two villages belong to Rajarangpur block, the third one falls under Gurdunia block, and these have been electrified under the Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDGUYJ). Little wonder global energy watchdog, the International Energy Agency (IEA), termed India's electrification of every village as the greatest success story of 2018. "In particular, one of the greatest success stories in access to energy in 2018 was India completing the electrification of all of its villages," said the agency's latest World Energy Outlook 2018, adding that India was a "star performer" in terms of achieving a huge milestone of providing power to all her villages. In fact, countries, like Indonesia and Bangladesh, have also achieved commendable electrification rate of 95 per cent (up from 50 per cent in 2000), and 80 per cent (up from 20 per cent in 2000), respectively.

The IEA report said that over 120 million people worldwide gained access to electricity in 2017 alone. It further said that since 2000, more than 900 million people have gained access to electricity in developing countries in the Asian continent with 91 per cent of the region getting electrified by 2017 compared with 67 per cent in 2000. Of this, about 61 per cent of this progress has been reported from India only, making a "remarkable progress towards its target to deliver universal electricity access." In keeping with his Independence Day promise of electrifying all Indian villages, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 28 this year, announced that the country had achieved its target of providing electricity to all its 597,464 census villages. Lauding the "political effort over the last five years" that significantly accelerated the progress of electrification, IEA report termed this milestone as "one of the greatest achievements in the history of energy."

The Government had launched the ambitious ₹75,893 crore Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana programme to connect India's 18,452 unelectrified census villages, and on August 15, 2015, Modi had said that it would be achieved by May 2018, in 1000 days. While this was achieved ahead of time, the Government is now working to ensure that power lines are connected with major institutions and administrative centres of every village as well as every household in the country. The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya) programme is designed to facilitate free electricity connections to about four crore households in rural and urban areas. The programme also aims to provide Solar Photovoltaic (PV) stand-alone system for unelectrified households located in remote and inaccessible villages/habitations, where grid extension is not feasible. The scheme was launched in October 2017, and so far, just about 64 per cent of the targeted three crore households have been electrified. About one crore households still remain to be electrified.

There are many States which have achieved 100 per cent household electrification, while some continue to make efforts in that direction. Arunachal Pradesh with 75 per cent, Meghalaya with 77 per cent, Uttar Pradesh with 80 per cent and Assam with 83 per cent figure at the bottom even as States like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Kerala, Telangana, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Goa and Puducherry report 100 per cent household electrification. That many in India were deprived of this basic need seven decades after Independence certainly doesn't tell a great story. The IEA also praised India's success in enabling access to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to the poor households. "In India, 50 million free LPG stoves and initial refills have been provided to poor households via Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana since 2015, and the Government has set a target of providing LPG connections to 80 million households by 2020," it said.

Tirkey represents an aspirational and emerging New India that places a huge premium on progress and development. He looks beyond the traditional paradigm of idolising political leadership and evaluates leaders based on what they deliver. Unaware of the global applause that the DDGUYJ has earned, Tirkey said that people like him have begun to see the difference on the ground.

(The writer is a strategic communications professional)

THE VIOLENCE AND PERSECUTION BY MILITARY AND VIGILANTES THAT RESULTED IN DRIVING 700,000 ROHINGYA TO BANGLADESH IS WITHOUT EXCUSE.

—US VICE PRESIDENT MIKE PENCE

POINT COUNTERPOINT



OF COURSE, PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW BUT THE POINT IS THAT YOU SHOULD EXCHANGE THESE VIEWS AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER BETTER.

— MYANMAR'S DE FACTO LEADER AUNG SAN SUU KYI

Indigenous modernity

Nirmal Verma is one of those ultimate littérateurs who relentlessly put colonial modernity to thorough scrutiny in most of his creative works in order to explore the idea of India in its entirety



SACHIDA NAND JHA

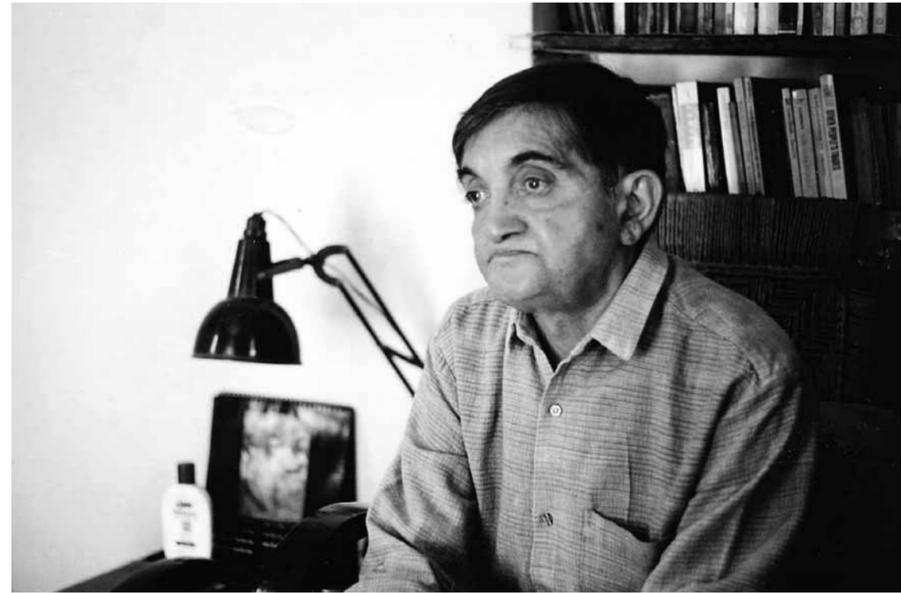
Remembering the legendary Indian writer, Nirmal Verma, necessarily encourages one to revisit some of his literary works which turn out to be completely mesmerising. Indeed, it is akin to doing a literary pilgrimage. Such a pilgrimage is particularly significant for the fact that he appears to never ever lose sight of the sanctity of his native roots, cultural moorings and indigenous traditions even in the face of an aggressive onslaught of various forms of all-encompassing but counterproductive western modernity. As a matter of fact, he is one of those ultimate littérateurs who relentlessly put colonial modernity to thorough scrutiny in most of his creative works in order to explore the idea of India in its entirety.

The irreconcilable incompatibility between Indian way of conceptualising, planning and strategising about the vagaries of human life and the unavoidable pulls and pressures of Western modernity is so effectively embodied in different essays written in Hindi and compiled in such collections as *Shabda Aur Smriti*, *Kala ka jokhima*, *Dhalaan Se Utarte Hue*, *Bharat Aur Europe* : *Pratishruti Ke Kshetra*, *Kala, Smriti, Akanksha*, *Shatavdi ke Dhalte Varahon Mein*, *Adi, Ant aur Aarambha*.

In the very first collection, the figure of Gandhi appears time and again. Emphasising the re-awakening of nationalist consciousness embedded in the persona of Gandhi, Verma tries to make an assessment about the idea of India in connection with its relationship with Europe. What he finds out is the fact that the best of indigenous thoughts and sensitivities don't carry the kind of ruptures which we witness in the form of deep-rooted alienation of modern life. The second collection, *Kala ka jokhima* talks about the role of art in the making of modern world, whereas the third collection, *Dhalaan Se Utarte Hue* mentions certain kinds of fissures and contradictions which expose the hollowness of so-called modern civilisation.

In the fourth collection, *Bharat aur Europe*, Verma looks at basic assumptions behind the intellectual and philosophical traditions of India and Europe respectively. He is basically pre-occupied with the task of evaluating what India and Indians found and lost when they came in contact with European culture and civilisation. The ways in which we have been dissociated with our own traditions, and the manner in which we have made certain attempts to keep those invaluable traditions intact, are some of the major concerns of the essayist. All the issues and concerns are addressed with a definite objective to foreground the essential indiansness of we, the people of India.

The indiansness of post-colonial Indian mind is his genuine concern. And it governs his engagement in myriad ways with the questions of politics, religion, culture, literature, history, secularism and Marxism. He does not construct any theoretical premise or rigid conceptual framework to make sense of the issues revolving around the already cited questions of contemporary India. His focus is on exposing those tendencies, sometimes subtle and surreptitious, that make us think and feel that West is the way forward to look for the



VERMA KEEPS SEARCHING CONSISTENTLY FOR THE CIVILISATIONAL ROOTS OF THE NATION. ITS ENCOUNTER WITH COLONIAL MODERNITY AND THE CONSEQUENT DISTORTIONS OF OUR COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS WITH A VIEW TO HIGHLIGHT THE NEED TO DISCOVER FIRST AND THEN RECOVER AND FOREGROUND OUR OWN AUTONOMOUS AND INDIGENOUS MODERNITY

resolution of all those problems we face today.

The deep imprints of colonial mindset, which generated an evidently infectious impact on our thought process, and made us in turn subservient to the Western ways of thinking, evoke sharp responses from Verma. He indeed wishes to get rid of those prejudices and assumptions that have been responsible for putting chains on our own style of thinking, behaving and living life with our own terms. Efforts to erase the traces of cultural and intellectual colonisation define and decide the quality of discussions and deliberations about East-West encounter in his essays.

For his first collection of short-stories, *Parinde*, Verma was declared to be the harbinger of a new literary trend called '*Nai Kahani*' in Hindi literature. It opened up several opportunities to express his yearning for a liberating, fulfilling and satisfying existence, which was extremely difficult to find in a modern set-up. The kind of irreparable grief caused by the partition of a newly independent nation state aggravated further by disillusionment with the ideals and aspirations created during the freedom struggle and subsequent deepening of colonial temperament in various ways and numerous places of postcolonial India triggered the creative expressions of an entire generation of writers, of whom, Verma proved to be the major voice. Abandoning old narrative techniques and already exhausted subjects of short story writing, he went on to delve deeper into the complexity of contemporary realities with new sensibilities and even newer idioms producing highly captivating content in an enabling form.

His succeeding collections of short-stories such as *Jalti Jhadi*, *Pichhli Garmiyan Mein*, *Beech Bahas Mein*, *Kavve Aur Kala Pani*, which brought him Sahitya Academy Award and the last one, *Sukha*, are marked by a con-

necting thread which so evocatively invokes the issues of alienation and depression primarily caused by the imperatives of modernity. Deeply disturbing experiences of the emergent middle class which suffer rather miserably in some ways because of their illusion about the nature of modern life generate radically different indigenous sensibilities than seen before in the works of Verma.

European experiences led to the transformation of Nirmal Verma's mindset in a huge way. But they did not succeed in making him think and feel that his own culture and civilisation are inferior to those of Europe. Instead, he does not forget to tell us that we have legitimate reasons to harbour serious misgivings about the adequacy and effectiveness of the idea of progress embedded in the notion of Western modernity that wrecked havoc on humanity through the two world wars alongside creating irrevocable ruptures in human relations as is amply clear from the hollowness between man-woman relationships and increasingly entrenched sense of alienation, destructive self-centeredness, self-exile, frustrations and disappointments so inseparably interlinked with modern life and experiences of humankind. The moral of the story is that the socio-political and cultural manifestations of modernity have been categorically put into the bar of judgement.

Whether they are essays, short stories or novels written by Verma, he does not seem to subscribe to any particular ideological persuasion which essentially obstructs the articulation of the nuanced perception of the existing complex realities in the outside world. In the very first novel, *Ve Din*, memory plays a central role in a modern milieu. The image of scattered, disintegrating, self-obsessed Europe in the aftermath of the Second World War is thoroughly scrutinised by an almost entirely Indian perspective. The second

novel, *Lal Teen Ki Chat*, reflects the acute loneliness of the protagonist, Kaya who is totally caught in a cynical world full of isolation. Such explanations of loneliness and isolation are aimed at presenting a scathing critique of what is often called the modern life.

The third novel, *Ek Chithda Sukh*, is an attempt to find an answer to the question of what is happiness. The desire for happiness leads one to the realisation that it is indeed an illusion. It is an endless wait as we never ever get to have a real sense of happiness in modern world order. The fourth novel, *Raat ka Reporter*, revolves around the self-centeredness of a journalist who deal with those circumstances which led the masses to severe kinds of disappointment with modern forms of democracy and development. The fifth novel, *Antim Aranya*, chooses to discuss the recurrent theme of loneliness along with issues of death and depression. It offers us an innovative approach to look at the relationship between life and death and also the conditions which lie in between so as to undermine the supremacy of material possessions and underline the primacy of spiritual fulfillment.

In his travelogues, diary-writing and even selections of nine prominent works of world literature for their translations into Hindi, he exhibits tremendous consistency in terms of doing a stringent critique of the Western modernity. And India always remains at the core of his creative pursuit. So, he keeps searching consistently for the civilisational roots of the nation, its encounter with colonial modernity and the consequent distortions of our collective consciousness with a view to highlight the need to discover first and then recover and foreground our own autonomous and indigenous modernity.

(The writer is Assistant professor of English at Rajdhani College, Delhi University)

Corruption and abuse of power

Harassment of citizens by officials will stop only when courts decide not to merely restore the rights of citizens but also demand damages be paid by the ministry, department or agencies involved to the citizen or citizens concerned



PRABHU GUPTA

hawala transactions.

So is he a terrorist? Does he have — or did he have — terrorist links? There are only three possible answers: The first is that he is a threat to the security of the nation. But if the man has terrorist links, two years is indeed an inordinately long time to investigate that. Indeed, one has to ask the much more serious question: Are some of our officials really so incompetent as to fail to come to a conclusion after two years of investigating such a serious matter?

Shouldn't the officials be proceeded against for dealing with the security of the nation in such a cavalier manner?

The second is that the man was thought to be a threat, but he isn't. If so, why did the officials not only declined to renew his passport for so long, but also offered in court what they clearly thought was a good reason for refusing renewal? Further, why did they ask the court for permission to continue avoiding renewal of his passport? The



third is that the man was never was a threat. If so, what we have is a common and simple matter of bribe-seeking — a bribe which the man refused (for whatever reason) to pay.

Perhaps the bribe demanded was so large as to offend him suf-

ficiently to cause him to pursue an expensive and long-winded case in court. I simply don't know as I am not acquainted with the person in question and have no means of contacting him.

What I do know is that use of the law to harass ordinary citizens

in our country; it is so common as if it is almost normal. We hardly give it a thought when we see a driver stop by the police on the highway. We know he was not been speeding. We also know that he had been stopped officially for a 'licence check'. But in reality, he was of an unfortunately lottery daily bribe collection by the policemen.

We hardly bother when we hear that a slum-dweller's family has had their jhuggi pulled down. After all, aren't jhuggis illegal anyway? A huge series of bribes need to be paid to allow any jhuggi settlement to come into existence and continue to thrive. For the slums to be cleared out, clearly, a rather bigger set of bribes has now come into play — perhaps from some construction company. Even so, rather than reacting with outrage, many middle- and upper-class people merely dismiss the matter: "Good riddance to jhuggis."

However, we do react, even if subconsciously, when we are ourselves asked for a 'consideration' in order to have something done,

whether that is the admission of a child in a school, a relative in a hospital, an application for a job, or the provision of a properly due service by an official.

Can anything be done to stop this kind of extortion? In the case of the example quoted at the beginning of this article, the Ministry did not dispute that the denial of the passport had put his residential status in Canada in jeopardy and denied him two whole years of work and earnings.

Harassment of citizens by officials will stop only when courts decide not to merely restore the rights of citizens, as in this case, but also demand damages be paid by the ministry, department or agencies involved to the citizen or citizens concerned.

(The writer is Independent Board Member, Board Consultant; Keynote Speaker Executive Director, Relational Analytics Ltd, Cambridge, UK; and Honorary Chairman, Career Innovation Company, Oxford, UK)



FOREIGNEYE



NO PROSPECT OF GOING BACK

The Rohingya must have the right to return home. But they must be able to do so safely and of their own volition. That is not the case now. Until that time comes, Bangladesh must be given all the support it needs to host them; and forced repatriations must be opposed as unconscionable and unacceptable.

(The Guardian editorial)

Didi steps up attack on BJP over NRC

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The State BJP has written to party president Amit Shah to go slow on NRC as the idea was creating large-scale apprehensions among the people. In fact, State BJP president Dilip Ghosh on Thursday clearly said the State leadership was more in favour of the Citizenship Bill than the NRC. This came in the wake of Mamata Banerjee stepping up attacks on the BJP.



AWARE THAT THE BJP WAS TRYING TO TAKE OUT A SLICE OF MATUA VOTE BY OFFERING TICKETS TO SOME OF BINAPANI DEVI'S FAMILY MEMBERS, MAMATA SAID NONE HAD DONE SO MUCH FOR THE COMMUNITY AS HER GOVERNMENT DID

"I think once the Citizenship Bill is tabled and enacted, the NRC will not be required because that will provide enough evidence of a person's citizenship credentials," Ghosh said.

Incidentally, senior BJP leader and party's observer for Bengal Kailash Vijayvargiya had earlier said that "the NRC will definitely be conducted in Bengal if the BJP comes to power here as it is also facing severe infiltration issues."

Ghosh's statements came almost in tandem with renewed attack from Mamata who called the BJP a party of riot mongers that was more involved in creating religious and linguistic divide among the people so as to capture power in Bengal.

Criticising the Chief Minister for "backing the infiltrators" he wanted to "ask Mamata Banerjee why she is siding with the infiltrators". Attacking the Trinamool Congress leaders for playing vote bank politics, he said,

"Unfortunately some people are more concerned about indulging in appeasement policies and vote bank politics than the progress of the nation."

Meanwhile, once again upping the ante on the BJP for dividing the people along religious and linguistic lines Mamata told a congregation of Matua community (a large number of whom migrated from Bangladesh to Bengal and even Assam) in North 24 Parganas how the BJP was throwing out the Bengalis out of Assam and Biharis from Gujarat and Maharashtra besides creating a division within the Matua society.

Bengal has about a lakh Matua voters in North 24 Parganas and Nadia.

"They are unnecessarily harassing a great majority of people who are Indian citizens. They are threatening to throw these citizens out of the country though they have genuine identity cards, caste certificates or similar documents," Mamata said, attacking the BJP, and assured "you all not to get scared as no one can snatch your citizenship."

Mamata was addressing the Matua community — at Thakurnagar in North 24 Parganas — on the 100th birth anniversary of the community's religious head Binapani Devi.

Aware that the BJP was trying to take out a slice of Matua vote by offering tickets to some of Binapani Devi's family members, Mamata said none had done so much for the community as her Government did.

"Now we will set up a Matua University in the name of the Matua religious head Guruchand-Harichand Thakur," Mamata said adding the Government would also construct two huge gates identifying the Matua headquarters.

Incidentally Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also promised a great deal for the Matuas during his pre-electoral campaign in 2014 but "they have done nothing for you save giving lip service," Mamata said.

'Gaja' intensifies into severe storm, landfall on TN coast forecast

PTI ■ JAMMU

Chennai: Cyclone 'Gaja' intensified into a severe cyclonic storm on Thursday and is expected to cross the south Tamil Nadu coast by late this evening or night, with the Government machinery put on high alert in vulnerable districts.

The storm which lay over the south-west Bay about 285 km from here and 225 km east of Karaikal in neighbouring Puducherry, was very likely to cross the coast between Cuddalore and Pamban around Nagapattinam by this evening or night after weakening into a cyclone, the Met office said.

At the time of landfall, wind speed of 80-90 kmph gusting up to 100 kmph and heavy rain were likely along the region, it said.

The Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority, in a tweet, said as per the latest updates #GajaCyclone is likely to have landfall between 8 pm and 11 pm tonight in all probability in Nagapattinam district, about 300 km from here.

There was no significant rainfall so far Thursday in most of the districts expected to be affected by the cyclone. Chennai witnessed sporadic spells of rain.

So far, 1,313 people have already been shifted to relief cen-

tre in Nagapattinam district and efforts are on to evacuate all those living in low lying areas to relief centres in the vulnerable districts, the government said.

A holiday has been declared for educational institutions in seven districts, including Nagapattinam, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore and Ramanathapuram, and the government has advised private firms, and establishments to send back their employees early so that they could reach their homes before 4 pm.

As the sea was rough, police have been advised to intensify efforts to bar people from going near the beaches to witness the cyclone or click selfies.

Four teams each of National Disaster Response Force personnel have been deployed in Nagapattinam district while two teams of the state disaster response force in Cuddalore district, officials said.

The State disaster management authority has released an animated video aimed at creating awareness on the do's and don'ts during cyclone. The government has announced helpline numbers 1070 (state-level) and 1077 (districts) for those who may need assistance.

2 terrorists held in Poonch part of LeT module: SSP

PTI ■ JAMMU

Two terrorists, who were arrested from Poonch district of Jammu & Kashmir, were part of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) module and had come to the town to ferry weapons to the Kashmir Valley, a senior police officer said on Thursday.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Poonch, Rajiv Pandey said a special investigation team (SIT) headed by a sub-divisional police officer (SDPO) was formed to probe the case.

Auqib Ahmad Bhat and Shabir Ahmad Dar, both hailing from Pulwama district of south Kashmir, were arrested during a joint operation by police and the Army in Mendhar area of the border district on Wednesday.

Two AK-56 rifles, two magazines, 60 rounds and four hand-grenades were seized from their possession. "Prima facie, it was established that they were part of LeT module and were assigned the task to shift weapons from Poonch to the Kashmir Valley," the SSP told reporters.

Presenting the arrested persons before the media persons, he said preliminary investigations revealed that they were not in the district to carry out any terror activity. "They are associates of terrorists and their only motive was to shift the weapons from Poonch to Kashmir," Pandey said.



Security personnel with two suspected terrorists and weapons seized from Jaran Wali Gali area of Mendhar after a joint search operation in Poonch on Thursday

'Prima facie, it was established that they were part of an LeT module and were assigned the task to shift weapons from Poonch to Kashmir Valley,' the SSP told reporters

However, he said Poonch Police was in touch with its counterparts in the Kashmir Valley to probe the arrested persons' involvement in terrorism.

The SSP said police received specific information about movement of some suspected persons and accordingly established checking points which led to the arrest of the duo from Jaran Wali Gali and

the recovery of the weapons, including four hand grenades, which were kept in a specially built cavity in the vehicle at their disclosure.

"A case was registered against them and a special investigation team headed by SDPO Mendhar Neeraj Padyar has been formed to probe the case thoroughly," he said.

The SSP said from where the weapons had come was yet to be ascertained.

He said security agencies are on high alert in the district and have not lowered their guard.

"The combing operation is going on in rural and forest area. We are conducting operation in every inch of Mendhar sub-division and elsewhere," Pandey said.



Traders from different regions attend the annual Pushkar Camel Fair in Pushkar on Thursday. The annual livestock fair is one of the largest in the world

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Parliament Works Division-I, CPWD, I.P. Bhawan, New Delhi on behalf of President of India invites Online Percentage rate bids (CPWD-7) from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD for the following works:-

1. NIT No.235/EE/PaWD-I/18-19 Name of Work: A/R & M/o to MP's flats/bungalows under Sub-Div-II of PaWD-I during 2018-19 (SH: Misc. repair and renovation work in bungalows of Purana Quila Road and Mathura Road) Estimated Cost Rs.28,50,700/- Earnest Money Rs.57,014/- Period of completion Two Months Last time and date of submission of tender is 15:00 P.M. on 22-11-2018.
2. NIT No.236/EE/PaWD-I/18-19 Name of Work: Repair/Renovation to MP's Bungalows under Sub Div-V of PaWD-I dg. 2018-19 (SH: Renovation of toilets in various flat of Meena Bagh, Humayun Road, Lodhi Garden & Bapa Nagar) Estimated Cost Rs.25,37,120/- Earnest Money Rs.50,742/- Period of completion Two Months Last time and date of submission of tender is 15:00 P.M. on 22-11-2018.
3. NIT No.237/EE/PaWD-I/18-19 Name of Work: Repair/Renovation to MP's Bungalows under Sub Div-V of PaWD-I dg. 2018-19 (SH: Renovation of toilets in various bungalows of Lodhi Estate) Estimated Cost Rs.27,08,936/- Earnest Money Rs.54,179/- Period of completion Two Months Last time and date of submission of tender is 15:00 P.M. on 22-11-2018. The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD or www.cpwd.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM JAMMU

www.jammutourism.gov.in, e-mail: dirtsmjmm@gmail.com Tel. 0191-2548172, Fax.0191-2548358

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OFFILM MAKER/AGENCY/COMPANY/PRODUCTION HOUSE OF J&K WITH THE DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM, JAMMU FOR YEAR 2018-19.

E.O.I. No.14 of 2018 Dated: 13/11/2018

Directorate of Tourism, Jammu intends to make TVCs/AVs/Short-Films/Docu-drama/Documentaries on different tourist destinations and of tourism products for the year 2018-19 to promote Jammu as a prominent independent tourist destination covering various aspects of State tourism like monuments, wildlife, ecotourism, hill stations, shopping, fairs and festivals heritage, resorts, cuisines and handicrafts covering the captivating beauty, diversity and spirituality of Jammu in such a way that it offers the viewers a cherish-worthy and engaging experience about Jammu on the rates approved by Department of Information and Public Relation, J&K. Pursuant to the above, E.O.I is invited from registered Production House/Film Maker/Agency/Company in J&K for the production of TVCs/AVs/Short-Films/Docu-drama/Documentaries and other related works. S.No. 1, Name of work :- Empanelment of Production House/Film Maker/Agency/Company for Production of short films to promote Jammu Tourism. Name of Division :- DDT (Pub) Jammu Cost of document (In Rs.) :- Rs. 200/- Earnest Money (In Rs.) :- 10,000/- Time and date of opening of E.O.I :- 26.11.2018 at 11:00 hrs. Who can apply :- Registered Film Maker/Agency/Company/Production House of J&K having a prominent media presence and minimum experience of making 03 films/TVCs/AVs/Short-Films/Docu Drama/documentaries during last 03 years in J&K. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://tenders.gov.in> from 10:00 Hrs on 13th Nov, 2018 upto 23rd Nov, 2018 till 14:00 hrs. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, terms and conditions and other details. Sd/- (Er.S.K.Attri) KAS Deputy Director Tourism Publicity, Jammu

Omar: NC open to participate in Assembly polls in J&K

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah has hinted his party would participate in Assembly polls in Jammu & Kashmir if fresh elections to the State legislature are announced in the near future.

"You got the control of a handful of towns & cities because NC & PDP stayed away (and the Congress did such a poor job of putting up a fight). Do you really think we will give you a walkover in the Assembly polls?" Abdullah wrote on his Twitter handle on Wednesday.

He was responding to BJP national general secretary Ram Madhav, who had asked the National Conference and the People's Democratic Party if they would participate in Assembly polls if held in the near future.

"On one hand, they (NC and PDP) say they will not take part in elections to safeguard Article 35A, on the other, they demand dissolution of assembly and fresh elections. Tomorrow if assembly elections are held, will you will fight or go by your boycott?" Madhav said at a function in Kathua on Tuesday night. NC and PDP did not participate in urban local bodies elections held in the State last month after a gap of nearly 13 years due to the legal challenge to Article 35-A of the Constitution, which guarantees exclusive residency rights to people of the State only, before the Supreme Court.

TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER
1	IRRIGATION & W.R. DEPTT., PALWAL	CONSTG. PUCCA HUMP AT KM 7.50 OF UDD FOR PROVIDING IRRIGATION FACILITY IN ADJOINING AREA OF VILLAGE KHIRBI AND RECHARGING THEREOF GROUND WATER	05.12.2018 07.12.2018	160.71 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	xenpw79@gmail.com 01275-252179
2	IRRIGATION DEPTT., JHAJJAR	INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF RAJYA MINOR RD 0 TO 28500 +9 OTHERS WORKS	CLOSING DATE 19.11.2018	6.97 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO 6803-16/A DATED 08.11.2018	xen-wsijr.ir@gov.in 7015684187
3	PWD B&R KARNAL	CARRYING OUT SURVEY GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION AND PREPARATION OF GADS, BOQ, DETAILED DESIGNING, WORKING DRAWING, DETAILED ESTIMATES & CNIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF H.L. BRIDGE	13.11.2018 28.11.2018	7 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	pwd-eeppdkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
4	PWD B&R NARAINGARG	PROVIDING WIDENING AND STRENGTHENING OF LINK ROAD BHILPURA TO RUKHANI IN AMBALA DISTT (ID 162) CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE 23376	19.11.2018 18.11.2018	114.69 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	pwd-eeppd-naraingarg@hry.nic.in 01734284035
5	PWD B&R, KARNAL	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING WITH WBM + BM +PC RD 0 TO 400 & 400 TO 1700 ON KALWHERI APP ROAD (ROAD ID -7224) KM 0 TO 2.200 IN KARNAL DISTRICT	02.11.2018 18.11.2018	78.66 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	pwd-eeppdkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
6	PWD B&R, KARNAL	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING WITH WBM + BM +PC RD 0 TO 1000 & C&B RD 1000 TO 1100 ON HKD ROAD TO ANJANTHALI ROAD (ROAD ID -7432) LENGTH KM 1.100 IN KARNAL DISTRICT CODE NO 23301	14.11.2018 05.12.2018	37.40 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	pwd-eeppdkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
7	PWD B&R, NUH	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE AT FEROPZPUR JHIRKA IN NUH DISTT	15.11.2018 17.12.2018	1190.30 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	01267-271237
8	FOREST DEPTT., PANCHKULA	NUKAD NATAK, SHORT DRAMA / SKIT IN 22 DISTRICTS OF HARYANA	14.11.2018 29.11.2018	EMD 50000	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	cfsfamb@gmail.com 9416376656 0172-2563861
9	FISHERIES, DEPARTMENT	EXCAVATION & PRE-CAST C.C LINING WORK OF PONDS AT NATIONAL FISH SEED FARM, JYOTISAR (KURUKSHETRA) +11 NO. OTHER WORKS AT DIFF GOVT. FISH SEED FARMS IN HARYANA	15.11.2018 28.11.2018	85.24 LACS	www.harfishb.gov.in	fisheries.haryana@gmail.com 7982484936
10	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, YAMUNA NAGAR	PLANNING DESIGNING CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLING TESTING, COMMISSIONING, STARTING UP, STABILIZATION AND O & M FOR 5 YEAR OF 0.20 MLD PACKAGE TYPE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT BASED ON SBR TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING ALL CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, PIPING AND INSTRUMENTATION WORKS COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS AT BHOOT MAIRA DISTT YAMUNA NAGAR	16.11.2018 30.11.2018	74.50 LACS	https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	Executive Engineer, Division No.2,Yamunanagar
11	PT. DEEN DAYAL UPADHAYAYA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES KARNAL AT KUTAIL	PROCUREMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT FOR COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY	16.11.2018 30.11.2018	1 LACS	https://krpmc.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in in KCGMC/Proc/2018/12151 dated 14.11.2018	uhskarnal2018@gmail.com 0184-2266254
12	HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION,PANCHKULA	E-TENDER FOR BIOMETRIC ATTENDANCE WITH DEVICE AND MANUAL BIOMETRIC ON THE ATTENDANCE SHEET & OMR ETC., VIDEOGRAPHY, CCTV CAMERA, JAMMER AND, PHYSICAL SCREENING TEST(PST) AND PHYSICAL MEASUREMENT TEST (PMT)	15.11.2018 07.12.2018	1 LACS	www.hssc.gov.in HSSC/E-TENDER/03/28/2018	secretaryhssc01@gmail.com 6280407291

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

RO NO. 73574

TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, FARRUKH NAGAR	ESTIMATE FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREET LIGHT FOR ONE YEAR (09*12=11.88)	CLOSING DATE 26.11.2018	11.88 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in/mcgepp/app Tender No-2018/HRY 71862_1	9467388174 secymcfarrukhnagar@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, HISAR	SPECIAL REPAIR WITH MASTIC OF ROAD FROM PARSHURAM CHOWK TO GANDHI CHOWK HISAR + 2 OTHER WORKS	30.11.2018 05.12.2018	40.92 LACS	mchisar.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 105028, 105031, 105105	xenmchisar@gmail.com
3	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	CONSTRUCTION OF PITS FOR COLLECTION OF DUNG (GOBAR) & CONSTRUCTION OF TANKS FOR COLLECTION OF WASTE WATER FOR DIARY COMPLEX DARIYA FOR COMPOSTING + 1 OTHER WORK	15.11.2018 21.11.2018	49.22 LACS	https://mcydnr.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 105148, 105150	9818656867 xen.mcydnr@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	PATCH WORK AND POT HOLES REPAIR IN VARIOUS POINT IN WARD NO. 08 TO 20 YAMUNANAGAR + 2 OTHER WORKS	15.11.2018 22.11.2018	40.60 LACS	https://mcydnr.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 105142, 105143, 105145	9818656867 xen.mcydnr@gmail.com
5	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	REPAIR OF EXISTING DRAINS AND LAYING OF RCC NP3 PIPE DRAINS, PROVIDING & FIXING SFRC DOUBLE ROAD GULLY SIZE 1448MM * 457 MM AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO IN THE BALANCE AREA OF SECTOR-59 GURUGRAM, UNDER MCG + 2 OTHER WORKS	09.11.2018 26.11.2018	116.06 LACS	https://mcpurgaon.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 104676, 104680, 104681	ec5@mcg.gov.in
6	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL & BARBED WIRE FENCING AT NEAR HOUSE NO. 49, POKET-A, IN SECTOR-39,(WARD NO.28) UNDER MCG.	20.11.2018	3.65 LACS	http://mcpurgaon.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No EE-III&IV/MCG/F-6/2018/48717 DT.05.11.2018 EE-III&IV/MCG/F-6/2018/49538 Tender No-104425	9821395203 ee3@mcg.gov.in
7	HVPNL PANCHKULA	PROCUREMENT OF BOLTLESS C-TYPE WEDGE CONNECTORS FOR I. TARANTULA-TARANTULA CONDUCTOR (2400 NO.) II. ZEBRA-ZEBRA CONDUCTOR (7700 NO.)	17.11.2018 01.01.2019	2.80 LACS	www.hvpng.org.in Tender No QPD-1153, NIT NO 1005 DT.14.11.2018	0172-2583789 cpro@hvpng.org.in
8	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL ODGS FOUNDATIONS, ODOT AT 220 KV SUB-STATION LULA AHIR, (R-8)	CLOSING DATE 05.12.2018	20.46	www.hvpng.org.in Tender NO-12/CWR/HVPN/2018-19	0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in
9	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF RADIATOR FOUNDATION, OIL TANK FOUNDATION, SURFACE DRESSING & SPREADING OF CRUSHED BAIRI AT 220KV S/STN. UNISPUR.(CIVIL WORKS).	19.11.2018	7840 FOR GENERAL 3920 FOR REGISTERED D SOCIETY	www.hvpng.org.in Tender No 21/2018-19 Dated 18.11.2018	0172-2583789 cpro@hvpng.org.in
10	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF ODGS FOUNDATIONS, ODOT AND OTHER ALLIED WORKS AT 132 KV SUB-STATION KANINA, (R-8)	05.12.2018	21.86	www.hvpng.org.in E-Tender Enquiry No-11/CWR/HVPN/2018-19	0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in
11	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH	PROVIDING AND INSTALLATION OF 07 MTR. STREET LIGHT POLL ON JHAJJAR ROAD TO SECTOR ROAD ALONG WITH ITI BAHADURGARH CITY + 3 OTHER WORKS	27.11.2018 28.11.2018	69.84 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in Tender No 784, 785, 786, 787	9466279801 mcbgarh@gmail.com
12	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	RE-TENDER FOR 33RD SURAKSHIND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA FOR HIRING OF AGENCY FOR PROVIDING WALKIE-TALKIE/WIRELESS SETS + 17 OTHER WORKS	16.11.2018 03.12.2018	EMD-8.1 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in Tender No Htc-2018/SKMA/Agencies	haryanaturism@gmail.com 9216400446
13	UHBVN PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT CONCRETE INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK ROAD AT 33KV S/STN.DIKADLA	14.11.2018 28.11.2018	7.16 LACS	www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 26/CCR/2018-19	xencivilhbvnrhaktak@gmail.com 0172-2565625
14	UHBVN PANCHKULA	ANNUAL BUILDINGS MAINTAINANCE AND REPAIR OF 33 KVS/STN. UNDER "OP" CITY DIVN. PANIPAT	14.11.2018 28.11.2018	5.69 LACS	www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No 27/CCR/2018-19	xencivilhbvnrhaktak@gmail.com 0172-2565625
15	UHBVN PANCHKULA	1 NOS. JEEP/BOLERO WITH HARD TOP WITH DRIVER	29.11.2018 30.11.2018	6000	www.uhbvn.org.in NIT No 51/XEN/SH/2018-19 Dt 14.11.2018	0184-2268351 xenopubhbvnsukarnal@gmail.com
16	HARTRON	PURCHASE OF 170 NOS. 15 PROCESSOR BASED COMPUTERS + 1 OTHER WORKS	16.11.2018 10.12.2018 07.12.2018	2 LACS	www.hartron.org.in Tender No/Hartrson/HW/2018-19/46, 2018-19/47	agmprocurement@gmail.com 0172-2720113

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

RO NO. 73573

MARATHA RESERVATION

Maha Govt to make announcement on Dec 1

Make preparations for celebrations on Dec 1, CM Fadnavis tells people at a public rally

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Ahead of a fresh round of agitation threatened by the Maratha Kranti Morcha from November 25 to press for reservations for their community, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday indicated that his Government would come out with a formal announcement about reservations to Marathas in Government jobs and education on December 1.

"We have received a report from the Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission (MSBCC) on the socio-economic status of the Marathas. I request all of you to prepare yourselves for celebrations on December 1," Fadnavis said, while addressing a public rally at Ahmednagar in western Maharashtra.

Fadnavis' announcement came hours after MSBCC member-secretary DD Deshmukh submitted the

Commission's voluminous report on the socio-economic status of Marathas to State Chief Secretary DK Jain.

On August 7, the Bombay High Court, which is hearing a bunch of public interest litigations seeking reservation and directions to the MSBCC had set November 15 as deadline for MSBCC to submit its report to it.

Confirming the receipt of the report on Marathas from the MSBCC, Jain said: "We have received a report from the MSBCC on the economic, social and economic status of the Maratha community. We will study the report and table it before the State Cabinet for a decision to be made on the basis of recommendations made in the report."

The MSBCC, headed by Justice (Retd) NG Gaikwad, had over the past few months held a series of public hearings and perused more than two lakh documents, letters, affidavits placed before it.

Official sources said that the chief minister would make a formal announcement about reservations to Marathas during the winter session of the Maharashtra Legislature beginning on November 19.

Currently Maharashtra has 52 per cent reservations in jobs and educational institutions. Of the total 52 per cent reservations, SCs and ST communities account for 13 and 7 per cent, respectively, while OBCs have 19 per cent per cent reservations, VJNT. Together, Special Backward Class and Nomadic Tribes account for 13 per cent.

Sources said that the MSBCC had in its report recommended reservations to Marathas without disturbing the quota already set aside for the OBCs.

Marathas, who have been agitating under the aegis of Maratha Kranti Morcha, for reservations in jobs and education across the state for the past two years, account for more than 30 per cent of Maharashtra's nearly 11.25 crore population.

Reacting to the chief minister's announcement about the state government's plans to come out with reservations for Marathas, former Chief Minister and Maharashtra Congress chief Ashok Chavan said: "We fully support Maratha reservation. The Government should take immediate action to guarantee Maratha reservation."

Slamming the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance Government for delaying the implementation of reservations to various communities, Chavan said: "The Congress had granted Maratha reservation in 2014, but the BJP-Sena Government failed to protect this reservation in court. More than 40 people have lost their lives in this agitation. If the Government had taken action earlier, these 40 lives could have been saved. There is no need to delay this decision further."

"We have given 16 per cent reservation to the Marathas. It is to be seen how much the BJP-Sena Government will provide for," former Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan said. Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Council Dhananjay Munde of the NCP asked the State Government to announce reservations before the start of the winter session of the Maharashtra Legislature.

It may be recalled that on November 14, 2014, the Bombay High Court had stayed an ordinance promulgated by the previous Congress-led Government ahead of the October 2014 State Assembly polls extending 16 per cent reservations to

Marathas and five per cent to Muslims, saying that they were not in conformity with the law laid down by the Supreme Court in three cases.

However, a HC bench, headed by the then Chief Justice Mohit Shah, had subsequently allowed reservations to Muslims in educational institutions, on the ground that their educational achievements were "abysmally low" and that there was a need to draw them into the "mainstream of secular education".

On its part, the BJP-led saffron alliance Government - which came to power after the October 2014 Assembly polls - subsequently moved the apex court challenging the stay granted by the high court on an ordinance promulgated by the previous Congress-led DF Government.

However, the Supreme Court rejected the State Government's petition.

The matter came back to the high court after advocate Vikas Patil filed an intervention petition in the Supreme Court on the issue.

The apex court directed the high court to hear the bunch of petitions pending before it.

Vibrant Gujarat roadshow to be held in Delhi today

NAYAN DAVE ■ GANDHINAGAR

In the run-up to the ninth edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (VGGS) to be held in January 2019, the Gujarat Government is hosting a roadshow in New Delhi on Friday.

The roadshow at the national Capital for the Gujarat Government's flagship biennial event for attracting investments would be attended by Chief Minister Vijay Rupani and other senior officials. The roadshow on Friday would be first out of six to be held at Delhi. During the event, the Rupani and others would meet leaders of trade and industries in the Capital and showcase investment opportunities in Gujarat.

In order to promote the event senior-level delegations have already visited across the globe and organised 24 roadshows in different countries. The Summit will be held from Jan 18-20 next year. Gujarat Government will hold such road shows in Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Kolkata and Hyderabad.

During the road shows, the State Government would showcase Dholera Special Investment

Yatra to spread awareness on Patel's contributions

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani on Thursday flagged off the Ekta Rath Yatra Phase II from Ahmedabad to spread the knowledge about the contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in uniting 562 erstwhile princely States in India post-Independence.

Speaking on the occasion, Rupani said the world's tallest statue, the Statue of Unity, has been built to spread the message. About 25,000 people are visiting the site of the statue daily. It has emerged as a pilgrims centre. Had there been no Sardar Patel, we would have to apply for visa for going from Somnath temple to Gir lion sanctuary (Junagadh).

Sardar Patel had also reconstructed the Somnath temple.

He called upon the people to rise above regional, communal, religious and linguistic parochialism and imbibe the ideals shown by Sardar Patel as the most befitting tribute to the Iron Man of India.

Rupani said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had revived the stories of sacrifices and valour of illustrious sons of India like Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, Dr Ambedkar, Veer Savarkar, Shyamji Krishna Verma. In phase-1, 59 Ekta Rath had fanned out across the state to cover 171 talukas in 33 districts from October 20 to 29 last. Nearly 16-lakh people joined these Yatras.

emphasised on manufacturing sector, this time focus is on trade and service sectors. VGGS was conceptualised by former Chief Minister, Prime Minister Narendra Modi. First VGGS was organised in 2003.

Geelani released from house arrest

KHURSHED WANI ■ SRINAGAR

The Governor's administration in Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday relaxed restrictions on the movement of separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani to travel to his native village in north Kashmir's Sopore. Geelani has been held under house arrest since 2015 since he returned from New Delhi after spending winter months there.

His close aide Masarat Alam Bhat who was arrested after Geelani's arrival in Srinagar was charged under the Public Safety Act (PSA) for the 37th time.

Geelani, 89, heads a faction of Hurriyat Conference and constitutes three-member Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL) that leads separatist campaign in the embattled State. A spokesman of his party said that Geelani traveled to Dooru village of Sopore, 55 kilometers

from here, to meet his eldest daughter whose husband died after a prolonged illness on Tuesday. Geelani has been under house arrest since 2015. A contingent of police and paramilitaries guard his house in Hyderpora locality of uptown Srinagar and mostly prevent visitors to enter the premises. Geelani has not been allowed to offer Friday congregational prayers in a local mosque for the past five years, the spokesman said.

Geelani was allowed to move out of his residence a day after his close aide and Muslim League chief Masarat Alam Bhat was booked under PSA for the 37th time consecutively. Bhat was arrested in April 2015, just 40 days after his release from 5-year imprisonment. He was arrested on charges of rais-

ing anti-India and pro-Pakistan slogans on Geelani's in a public rally on Geelani's arrival from New Delhi.

The PSA is a law that allows the authorities to detain a person for a period of six months without bail.

Meanwhile, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) extended the judicial remand of the chairperson of all-women organization Dukhtaran-e-Millat (DeM) Aasiya Andrabi and her two associates, Nahida Nasreen and Sofi Fehmeeda till December 4.

"Judicial custody of trio has been extended till December 4, 2018," said family sources. Andrabi and her associates have been arrested in July and held on charges of fomenting separatism and receiving funding from overseas.

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BHIMA-KOREGAON RIOTS CASE

Chargesheet against 10 persons, including 5 activists

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The Pune police on Thursday finally filed the first chargesheet before a special court in Pune against 10 persons in the Bhima-Koregaon riots case, accusing them, among other things, of conspiring to kill Prime Minister Narendra Modi and overthrow the democratically elected Government in the country.

In their chargesheet filed before a Special Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) Court in Pune ten weeks after the same court extended a 90-day deadline for filing the chargesheet by another 90 days, the Pune police named Sudhir P.

Dhawale, Rona J. Wilson, Surendra P. Gadling, Shoma Sen, Mahesh S. Raut as among the 10 persons. They were arrested from various parts of the country on June 6.

The five other accused named in their 20-page chargesheet as the absconding accused by the Pune police are M alias Milind Telumbde from Yavatmal, Prakash alias Navin Alias Ritupan Goswami from Assam, Manglu, Dipu and Kishan Prashant Bose, all owing allegiance to the banned CPI (Maoists). The chargesheet stated that these five accused had gone "underground" in various parts of the country.

The ten accused named in the first chargesheet in the

Bhima-Koregaon case have charged under various relevant sections of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), 117 (abetting commission of offence), 120-b (conspiracy) read with 34 (common intention), 121, 121 (A) (Waging or attempting to wage a war, or abetting waging of war, against the Government of India) 124A (sedition), 153 -A (wantonly giving provocation with intent to cause riot.) and 505 1b (statements conducing public mischief) of Indian Penal Code (IPC)

The chargesheet stated that the five arrested activists - Dhawale, Wilson, Gadling, Shoma Sen and S. Raut - were

linked to the CPI (Maoists) which carried out subversive activities through underground means. Human and civil rights organisations like Indian Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL), Anuradha Ghandi Memorial Committee (AGMC), Kabir Kala Manch, all of which set up legally, were supporting the outlawed CPI (Maoists)

According to the chargesheet, accused number two Rona J. Wilson had colluded with Shoma Sen and Prashanto Bose, secretary of the outlawed CPI (Maoist)'s Eastern Regional Bureau, along with other underground activists hatched a conspiracy to kill the Prime Minister of India.

IT Development Agency (I.T.D.A.)
Department of Information Technology, Government of Uttarakhand
IT Bhawan, IT-47, IT Park, Sahasrabudh Road, Dehradun - 248001
Tel: 0135-266333, Email: ditd@itda.org.in
Ref: 98777DA-466A/2018 Date: 15/11/2018

Tender Cancellation Notice
Tender for Request for Proposal (RFP) for AMC of UPS Under UKSWAN invited by Director ITDA, Dehradun, Uttarakhand vide No: 07/ITDA-466/2018 dated 23/10/18 is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable reasons.
DIRECTOR

गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण
(ISO 9001:2015 एवं ISO 14001:2015 प्रमाणित संस्था)
विकास पथ, गाजियाबाद

सार्वजनिक सूचना
"मै. शिप्रा एस्टेट लि. द्वारा भूखण्ड सं.-10 वैभव खण्ड इन्दिरापुरम पर पूर्व में स्वीकृत कराये गये मानचित्र सं.-191/जी.एच./जोन-6/2012-13 में आंशिक रूप से संशोधन करते हुए नवीन प्रस्तावना दी गई है जिसमें भूखण्ड के भू-भाग सं. 10/2 समूह आवास एवं 10/3 पर व्यवसायिक निर्माण की प्रस्तावना दी गई है। जनसामान्य, किसी भी कार्य दिवस में मुख्य नगर नियोजक कार्यालय में संशोधित मानचित्र का अवलोकन कर विज्ञापित प्रकाशित होने के 1 माह (30 दिन) के अन्दर अपनी आपत्ति/सुझाव से लिखित रूप में प्राधिकरण को अवगत करा सकते हैं। निर्धारित समय अर्थात् उपरान्त प्रस्तुत होने वाली किसी भी आपत्ति/सुझाव पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।
उपाध्यक्ष
Email: helpinegda@gmail.com, @gdagzb, @gdagzb
Helpline No. : 0120 3342433, WhatsApp : 9818988807, Website: www.gdaghaziabad.com
एक सुन्दर शहर..... हमारा संकल्प

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified female 50 years of age whose name, residence and family is unknown, was found dead in the drain DDA Park, A-B Block, Saraswati Vihar, P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi on 06.11.18 at 12:38 pm. In this regard a wide has been registered with DD No: 16A, dated 06.11.18 at P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased female but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the UIDB is as under:
Sex: Female, **Age:** 50 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Yellow colour Suit, Brown Colour Printed Salwar and Blue colour Slippers in Feet.
If anyone has any information about her relatives, kindly inform the SHO/ Rani Bagh, Delhi.

SHO
P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27015329, 27015793
DP/8473/NW/18

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, **Age:** Approx 28-32 years, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 5'6", **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, was wearing White Check Shirt & Light Blue colour Underwear and barefoot, was found at MG Marg Near Rajghat Bus Depot, Public Gate Side Darya Ganj. In this regard a FIR/DD No. 264/18, dated 12.11.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23279331, 23274683
DP/5859/CD/18

POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU & KASHMIR JAMMU
Phone No.: 0191-2459255, Fax: 0191-2459229 Website: www.jkpolice.gov.in Email: jkpolice@nic.gov.in

e-NIT No. 59 OF 2018
DATED 13.11.2018

For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir State, e-tenders are hereby invited from original manufacturers or their authorized dealers having proper authorization of the manufacture to quote against this tender for the supply of "Hospital Equipments" (as indicated in the detailed SBD and BOQs). The downloaded of NIT shall start on 13.11.2018 at 1500 hours. Tenders shall be submitted online on J&K State e-Procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in before 06.12.2018 up to 1800 hours.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on 19.11.2018 at 1500 hours in Conference Hall at PHQ, Gulshan Ground J&K, Jammu to clarify the queries of prospective bidders if any. The intending bidders should attend said conference to clarify matters related to this tender enquiry if any.

The tenders (technical bids only) will be opened online on 08.12.2018 at 1100 hours at Police Headquarters Gulshan Ground J&K, Jammu.

Detailed tender documents (SBD) with terms and conditions are available on J&K State e-Procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in.
Sd/-
AIG (Provision/Transport)
For Director General of Police J&K -Jammu

No: DIP/K-3845-NB/18
Dated: 15.11.2018

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person (depicted in the photo), **Name:** Mohd. Tamanna S/o Mohd. Hanif R/o Village Harpurwa, PS bazpatti, Distt. Sitamarhi, Bihar present R/o H.No. A-373, Amar Puri, Nabi Karim, Delhi has been missing since 20.10.2018 from his residence at Nabi Karim. In this regard a vide DD No. 78-A dated 02.11.2018 lodged at PS Nabi Karim, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 30 Years, **Height:** 6'7", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Red colour shirt and grey colour pant and Hawai Chappal in feet.

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

SHO
P.S Nabi Karim, Delhi
Phone No: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No: 011-24368639
Ph. No. 011-23521081, 23531734,
8750870428
DP/5851/CD/18

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED/MISSING

General public is hereby informed that five persons namely

1. Sunita, W/o Prem Kumar, Age 50 years, Complexion Wheatish, Height Not known, Face Oval, Wearing Salwar & Kurti;
2. Shilpa, W/o Ravinder Kumar, Age 29 years, Complexion Wheatish, Height 4'5", Face Oval, Wearing Salwar & Kurti;
3. Shristi, D/o Ravinder Kumar, Age 09 years, Complexion Wheatish, Height 3', Face Oval, Wearing T-shirt;
4. Ritika, D/o Ravinder Kumar, Age 06 years, Complexion Wheatish, Height 3', Face Oval, Wearing Not known and
5. Kartik, S/o Ravinder Kumar, Age 2½ years, Complexion Wheatish, Face Oval, Wearing Not known, all R/O B-4/351, Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi have been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. North Rohini, Delhi since 31.05.2018. In this regard a D.D. No. 33-A, Dated 03.06.2018 has been lodged at Police Station - North Rohini, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the persons but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about them please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. North Rohini, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27048210, 27048211
DP/2301/RD/18

REGENT ENTERPRISES LIMITED
REGD. OFFICE : E-205 (LGF), Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110 048
Telephone No.: 011-29213191 Email: info@regententerprises.in
CIN: L11500DL1994PLC153183

Extract of Standalone Un-Audited Financial Results for the Quarter Ended on 30th September, 2018 (Rs in Lakhs)

PARTICULARS	QUARTER ENDED 30.09.2018 Un-Audited	HALF YEAR ENDED 30.09.2018 Un-Audited	CORRESPONDING QUARTER ENDED 30.09.2017 Un-Audited
Total Income from operations	36459.11	72343.93	37626.35
Net Profit/(Loss) for the Period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	55.36	113.19	30.40
Net Profit/(Loss) for the Period before Tax (after tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	55.36	113.19	30.40
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	33.77	76.60	30.40
Total Comprehensive Income for the Period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	33.77	76.60	30.40
Equity Share Capital	3345.63	3345.63	3345.63
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the Previous Year	-	-	-
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)			
1 Basic :	0.10	0.23	0.10
2 Diluted :	0.10	0.23	0.10

NOTES:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly/Half Yearly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Half Yearly Financial Results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange <https://www.bseindia.com> and on Company's website <http://regententerprises.in>

Place: New Delhi
Date: 14/11/2018

Vikas Kumar
Director
Din:05308192

Note: The Company has sent letters for Compliance to SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/MRSD/DO/P/CIR/P/2018/73 dated April 20, 2018 and SEBI Notification No. SEBI/LD/NRO/GN/24 dated June 8, 2018, the same letter were sent to 3067 Shareholders who hold physical shares out of which approx. 700 courier has not been received by the shareholders till the date due to various reasons, thus shareholders of the Company are requested that kindly update their address or detail with the Company.

DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD
Office of the Executive Engineer C-4
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
First Floor, Office cum Shopping Complex, New Ranjeet Nagar, New Delhi-110008
email : eec4.dusib@gmail.com

No. D-1851/WD/4541/318/02/AE/EEC-4/DUSIB/2018-19 Dated: 12.11.2018

PRESS NOTICE FOR INVITING E-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer C-4 DUSIB invites on behalf of DUSIB online percentage rate bid on two bid system for the under mentioned work :-

NIT No. 57 /EEC-4/ DUSIB/2018-19
E-Tender No. 2018_DUSIB_161864_1
Name of work :- Pay & Use JSC (Revenue)
Sub Head :- Up-gradation of Jan Suvidha Complex in JJ Cluster Rakhli Market Zakhira including provisions for additional 8WCs and 2 Baths. (PMS:9989).

Estimated Cost :- Rs. 25,14,121/-
Earnest Money :- Rs. 50,300/-
Tender Cost :- Rs. 500/-
Period of Completion :- 120 days
Last Time and date of submission of bid : 26.11.2018 at 15:00 Hrs
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)

Executive Engineer C-4, DUSIB

Store Division, Civil Engineering Department
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
ROOM NO. 224, SHAHID BHAGAT SINGH PLACE, Gole Market, New Delhi-110001

E-Procurement Tender Notice - IIIrd Call

Tender ID : 2018_NDMC_161933_1

Subject: 9-B Suspense Stock during 2018-19.

SH: Supply and Stacking of GT Cover with Frame, GT Cover Only Manhole Cover with Frame & Manhole Cover only in NDMC Civil Store.

Estimated Cost : Rs. 22,27,025/-
Date of release of tender : 14.11.2018
Last date/time for receipt of tenders : 26.11.2018 upto 04.00 PM

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

Note : To participate in e-tender in NDMC, registration with e-tendering system, Govt. of NCT of Delhi is Mandatory. Executive Engineer (Store)

To be the global Benchmark for a Capital City

WESTERN RAILWAY
STORES DEPARTMENT
e-AUCTION SALE DURING DECEMBER, 2018 FOR P-WAY & OTHER VARIOUS SCRAP

SPECIAL ATTENTION: ALL STEEL PURCHASERS & RE-ROLLERS

Public e-auction for disposal of P. way scrap, rail scrap & other various scrap material will be held in DECEMBER, 2018 as per program given below:-

DECEMBER 2018	DEPOT		DEPOT OFFICER IN CHARGE	CONTACT NO.
	1 st Round	2 nd Round		
05.12.2018	18.12.2018	Mahalaxmi	Deputy Chief Material Manager- Mahalaxmi	022-24929571 09004495750
07.12.2018	19.12.2018	Pratapnagar	Deputy Chief Material Manager - Dahod	02673241295 09724090455
08.12.2018	20.12.2018	Dahod	Deputy Chief Material Manager - Dahod	02673241295 09724090455
12.12.2018	22.12.2018	Sabarmati	Deputy Chief Material Manager-Sabarmati	07922500888 09724093770
10.12.2018	24.12.2018	Mumbai Central	Sr.Divl. Material Manager, Mumbai Central	022-23094142 09004499003
11.12.2018	21.12.2018	Ahmedabad	Sr.Divl. Material Manager - Ahmedabad	07922505888 09724093750

For detailed information please contact the concerned Depot Officers. **Note:-** 1. Railway reserves the right to withdraw any lot from e-Auction. 2. e-Auction will start at as per scheduled time. 3. e-Auction catalogues will be available on site www.irpss.gov.in e-auction portal. 4. In case of any assistance required regarding e-Auction, digital signatures, Registration procedure and participation, please contact above mentioned depot Officer. 5. All payment transactions shall be done through the online payment gateway. (No. S438/e-Auction/2018-19 Dated 12.11.2018)

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FinMin plans offer for sale of GIC, New India Assurance

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Thursday said it is planning to come out with a share sale offer of two recently listed insurance companies — GIC and New India Assurance.

State-owned reinsurer General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) was listed on the bourses in October last year, while New India Assurance Company Ltd made its stock market debut in November last year.

The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) Thursday invited expression of interest (EOI) from merchant bankers and selling brokers for managing the offer for sale (OFS) of GIC and New India Assurance.

Merchant bankers, who can bid singly or as a consortium, can apply for assisting the



Government in the stake sale process by December 7, 2018, said the EOI floated by DIPAM. General insurer New India Assurance had raised ₹9,600 crore in the initial public offer (IPO) and had priced its shares at ₹770-800 a piece.

At 1515 hours, shares of New India Assurance were trading at ₹220.20 apiece, up 0.30 per cent over last close on the BSE.

Reinsurance company GIC

has fixed the price band at ₹855-912 for its IPO last year, through which it raised ₹11,370 crore.

Shares of GIC were trading at ₹309.75, down 0.21 per cent over previous close on the BSE.

So far in current fiscal, the Government has raised over ₹15,200 crore through PSU stake sale. The budgeted disinvestment target for the fiscal is ₹80,000 crore.

Air India eyes ₹800 cr from sale of over 70 properties

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Loss-making national carrier Air India plans to mop up ₹700-800 crore by selling over 70 residential and commercial properties spread across the country, a senior airline official said on Thursday.

This fresh bid is a part of the airline's real estate assets monetisation plan approved by the then UPA Government in 2012. As per the plan, Air India had to the garner funds to the tune of ₹5,000 crore between April 2014 and March 2021, with an annual target of ₹500 crore from FY13 onwards.

The properties, which are spread over 16 cities pan India, will be e-auctioned through the state-run auctioneer MSTC. "We are expecting to raise about ₹700-800 crore by e-auctioning of these over 70 properties, which comprises both residential as well as commercial. Some of these properties are those which we put up on the block earlier but could not get a buyer," the official said.

Last month, Air India had put 14 properties on sale, in cities such as Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Pune and Amritsar.

Air India's debt burden stands around ₹55,000 crore, besides huge accumulated losses. According to its audited accounts, the airline's total losses stood at ₹47,145.62 crore in 2016-17.

Rebirth of a classic

Classic Legends Limited revives the Jawa brand, introduces three new products

KUSHAN MITRA ■ MUMBAI

Jawa, a Czech brand that won its way into the hearts of Indian motorcyclists in the 1960s until the advent of Japanese commuter four-stroke motorcycles killed the brand. But thanks to Classic Legend Limited, Indians will be able to enjoy the Jawa brand again. Launching three new products, the Jawa, Jawa 42 and factory-custom 'Perak' the brand hopes to make a big bang when their products hit the Indian roads in early 2019.

However, the rebirth of the brand does not mean the motorcycle will feature ancient technology, instead a modern 293cc liquid-cooled engine will do duty on the Jawa and Jawa 42 producing 27 horsepower. The Perak will have a higher displacement 334cc version of the same engine with 30 horsepower. The motorcycles will be priced at between ₹1.55 lakh to ₹1.89 lakh.

Speaking at the launch, Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra Group and an investor in Classic Legends said that it was rare to get the opportunity to resurrect a legend. Incidentally, Mahindra Two-Wheelers is the contract manufacturer for Classic Legends.

Anupam Thareja, Founder, Classic Legends believes that the Jawa brand will appeal to young millennials as well. "An idea how much people are anticipating this brand is the response we got for dealerships. We have signed on 105 dealerships in 71 cities across India.



There are already some 70 Classic Jawa clubs in India engaging 40,000 people. I think there is a great opportunity in this market."

Classic Legends is also bullish about other brands, Thareja revealed that talks were on revive the Yezdi brand as well and the company also has the brand rights to BSA, the classic British brand. "Obviously we are going after nostalgia but are main appeal to customers will be our honesty and authenticity."

However, with Royal Enfield launching their new 650cc twin-cylinder motorcycles earlier this week to rave reviews and at an aggressive price point below Rs 3 lakh, Classic Legends has a problem on its hands even before the first production motorcycles leave the line. However, the company's management feels that there is enough space for two players and brands in the Indian market.

Telecom sector reaches 5 lakh mobile tower mark

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom companies have completed installation of 5 lakh mobile towers in the country till date with a total investment of ₹10.44 lakh crore, industry body COAI said Thursday.

"COAI...Congratulated the telecom industry on the landmark achievement of installing 5 lakh mobile towers, taking the total BTS count to over 20 Lakh," the industry body said in a statement.

A mobile tower can house several base stations (BTS) of different telecom service providers.

"The telecom industry has been closely working with the government in building a well-entrenched communication infrastructure and till date, the industry has invested ₹10.44 lakh crore to this end," the statement said.

According to the data shared by the industry body, the sharp growth in expansion of mobile tower was fuelled by 4G BTSs.

HAIER BRINGS A NEW ERA OF SMART HOME SOLUTIONS IN INDIA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Haier — a Home Appliances & Consumer Electronics maker — opened a first of its kind experience store in Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi. Spread across 3,000 sq. ft. area, this experience store showcases advanced products from Haier to help consumers make their lifestyles future-ready.

Its U+ smart living operating system gives a sneak peek into a connected world where home appliances are synced and interconnected with each other.

NHAI to get ₹10,000 cr: Gadkari

MUMBAI: Overwhelmed with the response for the first tranche of highway projects under the toll-operate-transfer (TOT) model, union minister for roads and highways Nitin Gadkari Thursday said he expects the second tranche to fetch over ₹10,000 crore. The maiden bundle of nine

highway projects under TOT was a huge success, which was over subscribed and had fetched NHAI ₹9,681 crore.

"We are positive that the second round will also get a similar response. I personally expect it to fetch ₹10,000 crore, more than what we got for the

first tranche," Gadkari told reporters here. The minister was in the megapolis here to attend the road show organised by the ministry and NHAI to attract investors for the second tranche of highway projects of 586 km under toll-operate-transfer (TOT) basis. PTI

Business Corner

BIS ORGANISES SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) organised a seminar on "International Standards and the Fourth Industrial Revolution" in New Delhi, the seminar was held to celebrate the World Standards Day 2018.



Each year, ISO decides a theme of the World Standards Day based on a current aspects of standardization. The theme of this year "International Standards and Industrial Revolution 4.0" is very relevant as the industry is embracing new technologies for automation along with artificial intelligence making use of advanced communication modes.

MOTHERS ON WHEELS — OUT TO HEAL THE WORLD

Four mothers who set out on their adventure of travelling from New Delhi to London by road to spread love across the world returned home on 15th Nov 2018. Madhuri Sahasrabudhe, Sheetal Vaidya, Urmila Joshi and Madhavi Singh took off on their journey and mission on the Sept 10th 2018 and arrived in Delhi after spreading the word on the importance of love, covering 22 countries and 22,000 kilometres in total on their 'Mothers on Wheel' trip.



POSOCO ORGANISES ANNUAL CULTURAL MEET

Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSO) organised the Annual Cultural Meet and Handicraft Exhibition-2018 at Mumbai recently.



The event was inaugurated by KVS Baba, CMD, POSOCO by lighting the lamp. Bharati, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Power, all Board Members, Senior Officials and employees from all five Regional Load Despatch Centres, National Load Despatch Centre and Corporate Centre with their family members were present on the occasion.

SNEHA SCHOOL CELEBRATES CHILDREN'S DAY

Children's Day was celebrated in SNEHA School, patronised by NLC India Limited on 14.11.2018, in commemoration of consummate love which Late Punditji enlivened all through his life that touched and transformed the lives of millions of children in Independent India.



NMDC LIMITED CELEBRATES ITS 61ST FOUNDATION DAY

NMDC Limited celebrated its 61st Foundation Day at Head Office, Hyderabad and in all its major production projects and Units as the Corporation was incorporated on the same day in 1958 and has completed 60 years of excellence. Incidentally, NMDC is celebrating Diamond Jubilee Year by organising many mega events such as National and International Seminars, Marathons, Cultural Programmes.



Exports grow 17.86 pc in Oct due to base effect; trade deficit widens

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Federation of India Export Organisations (FIEO) said that exports in October last year were even lower than that of September this year.

Base effect is responsible for the high growth in October, it said.

Sharing similar views, Engineering Export Promotion Council of India (EPEC) said that high growth in October has come about on the back of a favourable base effect.

FIEO President Ganesh Gupta demanded for augmenting the flow of credit as the sharp decline does not augur well for the sector.

The sectors which recorded healthy growth in October includes petroleum (49.3 per cent), engineering (8.87 per cent), chemicals (34 per cent), pharma (13 per cent), and gems and jewellery sector (5.5 per cent).

On the other hand, exports of several agri commodities recorded negative growth and that includes coffee, rice, tobacco, cashew and oil seeds.

The trade gap was \$14.61 billion in October 2017. Exporters attributed close to 18 per cent growth in exports in October to a favourable base effect, as the foreign shipments in the comparable month of the previous fiscal were quite low at \$22.89 billion.

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer (E), Electrical Division-I, CPWD, Gate No. 6, Jalebi Chowk, North Block, New Delhi (Ph : 23092312 & E-mail: deleeed1.cpwd@nic.in) on behalf of the President of India, hereby invites online item rate tenders from "the Registered Contractors of CPWD in appropriate class of Composite Category" for the following work:-
NIT NO. 167/EE(E)/ED-1/2018-19, Name of Work: MOEI & fans i/c Security lights at L&M Block & Plot No. 108 (E&W), New Delhi. (SH:- Providing services to attend the elect. Complaints). **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 15,15,636/- **Earnest Money:** 30,313/- **Period of completion:** 12 (Twelve) Months. **Last time and date of submission of bid:** 22.11.2018 up to 3:00 PM.
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.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is here by informed that this boy (depicted in the photo) namely: **Arjun Kumar, S/o Shri Ram Raj, R/o H.No. A-2/12 & 13, Near Munni International School, Mohan Garden, Delhi,** has been missing/kidnapped from **08.10.2018**. In this regard FIR No. 577/18 u/s 363 IPC dated **14.10.2018** has been registered at **P.S Ranhola, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, **Age:** 12, **Height:** 4' ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **ID-Mark:** Mentally weak, **Wearing:** Yellow T-Shirt-Blue colour Jeans and plastics chapple in feet.
 Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following:-
SHO Website: http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Ranhola, Delhi
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in Ph. No.-011-28363001, 28363002
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mob. No. 7065036128
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/1562/OD/18

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Ashok Kumar S/o Deep Chand Sharma R/o V.P.O. Karala, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 213/13 u/s 420/34 and FIR No. 167/13 u/s 420 IPC P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Ashok Kumar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ashok Kumar** absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Ashok Kumar** accused of FIR No. 213/13 u/s 420/34 and FIR No. 167/13 u/s 420 IPC is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **21.12.2018**.

By Order:
Sh. Anurag Thakur
 Metropolitan Magistrate (North-West)-02,
 Room No. 113, 1st Floor,
 Rohini Court, Delhi
 DP/1588/OD/18

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Rinky, D/o Bhagwan Dass, R/o B-10, Kamruddin Nagar, Near Pond, Nihal Vihar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since **06.10.2018** from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 652/18 u/s 363 IPC, dated 16.10.2018**, has been registered at **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:



Name: Rinky, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 15 years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Oval, **Wearing:** Light Pink colour Suit, Black colour Salwar and Yellow colour Relaxo Slippers in Feet.
 If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped girl, kindly inform SHO/ Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in
 Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
 Fax : 011-24368639
 SHO P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi
 Ph. No. : 011-25946700, 25946710
 DP/1588/OD/18

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE LOSS OF SALE AGREEMENT

Notice is hereby given to the Public at large that the DEED OF SALE dated 24th August 2007, executed between Dr. Anil Mohan Perpetuo Socorro Da Costa (THE VENDOR), in favour of M/s Manas Realty Project Pvt Ltd (THE PURCHASER) for the property being addressed at:
 1. "PREDIO URBANO OU CASAS DE MORADA COM SUA PATIO QUINTAL" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 27511 of Book No. 70 New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 871.
 2. "BENZOUXALEM NOVO" alias "BENZOUXALEM NOVO" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 6727 of Book B 17 of New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 870 &
 3. "BENZOUXALEM" alias "MALPEAZOIXALEM" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 7025 of Book B 18 of New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 867.
 The aforesaid three properties are adjoining each other and are surveyed under survey no. 208 sub-division 3 totally admeasuring 5225 sq meters. Along with a residential house bearing no. 817 in the said property.
 Portion of the property "Valadra" described in the land Registration office Salcete under no. 10085 New Series and inscribed in the Taluka Revenue office (matriz) under no 94 and survey no. 210 sub-division 3 situated at Aesona ward of Benauiim vilage, admeasuring 192 sq. meters.
 All situated at Asons ward of Benauiim Gram Panchayat Salcete Taluka, Salcete Sub-District of District of South Goa has been lost which is duly registered vice registration No.1583 reg stered at Book No. 1 Volume No. 2888 from Page No. 85 to 118 with the sub registrar. All the people are hereby informed to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mention address within 7 days from the present.
 Sd/-
DEEPAK KUMAR TYAGI
 AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
 Manas Realty Project Pvt Ltd
 Place: New Delhi
 Date: 15.11.18
 Address: 6, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi - 110017, India

BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED

REGD. OFFICE: 202, Royal View, B.K. Kakoti, Ulubari, Guwahati, Assam-781007
 Corp. Office: 281, Deepali Pitampura, New Delhi-110034
 Tel No.: 0361-2484670/71, Fax: +91-361-2484672
 Website: www.barakcement.com; E-Mail Id: cs@barakcement.com

EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 2018
 (Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	PARTICULARS	Quarter Ended 30.09.2018	Half Year Ended 30.09.2018	Quarter Ended 30.09.2017
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
1	Total Income from operations (net)	3,574.42	7,010.67	2,868.06
2	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	39.33	143.42	30.81
3	Net Profit/ (Loss) for the period (before Tax, after Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	39.33	140.80	30.81
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/ or Extraordinary items)	25.78	124.01	30.81
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (comprising Profit/ (Loss) for the period after tax and other comprehensive income (after tax)	25.78	124.01	30.84
6	Equity Share Capital	2,216.00	2,216.00	2,216.00
7	Earnings Per Share (of ₹10/- each, not annualised)			
	Basic	0.12	0.56	0.14
	Diluted	0.12	0.56	0.14

NOTES:
 1 The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and other Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange websites, www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com and on the company's website www.barakcement.com
 2 The above financial statements have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 14th November 2018 in requirement of Regulation 33 of SEBI (LODR) regulations, 2015.
 3 Subsequent to introduction of Goods and Service Tax (GST) w.e.f. 1st July 2017, Revenue is required to be disclosed net of GST. Accordingly, the figures of Revenue from operations for the six months ended 30th September 2018 is not comparable with the figures of six months ended 30th September, 2017.
 4 Figures of the previous period have been regrouped and reclassified to conform to the classification of current period, wherever considered necessary.
 By Order of the Board
For BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED
 Sd/-
(Kamakhya Chamaria)
 Vice Chairman and Managing Director
 Place : New Delhi
 Date : 14.11.2018

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION REASI

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Short E-NIT No. 20 of 2018-19 Dated : 12-11-2018
 Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Reasi on behalf of Governor of J&K State, invite tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors with J&K State Govt./CPWD and Railways upto 1800 Hrs on 27-11-2018 for the following work.
S. No. 1 :- Name of Work :- Construction of road from Govt. High School PHC Panassa Km Ist RD0-1000. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div. Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 11.04, **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/- **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost, **Time Allowed for completion :-** 30 days, **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours), **Class of Contractor :-** A, B, C & D
S. No. 2 :- Name of Work :- Construction of Hall for Wrestlers near Kalka Temple at Kalka Hills Reasi. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div. Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 9.83, **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost, **Time Allowed for completion :-** 60 days, **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours), **Class of Contractor :-** A, C, D
S. No. 3 :- Name of Work :- Construction of VIP Suit at Panassa [G. Floor & F. Floor] Including Boundary Wall. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div. Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 47.90, **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost, **Time Allowed for completion :-** 90 days, **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours), **Class of Contractor :-** A & B
S. No. 4 :- Name of Work :- Construction of road from PMGSY road to Hospital at Arnas by way of 100mm thick RBM, 150mm thick WBM, 75mm thick WMM, 25MM thick & 01 No 0.90 H.P Culvert. R/wall, B/wall & Pacca Drain in stretches Km Ist RD 0-600. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div. Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 34.90, **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost, **Time Allowed for completion :-** 60 days, **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours), **Class of Contractor :-** A & B
 1) Date of Publishing from 12/11/2018
 2) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 0900 Hrs on 12/11/2018 to 27/11/2018 (1800Hrs)
No. DIPJ-3689-P18 Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Dated:- 13.11.2018 PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi

ZEL JEWELLERS LIMITED

REGD. OFFICE : E-5, South Extension, Part-II, New Delhi-110 049
 CIN: L74899DL1994PLC058832 Website: www.rkjewellers.in
 Landline: (91)-11-26252416 Email ID: zeljewellers@yahoo.co.in

Extract of Un-Audited Standalone Financial Results for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2018
 (Rs. in Lakhs)

PARTICULARS	3 Months Ended 30.09.2018	3 Months Ended 30.09.2017	6 Months Ended 30.09.2018
	Un - Audited	Un - Audited	Un - Audited
Total Income from Operations	408.14	331.72	1039.08
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	14.67	27.56	22.39
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	14.67	27.56	22.39
Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	10.70	20.67	16.43
Total Comprehensive Income for the Period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) For the Period (after tax) and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	10.70	20.67	16.43
Equity Share Capital (In Qty)	35,50,000	35,50,000	35,50,000
Earnings Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discounted operations)			
Basic	0.30	0.58	0.46
Diluted	0.30	0.58	0.46

NOTES:
 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Unaudited Financial Results for the second quarter ended September 30, 2018 filed with the Stock Exchange under regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Unaudited Financial Results for the second quarter ended September 30, 2018 is available on the Stock Exchange website (www.bseindia.com) and Company's website (www.rkjewellers.in).
 2. The Company has adopted Indian Accounting Standards (IND AS) prescribed under the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant rules there under, with effect from April 1, 2017 and accordingly these financial results have been prepared in accordance with Ind-AS notified under the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 as amended by the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) (Amendments) Rules, 2016.
 For and on behalf of Board of Zel Jewellers Limited
 Sd/-
Rohan Sharma
 Managing Director
 DIN:01390042
 Place: New Delhi
 Date: 14/11/2018

Indian-origin Minister leads resignations in fresh Brexit jolt for PM Theresa May

PTI ■ LONDON
 Embattled British Prime Minister Theresa May's leadership was in jeopardy and faced a possible vote of no confidence after Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab, Indian-origin minister Shailesh Vara and two other ministers resigned Thursday from her divided Cabinet over UK's "half-baked" divorce deal with the European Union.



Minister, Prime Minister May was hit by a bigger blow as her Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab resigned from the Cabinet saying he "cannot in good conscience" support the draft of the

withdrawal agreement with the 28-member bloc.
 Hours after a spate of resignations, prominent Brexiters Jacob Rees-Mogg directly challenged May in the House of Commons. He later submitted a letter of no confidence in her leadership of the Conservative Party.
 Vara, Conservative Party MP for North-West Cambridgeshire, who has been a minister in the Northern Ireland Office since January, said,

ALPHA CORP DEVELOPMENT PRIVATE LIMITED

Registered Office: Upper Basement, Alpha Mall, MDM Farm, GT Road, Sultan Wind, Sub Urban, Amritsar - 143002 (Punjab)
 CIN: U45201PB2003PTC045680 Email: secretarial@alpha-corp.com Tel: 0124-4831111, Fax: 0124-4831100, Website: www.alpha-corp.com

UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2018			
(All amounts in Indian Rupees in lakhs unless stated otherwise)			
Sr. No.	Particulars	Six months period ended September 30, 2018 (Unaudited) (refer note 2)	Six months period ended September 30, 2017 (Unaudited) (refer note 2)
1	Income from operations		
(a)	Revenue from real estate operations	7,118.58	3,147.77
(b)	Other Operating revenue	243.71	220.85
	Total income from operations	7,362.29	3,186.96
2	Expenditure		
(a)	(Increase) decrease in project work in progress	3,282.65	(854.03)
(b)	Project approval charges	53.06	436.09
(c)	Cost of land/ development rights	74.92	4,200.00
(d)	Employee cost	858.80	868.92
(e)	Depreciation and amortization expense	74.92	96.73
(f)	Subcontractor, material and labour charges	850.31	1,460.52
(g)	Other Expenditure	684.13	649.09
	Total expenditure	5,803.87	2,657.32
3	Profit/ (loss) from operations before other income, finance costs (1-2)	1,558.42	2,943.42
4	Other income	368.52	124.49
5	Profit/ (loss) from operations before finance costs and exceptional items (3+4)	1,926.94	3,667.78
6	Finance costs	2,287.52	1,599.49
7	Exceptional items	-	-
8	Profit/ (loss) from operations before tax (after exceptional items) (5-6-7)	(360.58)	(945.36)
9	Tax expense	-	-
	Current tax expense	-	75.13
	Adjustment of tax relating to earlier periods	-	-
	Deferred tax expense/ (credit)	524.37	(13.57)
10	Net Profit/ (loss) for the period (8-9)	(884.95)	34.10
11	Other Comprehensive Income/ (loss) (net of tax)	(12.98)	(22.55)
12	Net profit/ (loss) for the period (10-11)	(977.93)	11.55
13	Paid-up equity share capital (face value of Rs.10 per share)	0.93	0.93
14	Paid-up preference share capital (face value of Rs.10 per share)	300.00	300.00
15	Paid-up debt capital/ outstanding debt (refer note 10)	4,600.00	4,600.00
16	Net worth (refer note 10)	27,638.15	36,389.97
17	Debt redemption reserve (refer note 13)	18.86	18.86
18	Capital redemption reserve	321.70	321.70
19	Earning Per Share (EPS) (not annualised)		
	Basic (in Rs.)	(9,560.65)	368.51
	Diluted (in Rs.)	(9,560.65)	30.68
20	Debt Equity Ratio (refer note 10)	0.99	0.56
21	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (refer note 10)	0.58	0.32
22	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (refer note 10)	0.87	0.57

NOTES: (1) The above financial results for the half year ended September 30, 2018 have been reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on November 14, 2018. The statutory auditors of the Company have carried out a limited review of the financial results for the half year ended September 30, 2018. The Company's debentures are listed and therefore, Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) 2015 is applicable to the Company. (2) The financial results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Indian Accounting Standards ("IND AS") as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 (read with relevant rules there under). (3) In line with the provisions of Ind AS-108 "Operating Segments" and basis the review of operations being undertaken by the senior management, the operations of the Company primarily fall under real estate business, which is considered by the management to be the only reportable operating segment. (4) CRISIL has reassigned CRISIL BBB- negative ratings from CRISIL BBB-(SO) ratings for Company's redeemable non-convertible debentures vide letter dated: May 07, 2018. (5) Paid up Debt Capital represents: (a) 4,600 Series A Fully Paid, Rated, Listed, Secured, Redeemable, Non-Convertible Debentures of Rs. 100.00 each amounting to Rs.4,600 lakhs. The proceeds have been utilized for the purpose as mentioned in the prospectus and there is no material deviation in the utilization of the proceeds. (b) 4,600 Series B-2,900 debentures of Rs. 100.00 each amounting to Rs. 2,900 lakhs issued by the Company and pertaining to the Mall undertaking, that have been transferred to Euthonia Developers Private Limited (the Resulting Company), pursuant to Composite scheme of arrangement as approved by the Honourable High Court of Punjab and Haryana vide order dated March 31, 2017, and accordingly, the same has not been included in Paid up Debt Capital under Note 5. The Company's management and the Resulting Company's management are currently in the process of completing procedural formalities with the Debenture Trustee and the Stock Exchange for effecting the transfer of such debentures to the Resulting Company and believe, no further adjustments are required in this regard in these financial results. (6) The Series A Non-Convertible Debentures are secured by way of first ranking exclusive charge over Amritsar MIP project land, receivables from sale of Amritsar MIP project and Falehabad project, insurance receivables- Penguin and Ambrose, the escrow accounts and monies lying to credit thereof. (7) Ind AS 115 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, mandatory for reporting periods beginning on or after April 1, 2018, replaces existing revenue recognition requirements. The application of Ind AS 115 has impacted the Company's accounting for recognition of revenue from real estate projects. The Company has applied the modified retrospective approach to contracts that were not completed as of April 1, 2018 and has given impact of Ind AS 115 application by debiting retained earnings as at the said date by Rs. 7,853.92 lakhs (net of tax) pertaining to recognition of revenue based on satisfaction of performance obligation at a point in time. Accordingly, the figures for the comparative previous periods have not been restated and hence, the current period figures are not comparable with previous period figures. Due to the application of Ind AS 115 for the half year ended September 30, 2018, revenue from operations is higher by Rs. 4,600 lakhs and net loss after tax is lower by Rs. 520.15 lakhs than what it would have been if erstwhile standards were applicable. Similarly, the basic and diluted earnings/ (loss) per share for the current period is lower by Rs. (8,973.51) per share. (8) Next due dates for repayment of interest and principal of non-convertible debentures (NCDs):

S.No.	Name of Series	Type	Previous Due date of payment	Next Due date of payment	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Series - A	Interest	November 12, 2018 (Paid)	November 12, 2019	657.80
	Principal along with premium on redemption	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	November 13, 2025*	9,515.00

BALANCE SHEET AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

	Notes	September 30, 2018	March 31, 2018
ASSETS			
Non Current Assets			
Property, plant & equipment	3	1,287.01	1,313.39
Capital work in progress		-	30.75
Investment property	4	-	-
Other intangible assets	5	5.77	6.54
Rights in development properties		133.10	133.10
Deferred tax assets (net)	6	2,490.59	249.06
Tax assets (net)	7	267.60	267.12
Financial assets			
Loans	8	993.37	43.39
Investments	9	1,224.90	1,224.90
Other financial assets	10	866.88	211.35
Other non current assets	11	228.98	228.98
		7,498.18	3,708.58
Current assets			
Inventories	12	62,530.18	51,359.45
Financial assets			
Trade receivables	13	3,858.32	8,529.96
Cash and cash equivalents	14	1,159.15	5,510.46
Bank balances (other than cash and cash equivalents)	14	830.61	2,013.93
Loans	8	1,349.30	800.00
Other financial assets	10	1,865.26	2,634.65
Other current assets	11	4,948.13	4,298.21
		76,440.95	75,134.66
Total assets		83,939.13	78,843.24
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Equity share capital	15	0.93	0.93
Instruments entirely equity in nature	15	300.00	300.00
Other equity	16	27,337.22	36,089.04
		27,638.15	36,389.97
Non-current liabilities			
Financial Liabilities			
Borrowings	17	25,520.08	26,607.90
Other financial liabilities	20	428.37	392.30
Provisions	18	-	-
		25,948.44	27,000.20
Current liabilities			
Financial Liabilities			
Borrowings	17	3,606.74	3,305.23
Trade payables	19	-	-
-total outstanding dues of micro enterprises and small enterprises		-	-
-total outstanding dues of creditors other than micro enterprises & small enterprises		3,057.78	3,464.90
Other financial liabilities	20	1,551.81	1,247.78
Provisions	18	272.74	144.79
Other current liabilities	20	21,863.69	7,290.37
Total liabilities		30,352.56	15,453.07
Total equity and liabilities		83,939.13	78,843.24

*to the extent of information available with the management.
 (12) During the year 2018, the Company received a demand for Rs. 1,440 lakhs from Municipal Corporation, Amritsar towards the levy for Change in Land Use Fee (CLU fees) in relation to Company's retail mall at Amritsar. The Company filed a writ petition with the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana challenging the levy of CLU fees by the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar. Pending the disposal of said writ petition by the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana, the Company had deposited Rs. 1,260 lakhs (net of Rs. 180 lakhs recovered from another party as their share of the said demand) under protest pursuant to directions by the Hon'ble High Court. The Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana vide its order dated March 3, 2018 had adjudicated that the basis of levying CLU fees is untenable and the amount collected from the Company is liable to be refunded with simple interest @ 9% per annum from the date of collection by the authorities till the date of payment. Subsequently, the Municipal Corporation had preferred a Letters Patent Appeal (LPA) against the order of the Hon'ble High Court with Hon'ble High Court on May 12, 2018 and the same had been disposed off in favour of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.
 During the year 2018, as per the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana, the deposited sum was returned back to the Company. However, the Company had furnished a Bank Guarantee for securing the above sum in favour of the Registrar of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana with the condition that if the Municipal Corporation of Amritsar succeeds in the LPA filed in the aforesaid Hon'ble High Court, the Company shall pay the amount to the Municipal Corporation of Amritsar with the same rate of interest which has been awarded by the single bench in its order dated March 03, 2018.
 As mentioned herein above, the aforesaid LPA was disposed off in favour of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar against which the Company has preferred a Special Leave Petition (SLP) in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which was admitted and against which the Company had issued notices to both the parties and restrained the Municipal Corporation from enforcing the bank guarantee. Subsequently, the Company in compliance of the order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on August 18, 2017 had deposited a sum of Rs. 200 lakhs consequent to which the amount of bank guarantee furnished by the Company in favour of the Registrar of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana had got revised to Rs. 1,240 lakhs.
 Based on expert legal inputs, the management is confident of obtaining favorable orders from the said Court in its favour. Further, in accordance with the "Facilitation and Collaboration Agreement" and "Termination-cum-Settlement: Deed" entered into with the landowners, the liability in relation to the "Change of Land Use" is to be borne by the landowners. Accordingly, while finalizing these financial results, no provision has been considered necessary at this stage.
 (13) Debenture redemption reserve is created to the extent of availability of profits as per section 71 of the Companies Act, 2013. Due to non-availability of sufficient profits, debenture redemption reserve has not been created in the current period financial results.

Place: GURGAON For Alpha Corp Development Private Limited
 Date: November 14, 2018 Sd/- Ashish Sarin (Director & Chief Executive Officer) DIN: 00897673

KHASHOGGI KILLING

Five Saudi officials face death penalty

AFP ■ RIYADH
 Five Saudi officials face the death penalty for the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi who was dismembered inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate, but Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was not involved, the prosecutor said on Thursday.



Ahmed al-Assiri, gave the order to repatriate Khashoggi — and "the head of the negotiating team" that flew to the Istanbul consulate had ordered his murder, the spokesman said.

Turkey says Saudi explanation of Khashoggi murder 'insufficient'
 AFP ■ ISTANBUL
 Turkey on Thursday said the Saudi statement over the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi was "insufficient" and insisted that the killing was "premeditated."

The announcement follows growing international outcry over the killing of Khashoggi, a Washington Post columnist and critic of the Saudi rulers who was last seen entering the consulate on October 2 to obtain paperwork for his marriage.
 Khashoggi died after being drugged and then dismembered, a spokesman for the public prosecutor's office said in the first Saudi confirmation of how he was killed.
 The journalist's body parts were then handed over to an agent outside the consulate grounds, the spokesman said.
 He denied Prince Mohammed had any knowledge of the murder.
 The deputy chief of Saudi Arabia's intelligence, General

Ahmed al-Assiri, gave the order to repatriate Khashoggi — and "the head of the negotiating team" that flew to the Istanbul consulate had ordered his murder, the spokesman said.
 After repeated denials, Saudi Arabia finally admitted in mid-October that Khashoggi had been murdered at the compound, but blamed it on a "rogue" operation.
 The prosecutor has requested the death penalty for the five who "are charged with ordering and committing the crime and for the appropriate sentences for the other indicted individuals," an official statement published by state news agency SPA said.

"We find all those steps positive but insufficient," Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said in a televised speech.
 His comments came shortly after Saudi Arabia admitted that 59-year-old Khashoggi was drugged and dismembered inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate last month.
 Riyadh's public prosecutor said the journalist's body parts were then handed over to an agent outside the consulate grounds and that five Saudi officials were facing the death penalty over the murder.

China says foreign concerns over Muslim rights unwarranted

AP ■ BEIJING
 China said on Thursday that 15 foreign ambassadors exceeded their diplomatic roles by issuing a letter expressing concern about the incarceration of hundreds of thousands of members of the country's Muslim minorities in re-education camps.
 Foreign Ministry spokesman Hua Chunying told reporters at a daily briefing that it would be "problematic" if the diplomats were attempting to put pressure on local authorities in the northwestern region of Xinjiang, where the detentions have taken place.

Chaos in Lanka Parliament as Speaker comes under siege

PTI ■ COLOMBO
 Sri Lankan lawmakers on Thursday exchanged blows and threw objects at each other, leaving at least one of them bleeding, as MPs loyal to President Maithripala Sirisena surrounded the Speaker in his chair after Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, who lost a floor test, demanded fresh elections to resolve the raging political turmoil.
 Trouble erupted when Speaker Karu Jayasuriya agreed to a request from ousted premier Ranil Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP) that a vote be taken on a statement made by Rajapaksa demanding fresh polls.
 Jayasuriya had allowed Rajapaksa to make a statement as a member of parliament after stating that he does not recognise the claim of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) leader who lost a no-confidence motion on Wednesday.
 "I was the president and premier, so this Prime Minister's post is not important," Rajapaksa said.
 "I urge all 225 members to join me in calling for a fresh election. We want a general election," he said, adding that a fresh election was the best way to resolve the crisis. UNP legislator Lakshman Kiriella urged Jayasuriya to take a vote by name, showing the loss of confidence over Rajapaksa's remarks.

'Super-Earth' found orbiting Sun's nearest solitary star

PTI ■ LONDON
 Astronomers have discovered a frozen 'super Earth' orbiting the closest solitary star to the Sun, a breakthrough that could shine light on our planet's nearest planetary neighbours.
 The potentially rocky planet, known as Barnard's star b, is a 'super-Earth' and orbits around its host star once every 233 days, said researchers from Queen Mary University of London in the UK.
 The findings, published in the journal Nature, show the planet lies at a distant region from the star known as the 'snow line'.
 This is well beyond the habitable zone in which liquid water, and possibly life, could exist, researchers said.
 The planet's surface temperature is estimated to be around minus 170 degrees Celsius, meaning it is likely to be a frozen world which is uninhabiting to Earth-like life, they said. However, if the planet has a substantial atmosphere the temperature could be higher and conditions potentially more hospitable.
 "Barnard's star is an infamous object among astronomers and exoplanet scientists, as it was one of the first stars where planets were initially claimed but later proven to be incorrect."

'Super-Earth' found orbiting Sun's nearest solitary star

PTI ■ LONDON
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IMRAN KHAN TO VISIT MALAYSIA NEXT WEEK

IMRAN KHAN TO VISIT MALAYSIA NEXT WEEK
 Islamabad: Prime Minister Imran Khan will visit Malaysia next week where he is likely to seek monetary assistance to minimise the cash-strapped Pakistan's dependence on an IMF bailout package.

'TRUMP-KIM MEETING LIKELY IN NEW YEAR'

Singapore: Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un will likely meet again after New Year, the US Vice-President said on Thursday, but insisted his Government would not repeat past mistakes where "promises are broken". The US President and the North's leader held a historic summit in Singapore earlier this year.

बिहार सरकार

स्वास्थ्य विभाग

राज्य के चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पतालों में सीनियर रेजिडेंट / ट्यूटोर के टेन्चोर पद पर नियुक्ति से संबंधित सूचना

(चिकित्सक कृपया ध्यान दें)

राज्य के चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पतालों में सिनियर रेजिडेंट/ट्यूटोर के टेन्चोर (तीन वर्षीय) पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु सिनियर रेजिडेंट/ट्यूटोर तथा बिहार चिकित्सा शिक्षा सेवा भर्ती, नियुक्ति एवं प्रोन्नति नियमावली-2008 व संशोधित नियमावली 2013 के अन्तर्गत दिनांक-06.09.2018 को प्रकाशित विज्ञापन के आलोक में दिनांक-17.09.2018 से 22.09.2018 तक आयोजित काउंसिलिंग में उपस्थित कुल 858 अभ्यर्थियों में से अर्हता प्राप्त नहीं करने वाले कुल 307 अभ्यर्थियों की सूची विभागीय वेबसाईट www.health.bih.nic.in पर अपलोड कर दी गयी है। उक्त के संबंध में यदि कोई आपत्ति हो तो विज्ञापन प्रकाशित होने के सात दिनों के अंदर अपनी आपत्ति वेबसाईट www.health.bih.nic.in के Recruitment Section पर On-line दर्ज की जा सकती है।

2. कतिपय अभ्यर्थियों द्वारा विज्ञापन में उल्लिखित शर्तों के अनुरूप शायथ पत्र, नियंत्रण पदाधिकारी के द्वारा निर्गत पत्र सहित अन्य अभिलेख प्रस्तुत नहीं किया गया है। अतः ऐसे कुल 84 अभ्यर्थियों की सूची भी अलग से विभागीय वेबसाईट www.health.bih.nic.in पर अपलोड कर दी गयी है। अतः संबंधित अभ्यर्थी विज्ञापन के प्रकाशित होने के एक सप्ताह के अंदर वांछित अभिलेख स्वास्थ्य विभाग के प्रशाखा-17 में उपलब्ध करायेंगे अन्यथा उनके अभ्यर्थिता पर विचार नहीं किया जाएगा।

सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव
स्वास्थ्य विभाग, बिहार
 PR No. 11154 (Health) 2018-19
कम उम्र की शादी रोकें, जीवन की बर्बादी रोकें।

Afghan officials: Taliban kill 30 policemen in west province

Kabul: A blistering overnight attack by the Taliban on an Afghan police outpost in western Farah province killed 30 policemen, Afghan officials said on Thursday. It was the latest in a series of brutal and near-daily Taliban assaults on the military and police forces, Government and other installations throughout the country. The resurgent Taliban, who in recent years have taken over nearly half of Afghanistan, did not comment on the attack in Farah.

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CORRIGENDUM TO E-TENDER NOTICE
 This office e-tender specification no. CCP-II/212018-2019 invited previously for three phase (10-60A) meter with box are hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs of 27.11.2018. Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 28.11.2018 at 15:30 hrs.
 Other terms and conditions will remain same as per original tender notice. For further details, please visit our website www.uktdenders.gov.in.

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UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR Half Year ended on 30th September, 2018
 (₹ in Lakhs except EPS data)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Half Year Ended 30/09/2017 (Unaudited)	Half Year Ended 30/09/2018 (Unaudited)
1	Total Income From Operation	2.13	-14.76
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	(2.44)	(22.49)
3	Net Profit for the period before Tax (after exceptional items)	(2.44)	(22.49)
4	Net Profit for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	(2.44)	(22.49)
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	0.00	0.00
6	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs.10/- each)	41.95	41.95
7	Reserve (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	1038.01	957.95
8	Earning Per Share (EPS) (of Rs. 10/- Each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) not annualised		
(a)	Basic	(0.58)	(5.36)
(b)	Diluted	(0.58)	(5.36)

Notes
 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Half Yearly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Half Yearly Financial Results are available on the website of the stock exchange, website www.nseindia.com.
 2. The Company is engaged in the service segment and therefore there are no other reportable segments.

SD/-
Mr. Ajai Kumar Rastogi
Managing Director, (DIN: 00322447)

PLACE : NEW DELHI
DATE : November 14, 2018

SBFC SMALL BUSINESS FINANCREDIT
 Address: 762, Building No 7, 6th Floor, Solitaire Corporate Park, Anandhi East, Mumbai - 400093 | Telephone: +91 22 67875300
 Small Business Fincredit India Pvt. Ltd. Far: +91 22 67875334 | www.sbfc.com Corporate Identity (Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd.) Number: U67190MH2008PTC18270

PUBLIC NOTICE
 This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by Small Business Fincredit India Pvt. Ltd. (Erstwhile Mape Finserve Pvt. Ltd

Srikanth, Sameer enter quarters

Kidambi upsets Prannoy in marathon match to seal last-8 spot; Sindhu loses to Sung in straight sets

PTI ■ KOWLOON

Olympic medallist shuttler PV Sindhu suffered an unexpected loss in the second round but Kidambi Srikanth and Sameer Verma advanced to the quarterfinals to keep India's flag flying at the Hong Kong Open World Tour Super 500 tournament here on Thursday.

World No 4 Sindhu, who was seeded third here, was shown the door by Hyun Ji Sung of Korea 24-26, 20-22 in fighting 59 minute duel.

With Sindhu's exit, India's challenge ended in the women's singles after Saina Nehwal had made a first round exit.

But India's men's singles shuttlers had a good day in office with Srikanth and Sameer progressing to the last eight round, albeit with contrasting results.

Fourth seeded Srikanth, who had claimed a Silver medal at this year's Commonwealth Games, had to dig deep in his reservoir to outwit fellow Indian H S Prannoy 18-21, 30-29, 21-18 in a thrilling match, clocking an hour and seven minutes.

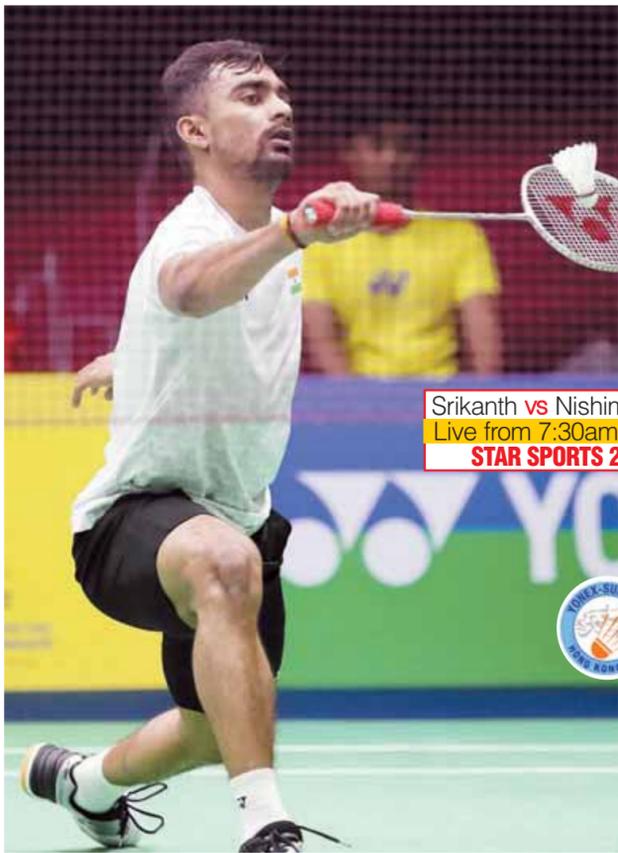
Srikanth will now face Japan's Kenta Nishimoto in the last eight match.

Sameer, however, qualified for the quarterfinals after his formidable opponent, Olympic champion Chen Long pulled out of the competition due to injury. He will face local hope Lee Cheuk Yiu on Friday.

Sindhu's loss, however, was a major upset despite not being a one-sided affair. The Indian had recovered from 13-18 down in the first game to make it 19-19, before the two players traded points till 24-24. Sung eventually won two straight points after that to take the lead in the match.

In the second game again, Sindhu fought back from 15-19 to make it 20-20 but could not force the match to go into a decider, as Sung wrapped it up 22-20.

However, mixed doubles pairing of



Srikanth vs Nishimoto
Live from 7:30am IST
STAR SPORTS 2



Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ashwini Ponnappa lost 17-21, 11-21 to Chinese Taipei's Lee Yang and Hsu Ya Ching to bow out of the tournament.

Sameer Verma returns a shot during his game; (right) PV Sindhu in action during World C'ship BWF/PTI

FOURTH SEEDED SRIKANTH, HAD TO DIG DEEP IN HIS RESERVOIR TO OUTWIT FELLOW INDIAN H S PRANNOY 18-21, 30-29, 21-18 IN A THRILLING MATCH, CLOCKING AN HOUR AND SEVEN MINUTES

SINGLES

ADVANI AMASSES WORLD TITLE NO 20

YANGON: India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani on Thursday won his third straight IBSF billiards crown in the 150-up format, taking his overall tally of world titles to a staggering 20. The 33-year-old from Bengaluru overcame Nay Thway Oo of Myanmar in a high-quality final. After bossing the '150-up' format, Advani will now compete in the longer version, 'Up' format, commences immediately. It was also a proud moment for Myanmar which saw its own player in the title round for the first time. Nay Thway Oo did well to oust multiple world champion Mike Russell in the semifinal with a convincing 5-2 victory.

RAMKUMAR, PRAJNESH SEEDED

MUMBAI: Indian Davis Cuppers Ramkumar Ramanathan and Prajnesh Gunneswaran, both ranked between 120 and 150, are the lone Indian men to be seeded in this year's \$ 50,000 KPIT Men's Challenger Tennis to be held in Pune from November 17-24. Ramkumar has an ATP ranking of 121 and Prajnesh 142, but the tournament will not see defending champion and two-time winner Yuki Bhambri in action as he has pulled out citing an injury. In his absence Ramkumar, who lost to Bhambri in last year's final, and Prajnesh, runner up to Sadio Dombia of France in 2016, would lead the home country's challenge.

QATAR STUN SWISS IN FRIENDLY

LUGANO: Qatar's national team beat Switzerland 1-0 here as the Swiss were punished for their significant lack of aim, four days ahead of their decisive clash with Belgium to qualify for the next round in the Nations League. In an unprecedented duel on Wednesday, the Qatari team, led by Spaniard Felix Sanchez Bas, knew how to put on a good show while facing the permanent pressure from the European team. It was forward Akram Afif, who condemned Switzerland and gave victory to Qatar, a team with little impact on international football so far. In the 88th minute Akram Afif scored, after finishing a counterattack led by Boudiaf, which gave Felix Sanchez's team a memorable triumph.

MI RETAIN 18 PLAYERS FOR IPL 2019

MUMBAI: Mumbai Indians have retained 18 players including their skipper Rohit Sharma but released some top international stars like JP Duminy and fast bowling duo of Pat Cummins and Bangladesh's Mustafizur Rahman ahead of the 2019 Indian Premier League players' auction. The franchise has also released 10 players which include one capped, five uncapped and four international cricketers. All-rounder Hardik Pandya, Krunal Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, Mayank Markande, Aditya Tare, Ishan Kisan, Rahul Chahar, Anukul Roy and Suryakumar Yadav have been retained by the three-time champions.

SHARMA SLIPS TO T-47 AT DUBAI

DUBAI: Shubhankar Sharma was unable to build on his brilliant start and was placed tied 47th on the opening day of the season-ending DP World Tour Championships (telecast in DSport). Sharma first hit by a three-putt on sixth, missed a short birdie chance on 7th but then had trouble with a shoe bite from the eighth onwards and lost the momentum. "I lost the momentum there (on 6th and seventh) and also misread some of the greens and ended with five three-putts," Sharma said. **Agencies**

Priority is to top the pool and make quarterfinal: Manpreet

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

India's hockey captain Manpreet Singh said his team is focused on toping its pool and make the quarterfinals of the men's World Cup starting here on November 28.

With less than two weeks to go for the prestigious World Cup which will witness 16 top teams battle for supremacy at the iconic Kalinga Stadium, India are busy making final preparations to their campaign.

"There is no doubt we want to win every match in the Pool Stage, earn the three points from each match, and top the Pool to make the Quarter Final. That is our first hurdle," said Manpreet.

"It's the World Cup and every team will come with an intention of winning and we do not want to take any team lightly, be it South Africa, Canada or World No 3 Belgium."

Grouped in Pool C, India will face South Africa on November 28, before taking on Belgium on December 2 followed by their last group match against Canada on December 8.



While the Indian team has not faced South Africa in a major tournament in over two years, Manpreet said that a win in their first match will set them on the right course.

"Though we haven't played them in any major tournament, we played a practice match against South Africa during the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. That match gave us an idea of how they play," he said.

"Though we won we don't want to

go by the past result. We play them in our first match and it's always good to get off to a winning start in any tournament," added the 26-year-old Captain.

While India have defeated Belgium recently at FIH Champions Trophy in Breda and last year's Hockey World League Final, Canada have posed India some serious threat in their past campaigns at major International Tournaments.

The team had drawn 2-2 against Canada in the round robin league at the Rio Olympics and in the 2017 Hockey World League Semi Final in London, India had lost 3-2 in the 5th-6th place play-off to Canada.

"It was a forgettable outing for us but I believe we have improved as a team in the past two years and we have learnt from every tournament. If we play our best hockey, who we are playing should not matter," he said.

"Even against Belgium, if we are able to score early then the pressure will be on them. For now, our team is focused on winning the three points from each match in Pool C."

Cilic, Thiem shine

AFP ■ LONDON

Dominic Thiem still has a chance to reach the semifinals at the ATP Finals after beating Kei Nishikori 6-1, 6-4 Thursday.

Thiem, who lost both of his previous matches at the season-ending tournament, needed to win in straight sets to have any chance of advancing.

Six-time champion Roger Federer, however, needs only to win one set in the late match against Kevin Anderson to advance alongside the South African. If Anderson wins in straight sets, second place will be decided by who has won a higher percentage of games.

Thiem broke twice in the first set against Nishikori, who won only one game in his previous match against Anderson.

Earlier on Wednesday late night, Marin Cilic keeps his hope alive of making into the semifinals of season ending ATP Finals after former US Open champ Croat beat John Isner 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, 6-4 in ednesday's second match.

The Croatian fifth seed had lost nine of his previous 10 matches at the Finals, and he

John Isner vs A Zverev
Live from 7:30pm IST
SONY ESPN NETWORK

looked in danger of another letdown when he dropped the first set against Isner.

But Cilic, whose only other Finals victory came against Kei Nishikori in 2016, had other ideas as he roared back to take the final two sets.

"I started to feel the ball really well in the second set. I was playing great tennis towards the end," Cilic said.

Cilic's revival keeps him in with a chance of qualifying for the semi-finals, while American eighth seed Isner still has an outside chance of advancing despite losing his first two matches.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mid-fielder Jackichand Singh and left back Nishu Kumar were on Thursday included in India's 22-member squad for the forthcoming away international FIFA friendly against Jordan slated to be held on November 17.

Nishu and Jackichand were the only two changes National coach Stephen Constantine made in his squad from the team that played a goal-less draw against China in the last international friendly in October.

Constantine emphasised that the forthcoming friendly against Jordan will "aid India's preparation" for the 2019 AFC Asian Cup in UAE.

"We want to do well in AFC Asian Cup and the clash against Jordan will aid us. Jordan are a good side and they have a number of good players in their ranks," he said.

Jordan, who are ranked 112 in the latest FIFA World Cup 2018 finalists Croatia in their last friendly fixture.

Winger Halicharan Narzary, who has been a pivotal member of the Indian team said the team will definitely miss star striker Sunil Chhetri, who has been ruled out for the tie because of an ankle injury.

"Undoubtedly, we are going to miss Sunil bhai but we can't

Sushil, Swapna dropped from TOPS

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Double Olympic medallist wrestler Sushil Kumar and India's first Asian Games Gold medallist heptathlete Swapna Barman were on Thursday dropped from the latest Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) which was revised keeping in mind the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Sushil, who won Bronze and Silver medals respectively in 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Olympics in 66kg freestyle category, crashed out in his first qualification bout at this year's Jakarta Asian Games in the 74kg and the latest result didn't go in his favour.

Besides Sushil, another big name to have been dropped from the latest TOPS list, which was reviewed last in July 18 before the Asian Games, is Swapna, who created a flutter in Jakarta by becoming India's first Gold medallist in heptathlon.

Keeping an eye on 2020 and 2024 Olympics, the government's Mission Olympic Cell on Thursday reviewed three sporting disciplines — athletics, wrestling and weightlifting.

In athletics, the number has been reduced from 31 to 10, which includes two new faces in triple jumper Arpinder Singh and steeple-chaser Avinash Sable, who will be supported till the 2019 World Championships.

Besides, star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra, Seema Punia, Mohammad Anas, Hima Das,



Ayyasamy Dharun, Jinson Johnson and Sreeshankar Murali are other athletes who have retained their places in the new TOPS list.

In the revised 10-men wrestling list, Utkarsh Kale (men's 57kg freestyle), Deepak Punia (men's 86kg freestyle), Divya Kakran (women's 68kg freestyle) and Sajan (men's greco-roman 66kg) are the four new entrants, which also has star grapplers like Sakshi Malik, Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat among others.

In weightlifting, the criteria for inclusion was set at medal probable for women lifters and top 10 for men's and on that basis Ragala Venkat Rahul (men's 96kg) was included in the list while world champion Mirabai Chanu (women's 49kg) was retained in the pruned chart.

Nishu, Jacki called for Jordan clash



Star mid-fielder Jackichand Singh attempts a shot during India's clash PTI/File Picture

just sit back and cry over it. We'll try our level best to churn out a positive result in Amman," he said.

"The match against China was massive for us. Jordan won't be anything lesser, if not bigger. We have to keep our heads down and keep working to get something positive out of this tie."

SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Amrinder Singh.

Defenders: Pritam Kotal, Nishu Kumar, Sandesh Jhingan, Anas Edathodika, Salam Ranjan Singh, Subhashish Bose, Narayan Das, Jerry Lalrinzuala.

Mid-fielders: Udanta Singh, Jackichand Singh, Pronay Halder, Anirudh Thapa, Vinit Rai, Germanpreet Singh, Halicharan Narzary, Ashique Kuruniyan.

Forwards: Jeje Lalpekhlua, Sumet Passi, Balwant Singh, Manvir Singh.

VAR to star in 2019 Asian Cup q/f: AFC

KUALA LUMPUR: The Asian Football Confederation on Thursday said the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system will be implemented from the quarterfinals of next year's Asian Cup. The AFC which is the regional governing body, said VAR will be used in seven matches and at four venues.

The system allows referees to review video footage of key decisions such as the awarding of goals, penalties and red cards during matches. "The decision to include VAR was only made on September 26 and that has meant a tremendous amount of work has been required to ensure that it can play a role at the tournament from the quarter-final stages," Windsor John, the

AFC general-secretary said in a statement. The bigger 2019 Asian Cup will feature a record 24 teams from all corners of Asia, up from 16 that participated in the previous four editions. The Asian Cup UAE 2019 runs from 5 Jan to 1 Feb 2019, with 51 matches being played in eight world class stadiums. **AFP**

vivacity

BIG B PRAISES
NEENA FOR
BADHAAI HO
- P14



KEEP WHAT YOU NEED IN YOUR HOME!



Most of us don't want to spend our evenings and weekends – and more for work-at-home types – knee-deep in clutter, never sure where anything is, and constantly stepping over all those things that, for one reason or another, we just had to have says **Team Viva**

The modern home is far bigger than the home of just 30 years ago – and far more cluttered! How can that happen? Basically, our demand for stuff is outstripping our ability to buy space – no wonder self-storage is one of the leading growth industries. Questions about runaway consumerism aside, what all this excess stuff means for most of us is more time spent maintaining our living spaces to keep some semblance of order in our lives. Most of us don't want to spend our evenings and weekends – and more for work-at-home types – knee-deep in clutter, never sure where anything is, and constantly stepping over all those things that, for one reason or another, we just had to have.

In this day and age when it is common for both parents to work full-time and our kids are involved in many extra curricular activities, life moves at a pretty fast pace. It can be difficult to find the time or energy to keep the house clean amid all of our other daily responsibilities. The problem, however, is that if you let the house go too long uncleaned, it will become an overwhelming place, rather than a safe haven for you to retreat to after a long, busy day. It doesn't take much to keep your home running like a well-oiled machine. If you can find five to ten minute pockets of time you can accomplish small

tasks that will make a huge impact on the orderliness of your home. Here is a list of ten key tasks that take little time but make a big difference. Start adding them to your daily routine today and see the difference in how your house looks and how you feel.

Making your bed takes all of five minutes, but at the end of a busy day, when you can retreat to an inviting bed you will be able to feel the stresses of the day slip away as you slip under the covers. Make it a daily chore for your children to make their beds too. It will help your home look neater and teach them responsibility.

Make a list of any errands you can do while you are out. Blending errands into your daily routine will save you the hassle of having to run all over town on the weekends. Can you make a stop during your lunch hour? Can you drop something off on your way in to work or can you swing by and pick something up on your way home? Doing your errands throughout the week will save you a lot of time in the long run.

Immediately rehang items you wore. Don't just throw clothes on a chair if they can be worn once more before laundry day—hang them. Keep dry clean—ready items in a separate section of your closet.

Have a dedicated hamper for every person in your home. One hamper is not enough. Have a laundry basket for each



Pay attention to your limitations. We tend to overestimate what we can do and underestimate the amount of time it takes to do it. Take time to recharge. Practice the three 'R's of life organisation: rest, relax and renew, stop filling every second of your life with activity. Don't hide behind the excuse of overload — commit to make room on a daily basis for the things that matter most

person in your house, plus an extra one for linens. If you're feeling extra organised, use hampers that have two baskets in each so you can separate whites in advance.

Start a wash cycle as soon as you get home. If you have enough laundry, start a wash cycle first thing in the evening so

each shower. Give your shower a quick clean daily by spraying it with cleaner, quickly wiping surfaces, and letting it rinse out.

Hang towels on bars and robes on hooks. Your towels need to properly air-dry in order to be able to reuse them two to three times. Make sure they're properly hung to dry. If you're a bathrobe person, a dedicated hook for it in the bathroom will make your space feel a little more like a hotel room.

Keep a laundry hamper in your bathroom for towels. Your bathroom is not a hotel; don't leave towels on the floor or in the tub. If they've gone past their three-day use, quickly throw them in the hamper.

Empty the dishwasher while you brew your coffee. It should be ready for your breakfast dishes so they don't pile up in the sink and sit there all day.

When you notice a spill, clean it right away. It's easier to notice tiny spills in broad daylight, so inspect your countertops and floors in the morning.

Swap out your dish towel. It turns out that dish towels should be changed more often than we think, so get into the habit of swapping them out in the morning and tossing the old ones into the laundry basket.

Clean as you cook. There are two types of cooks in this world: those who

clean as they cook and those who don't. Learn to be the former by starting with your prep work and cleaning that before you start cooking. Once your meal is ready, quickly rinse utensils before sitting down to eat. It will make it much easier to clean up after a meal.

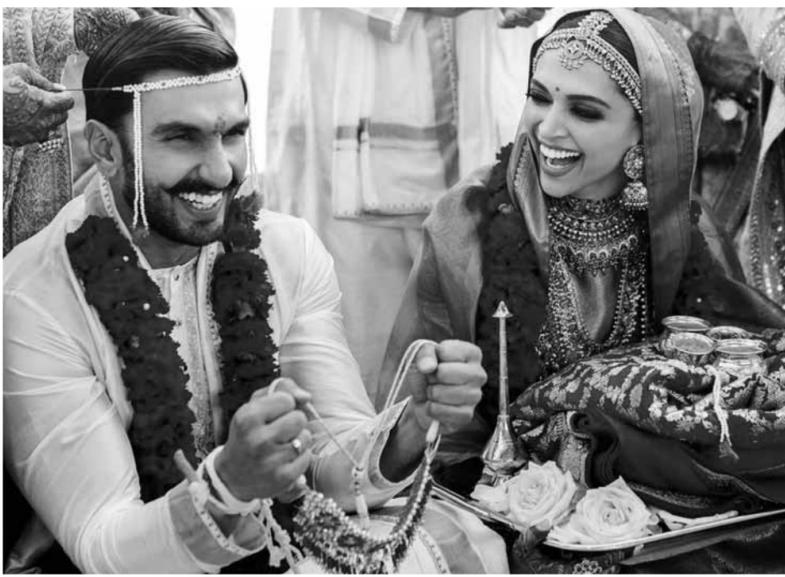
Fill and start the dishwasher at night. Don't leave it until the morning, no matter how tempting it is to go lie down in front of Game of Thrones. Do it during commercials if you must, but get it done.

Wipe countertops and cooking surfaces. Wipe down your counters and stove each night before you go to bed. Get into the habit of wiping the microwave after each use. You'll love waking up to a spotless kitchen.

Finally, incorporate a little breathing room into your life. A key component to a life in order is restoring margin. Margin is breathing room, a little reserve that you're not using up — the space between your load and your limit.

Pay attention to your limitations. We tend to overestimate what we can do and underestimate the amount of time it takes to do it. Take time to recharge. Practice the three R's of life organisation: rest, relax and renew, stop filling every second of your life with activity. Don't hide behind the excuse of overload — commit to make room on a daily basis for the things that matter most.

Tour operators say that given its dreamy location, the rich tapestry of history and its provenance as a retreat of the Romantic poets, Indians are now heading to Lake Como like never before. By TEAM VIVA



The couple at their Konkani wedding on November 14 and (below) the Sindhi one on November 15

THE LAKE WHICH REVIVES LOVE

It wasn't that Indians weren't aware of Lake Como in Italy. But what Isha Ambani's engagement and Ranveer-Deepika's wedding at villas there have done is to make it the next aspirational benchmark on our social calendar.

"After Ranveer and Deepika's wedding, Indians are discovering Lake Como in Italy as a ceremonial destination. The place was already quite popular among elite Indians and this wedding will give it a fillip. As November marks the end of the season at Lake Como, we are already receiving inquiries for the fresh season starting from March 2019 and also for the weddings and engagements in 2020-21. Going by the trend, the place will soon become a favourite for

weddings, unions and vacations with the unique spectacular villas and historical hotels, sophisticated atmosphere, delicious food options and proximity to international airports," says Karan Anand, Head, Relationships, Cox & Kings.

The interest in Italy as an event destination has been gathering pace, especially after the wedding of cricketer Virat Kohli and actor Anushka Sharma in Tuscany last year. As Manmeet Ahluwalia, Marketing Head, Brand Expedia, enunciates, "Italy has been a popular destination among Indian travellers and continues to attract them with tempting food, awesome architecture, diverse scenery and amazing art. The privacy of its mansions and villas has made it a preferred des-



FROM MAY TO OCTOBER, THE ESTATES SEE A WEDDING EVERY WEEKEND — ENGLISH, AMERICAN, RUSSIAN AND INDIAN — AND COMMAND A STEEP LOCATION FEE

ination for honeymooners and people travelling with their family and friends from India. We have also seen a year-on-year increase of 35-40 per cent in bookings from India. Destinations like Rome, Venice, Florence, Naples and Milan have traditionally been popular among travellers. However, celebrities choosing Tuscany, Lake Como, Lake Iseo and Amalfi Coast as their wedding destinations are also likely to increase the tourist footfall in these destinations in the future."

Of all destinations, Lake Como has acquired exclusivity by virtue of its history, cultural soirees and more recently as a holiday hideaway of Hollywood biggies like George Clooney and Robert De Niro. And then there were the Bond films with wide angle sequences choreographed on the lake with azure waters that is fringed by woods of the thickest green, fairytale castles, rolling estates and the sun-kissed hills. Once the retreat of the Milanese aristocracy, famous artists, philosophers, scientists and writers made it their home away from their homes in the city. The Romantic poets sought inspiration and revival in its salubrious climes. English poet PB Shelley, who lived by Lake Como for many months while attempting recovery from consumption, then described it as the "most beautiful lake I have ever seen." American novelist Mark Twain called it a "heaven of quiet rest."

The landscape, the tranquility, the connection to heritage and the natural elegance continue in boutique properties and waterfront homes, which have drawn solace-seeking Hollywood celebrities. And it is this little *cul de sac* of medieval repose with wisteria wraps that has made Lake Como a glamorous destination. The estate owners have only upped expectations by customising comforts, services, boat rides and even arranging spectacles. From May to October, the estates see a wedding every weekend — English, American, Russian and Indian among them — and command a steep location fee. Ranveer and Deepika reportedly spent ₹1 crore for their four day jamboree on security and ₹4 crore on private yacht services.



KUSHAN MITRA



Kerb this madness

Indian drivers and riders get the blame for most of the accidents and deaths on Indian roads. But our road designers and builders deserve their share of the blame too



Last week there was a horrendous accident in Delhi where an allegedly drunk driver hit the kerb, crossed the median and smashed into another car, killing one and grievously injuring another. Now, while the blame for this accident, prima facie should lie with the driver who smashed through the kerb, especially if the allegations of being drunk are true, there is another factor in play over here. That is the poor design of the road median in India. The fact that Indian city planners feel that a one-foot kerb is enough to stop a speeding motorcycle let alone a car is one that is wrong. Far from stopping the vehicles, the kerb design makes most accidents worse by often launching the vehicle into oncoming traffic at a height.

Whenever one travels to the developed world, you see the pavements on the side of the road are at short heights. And on the median, even if it has trees or other beautification, there is the standard metal barrier protecting vehicles from going over into the other lane, in most cases by absorbing the energy of the impact. In India, roads are poorly designed, often by the whims of local politicians. While the construction of Indian highways has improved markedly in the past few years, a recent study said that a large chunk of the Delhi-Jaipur highway, one of India's best, was unsafe. But newly-constructed roads despite

their flaws are better than older ones. The Eastern Peripheral Expressway around Delhi had gaps in barriers and slow-moving traffic but after access control things have improved.

Construction does not mean that during construction things improve, often they get worse. The state of the Delhi-Panipat highway currently under construction is downright dangerous. And even in cities like Delhi, poor planning and the desperate need for *jugaad* solutions have made road construction sites dangerous. The stretch under RTR Flyover on Outer Ring Road, itself the best example of poor planning, is often closed at night with traffic diverted onto the oncoming lane with no lights, warning or traffic dividers. Not even plastic ones. And this is a stretch where heavy commercial vehicles regularly operate at night. Accidents and deaths are inevitable.

It is mighty easy to blame the driver in cases like that. And shoddy police work condemns the drivers to be "inebriated" even if they're not. The lack of proper metal barriers and dividers and the absence even of low-cost solutions like wire-barriers have made things quite difficult for the Indian driver making them take the blame in instances that they should not. It is high time that authorities realised that roads share an alarmingly high proportion of the blame.

Trend Blazer

Big B writes to Neena Gupta

Actor AMITABH BACHCHAN wrote a personalised note to veteran actress NEENA GUPTA after watching her latest film *Badhaai Ho* as he was highly impressed by her performance. Neena took to Instagram to share a snapshot of the letter and captioned it: "Aapse ye patr aur pushp paake ankhein khushi se bhar aayi. (Got tears in my eyes after receiving this letter and flowers from you.) Thank you so much, Amitabh Bachchan sir." In the letter, Big B, 76, praised the film and the acting by the entire cast. He said he got tears of joy after watching it. The film also stars Gajraj Rao, Ayushmann Khurrana and Sanya Malhotra, and is based on the story of an elderly couple who are expecting their third child.

Stan Lee's last message for fans

After the demise of comic book legend STAN LEE, his social media handlers shared an emotional video clip which has Lee's final message to his fans. "I love my fans so much. I cannot describe my love for them. Sometimes at night, I am sitting here and thinking What's it all about? And then I get a letter from a fan or I read something, I realise, it's so lucky to have fans, who really care about you. That's the reason I care so much about them as they make me feel so great," Lee said. Known for co-creating Marvel's beloved superheroes like Spider-Man, The X-Men, The Fantastic Four, the Hulk, Iron Man, Thor, and Doctor Strange. Lee died at the age of 95 after suffering from pneumonia.

And thereby hangs a tale

SHAGUNA GAHILOTE, festival director of Kathakaar, the storytelling fest, tells SAIMI SATTAR what it takes to be a raconteur

It is one thing to read about Shivaji in a comic strip and visualise him within laid down references and contexts. But when a storyteller describes the valour of the Maratha warrior and the way his sword cut through the enemies like lightning, you embed a picture of him in your mind forever. That's why folk ballads like Maharashtra's Powada can popularise history and weave fantasy from our mythic traditions.

While the stories have been told over the years, it is only now that the content is being re-interpreted by a fresh breed of storytellers who have stiff competition from digital content and are trying their best to wear away an audience that hardly has any time to look up from their phone even while they are eating. Kathakaar, India's only oral storytelling festival, which involves raconteurs from all over the world, has been plodding on for the past eight years and its latest edition is being held at the Indira Gandhi Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) from November 16-18. The three-day event, organised by IGNCIA in collaboration with Nivesh, will witness immersive storytelling sessions focussing on India's rare art forms as well as native tales from Africa, the UK, Greece, Poland, Russia and Iran.

Shaguna Gahilote, festival co-director, says, "At a time when even adults find it difficult to leave their phone, we ask the parents to bring their children minus the phone in the evening session. Once the storyteller starts telling a tale, you should see the expressions on their faces. Both children and adults are so involved. The connection that you make with people, if you can tell a story well, is amazing. They are looking at the performer but they are lost as they are visualising the story. It is playing on their imagination and they are building on it. If you start storytelling in school, you build on communication and improve it."

Interestingly, the festival over the years has seen the audience span from ages eight to 80. And Shaguna says that in the long run this would ultimately revive and encourage reading habits among children. "We started the festival in 2010 around the same time as the Right to Education was introduced where in every annexure it was mentioned that all schools should have a library with books and newspapers. As part of UNESCO, we had been building libraries in underprivileged schools but not all children would run up and grab the books. Some would, out of curiosity but would not read them. Someone had to read out the books to them to make



it interesting." It was this realisation that led to a lot of brain-storming where she realised that there was no written word at one point of time. "We heard so many stories that were really ancient. These were oral stories that are told all over the world whether it is Russia, Africa or Europe," she adds.

So along with her sister, she decided to get on board people who could tell stories well. "Of course, we needed very good storytellers to get the audience involved. And then you could tell them that if you want to find the story again, you can read it in that book. We knew that children are more likely to go back to books in this manner rather than when they are pressurised to do so. A book becomes almost like a box where they can pull out these stories. It is getting children to read and if they read well, they will do maths and science better and when that happens, they are more likely to stay in school. It is a full circle and storytelling is at the beginning of it," says Shaguna.

However, while initially the storytellers' festival started with the aim to preserve the old folk tales, somewhere along the line it also became a celebration of storytelling. "There are so

many varied formats and forms in India. There is drama and performance. This gives the Indian storytellers an equal platform with the international ones as well. It also boosts their confidence as there is a newer audience coming in. Moreover, the next generation is more likely to pick it up and take storytelling further," says she.

When the Gahilote sisters started out, it was initially difficult to get audience even though parents are always looking for activities to do with children. "We started with an audience of 250 people. It has grown slowly over eight years by word-of-mouth publicity and now we see footfalls of up to 10,000 plus for three days," she says. Getting the right people to tell the stories lies at the heart of the festival. "We are looking at brilliant performers. A lot of people tell you or write to you saying that they do storytelling, including publishers, who say that my writer also has that skill. But often they are just reading from a book. Storytelling is no less a performance art. It is a stand-up, theatre, singing, playing a musical instrument all rolled into one to hold the audience," she says.

Variety is of the essence. "We look

for different stories that have not been told. Sometimes we get storytellers who tell Indian tales that are an adaptation. We get puppeteers from Kerala and also the Pandhwani." One of the highlights of the festival will include Sadhguru, founder of Isha Foundation, turning into a storyteller during a session with singer-songwriter and musician Mohit Chauhan who is also the patron of the festival.

Filmmaker Imtiaz Ali and actor Pankaj Tripathi will share their favourite tales and journey into the world of films and storytelling. Noted theatre artist Danish Hussain will present an adaptation of *Qissa Urdu Ki Aakhri Kitaab Ka*, originally written by Pakistani poet Ibn-e-Insha. Shaguna herself will dramatise the story of Mahatma Gandhi to mark 150 years of the Indian independence leader's birth anniversary. International storytellers include Godfrey Duncan, the man behind the storytelling revival in UK, Michal Malinowski, who has helped keep the art alive in Poland and Xanthe Gresham, an Oxford University alumnus. They will narrate tales from Africa, Iran, Poland, Greece and India. Indian storytellers include the Phad storytellers from Rajasthan, Pandavani by the powerhouse Ritu Verma and more.

However, the festival tries to break out of the mould of the "moral of the story". As Shaguna says, "Good folk tales or Panchatantra stories have social messaging in the end. But when every thing has a message, no one will like it. There are hidden messages and the audience is intelligent enough to decode it."

So while relating a popular tale from England about a boy who goes shopping alone as his mother is unwell, Shaguna does not state the underlying message. "While selecting a pup, he picks a three-legged one and when the salesperson says that it's useless, he raises his trouser to reveal a wooden leg. He says that he would understand the pup better. There is empathy involved but I never use the word. I do not have to ingrain it."

Of course, the storytelling for children and adults is a bit different. "Sometimes completely different tales are told in the evening. If there is an entirely adult audience, you can even do a very sensual telling of the story which is never done in the morning session. Or maybe the same tale is told to both while obliterating gory details for children. *Vikram Betal* is a nice easy tale for a child but may be when telling it to an adult, it can be related how he bled to death or how he was killed," she says.



COUNTER-TOP COMEDY

Knives, cooking and acrobatic feats lit up characters from a Korean act, says TEAM VIVA

At a time when food seems to dominate our feeds as a lifestyle imagery, a Korean show has combined a pop-up idea with a live act to birth a new medium of entertainment. *Cookin' Nanta*, a non-verbal comedy from Korea that makes use of kitchen tools as musical instruments, sort of like stomping with knives, had the city in thrall recently. So it was a story of cooks who have to cram for a big wedding after their mean manager (Yohan Hwang) asks them to prepare a grand banquet at a few hours notice. To add to the frenzy, the manager's mischievous nephew (Junghwan Hyun) joins the kitchen to learn how to cook, thereby messing up everyone's synchronisation. They chop together, striking the cutting boards with knives and use salt shakers as maracas to produce rhythmic and percussive sounds.

The result is an interactive and entertaining family show. Explains Changhwan Ko, who played the head chef, "The show is full of acrobatics, magic tricks and comedy. That is why it's fun to watch. *Nanta* means to strike relentlessly, which connects to the story of the performance, where cheerful rhythms combine the modern beats and Korean folk music (*samul nori*)."

As the show has been running for more than 20 years, its overbearing manager says, "The original story and episodes still continue to this day. But over the years we have incorporated several slight changes on directing. We have opted for the non-verbal format so that it is easily understood by the contemporary audience and enjoyed by the people of any age group."

Asked how a non-verbal play was written, read and comprehended, he told us, "The non-verbal play is written as usual plays or musical performances. But we then convert them according to the ease of emotional expressions since they don't have lines. In order to present a character's emotions through multiple expressions and movements, the acting is mostly physical and exaggerated. This brings in a comic element. The audience can easily understand, relate themselves to the situational context and enjoy the performance in that way." The artists start practicing at least six months before with drums, knives, fire and pots before presenting a choreographed flow. Practice is the only key to success. The perfection in rhythm and synchronisation is the result of their hard work. The show has been running in South Korea since 1997 and has toured in over 314 cities of 28 countries across the globe. It even had a year-long run in Broadway, a prestigious claim for an Asian production with no dialogue.

CHEFTALK

'WOMEN NEED TO STOP PULLING EACH OTHER DOWN'

Chef GARIMA ARORA tells ASMITA SARKAR about the link between India and Thailand she's trying to build through her cuisine



Fueled with passion and skill, Chef Garima Arora, who started her own restaurant GAA in Bangkok, a dinner-only fine dining restaurant serving world cuisine, has become the first Indian woman to receive a Michelin star.

The coveted recognition in the culinary world came as a surprise to her on October 30. And more than two weeks down the line, it is yet to sink in.

Garima's story is a classic tale of what resilience and willingness to traverse boundaries for dreams can lead to. She was in her early twenties and fresh out of journalism school, when she decided that if she wanted to pursue her dream of becoming a chef it made sense to start early since the profession requires long hours and physical strength. Between mid-2000s to now, she's covered the entire arc from studying at Le Cordon Bleu to working in Gordon Ramsay's kitchen to starting her own restaurant after a few months at Chef Gagan Anand's restaurant Gagan in Bangkok.

And this is just on the professional front. On the personal, she also navigates the challenge of a long-distance marriage as her husband works and lives in Mumbai while she's in Bangkok. No one can dispute that her dreams are made of hard work and sacrifices. "My dad has always been a huge influence in my life. From him, I learnt that cooking was actually fun. As a youngster I spent a lot of time with him in the kitchen and I think that stayed with me," she said.

But cooking in Paris at Le Cordon Bleu gave her a worldview that a home kitchen obviously did not provide. "Leaving India you have so many things different. Just in terms of ingredients, flavour combination that we don't have, that was something innovative for me. I studied classic French food and that gives you a very different perspective on cooking," she said.

When asked what the name of her restaurant meant, she replied like a proud mama that it was derived from her name. Opening a restaurant in Bangkok was unplanned in a way, she said. She was offered a job at the Gagan Anand group and after a few months their investors asked if she would want to open her own restaurant. "It was by chance that I moved here. I was supposed to go to India but I am happy here which is why I stayed back," she said. A truly global individual, her life has taken her across the world and back.

Her restaurant serves two menus, the vegetarian one with 10 items and the non-vegetarian one with 14. "The idea is to find and explore the connection between India and Thailand through flavours and techniques. The smaller meal lasts about two hours and the long one lasts for around 2.5 hours," she said. The evening begins with smaller dishes and then goes on to the main ones. "We look for unique ingredients. We work with the indigenous parts of Thailand and the North Eastern part of India, that is our primary concentration. So many ingredients get lost because

“ ANY SORT OF MISBEHAVIOUR WITHIN THE STAFF OR FROM THE GUEST IS NOT ACCEPTED. MY STAFF HAS CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS THAT THEY REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY SO THAT WE CAN TAKE RAPID ACTION ”

nobody knows how to use them. We like to give the guest from any city flavours that they have never tasted before. During the meal it is possible that you are eating ingredients or flavour combinations for the very first time in your life. This is our signature. We do a strawberry and caviar dish mixed with a herb like lemon and *puđina* (mint) that is found only in the northern part of Thailand. The guests are always extremely surprised by the combination but it is one of our hot-selling dishes," she said. They also have a large collection of wines and as the meal progresses so does the wine pairing with the food. When asked if she thought of her restaurant as a follower of the school of thought of slow food, she said that while she wasn't sure about categorising it, her menu definitely made for thoughtful and deliberate eating.

After the #MeToo movement in Hollywood, multiple stories from the hospitality sector in the West have come to the fore. When asked about policies at her restaurant, Chef Garima said that they were very strict about workplace safety. Staff members are encouraged to report incidents of harassment by peers or guests that take place right away. "I take this very seriously. Any sort of misbehaviour within the staff or even from the guest towards my staff, is never accepted. And my staff has clear instructions that the minute it happens, they should let us know so that we can take immediate action. We don't wait," she said, adding that 50 per cent or more of her staff are women.

She believes that women need to stop pulling each other down and then they can help each other up. "If we don't support each other and don't pave the way for the next generation what's the point of it all," she said.

Did she face any harassment because of her ethnicity or gender? She doesn't deny facing difficulties but said that she doesn't know if her gender or being brown had anything to do with it. "I have worked with amazing chefs who have been particular about protecting their staff and taking care of them. I have not directly had any bad experiences but that's not to say it doesn't happen," she said.

The chef, who has two homes — one in Mumbai and one in Bangkok — understood what made the latter city, as well as that part of the world, so special while working there. She says that the warm hospitality and the friendships she has built have left a beautiful mark on her. Her biggest takeaway from Ramsay's kitchen was humility and learning to keep her head down and working, which is what you need to do in the beginning of your career, she believes. "Sometimes youngsters don't understand that you have to put in the hours and go through the grind," she said.

In an industry where there are no holidays and you're cooking when others are partying, there is no way to survive it if you think of it as drudgery. "If you come into work and look at the clock to see when you're going to get home you won't last a month. It's just something you do and it's not just work," she said.



Photo: Asmita Sarkar

The northern platter

From Kashmir to Lucknow with a pitstop in Delhi, the capital is abuzz with festivals to keep you warm. By A SARKAR

The *sitar* played throughout the night at the Indus Express in Taj Vivanta Dwarka while I gorged on some authentic Kashmiri cuisine. In *wazwan*, a traditional Kashmiri platter with 36 dishes, it is the *goshtaba* that usually is the centrepiece but this evening it was the *Roganjosh* that stole the show. The chicken was wiped clean off the bone by those sitting at the table. The first time that I had a *goshtaba* was in 2016, from a tin can that I bought at a general store in Jammu. It was no DIY *goshtaba* but the entire cooked dish in a can. The freshness was questionable but that was my first tryst with the cuisine of Kashmir. The sour taste of the curd based gravy was miles apart from the Lucknawi and Delhi food that I had eaten thus far.



Along the way, I have eaten mutton kebabs and *rogan josh* at a Kashmiri friend's house but nothing quite as exquisite as the one that Chef Sewa Singh from Vivanta Dal View, Srinagar had prepared.

The mutton *seekh*, *butt haakh saag*, *rajma*, *rogan josh* and *goshtaba* along with a flavoured *Guchhi pulao* and *missi roti* from the *wazwan* made me feel that I was at a wedding in Kashmir.

The evening began with saffron milk which was followed by a lightly flavoured lamb and a vegetable *shorba*. For the lamb, he used stock made with lamb bones and for the vegetable one a vegetable-based stock with the same spices were used. It made sure that the original flavour of the ingredients remain intact while they mix it with subtle spices.

nary tradition and the chef tried his best to retain the authentic taste.

It should include browned onions, cilantro, yogurt, saffron and more, said Chef Mirza. "If you take a fistful of good biryani and throw it on a plate, the rice should scatter as fluffy grains and not clump together. The meat or chicken should be well done, moist with thick juices and traditionally with bone which is unlike the Indian *pulao* which is prepared with all the ingredients together in one dish along with the added liquids. Therefore, the mouthfeel and taste are expected to be quite different," said Chef Mirza.

In comparison, the *Dilli ka khana* and Lucknawi food at The Imperial, which is also doing a food festival much like Taj Vivanta Dwarka, brought out stronger flavours. The Kashmiri food had a light spice palette and the Delhi and Lucknow kebabs and *qorma* were more accented in comparison.

ended the afternoon soiree with a cook out during which the former made fresh *Shahi tukda*'s, a famed dessert from Old Delhi. Triangular cut bread was first fried and then immersed in *chashni* to be dressed in *khoya* and dry fruits. The resultant product was a hot and succulent piece of bread that is a delight for sweet lovers.



"Dilli food represents the confluence of many cultures and the flavours are more dominating and inspired by the cuisine of neighbouring regions, whereas, Lucknawi food is steeped in tradition and the recipes are passed down from generations. They converge in terms of spices and traditions which have been carried through the years," said the chefs, Ved Prakash and Mirza Munnawar Baig.

At the Imperial, there were multiple kebabs made in the Awadhi style, like *Dahi ke kebab* as well as *Chakundar aur ramdana ki tikki*, a beetroot and quinoa pattie shallow fried which stole the show. The non-vegetarian options like the *Kakori kebab* and the *Sufiyani Murgh ki ashrafiyan* melted in the mouth as did the *Dilli 6 ka mutton qorma*. The *qorma*, which is lamb simmered in its own juices with yoghurt and spices, was enough to transport one to the 19th century Delhi *darbar*. Chef Ved proudly said that Dilli 6 is the origin point of the capital's cuisine as the newer part of the city is too heterogeneous to have a food identity and culture.

At Vivanta, Singh offered three — a *phirni*, a fig ice cream and a *halwa* — each appealing to different kind of dessert lovers. If you want a mildly sweet end to the meal, opt for the *phirni* which was decorated with saffron but if you want a rich explosion of taste in your mouth go for the *halwa*. And the fig ice cream has a fresh and captivating taste that will leave you asking for more. Like a hospitable host, we were topped up with *kahwa*, a lightly flavoured tea with saffron and dry fruits. The Taj Vivanta is offering The Valley Beckons menu till November 25 during dinner while The Clash of The Titans at Daniell's tavern at The Imperial will begin on November 17 and go on till the 24.

Mirza added that the Lucknawi *chicken biryani* is an aromatic and mouth watering dish with succulent chicken in layers of fluffy rice, fragrant spices and caramelised onions. It has been an integral part of the Indian Mughlai culi-

Why choose the onset of winter for a festival like this? The chefs said that this is the perfect time to enjoy Lucknowi and Dilli food because of the spice levels in the food keeps us warm in this season. It is also quite nutritious because of the bone stock used in the meat dishes.

And the reason why The Imperial chose to put the two cousin cuisines together was to make sure that people can identify certain dishes within a particular cuisine as they have the same roots.

RECIPES

KURKURI DAHI
WHAT YOU NEED

- Curd: 250 gm
- Paneer: 50 gm
- Coriander seed: 2 gm
- Coriander fresh: 15 gm
- Milk powder: 30 gm
- Chopped green chilli: 2 gm
- Salt: to taste
- Chilli flakes: 2 gm

Other ingredients

- Corn flour: 30 gm
- Bread crumbs: 60 gm
- Oil as needed for frying

METHOD

- Place a clean muslin cloth over a sieve. Pour the curd and bring together the edges of the cloth. Then wring the cloth to drain up excess whey from curd.
- Place a heavy object like two to three ceramic bowls over the curd pack. Hung curd is ready.



- Crumble paneer and add it to a mixing bowl along with hung curd.
- Add all the other ingredients and mix well just to make a non-sticky dough.
- Divide the dough to equal sized ball, flatten them. Then roll in flour, shake them off gently to remove excess flour. Set aside for five to seven minutes.
- Fry all the kababs in a oil until golden and crisp. Serve *kurkuri dahi* hot with mint *chutney*.

Courtesy: Chef Abhijeet at Dum Maro Dum Studio.

KHOYA PANEER ROLL
WHAT YOU NEED

- Cashew nut: 1 cup
- Paneer (cubed): 500 gm
- *Desi ghee*: 2 tbsp
- *Khoya*: 1/2 cup
- Curd: 1/4 cup
- Ginger, chopped: 1/2
- Green cardamom: 2-3
- Salt: to taste
- Green coriander: 2-3
- Roomali roti for wrap
- Iceberg: 1/4
- Bellpepper: 1

● Onion: 1

● Tomato: 1

● Cucumber: 1/2

● Chat masala: 5 gm

METHOD

- Wash, boil and grind cashew nut.
- In a pot heat *desi ghee*, add chopped green chillies and green cardamom, allow it to crackle.
- Add cashew nut paste, beaten curd, salt and cook for 10 minutes.
- Once done add grated *khoya* and paneer batons, stir for a while, adjust seasoning.
- Take *roomali roti* and wrap the stuffing with some shredded iceberg, onion tomato cucumber seasoned with *chat masala*.
- Cut according to your requirement as I prefer shown in the picture.
- Garnish with mint leaf and serve hot. Courtesy: Naresh Chinni, Executive chef, The Drunken Botanist.



ISBT MAGGI
WHAT YOU NEED

- Maggi noodles: 1 packet
- Makhni gravy: 80 gm
- Butter: 20 gm
- *Kasoori methi*: 1 gm
- Curry leaves: 2 gm

METHOD

- Heat the pan add water boiled the Maggi separately.
- Add butter another pan add makhni gravy, and seasoning to taste.
- Add boiled Maggi and stir.
- Garnish with cream; *kasoori methi* and curry leaves. Courtesy: Chef Praveen Kumar, Darzi Bar & Kitchen.



gorgeous

Darzi presents hand-curated menu by masterji with eggs, tailor-made to every taste and need. The special menu presents all eggclusive dishes like the *Masala anda*, *Anda nachos*, *Nargisi scotch eggs*, *Anda bhurji parantha*, *Baida roti*, and *Sulemani anda*.

Venue: Darzi, Bar and Kitchen, H-55, Outer Circle, Connaught Place. **Time:** 12 pm to 12 am **Price:** starts at ₹175 plus taxes.



Mealodrama is set to pamper the foodies with their new food festival *Firangi Fare*. They are offering specials like Indo-Italian fused balls, *Firangi* mushroom, Red beans kebab, Con-Dog, Barbeque chicken strips, Australian lamb stew, Italian meat balls, Ocean pearls and more. **Venue:** Mealodrama, A6, Main Najafgarh Road, Vishal Enclave, Rajouri Garden. **Date:** Till December 20 **Price:** Meal for two: ₹1,000 + taxes **Time:** 12 noon to 12.30 pm.



Q'ba invites you to enjoy cocktail evenings with specials as mixologists guzzle some in-house-curated cocktails like Q'ba Libre, Old fashioned, Margarita, Pina colada, Gimlet, Whisky sour, Manhattan, Negroni and more. **Venue:** Q'ba, E 42 and 43, Inner Circle, Connaught Place. **Date:** Till November **Time:** 12 noon to 11.45 pm **Price:** For two: ₹475 onwards



Kiara Soul Kitchen now serves soul Kinvoking spirits, including varieties of Aperitif, beer, whisky, rum, brandy, vodka, gin, and others. Concoctions like The curious jar (Smoked bourbon, Drambuie, Saffron infusion), Eden spritz (Vodka, Sparkling wine), Kiara G&T (Gin), The botanist fav (Gin, Lemon sorbet), Rosa Da Silva (Aperol, Tequila, Limoncello, Aged lime) are some of the highlights of the menu. **Venue:** Kiara Soul Kitchen, M-30, first floor, M block market, Greater Kailash - 2, **Time:** Ongoing.

'NO MORE CHOPPING AND CHANGING TILL WC'

Shastri indicates to play around World Cup probables in the remaining 13 games before 2019 World Cup

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India coach Ravi Shastri on Thursday said that there won't be any more "chopping and changing" with the ODI side with just 13 matches remaining before the opening World Cup game against South Africa on June 5.

Shastri indicated that from now on, they will be playing around those 15 players, who are going to board the UK bound flight.

"We will try to play (those) 15, who will go to the World Cup. Chopping and changing is over now. The grace period is over now," Shastri made it clear during the pre-departure press conference ahead of the Australian tour.

"Now it is the time to really get focussed and play as a unit and then hopefully not have too many injuries, so that we don't have to look elsewhere and take it from there."

"We don't have too many games now. We have 13 games, so we will look to play the best team at all times," he added.

The 13 games include three-match away series against Australia followed by five-match series against New Zealand and then a return five-match series against Australia at home early next year.

India will play a four-match Test series beginning on December 6 at Adelaide and Shastri said that the visitors will have to learn from their experience in South Africa and England to challenge Australia.



Skipper Virat Kohli along with coach Ravi Shastri speaks during team's Australia tour pre-departure press conference at the BCCI headquarters in Mumbai PTI

"I see a lot of progress across all formats and I say that despite of the (series) scoreline in England. When you look at actual performances in conditions that are foreign to us, we are more than happy," he said.

The coach is hopeful that players have learnt from their mistakes of previous tours.

"It is a learning process. If we learn from the mistakes that we made in South Africa and England, it will hold us in good stead in Australia."

"Test cricket obviously is different, it is the last series that we play before the World Cup. So the focus will be entirely on the series."

'ALL DEPARTMENT MUST FIRE'

Indian captain Virat Kohli on Thursday staunchly supported Ravi Shastri, saying the growing perception of head coach being a "yes" man to the skipper "is the most bizarre thing he has ever heard".

"That is the most bizarre thing I have heard. In Indian cricket, I don't think there is anyone else who has said no to me more than him honestly. He is one guy I can speak to and can get an honest opinion. I have made more changes

KOHLI HAPPY TO PLAY 'WITHOUT ALTERCATION'

MUMBAI: The Australian players have of late refrained from sledging, which is perfectly fine with Indian captain Virat Kohli, who is happy to compete "without any altercation" during the upcoming series Down Under.

The Australian cricket is going through a massive restructuring and the "win at all costs" strategy employed by teams of yesteryears, is not being encouraged anymore.

Both Kohli and senior-most pacer Ishant Sharma felt that it is entirely up to the Australians as to how they play their cricket but assured that their players won't be the first ones to indulge in any kind of sledging.

"I think that's (no sledging policy) a very personal thing for them. But when it

comes to getting engaged in an argument on the field or a fight as people want to call it excitedly, I have been completely ok with playing without the altercation," Kohli told mediapersons at the pre-departure press conference.

Senior pacer Ishant said that he didn't mind if Australians sledged like earlier tours because he has the ability to give it back if they start.

"Let's see what Aussies do. We will only come to know once we reach there. You don't expect them to be really friendly and this is a man's sport. You will go there and get tough conditions. When you play for your country, no one will give you easy runs or wickets. If it's a tough sport, then you got to be tough and up for any sort of challenge," Ishant said. PTI

to my game listening to him than anyone else in the past," said Kohli before the team's departure.

The 30-year-old spoke on a range of issues facing the team ahead of the squad's departure to Australia where it will play three T20s, four Tests and three ODIs starting November 21.

Kohli went on to say that not only him, other players have also learnt immensely from Shastri.

"His contribution ever since we started building this team is making people believe that they belong there. We all went through a tough time in 2014 (the England tour) and for me to be able to come

'Don't think current Indian side is better than ones I played against'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former Australia captain Steve Waugh is "not sure" if the current Indian team led by Virat Kohli is any better than some of the sides that he played against during his international career.

Waugh spoke in reference to India coach Ravi Shastri's comments that this is "the best Indian side in the last 15 years".

"Look I have played against some great Indian sides and I am not sure that the current side is better than the ones we played against," Waugh told ESPN Cricinfo.

The 53-year-old said such comments could have been avoided as it puts pressure on the team.

"I am not really sure but probably not a great thing to say as it puts extra pressure on the team. Once they start losing, they will get a lot of criticism for that. Look, it's good that Ravi Shastri believes in his side but comments like these could be kept to him-



Steve Waugh in action against India File Photo

self," Waugh said.

The former skipper known for his mental disintegration tactic feels that Australia despite recent problems would be hard to beat in their own den.

"Australia will be hard to beat in Australia. We have a bowling attack as good as any team in world cricket and we can take wickets. It's our batting if we score 350 runs in first

innings, I think we will be very hard to beat. And someone will always come and do well and that's the nature of the sport.

"I am still pretty confident that we can win in Australia but it's going to be a close series though," Waugh said about the Test series starting December 6.

Like everyone else, he praised Virat Kohli for his supreme consistency comparing him with Brian Lara and Sachin Tendulkar.

"He is a great player and he loves these big moments. He is like Tendulkar and Lara. They wait for these and that's where they want to show their best. He will be the dangerous straightaway but they have some pretty good batsmen," Waugh said.

"Actually, India have quite a rounded team and they will see this as a significant chance. They would have prepared for this tour for a long time. I think it is going to be really close series," he added.

'Aus WC stars to miss parts of IPL'

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Putting country first, Cricket Australia will not allow its players, picked in the World Cup squad, to take part in the last few weeks of the 2019 Indian Premier League (IPL) so that they prepare well for the big-ticket event.

The lucrative IPL Twenty20 tournament is likely to start early than the scheduled time to give the players enough time to rest and prepare for the ODI World Cup, starting in England on May 30.

Advancing the IPL dates to March means it will clash with the last part of Australia's domestic season as well as their ODI series against Pakistan.

The final round of the Sheffield Shield is scheduled from March 20 to 23, while the Pakistan ODI series, though not confirmed, has been pencilled in for March 15-29.

Cricket Australia has made it clear that World Cup remains the priority for the defending champions and the players will



Suspended duo of David Warner and Steve Smith

have to complete their Sheffield Shield commitments and national duties to get approval to play in the IPL.

Cricket Australia also said the 15 players selected in the World Cup squad will have to attend a pre-tournament camp in early May, which means they could miss the final 2-3 weeks of the IPL.

Fast bowler Mitchell Starc, who has already been released from the KKR squad, has said that he will not put himself available for the 2019 IPL auction.

Pakistan look to Yasir, Abbas to tame tough New Zealand

AFP ■ ABU DHABI

Pakistan skipper Sarfraz Ahmed is confident leg-spinner Yasir Shah and medium pacer Mohammad Abbas can combine to tame "tough" New Zealand in the first Test starting in Abu Dhabi on Friday.

The fast-rising Abbas took 17 wickets in a two-match Test series, including a ten-wicket haul at Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, as Pakistan beat Australia 1-0 last month.

Abbas, who made his debut last year, has 59 wickets from his first 10 Tests and will be backed by the spin duo of Yasir and Bilal Asif.

Sarfraz said he expects more from Yasir, who managed just eight wickets against Australia.

"Yes, our bowling attack is good," said Sarfraz on Thursday.

"Abbas has been bowling superbly while Yasir didn't look as great as we had expected, but in this series I expect more from Yasir."

Yasir has been a match winner on the neutral venues of United Arab Emirates (UAE).

He took 15 wickets in the



Pak skipper Sarfraz Ahmed, NZ captain Kane Williamson pose with trophy PCB

1-1 series draw against New Zealand in the Twenty20s and one-day internationals," said Sarfraz of the preceding series.

Abbas is likely to share the new ball with Hasan Ali with Yasir and Asif assisted by Mohammad Hafeez in spin.

New Zealand skipper Kane

Williamson, who returns to the squad after missing the third one-day with a groin strain, hopes his team adapt fast.

"Obviously, coming into Pakistan's home series there is a lot of work to do in terms of the overseas sides adapting to the conditions as best as they can," said Williamson.

"I think it's important that we adapt with this inexperienced side that we have come here with and look to learn as we can and do that quickly because we want to be playing our best cricket under these conditions."

B'desh win 2nd Test, level series

AFP ■ DHAKA

Zimbabwe's Brendan Taylor fought valiantly with his second century of the Test but Bangladesh won the final match by 218 runs to end the series at 1-1 on Thursday.

Needing a mammoth 443 to win, Zimbabwe were bowled out in the second session on the fifth day in Dhaka with Taylor remaining unbeaten on 106.

Taylor's knock of patience and controlled aggression came from 167 balls and featured ten fours. He had hit 110 in Zimbabwe's first essay of 304.

Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan was the wrecker-in-chief on the final day as he returned bowling figures of 5-38 -- his fifth five-wicket haul in Tests.

Mehidy denied Zimbabwe any chance of repeating their clinical performance of the first match in Sylhet that they won by 151 runs.

Tajjul Islam added two more wickets to his five in the first innings and finished the series with a career best haul of 18 scalps in two matches. He was named the player of the series.

The home side declared the first innings on 522 for seven with Mushfiqur Rahim hitting an unbeaten 219 -- the first time a wicket-keeper hit two double tons in Test cricket.

The visitors' hopes of securing a draw rested on the pairing of Taylor and Peter Moor, whose 139-run sixth wicket stand in the first



B'desh players celebrate after dismissing Zimbabwe batsman during final day of 2nd Test ICC

innings took the visitors past the 300 mark.

But once Moor departed after a 79-ball vigil for a paltry 13 runs, smartly caught at short leg by Imrul off Mehidy, the Zimbabwe batting fell flat.

Resuming at 76 for 2, Zimbabwe lost another key man Sean Williams for 13 after pace bowler Mustafizur Rahman provided Bangladesh with the day's first breakthrough.

Spinner Tajjul dismissed Sikandar Raza for 12 by taking a sharp return catch to reduce Zimbabwe to 120 for 4.

But Taylor and Moor saw their side through to the lunch break with an unbeaten 41-run stand for the fifth wicket.

Bangladesh declared their second innings on 224 for six at the tea break Wednesday after skipper Mahmudullah Riyad completed his second century in eight years.

The victory was Bangladesh's first this year and it came after eight innings in which the Test minnows could not cross the 200 run mark.

Roshen helps SL pick vital lead

AP ■ KANDY

Sri Lanka fought back admirably against England thanks to a back-to-the-wall 85 by Roshen Silva to earn a first-innings lead of 46 runs in the second test on Thursday.

However, Silva's failure to ground his bat and run short conceded a rare five penalty runs to England.

Sri Lanka was all out for 336 in reply to England's 285, boosted to 290 with the penalty runs at Pallekele International Stadium.

England faced just one over before stumps on day two and promoted Leach to open the innings. The nightwatchman negotiated six deliveries from Dilruwan Perera without further drama on a day where momentum swung both ways.

At 165-6 and still 120 runs behind England's first-innings total, the Sri Lankans were under pressure. But Silva put up a magnificent show, teaming with the tail to push the hosts in front. However, the Sri Lankans will still have to bat last on a pitch that has plenty to offer for spin bowlers.

Silva, in for injured captain Dinesh Chandimal,

RANJI TROPHY

DELHI FAIL TO REGISTER OUTRIGHT WIN

New Delhi: Delhi's left-arm spin duo Vikas Mishra and Varun Sood put up a disappointing show on a helpful last day track as Himachal Pradesh managed to eke out a point in a group B. Needing nine wickets on the final day and Himachal left with an improbable chase of 376, Mishra (2/57 in 33 overs) and Sood (1/51 in 21 overs) failed to break through the opposition middle-order. HP finished their second innings at 266 for 5, primarily due to Nikhil Gangta (66 no, 184 balls) and Rishi Dhawan (52 no, 110 balls). Sumeet Verma (43, 91 balls) also played his part to perfection as Delhi bowlers sans Ishant Sharma (2/42 in 16 overs) looked below-par. Delhi bowled close to 30 overs (29.4 overs) after Himachal lost their fifth wicket at 184 but the two spinners let it drift during the unbroken 82-run stand for the sixth wicket between Gangta and Dhawan.

TN, HYDERABAD GAME END IN DRAW

Tirunelveli: Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad had to settle for one point each as the first innings remained unfinished resulting in the Elite Group 'B' match ending in a tame draw. In reply to Hyderabad's 565 for 8 declared, the home team was 409 for 4 in 154 overs riding on tons by Abhinav Mukund (178) and N Jagadeesan (131 not out, 16X4, 3X6) at close of play on the fourth and final day. Resuming at 163 for 2, Tamil Nadu lost skipper Baba Indrajith (33) for the addition of 15 runs. Wicketkeeper-batsman Jagadeesan, then added 171 runs with Mukund to dash any hopes Hyderabad would have entertained of obtaining a lead. After the exit of the left-handed opener, Jagadeesan and B Anirudh Sitaram kept the rival bowlers at bay, adding 60 runs.

MP SALVAGE DRAW AGAINST BENGAL

Kolkata: Left-handed opener Aryaman Birla slammed his maiden first-class century to help Madhya Pradesh salvage a draw following on, as Bengal had to settle for three points in their first home match of the season. Scion of the Birla family, Aryaman remained unbeaten on 103 in his third first-class match, while Shubham Sharma gave him fine support with 100 not out on the fourth day to hand Madhya Pradesh one point in their Elite Group B fixture. Bengal, who enjoyed a first innings in their last match in Himachal Pradesh, have now six points from two games. Having taken a first innings lead over Tamil Nadu in their last match, Madhya Pradesh now have four points.

PUDUCHERRY GET THREE POINTS

Puducherry: Debutants Puducherry opened their account with three points by virtue of a first innings lead over Meghalaya in a rain-hit Plate Group fixture. Resuming the day on 95/4 in their second innings, Puducherry were 129/7 when rain stopped play in 47.1 overs at the Siechem ground here. With cyclone Gaja looming large, there was no respite from a downpour as only 17.1 overs could be possible and home team got three points, thanks to their first innings lead. Puducherry had made 389 in their first innings before bowling out Meghalaya for 326. Rain remained the common feature in the second match of the group in Jorhat where the final day's play was abandoned under a ball being bowled as Arunachal Pradesh were lucky to bag three points, thanks to their first innings lead over Mizoram.

JACKSON, JADEJA STAR IN SAURASHTRA'S WIN

Rajkot: Sheldon Jackson hit a strokeful half century while Ravindra Jadeja made a crucial unbeaten 48 to guide hosts Saurashtra to a three-wicket win over Railways in a Group A match. Saurashtra lost seven wickets while chasing 184 for an outright win, but Ravindra Jadeja (48 not out) held his nervous along with Kamlesh Makwana (14 not out) to take their side to victory. Jackson's 55-ball 54, which had eight fours and two sixes proved to be the difference among the two sides. Saurashtra were four wickets down for 65 at one stage, but then Jackson and Jadeja pulled the team out of trouble. Jadeja, who remained unbeaten on 178 in the first innings, carried on his form and responded to his team's call. Earlier, Saurashtra bowlers did a descent job to bundle out Railways for 331 in their second innings and ensure that the target remained below 200.

RAJASTHAN, UP, ASSAM NOTCH UP WINS

Jaipur: Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Assam registered wins in their respective Elite Group C matches played across different venues in the country. While Uttar Pradesh thrashed hosts Odisha by 10 wickets in Bhubaneswar, Assam defeated Tripura by a massive 211 runs in Agartala. On the other hand, Rajasthan hammered Services by five wickets at the Savai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, chasing a stiff 357-run target. Rajasthan rode on a magnificent 159 by their opener Amitkumar Gautam, who struck 13 fours and six other hits over the fence. Opener Gautam, who had fallen cheaply in the first innings, and his partner Chetan Bist (78) laid the foundation of the win with their 170-run stand for the first wicket. 23-year-old Gautam, a right-handed batsman, scored runs when his team needed the most. He hammered a listless Services attack as their bowlers leaked runs. When Gautam fell, the job was nearly done as Rajasthan needed just another 25 runs. Then R K Bishnoi (26) and T N Dhillon (10) took their side home with five wickets to spare as Rajasthan earned six points. PTI



Roshen Silva plays a shot during his innings against England in 2nd Test

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was on 6 when Angelo Mathews fell for 20, and from there he stitched some valuable partnerships with the lower order to post a competitive total. Sri Lanka's highest in the series.

Silva and Niroshan Dickwella put on 46 runs for the seventh wicket but the stand that handed Sri Lanka the initiative back was the

ninth worth 56 runs between Silva and Akila Dananjaya (31). The Sri Lankans were giving England a taste of its own medicine, after England added 60 runs for the last wicket.

Suranga Lakmal and Silva added 28 runs for the last wicket. Silva was the last man dismissed when he attempted to loft Rashid to the boundary but failed to clear mid-on.