

**OPINION 8**  
IN THE DRAGON'S  
EMBRACE

**WORLD 12**  
AT LEAST SIX KILLED IN  
KABUL SUICIDE ATTACK

**SPORT 15**  
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## Voters defy Naxals in their bastion

18 seats in Maoist bastions in Chhattisgarh witness 70 per cent voting



CRPF personnel help an elderly voter to reach a polling station for casting her vote during the first phase of Chhattisgarh Assembly elections, in Naxal-affected Sukma district, on Monday

PNS ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh's insurgency-chit 18 Assembly seats witnessed heavy polling on Monday as voters defied Maoists' boycott call.

It has set the tone for the Assembly elections in five States that have been viewed as a "semi-final" before the country goes for the Lok Sabha battle in 2019.

The phase-1 turnout was estimated to be 70 per cent and significantly the Maoist bastions in Chhattisgarh recorded the highest-ever voting percentage amid peaceful polling for which about 1.25 lakh security personnel were deployed across eight districts.

Polling officials confirmed that restive areas — Bheji, Chintagufa and Injeram in Konta seat; Pamed and Bhopalpattanam in Bijapur seat — which had track record of almost zero polling recorded heavy turnout right from early hours of voting.

### First Phase Polling

Nov 12, 2018

Seats 18/90

Candidates 190

Polling Stations 4,341

Total Voters 31,80,014

Voter Turnout 70%

Turnout in 2013 75.06%

(For the same Assembly seats)

KBK Infographics

Government officials, political parties and intellectuals described the higher turnout as an indication of "Maoists losing influence in

jungle areas where Naxals had a monopoly for over a quarter century".

The voting in 18 seats sealed the fate of 190 candidates, including Chief Minister Raman Singh from Rajnandgaon and his two Ministerial colleagues Kedar Kashyap from Narayanpur and Mahesh Gagda from Bijapur.

Rajnandgaon seat where Chief Minister Raman Singh is locked in a direct fight with Congress candidate Karuna Shukla, niece of late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, recorded 70 per cent polling.

Women voters mainly in tribal-dominated forested interiors were seen queued up in large numbers even after voting timing ended.

Chhattisgarh's Chief Electoral Officer Subrat Sahoo said that Khujji Assembly segment registered the highest turnout of 72 per cent and the poll percentage figure could go up after final compilation of voting data.



Union Minister and Rashtriya Lok Samta Party (RLSP) chief Upendra Kushwaha meets expelled JD(U) leader Sharad Yadav in New Delhi on Monday

## Wary Kushwaha flexes muscles, meets Sharad

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

Sharing a hostile political relationship with Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, BJP ally Rashtriya Lok Samta Party's (RLSP) president Upendra Kushwaha on Monday met Opposition leader Sharad Yadav, a friend-turned-foe of Nitish Kumar, with a suggestion that he is not altogether averse to switching camps.

Kushwaha met Sharad at the latter's residence and both the leaders were believed to have discussed the current political situation, especially in Bihar, RLS party sources said. In a tweet, Kushwaha described the meeting as a courtesy call.

Seat-sharing within the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) constituents is not a settled matter even as BJP president Amit Shah last month announced here with Nitish by his side that his party and the JD(U) would contest equal number of Lok Sabha seats with other NDA constituents like RLS party and Lok Jan Shakti Party (LJP) of Ram Vilas Paswan need to adjust with lower number of seats than

they contested in 2014. The RLS party, which had fought three seats in 2014 and won all, is unlikely to be spared not more than two seats by the BJP.

Kushwaha has maintained he is ready to "sacrifice" for the NDA and would like Prime Minister Narendra Modi to return to power at the Centre, but wondered as to why he was being kept out of the Nitish Kumar-led JD(U)-BJP coalition in Bihar. The OBC leader, who is also a Union Minister, has once famously said "Nitish is capable of sinking any boat he rides on." He accused Nitish of conspiring to break the RLS party.

Kushwaha had also attacked Nitish for allegedly insulting him and had targeted him again on Sunday over reports that two MLAs of his party may join the JD(U).

The RLS party leader has kept the seat-sharing pot boiling by meeting rival Lalu Prasad's son Tejashwi with reports that he had sought six Lok Sabha seats but was "assured" only four. But Kushwaha described his meeting with Lalu's son at a Government guest house as a "chance meeting".

## Ananth Kumar passes away

Union Minister dies in Bengaluru after battling lung cancer for several months

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

ANANTH KUMAR

Senior BJP leader and Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ananth Kumar, 59, died at a private hospital here in the early hours of Monday, party spokesmen said.

He was suffering from lung cancer and had come back from the US in October after treatment at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre, New York. He is survived by wife and two daughters.

The Karnataka Government has declared a three-day State mourning till November 14 as a mark of respect to Ananth Kumar. His last rites will be performed on Tuesday with all Government honour, an official release said.

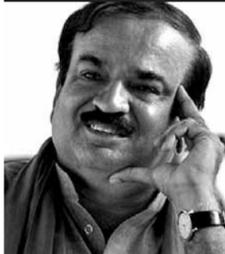
Ananth had built the BJP in Karnataka and was the sole Member of Parliament from the State.

His political journey began from Vidhyarthi Parishat and graduated through RSS to the national politics. Known for his integrity, Kumar had friends in the Congress and other parties.

As a Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister, his performance was appreciated by all. Even though he was identified as Advani's man, he succeeded in getting close to Narendra Modi later.

Mourning the death of Ananth, Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy said, "Kumar's pro-people attitude and activities made him apple of the eyes of people."

"He always valued and had given priority to friendship. I have lost a great friend in his death," he said.



▲ JULY 1959-NOV 2018 ▼

Ananth, was widely regarded as an able political organiser who helped the BJP expand its reach in country's south.

His organisational skills and proficiency in Kannada, Hindi, Marathi and English caught the attention of the party's top leaders like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and LK Advani, who made him a BJP national General Secretary at a young age.

An urban face of the BJP, Ananth was a six-time parliamentarian from the high-profile Bengaluru South Lok Sabha constituency since 1996.

He became a Union Minister at a young age (37) in the Vajpayee's Governments of 1998-99 and 1999-2004.

In the 1996 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP denied ticket to sitting MP renowned economist Professor K Venkatagiri Gowda from Bangalore South and fielded a new face, Ananth Kumar. The move raised eyebrows.

## CVC files confidential report on Verma graft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on Monday filed its preliminary enquiry report in a sealed cover before the Supreme Court against benched CBI director Alok Kumar Verma in view of the allegations of corruption levelled against him by his deputy Rakesh Asthana.

Following allegations of corruption, Verma and Asthana were divested of their supervisory authority in the CBI and sent on leave.

Acting CBI director M Nageswara Rao too filed in a sealed cover the decisions taken by him from October 23-26



### SC to examine/hear case on Nov 16

with regard to the transfer of investigations and change of investigators of the agency.

A Bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul took both the reports on record and fixed November 16 as the next date for hearing in the matter. Sources privy to the CVC

enquiry said the report has flagged certain questions with regard to the probe against Verma for which a separate and further enquiry is required.

It implies there is no clean chit to Verma and the CVC preliminary report has left it for the apex court to decide further course of action, the sources

## ASI denies replacing Konark stone carvings

PNS ■ PURI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on Monday refuted the allegation of replacing Konark Sun temples artistic stone carvings with plain stones.

In a meeting at the State Secretariat under the chairmanship of Culture Secretary Manoranjan Panigrahi, ASI Deputy Engineer (Archeology) Tapan Bhattacharya and ASI Regional head (Odisha Circle) Arun Mallick discussed the matter with the State Government officials.

ASI Superintending Archaeologist Arun Mallick said some plain stones were installed in the temple in the British era. "Not even a single stone carving of the Sun Temple has been replaced in the last 15 years. The plain stones have only been placed at blank por-



tions of the temple, he said.

The officials further added that the plain stones were placed for the conservation of the monument as per the guidelines of the ASI and the

UNESCO.

"The ASI is committed towards the preservation of the World Heritage Monument, the Sun Temple at Konark," Mallick further said.

## HC upsets Govt move to reinstate suspended cops

Lawyers' strike to continue till tomorrow

CUTTACK: In a major setback to the State Government, particularly to the police department, the Orissa High Court on Monday restored the suspension of the three policemen, whose suspension had been revoked by the Government last week.

The policemen were placed under suspension for "misconduct" after they had allegedly thrashed an advocate in full public glare at a busy marketplace here on August 28. But while the standoff between police and lawyers was still unresolved and the matter was pending before the High Court, the Government on November 3 reinstated the suspended cops.

"In our considered opinion, during pendency of this case, the State Government ought not

to have done that without permission of the court," said an order passed by a Division Bench headed by Chief Justice KS Jhaveri. The order of revoking the suspension of the policemen is put in abeyance, the High Court said, adding, "The order of suspension of those employees of Odisha police is restored." In a related development, Justice CR Dash of the High Court, who is now monitoring the police investigations of all the criminal cases arising out of the police-lawyer standoff, on Monday proposed a compromise formula to end the two-and-a-half-month row and that seems to be acceptable to the lawyers, who are on strike since August 29.

Although details of Justice Dash's formula was not known yet, sources said Justice Dash has suggested to summon the concerned policemen and the "victim" advocate to the court, wherein the policemen would express regret for the August 28 assault on the advocate and simultaneously, the advocates would also express regret for the October 29 assault on some policemen who were on duties inside the court.

Meanwhile, the striking lawyers at a general body meeting of the High Court Bar Association on the day decided to continue their stir till Wednesday, the day Justice Dash's formula is going to be worked out.

## 'State Govt has betrayed jobless youths'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

BJP Yuva Adhikar Sangharsha rally ends

The BJP on Monday alleged the Make in Odisha Conclave, which is being held, bears no meaning as the State's BJD Government has failed in providing employment to youths during its 19 years of its rule.

"The State Government has betrayed youths by not give employments to them. While many Government posts are lying vacant and MoU-signed companies have failed to give employments to local youths, holding Make in Odisha Conclave bears no meaning. It is meant to collect funds for the ruling party to meet election expenditure," alleged BJP Yuva Morcha president Tankadhar Tripathy on the concluding event of the two-day "Yuva Adhikar Sangharsha

Yatra here.

Stating that over 35 lakh job seekers have registered names with different Employment Exchanges, Tripathy demanded that Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik should make a statement in the public as to how many of registered youths have got jobs. A Padayatra taken out from the Utkal Gourav Madhu Sudan Das' birthplace Satyabhamapur reached Pratapnagar on Sunday.

The rally concluded at the Baxi Jagabandhu statue here on Monday. BJD State president Basant Panda, vice-president Sameer Mohanty, secretaries kalandi Samal and Dillip Mallick, spokesperson Dilip Mohanty, executive members Jagannath Pradhan and Amiya Das, Bhubaneswar president Amiya Das were present.

## Plan long-term investment: CM to industrialists

Assures them unmatched facilitation support

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday asked industrialists to plan a long-term strategy for investing in the State over the next 10 years.

"Dedicated teams will be appointed by my Government to handhold the implementation of your long-term plans. I assure you of unmatched facilitation support," the Chief Minister said while speaking at the second edition of the Make in Odisha Conclave here.

He urged them to deliberate upon the vast opportunities that Odisha offers and to work

together towards developing the State as a manufacturing hub of South Asia.

Patnaik also highlighted Odisha's enormous opportunities and investment potential.

"Odisha is a leading State in terms of mineral production and processing. Odisha is, today, the aluminium capital of South Asia, accounting for well over half of the country's production, and is also the steel hub of India, contributing to about a quarter of the nation's steel production," the Chief Minister said.

The State Government has launched the Odisha Industrial



Development Plan: Vision 2025 with a target of attracting investment of ₹2.50 lakh crore and creation of 30 lakh job opportunities in six identified focus sectors by 2025.

A progressive Aerospace and Defence Manufacturing

Policy has also been launched to capitalise on the competitive advantages of Odisha's existing ecosystem to attract investment in this high-potential sector.

Targeting port-led development, Patnaik said the

Government has been planning a chain of ports along the East Coast Economic Corridor.

"Apart from Paradip and Dhamra, we are developing deep-water ports at Subarnarekha and Gopalpur, a riverine port on Mahanadi river and a chain of 12 other non-major ports," said the Chief Minister.

He also announced that a world-class infrastructure — an 18-storeyed World Skill Centre — has been built in Bhubaneswar.

The Odisha Skill Development Authority will manage the World Skill Centre with technical support from ITEES, Singapore.

The Centre will function as the centralised hub with all 71 Government ITIs as spokes for implementation of the

Odisha Skill Development Project — an ambitious ₹1,400 crore project.

More than 1 lakh people will be trained in the next 4 years under the project, according to Patnaik.

Since 2014-15, more than 2 lakh MSMEs have gone into production providing employment opportunities to over 6 lakh people, he said.

"We are setting up a green-field Electronics Manufacturing Cluster and are also developing other facilities to provide an enabling environment to support electronics manufacturing and ICT industries," Patnaik told. "Odisha is the first State to rope in TIE, Silicon Valley, US, for investing in the ESDM and IT sector," the Chief Minister said.

Related stories on Pg 2

# JSPL to hike investment to ₹1L crore in Odisha

**TO ENHANCE ANGUL STEEL PLANT CAPACITY TO 20 MTPA**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Jindal Steel & Power Ltd (JSPL) would increase its investment in Odisha from ₹45,000 crore to ₹1 lakh crore by 2030. This was announced by JSPL chairman Naveen Jindal at the plenary session of the Make in Odisha Conclave 2018 here on Monday.

With the increased investment, the capacity of the company's Angul steel plant would jump from the existing 6 MTPA to 20 MTPA and employment generation would be enhanced from 50,000 to 1 lakh, he said.

Jindal said, "JSPL's story in Odisha started 30 years ago. My father OP Jindal, who shared his vision with legendary Biju Patnaikji had planned for setting up a 1-MTPA steel plant. Subsequently in 2003, we started setting up a 6-MTPA plant in Odisha based on Swadeshi



or indigenous raw materials. And for the first time in the world, we set up a steel plant based on coal gasification. But after de-allocation of the coal block, it was very challenging for us.

But with the encouragement from the Government of Odisha, JSPL started to put up India's largest and most modern blast furnace largest sinter plant, coke oven and steel making shop."

Along with the 6-MTPA steel plant at Angul, which is at

present Odisha's largest steel plant, the JSPL is also operating a 9-MTPA pellet plant at Barbil, which has been exporting the highest amount of pellets from the country, he informed, adding that the JSPL is also setting up an industrial park at Angul to help MSMEs.

Jindal said, "Along with making steel, we also take passionate interest in our social responsibility like building schools, hospitals, community healthcare and drinking water facility."

# Mukesh Ambani recalls father's association with Biju

**'RELIANCE TO INVEST ₹3,000 CR MORE'**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

Attending the Make in Odisha Conclave here on Monday, Reliance Industries head Mukesh Ambani recalled his father Dhirubhai Ambani's association with Biju Patnaik and said both shared a deep friendship. He said, "Odisha has been growing at eight per cent annually which is faster than other States. Under the exemplary leadership of CM Naveen Patnaik, Odisha is becoming one of the best investment destinations in the nation."

He said the Reliance has already invested ₹6,000 crore in Odisha and would invest an

additional ₹3,000 crore in various businesses in the State in the next three years. This would create 30,000 job opportunities. Speaking about the company's telecom arm, Ambani said Reliance Jio has connected all cities, towns and 43,000 villages in Odisha and the per capita data consumption in the State is among the highest in the country.

Ambani further asserted that Reliance is partnering with the State Government to set up a Reliance Foundation-Odisha High Performance Athletics Centre that would groom local talents for Olympics.



# Interview of the week

## There is a chink in the armour of Sarala Puraskar



He is not confined to the four walls of a classroom being contented with the dull dispensation of a pedantic scholar, nay a professor. He is a poet speaking to others in the language of a common man and reigns supreme in the hearts and minds of his avid readers in today's literary firmament of Odisha. Picking up the voice and vocabulary of his poetry from paddy fields or from the golden plums of mango birds, he explores himself occupying a broad swath of contemporary Odia literary spectrum. His poetry that fathoms the range of his empathy for the poor and the meek, and the outcast enjoys a wide fan base. Poet and professor, critic and editor rolled into one makes **Dr Hrushikesh Mallick**, who owns a grand ensemble of poetic compositions like *Dhan Saunta Jhia* (The Girl Picking up Corn Ears of Paddy), *Ujuda Khetara Geeta* (The Song of Ravaged Field), *Dharmapatri* (Wife), *Sakhi Chandra Surya* (The Moon and The Sun Witnessing), *Jeje Dekhinathiba Bharat* (Grandfather Has Never Seen That India), children's literature like *Ka Aakare Kaa*, *Mo Kundhei Kain*, short-story collections like *Andhajar Kahan* and *Nishabde Jibanshrota*, essays and critical writings like *Odia Jatra* and *Lokanata Parikrama* and *Biswayana O Purba Bharatiya Kabitar Tara Prabhab*, anthologies and journals edited by him such as *Uttarakhand*, *Viswabasu* (fiction), *Galpajhar*, *Istahar* and *Sishulekha* and translation of *Geetanjali* from original Bengali.

Hailing from a nondescript village of Banitia in Bhadrak district, he has won many awards. In an interview to *The Pioneer*, Mallick speaks to **Sugyan Choudhury** about creativity, immortality of poetry, lack of critical literary opinion and about the literary colossus **Dr Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi** being deprived of Sarala Puraskar.

**How do you describe the creative urge that ever dawned on you today?**

Taken soul as immortal, creativity as its shadow keeps haunting the man over several births. I started sensing the same eerie stirring inside me! Since I started understanding the ways of the world, I suddenly found myself very fond of loneliness, more leaning to keeping away from crowds and friends. The mango bird, chilled to the bone in the storm, sitting huddled in the branches of a faraway tree began fascinating me. I would sit listening to the recitation of scriptures by a Purohit for hours. The fragrance of paddy flowers thrilled me while on my way to school.

All these wonders moulded into a fertile soil where the seed of creativity was sprouting in me then. Journeying along long risky and rocky road with headache of being rejected and happiness of being felicitated I have at last stood here. While listening light songs on radio, watching swarms of fishes swimming in pond, lying on a mat in the street amazed me how stars weaving filigree artworks in the sky. Yes, poetry is as much an art of endeavour as empathy for me.

**What's your take on the premise that poetry as a literary genre no more appeals to mass and has become subculture?**

A genuine poetry is a perennial source of joy for the aesthetes and wise men sitting on the high pedestals or the illiterate and sorrowful folks living in a far-flung village. The classics like Bhagavat, Ramayana, Laxmi Puran have been enlightening and entertaining the masses for generations. Radhanath Ray and Satchi Routray are timeless models. These days, the market abounding in bad poetry or nonstandard poetry does make it appear so. Those having power or money fashion themselves as poets. Advertisement sponsors are posing as muses.

There is little space for works of excellence in magazines. You can publish anthologies if you can afford. You can also get it released by celebrity poets and critics with high recommendations. That is ruining the grandeur of the perception of good verses. The fog shrouds the trees and bushes, but when it fades the trees dazzle as

usual. Ultimately, works of excellence comes out and lasts.

**Does contemporary Odia literature lack robust critical opinions?**

I agree. There are few honest astute literary critics in the realm of Odia literature. Bias, prejudice, and eye on gain guides them. Where critics are on sale, you can hardly tell good poetry apart from bad ones. Almost all critics active now are sycophants or cynics or illiterate about canons of critical attitude. The lure of gift from authors lets loose this chaos. We no more have judicious constructive critics like Pandit Nilakantha Das and Mayadhar Mansingh.

**What is your view on the controversy concerning selection of recipients of Sarala Puraskar, in which eminent litterateur Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi has unceremoniously been ignored for last two consecutive years? Is not it making a mockery of Panigrahi, probably a second Sarala in Odia literary and cultural tradition? Are the literary awards being fixed today?**

Where there is smoke, there is fire! There are fundamental errors ensnaring the procedure of short-listing the awardees. So, it is no wonder that unqualified authors sometimes sneak into the scenario and snatch away the trophy! Dr Ramesh Prasad Panigrahi is nationally acknowledged as the forerunner of an age in the Odia dramatic tradition.

Last year, truly, he was deprived of Sarala Puraskar despite obtaining the same marks as the one that bagged it. This is a slur on Sarala

Puraskar. It could have been conferred on both. At times, the agencies instituting the award choose to be parochial; and sometimes, the authors adorned with authority and power make it befall on them.

The grave error in case of Sarala Award is that there is a chink in its armour through which the competing authors, if they endeavoured, can steal the names of other competitors in advance. That prompts them to do lobbying. In the panel of juries are members who loath reading books.

The proposers are rarely men of letters. In such a sorry system, the good books and entitled authors are easily nudged to a side. If ever an worthy and accomplished author is shortlisted for it, it is just accidental. We confront this dismal state everywhere, be it State Sahitya Akademi or Kendra Sahitya Akademi. The Kendra Sahitya Akademi so stipulates it that the convenor of a provincial advisory committee can confer the award on author of his choice without consulting anybody. Nobody lends you ear if you yell ever.

**Hasn't discontinuation of publication of "Shisulekha" deprived our children of a good journal?**

I joined as the editor of "Shisulekha" way back in 1991 and continued for four long years. We were able to raise its circulation from 2,000 to 15,000 per month. Later on, editors failed miserably in their tasks and could not continue its publication. Odia Bhasha Pratishthan, OPEPA and Sahitya Academy took up the responsibility but ended in stupendous failure. As per my own experience, if you are more enthusiastic in your endeavour, that too in a government organisation, the more you go ahead, the more you are hit back. You are surely left to languish under the cult of red-tapism. The discontinuations of "Shisulekha" for over the last three decades is a total lack of concern for generations of children.

**It is alleged that celebrity Odia authors keep mum when Odia language, literature, and culture confronts crisis. What's your comment?**

I never dispute it. It is because most of the frontline litterateurs of Odisha have leashes on their neck, the government jobs. They will never risk that at any cost. And on their superannuation, they secretly keep busy grabbing an award or honour for themselves.

**A senior Odia writer now faces allegation of sexual harassment to women writers. In the Odia chapter of "Me Too", several women are coming out with distasteful stories of being sexually exploited by the same author. How do you react to it?**

No matter how mighty and influential he may be, if all the aggrieved women unite and fight in solidarity for their honour, they will rip apart the mask from this perverser.

The predator should be kept away from all literary meets until he is given a clean chit. But we witness opposite symptoms in our Odisha. Those who are sex-perversers are being recommended for Jnanapeeth and Saraswati Samman.

# Committed to world class varsity in Puri: Vedanta

**Odisha in top priority: Aditya Birla Group Will set up most modernised greenfield steel plant: JSW**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

Speaking at the plenary session of the Make in Odisha Conclave, Vedanta chief Anil Agarwal highlighted how Odisha is offering an ample scope in setting up downstream industries which would create better job opportunities in coming years.

With an investment of ₹5 crore to ₹50 crore, one could be a good entrepreneur given the current here, he told.

"This is the place of employment. We don't seek job but we will provide you job as the State is slowly emerging as a favorite investment destination," said Agarwal, adding, "We still have committed to set up a world class university in Puri for 1 lakh students." He also urged the Government to

set up a world class Convention Centre in Puri.

There is no better place than Odisha in the world. How Vedanta has changed landscape of Kalahandi is the place to be seen, Agarwal told.

Joining the bandwagon, Aditya Birla Group of Companies chief Kumar Mangalam Birla said, "Odisha is the top priority State for us."

After Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, Odisha is all set to be the third State with 10 billion economy, revealed our study, said JSW Group chairman Sajan Jindal. "Odisha has a lot of potential. We are shortly commissioning a new berth in the Paradip Port for exports. And are going to set up a most modernised greenfield steel plant in the world in Odisha," Jindal said.

# ITC luxury hotel in city to operate soon

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

ITC Ltd Managing Director Sanjiv Puri said at the Make in Odisha Conclave that the ITC would set up state-of-the-art investment projects in the State including a world-class integrated foods manufacturing facility at Khordha.

The ITC's luxury hotel in Bhubaneswar under the Welcom Hotel brand would commence operations by the end of next year, he also announced, adding that these two flagship projects, along with the ITC's integrated social investment initiatives in Odisha spanning crucial areas such as social forestry, watershed development, sustainable agriculture, livestock development and health and sanitation would make a meaningful contribution to the socioeconomic development of the State.

# Meet on 'Save Constitution, Save Country' on Dec 6

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The Odisha Janchetna Manch would hold a State-level convention on the topic, "Save Constitution, Save Country" here on December 6. This was decided in a meeting of the Manch presided over by Prof Swadhinananda Pattanayak.

Speakers said that the country's Constitution, democracy and democratic rights are under tremendous attack. Attacks on dalits, women, Adivasis, Constitutional institutions, personal independence and minorities by fascist forces are on the rise.

In this critical juncture, secular and patriotic forces should unite and face the challenge to save the Constitution

**In this critical juncture, secular and patriotic forces should unite and face the challenge to save the Constitution and the country, said the speakers**

and the country, said the speakers. December 6 is the death anniversary of father of the Constitution BR Ambedkar. On this day, all should cooperate and make the convention on saving the Constitution a success, they said.

Dr Radhakanata Nayak, Prof Bijay Kumar Bahidar, former Finance Minister Panchanan Kanungo, Prof Sumitra Patel and Dr Urmila Das were among others present.

# SBI launches wealth biz services in State

**Targets to open 50 centres by 2020 6 new branches, more ATMs to open, says Chairman**

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

The State Bank of India (SBI) launched its wealth business services in the State by opening a 'Wealth Hub' at its Local Head Office here on Monday.

The bank recently rebranded its wealth business as 'SBI Wealth' offering best-in-class personalised banking and investment services to its elite HNI (high net worth individ-



ual) clients through a dedicated team of relationship managers.

SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar stated this at a Press meet after inaugurating the

service. SBI is the first PSU bank in the country to introduce comprehensive wealth business services. The SBI Wealth has presence in 25 major cen-

tres with a network of 95 Wealth Hubs in the country, he said adding that the SBI has targeted to open 50 SBI Wealth centres in the State by 2020. Presently, SBI Wealth is

servicing nearly 36,000 clients and is looking to significantly increase its clients base to 1,25,000 with an AUM of ₹100,000 crore in the next two years.

The SBI has a total of 883 branches operating in Odisha out of which 706 branches are provided service rural and semi urban areas. It has 2,854 branches operating in the State.

Responding to questions, Kumar said the SBI would open six more branches and ATMs in coming days keeping requirement of people in view.

He made it clear that SBI customers need to maintain a minimum balance of ₹500 in rural areas and ₹1,000 in urban areas.

# Philatelists of repute join city talk Discuss improvement of philately

**PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR**

A national philatelic seminar was held on November 10 at the Chief Postmaster General office here, organised by the Odisha Postal Circle.

Chief Postmaster General, Odisha Circle, Dr Santosh Kumar Kamila inaugurated it in the presence of Postmaster General, Brahmapur, Col Jaleswar Kanhar, former bureaucrats Sahadev Sahu and DN Padhi, Sikshya "O" Anusandhan VC Amit Banarjee, president and secretary general, Philately Congress of India (PCI) Damayanti Pattie and Rajesh Kumar Bagri, respectively, besides eminent philatelists of national and international repute. They submitted their views



for improvement of philately. The quarterly magazine issued by PCI "Signet"

was released. It was decided to establish more philatelic clubs in schools

and colleges and promote philately in younger generation.

Rajesh Kumar Bagri, Anil Dhir, Pragyan Jain, Ajit Dash, Madhukar Deogawonka, Markand Dave presented the topic like "Thematic Presentation", "Last Post", "Traditional Philately", "Forensic Philately", "Postal History" and "Dasish Settlement in India" respectively.

All the participants discussed promotional aspects of philately in Odisha. The members of PCI, Eastern India Philatelic Association, Odisha Philatelic Association and other philatelic associations of Odisha extended their help. Assistant Director (Philately) PN Pattanayak extended a vote of thanks.

# ATM uprooted; ₹2L looted in Khordha

**KHORDHA:** Unidentified miscreants uprooted a Tata Indicash Automated Teller Machine (ATM) and decamped with the cash in Tulasipur under the Town police station in the district on Sunday night.

According to sources, in the morning locals spotted that the machine had been dismantled. "I heard some noise late night yesterday. It is suspected that a group of miscreants, who had come in a four wheeler, uprooted the machine.

The incident took place at around 1 am," said village guard Surendra Nayak. "On Friday, there was a closing balance of ₹3 lakh. We suspect the miscreants have looted around ₹2 lakh cash," informed ATM officer of Tata Indicash Sanjay Mohanty. Meanwhile, police started an investigation into the incident. **PNS**

# Plastic ban: Initial interest disappearing

**Sir,**

An eco-friendly attitude was established amongst the residents of Bhubaneswar when they decided to implement the ban on use of plastic bags. In the beginning, groceries were delivered in paper bags.

I felt a sense of pride when we locals were really implementing the ban of plastic bag.

But I am disappointed when I notice the presence of plastic bags every now and then. Right from grocery stores

## LETTER

to fashion stores, everyone packs the purchased items in plastic bags.

I wonder where the plastic bag comes from if the country is planning for stoppage of its usage.

Why can't plastic manufacturing be completely shut down? Are the citizens of India

waiting for the order of ban to be announced from the Central Government? Despite all

efforts, people are continuing to use plastic bags for their convenience.

I really wish people take this matter seriously and stop usage of plastic bags. Every single person's contribution would save our planet.

Let's say no to plastic bags and, instead, carry paper bags from home and deny the grocery store person's plastic carry bag.

**K Ravi, E-237, GGP Colony, Bhubaneswar-751025, Mob-943716497**

RAGHUNATH BESHA OUTSIDE PURI

# SJTA chief in a fix for joining event

As eyebrows raised by devotees, servitors

SAROJ KUMAR MISHRA ■ PURI

While a controversy has engulfed the 'Raghunath Besha' of Lord Jagannath and His siblings showcased in Bhubaneswar, with many Jagannath devotees and servitors resenting the ritual outside the Puri temple, Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) Chief Administrator Pradipta Mohapatra has added fuel to fire by sharing dais in the event.

'Besha' would be observed in the Shreemandir in 2020.

In the event Nalco CMD Dr TK Chand, besides some Daitapatis of Shreemandira and officials of the Law Department, were present. Raja Sabha member Raghunath Mohapatra was also a guest in the event.

As per sources, a Law Department official with priestly attire was carrying flowers to the dais in a procession amid ringing of bells.

The Chief Administrator, some servitors and a number of high profile people were present there. Like Shreemandir, dry bhogs and Mahaparasad were distributed among the devotees.

There is a sharp contrast within the temple administration following presence of Mohapatra in the event. Niti administrator Pradip Dash in



response on Saturday said that the temple had no involvement in the event as it was a private one.

However, the outsourcing of a rare of the rare attire of the deities to Bhubaneswar from Shreemandir has not gone down well within the people with many criticizing the temple administration, besides the host and guests.

Here servitors' communi-

**THERE IS A SHARP CONTRAST WITHIN THE TEMPLE ADMINISTRATION FOLLOWING PRESENCE OF MOHAPATRA IN THE EVENT**

ty is not prepared to open mouth on camera though most of them have condemned such an attempt.

Aged servitors were found completely opposed to such Besha outside Meghanada Pacheri (Temple boundary). "Age has changed.

Now Jagannath is a big business at hand of some people. We have gone old now. Jagannath is last one to protect self," told an octogenarian

Sighari servitor requesting anonymity.

As per records over past 500 years, 'Raghunath Besha' has never been observed outside Shreemandir any time. This is first such case to showcase the event out of the shrine precincts with involvement of temple officials.

While the attire was last observed in 1905 in the temple, in 1969 and 1983, the shrine administration had failed to conduct on security ground.

Though nobody is alive today as eyewitness to explain the Besha, however, it is learnt from old servitors that the Jagannath Temple had dazzled with tones of gold and jewelries.

A sea of crowd had flocked the pilgrim city with people jampacking the lanes and by lanes of Puri, when it was organised.

## Maoist posters support farmers' stir



PNS ■ PHULBANI

A day after Maoist posters warning police informers surfaced Kandhamal district, fresh posters of the CPI(Maoist) extending support to the ongoing farmers' agitation spear-headed by the Navanirman Krushak Sangathan (NKSS) have appeared at two places in the district.

The posters released in the name of the Odisha State Committee of the outlawed outfit were found at Kukuruma village under the Phiringia police station and Khadir village under the Guchhapada

police station.

The Red rebels also demanded release of the farmers and farmer leaders who were recently arrested by police during the agitation in different places of the State.

Meanwhile, police seized the posters and started investigation. Earlier on Sunday, Maoist posters had been recovered near Durgapanga village under the Kotagarh police station in Balliguda of the district. Through the posters the Red rebels warned villagers to stay away from police and appealed to people not to become police informers.

## Series of rapes in Angul: NHRC seeks report

### SP asked to furnish report on rehab in four weeks

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought a report from the SP, Angul to submit a report on counselling, compensation and medical treatment to the victims of rapes/sexual abuse in the district within four weeks.

Acting on a petition filed by rights

campaigner Radhakanta Tripathy, the NHRC took the step.

Tripathy highlighted three different incidents of sexual abuse, including how in one case, a girl had jumped out of a moving ambulance as the ambulance staff had attempted to rape her.

In another incident, a minor girl aged 5 years was raped by a 25-year-old man while she was on her way to school.

Lastly, in the third incident, the victim was talking to her friend when both of them were taken to a secluded place by the accused persons and the victim was gang-raped by them in front of her friend. The victim's friend was also brutally beaten up.

The complainant sought the intervention of the NHRC and for a thorough investigation in the incidents.

The victims have not been provided

### The victims have not been provided medical care, psycho-social counselling and they have not been compensated

medical care, psycho-social counselling and they have not been compensated.

Tripathy requested the NHRC to investigate the case and sought implementation status of Nirbhaya Scheme in the State and pay compensation of ₹10 lakh to each victim and rehabilitate them properly after due counselling.

## Endocrine Society conf in BBSR from Nov 15

### 1,850 docs to join; CM to grace as chief guest

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Endocrine Society of India will hold its 48th annual conference here from November 15 to 18, informed organising secretary Abhaya

disorders.

A broad discussion would be held on the advance and new research practices in the cause of endocrinology treatment across the country.

As many as 21 international-level experts from the USA, UK, Canada, South Africa and SARC countries will participate and deliver diverse experiences, informed Sahoo.

The medical conference, to be organised by the Endocrine Society of Odisha, would be held at the Hotel Mayfair Lagoon where as many as 125 delegates from abroad and 1850 doctors from across the country will attend.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and Health Minister Pratap Jena would grace as chief guest and guest of honour respectively.

## Social activist Pattnaik death anniv observed

PNS ■ BRAHMAMPUR

The Abhimanyu Pattnaik Smriti Samiti observed the first death anniversary of popular teacher and social worker of Ganjam Abhimanyu Pattnaik at Bharati Vidya Peetha in Ganjam town on Monday.

A meeting was organised being presided over by social worker Binod Mahapatra. State Planning Board Member Rama Chandra Panda attended as guest and recalled his four-decade-long association with late Pattnaik.

Besides, a number of initiatives were taken up the



Samiti in memory of late Pattnaik to mark the event and a souvenir "Abhimanyu Smaranika" was also unveiled. A number dignitaries, elected representatives, government officials, scribes, advocates,

disciples and a band of his close associates attended and paid floral tribute to late Pattnaik.

Among others, local MLA Dr Priyanshu Pradhan, Chitta Maharana, Surendra Mahanty and Sabita Das were present.

## B'swar UTP death: Two jail warders suspended

PNS ■ BALESWAR

A day after an under-trial prisoner (UTP) was allegedly killed by a murder convict in the Balasore District Jail, two warders of the jail were suspended on Monday for negligence in duty.

Reports said Chief Warder of the jail Sanjeev Panda and Warder Dilip Mohapatra were put under suspension. Besides, DIG (Prisons) Gopabandhu Mallick reached the jail to investigate the incident.

On Sunday, under-trial

prisoner Ramachandra Das had been attacked by Sharat Giri, a prisoner serving life sentence in the jail. Following the attack, Das sustained deep injuries in head and was immediately rushed to the District Headquarters Hospital where he succumbed to the injuries.

Even as the exact reason behind the attack was yet to be ascertained, Superintendent of District Jail Subhankanta Mishra said that the convict had found a stone somewhere in the jail and hit the under-trial prisoner in the head.

## Youth Parl held in Puri; host of clubs join

PNS ■ PURI

Nehru Yuva Kendra Puri organised a Neighborhood Youth Parliament at Puri Sadar block in coordination with NSS, Maa Sharada Devi Mahila Mandal, Model Youth Club and Mahaveer Youth Club

More than 100 youths from various clubs of Puri Sadar participated. Writer Badrinath Mishra graced the occasion as chief guest and former ZP chairman Dibakar Patra was the chief speaker. Prof Sukanta Mohanty, scribes Ranjan Kumar Ganguly and Bejoy Kumar Pattnaik were guests.

District Youth Coordinator Jay Shankar Joshi presided.

Joshi told the objective of the programme is to develop leadership qualities among the youths to enable them to real-



ize their full potential in nation-building.

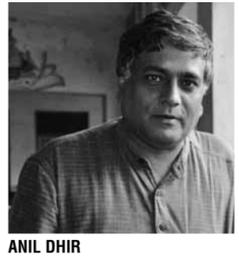
Guest Badrinath Mishra said about character building among the youths and need of volunteerism.

Prof Mohanty told that youths should come to the forefront of the development process and the need of good governance and civic education. Ganguly told there is a need to harness the immense youth energy for nation-build-

ing. Resource persons gave lectures on various social issues including various flagship schemes of the Government for the betterment of the youths.

An action group was formed to take up the issue through various authorities and also, to sensitize the discussion matter in their respective villages. At last, certificates were distributed among the participants.

# Sun Temple safety reports neglected time and again



ANIL DHIR

that has been accorded by the Unesco.

The problems are not just the manner in which the conservation is being done. The criminal neglect of the ASI towards the preservation of the Sun temple and the other heritage structures of the State is a tragic matter. The State's own Archaeology wing is a defunct department which too is responsible for the dismal state of the State's heritage.

The ASI insists that Konark has one of the longest conservation histories in India. The history of conservation of the Sun Temple spans more than one century. There were more than 11 reports prepared by different authorities in different times. Except for three reports, all the other reports were just ignored. Absolutely no action has been taken on the last seven reports.

The first report was prepared by Bishan Swarup, an engineer who worked at the site from 1901-04. It was he who

realised that the edifice faced an imminent collapse and had it filled up with sand. The initial masonry work done under his supervision saved the temple from being completely destroyed. Swarup had given detailed suggestions for the further upkeep of the temple, but these were just forgotten.

The next committee was formed in 1950, chaired by Biswanath Dash and had on its panel CM Master, an eminent architect from Bombay. None of the recommendations was put in place.

The third committee was formed in 1953, this too under the Chairmanship of Biswanath Das and the recommendation for erection of scaffolding was implemented.

In 1978, the ASI constituted the Konark Expert Committee which held its first meeting on November 7 at Konark. For the first time, a serious view of the problem was taken and the committee was chaired by MN



Deshpande, the then DG of the ASI. The horticultural development of the precincts was mooted and implemented.

After the collapse of five stone blocks from the main temple, structural conservation was undertaken between 1985 and 1990. Based on this, scaffolding to some vulnerable sections was done. Another report of the Scientific Branch of the ASI made recommen-

dation on chemical preservation, but nothing was done.

In 1979, the Unesco experts recommendation on conservation of Konark was given to the Government of India. After declaring it a World Heritage Site, the Unesco once again appointed a committee headed by two experts of international repute, Sir BM Fielden and P Beckman in 1987. They described the

state of the temple as alarming and advised immediate preventive measures. After the hue and cry died down, the report too was confined to the dark rooms of the ASI.

Italian expert Prof Ing Giorgio Croci made a structural analysis of the Jagamohan in 1997. In 2010, the ASI called world experts and erected temporary scaffolding so that they could inspect the top of the

temple. The committee made several recommendations, including that of removing the sand. One of the suggestions was to drill a hole and send endoscopic video graphic cameras to assess the state of the interior of the temple.

According to AB Tripathy, convener, INTACH Odisha, the temple is in a precarious condition due to the sheer neglect by the ASI. He along with other INTACH members was a part of the team which examined the structure in 2010. The recommendations for immediate removal of the sand by the experts were ignored.

Experts from the IITs too had given their opinions for removal of the sand. The Central Building Research Institute at Roorkee had analysed the stone blocks and given their reports. The ASI has done nothing.

The ASI is apathetic to the Sun Temple. This year too, like previous years, the structure was flooded nearly half a dozen

(The writer is an INTACH member and secretary of Konark Suraksha Samiti)

# TCSO holds 'We Conquer Thalassaemia' meet



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Thalassaemia Care Society Odisha (TCSO) organised a seminar on "We Conquer Thalassaemia" here on Sunday in which discussions on the changing scenario and global practices in treatment protocol of thalassaemia were held.

The speakers also discussed about various future treatment options of Thalassaemias as it is a dreaded disease and only can be cured through bone marrow transplant, which is highly expensive

The speakers also discussed about various future treatment options for Thalassaemias

and less probable due to unavailability of matched HLA donors.

They said that at present, patients are struggling due to unavailability of proper and safe blood, i.e., Leucodepleted Packed Red Blood Cells and proper chelating medicines and demanded that the government take initiatives to ensure their availability.

Among others, bone marrow transplant specialist Dr Sunil Bhatta, Dr Jayadip Ghosh, Dr Debasish Mishra, Dr Haraprasad Pattnaik, Sanyashi Behera, DSSO, SSEPD and TCSO president Bijaya Kumar Rout and secretary Nirakar Panda were present.

# XIMB holds flash mob to promote 'Xpressions'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Less than a week left as the Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar (XIMB) gears up to host one of the biggest management cultural fest, 'Xpressions 2018', the students as part of the promotion activity organised a flash mob at the Esplanade Mall here recently.

Shoppers were taken by surprise as students suddenly started dancing to the tunes of hit Bollywood numbers and within minutes the mall came to a standstill and the audience grew many-folds, all trying to catch a glimpse of the performance making the mob a success.

During the Xpressions a live performance by Sunidhi Chauhan on CelebTitz, the Celebrity Night, a performance by the rising stars of Electronic pop music, Zephyrtone, and a comedy night with Gaurav Kapoor would be held during the three-day event.

The mob gave a small glimpse of the extravaganza that awaits the capital city of



Bhubaneswar. The registration for the fest can be done on the website: <https://www.ximb-pressions.com/registrations>.

# Nalco net profit increased three-fold

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The National Aluminium Company Limited (Nalco) has once again repeated its strong performance by posting a turnover of ₹5,952 crore in the first half of FY 2018-19, and the growth is 42 per cent over H1 of FY 2017-18.

Similarly, the net profit of the company has gone up from Rs 364 crore in H1 of the previous fiscal (2017-18) to ₹1,197 crore during the first half of 2018-19, registering a growth of 229 per cent.

While the net profit of NALCO in the H1 of current fiscal has increased around three-fold, operating profit of the company has increased more than four-fold, registering ₹1,624 crore in 2018-19 compared to ₹334 crore in H1 of FY 2017-18. EBITDA margin of the company during the period has doubled from 17 per cent to 34 per cent.

According to the reviewed financial results for the 2nd quarter and first half of the financial year 2018-19 taken on record by the Board of Directors in the meeting held at Bhubaneswar on Monday, the Nalco achieved a net profit of ₹510 crore, as against ₹235 crore in the corresponding quarter of previous fiscal, registering around two-fold growth.

The operating profit of 2nd quarter of FY18-19 has increased by 229 at ₹735 crore as against ₹223 crore in the 2nd quarter of FY17-18.

# Multi-speciality hosp to come up in B'pur

**Design World MD Nilesch Gupta said the aim of the hospital would be to help people and give them medical facilities at low costs**

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

The Vivekananda Land and Building organised a doctors' conference here on Monday wherein Berhampur Development Authority Chairman Subash Moharana and reputed doctors from across country attended as guests.

Organisation managing director Bichitra Patnaik said that a plan has been made to construct a multi-speciality hospital in Brahmapur in association with the Design World.

Design World MD Nilesch Gupta said the aim of the hospital would be to help people and give them medical facilities at low costs.

Among others, Oncologist Dr Anil Thakwani, Neurosurgeon Dr Sanjiv Kumar, heart specialist Dr Nirav Bansal, Dr Kamala Kant Panigrahi and Omesh Hospital AGM PK Patnaik were present.



**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA e-Procurement Notice**  
**Bid Identification No. EEMIDNGPUR- 06 /2018-19**  
**Letter No. 2657 Dt. 08.11.2018**

744-A

- Name of work :- Improvement to Check Dams in different Blocks of Nabarangpur District
- Total Number of work :- 20 (Twenty)
- Estimated cost :- Varies from Rs.3.76 lakhs to Rs. 10.88 lakhs
- Class of Contractor :- "D" & "C"
- Tender paper Cost (Online) :- Varies from Rs. 2,000/- to Rs. 6,000/-
- Bid Security (Online) :- Varies from Rs.3,800/- to Rs. 10,900/- as per DTCN
- Period of Completion :- 2 (Two) Calendar Months
- Availability of Bid Document :- From 17.11.2018, 10.00 AM to 27.11.2018, 5.00 PM in website ([www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in))
- Last date & Time of receipt of Bid :- 27.11.2018 at 5.00 PM through online
- Date of opening of Bid documents :- 28.11.2018 at 11.00 A.M in the office of the EE, M.I.Division, Nabarangpur
- Date of Lottery, if required :- 07.12.2018 at 11.00AM in the office of the EE, M.I.Division, Nabarangpur
- Name and address of the OIT :- Executive Engineer, M.I.Division, Nabarangpur A/P.O. :- Nabarangpur, District :-Nabarangpur PINCODE 764059

Further details can be seen from the Government of Odisha Web-Site :-[www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer,**  
**M.I. Division, Nabarangpur**

32294/11/0008/1819

**Odisha Livelihoods Mission**  
**Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department**  
**Government of Odisha**

**Oclisha Livelihoods Mission (OLM)**  
**Bhubaneswar**

**No. 08/2018-19** **Dated:12.11.2018**

**INVITATION OF TENDER FOR OUTSOURCING SERVICES FOR HOUSEKEEPING, CLEANING AND SWEEPING SERVICE TO SMMU, OLM, BHUBANESWAR**

Sealed tender are invited in the prescribed format from the Agency for outsourcing services for housekeeping, cleaning and sweeping service to State Mission Management Unit, OLM. The details of the terms and conditions of the above services can be downloaded from [www.olm.nic](http://www.olm.nic) for use. The interested agencies are advised to submit two separate sealed envelopes super scribing "Technical Bid for providing services for Housekeeping, Cleaning & Sweeping to SMMU, OLM" and " Financial Bid for providing services for Housekeeping, Cleaning & Sweeping to SMMU, OLM". Both sealed envelopes must be kept in a sealed third envelope super-scribing "Providing Services for Housekeeping, Cleaning & Sweeping to SMMU, Odisha Livelihoods Mission" to the office of the State Mission Director, Odisha Livelihoods Mission Building, SIRD Campus, Unit-8, OLM, Bhubaneswar-751012 by **26.11.2018, 3.00 PM**. In case of any Addendum/Clarification/Corrigendum/Extension regarding this tender call notice, the same will be published in the above website. Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender, and to cancel the procurement process at any time prior the award of contract, without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-  
**State Mission Director-cum-CEO**  
**OLM, BHUBANESWAR**

19018/11/0031/1819

**ODISHA LIFT IRRIGATION CORPORATION LIMITED**  
**(A GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)**  
**E-Procurement Bid Identification No:-4177 / Date-01.11.2018**

The Executive Engineer, Mayurbhanj Lift Irrigation Division, Baripada on behalf of ODISHA LIFT IRRIGATION CORPORATION LTD, BHUBANESWAR invites Percentage Rate bids in online mode for Installation & energisation of NEW Community L.I. Projects & Cluster Shallow Tube well projects on Turnkey basis from reputed Contractors / Firms having both valid Civil license registered within the State issued by PWD / PHED / RWSS / Irrigation / M.I. Deptt. / Rural works of required class and valid HT license issued by E.L.B.O, Odisha, with experience in similar nature of work of Erection of 11 KV line, L.T line & commissioning of electrical Substation for power supply to Community L.I. Projects & Cluster Shallow Tube well projects sanctioned under RIDF 2018-19 & Jalandihi- II along with installation of pumpset, starter and its energisation including laying of pipe line & construction of all structures with all materials. Proof of registrations from the appropriate authorities are to be enclosed along with the bid/bids.

- Name of the work :- Installation & energisation of NEW Community LIPs & Cluster Shallow Tube well Projects
- Name of the Block :- Morada, Sulapada & Betnoti Blocks in Mayurbhanj District.
- No. of works :- 12 Works (10 Nos Community L.I. Projects & 2 Nos Cluster Shallow Tube well)
- Estimated Cost :- Varying from Rs. 7.87 lakh to Rs.11.73 lakh.
- Cost of Tender paper :- Rs. 4000/- or Rs. 6000/- (D.D) +5% GST in shape of challan on OLIC GST No. 21AAAC05986G1D0 (As per DTCN)
- Class of contractor :- D & above with HT license.
- Period of completion :- 90 days per individual work. (As per DTCN)
- Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No / Date	Availability of Tender on online for bidding		Date of receipt of Hard copy	Date & Time of Opening of Tender
		Date & time of Publishing	Date & time of Closing		
EE M.L.I. Division, Baripada	No-4177 DT-01.11.18	13.11.18 AT 10.00 AM	24.11.18 up to 5.00 PM	26.11.18 up to 5.00 PM	27.11.18 AT 11.00 AM (TECH.BID)

The details are available in the Government Tender Web site i.e. [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in) any other related documents are available in the DTCN for bidding.

Sd/-  
**Executive Engineer,**  
**M.L.I. Division, Baripada**

32215/11/0007/1819

**PARADIP PORT TRUST**

**CORRIGENDUM**

TO E-TENDER CALL NOTICE NO. EM/MM/P/ME 08/2018/1810TDR186 DT. 06.10.2018 FOR SUPPLY OF DIESEL ENGINE. The due date of submission of Tender & opening of Technical Bid is hereby further extended as below. 1. Last date of submission of tender up to 13.30 hour of Dt. 19.11.2018. 2. Opening of EMD Bid at 15.30 hour of Dt. 21.11.2018. All other terms and conditions in the original tender remained unaltered. For details log on to our website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sr. Dy. Material Manager  
**PPT/PR/464/18-19 Dt. 12.11.2018**

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

**'E' PROCUREMENT SYSTEM**

Tender Notice No. PCMM/EP/2018-19/17 Dt.09.11.2018

"SUPPLIERS ARE REQUESTED TO VISIT INDIAN RAILWAYS WEBSITE : [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) IN WHICH THE TENDERS PERTAINING TO THIS RAILWAY ARE PUBLISHED AND TENDER DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. THE SITE ALSO PERMITS FOR SUBMITTING THE OFFER ON LINE."

"ALL SUPPLIERS/ VENDERS ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT THEIR BILLS ONLINE BY VISITING [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) (VENDERS LOG IN), SO THAT THE BILLS CAN BE SCRUTINIZED AND PASSED FOR PAYMENT IN SYSTEM ITSELF".

Principal Chief Materials Manager,  
**Bhubaneswar**

PR - 382/J/18-19

# Ambani invites Lords to daughter's wedding

## After darshan in Puri amid tight security

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Reliance Group Chairman Mukesh Ambani during his visit to the Shreemandir on Monday offered invitation card to the deities to attend his daughter Isha's marriage ceremony.

Spending almost 20 minutes inside the shrine, he returned to Bhubaneswar by air. As he was a State guest, the Puri police had made elaborate security arrangement for Ambani, India's richest business tycoon, in the pilgrim town.

At about 3pm, Ambani landed in Puri Talabania helipad from a helicopter and amid tight security went to the Jagannath Temple.



He was received at the Lions Gate by Puri Collector Jyoti Prakash Dash. Puri SP Sarthank Sarangi and some higher officials of the temple were present.

His ancestral Panda (priest) led him to the Bhitrakatha (inner cordon) of the sanctum

sanctorum for darshan of the deities. Ambani handed over the invitation card with flowers to the servants on duty and offered prayer there.

Before departure from the shrine, he interacted with some servants about the history of the temple.

At the Lions Gate, he said to reporters that he felt blessed and fortunate to view the Lords on the podium.

According to sources, Ambani is said to have donated a big money to the temple Hundi although the amount is unknown.

# Suvichar suggests measures for tackling key issues

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Suvichar, a Chandigarh-based Think Tank, on Monday announced a series of measures to bring about change in traffic mechanism of Indian cities.

Taking a 360 degree view of problems ailing our cities, prominent members of the think tank came together to release its annual report, which makes a mention of several remedial measures which needs to be taken for a better city. Expressing concern



over increasing number of road accident in Chandigarh, the members suggested challans for traffic violations on the spot on the basis of CCTV cameras, besides also suggesting raising the amount of fine for violations.

It was also suggested to create awareness among public to send information about violators through Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, besides making seat belts mandatory for those sitting on rear seat as well.

# RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY POLLS BJP fields 25 new faces

DEEPAK UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

As the BJP released its first list of candidates for Rajasthan with 25 new faces and almost over with most of its 230 seats of Madhya Pradesh, the party is simultaneously engaging in the task of managing rebel candidates in the tough electoral battles with the Congress in the two States. The Rajasthan list of the BJP has 12 women candidates, 17 scheduled castes and 19 Scheduled tribes. The Rajasthan list of the BJP has 12 women candidates, 17 scheduled castes and 19 Scheduled tribes. The Rajasthan list of the BJP has 12 women candidates, 17 scheduled castes and 19 Scheduled tribes. The Rajasthan list of the BJP has 12 women candidates, 17 scheduled castes and 19 Scheduled tribes.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president Amit Shah during the party's Central Election Committee meeting for the forthcoming Assembly polls in Rajasthan at party headquarters in New Delhi on Sunday

Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje will contest from her traditional Jhalrapatan Assembly seat. It has fielded Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria from Udaipur, Urban Development Minister Srishand Kripalani from Nimbaheda and Agriculture Minister Prabhulal Saini from Anta. In both the States BJP is fighting long anti-incumbency and hence dozens of new winnable candidates have found place in place of some "veterans". The party has retained 85 sitting MLAs and dropped 26 MLAs, including two Ministers and one of two Muslim MLAs, while there is no change in the constituencies of 85 MLAs who have been retained. Ministers Rajendra Rathore,

Gulab Chand Kataria, Vasudev Devnani, Srishand Kriplani, Kiran Maheshwari Anita Bhadel, Ajay Singh, Krishnendra Kaur, Gajendra Singh and Prabhulal Saini have made it to the list. The saffron party has also given tickets to family members of a few sitting MLAs and other leaders. These include Poonam Kanwar, daughter-in-law of former BJP MLA Devi Singh Bhati (Kolayat seat); Atul Bhansali, relative of Jodhpur MLA Kailash Bhansali (Jodhpur seat); Hemant Meena, son of Tribal Affairs Minister Nandlal Meena (Pratapgarh seat); Ramswaroop Jat, son of former MP Sanwar Lal Jat who died last year (Nasirabad seat); Sailesh Singh, son of former BJP Minister Digambar Singh who died last year, among others. Some of the

candidates like Shambhu Singh Khetasar (Sardarpura), Sumit Godara (Lunkaransar), Satish Poonia (Amber), Jaswant Gurjar (Bari), Babu Lal Kharadi (Jhadol) and Khemraj Garasia (Bagidora) had lost the 2013 Assembly elections. The BJP has denied tickets to over 35 sitting MLAs in Madhya Pradesh. Apprehensive of rebellion in the ranks, the party has deployed central state-charge and other senior leaders to placate party leaders who have not found their names in the lists. A group of central leaders has been asked to monitor "rebel activities" and resolve issues before nominations are completed.

Singh and chief whip Kalu Lal Gurjar in the first list. Jaisalmer-Barmer MP Sona Ram was also given ticket from Barmer. BJP is almost over with its list of candidates for Madhya Pradesh as on Monday it released the third list of 32 candidates for the ensuing Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections. The party released the second list of 177 candidates on November 5 and first list of 17 candidates on November 2. The State is slated to go to polls on November 28 for 230 constituencies. BJP has fielded national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya's son Akash Vijayvargiya from the Indore-3 constituency and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Babulal Gaur's daughter-in-law Krishna Gour from Govindpura constituency. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan is will be contesting from his home constituency, Budhni. BJP has denied tickets to over 35 sitting MLAs in Madhya Pradesh. Apprehensive of rebellion in the ranks, the party has deployed central state-charge and other senior leaders to placate party leaders who have not found their names in the lists. A group of central leaders has been asked to monitor "rebel activities" and resolve issues before nominations are completed. One of the grounds men-

# AJL moves HC against Centre's order ending National Herald building lease

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Associated Journals Limited (AJL), the publisher of National Herald newspaper, on Monday approached the Delhi High Court challenging the Ministry of Urban Development order ending its 56-year-old lease and asking it to vacate the premises in the press enclave area at ITO. Meanwhile, the Congress has accused the BJP-led Central Government of embarking on a "witch-hunt" and claimed that it was putting pressure on the machinery to revoke the lease of the Herald House at any cost, but its design would be defeated. The plea, challenging the October 30 order of the Urban Development Ministry ending the lease and asking it to vacate the premises by November 15, is scheduled to come up for hearing Tuesday before Justice Sunil Gaur. The plea alleged that the Land and Development Office's order was "illegal, unconstitutional, arbitrary, tainted with malafide and without authority and jurisdiction". The petition, filed through advocates Sunil Fernandes and Priyansha Indra Sharma, said that the Centre has warned them of action under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971, if they failed to vacate the premises. One of the grounds men-

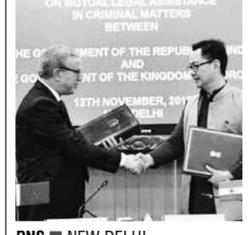


Herald House building.

tioned in the L&DO order is that no press has been functioning in the premises for last at least 10 years and that it is being used only for commercial purposes in violation of the lease deed. This allegation has been refuted by AJL in the petition. Bjp leader Subramanian Swamy had approached the Urban Development Ministry to take over the Herald House citing that no newspaper activity publishing activity is going there. Accusing BJP, senior Congress leader and party treasurer Ahmed Patel said National Herald, Qaumi Awaz and Navjivan — all the newspapers run by the National Herald newspapers from the Herald House had the spine to speak the truth, which made those in power uneasy. "The BJP Government has embarked on a witch hunt and is pressurising the machinery to revoke lease of Herald House at any cost. National Herald, Qaumi Awaz and the Navjivan

have the spine to speak the truth which makes those in power uneasy. "The Government's design will be defeated," he said on Twitter. In December 2017, the Income Tax Department had imposed a fine of ₹250 crore on Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi-controlled firm Young India, which took over AJL through a "covert and fraudulent" way. The Delhi High Court ordered Young India to deposit ₹10 crore for entertaining its appeal against the Income Tax fine order. In the trial court, the National Herald case is now in the process of submission of evidences by the petitioner Subramanian Swamy, who started his deposition on July 15. The next hearing of the date is scheduled for August 25. The accused Congress leaders in the case have filed a petition in the court for restraining Swamy from tweeting about the case details and defaming them.

# India, Morocco sign pact to help in criminal matters



India and Morocco officials signing a pact.

India and Morocco on Monday signed an agreement to help each other in criminal matters and provide legal assistance wherever required, the Home Ministry said. The agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters was signed by Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju on behalf of India and Mohamed Aujjar, the Minister of justice on behalf of Kingdom of Morocco, here. The pact will strengthen bilateral cooperation with Morocco and enhance effectiveness and provide a broad legal framework for prevention, investigation and prosecution of crimes, as well as in tracing, restraint and confiscation of funds meant to finance terrorist acts, a Home Ministry statement said. Both the Ministers reiterated their resolve to jointly counter the threats posed by organised crime and terrorism, it said.

# Govt cancels ED officer Rajeshwar's leave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has cancelled Enforcement Directorate Joint Director Rajeshwar Singh's leave without citing any reasons. The leave was granted to him last month by the then ED Director Karnal Singh. Singh is facing investigation for writing a letter against Finance Secretary Hasmukh Adhia earlier this year. In his letter, Singh had asked Adhia, who was then Revenue Secretary, if he had developed animosity against him by "siding with scamsters and their affiliates". The Department of Revenue (DoR), under the Union Finance Ministry, disallowed Rajeshwar Singh's study leave. However, the then ED Director Karnal Singh sanctioned his leave on October 27, days before his retirement on October 31. Rajeshwar Singh had sought leave for pursuing an LLM course. IRS officer Sanjay Kumar Mishra was subsequently appointed the new ED chief following his predecessor's retirement. The Department of

Revenue has overturned Karnal Singh's order sanctioning leave to Rajeshwar Singh without citing any reasons, officials said. The ED functions under the Department of Revenue. According to the leave sanction order approved by the former ED chief Karnal Singh, Rajeshwar Singh will be available whenever he is required for "assistance in investigations or trial in court" with regard to cases probed by him, including the 2G spectrum allocation and the Aircel-Maxis money laundering cases. Rajeshwar Singh had last month also handed over his charge of joint director (Lucknow zone) of the ED after the leave was sanctioned. The Union Finance ministry had submitted a secret report to the Supreme Court in June, apparently carrying details of a phone call received by Rajeshwar Singh from Dubai. The report was prepared by country's external intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and handed over to the DoR. The Government subsequently launched an investigation against Rajeshwar Singh for the letter against Adhia.

# Develop cooling tech to combat climate change & win \$3 mn, announces Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With demand for air conditioning units set to cross one billion by 2050 in India, the climate change-conscious Government is now looking for an energy-efficient technology that will have at least five times less climate impact than the standard room ACs sold at present. To encourage innovation in this regard, the Government on Monday announced the launch of the first-of-its kind \$3 million Global Cooling Prize, an international competition asking the researchers and innovators from across the world to develop such a cooling technology to combat the climate change threat. Announcing the award, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Science, Technology and Earth Sciences said rising temperature will affect the health and productivity of billions of citizens. We support this innovation challenge, which aims to develop sustainable and efficient technology to provide thermal comfort to all, he said while speaking at the inaugural of the two-day Global Cooling Innovation Summit here. Presently, there around 1.2

billion room air conditioning units in service around the world. The number is set to increase to at least 4.5 billion by 2050, according to an estimate. India alone will see over 1 billion air conditioning deployed in the market by 2050. The energy consumption associated with comfort cooling represents one of the largest end-use risks to the climate, putting the most vulnerable populations at risk. The prize is supported by Government's Mission Innovation through the Department of Science and Technology and its partner organisations Ministry of Power, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, and Environment Ministry while a coalition of research institutes-Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), Conservation X Labs, the Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), and CEPT University will oversee it. John Loughhead Vice-Chair, Mission Innovation Steering Committee said, "This is exactly what Mission Innovation was set-up to deliver - new collaborations between governments, innovators and the private sector to unleash innovation in climate critical technologies." Iain Campbell from RMI

said, "A technology developed through the Global Cooling Prize has the opportunity to capture a \$20 billion market and transform the global AC market for the better." Over \$3 million will be awarded in prize money over the course of the two-year competition. Up to 10 short-listed competing technologies will be awarded up to \$200,000 each in intermediate prizes to support the design and prototype development of their innovative residential cooling technology designs. The winning technology will be awarded at least \$1 million to support its incubation and early-stage commercialisation, said an official from the S&T Ministry. On the occasion, "Solving the Global Cooling Challenge" report prepared by the RMI was released. It said adoption of a 5X solution by year 2040, about 75 per cent less electricity will be needed globally to operate the room air conditioners in 2050. "The 5X solution can achieve cumulative emissions reductions of up to 100 gigatons by 2050 — equivalent to taking 50% of today's global stock of passenger vehicles off the road — and help mitigate up to 0.5°C in global warming impact," it added.



President Ram Nath Kovind with Vice Admiral Srikanth at a meeting at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Monday

# Buffalo meat exports down 5% at 6.18L tonnes

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Buffalo meat exports fell by 5 per cent to 6.18 lakh tonnes during the first half of this fiscal, but increased by 8 per cent in value terms to ₹12,980 crore, an official data showed. According to agri-export promotion body APEDA, the country exported 6,18,559 tonnes of buffalo meat for ₹12,980 crore during the first six months of 2018-19 fiscal. Buffalo meat exports stood at 6,21,541 tonnes worth ₹12,035 crore in the corresponding period of last fiscal. Vietnam, Malaysia and Egypt are the three

major destinations for the country's buffalo meat shipments. Total exports of agriculture and processed food products rose to ₹61,789 crore from ₹56,741 crore during the period under review. Of the total exports, cereals contributed maximum at ₹27,174 crore during the first six months of this fiscal as against ₹25,813 crore in the year-ago period. India exported 20,82,583 tonnes of basmati rice for ₹15,331 crore as against 21,34,757 tonnes for ₹13,706 crore. Non-basmati rice exports fell in both the volume and value

terms at 37,23,828 tonnes worth ₹10,426 crore from 42,86,605 tonnes worth ₹11,236 crore during the period under review. The exports of livestock products rose to ₹15,272 crore during April-September 2018 from ₹13,707 crore in the year-ago period. Fruits and vegetables exports rose from ₹4,230 crore to ₹4,298 crore, while shipments of processed fruits and vegetables increased from ₹3,547 crore to ₹4,141 crore. The exports of other processed food including Sorghum went up to ₹10,800 crore from ₹8,808 crore.

# Promoting role of family in diabetes management, care

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With diabetes becoming a "family disease" that can potentially affect every household-emotionally as well as financially, this year's World Diabetes Day on Wednesday will highlight the role of caregivers in supporting the people living with the chronic disease. Aptly themed 'Diabetes concerns every family,' by the International Diabetes Federation and WHO, the two-year-long awareness programmes will focus on raising awareness on the impact that diabetes has on the family, besides promoting the role of the family in diabetes management, care, prevention and education. "Families have a key role to play in addressing the modifiable risk factors for type 2 diabetes, which can be prevented by adopting healthy lifestyle including regular physical activity, a healthy and balanced diet, and the promotion of healthy living environments," said an official from the Health Ministry. Hence it is important that families are provided with the education, resources, and environments to help the patient live a healthy lifestyle, he said. The official added that currently, at least 425 million people are living with diabetes. Most of these cases are type 2 diabetes, a chronic condition that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces. While the Union Health Ministry has planned a string of programmes focusing on diabetes awareness programmes for the



**Family as healthcare provider**

- Diabetic patients show better adherence to treatment regimen if conflict level is low and high cohesion level prevail in the family.
- Family provides emotional & economic support, safe food; takes care intently to ensure the treatment regimen is being strictly followed, reinforce the fight against depression
- Even taking foods cooked by a family member helps to control blood glucose as well as serum lipid profile.
- Strong family ties can provide an ambience where the patients can receive the management with utmost satisfaction and happiness.

families so that they can help ease the life of the patient, the Ayush Ministry will have a special focus on educational programmes about the role of the traditional medicines in ayurveda, Unani and homeopathy can play in controlling the condition. "There are many scientifically developed anti-diabetic ayurvedic medicines such as BGR-34 developed by CSIR using

anti-diabetic and anti-hyperlycemic agents found in commonly used herbs like daruharidra, giloy, gudmar and bitter gourds. Similarly, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Science (CCRAS) and Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) have developed medicines like AYUSH-D and D5 respectively for Diabetes Mellitus," said an official from the Ayush Ministry.

# Suggest two more names for CEO post: EC to Mizoram Govt

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has asked the Mizoram Government to suggest two more names for the post of State Chief Election Officer (CEO). Earlier, the chief secretary of Mizoram has sent the three names — Lalhmingthanga, H Lalengmawia, and K Lalthawmmawia for the chief electoral officer's post. There has been no decision regarding the removal of CEO SB Shashank, who had courted controversy in the poll-bound State. Sources in the EC said the poll panel has sought two more panel names for the CEO's post from the Mizoram Government. The EC will only appoint someone as CEO if he or she is capable of conducting free, fair and peaceful election. Meanwhile, the EC will again be meeting Shashank to know what exactly the level is of preparedness and what should be done in Mizoram because the new incumbent will have very little time to deliver polls in the State, said officials. Deputy Election Commissioner Sudeep Jain, who led the second EC team to Mizoram on Friday, had told officials that it would take two-three days to select and appoint a new CEO. Jain had also assured the NGO Coordination Committee leaders — who were spearheading the movement against Shashank — that the CEO would be replaced and the Bru voters housed in Tripura relief camps would exercise their franchise from the Mizoram, which were the primary demands of the organisation. The EC had initiated the process of finding an alternative to the Mizoram CEO on Saturday. Thousands of people took to the streets and picketed in front of Shashank's office for two days last week. The protesters, under the aegis of the NGO Coordination Committee, had also set an ultimatum for Shashank to leave urgently.

# SC declines to entertain PIL to make rape gender-neutral offence

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea challenging the Constitutional validity of Section 375 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) which deals with rape on the ground that the provision is not gender-neutral. A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice S K Kaul said the issue raised in the petition is a subject matter of the legislature's domain. "We are not inclined to interfere at this stage as the issues raised pertain to legislations to be made by the Parliament, for which adequate recommendations have already been made by the Law Commission," it said. It said that NGO 'Criminal Justice Society of India' "may seek such other remedy, as may be available in law" and disposed of the PIL. "The issue falls in the realm of the Parliament. We don't want to say anything on it right now", the bench said, while granting liberty to the petitioners to make a representation to the legislature. While Section 375 of the IPC deals with rape committed on a woman by a man, Section 376 lists out the punishment for the offence. The top court was hearing a petition filed by NGO Criminal Justice Society of India, through advocate Ashima Mandla, contending that

Section 375 violates Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution as it does not account for rape of men and Transgender persons. The plea sought that the definition of rape under Section 375 be held "ultra vires" for being "discriminatory and violative of Articles 14 (right to equality), 15 (prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex...) and 21 (right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution". The petitioner has submitted that the section applies only to women as victims and men as perpetrators. It does not take into account non-consensual sexual assault inflicted on a woman by a woman, on a man by another man, on transgender by another transgender or a man or woman, on a man by a woman. The plea referred to the August 2017 order passed by a nine-judge bench of the top court that declared privacy as a fundamental right and also cited the NALSA judgment that recognised transgenders as the third gender. "It is imperative to note that transgenders including but not limited to homosexuals & bisexuals, and men are sequestered from the point of view of victims of rape under the existing penal laws of the country, despite an impending need for the same", the plea said. PTI

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# MODI IN VARANASI 'BJP has done politics for dev, not vote bank'

PM unveils a string of projects for Varanasi

RAMESH K SINGH ■ VARANASI

Making a scathing attack on previous Governments for wasting thousands of crores in the name of making Ganga river clean and pollution-free and neglecting rivers across the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that during the last four years the way development works have been carried out shows that the BJP has done politics only for development and not for vote bank.

"It is also a historic day when for the first time since Independence, waterways transportation began in the country," he said, adding that it is also the 'new vision of new India'.

Addressing an impressive gathering at Wajidpur near Harahuwa where he inaugurated projects worth over ₹2,400 crore on Monday evening, the Prime Minister said: "Contrary to previous governments, we are spending money in making the Ganga river clean and, in this direction, projects worth ₹23,000 crore were sanctioned and out of the same projects worth Rs 5000 crore are being allocated for Namami Gange project."

He said that in the last four years several sewage treatment plants were launched and out of them some were inaugurated, including Deenapur Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), to ensure that not a single drop of sewer water goes into the rivers of Ganga and Varuna. "And all these could become possible only with the cooperation of the people," he said.

Modi said that the government was aiming at the overall development of the waterways transportation which began from Haldia to Varanasi and would help the ancient city to become a gateway to development of the entire eastern India. "When four years ago, we had decided to start inland waterways between Haldia and Varanasi, the Opposition party leaders had made several comments that it could not be possible but today it has become a reality when container vessel (cargo) came here carrying 16 containers," he said, adding that it was not only cheaper transportation but also eco-friendly and hectic works were going on for the development of more than 100 such inland waterways in the country.

Earlier, Modi had inaugurated the country's first multi-modal terminal at Ralhpur in trans-Ganga Ramnagar development worth ₹208 crore where he also welcomed the first cargo from

Haldia. "This will write a new chapter in the development of this city which would become a confluence of nature, culture and adventure," he said, adding that this would not only help vegetable growers of the region to send their products to other markets in eastern India easily but would also help the city to become a global hub for carpet exports from the region.

Modi began his address using local Bhojpur dialects greeting people for recent festivals and also ended the same wishing good luck for the ongoing famous festival of Chhath. "We're working on the development of good connectivity and, in this direction, hectic work has been done during the last four years to improve road, rail, water and air transportation," he said, adding that prior to independent there was good waterways transportation in the country but shockingly after independence the government had totally neglected the same.

Earlier, the function was also addressed by the Union minister Nitin Gadkari, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and state Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Mahendra Nath Pandey. The function was also attended by deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, Union minister Satya Pal, UP minister Suresh Khanna, MP Ram Charit Nishad and many others.

# Mizoram CM declares moveable assets worth over ₹1 crore

PTI ■ AIZAWL

Mizoram Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla has moveable properties worth over ₹1 crore and agricultural land valued at more than ₹2 crore, according to the affidavit submitted by him while filing his nomination papers for the November 28 State Assembly polls.

According to the affidavit, Lal Thanhawla has ₹5 lakh in cash, ₹1,28,06,007 worth moveable properties, ₹2.8 crore worth agricultural land and ₹20 lakh worth non-agricultural land.

He also has a land on which he has constructed a building at New Town, Kolkata worth around ₹3.1 crore and a residential house at Zarkawt in Aizawl, the value of which he has not declared.

Lal Thanhawla's wife, Lal Riliani, has ₹3 lakh in cash, movable properties worth ₹92,13,740.47 and agricultural land worth ₹25 lakh.

She also has non-agricultural land worth ₹15 lakh.

People's Representation for Identity and Status of Mizoram (PRISM) president and the party's chief ministerial candidate Vanlalruata has only ₹30,000 cash in hand and his wife has ₹5,000 in cash, according to the affidavit filed by him.

Vanlalruata has two bank accounts and the total amount of money in both the accounts is ₹2,175, while his spouse has ₹539 in her account with the Mizoram Rural Bank, Khatla Branch in Aizawl.

He has an agricultural land worth around ₹7.50 lakh.

Former two-time chief minister and Mizo National Front (MNF) president Zoramthanga has ₹10 lakh in cash and immoveable properties, including cars and bank accounts, worth ₹57.22 lakh, according to the affidavit filed by him.

Zoramthanga has agricultural land worth Rs 20 lakh and a land and a building at the Chhlang locality in Aizawl worth ₹1.25 crore.

His wife Roneihangi has only ₹7 in cash, ₹43,756 in her bank accounts and moveable properties and a land and a building worth ₹1.5 crore at the Ramhluon Venglai locality in Aizawl.

Zoramthanga's son and daughter have ₹28,398 each in their bank accounts.

State Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president John V Hluna did not mention the amount of cash in hand.

He has movable assets, including bank accounts, worth ₹20,05,147, according to the affidavit filed by him.

All the landed properties, both agricultural and non-agricultural lands were worth ₹1.30 crore.

Zoram Movement's (ZPM) chief ministerial candidate Lalduhoma has ₹70,000 cash in hand and moveable properties, including bank accounts, worth ₹18.34 lakh.

Lalduhoma's total landed properties are worth ₹1.9 crore.

# Will move court if permission not granted for Shah's rath yatra: BJP

PTI ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh on Monday threatened to move court if the State Government does not grant permission for the proposed rath yatras of party president Amit Shah in the State next month.

Ghosh said if TMC tries to disrupt the proposed rath yatras then the people of the State will come out in protest as it is meant for restoring democracy in Bengal.

"The police and the State Government are yet to grant permission. Time and again we have tried to meet the police officials and the Home Secretary, but in vain. Until and unless we have the permission how will we organize the entire route?" Ghosh said. BJP national president Amit Shah is set to kick off three rath yatras which will cover all 42 Lok Sabha constituencies in Bengal on December 5, 7 and 9.

"If the Government is try-



**BJP national president Amit Shah is set to kick off three rath yatras which will cover all 42 Lok Sabha constituencies in Bengal on December 5, 7 and 9**

ing to delay the permission so that our rath yatra programme can be cancelled then it is living in a fool's paradise. If they don't grant us

permission we will move court and fight it out," he said.

At the conclusion of the 'yatra', the party plans to hold a massive rally in Kolkata which is likely to be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Locket Chatterjee, the saffron party's West Bengal Mahila Morcha president, had said on Saturday that those trying to stop the Rath Yatra "will get crushed under the wheels of the chariot".

# Deb: May Day is for workers, labourers, not for Govt employees

PTI ■ AGARTALA

Tripura Chief Minister Biplob Kumar Deb has justified the reason behind dropping May Day from the list of holidays in the State and said the decision was taken because Government employees did not need one on International Labour Rights Day.

Deb said that May Day is meant for workers and labourers and none else.

He claimed his Government has done justice by granting holiday on May Day only for workers in industrial sector.

Why do Government employees need holiday on May Day? ... I have noticed that it is a holiday on that day in very few States.

"What are the provisions for a holiday? They (previous Left Govt) used to grant holiday to the entire State on this day here," Deb told a conference of the Tripura Gazetted Officers Sangh here on Sunday.

The Tripura Government in a notification on November 3 had said that Government employees would be allowed to avail any four holidays chosen by them out of a list of restricted holidays during 2019.

The list of restricted holidays had 12 festivals or occa-



sions in it.

These are New Years Day, Pous Parban - a Bengali harvest festival, Basanti Puja, Mahavir Jayanti, May Day, Ratha Yatra, Jhulanjatra Samapan, Biswakarma Puja, Akheri-Chahar-Sumba, Bharatidwitiya, Guru Nanak's birthday and the World Disabled Day.

There is holiday on May Day in the industrial sector. That holiday is still valid. But are you workers and labourers in the secretariat? The CM asked.

You (gazetted officers) are not labourers. No. Am I labourer? No. I am Chief Minister. So what for do you need holiday (on May Day)? What will you mourn for (Kya matam manaye aap)? he asked.

The state government took the right decision by dropping May day from the list of the holidays, he said adding holiday was granted to labourers on that day but not for Government employees.

# RSS leaders call on Stalin as DMK, allies are busy formalising seat sharing

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Hectic activities are on in the HDKM camp to finalise the sharing of the 39 Lok Sabha seats from the State for the upcoming general election. The DMK has already agreed to give the lone seat from Puducherry to the Congress, according to party insiders. Sources in the DMK told this newspaper that the party would allocate seven Lok Sabha seats from the State to the Congress. "The CPI-M, the CPI and the VCK would get one seat each while the DMK would contest the remaining 29 seats," said the source.

If the alliance to be floated by Pattali Makkal Katchi, which may include some of the caste groups, joins the DMK camp, the party would release four seats to that group. "The DMK would like to contest at least 25 seats while accommodating as many alliance partners as possible," said the source privy to the discussions.

Meanwhile, MK Stalin, DMK president, had some special visitors at Anna Arivalayam, the party headquarters in Chennai on Monday morning.

A delegation of RSS leaders, a bete noire of Stalin, called on the DMK chief and held discussions with him for nearly 25 minutes.



RSS leaders calling on DMK chief MK Stalin on Monday

The RSS delegation consisted of Prof Kumaraswamy, Tamil Nadu president, PM Ravikumar, State organiser and Sambamurthy, State executive member.

In a gesture of goodwill, the RSS leaders handed over to Stalin a copy of the message adopted by the RSS all India meet held at Mumbai condoling the passing away of the DMK patriarch and former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi.

"We discussed with Stalin the good rapport the Sangh had with Shri Karunanidhi. While he was the chief minister of the State, Shri Karunanidhi had helped as in organising the pathsancharan (route march) of the Sangh and Shri Stalin heard it with rapt attention," Prof Kumaraswamy told *The Pioneer* after the meeting. He said it was a cordial meeting..

The Sangh leaders also presented Stalin with copies of the speech delivered by RSS chief Dr Mohan Bhagawat during the three-day seminar held at New Delhi, a coffee table book on the Sangh and also some of the Sangh publications for his reading.

Senior leaders of the DMK, K Ponmudi and T R Balu were present during the meeting. Stalin has been severely attacking the BJP and RSS since he was anointed as the party president on August 29 following the passing away of Karunanidhi. The meeting between the DMK leadership and RSS delegation is keenly watched by political commentators.

"You cannot rule out anything in Tamil Nadu politics. The BJP has not given up the idea of forging an alliance with the DMK and may employ all tricks for the same," said Sam Rajappa, veteran commentator.

# Soldier martyred in another Pak sniper attack at border

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Sharpshooters of Pakistan Army on Monday evening targeted one of the forward Indian posts in Mendhar sector of Poonch, killing a jawan and grievously injuring another in a sniping incident.

Fresh sniping attack from the Pakistani side followed in response to a strong retaliatory strike carried out by the Indian army inside Pak territory to avenge the killing of Indian soldiers earlier.

According to unconfirmed reports, "at least two Pakistani troopers were killed and five others received critical injuries in heavy firing from the Indian side on Sunday".

According to Ministry of Defence spokesman in Jammu, Lt Col Devendra Anand, "at about 5.15 p.m on Monday Pakistan army resorted to an 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation in Krishna Ghati sector of Mendhar tehsil in Poonch in which one soldier attained martyrdom while another received critical injuries."

The deceased soldier was identified as Lance Naik



Antony Sebastian KM while injured soldier was identified as Havildar Mari Muthu D. According to Defence PRO, Lance Naik Antony Sebastian KM, aged 34, hailed from Ernakulam district of Kerala and is survived by his wife.

This is the fourth incident in a row in which Indian army has lost its third soldier while one civilian porter attached with the Indian army had earlier succumbed to his fatal injuries on Friday in Akhnoor sector.

Meanwhile, situation continues to remain grim along the line of control as there has been no let up from the Pakistani

side in 'provoking' the situation. According to Defence PRO, "Indian army too retaliated strongly and effectively targeting Pakistani posts on Monday evening".

Earlier, commenting on the repeated incidents of sniping along the line of control, Indian army Chief General Bipin Rawat had told reporters in Pathankot, "sniping has been a regular affair. We have got to make sure our drills are good and we don't give them the opportunity. We also have a snipers ready to snipe at him (adversary) and why just snipers, we should be able to hit him harder".

General Rawat also claimed, "Indian army is continuously engaging the adversary and hitting back in equal measure". He said there is lot happening from our side also but we don't want to blow a trumpet unnecessarily.

Whenever he (Pakistan) is doing something it is a reaction to something. He doesn't take the initiative. He also knows that we are strong and we can take very strong action, he added.

HARYANA PROCUREMENT						
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	HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PANCHKULA	CONDUCTING OF INTERNAL AUDIT OF HOUSING BOARD HARYANA HEAD OFFICE PANCHKULA & ITS FIVE DIVISIONS & ESTATE BRANCHES AT VARIOUS STATIONS IN HARYANA FOR THE YEAR 2017-18	02.11.2018 20.11.2018	5000	<a href="http://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">http://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No/HBH/Acts/2018/4944 DT. 30.10.2018	0172-2562041
2	UHVBN	CONSTRUCTION OF PLATFORM BRICK FLOORING AT STORE ROHTAK	05.11.2018 20.11.2018	1.17 LACS	<a href="http://www.uhvbn.org.in">www.uhvbn.org.in</a> Tender No. 25/CCR/2018-19	9354726012 xencivil@hvbnrohtak@gmail.com
3	THE ROHTAK CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD, ROHAK A UNIT OF HDBFC LTD	SUPPLY OF PACKING MATERIAL I.E GHEE POLY FILM, EMPTY GLASS BOTTLE 200ML, CPP BOTTLE 200ML, PP CAP FOR 200 ML BOTTLE, PVC SHRINK LEADS & EASY RETORT GRADE LID FILM AUGMENTATION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN KATHAL TOWN INCLUDING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AUTOMATION OF WTP, BOOSTING STATIONS AND O&M FOR ONE YEAR DURING LIABILITY PERIOD AND FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER UNDER AMRUT PROGRAM	05.12.2018	1.70 LACS	<a href="http://www.vitalindia.org.in">www.vitalindia.org.in</a> Tender No 9840.10.11.2018	vitahotlak@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KATHAL	AUGMENTATION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN KATHAL TOWN INCLUDING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AUTOMATION OF WTP, BOOSTING STATIONS AND O&M FOR ONE YEAR DURING LIABILITY PERIOD AND FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER UNDER AMRUT PROGRAM	02.11.2018 22.11.2018	2889 LACS	<a href="https://ulb.haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://ulb.haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No 104324 Augmentation of water supply system in kathal town including distribution system, automation	mkcathal@gmail.com 9416188848
5	RGTPP, HGCL, KHEDAR, HISAR	SETTING UP RUNNING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRST AID CENTRE AS WELL AS HEALTH CENTRE ALONG WITH AMBULANCE SERVICE, ROUND THE CLOCK, AT FOR 2*600 MW, KHEDAR, HISAR	06.11.2018 26.11.2018	1.18 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No 104519	raman.yadav@hgcl.org.in 01693250102
6	HVNL	EXECUTION OF WORK FOR REPLACEMENT OF 132 KV BREAKER CONTROLLING 132/33KV 12.5MVA T-1 T/F WITH HEALTHY 132 KV SF-6 BREAKER OF BUS-COUPLER AT 132 KV STN. BODHINI	16.11.2018	1.05 LACS	<a href="http://www.hvnl.org.in">www.hvnl.org.in</a> Tender No 104653_35/ez-20/2018-19 DT. 08.11.2018	hvn@hvnl.org.in 0172-2583789
7	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	NEW INFRASTRUCTURE WORK FOR SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFT MELA-2019 (REPLACEMENT OF MAIN LT PANEL & PDG, CAPACITOR BANK PANEL)	12.11.2018 03.12.2018	10.80 LACS	<a href="http://haryanatourism.gov.in">haryanatourism.gov.in</a> Tender No 2018_HBC_71654	haryanatourism@gmail.com 9216400446
8	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FARIDABAD	PROVIDING & LAYING 80 MM THICK INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK IN VARIOUS STREETS IN DHFERA NAGAR 9 (PART A-F) WARD NO. 26 FARIDABAD	12.11.2018 10.12.2018	245.65 LACS	<a href="https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No 104814	shvamsingh.anurag@gmail.com 9818643725
9	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FARIDABAD	PROVISION OF PROVIDING AND LAYING RMC M-35 GRADE WITH CEMENT 400 KG/CM3 IN NEAR RAJIV CHOWK OLD FARIDABAD TO SEC-18 & 17 T-POINT (LEFT SIDE) OLD FARIDABAD IN WARD NO. 31 FARIDABAD	12.11.2018 10.12.2018	160.25 LACS	<a href="https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No 104798	shvamsingh.anurag@gmail.com 9818643725
10	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF DHPUR STONE CANOPY 12' DIA NEAR CIVIL HOSPITAL, SECTOR-10 WARD NO-13, GURUGRAM + 2 OTHER WORKS	10.11.2018 26.11.2018	26.02 LACS	<a href="https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://mcfbd.haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No 104682_104683_104684	eeh@mcfp.gov.in
11	THE KARNAL COOP. SUGAR MILLS LTD. KARNAL	SALE OF BAGASSE (5000 MT APPROX.), PURCHASE OF COSTOLINE + 1 OTHER WORK	09.11.2018 15.11.2018	2 LACS	<a href="http://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a> Tender No. smk-18/P/4711 dt. 10.11.2018	89501e3977

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) RO NO.73451

Public Works Department Government Resolution Number CAT 2017/C.R.8/Building-2, Dated 12th April, 2017.

FORM-1

**Government of Maharashtra**  
Public Works Department  
North Mumbai (P.W.) Division, Andheri  
Telephone No. 022 2623 1964  
E-Tender Notice No.39 of 2018-19.

E-mail address:- [northmumbai.ee@mahapwd.co.in](mailto:northmumbai.ee@mahapwd.co.in) Telephone/Fax Number 26231964/26205788

E-Tender for the following work in B-1 Form is invited via online e-tendering system from Registered contractor under Public Work Department Government of Maharashtra by the Executive Engineer, North Mumbai (P.W.) Division, Andheri (w), Mumbai-58 in behalf of Government of Maharashtra. Tender Documents are downloaded from Government of Maharashtra portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> & [www.mahapwd.com](http://www.mahapwd.com). Right to select or reject is reserved by Executive Engineer, North Mumbai (P.W.) Division, Andheri (w), Mumbai-58. Tender with condition is never accepted.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)
1	MOW to Renovation of office & Furniture work for Sub Divisional Office Bandra, Talathi & Mandal Adhikari Bandra at 3rd floor, 4th floor & 5th floor & for the office of the Dep. Registrar, Co.Op. Societies, H/West Mumbai at 2nd floor of Revenue Dept. Building on land bearing C.T.S. No. F/1297 at Village, Bandra (W), Mumbai.	Rs. 84,09,836/-

The Executive Engineer, North Mumbai (P.W.) Division, Andheri (W) Reserves right to Accept or Reject any offer. Conditional offers will not be accepted.  
All registered contractor should note  
E-Tender Submission Date 12-11-2018 to 26-11-2018  
E-Tender Opening Date 29-11-2018  
No.EE/NMD/8337 of 2018

Sd/-  
Office of the Executive Engineer,  
North Mumbai (P.W.) Division,  
Dadabhai Road, Near Bhavan's College,  
Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400 058.  
Date:- 02/11/2018.

For Executive Engineer,  
North Mumbai (P.W.) Division,  
Andheri (West), Mumbai  
DGIPR2018/2019/4239

REVISION PETITION AGAINST SC VERDICT

# Sundaram recuses from Sabarimala case

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

In what is seen as a major setback to the Travancore Devaswam Board, senior Supreme Court advocate Aryama Sundaram recused himself from appearing for the former in the revision petition against the September 28 verdict by the apex court quashing the customary bar on entry of women in the child-bearing age in the Lord Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala. Sources close to the eminent advocate told *The Pioneer* that he may even appear for the petitioners challenging the court verdict.



Protest rally held at Perumbavoor against Supreme Court verdict allowing women's entry in Sabarimala

*The Pioneer* had reported on Monday that Aryama Sundaram, grandson of the late Sir CP Ramaswamy Aiyar would represent the TDB in the apex court which is hearing the revision petition challenging the September 28 verdict delivered by the Constitution Bench on Tuesday.

The report had stated that Travancore Devaswam Board is a government department administering the temples in Kerala. Though no reason has been given by Sundaram for his decision to recuse from the case, sources close to the senior lawyer told *The Pioneer* that it could be due to two factors.

"He was under the impression that Travancore Devaswam Board was an autonomous enti-

ty like Thirumala Tirupati Devasthanam at Lord Venkateswara Temple. But when he understood that the Board was a CPI-M controlled body he was shocked and hence the decision. Moreover, he was initially told by the Board to justify the ban on the entry of women to the temple but later on it made a vault face asking him to fight against the revision plea," said the source on condition of anonymity.

The source also said that Sundaram had argued for another organisation justifying the ban on the entry of women in the holy shrine on an earlier occasion. "If he had appeared for the TDB, it would have been against ethics," pointed out the source.

A Padmakumar, president, Travancore Devaswam Board who is also a prominent CPI-M leader told reporters at Thiruvananthapuram that the decision of Aryama Sundaram to

## Kerala Govt mulling all-party meet on Sabarimala

Thiruvananthapuram: The Kerala Government is likely to convene an all-party meeting to discuss various matters relating to the Sabarimala temple, which has been rocked by the issue of entry of women in the menstrual age, ahead of the annual pilgrim season commencing this week.

"We are thinking of having an all-party meeting. We have not taken a final decision yet. There are plans..." Devaswam Minister Kadakkampally Surendran told reporters here.

The hill shrine of Lord Ayyappa at Sabarimala opens on November 17 for the two-month long season in the backdrop of continuing protests against the Supreme Court order allowing women of all ages to offer prayers at the temple.

A batch of review petitions against the September 28 verdict that ended the ban on entry of women in the 10-50 age group into the shrine, will be heard Tuesday.

Surendran said a decision on the all-party meeting would be taken based on the outcome of the court hearing.

The temple and nearby areas had witnessed massive protests from devotees against the entry of young women into the shrine, when it was opened for monthly pujas on November 5 and 6 and for five days from October 17.

Over a dozen women under 50 had been prevented from reaching the temple. **PTI**

# Bengal BJP wants to field more Muslims in LS polls

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Not only that the Bengal State unit of the BJP has been fiercely demanding to field party president Amit Shah as a parliamentary candidate from North Kolkata in an apparent bid to hammer home the party's sincerity vis-a-vis Bengal, but a large section of the State saffron unit is also wanting the leadership to field far more Muslim candidates in the next year's Lok Sabha elections, sources say.

"Yes we want Amit Shah ji to contest from North Kolkata. His candidature will spice up the workers not only in the city but throughout the State," Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh said expressing his wish to introduce more number of Muslim faces in the party's candidate list.

This considering the fact that the State has an effective 30 percent minority voters. "Already we had showed our intention fielding considerable number of Muslims in the panchayat elections to highlight Prime Minister Narendra Modi's philosophy of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas," a State secretary of the party said adding how "we had fielded nearly 900 Muslim candidates in the rural polls."

Though Bengal has 27 per cent Muslim population the trend of polling brings the number to about 30 per cent as they vote in hordes and almost to the full strength of their community if compared to the Hindus and other communities who do not vote in such large

**Though Bengal has 27 per cent Muslim population the trend of polling brings the number to about 30 per cent as they vote in hordes and almost to the full strength of their community if compared to the Hindus and other communities who do not vote in such large numbers, experts say.**

Last time the BJP had fielded two Muslim candidates in the general elections "but that was a different story then as we were in number four position. But today we are the main opposition party and the people have started to visualize as the next rulers of Bengal. So we have to include a good number of Muslim candidates so as to reach out to the entire population. And in fact our party wants to reach out to the minorities, take them along in Bengal's development. We will show that the Muslims are not the jagirs of Mamata Banerjee who has done nothing for them save giving lip service," said Hussain Ali another State leader adding the "decision however will be taken by the central leadership.

When asked as to why the RSS was proposing to rename Islampur in North Dinajpur bordering Bihar and Bangladesh as Ishwarpur if at all the BJP wants to project a truly secular face in the State, the leaders said he had no information about that.

## Ayodhya issue: Efforts on for out-of-court settlement

Lucknow: Amidst the cacophony over Ram temple construction, efforts are being made to settle the issue out of court with the Muslim plaintiff, in this case, Haji Mehboob, writing a letter to spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar in this regard.

An emissary of Sri Sri, Gautam Vig, met Haji Mehboob in Ayodhya on Monday and conveyed to him the feelings of the Art of Living leader about solving the Ram temple issue out of court. In the evening, Haji Mehboob wrote a letter to Sri Sri, showing his willingness to resolve the issue, but with some riders.

What exactly Haji Mehboob has written in the letter is not known but it is believed that he has shown his willingness to solve this vexed issue out of court.

Another plaintiff in the case, Iqbal Hashim, too, has shown his willingness to solve the issue out of court. He is on record saying that if outsiders leave Ayodhya, the residents of this city will solve the issue themselves.

The Art of Living founder is voluntarily mediating to help the warring parties settle the dispute amicably. Last year, in the mid of November, he went to Ayodhya and held a meeting with the sadhus. He also met Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath before visiting Ayodhya. After the meeting, Sri Sri was of the view that majority of Muslims were not opposed to the idea of building a Ram temple at the disputed site. **PNS**

# Hiking cane price a pre-poll challenge for UP Govt

Lucknow: Ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the Uttar Pradesh Government faces the difficult task of satisfying the sugarcane farmers who are pitching for over 25 per cent hike in the State Advisory Price (SAP) of cane for the current 2018-19 crushing season.

If their demands are acceded to by the Government, the sugarcane price will be ₹400 per quintal for the 2018-19 season.

The sugar industry, which is predominantly in the private sector, on the other hand, has reiterated its inability to pay even the existing cane price of ₹315 per quintal (common variety) fixed last year for the 2017-18 season.

The farmers and their organisations raised the demand for hike in the SAP during the meeting of the cane price fixation committee head-

ed by the Chief Secretary. The farmers' leaders made a strong demand for hiking cane SAP to ₹400 per quintal on the ground of rise in prices of agricultural inputs like diesel, fertilisers, seeds, etc.

"Both the Central and the State Governments have repeatedly affirmed their agenda of doubling farmers' income and yet there has been insignificant increase in the cane price in recent years," said representative of UP Cane Cooperative Societies, Arvind Kumar Singh, who participated in the high-level meeting.

The Centre has fixed the fair and remunerative price (FRP) of cane at ₹275 per quintal. UP traditionally announces a much higher SAP of cane to be paid by the sugar mills.

The millers have cited

glut in sugar market due to record sugar production in last season (2017-18) which has resulted in high sugarcane arrears of the last season. Currently, the state cane outstanding stands at about ₹7,800 crore for the last season (2017-18). Around 75 private sugar mills have applied for collectively availing a ₹4,000-crore soft loan sponsored by the Yogi Adityanath Government to ease the cane arrears payment situation.

The mills maintain that the fact that the State announced the soft loan package is proof enough that the sugar sector is facing difficulties in making payments and any further hike in price will only compound the problem.

There are about 40 lakh rural households in UP directly associated with sugarcane farming with the sugar and by-products sector infusing as much as ₹50,000 crore in rural economy annually.

In run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha poll, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party can ill afford to antagonise the state farmers, especially in western UP that has higher concentration of sugar mills. So far, about a dozen sugar mills have started their crushing operations in UP, out of the total 119 units in the private and Cooperative sectors.

Minister of State for Sugarcane Development, Sugar Mills (Independent Charge), Suresh Rana on Monday directed sugar mills to commence cane crushing by November 25 and clear the cane arrears by November 30. **PNS**

## VHP performs 'bhoomi puja' at 'dharma sabha' venue

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad performed 'bhoomi puja' of the ground in Ayodhya where the 'dharma sabha' is to be held on November 25, saying a very positive message will emanate from here regarding construction of Ram temple at the designated place and spread across the country within no time.

VHP national vice-president Champat Rai said that Hindus were hurt by the attitude of Supreme Court in solving this issue.

"We were quite hopeful about an early settlement of the case but by deferring the hearing to January, the apex court has played with the sentiments of the majority community," Rai said in a statement after the 'bhoomi puja' on Monday.

He said that those in power should realise that society was not indifferent to the Ram temple issue. He said over one lakh Ram 'bhaktas' would come to Ayodhya on November 25 while over five lakh people would assemble in Delhi on December 9 for the 'dharma sansad' of saints and seers.

"We will organise such 'dharma sansads' at 500 places across the country so that the

court and the people settle the issue at the earliest. Our demand is simple, if the court is delaying the whole process, the government should step in and bring a legislation for construction of Ram temple. The BJP is in power not only at Centre but also in Uttar Pradesh," he said, adding that the common refrain was 'ab nahi banega mandir to kab banega' (if the temple is not constructed now, when will it be constructed).

The VHP vice-president said that since 1950, the issue was pending in the court, sometimes in the lower court and sometimes in the higher court. He said the Allahabad High Court gave a verdict but it was not acceptable to the masses.

"The verdict says the area under the dome is temple whereas we believe the whole land belongs to Lord Ram. One cannot change the birthplace. Will the court say Lord Ram was not born in Ayodhya," Rai said.

"The issue should have been solved by September but it was dragged, keeping Lok Sabha elections in mind. We want the temple to be constructed at the earliest. The sooner it is done, the better for the country," the VHP leader said.

## Shiv Sena leader takes a jibe at VHP

Lucknow: Taking a jibe at Vishwa Hindu Parishad's proposed 'dharma sabha', Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut said that Hindu saints and leaders should stage protest outside Parliament House or the Supreme Court instead of holding meeting in Ayodhya if they really wanted a Ram temple.

"What is the use of this 'dharma sabha' in Ayodhya? It is clear now that the construction of temple can start only if the Narendra Modi government gets a legislation passed in Parliament regarding it. The sadhus should pressurise the government to bring a legislation (for Ram temple construction) at the earliest," Raut, who is spokesman of his party, said in Ayodhya on Monday.

The VHP has proposed a 'dharma sabha' in Ayodhya on November 25. The same day, similar meetings will be held in Bengaluru and Nagpur. On December 9, the VHP will organise a 'dharma sansad' in Delhi.

Raut said the Shiv Sena would support the Modi government if it brought a legislation to pave way for construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya. **PNS**

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely **Divya**, D/o Ramesh, R/o 9605, Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjabi Basti, Kachhe Ghar, Karol Bagh, Delhi, Aged 22 years, has been missing since Dated 01.11.2018. In this regard a D.D. No. 100-A, Dated 01.11.2018 has been registered at Police Station - Desh Bandhu Gupta Road, Delhi. Her physical description is as under-

**Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 5'3", **Face:** Round, **Build:** Medium, **Clothing:** Wearing not known. Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Fax: 011-24368639  
Ph.No.: 011-24368638, 24368641  
**DP/5843/CD/18**

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General Public is hereby informed that a unknown dead body of male, Age about 60 years, Complexion Sallow, Wearing Sports pajami was found dead at LNJP, Hospital, Delhi on 19.10.18. In this regard a vide DD No. 47-A dated 19.10.18 has been lodged at PS Narela, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this dead body may kindly inform to the undersigned.

**SHO**  
**PS: Narela, Delhi**  
**Ph.: 27280435, 8750870324**

**CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer (Elect), Parliament House Electrical Works Division, CPWD, Parliament House Complex, New Delhi invites on behalf of President of India online item rate bids for the following work:-

**1. NIT No - 65/EE(E)/PHEWD/2018-2019, Name of Work -** Replacement of Emergency Security Siren System at Parliament House, New Delhi. **Estimated Cost-** Rs. 16,78,423/- **Earnest Money -** Rs. 33,568/- **Period of Completion-** 01 Month. **Last time & date of submission of bid-** 22.11.2018 upto 03.00 PM

The bids forms and other details can be obtained from the website [www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD) or [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in).

**PRASAR BHARATI**  
[INDIA'S PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTER]  
CIVIL CONSTRUCTION WING: ALL INDIA RADIO

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The Executive Engineer [E] - Project, CCW, AIR, Room no. 240, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Soochna Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi on behalf of President of India invites e-tender in two bid system [Step-I: Pre-qualification of agencies & Step-II: Financial bid] from manufacturers and their authorized distributors / vendors working in the field of "Novoc-1230 based automatic fire detection and fire suppression system" for the following work:-

**NIT No.:** 17/EE [E]-P/NIT/2018-19, dated: 20.10.2018, **Name of Work :** SITC of Gas flooding system for server room at 5th. Floor, Prasar Bharati House, Mandi House, New Delhi - **Balance Work, Estimated cost:** ₹ 5, 85, 280/- **Earnest Money Deposit:** ₹ 11,706/-, **Period of completion :** One Month **Last date & time of submission of bid:** Up to 3:00 P.M. on 16.11.2018 8.

Note: - The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website: [www.tenderwizard.com/AIR](http://www.tenderwizard.com/AIR)

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
davp22439/11/0005/1819 [E]-Project

**BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi**  
... A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

**TENDER NOTICE** Date: 13.11.2018

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited for following jobs from all bidders

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Cost of EMD (Rs.)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & time of Opening
CMC/BY/18-19/RE/IAK/075	Providing Purchase & Store Support Services in Various Offices/Stores of BYPL	Rs. 4.27 Crs	Rs. 8.54 Lacs	04.12.2018 12:00 HRS.	04.12.2018 15:00 HRS.

Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 1180/-  
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying Requirements, Terms & Conditions, Purchase/Submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com) -> Tenders -> BSES YAMUNA POWER LIMITED -> Open Tenders Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off: BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110032 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC111525  
TEL: 011-39997111 | Fax: 011-39992076 | Website: [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com)

**हरीयाणा सरकार**

**TENDER NOTICE**

S. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/€ MD (APPROX.) in Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER
1	WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT, REWAR	TPT	CLOSING DATE 29.11.2018	NIL	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>	porewari.wcd@gmail.com 01274-223694
2	PANCHAYATI RAL, KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF ISI ILBP STREET +5 OTHER WORKS	10.11.2018 30.11.2018	177.49 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a> <a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	prexeeng.kr@hry.nic.in 0184-2262916
3	PWD B&R, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF TESSIL BUILDING AT RANIA IN DISTT. SIRSA	CLOSING DATE 20.11.2018	4.67 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>	pswd-beed-hisar@hry.nic.in xere.ct.pwd.hisar@gmail.com 01662-225651
4	IRRIGATION DEPTT, GOHANA	RE-CONSTRUCTION OF V.R. BRIDGE AT RD 40200 NAI NALLA DRAIN (VILL CHHATEHRA TO JAGSI) +1 OTHER WORK	16.11.2018 28.11.2018	257.52 LACS	<a href="http://hid.gov.in">www.hid.gov.in</a>	xenghnd@edfmail.com
5	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, BAWAL	AUGMENTATION OF 5 NO. EXISTING CANAL BASED WATER WORKS COVERING 24 VILLAGES & CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CANAL BASED WATER WORKS AT BUDPUR CHHARWAS & BASHRANA VILLAGES COVERING 31 NO. VILLAGES & 3 NO. DHANIES OF TEHSIL & DISTRICT REWAR.	07.11.2018 06.12.2018	378.40 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>	TENDER NO 104508
6	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, HISAR	ESTIMATE FOR REPAIR/ RENOVATION OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF VILLAGE JAKHOH KHERA DISTT HISAR	CLOSING DATE 20.11.2018	74900	<a href="http://phed.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">http://phed.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>	TENDER NO 104475 1662242227
7	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ROHTAK	EYE MEDICINES/ CONSUMABLE/ PCIOI/ ACIOL	CLOSING DATE 26.11.2018	15000	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a> CSRTK/EYE/9/2018, 2018_HRY_71639_1	dbsrohtak@gmail.com 9416570251

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)**

RO NO.73442

**CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**  
**NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
PALIKA KENDRA, NEW DELHI-110001

**e-Procurement Tender Notice**

**Tender ID No. 2018\_NDMC\_161755\_1**

**Name of Work:** MLA LAD Fund  
**Sub-Head:** Providing and placing precast RCC Public Toilets in NDMC area.  
**Estimated cost:** ₹11,56,472/-  
**Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution :** 08.11.2018

Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution : 20.11.2018 at 4:00 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 Government of NCT in Delhi is mandatory. **Sd/- EE (RIP)**

**UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
Regd. & Corp. Office: C-16 Vidyut Sadan, Sector-6, Panchkula, Haryana

Phone No. 09354726012, Web site: [www.uhvvn.org.in](http://www.uhvvn.org.in)  
CIN. U40109HR1999SGC034166, E-mail: [xenciviluhvnrhtak@gmail.com](mailto:xenciviluhvnrhtak@gmail.com)

**Corrigendum**

Notice No: 13/CCR/2018-19 Dated: 06-08-2018

Sr. No.	Brief Scope of work	Date/ Time of receipt / opening of tender
1	Annual Buildings maintenance and repair of 33 KV S/Str. Under 'OP' Divn. Gohana.	Due date of submission of tenders upto 1:00 PM Dated: 15-11-2018 Date of opening of tenders at 3:30 PM Dated: 15-11-2018

**Note:-** The detail of above NIT alongwith tender documents can be seen and download from <https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in>

-sd-  
XEN Civil Const. Divn., UHVVN, Rohtak  
RO NO. 73432 Dt. 12-11-2018

# Congress calisthenics

The party's exercises for the Assembly polls are forcing some contortions but victory will make it all okay



The harsh political reality is that the Congress needs to win at least two of the four bigger States, plus retain Mizoram, of the States going to polls over the coming few weeks to be a serious contender for a leading role in the Opposition's plans to unseat the BJP from power in the 2019 General Election. It is, in fact, the worst-kept secret in town. And the leadership of the grand old party is aware of just how quickly all the Opposition bonhomie will dissipate and the Congress pushed into a 'supporting role' for a conglomeration of regional parties if it fails to perform at the hustings yet again.

In Mizoram, the party's last toe-hold in the North-east, the party has deputised AICC general secretary Luizinho Faleiro — who was recently brought back to New Delhi after a couple of years in his home State of Goa — to ensure that his 'magic touch' which saw Congress-led Governments in five North-eastern States till as recently as 2016 helps the party retain power in the face of the BJP and Mizo National Front strategy to fight the elections separately and then come together post-poll. It's a small State but it is vital for the Congress to retain it in terms of the Assembly elections score-line, so Faleiro is pulling out all the stops. That Mizoram is a Christian-majority State helps the Congress which has effectively mobilised Church groups and demonised the BJP — with a lot of help from the utterances of BJP leaders nationally, it must be said. But in the other four States, it's a different story. Madhya Pradesh has seen the party play what is known in popular parlance as the 'soft Hindutva' card with a vengeance. From promising a *gaushala* in every village and committing itself to promoting research and application of cow urine in medicine and healthcare, to Rahul Gandhi, Kamal Nath and Jyotiraditya Scindia paying obeisance to prominent Hindu temples complete with sacred thread, the party has gone whole hog. Further, in keeping with its strategy of portraying itself as comprising the 'real Hindus' and the BJP/RSS as *katarwaadis* (fundamentalists) within the fold, Congress has announced plans to re-impose the ban on Government employees attending RSS *shakhas* or allowing Sangh-related activities in government buildings if elected. Simultaneously, reports from the ground indicate that the Congress leadership, especially veteran Kamal Nath, has persuaded many of the candidates put up by the Bahujan Samaj Party and Samajwadi Party apart from lesser political groups to 'informally' support and vote Congress come polling day. This tactic, if the Congress can pull it off, may make the crucial difference between winning and losing in a State where the BJP and Congress are widely perceived to be running neck-to-neck. In many ways, Madhya Pradesh, an erstwhile Congress stronghold where the party has managed to retain its rural support base despite 15 years out of power, is the key State for it to win.

Rajasthan, as survey after survey backed up by anecdotal evidence from those who have travelled extensively in the State suggests, is in the bag for the Congress unless it shoots itself in the foot spectacularly. Chhattisgarh looks likely to re-elect Raman Singh as Chief Minister thanks at least in part to the Ajit Jogi-Mayawati combine drawing more votes from the Congress than the BJP though the Congress is still hopeful of propping up Jogi — a la HD Kumaraswamy in Karnataka — if the BJP fails even marginally short. TRS seems headed for a win in Telangana despite a Congress campaign that has over the past couple of weeks shown some signs of coming into its own.

If the above scenario holds, and this is before Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched his election campaign in earnest please remember, the Congress could win in Rajasthan, Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh. With three out of five States in the bag it will be difficult for any Opposition alliance to ignore Rahul Gandhi as he would have finally delivered at the hustings. Congress has all to play for.

# Safety last

Drunk drivers and inadequate road barriers; between idiotic users and poor infrastructure, India has a road safety problem



The news that an allegedly drunk female driver lost control of her car, crossed the divider and rammed into a car coming from the opposite side in Delhi a couple of days ago leading to a death is yet another fatal road accident statistic in India. Yes, as modern cars have become safer, fatalities have come down. But there are several worrying issues here. First, the driver is suspected to have been under the influence of alcohol but till a blood-test report comes in, one should treat this report with some scepticism as the police nearly always accuse the driver in an accident of being inebriated. That said, other than

in Mumbai where police have done a stellar job in curbing drunken driving with a massive crackdown, our cities just haven't got this right. This must change and more police personnel should be posted to curb drunken driving; take some cops away from VIP security duties for a start.

The poor quality of road infrastructure in our country, though, often makes a bad situation even worse. Roads have to be as idiot-proof as possible because road users are often idiots. Concrete pavers doubling up as road dividers are not a safety feature. In fact, they can often make accidents worse because instead of absorbing the kinetic energy from an impact which metal and wire barriers do, concrete, particularly the low height concrete dividers that are used in India, can launch a vehicle into the air and into the path of traffic on the other side. And this can happen whether the driver is drunk, distracted or had deliberately rammed into the divider to avoid an accident. Worse still, there are far too many cases where we take road safety for granted. Work on the Delhi-Panipat stretch of National Highway 1 is ongoing with little or no concept of road safety being understood by the contractor. Across Indian highways, workers have little or no regard to their own safety and that of others, water tankers used to water plants on central verges have no warning lights and workers often use a tattered red cloth to warn oncoming drivers of a diversion. This was fine in the era of the Ambassador and the Padmini but today, with cars regularly capable of hitting 200-plus km an hour speeds, our concept of road safety needs to change on both highways and city roads.

# In the Dragon's embrace

Imran Khan has received a reality bite: No sops, austerities and repayment of Chinese loans from 2019, all amidst a disintegrating society



SANDHYA JAIN

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's failure to renegotiate parts of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) during his visit to Beijing in the first week of November affirms President Xi Jinping's inflexible commitment to making China a leading world power by 2049, the centenary of communist rule in that country. The Border and Road Initiative (B&RI) and military power are keys to this goal.

While President Xi is extending the B&RI's reach, he cannot be generous with countries that cannot push back like Malaysia, because China has been facing serious problems even prior to the spat with US President Donald Trump. As early as September 2016, the Bank for International Settlements warned that excessive credit growth in China could trigger a banking crisis within three years.

In May 2017, Moody's Investors Service downgraded China's credit ratings for the first time since 1989, saying growth would slow and debt would rise to 40 per cent of GDP by 2018, and 45 per cent by 2020. In October 2017, Standard & Poor's cut China's sovereign credit rating from A+ to AA- for the first time since 1999, because of risks from soaring debt. It lowered the rating on HSBC China, Hang Seng China and DBS Bank China Ltd. and warned that these banks would be "unlikely to avoid default should the nation default on its sovereign debt". Bloomberg noted growing concerns over China's ability to balance economic growth with cleaning up its financial sector. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned (December 2017) that China's growing debt-dependency could trigger a new global financial crisis. Credit growth has surpassed GDP growth; corporate debt is 165 per cent of GDP; household debt has risen 15 percentage points of GDP in the past five years and is linked to asset-price speculation. A serious problem is 'shadow banking' that Moody's in November 2017 put at \$9.8 trillion (86.5 per cent of GDP).

While Beijing has cracked down on debt and the shadow banking sector, the credit squeeze on some sectors has driven companies to the offshore dollar bond market; borrowings touched \$322 billion at the beginning of 2017, a 154 per cent increase from 2016, according to China International Capital Corp. By July 2018, the National Institute of Finance and Development, a regime-affiliated think tank, warned of "financial panic", saying the economy may be on the edge of disaster due to increasing bond defaults, currency depreciation, tightening lending and liquidity, and trade tensions with the United States.

Amidst these pressures, Beijing gave Islamabad a one billion dollar loan to buffer its foreign currency reserves, thus



lending Pakistan over five billion dollar in this fiscal year. Imran Khan fared better with Riyadh post-Jamal Khashoggi murder, but even six billion dollar in investments cannot keep Pakistan's precarious economy afloat. Khan's attempt to raise two billion dollar for two dams in ecologically fragile terrain will remain a pipe dream; an IMF bailout seems the only hope.

Beijing, meanwhile, will resist Washington's economic aggression with its Yuan-denominated oil futures contracts which, since March 2018, have broken the US Dollar's monopoly over the energy trade. Should the oil futures be convertible into gold, it would attract oil-producing nations like Russia, Venezuela, and Iran. Moscow and Beijing are also striving for a gold-backed post-Bretton Woods exchange system to curtail Dollar hegemony and evade US sanctions. Both have been accumulating gold reserves which, if greater than Washington's, can seriously undermine the US Dollar.

Given the scale of China's ambitions, it is not surprising that the joint communiqué appreciated the progress on early harvest projects, especially in the energy sector, and extolled the all-weather partnership in flowery language. Within Pakistan, the visit was perceived as a grand failure; Dawn columnist Adnan Rasool observed that the Pakistani State "is completely clueless regarding the larger objectives of the Belt and Road Initiative", of which CPEC is only one portion.

The B&RI covers around

“ PARTNER COUNTRIES TIE THEIR ECONOMIC DESTINY TO THAT OF CHINA. AS CHINA FLOURISHES, SO DO OTHERS. SINCE BEIJING DOES THE HEAVY LIFTING, IT IS THE SENIOR PARTNER, BUT OTHERS MUST DO THEIR SHARE ”

60 countries and broadly comprises three overland and three maritime routes. Most projects have not been contracted between governments but between Chinese companies and state-owned enterprises (SOEs). Hence, any attempt to renegotiate contracts (the promise on which Imran Khan came to power) would have to be firm by firm, which is virtually impossible. Moreover, any arbitration involved during renegotiations will go to the B&RI court in Xi'an, under Chinese law, so Islamabad would need a law firm to represent it on each contract to be renegotiated or contest the cases itself.

The B&RI, Rasool asserts, is a system which countries join to share the Chinese Dream of sustained growth for China through trade. Partner countries tie their economic destiny to that of China — as China flourishes, so do others. Since Beijing does the "heavy lifting", it is the senior partner; but others must do their share. The CPEC is a series of projects that serve the larger B&RI scheme, and is not a credit line or bailout package. That is the crux of the matter.

Pakistan has to fix its own economy and use the B&RI to gain market access to other partner-countries, and boost its earnings. Perhaps such a clear understanding could have saved Sri Lanka, Myanmar, The Maldives, Tajikistan, Djibouti, and others from the indebtedness that forced them to make costly debt-for-equity deals with Beijing. With the Asian Development Bank estimating

B&RI to cost over \$26 trillion by 2030, and China's foreign currency reserves hovering around \$3 trillion, Beijing is in no position to cancel or mitigate debt.

Interestingly, the joint communiqué included a commitment by Islamabad to support China in safeguarding its sovereignty and security, and combating separatism, terrorism and extremism including the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM). Concerns for the CPEC's security made Beijing build a counter-terrorism base in Afghanistan's Wakhan Corridor in Badakhshan province, where Uyghur militants (ETIM) constitute a serious threat to Muslim-majority Xinjiang province. Kabul has refused to join the B&RI-CPEC because Islamabad continues to host the Taliban and Haqqani terrorist network which attack Afghanistan.

Pakistani doublespeak forced Beijing to take a tough line at the Financial Action Task Force in February 2018, where Pakistan was put on the watch list for financing terror. Imran Khan has received a reality bite: No sops, austerities, and repayment of Chinese loans from 2019, all amidst a disintegrating society as witnessed by the turmoil over Asia Bibi's exoneration by the Supreme Court. Pakistan is caught in a pincer: Faith and a bleak economic landscape make uneasy bedfellows.

(The writer is Senior Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; the views expressed are personal)

## SOUNDBITE

Even though there has been the advancement of civilisation, the threat of war always remains and poses challenges.



Vice President —Venkaiah Naidu

Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena's decision to dissolve the nation's Parliament will only deepen the crisis.



UN chief —Antonio Guterres

Unlike Bollywood, Iranian films are based on realities, real locations, social subjects and human values.



Iranian filmmaker —Majid Majidi

Competition is normal. Contest must not turn into conflict. Differences between India and China should not become disputes.



Defence Minister —Nirmala Sitharaman

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Scope for improvement

Sir — This refers to the article, "Science in classrooms" (November 12) by JS Rajput. India's ranking in the list of 'ease of doing business' is laudable. The Government and entrepreneurs, in compliance with each other, have proved their calibre of being a development-savvy nation.

Finagled business units have been broken down by the Narendra Modi Government via steps like demonetisation and the implementation of GST, which in turn also raised the nation's GDP to an all-time high of 8.2 per cent. The scope for development has its doors wide open for India and its youth power. The need of the hour is to grab the opportunity and take it forward.

Animesh Gupta  
Ujjain

### Tackling pollution

Sir — This refers to the report, "No respite for Delhiites" (November 12). The poor air quality of Delhi was anticipated prior to the onset of winter season. One may not hold only the

### New weapon in India's bowling armoury

The India-West Indies series has thrown up a new kid on the block — Khaleel Ahmed. The player, who represented Rajasthan in the Ranji Trophy, gave the West Indies a dose of their own medicine especially in the final two ODIs. Good pace and reverse swing is a heady combo, more so if you are a left arm bowler, and Khaleel has both in abundance. The aggression on the pitch, the exultation on scalping a wicket and believing in giving the batsman an eye for an eye are all good attributes of a young fast bowler.

India captain Virat Kohli had praised Khaleel Ahmed by describing him as one of the finds of the ODI series against the West Indies. Khaleel apparently is working on both his bowling and non-bowling arm to better his game. Two former greats have played a significant role in honing the player's skills — Rahul Dravid and Zaheer Khan. In England, where



the 2019 World Cup will be held, the conditions will be quite favourable to swing bowlers. Khaleel is one player India would hope to cash in on. The recent series and the upcoming ones are viewed as tests for players on the edge.

Ganapathi Bhat  
Akola

### No offence

Sir — May be the proposals by the Uttar Pradesh Government to change the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj was unreasonable. But why was it necessary for Akbar to rename Prayag 444 years ago? If he ever needed a city named Ilaahabad to chime

burning of firecrackers accountable for AQI of 423 in Delhi. Immense burning of stubble in the agrarian States of Haryana and Punjab has always been a major factor for poor air quality especially in the Delhi/NCR region. According to Aditya Handa, Chief Executive Officer of Abellon CleanEnergy, the quantity of crop residues burnt each year ranges from 200 to 240 million tonnes,

which is a matter of cogitation. Although the Government had announced a National Policy on Biofuels, which led to the conversion of stubbles into ethanol, it is still incongruous to the amount of the stubbles produced each year. It is going to be a strenuous task for the Government to curb the surging pollution.

Tushar Anand  
Bihar

with his Din-e-Ilahi, why was it justifiable to axe a holy place of the Hindus? If the name of an ancient Hindu *tirth* is restored, that should not be construed as an attack on Muslims. If the act of Akbar was right, as the critics make us believe, ipso facto the act of Yogi Government, too, is right, because different yardsticks cannot be used for the same act.

JS Acharya  
Hyderabad

### Brilliant innings

Sir — I appreciate the Indian women's cricket team, who chased down the target of 134 with six balls to spare, specially Mithali Raj who smashed an aggressive half-century to guide India to an easy 7-wicket win over Pakistan in the ICC Women's World Cup T20. One hopes that the team will continue to perform well and outclass opposition in the forthcoming matches too.

Mohd Tariq Qasmi  
Secunderabad

Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

## FIRST COLUMN

## What went wrong?

The anti-immigrant hysteria is almost universal in Eastern Europe and it will bring more illiberal nationalist regimes to power before it is finished



GWYNNE DYER

I first met Viktor Orbán, the not-quite-dictator of Hungary, in 1989 in Budapest — and the man who introduced us was none other than George Soros. Orbán was then a firebrand student leader, anti-Communist and keen for Hungary to join the West. Soros, a Hungarian refugee who became an American billionaire, was devoting his time and money to finding and subsidising young Eastern Europeans who would lead their countries into the European Union and a liberal democratic future. But Orbán is now the Prime Minister of an 'illiberal' Hungarian Government that controls the mass media and regards the EU as the enemy. In last April's election, he portrayed Soros as the Jewish evil genius who, with the EU's help, was planning to flood Hungary with Muslim refugees and destroy the country's culture and identity. That's ridiculous, but Orbán won almost half the votes and more than two-thirds of the seats in Parliament. Poland, a far bigger country, now also has a far-right, 'illiberal' government that is ultranationalist and hostile to the EU (although both countries depend heavily on EU subsidies).

The extremists are not yet in power in other Eastern European countries, but similar trends are visible in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Romania. The dreams and hopes that drove the anti-Communist revolutions of 1989 are not yet dead, but they are definitely fading. What went wrong? These countries are among the most ethnically homogenous in the world (due to the Holocaust and the widespread 'ethnic cleansing' that followed both world wars). They have admitted almost no refugees, yet their politics is dominated by the fear of being swamped by them.

It's beyond bizarre, but Bulgarian political philosopher, Ivan Krastev, has a persuasive explanation for it. He points out that the question "isn't so much where the nationalism has come from, but where it's been hiding all these years." His answer is that it was hiding in plain sight. During the 1970s and 1980s, the nationalists who wanted independence from Soviet rule, formed a close alliance with the pro-Western activists who wanted a liberal, democratic future. From Poland to Bulgaria, the liberals and the nationalists worked together, and even after the overthrow of the Communists in 1989, they continued to believe (or at least hope) that democracy could accommodate them both.

Maybe it could have, but the nationalist wars that destroyed the former Yugoslav federation in the 1990s put an end to the partnership. As Krastev says, the violence there persuaded liberals that "nationalism was the very heart of darkness, and that flirting with it could only be sinful." So, the liberals broke their alliances with the nationalists, and for a while the nationalists went very quiet. Nobody, not even Polish or Hungarian nationalists, wanted to be seen in the same light as monsters like Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic. But nationalism was the most powerful political force in Eastern Europe throughout the 20th century, and it wasn't going to just fade away. It re-emerged in the early 21st century, shorn of its liberal associations with tolerance and diversity, as a major political force in the region — and the driver behind it was what Krastev calls "demographic panic".

After 1989, many people in Eastern Europe not only aspired to emulate the prosperous liberal democracies of Western Europe. They actually wanted to live in them, and when their countries joined the EU they acquired the right to free movement. If Poles thought that life would be better in England, for example, they could just move there and find work — and a million of them did. Since 1989, 27 percent of Latvia's population has emigrated to Western Europe, and Bulgaria has lost 21 percent. Hungary is not so hard hit, but it has lost 3 percent of its population to Western Europe in the past ten years — and almost all the emigrants are young, leaving behind an aging population with a low birth rate. This is the real source of the demographic panic, but it finds its political expression in a paranoid fear that the country's dwindling population will be overrun by immigrants with a radically different culture, particularly refugees. It doesn't matter that there are virtually no immigrants in Hungary, and that it's about the last place a refugee would want to go. In these matters, perception is all.

The anti-immigrant hysteria is almost universal in Eastern Europe, and it will bring more illiberal nationalist regimes to power before it is finished. The remedy, if there is one, is for the liberals to acknowledge the nationalists' concerns and rebuild the old alliances with them without pandering to the panic. That's not easy to do, but it's what every Western European democracy has actually been doing for generations. Although they're not doing too well with it at the moment themselves.

(The writer is an independent journalist)

DEMONETISATION IS A SHREWD SCHEME THAT ALLOWED MODI'S SUIT-BOOT FRIENDS TO CONVERT THEIR BLACK MONEY INTO WHITE.

—CONGRESS PRESIDENT RAHUL GANDHI

## POINT COUNTERPOINT



IT IS THE RESULT OF DEMONETISATION THAT YOUR COMPANY (NATIONAL HERALD) WAS CAUGHT AND YOU (RAHUL GANDHI AND SONIA GANDHI) HAD TO SEEK BAIL.

—PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

## Steady military modernisation

Efforts over the last four years by the Modi Government to upgrade India's armed forces despite financial constraints and a huge backlog deserve appreciation



PATHIKRIT PAYNE

From September 2019, India would start to receive the much-awaited Dassault Rafale combat aircrafts and the delivery and testing of the entire fleet of 36 fighters is expected to be completed by April 2022. India would also start receiving Apache AH-64E multi-role combat helicopters and CH-47 tactical transport helicopters, contract for which was finalised in 2015, as well as M-777 howitzers, which was signed under a contract in 2016. The Indian Army will also receive most of the 1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets, which were contracted for in 2018. From 2020, India would start getting delivery of S-400 air defence systems whose deal was signed last October. It is also expected that by next year, India would have in place a clear roadmap and contract in place for arming the infantry soldiers of the Indian Army with a battle-proven assault rifle to replace the obsolete INSAS.

**What Modi inherited:** Lack of modernisation of the armed forces for nearly a decade and challenges of grappling with obsolescence of existing equipment in the rapidly changing geopolitical landscape, were two major predicaments that the Narendra Modi Government had to confront in 2014. Rapid pace of military modernisation by both China and Pakistan exacerbated the situation further. There were only two choices in front of Prime Minister Narendra Modi — either continue to play politics of delay on big ticket defence acquisitions or take a decisive approach to modernise the forces while brushing aside all inhibitions and delaying tactics of the vested interests. The Prime Minister chose the latter. He preferred to go for fast-paced military modernisation.

**First steps:** In June 2014, the keel was laid for India's first missile tracking ship at Hindustan Shipyard after it was ordered by Modi Government as part of developing a robust nuclear shield. In less than four years since then, the 15,000 tonne ocean surveillance ship is almost ready and is undergoing trials before final commissioning. In 2015, the Modi dispensation gave approval for the construction of seven stealth frigates under Project 17A and six nuclear powered attack submarines. While Mumbai-based Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited would be making four of the frigates, Kolkata-based Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers would make the remaining three. The nuclear powered attack submarines would be built at the Ship Building Centre in Vizag.

**Big ticket acquisitions:** In September 2015, the Narendra Modi Government signed deals with Boeing for acquisition of 22 Apache AH-64 attack helicopters and 15 Chinook CH-47 tactical transport helicopters under a three billion dollar deal. Order for six more Apache AH-64 helicopters were given in 2018. The year 2015 also saw the Government giving nod to acquisition of 10 Heron TP armed drones from Israel for \$400 million.

In September 2016, India and France inked deal for acquisition of 36 Dassault Rafale combat jets. The 59,000 crore deal, apart from a 50 per cent clause for offsets and local sourcing of components, also included a wide array of cutting edge weapon systems, including Scalp cruise missiles with 500-km range and Meteor radar guided beyond visual range (BVR) air-to-air missile with over 100 km of range. This apart, reports

“ THERE WERE ONLY TWO CHOICES IN FRONT OF NARENDRA MODI — EITHER CONTINUE TO PLAY POLITICS OF DELAY ON BIG TICKET DEFENCE ACQUISITIONS OR TAKE A DECISIVE APPROACH TO MODERNISE THE FORCES. THE PRIME MINISTER CHOSE THE LATTER ”



also indicate that the Rafales made for India would probably be capable of carrying nuclear warheads as well as BrahMos. With one squadron each for the eastern and western battle theatres, the Rafale fleet is expected to significantly boost the combat capabilities of Indian Air Forces. A follow-on order for four additional P8I Poseidon maritime reconnaissance planes for Indian Navy was also signed in 2016.

The Rafale deal was followed by Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) clearing the Acceptance of Necessity (AON) in November 2016 for acquisition of 83 Light Combat Aircraft or Tejas in the MK1A configuration, which would be equipped with AESA radars, self-protection jammers and air-to-air refuelling capabilities. A year later, IAF issued the Request for Proposal to HAL and reports indicate that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has submitted quotation for the same, which is under review by the Ministry of Defence. Incidentally, HAL is yet to get the final operational clearance (FOC) for LCA and conclude the delivery of the first 40 Light Combat Aircrafts (LCA), whose orders were placed in 2006 and 2010 respectively.

**Modernising artillery:** In the realm of artillery acquisition, the first major step by the Modi Government in restarting the modernisation of artillery regiments of the Indian Army was through selection of L&T-Hanwha Techwin combine in 2015 for making 100 self propelled K9 Vajra howitzers. The contract worth around ₹5,000 crore was signed in 2017. Further, a critical deal with the US was signed in 2016 for acquisition of 145 M777 ultra light-weight howitzers for ₹5,000 crore, a deal which was pending for years during the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) era. In 2016, approval was also given for

raising two more regiments of Pinaka rockets for ₹3,300 crore and the fourth regiment of BrahMos for ₹4,300 crore with more advanced versions of the cruise missile, proficient in trajectory manoeuvrability and with deep diving capabilities, to be deployed in northeast.

**Bulletproof jackets for infantry:** If there was one product whose deficiency tormented the infantry soldier of the Indian Army for decades now, it has to be the availability of new generation bulletproof jackets. Like many other defence files, dust kept on piling on this one too for years. During the 11th five year plan (2007-12) Indian Army was supposed to receive 1,86,168 jackets but nothing much happened. Eventually, it was in 2016 that permission for a one-time 'interim emergency acquisition' by taking the 'revenue route' was granted by the Modi-led Government to the Indian Army for procuring 50,000 bulletproof vests for ₹140 crore from Tata Advanced Materials.

Later in April 2018, another contract worth ₹639 crore was signed by the Ministry of Defence with SMPP Pvt Ltd for procurement of an additional 1,86,138 bulletproof jackets. In 2017, a contract worth ₹180 crore was also given to Kanpur-based MKU for procurement of 1.6 lakh bulletproof helmets, an equipment as critical for the foot soldier, in the battle front, as bulletproof vest and assault rifle.

**Modernising air defence:** On the air defence front, in April 2017, India signed a two billion dollar deal with Israel Aerospace Industry and another Israeli company, Rafael, for supplying Medium Range Surface to Air Missiles (MR-SAM) to the Indian Army. Additionally, a \$630 million contract in 2017 and a \$777 million contract in 2018 were signed with

Israel Aerospace Industries for Barak-8 Long Range Surface to Air Missile (LR-SAM) to arm India's frontline warships. This was followed by Russia in 2018 for S-400 Triumf air defence systems, capable of shooting down almost all kinds of incoming missiles, fighters and drones.

The deal for 6,000 missiles and associated equipments, including jam resistant phased array radars, was inked in spite of threats of sanctions by US. This was followed in quick succession with a \$950 million deal with Russia for two frigates of Project 11356 class for Indian Navy.

In between, exclusive deals worth almost ₹20,000 crore were also signed by the IAF and the Indian Army for ammunitions, spares and engines to have enough reserve for 10 days of intense fighting in case of any eventualities. Many additional deals are in pipeline including 200 Ka-226 and 48 Mi-17V5 helicopters, acquisition of 464 T-90 tanks and local production of AK series rifles. Some are expected to be signed soon. Further, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's diplomatic efforts resulting in India being inducted into the exclusive Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) club and being granted Strategic Trade Authorisation (STA-1) status by the US also helps the country to enhance the range and quantum of warheads in imported missiles and get access to critical and cutting-edge defence technologies hitherto restricted for India.

Efforts over the last four years by the Modi Government to modernise India's armed forces in spite of financial constraints and a huge backlog deserve appreciation.

(The writer is a New Delhi-based strategic affairs analyst)

## #MeToo: Clarion call to something bigger

Men should be educated about the nuances of their acts and the consequent impact that they have on a victim. Despite changes that are required in law, the movement should first ignite social change



RAGHAV PANDEY NEELABH BIST

The common incidents that take place in almost every woman's life, incidents that were hushed behind closed doors, have finally found a platform to come out in the open, in the form of the #MeToo movement. The campaign has caused a ripple effect in India, which looks promising enough to bring about a change for good.

However, there is an underlying fear because of which certain women haven't come out with their ordeals — the fear of not being believed, the fear of loss of reputation and more importantly, loss of their jobs and the associated trauma.

Normally, the legal consequences of bringing out the mis-

deeds of someone can result in a nullity if there is no strong evidence to substantiate the claim. In fact, you can end up being the one on the wrong side of the law, as a defamation suit can be filed against you. The same had happened with writer-producer, Vinta Nanda, as a suit for defamation had been filed by actor Alok Nath as a reply to her harrowing contribution to the #MeToo movement.

The whole scenario leads us to essentially question the legal framework within which the #MeToo movement stands. Does it provide enough protection to the victims?

The answer is a big "no", as the accused can only be convicted on the production of substantial evidence against him, which is very difficult to obtain, especially in a sexual harassment case.

Now, if the accused cannot be convicted for his actions then what exactly can be changed so as to create the perfect balance wherein the victims of such harassment, or worse, can be protected, and at the

same time, the framed people can enjoy their fair bit of protection as well?

From the experience drawn from the US, where the #MeToo movement had seen its inception, many valuable lessons can be learned on how to reform the law. The first change that the law should provide for is an opt out option in non-disclosure agreements (NDAs). It was observed in the United States that a big impediment in the reporting of sexual misbehaviour was the NDA. In many cases, the NDAs were so much customised to such effect that a victim was compensated with a financial settlement while gagging him/her from speaking about the abuse.

Another big problem with the law is that it provides a time frame within which the complaint has to be lodged. Section 9(1) of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 provides for three months from the date of the incident or the date of the last incident in case of a series of events, for

reporting of the complaint. This can be increased to another three months by the internal or local committee adjudicating the claim.

Now, the narrative — that such a limitation should be placed so as to balance the interest of justice between the complainant and the accused — falls short on the count that this is a protective legislation. Such legislations are created because the subjects that they deem to protect are vulnerable and, therefore, need an affirmative protection of the State.

With limitations like that of time period, the Sexual Harassment Act tends to defeat the purpose for which it was enacted as it has to protect each and every individual who faces harassment without any prejudice to the time when she finally gathers the courage to speak up in the patriarchal system.

Further, in the court of law, if such a matter comes for adjudication, it should be reasonably expected from the court that they do not expect an exact testimony from the

victim, in excruciating detail. This is to say that the courts usually expect the victim to recall their experience in a linear fashion by requiring them to provide specific names, dates and facts of the assault. In this manner, the legal system wants the victims to remember and pen down the horrendous experience which they usually try hard to forget. While the accuracy of the events does not destroy their case, it provides an easy way for the defence attorney to do the same by creating a reasonable doubt of the innocence of the accused.

Now comes the question which has created immense fear in the minds of many misogynists since the #MeToo movement has begun: How will the falsely accused men be protected? Well, these people will be happy to know that if a malicious or false complaint or a complaint made with forged or misleading document is made, then under Section 14 of the Sexual Harassment Act, action can be taken against the complainant.

However, it also provides that the mere inability to substantiate a complaint or provide adequate proof need not attract action against the complainant, thus protecting the victim as well.

Despite the changes that are required in the legal sphere, it can be safely said that the #MeToo movement should first ignite social change, which should then take the form of legal change.

Men should be educated about the nuances of their acts (which might seem casual or commonplace to them but is actually harassment) and the consequent impact that it has on the victim. #MeToo is being termed as a clarion call to something bigger, and with a Constitution which is feminist, hopes are high that India will finally wake up to a better future.

(Raghav Pandey is an Assistant Professor of Law at Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai and Neelabh Bist is a Fourth Year student of Law at Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai)



## MISSING LEGITIMACY OF THINK TANKS

Brexit has changed the atmosphere of political debate in profoundly damaging ways. For the newly aggressive leave vanguard, represented by a clutch of think tanks, it has legitimised their dangerous heresy and redefined the previous orthodoxy as being biased and an out-of-touch remain, liberal worldview.

(The Guardian editorial)

# Sensex falls 346 pts as crude prices rise

**PTI ■ MUMBAI**  
The equity benchmark Sensex on Monday dived about 346 points owing to an intense fog-end selling mainly in auto and energy stocks as fresh worries about weakening rupee and rising crude oil prices resurfaced.

Similarly, the NSE Nifty fell by 103 points to 10,482.20 points. The benchmark Brent crude snapped its four-day losing streak and rose 2.09 per cent to 71.62 per barrel after Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude exporter, said Sunday it will cut oil output from next month, as major producers held a key meeting to discuss shoring up sliding prices.

Further impacting domestic market sentiments, the Indian rupee again breached the 73-mark, dropping 57 paise (intra-day) to 73.07 against the dollar.

Besides, a caution prevailed among investors ahead of key macro data — index of industrial production (IIP) for September and CPI inflation for October — to be released later in the day. Mixed leads from most other Asian markets and a lower opening of European shares too fuelled the downturn.

"Markets failed to hold the early gains and lost nearly a per cent, pressurised by weak global cues. Participants were in profit-taking mood from the beginning and mostly sectoral indices traded in tandem with the benchmark index. The decline was wide spread and broader market indices too ended with loss of nearly a per cent each," an analyst said.

The 30-share Sensex opened on a strong footing at 35,287.49 and advanced to scale a high of 35,333.22 in line with a firming trend at other Asian markets and fresh inflows of funds by foreign investors.

However, profit-booking by investors at better prices wiped out initial gains and the Sensex slipped to a low of 34,756.80 before settling 345.56 points, or 0.98 per cent, down at 34,812.99.

During the volatile session, it swung over 576 points on alternate bouts of hectic buying and selling. The gauge had lost 79.13 points on Friday.

The broader NSE Nifty slipped below the 10,500-mark by falling 103 points, or 0.97 per cent, at 10,482.20. It touched a high of 10,645.50 and a low of 10,464.05 during the day.

Meanwhile, on a net basis, foreign funds bought shares

while a net ₹614.14 crore, worth domestic institutional investors (DIIs) sold shares to the tune of ₹337.28 crore on Friday, provisional data showed.

Selling was more pronounced in auto, oil and gas, PSU and banking stocks which dragged the indices into the negative zone. Among Sensex constituents, Tata Motors was the worst hit, plunging 4.84 per cent, followed by Hero MotoCorp at 3.82 per cent.

Other laggards include PowerGrid 2.87 per cent, Maruti Suzuki 2.64 per cent, Adani Ports 2.61 per cent, Vedanta Ltd 2.59 per cent, Yes Bank 2.24 per cent, M&M 2.06 per cent, SBI 1.86 per cent, Bajaj Auto 1.80 per cent, Asian Paint 1.74 per cent, Coal India 1.55 per cent, HDFC Bank 1.35 per cent and RIL 1.34 per cent.

Also, ITC Ltd, HDFC Ltd, Sun Pharma, Axis Bank, Bharti Airtel, NTPC, HUL, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Wipro and ONGC succumbed to selling pressure and lost up to 1.23 per cent.

In contrast, Tata Steel, Kotak Bank, Infosys, TCS and L&T emerged gainers, rising up to 1.67 per cent. However, consumer durables index remained on the top by rising 1.38 per cent and IT by 0.46 per cent.

## Retail inflation cools to year-low of 3.31 pc in Oct

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Retail inflation fell to a one-year low of 3.31 per cent in October on the back of cheaper kitchen staples, fruits and protein-rich items, official data released on Monday showed.

The inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3.7 per cent in September 2018 and 3.58 per cent in October 2017. The retail inflation number is the lowest since September 2017 when it touched 3.28 per cent. The rate of price rise in the food basket contracted by 0.86 per cent in October compared to 0.51 per cent rise in September, according to the Central Statistics Office data.

Vegetable prices declined by 8.06 per cent in October against a 4.15 per cent contraction in September. Inflation also slowed to 0.35 per cent in the fruit basket as against 1.12 per cent recorded a month ago.

The retail inflation also cooled in protein-rich items like cereals, eggs, milk and related products.

However, inflation quickened to 8.55 per cent for the 'fuel and light' category against 8.47 per cent in the previous month.

## ₹ drops 39 paise as crude oil rebounds

**PTI ■ MUMBAI**

The rupee on Monday dropped by 39 paise to settle at 72.89 against the US currency as oil prices rebounded after Saudi Arabia announced plans to cut production and the dollar strengthened in global markets.

Cutting short the 10-day selling trend, crude oil prices rose by around 1 per cent to touch \$71 per barrel mark after the world's largest oil exporter Saudi Arabia announced plans to cut production by 500,000 barrels per day from December and called for a global output cut of one million barrels per day to support oil price.

The dollar also rose to an 18-month high against its global peers after the British pound tumbled nearly 1 per cent due to growing worries about the Brexit deal with EU.

Weighed by heavy dollar demand amid firming crude oil prices, the rupee opened lower at 72.74 and fell further by 57 paise to the day's low of 73.07.

"Oil reversing successive days of fall, and dollar's resurgence dragged rupee lower today. This bucks the trend of strengthening rupee in the last few days, which was helped by FII buying in equities. Key retail inflation and industrial production data due for release later in the day also kept the rupee tentative," Anand James, Chief Market Strategist at

Geojit Financial Services said. The rupee finally settled at 72.89 per dollar, showing a loss of 39 paise or 0.54 per cent over the last close.

"OPEC talked of cutting supply next year to support falling crude oil prices. Traders rushed to cover their shorts and crude oil surged by 1 per cent in today's trade. Dollar strengthened across the board as jitters over the BREXIT deal in the UK stroked uncertainty in global markets. Rupee was also not spared," said V K Sharma, Head PCG & Capital Markets Group, HDFC Securities.

Domestic stock markets also tumbled on worries about resurging oil prices and caution ahead of the release of key macroeconomic data.

BSE Sensex dropped by 345.56 points or 0.98 per cent to close at 34,812.99. The broader NSE Nifty slipped below the 10,500-mark by falling 103 points, or 0.97 per cent, at 10,482.20.

FII remained net buyers in capital markets with net purchases of ₹832.15 crore, provisional exchange data showed. Foreign investors had put in more than ₹600 crore on a net basis on Friday.

Meanwhile, Financial Benchmarks India fixed the reference rate for the US dollar at 72.9078. It set the rate for the British pound at 93.9947 and at 82.4315 for the euro. Japanese yen was pegged at 63.91 for 100 yens.

## Business Corner

**BHEL COMMISSIONS 120 MW PULICHINTALA HEP IN T**  
With the commissioning of the fourth and final 30 MW hydro generating unit, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned the 120 MW Pulichintala Hydro-Electric Project (HEP) in Telangana. The other three units of the 4x30 MW Pulichintala HEP, commissioned earlier by BHEL, have been operating successfully. Located in Suryapet district of Telangana, the greenfield project has been set up for Telangana State Power Generation Corporation Limited (TSGENCO) on the river Krishna.

**GAIL GAS SIGNS MOU WITH EESL**  
GAIL Gas Limited, a subsidiary of GAIL (India) Limited, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) for fast-tracking the implementation of co-generation and tri-generation projects and use of natural gas in industrial and commercial segments. The MoU was signed by AK Jana, Chief Executive Officer, GAIL Gas and Saurabh Kumar, Managing Director, EESL in the presence of Gajendra Singh, Director (Marketing), GAIL (India) Limited & Director, GAIL Gas and Rajeev Mathur, Director GAIL Gas at INSPIRE 2018 conference.

**KARNATAKA WOMEN MUNICIPAL COUNCILORS VISIT NDMC**  
Aiming at the capacity building in respect of strengthening of the local democracy and citizen participation in the urban areas, especially for women empowerment, a delegation of Women Municipal Councilors from Karnataka visited New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) Head Quarter at Palika Kendra in New Delhi on Monday. The visit has been organized by Urban Research Centre, Bangalore.

**VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK OBSERVED IN POWERGRID**  
'Vigilance Awareness Week' was observed in Powergrid from 29th October to 02 November 2018. The week started with administration of pledge to all the employees posted at RHQ, NR-1, & Telecom jointly by AK Arora, ED & by RK Arora, Chief GM, NR-1 respectively. All the employees participated enthusiastically in various programs, like, essay, online-quiz, debate, slogan writing competitions, Nukkar Natak & Walkathon conducted for "Vigilance & Anti-corruption". A Vendors' Meet was also organized at RHQ, NR-1.

**NHPC CELEBRATES 44TH RAISING DAY**  
NHPC Limited, India's premier hydropower company celebrated its 44th Raising Day on 12th November 2018 at its Corporate Office at Faridabad with great enthusiasm and fervor. RK Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Power and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India graced the occasion as Chief Guest. In his address, Singh extended his warmest greeting to everyone present on the occasion of NHPC Raising Day.

## Jet Airways reports net loss of ₹1,261 crore

**PTI ■ MUMBAI**

Jet Airways on Monday reported a whopping ₹1,261 crore in consolidated net losses for the three months to September against a profit of ₹71 crore in the same period year ago, impacted by higher fuel cost and the ongoing plunge in the rupee.

Already its larger rival Indigo had reported a net loss of ₹652.13 crore in the September quarter compared to a profit of ₹551.56 crore a year ago, making it the

first loss since becoming a publicly traded company.

On a standalone basis, the Naresh Goyal promoted airline, which has been facing cash crunch from some time leading to delayed salaries and other payments, reported a net loss of ₹1,297.46 crore against a profit of ₹49.63 crore a year ago.

Total sales rose to ₹6,363 crore during the reporting quarter, which is a growth of 6.9 percent from ₹5,952 crore over the same quarter last fiscal.

## Niti Aayog to hold meet with digital payments industry on KYC issue

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

Niti Aayog will hold a meeting with all the stakeholders in digital payments industry over customer authentication issue after the Supreme Court verdict that restricted the use of Aadhaar details for KYC in availing host of services, including banking and telecom.

"I will have a round table with the stakeholders. There are

some issues which have come up from the industry, we will sit down and see what the issues are and find out how to move forward. The industry is saying that it may hamper the digital payments system," said Ratan Watal, Member Secretary — PMEAC and Principal Advisor, Niti Aayog on the sidelines of a digital payments programme.

Ficci and the Niti Aayog on Monday jointly organised a

workshop on the 'Online Digital Payments Programme' aimed at capacity building and imparting training to the officials working in this area.

In its ruling on September 26, the Supreme Court had declared the Government's flagship Aadhaar scheme as constitutionally valid but struck down some of its provisions including its linking with bank accounts, mobile phones and school admissions.

## DSP MUTUAL FUND LAUNCHES DSP HEALTHCARE FUND

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

DSP Investment Managers Pvt. Ltd. announced the launch of DSP Healthcare Fund, an open ended scheme investing in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector. The fund will be predominantly investing in equity and equity related securities of healthcare and pharmaceutical companies with some portfolio allocation to foreign securities. The NFO is scheduled to open on November 12 and close on November 26, 2018.

**M/s. KARVY FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED**  
Registered Office:- 705/706, 7th Floor, Hallmark Business Plaza, Sant Dnyaneshwar Marg, Opp. Guru Nanak Hospital, Bandra (E), Mumbai 400 051  
Branch Office :- Karvy Financial Services Ltd - BF/4, Janakpuri, 2nd Floor Above Dominos, B-Block, Main Red Light of Jail Road, New Delhi - 110058  
Email: siva.damaraju@karvy.com Contact No. 9959101236

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION CUM SALE**  
SALE NOTICE THROUGH E-AUCTION (ONLINE AUCTION) UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002 CUM NOTICE TO SALE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS, RULE 8(6) UNDER SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

In exercise of powers conferred under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and pursuant to the possession of the secured assets of the Borrower(s)/ mortgagors mentioned hereunder, the public and all concerned including the concerned borrowers/mortgagors, their legal heirs/ representatives, as the case may be are hereby informed that offers are invited by the Karvy Financial Services Ltd for purchase of the properties listed below.

Whereas the authorized officer of the Karvy Financial Services Ltd has decided to sell the properties described herein below on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" AND "AS IS WHAT IT IS BASIS" under rules 8 & 9 of the said Act, through online public auction

Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (₹P)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Total Loan Outstanding (As on 31st July 2018)
MR. BALJINDER SINGH (BORROWER) MRS. DALJEET KAUR (CO-BORROWER) Plot no. 2, Sukh Vihar, NDMC CHBS Ltd, Parwana Road, New Delhi-110051 (Loan Code No. 409903, 505665 and 419032)	19/10/2016 for Rs. 37,196,901/-	THE PROPERTY BEARING PLOT NO-2, (UPPER GROUND FLOOR, FIRST FLOOR AND THIRD FLOOR) Sukh Vihar, New Delhi-110051. Admeasuring Built up Area 180 sq. Yds & UGF, FF, AND TF Prop Area 1296 Sq.ft.	Rs. 4,30,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Thirty Lakh Only)	Rs. 43,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Only)	Rs. 5,06,48,257/- (Rupees Five Crore Six Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Two hundred Fifty Seven Only)

**IMPORTANT TERMS & CONDITIONS:**

- The auction sale will be "On line E-Auction / Bidding through website [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com) on 30/11/2018 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes duration each.
- Intending bidders shall hold a valid email address and they should register their names at portal [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com) and get their User-Id and Password free of cost whereupon they would be allowed to participate in online auction. For details with regard to E-auction, please contact M/s. C1 INDIA PVT. LTD. UdyogVihar, Phase 2, Gulf Petrochem Building, building no.301 Gurgaon Haryana, pin: 12205 help Line No. +91-124-4302020/21/22/23/24 +91-9821690968 Help Line email ID Support @bankeauctions.com. at the web portal [www.bankeauctions.com](http://www.bankeauctions.com)
- Prospective bidders may avail online training on e-auction from M/S. C1 India Pvt. Ltd., Plot No.301, 1st Floor, Udyog Vihar, Phase-2, Gurgaon, Pin-122015
- Tender shall be submitted online only in the prescribed format with relevant details, as available in the website from the date of publication.
- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT to the credit of Account of HDFC Bank, in favour of Karvy Financial Services Ltd, Karvy E-Auction deposit at Manekji Wadia Bldg, Ground Floor, Nanik Motwani Marg, Fort Mumbai - 400023, Maharashtra, Current A/C No. 00600340049390, IFSC Code- HDFC0000060 before submitting the tender online.
- Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bid/Offer in the prescribed, tender forms along with EMD and KYC is 27/11/2018 within 5:00 PM. Tenders that are not filled up or tenders received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
- EMD amount shall be adjusted in case of the highest/successful bidder, otherwise refunded within 7 working days of finalization of sale. The EMD shall not carry any interest.
- A copy of the Tender Form along with the enclosures submitted online (also mentioning the UTR No.) shall be forwarded to the Authorized Officer, Karvy Financial Services Ltd, at Branch office: Karvy Financial Services Limited, BF/4, Janakpuri, 2nd Floor Above Dominos, B-Block Main Red light of Jail Road, Delhi -110058 so as to reach on or before 27/11/2018 (48 hours before the E auction).
- The bid price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve Price and bidders shall improve their further offers in multiples of Rs. 10000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only).
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the purchase amount (including Earnest Money already paid), immediately on closure of the e-auction sale proceedings on the same day of the sale in the mode stipulated in clause 6 above. The balance of the bid amount shall have to be deposited within 15 days of acceptance/confirmation of sale conveyed to them. Failing which entire deposit shall be forfeited.
- The highest bidder shall be declared to be successful bidder/purchaser of the properties mentioned herein provided always he is legally qualified to bid.
- The Karvy Financial Services Ltd has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn / postpone / cancel the sale / modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason and such cancellation shall not be called in question by the bidders.
- This publication is also thirty day's notice to sale under Rule 8(6) of the said Rules, to the above borrowers/guarantors /mortgagors.

\* For further details, contact the Authorized Officer, at the above mentioned Office Address.

**Special Instructions and Caution:**  
Bidding in the last minute/seconds should not be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Karvy Financial Services Ltd nor the Service provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the vendor, in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

For SD/-  
Authorized Officer  
Karvy Financial Services Limited

Date : 13th November 2018  
Place : NEW DELHI

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**  
**COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES,**  
**TARAPORAWALA AQUARIUM, NATAJI SUBHASH MARG,**  
**CHARNI ROAD, MUMBAI 400002**  
E-mail Address:- [commfishmaha@gmail.com](mailto:commfishmaha@gmail.com) Telephone No.:- 22821622

**E-Tender Notice No.4 year 2018-19 (Second Call)**

Commissioner of Fisheries, Maharashtra State, Mumbai, is inviting E-tender (Second Call) in B-1 form for 2 works from the contractors registered with Public work Department of Maharashtra State in IV A class. The details of tender can be seen and downloaded from web site: <http://mahatenders.gov.in> The right of acceptance & rejection of any tender is reserved by the commissioner of fisheries, Maharashtra State, Mumbai.

<b>Online E-tender available period</b>	<b>Date from 14.11.2018, 17.31 Hrs IST to 23.11.2018, 17.30 Hrs IST</b>
<b>Date of online E-tender opening</b>	<b>Date : 28.11.2018, 12.00 PM If possible</b>

All information regarding E-tender is available on below web site. <http://mahatenders.gov.in>  
(If there is any change in tender notice same will be displayed on above website)

Sd/-  
**(Arun Vidhale)**  
**Commissioner of Fisheries**  
**Maharashtra State, Mumbai**

DGIPR/2018/2019/4232

**PRAKASH WOOLLEN & SYNTHETIC MILLS LIMITED**  
Regd. office. 18th KM Stone, Delhi Moradabad Road, NH24, Village-Amhera, Distt: J.P.NAGAR-244102, U.P.  
CIN-L17291UP1979PLC004804  
PH: 0591-2223008/18, Fax-0591-2223009, Email:info@prakashwoollen.com, Website: www.prakashwoollen.com

**Extract of Standalone Unaudited Results for the Quarter Ended 30/09/2018** (Rs in lakhs)

Particulars	Quarter ending (30.09.2018)	Preceding 3 months ended (30.06.2018)	Corresponding 3 months ended in the previous year (30.09.2017)	Year to date figures for current period ended (30.09.2018)	Year to date figures for the previous year ended (30/09/2017)	Previous year ended (31.03.2018)
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Total income from operations (net)	2582.63	2531.30	1701.71	5113.93	3060.09	9973.52
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax and Exceptional items	90.19	63.49	69.14	153.68	103.61	386.86
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax and after Exceptional items	90.19	63.49	69.14	153.68	103.61	386.86
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax and Exceptional items	74.92	52.78	60.53	127.70	70.79	245.74
Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	74.92	52.78	60.53	127.70	70.79	250.70
Equity Share Capital (Face value Rs 10 each)	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98	1025.98
Other equity	—	—	—	—	—	2608.26
Earnings per share for discontinued & continuing operations (of Rs. 10/-each):						
(a) Basic	0.73	0.51	0.59	1.24	0.69	2.40
(b) Diluted	0.73	0.51	0.59	1.24	0.69	2.40

**Notes:**

- The above results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on November 12, 2018.
- This statement has been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 (Ind AS) prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 and other recognised accounting practices and policies to the extent applicable.
- The company is engaged in the blankets business, therefore, there is only one reportable segment in accordance with the Accounting Standards on Segment Reporting (Ind AS 108).
- The blankets business is seasonal in nature and accordingly financial results for the quarter are not representative of the whole year.
- Previous year/ quarter figures have been regrouped wherever required.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Unaudited Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Unaudited Financial Results are available on the website of the Stock Exchange ([www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com)) and on Company's website ([www.prakashwoollen.com](http://www.prakashwoollen.com))

By Order of the Director  
**For Prakash woollen & Synthetic Mills Limited**  
Sd/-  
**Vijay Kumar Gupta**  
Whole Time Director & CFO  
DIN: 0035325

Place : Village Amhera (Amroha)  
Date : 12-11-2018

# HEALTH

## FishTales

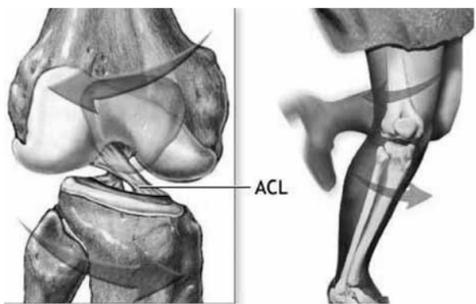
Eating fish like salmon, trout and sardines can significantly reduce asthma symptoms in children, a study led by Australian researchers have found. The results were in line with a growing body of evidence that pointed to a healthy diet being a potential therapy for bronchial inflammation



## DOCYARD

DR SHREYASH GAJJAR

Consultant Arthroscopy & Sports Orthopaedics  
KOKILABEN DHIRUBHAI AMBANI HOSPITAL, MUMBAI



## Take care of your bones

Women are more vulnerable to certain injuries like Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tears and stress fractures. Here's why, what you can do to prevent these injuries, and why women athletes should consider seeking care to maintain their health.

**ACL**  
The most common injuries are ACL injuries and pain in the front of the knee joint. Inappropriate mechanics during a squat. As the athlete squats down the knee behind is in line with the second toe which is the proper form of squat. Women often move their knees inward and over the second toe when attempting to squat. This shows weakness of the muscles on the outsides of the hips. Women are also unable to control their knee position when landing from any jumping activity. This causes their knees to move forward and inward while landing, which puts them more at risk for an ACL injury. Such injuries are five times more common in women than men. Knee stability comes from the hip. Weakness at the hip will present as instability of the knee.

**Prevention**  
With any injury, no prevention method is 100% guaranteed; but some approaches can help to reduce your risk:  
■ Braces. Support braces may help to support ligaments and keep the knee from twisting over overextending.  
■ Technique. Women athletes can learn proper techniques to land in stable positions that protect the knee.

**PATELLOFEMORAL SYNDROME**  
This is characterised by soreness in the front of the knee and around the patella (kneecap). Symptoms include pain and stiffness which makes difficult to climb stairs or kneel.

**Women can take steps to reduce the chances of ACL injuries if the muscles are strengthened, especially the hamstrings and the vastusmedialis**

**OTHERS**  
**Ankle sprain:** This is the most common sports injury in both men and women, but it's particularly common among women.  
**Shoulder troubles:** Examples include rotator cuff problems (including tendon inflammation, or tendinitis) and instability.

**Knee injuries:** These include irritation under the kneecap (called patellofemoral syndrome) and ligament damage (including tears to the ACL), which is especially common among soccer and basketball players.

**Stress fractures:** These are especially common in the foot or lower leg (tibia) among women with the "female athlete triad," a combination of inadequate calorie and nutrient intake, irregular menstrual periods, and bone loss. Eating disorders, including anorexia nervosa, contribute to this triad.

**Plantar fasciitis:** Abnormal alignment of the foot and flat feet may contribute to these small tears in the supporting tissues along the arch and heel.

**To avoid injury**  
Fortunately, women can take steps to reduce the chances they'll suffer these injuries. The rate of ACL injuries may go down if muscles are strengthened, especially the hamstrings and the vastusmedialis. Training to change direction from both feet (rather than one), training to land from jumps in a safer position, and weight-lifting programmes that target specific muscles may also prove effective. Bracing can help limit ankle sprains. Shoe inserts may provide support and re-alignment for those prone to plantar fasciitis or other foot injuries.

## WARMFOODS

**TULSI:** Rich in vitamin A, C, calcium, zinc and iron, *tulsi* helps the body fight all cold borne diseases like cough, cold, sinusitis, pneumonia and all respiratory disorders. It is also a powerful antiseptic and anti-malarial agent. Taken raw with pepper and honey in empty stomach, it is an excellent remedy for cough and cold.

It acts as a detoxifying, cleansing and purifying agent — both from within and without. Therefore, it is good for skin — both when consumed and applied topically. It is also effective in treating skin disorders, itching and issues like ringworms.

It can be made into teas or can be had raw, powdered, paste or in form of herbal supplements. It has antibiotoxic, anti-viral, antibacterial and anti-carcinogenic properties.

Helps relieve stress, strengthen immunity, and facilitate proper digestion. Regular *tulsi* consumption can also aid in balancing various bodily processes. It counters elevated blood sugar levels and is therefore beneficial for diabetics.

It helps in regulating uric acid levels in body, thereby, eliminating risks of developing kidney stones. It is also beneficial for those who have kidney stones. It is great for healthy gums.



## FOR HEALTHY CELEBRATION

This festive season, don't let health come in your way of celebrations. Follow these tips related to respiratory problems, burns and eye care, says PIONEER HEALTH

### BREATHE EASY

With Air Quality Index at its worst, it is time that we took measures to breathe easy. Here are a few health tips to follow to protect yourself from the harmful effects of pollution.

■ **Visit the doctor:** Before the pollution affects your health, patients with asthma and other respiratory disorders should visit their doctors for a check-up and adjust the medication dose as per his advice if necessary.

■ **Healthy lifestyle:** It is important that the patient maintains a healthy lifestyle throughout the year. It includes good quality sleep, well-balanced nutritious diet, regular intake of water, regular exercise, breathing exercises, *pranayam* and yoga, stress reduction, avoiding smoking and alcohol intake. Medication dose should never be missed. A patient who follows a disciplined lifestyle will be able to cope up better with post Diwali pollution. Control sweet intake and stay well hydrated by reg-



ularly drinking water during this month.

■ **Stay away from crackers:** People suffering from asthma and other respiratory disorders should completely avoid areas and functions where there is too much pollution. Harmful pollutants such as toxic metals, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and sulphur dioxide, which, along with the smoke in the air, can trigger an asthma attack in both children and

adults.  
■ **Avoid polluted areas:** It is also advisable to avoid places with high levels of pollution, as well as the use of strong incense sticks and scented candles. If you absolutely must go out during this season, ensure that you're carrying a handkerchief or a cloth, when stepping out of the house. The patients must carry their inhaler all the time.  
■ **Keep away from dust:** During

this time, try to avoid being a part of the cleaning, as the dust that is swept up can trigger asthma attacks and breathing problems. Keep your inhaler handy at all times as a quick-relief solution for breathlessness, before visiting your doctor.

■ **Take a small holiday:** If you find yourself unable to avoid the present situation in Delhi, get away from the city. Take a short vacation to a hill station or the seaside where the air is cleaner and dust free.

■ **Keep emergency numbers handy:** Respiratory symptoms are aggravated post Diwali. Hence, it is extremely essential to keep emergency ambulance numbers like 1298/108 and other local numbers within reach. Calling for help at the right time without losing valuable minutes can decrease the level of damage and raise the chances of recovery and survival.

To ensure a safe celebration for all, as responsible individuals, one should ensure to celebrate it eco-friendly way. This will help make it a truly happy festival, for yourself, as well as the environment.

— Dr Santosh Datar, medical director, Ziqitza Healthcare Ltd

### EYE CARE

Exposure to pollutants present in the smog such as carbon monoxide, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide can cause itching, watering, unclear vision, redness, dry eyes and burning sensation. You are exposed to these harmful pollutants every time you step out of your home. Here are a few tips that can help you enjoy this festive season:

■ **Splash of cold water:** Always wash your eyes with cold water every time you are back from an outdoor site.

■ **Minimise outdoor exposure:** The protection you can give your eyes is from trying to reduce exposure to smog. The Government has issued advisory — avoid early morning outdoor walks as that is when smog exposure tends to peak. Protection from the eyewear like large size sunglasses is also not best suited, as the polluting fumes will find a way to get in your eyes.

■ **Cool down the inflammation:** Using traditional methods like placing cold cucumbers on your eyes, you can cool down the inflammation and relax. You can also use eye drops for lubrication as per recommendations from your doctor.

■ **Strict no to eye rubbing:** Don't rub your eyes if any tiny pollutants enter. Immediately wash it off with clean water.

■ **Have a healthy diet:** Eat healthy and include lots of carrots, almonds, green leafy vegetables, fish and berries in your diet. These are very beneficial for keeping the eyes healthy. Keeping yourself hydrated is of utmost significance. Do ensure that you keep yourself hydrated from water and non-caffeinated drinks.

■ **Blink blink:** While doing office work, regularly blink your eyes. This will help in lubricating them. Take regular breaks from your screen every 30-40 minutes. You can also close the windows of your vehicles when stuck in traffic to avoid direct exposure to the smog.

The writer is Dr Sandeep Bhatnagar, Global Technical Lead — Eye Health Asia, at Sightsavers

With so much sugar coming our way in beverages, sweets and chocolates, your teeth are going to bear the brunt of this excess and you shall be blamed if they decay due to carelessness. There is no doubt that sugars form the perfect medium for cavity-causing bacteria to grow which are then responsible for tooth sensitivity or pain. Good oral hygiene habits like immediate rinsing after sweets or brushing daily before going to bed can surely ensure prevention of cavities," opines Lt Gen (Rtd) Dr Vimal Arora, chief clinical officer, Clove Dental.

There are precautions that will take care of your teeth. "Ideally, we should avoid having sweets before going

### DENTAL CARE



to bed as the bacteria affect our teeth throughout the night and fasten the process of decay," says Dr Priyanka Mathur, Clove Dental. Hence, rinse your mouth immediately after snacking and meals to ensure that sweets do not get stuck in between your teeth. In case you feel, they do, chew a sugar-free gum.

Another solution is to brush

the teeth after grabbing that *laddoo*. Eating and drinking food with sugar weaken the enamel on your teeth. You should first rinse your mouth with luke-warm water after you have had a heavy dose of sugary intake. Wait for an hour and then brush your teeth. Allow your teeth to settle, otherwise you could do more damage than good.

Dentists also advise to eat milk products and chocolates instead of sticky sweets. "You can keep the stickiness in your teeth away by having your desserts before the meals," adds Dr Mathur. This will reduce the risk of sweets staying stuck to your teeth which causes cavities. Have cheese after meal as this reduces the chances of developing tooth decay.

## Treat that burn

Research suggests that women and children are more prone to burn injuries. Women usually wear loose fitting clothes such as sarees and *dupatta* which catch fire easily and make them susceptible to burn injuries. Children sustain burn injuries while bursting crackers-unsupervised. Even though Diwali is over they continue to burst left-overs. Careless handling of firecrackers leads to an increased incidence of injuries in their case. India registers about 7 lakh to 8 lakh burn admissions annually. When it comes to burns, prevention is certainly better than cure. There are few things that one can do to manage burn injuries:

■ **Minor burns sustained during cooking or from fireworks can be treated at home.** In such cases, the burnt part should be immediately placed under the tap water for 15 to 20 minutes.  
■ **Once it cools and the pain starts to subside,** the patient should consult a burn specialist who is mostly a plastic surgeon in India.  
■ **For major burns of larger proportions,** the burnt clothing is usually removed first and the patient is covered with a clean sheet and taken to the hospital. It is advised that no ointment or cream or



anything like toothpaste or ink be applied to the burnt area as it makes it difficult for the specialist to identify the depth of burns.

■ **The process of cleaning the wound can further damage the wound,** so it's important to seek treatment from a burn specialist, and if he/she is not available, then a general surgeon can provide the initial treatment.

— Dr Rajeev Ahuja senior consultant, plastic & cosmetic surgery, Sir Gangaram Hospital, Delhi

## DadiKaKehna

Those living in Delhi are constantly inhaling impure air due to vehicular pollution. But the air quality worsens from October end. A few simple home remedies can minimise the ill-effects, says ROSHANI DEVI



People wait for this Festival of Lights; there is an air of happiness and celebration. But there is a flip to it as well when it comes to breathing clean air. During this time several things combine together to make the air poisonous. But a few simple home remedies can help reduce the ill-effects. Here's how:

We all know the benefits of *neem* when it comes to treating skin problems, but did you know that the leaf can also be used to reduce the effects. Boil neem leaves in water. Take a bath with this. It will help to wash off the pollutants that stick to your skin and hair.

Though the leaf is bitter to taste, try eating four-five leaves daily after washing them properly.

*Tulsi* is another leaf that can come to your rescue. If

you don't have a plant, buy it today. It absorbs pollution. Also, drink 10 ml of *tulsi* juice.

Eat garlic and onions. You can cook your veggies with it to help you boost immunity.

Include ginger in your diet. Add grated ginger to your cup of tea or chew a fresh piece with a pinch of salt.

Eat plenty of citrus fruits like oranges. The Vitamin C not only helps boost immunity, it lessens the effects of air pollution as well.



## TIPTOP

After Jaipur and Ahmedabad, a team of experts has now reached the state of Madhya Pradesh to conform Zika cases. The team from the National Centre for Disease Control and the Emergency Medical Response has gone to the state following information about three persons being detected with the virus.

The virus is transmitted through the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. It causes fever, skin rashes, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain. The virus is harmful to pregnant women, as it can lead to microcephaly, a condition in which a baby's head is significantly smaller than expected, in newborn children. The symptoms are akin to that of dengue and it is a public health emergency.

Dr KK Aggarwal, president, HCFI, said: "Last year in May, the WHO con-

firmed the first three cases of laboratory-confirmed Zika virus infection in India from Ahmedabad in Gujarat. With other such similar cases, it seems Zika is now here to stay in India. A pregnant woman can pass Zika virus to her fetus. Infection during pregnancy can cause serious birth defects such as microcephaly and other congenital malformations, known as congenital Zika syndrome. Other complications include pre-term birth and miscarriage.

Pregnancy loss due to asymptomatic virus infection may be a common but under-recognised adverse outcome related to maternal virus infection."

The virus infection is also a trigger of Guillain-Barré syndrome, neuropathy and myelitis, particularly in adults and older children. The incubation period is three to 14 days.



## SLIMLINE

A drink containing a compound that makes tumour cells glow has helped surgeons in Britain to spot and safely remove brain cancer. The research was carried out with patients who had suspected glioma, the most common form of brain cancer. Treatment usually involves surgery to remove as much of the cancer as possible, but it can be challenging for surgeons to identify all of the cancer cells while avoiding healthy brain tissue.

The researchers used a compound called 5-aminolevulinic acid or 5-ALA, which glows pink when a light is shone on it. Before surgery, each patient was given a drink containing 5-ALA. Surgeons then used operating microscopes to help them look for fluorescent tissue while removing tumours from the patients' brains. The tissue they removed was sent to the pathology lab where scientists could confirm the accuracy of the surgeons' work.

## MYTHS ABOUT CONTACT LENS



SHASHWAT KEDIA busts myths associated with using contact lenses

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Contact lenses are great alternatives to regular eye glasses for correcting your vision problems. They are also ideal for patients with active lifestyles as they will not slip, fog or fall. But many avoid wearing them because they are of the many myths associated with wearing them. Here is the truth:

■ **Myth: The lenses will get lost behind your eye.**  
**Truth:** This will never happen as a thin membrane called conjunctiva covers your eyes, making it impossible for your contact lenses to get lost behind them.

■ **Myth: They can pop out of your eyes.**  
**Truth:** Modern contacts fit closer to your eyes, preventing them from falling out even during physical activities.



■ **Myth: They require too much maintenance.**  
**Truth:** One has to follow the easy instructions provided by the eye specialists to make sure they stay clean before one wears them.

■ **Myth: Contact lenses are uncomfortable to wear.**  
**Truth:** One might have to adjust to them at first, but they will get more comfortable over the time.

■ **Myth: They can get stuck inside your eyes.**  
**Truth:** The solution that comes with your contact lenses keeps them moist, preventing them from sticking onto your eyes. Following the simple instructions from the lens company can make your tasks smooth.

■ **Myth: Lenses can melt on your eyes.**  
**Truth:** Only high temperatures can melt the contact lenses, so they will not easily melt while you are wearing them. If you feel like your lenses are sticking to your eyes, all you need to do is to add more moisture.

■ **Myth: One should put in contacts after putting your makeup on.**  
**Truth:** It is always advised wearing contacts before you apply any makeup, oil, or primers. Your hands should also be clean before you use your contacts. When removing makeup, make sure you remove the lenses first.

The writer is Founder-CEO, Lensico

## STUDYCENTRE

The cerebellum of our brain that was once believed only limited to movement control has now been associated with playing a key role in higher functions like attention, thinking, planning and decision-making, researchers have found.

The cerebellum is like the person at the end of an assembly line, the researchers said, adding "it's where all your thoughts and actions get refined and quality controlled."

The findings led by researchers at Washington University in St. Louis showed that the sensory networks — vision, hearing and touch — are missing from cerebellum's functions.

Only 20 per cent of it is devoted to movement, roughly the same amount as in the cerebral cortex — the crumpled outer layer of the brain, the remaining 80 per cent is occupied by networks involved in higher-order cognition.

These include the attention network; the default network, which has to do with daydreaming, recalling memories and just idly thinking; and two networks that oversee executive functions such as decision-making and planning.

For the study, published in the journal *Neuron*, the team had access to more than 10 hours of scans on each of 10 people and used the cortex's networks as a template to identify the networks in the cerebellum.

— IANS

# At least six killed in Kabul suicide attack

**Kabul:** Six people were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up in Kabul on Monday, close to where scores of Afghans had been protesting against Taliban attacks on the minority Hazara ethnic group. The attack is the latest in a wave of violence across war-torn Afghanistan as the Taliban intensify pressure on beleaguered Government security forces, which are suffering record high casualties. Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said 20 were wounded in the blast, which struck in front of a high school in the downtown area of the Afghan capital. Initial reports indicated most of the victims were members of the security forces, but Danish said civilians, including several women, had borne the

# Trump largely alone as world leaders take aim at nationalism

**AP ■ PARIS**  
For President Donald Trump in Paris, America First meant largely America alone. At a weekend commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, the president who proudly declares himself a "nationalist" stood apart, even on a continent where his brand of populism is on the rise. He began his visit with a tweet slamming the French president's call for a European defense force, arrived at events alone and spent much of his trip out of sight in the American ambassadors' residence in central Paris. On Sunday, he listened as he was lectured on the dangers of nationalist isolation, and then he headed home just as the inaugural Paris Peace Summit was getting underway. Back at the White House on Monday, Trump tweeted that "much was accomplished" in his meetings, but voiced a familiar complaint about America's allies. He said the US pays billions "protecting other countries, and we get nothing but Trade Deficits and Losses." He added: "It is time that these very rich countries either pay the United States for its great military protection, or protect themselves." His France trip made clear that, nearly two years after taking office, Trump has dramatically upended decades of American foreign policy posture, shaking allies. That includes French President Emmanuel Macron, who on Sunday warned that the "ancient demons" that caused World War I and millions of deaths were once again making headway. Macron, who has been urging a re-embrace of multi-

# Lankan parties move SC against Parl dissolution

**Colombo:** Sri Lanka's major political parties and an election commission member on Monday dragged President Maithripala Sirisena to the Supreme Court, challenging his controversial move of dissolving Parliament, almost 20 months before its term was to end. Sirisena dissolved Parliament on November 9 and announced snap polls to be held on January 5 next year after it became evident that he did not have enough support in the House to prove the premiership of 72-year-old Mahinda Rajapaksa, whom he has appointed PM after abruptly sacking Ranil Wickremesinghe on October 26. Rajapaksa needed the support of minimum 113 parliamentarians in the 225-member House to prove his majority. Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP), the main opposition Tamil National Alliance (TNA) and the leftist JVP or the People's Liberation Front (PLF) were among the 10 groups that filed the fundamental rights petitions in the apex court, seeking declaration of the president's action as illegal, officials said. The petitioners also include Election Commission member Prof Ratnajeewan Hoole. The Supreme Court adjourned till Tuesday morning the hearing of the petitions. The petitions were taken up for hearing before a three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Nalin Perera, Justices Prasanna Jayawardane and Priyantha Jayawardane. **PTI**

# Grim search for more fire victims; 31 dead across California

**AP ■ PARADISE**  
As wildfires raged at both ends of California, officials released another grim statistic: six more dead in a swath of Northern California wiped out by fire, raising the death toll there to 29. It matched California's record for deaths in a single fire and brought the statewide total to 31. Another 228 remain unaccounted for as crews stepped up the search for bodies and missing people. Two people were killed in a wildfire in Southern California. Ten search teams were working in Paradise — a town of 27,000 that was largely incinerated last week — and in surrounding communities in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Authorities called in a DNA lab and teams of anthropologists to help identify victims. Statewide, 1,50,000 remained displaced as more than 8,000 fire crews battled wildfires that have scorched 400 square miles with out-of-state crews continuing to arrive. Whipping winds and tinder-dry conditions threaten more areas through the rest of the week, fire officials warned. "This is truly a tragedy that all Californians can understand and respond to," Gov. Jerry Brown said at a press briefing. "It's a time to pull together and work through these tragedies." Brown, who has declared a state emergency, said California is requesting aid from the Trump administration. **PTI**

# GLOBE TROTTING

**DUTCH EMBASSY IN PAK DENIES ITS CLOSURE**  
**Islamabad:** The Dutch embassy in Pakistan on Monday rejected the reports of its closure over security concerns after the Netherlands gave shelter to the lawyer of Christian woman Aasia Bibi who was recently acquitted of blasphemy charges.

**ROCKETS FIRED FROM GAZA TOWARD ISRAEL**  
**Gaza City:** A number of rockets were launched from the Gaza Strip toward Israel on Monday, while Israel's army said an Israeli bus was hit by fire from the Palestinian enclave.

**175 DEAD BY NIGERIA CHOLERA OUTBREAK**  
**Lagos:** Suspected cholera cases have jumped in northeast Nigeria where Boko Haram violence has forced tens of thousands of people to seek refuge in crowded camps, the Norwegian Refugee Council said on Monday.

**POLLUTION MAY UP HEART, LUNG DISEASE RISK**  
**Washington:** Exposure to certain air pollutants may increase emergency department (ED) visits for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, a study has found.

**B'DESH POLLS PUSHED BACK TO DEC 30**  
**Dhaka:** Bangladesh poll authority on Monday deferred the date for next month's general elections by a week to December 30, a day after the country's main Opposition alliance demanded delaying the polls by a month to allow them to prepare for the poll.

**MINISTER: REPORTS OF AASIA LEAVING PAK 'FAKE'**  
**Lahore:** The Pakistan Government on Monday rejected the reports claiming Aasia Bibi has fled abroad, saying the images on the social media showing the recently-acquitted Christian woman being greeted overseas are "fake".

**TULSI PLANS TO RUN FOR US PRESIDENCY IN 2020**  
**Washington:** Tulsi Gabbard, the first Hindu lawmaker from Hawaii in the US Congress, is considering to run for American presidency in 2020, according to sources close to her.

**NEPAL NAMES EX-LAW MIN AS ENVOY TO INDIA**  
**Kathmandu:** The Nepal Government on Monday nominated former law minister and senior politician Nilambar Acharya as ambassador to India.

# Saudi urges to cut oil production to 1 mn barrels/day

**Cairo:** Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Khaled al-Falih on Monday said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies have agreed to reduce oil supply by 2019 to some 1 million barrels per day. Al-Falih, who made his remarks at the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), pointed out that the technical analysis reviewed on Sunday showed the reduction was required to rebalance the market, Efe news reported. The Saudi Energy Ministry said on Sunday that Al-Falih appreciated the cooperation of all

producers to ensure the "stability of the markets" and that there were "sufficient supplies". For his part, Suhail bin Mohammed Faraj Faris Al Mazrouei, the UAE Energy Minister and President of the OPEC Conference in 2018 — said the member countries of OPEC, mainly the UAE and Saudi Arabia, were prepared to meet the needs of the world crude market in case of a fall in supply for political reasons. The OPEC previously pointed to rising oil prices, while the experts of the organization pointed to geopolitical tensions, in reference to sanctions imposed by the US on Iranian crude since November 5. **IANS**



# In China's Himalayas, a wine 'flying above the clouds'

**Adong:** A \$300 bottle of wine sold in the US and Europe is made in the unlikelyst of places: at the foot of the Himalayas in China, where farmers sing traditional songs while picking grapes. A stone's throw away from Tibet, Ao Yun's vineyards are located beneath the sacred Meili mountain at altitudes ranging up from 2,200 metres in the southwestern province of Yunnan. Wine consumption is soaring in China, it is not known as major producer, but French luxury giant Moet Hennessy has bet on this remote location to show Asian country can produce first-class bottle of red. It took four years to find ideal spot in vast country and result was Ao Yun, Chinese for "flying above the clouds", which debuted in 2013. "The place is magical, it has this wild side," Maxence Dulou, Ao Yun's estate manager, said as he carefully inspected grapes at one of vineyards. Dulou said he had "dreamed" of discovering a great "terroir" — the unique French term for the ground and climatic conditions in which grapes are grown — in China since his university days. The company wanted to show that a great wine could be made in China, where even local consumers trust French wines more than homegrown products, he said. **AFP**

# China displays J-20 jet's missiles for the first time at airshow: Report

**Shanghai:** China has shown the missiles in its advanced J-20 stealth fighter jet to the public for the first time at its largest airshow, the Global Times newspaper reported. The newspaper said two J-20 fighter jets opened their missile bay doors during a fly-past on Monday, revealing that each jet had four missiles in its fuselage and one on either side of the aircraft. Citing Chinese experts, the newspaper said the demonstration, which came on the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Air Force, displayed the J-20's superiority to the top US fighter jets, the F-22 and F-35, as well as the PLA's growing confidence. It also quoted military expert Song Zhongping as saying the four missiles in the J-20's fuselage were long-range air-to-air missiles, while the two on the sides were short-range combat missiles meant for aerial combat. **Agencies**

# 69% Pakistanis between ages 15 to 65 don't know what Internet is: Survey

**Islamabad:** Around 69 per cent Pakistanis between the ages of 15 and 65 do not know what the internet is, an information communication technology (ICT)-based survey has revealed. The survey was conducted by LinreAsia, a think-tank based in Sri Lanka that carries out ICT research, Dawn news reported on Monday. The report is based on a survey of 2,000 households in Pakistan. LimeAsia claims that the sampling methodology was designed to ensure representation of 98 per cent target population aged 15 to 65 at a national level. Conducted between October-December 2017, this demand side survey helps understand how users use or do not use ICT services. "The 152 million active cellular subscribers mentioned on Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) website, despite a good SIM registration system, tell nothing about the subscribers — whether they are men and women, rich or poor and does not really help understand access and usage gaps," LinreAsia CEO Helani Galpaya said in the report. The study points out that lack of internet awareness is a considerable problem across Asian countries, including Pakistan, where just 30 per cent of the population in the age group of 15-65 is aware of the internet (they were asked if they use the 'internet' without explaining what it is). **IANS**

**Govt. of Bihar**

**BIHAR STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.**  
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Telephone No. 0612-2281857, 2281856 Fax No. 0612-2281857  
Email: sujeet.kumar@bihar.gov.in

Tender/NIT No. BSEDC/ 7568 /18 Dated- 03 /11/2018

**e-Tender Notice**

**Selection of System Integrator for Procurement, Implementation & Support of Human Resource Management System (HRMS) in Bihar**

e-Tenders are invited by Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd. for "Selection of System Integrator for Procurement, Implementation & Support of Human Resource Management System (HRMS) in Bihar" from the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) or their duly authorised Business partner (for participation in this particular tender). For further details the tender document with all timeline is available on the website: [www.eproc.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in). Last date of submission of bid is 03.12.2018 till 17:00 Hrs.

**Managing Director**

PR.11262 (Ni Ni) 2018-19 बेटी है एक वरदान। दहेज देकर मत करो अपमान।।

**SALE NOTICE**

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues, in the following matters.

S. no	Matter Name	Vehicle Make	Vehicle No	Manu Year	Reserve Price (Rs)	EMD Amount (Rs)
1.	ICICI Bank Ltd v/s Sathya Devendra in CS. No 457/18	HONDA AVIATOR 110	DL8S BZ1497	2016	30000/-	3000/-
2.	ICICI Bank Ltd v/s Shabi Mohammad in CS. No 458/18	Yamaha FZ (FZS-F1)	DL3S DM1740	2016	40000/-	4000/-

**Date and Time of Auction:** 28.11.2018, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.  
**Venue:** ICICI Bank Limited, S-26, 27, 28, 2 nd floor, Veera Towers, Ground Floor, Green Park, Delhi - 110016  
**Contact person:** Mr. Ankit Dhapola, Mobile No: 9205390365.  
Terms of Sale.  
The particulars of the said assets specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. The interested participants/bidders are required to deposit EMD as mentioned above in favour of ICICI Bank Limited, Payable at Delhi.  
Successfully highest bidder shall have to deposit bid amount within 2 days from the auction date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT in favour of ICICI Bank Limited payable at Delhi.  
The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7, Rohini Sector-8, New Delhi-110085. for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicles.

**Press Notice**

**Notice Inviting Tender**

The Executive Engineer (Elect), North East & Shahdara/M- 251, 4th Floor, MSO Building, New Delhi invites on behalf of the President of India, online item rate tender from

A. Approved and eligible registered contractors in appropriate class of CPWD in "Composite" category **OR**

B. Those of appropriate list of MES, BSNL and other State Govt, Departments dealing with buildings and roads and other experienced contractors who satisfy the criteria of execution of similar works i.e. 03 No. works each value not less than 40% of estimated cost put to tender or 02 No. works each of value not less than 60% of estimated cost put to tender or 01 No. work of value not less than 80% of the estimated cost put to tender in the last 7 years Similar work is defined as S.I.T.C of Air Purifiers.

NIT No:- 127/EE (E)/PWD North East & Shahdara/2018-19. Name of work :- Providing Air Purifier in Judges Chambers at District Courts Karkardooma, Delhi, Estimated Cost:- Rs, 14,06,720/- Earnest Money Deposit:- Rs. 29,134/- . Period of Completion:- 02 Months Last time and date of submission of Bid: 16 -11- 2018 at 3.00 p.m.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://govtprocurementdelhi.gov.in> at I,D, No, 2018,PWD\_161812\_1

**VIDARBHA IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, NAGPUR.**  
(Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)

**DETAILED B-TENDER NOTICE NO. 04/GIDG/2018-19 (Second Time)**

**Main Portal: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>**

**Circle :- Bhandara Irrigation Circle, Bhandara**  
**Division :- Gondia Irrigation Division, Gondia**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Online electronic bids form for below mentioned work are invited by Gondia Irrigation Division, Gondia from competent and experienced Organization/ Institutions/Architect cum Project Managements Consultant registered in appropriate Department of Government of Maharashtra. Main Tender Documents are available for online bid preparation & Submission on above website from Dt. 13/11/2018 to Dt. 03/12/2018.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Earnest Money Deposit	Tender Fee	Class of Contractor	Time limit for completion
1	P.M.C service for Construction of Administrative Building for Water Resources Department at Civil Lines, Gondia (Maharashtra)	Rs.1,00,000/-	Rs.2000/- + 12% GST = Rs.2240/-	Organization / Institutions / Architect cum Project Managements / Consultant registered in appropriate Department of Government of Maharashtra.	Till the completion of the Project (Including Monsoon)

**E- Tender Period: - As per Online Key Dates**

- Additional details regarding 'e' tendering are available in Tender Document on above portal. If any assistance is required regarding e-Tendering (Upload & Download) Please contact NIC E-procurement Toll Free Ninber (24x7) 1800 3070 2232.
- All rights are reserved to reject any or all Main Tender documents without assigning any reason by the competent authority
- The changes If any will be uploaded on above website only.

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Gondia Irrigation Division,**  
**Gondia**

**DGIPR/2018-2019/4207**

**Govt. of Bihar**

**Department of Industries**  
**Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan, Patna**

**Tender Notice**

Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan, Dept Of Industries, Govt. of Bihar invites bid for supply of the tool kits for different handicrafts of Bihar under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicrafts scheme, Development Commissioner- Handicraft, Ministry of Textiles. Experienced and reputed suppliers/ authorized dealers/ registered firms can participate in the bid process for supply of the tool kits related to Applique/Kashida, Bamboo, Jute, Madhubani painting, Manjusha painting, Sikki art and craft, stone craft, Sujani, terracotta, Tikuli and wood craft of Bihar.

Description of Work	Cost of Bid Document	Important Dates
Supply of tool kits for various handicrafts of Bihar under the direct assistant to artisans.	Rs. 5,000/- in the form of DD in favour of "Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan" payable at Patna	Pre-bid meeting:11.00 am, 19 <sup>th</sup> November, 2018 Bid Submission:3.00 pm, 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 Bid Opening: 4.00 pm, 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018

The complete tender document containing eligibility criteria and other relevant information can be downloaded from the website <http://www.umsas.org.in>  
For further details please visit website [www.prdbihar.gov.in](http://www.prdbihar.gov.in)

**DIRECTOR, UMSAS**  
**Patliputra Industrial Area, Patna, Bihar**

PR.11126 (Ni.Ni) 2018-19  
अवैद्य शराब एवं मादक द्रव्य के सम्बंध में शिकायत टॉल फ्री नं. 18003456268 या 15545 पर करें।

**Trend Blazer**

**Anushka hopes to save tigers**

Actress **ANUSHKA SHARMA** has joined hands with Discovery channel to promote a global awareness movement to save tigers from extinction. She will soon be promoting *Project C.A.T. Conserving Acres for Tigers*, aimed at raising awareness on tiger habitats. Says she, "Tigers, the glorious wild cats, are in real danger of getting extinct and they need our help. As a large predator, tigers are an umbrella species and play a critical role in ensuring that the delicate ecological balance in the wild is maintained. The current situation is a sad reflection of us as human beings."



**'Manikarnika is a very special project for us. We've got tremendous positive feedback for our teaser's VFX. With the kind of passion and dedication our team is working towards the deadlines is heart-warming. We are very excited for the film's release.'**



**—Kangana Ranaut**



Actors **FARHAN AKHTAR** and **PRIYANKA CHOPRA**, who are in the capital to shoot for their next film *The Sky is Pink*, are battling the city's pollution levels with masks. Farhan uploaded a picture on Instagram in which both the actors are seen wearing anti-pollution masks. "Masking our emotions in the Delhi air. Priyanka Chopra, your pose is just," he captioned. Priyanka commented: "Arre Delhi... what has happened to you?" Priyanka shared a photograph of herself basking sun. "The sun and I.. Delhi here we go."

**Miley, Butler lose house in wildfire**

Hollywood celebrities **MILEY CYRUS** and **GERARD BUTLER** have completely lost their homes in the raging California wildfire, which has left filmmaker Guillermo del Toro's home partially damaged. Cyrus said, "Completely devastated by the fires affecting my community. I am one of the lucky ones. My animals and love of my life made it out safely and that's all that matters right now. My house no longer stands but the memories shared with family and friends stand strong. I am grateful for all I have left."

**POP OUT OF THE JEWEL BOX**

This wedding season, help a young couple set up a beautiful home instead. Here are a few ideas by TEAM VIVA

Wedding gifting in India has mostly been about ceremonial grandeur or scale. If it's not a piece of jewellery, then it has to be a fat ribbon-crust-ed gift cheque or an exotic vacation. Seldom do we realise that the couple intends to settle back into a normal life after the big day and could do much more with practical aids than having to think of a heirloom closet. A gift for a couple can be equally thoughtful, beautiful and no holds barred. Make sure that the gifts get out of the box and are used, touched and felt everyday.

If you do choose to gift jewellery, leave the traditional gold behind. Trust us it would only be transported to bank lockers and be taken out for other wedding soirees. Opt for a combination of coloured gems and diamonds that has a more cocktail feel. Gift a statement piece like a diamond earring with a square emerald stone or a floral design earring with a pearl and coloured stone that can be worn at any party.

If you must buy gold, opt for lighter designs that can be worn daily. Ear jackets, ear sliders, pendants, stackable bracelets, chokers and rings with coloured gems set in 18K gold make for beautiful gifts for the bride who will be the talk of the town much after the wedding day.

A young couple has to set up home after their marriage and decorative or special kitchenware are a priority for them. Present them with a silver plated and malachite stone tea set or a silver goblet that is equal parts ceremonial and attractive. These pieces can be passed down generations and become heritage pieces as well. Or opt for a Persian plate and saucer holder along with decorative plates and saucers or a cabinet wooden beer tray with beer



Wall plates by Fabuliv



Sterling silver goblets by ArgentOr

**IF YOU'RE FOCUSING ON THE GROOM, CEREMONIAL BUTTONS, CUFFLINKS, BOWS, SHOES OR AN ATTIRE LIKE A BANDHGALA WILL BE A GREAT PERSONALISED GIFT**



Pearl and diamond earrings by TBZ



Bow tie by House of Sunil Mehra

mugs, if you want to gift something casual.

An antique coffee bean churner or leather boxes can be great pieces for the den of the house. Imagine how thankful a coffee loving couple will be with a churner that can get them a freshly ground brew every morning. The boxes bring character with their textured feel.

If you want to focus on the groom, ceremonial buttons, cufflinks, bows, shoes or even an attire like a *bandhgala* will be a great personalised gift. Present him with an emerald green bow, in Italian cotton velvet, embellished with a crown figurative embroidery from a famed designer. The small piece can amp up the groom's outfit.

Step away from the vases and miniatures if you want to gift home decor. The latest trend in wall decor comprises decorative plates and dimensional wall art like wall sculptures, 3D wall art and wall panels. Use of dimensional art gives the decor space a layered look that feels more complete. Wood carvings or even raw pieces of metal can solve the purpose of expressing your design vision. For a piece to decorate a table surface, opt for beautifully painted plates.



**A wild wide world**

Artist **ROB** divulges the secrets from his imaginarium. By **ASMITA SARKAR**

A dinosaur out of automobile parts or a spatula for painting with a playing card, materials can be used in multiple ways only if we let our imagination soar.

Harun Robert or Rob, who used to host the famous do-it-yourself TV show M.A.D on POGO, is bringing a live art show *Imaginarium - It's a Wonderful World* that aims to teach children about the importance of going green and recycling everyday materials like bottles, packets and more for decorative or functional purposes.

A performer and art educator, he's worked with children for years and understands what makes them tick.

"Children are interested in spending time outdoors and working with materials. So we wanted to create a space for them to watch and be part of it. This is a dream project of mine. I realised there are no live art shows where they can come and experience and be part of something as spectacular as we are planning," he said.

He also sees himself as a non-preachy green warrior. "You have to treat kids like adults and every time you tell them that you have to recycle and pollution is a problem, they won't listen to you because they are there to have fun. So, I only encourage them to recycle and use the materials lying around. If a child understands the value in recycling, they will get joy in creating something and will value materials and that they are contributing to a bigger change. My goal and mission is to focus on recycling materials," he added.

But how does he make children listen to him? "There is no formula. Kids are the most challenging audience to please and also the most honest. They'll appreciate an idea if you do something great and if it's not well done, they don't care how long you spent on it, they will let you know. I keep in mind that I don't talk down to them. I try to teach in a fun way. I show them that I am a friend not an art teacher and am having fun creating things with trash, so you can have fun too. I don't direct them to do stuff," he said.

Robert is a trained artist who studied art, animation and filmmaking at National Institute of Design. But even before that, with his curious mind, he started picking up things to figure out what and how they are made. He spent hours wondering and converting discarded everyday materials to bring them to life. His most loved creation is a 20 feet dinosaur made with autorickshaw and scooter parts that was installed at NID, Ahmedabad. He is also proud of a mural with images of Mary Kom and Milkha Singh that he made on a flyover in Mumbai's Andheri to promote the motto he teaches children, to recycle and reuse. The most popular one though is a painting of Amitabh Bachchan that he made on his show for POGO.

**'You have to treat kids like adults and every time you tell them that pollution is a problem, they won't listen to you because they want to have fun. So, I encourage them to recycle and use waste materials'**

**EXTRAORDINARY TAKE**

Veteran actor **SANJAY KHAN** is ready to tell the world about his richly lived life



**'TV is making much more money than films these days. It has a greater reach. I have some exceptional stories for that. There is one on the British Raj. It's called the Beginning of an Empire'**

Veteran actor-filmmaker Sanjay Khan, popular for producing and acting in the television series *The Sword of Tipu Sultan*, says he is planning to make movies, but he also has some extraordinary stories that can be told on the small screen.

It was back in 1989 that a major fire accident took place on the set of *The Sword of Tipu Sultan*, based on the 18th century Mysore ruler. After surviving near fatal burns, years later Sanjay produced shows like *The Great Maratha* and *Jai Hanuman*.

"The last time I faced the camera was for...*Tipu Sultan*. I have been busy doing other things like building a five-star hotel in Bengaluru. We are planning several motion pictures now. Three or four pictures in the coming months," Sanjay said.

When asked him about the TV shows, he said, "TV is making much more money than films these days. TV has a greater reach. I have some extraordinary stories for that. There is one on the British Raj. It's called the *Beginning of an Empire*. I would like to make it a series of three or four seasons capturing the long duration of the British Raj in India."

He has historical stories on mind for the big screen as well. "There is one on a Brigadier, who died fighting for his country and I have another one on the 1965 war. I have always made stories that have a national appeal and are meaningful."

Sitting an example, he said, "When I made *Jai Hanuman*, I got great satisfaction. Hindu ladies said 'We are grateful to you sir for showing us the childhood of Hanuman.'"

But what about going beyond mythology and historical genres? "In the larger packaging of my work, there would be stories of romance, etc," he said.

He doesn't want to focus just on a love story.

"The value of love between a man and a woman is eroding. All kinds of things are happening. The mood of the world is different so, the best bet is catching historical and social-economic problems, which are perennial. Those are the problems that we can address," said Sanjay.

Talking about the content of films made by young Indian filmmakers, he shared: "I like some of them. Indian cinema is coming-of-age though the music is suffering. The lustre of music is gone. The technical quality has come up. Some very good films like *Dangal* have come out."

He is also interested in the digital medium.

"If there is an offer, subject or big companies come to me then I can talk to them," he said.

At the moment, he is focussing on promoting his new autobiography, *The Best Mistakes of My Life*, which takes the readers to his world of films, family, his near-death accident and more.

"I am happy that it has come out the way it has. I worked really hard on it. I had gone into my past and relived all those glorious times," said the actor in his 70s.

—IANS

**Bigger than Baahubali?**

The writer-director **SS RAJAMOULI** creates euphoria amongst fans by announcing his multi-starring next

There has been immense buzz ever since director **SS RAJAMOULI** has announced his next project. What makes the film more exciting is its massive star power with names like Young Tiger **NTR** and mega powerstar **Ram Charan**.

Creating euphoria amidst fans of Rajamouli, NTR and Ram Charan, the film was launched recently in the presence of industry bigwigs.

A special event was held on November 11 where Chiranjeevi, Prabhas, Rana and top directors from the industry were present.

Having the working title as *RRR*, the multilingual film is being touted as National Cinema's most ambitious project. The film makers are leaving no stone unturned to present a cinematic experience surpassing the grandeur of *SS Rajamouli's* last

outing *Baahubali: The Conclusion*.

Speaking about the same, producer **DVV Danayya** said, "It is a matter of honour to be producing probably the most awaited film of Indian cinema. This whole project is like a dream or maybe I can call it a dream come true. Working on a film with the combination of stars like **NTR**, **Ram Charan** and **Rajamouli** is something that is really exciting for me. There are already great expectations on the film with both the **Nandamuri** **Harikrishna** fans and



all movie goers expecting something out of the ordinary. I promise, I will make sure no stone is left unturned from my side in that regard. We will make no compromise on anything the team requires. This film will surely remain as the pride of Indian cinema. The shooting of the film will commence on November 19. The first schedule will contain **NTR** and **Ram Charan** shooting for a high octane action episode. We will soon make an announcement about the rest of the cast." The dialogues of the untitled

project are written by **Sai Madhav Burra** and **Madan Karky** and editing will be done by National Award-winning film editor **Sreekar Prasad**.

Rajamouli's next will also reunite the dream team that worked on *Baahubali* series with celebrated names like **Vijayendra Prasad**, who has penned the story, costume designer **Rama Rajamouli**, **VFX** Supervisor **V Srinivasa Mohan**, music composer **MM Keeravani**, production designer **Sabu Cyril** and cinematographer **KK Senthil Kumar**.

Presented by **D Parvathy**, the film will be made under **DVV Entertainment** banner. Rajamouli has worked on the film's screenplay as well.

*Baahubali: The Beginning* and *Baahubali: The Conclusion* had broken records to collectively earn more than ₹1,000 crores.

The Manipuri *Raas Lila* at the IIC Festival became the ultimate closure for a festival that celebrated the beauty and dynamic indigenous tapestry of the Northeastern states. The pristine sound of the instruments and the voice of the soloist became the invocation and the intonation for an evening of exquisite grace and divinity.

Lord Krishna dwells in those who believe in his presence. He embodies the supreme reality — the Brahma Tatwa, which is dense concentrated bliss, which is of the nature of the pure consciousness, which is without parallel or comparison and is totally free of time and space limitations.

**SACRED AND SUBLIME**

The recital opened with the *Basanta Varnam*, which describes the beauty of the *van* in *Sringara Raas*. Fluid movements and delicate flourishes echoed the trance that you could be drawn into. Haunting lyrics and peeling notes added to the evocation that stepped into the night.

The *Natya Shastra* states that *Sringara* has two varieties: union and separation. As the evening wore on, you sensed the articulation of an arduous theme that was deftly translated into dance. You also realised that an indigenous dance is able to educate both the connoisseurs and the uninitiated, making it a matter of edutainment. One wishes there was a commentary of the narrative to make the understanding of esoteric easier. The romantic verses of the narrative moved from physical yearning to spiritual elevation (masculine and feminine energies inherent in nature), the crux of the *bhakti* philosophy of those times and therein lay the power and the passion.

**SWAN-LIKE GRACE**

From the word go, the *Basanta Varnam* unravelled the epoch of the *sthai bhava* in which its soul depicts a bright attire; for whatever in this world is white, pure and beautiful is appreciated in terms of *sthai bhava*.

The second performance was the *Samode Damodar (Hari Riha)*, based on the first canto of Jaydev's *Geeta Govindam*. This gave way to the incantation of the Manipuri folk song — *Thoibi na Loi Karakpa* — a rendition that was a repos-

# KRISHNA'S LILA

The dancers performed with a swan-like grace and their floating movements evoked a celestial imagery. By UMA NAIR



itory of both resonance and heartfelt lyricism. The evening belonged to the finale, the heady *Basanta Raas* that celebrated the yearning as well as the union of Lord Krishna with Radha. You could watch the swan-like grace of the dancers, watch their floating movements as if on a cloud and imagine the setting — the glances where the eyelids are

IN RAAS LILA, THE FLUTE IS BOTH THE MELODY AND THE INSTRUMENT OF DIVINITY AND DELIGHT IN THE COALESCING OF DEEP LOVE. IF THE MELODY INVITES, IT ALSO ENCOURAGES US TO PARTAKE OF THE DIVINE PLAY IN FULL SPIRIT AND PURITY

not fully opened, the look of sweet surrender and serenity, perhaps tears of joy, in the alchemy of the moment which in the sacred texts is called *snigdha* (loving). It grows out of divine love.

**MUSIC OF THE GODS**

Lessons from the Puranas came through the exquisite evening. Watching

them sail through the sacred notes, you imagine that every human being is at once milkmaid and Krishna. We yearn for the music of the Gods and are also capable of creating the music. Lord Krishna is like a universal goalpost embodying infinity that inspires. Can we in this millennial world full of materialism attempt to walk in that direction?

Scholars state that in the *Raas Lila*, Lord Krishna makes music not for his pleasure but for the uplift of the milkmaids. The flute is both the melody and the instrument of divinity and delight in the coalescing of deep love. If the melody invites, it also encourages us to partake of the divine play in full spirit but with purity in our souls.

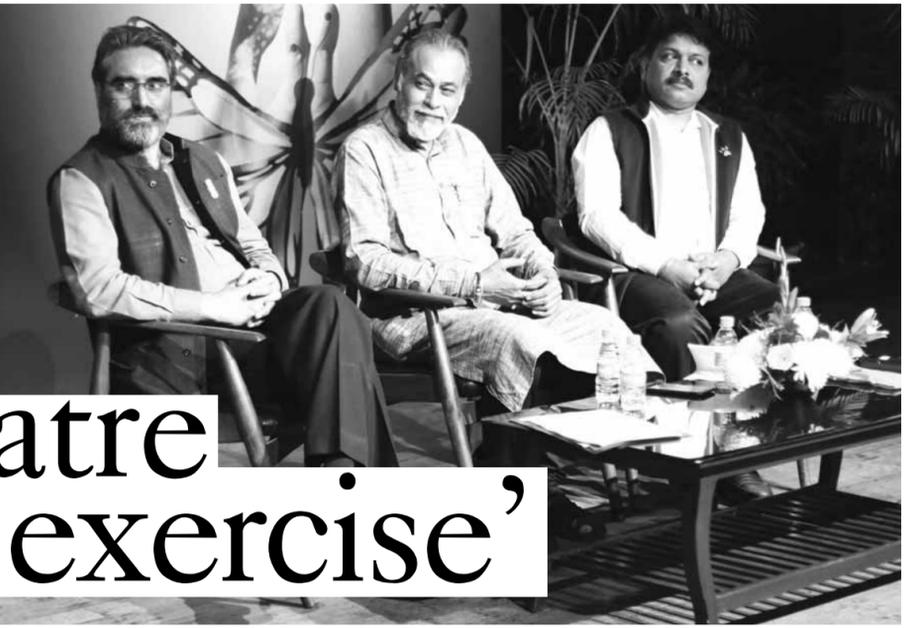
**KING BHAGYA CHANDRA**

The evening bore testimony to King Bhagya Chandra who composed three of these dances and created history. Rajarshi Bhagya Chandra, also known as Jai Singh Maharaj and Ningthou Ching-Thang Khomba, the 18th century monarch of the Meitei people who adopted Gaudiya Vaishnavism, recorded and systematised Manipuri dance, elaborating the basics of dance in the text *Govinda Sangeet Lila Vilasa*. He is credited with composing three forms of the *Raas Lila* — *Kunja Raas*, *Basanta Raas* and *Maha Raas*, which were staged during his reign at Imphal's Sri Sri Govindaji temple.

**SILENT BEAUTY**

The leitmotif of the evening lay in the distinctive *abhinay*, the expression that is exhibited through the movements of the body and the feet and the face is cloaked and clothed in serenity with a diaphanous veil. All feelings emanate from the movement of the limbs, at once smooth as satin and flowing like a river. *Shringar* or love then consists of *viyog* (separation) and *sambogh* (union). Graceful restraint and unparalleled fluidity strung an evening worth remembering. The nodes of India's heritage lie in its indigenous arts and it needs to be supported, nurtured and cherished for the ages. For the North Eastern Council and the IIC, this was an epic statement. (The writer is an art critic.)

As NSD launches its 14th edition of *Jashn-e-bachpan: International Children's Theatre Festival*, chief ABDUL LATIF KHATANA and director SURESH SHARMA talk about inclusivity. By TEAM VIVA



# 'Theatre is an exercise'

Learning isn't just confined to schools and classrooms anymore. And at a time of digital detoxification, engagement with culture and arts is a sureshot way of nurturing the creative potential of the next generation. *Jashn-e-Bachpan*, a nine-day theatre festival for children, brings in plays from various regions and languages under one roof, featuring some of the most eminent and emerging theatre directors and groups working with and for the children.

As the festival features more than 500 participants this time, director of National School of Drama, Suresh Sharma, felt, "It is one of the greatest achievements and accomplishments this year as the entries escalated to more than 200 groups. With a total of 221 entries, 24 groups have been selected."

The entries have come from various states like Maharashtra, Assam, Rajasthan, Gujarat, New Delhi, West Bengal, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura. The plays will be performed in a range of languages like Assamese, Marathi, Bengali, and Malayalam besides English and Hindi. Sharma lauded Ram Gopal Bajaj, who is responsible for all such festivals including this one, Bal Sangam and Bharat Rang Mahotsav.

As the festival is a part of Rang Sanskar Toli, an initiative by the Theatre-In-Education (TIE) Company, its chief Abdul Latif Khatana said that initially, it only aimed to attract more and more children to theatre. But "it has become an institution" that aims to teach children outside the conventional school classrooms. The *tolis*, through theatre, highlights various social issues that are crucial for children to know at a tender age, believes Khatana. He added, "Theatre is an exercise — physical, mental, emotional and social — that makes people capable of handling emotions as well as look at the world through a completely different perspective as it exposes them to a society that teaches through experiences."

He reveals that many children from NGOs from around the country have also been considered to participate as they are "the unrecognised sections of the society who aren't much privileged of many such opportunities."

However, the question arises, what kind of an audience does it cater to? "It is a festival that not only acts or shows but also educates both the viewer and the actor. It is a dramatic representation of childhood, which if talking about a certain issue in the society or a background, addresses all

**'The idea behind the initiative is to celebrate childhood and hence children from even the underprivileged sections of Delhi-NCR have been invited to attend. It also aims to bring theatre into prominence as it has lost its sheen in the modern era due to technology and digital media'**

kinds of families and their backgrounds — upper, middle and backward class. Because that is how they will relate to and understand whatever they are displaying."

The plays, hence, are divided into four categories — performance by children, by adults and children, by adults for children, and puppet performances.

While various Indian states will be a part of the festival, participants from three countries — Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Switzerland — will also be performing.

Sharma shared his vision, "The idea behind the initiative is to celebrate childhood and hence children from even the underprivileged section of the society from Delhi-NCR have been invited to attend. It also aims to bring theatre into prominence as it has lost its sheen in the modern era due to technology and digital media. None of the schools has theatre as a mandatory subject, hence they are not much aware of theatre these days. They watch films on cinema and mobile phones, but hardly take interest in drama."

(The festival begins from November 17 to 25 at the Sammukh, Abhimanch, Abhikalp, and the Little Theatre Group (LTG) Auditoria at National School of Drama.)

# Epitome of emotions

Artist DIMPY MENON showcases bronze sculptures in an acrobatic motion. Flight of fancy perhaps? By AVUSHI SHARMA

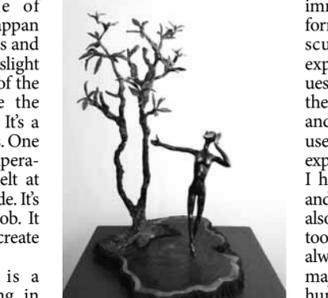
From emotions like joy to sorrow, aspiration to celebration, artist Dimpy Menon has tried to convey all aspects of humankind in her works. With her elongated, elegant human forms that are sculpted in an acrobatic motion, she said that she conceived them as lyrical. "I have given the title as *Breaking Bounds* because it is basically about breaking boundaries and pushing limits. The forms in my works are very acrobatic and there's a lot of movement in them. Although there has been a certain evolution over the years, the human form has remained central in all of my works," said the sculptor.

She added, "I have used the 5,000-year-old lost wax process which has prevailed from the time of Mohenjodaro and Harappan civilisation. With progress and change, there has been a slight change in the treatment of the material. But otherwise the method is exactly same. It's a long and gruelling process. One has to work at high temperatures. The metal will melt at about 900 degree centigrade. It's a very arduous kind of job. It took me six months to create these sculptures."

Lost-wax process is a method of metal casting in which a molten metal is poured into a mould that has been created by means of a wax model. After the removal of the mould, the resultant wax shell is filled with a heat-resistant mixture. Wax tubes, which provide ducts for pouring bronze during casting is fitted to the outside of the wax shell, which is then modelled by the artist. Next, the prepared wax shell is completely covered in layers of heat-resis-



Still on the wall



God's voice

outer plaster and core are removed and the bronze is given the final touches.

Irony is evident in her works as she has used a tough medium of bronze to create the sculptures that appear weightless and in flight. It kind of defies the gravity of law. The artist said, "It is difficult using something that is so heavy to symbolise and capture the essence of lightness. It's not an easy acceptance of the way I have used the material."

Dimpy seeks inspiration from life. She believes that the resilience of the human form, both in terms of spirit and body, is inspiring. She said, "If we set our minds on something it can easily be achieved. We are the epitome of creation. And as I'm a figurative artist, I really like how the

audience can effortlessly and immediately relate to a human form. That is the reason my sculptures are loaded with expressions and with great values of humans. With each work there is a different emotion and different content. I have used it, as one uses language to express oneself. It's the form that I have very lovingly nurtured and broken my back over. I have also used a lot of other elements too but the crust of my work has always been the human form. It majorly revolves around the human form, the rest is all embellishments."

The curator and founder of Art Pilgrim, Gayatri Singh, said, "Dimpy has created the work that truly integrates with the space it is built for and hence it is for both homes and public spaces. Her sculptures depict emotions through action and body language. It is absolutely amazing how she manages to make a 100 kg bronze figure appear so light."

**WATCH OUT**



**Natya Vriksha** presents Geeta Chandran's *Swarna*, a solo classical dance performance to pay tribute to her Guru, late Swarna Saraswathy, showcasing salient elements of the Devadasi style of Thanjavoor Bharatanatyam that her teacher practised. **WHEN:** November 19 **TIME:** 7 pm **WHERE:** Kamani Auditorium, Copernicus Marg.

Vadehra Art Gallery presents *The Changing Mood of the Lotus Pond and Insignificant Incarnations*, a distinctive exhibition of paintings and drawings by A Ramachandran. It showcases the artist's visual language, exploring sensuous beauty of lotuses and nature. **WHEN:** November 13 to December 22 **TIME:** 11 am to 8 pm **WHERE:** Vadehra Art gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam.

Directed by Song Seung-hwan, the non-verbal comic musical play, *Cookin Nanta* comically portrays episodes in a kitchen of a restaurant while using Korean traditional rhythm with contemporary music. **TIME:** 2 pm and 7 pm **WHEN:** November 13 **WHERE:** Siri Fort Auditorium.



*Slippery Memories: Unhinged Histories*, a series of digital art works by Masuram Ravikanth brings together elements of the modern world blended with local and personal history and memories. He cleverly positions himself into the archival photographs with his dotted geometric designs. **WHEN:** Till November 21 **WHEN:** 11 am to 8 pm **WHERE:** Digital Art Gallery.



Felicit Theatre presents magnum opus play, *Mahabharata*, written and directed by Puneet Issar. It is presented through the view point of Duryodhana and Karan and highlights the causes that led to the destructive war. **WHEN:** November 17 **TIME:** 4 pm and 7 pm **WHERE:** Siri Fort Auditorium.



# Juve keep flying high

Mandzukic and Ronaldo score either side of half-time while Higuain was sent off in Milan's loss

AFP ■ MILAN

Cristiano Ronaldo scored as Juventus bounced back from their midweek Champions League defeat by Manchester United with a 2-0 win over 10-man AC Milan in Serie A, as Gonzalo Higuain missed a penalty before being sent off for the hosts.

Mario Mandzukic headed in the opener in the eighth minute at the San Siro on Sunday with Ronaldo adding a second on 81 minutes as Juventus maintained their six-point cushion ahead of the international break.

It got the defending seven-time Serie A champions back on track after suffering their first defeat of the season by United following two late goals despite Ronaldo's stunning volley.

"Winning tonight was the only way to put aside what happened in the final five minutes of the Champions League game," said Juve coach Massimiliano Allegri.

"It was important to win without conceding a goal and to regain the six-point advantage over Napoli who are having an excellent championship."

A third loss of the campaign, however, saw AC Milan drop out of the Champions League places behind Lazio who moved back into fourth despite a 1-1 draw at Sassuolo.

Juventus have 34 points from 12 games -- six ahead of Carlo Ancelotti's Napoli with Inter a further three behind.

"I'm very happy, especially for the team, because playing away to Milan is always very difficult," said Ronaldo.

"It was important to win, because Napoli beat Genoa last night and we had to keep our distance."

Allegri's side rarely looked threatened by AC Milan with Mandzukic rising highest to nod in

an Alex Sandro cross to dampen spirits among the 75,000-capacity crowd at the San Siro.

The Croatian World Cup runner-up could have made it two shortly after, meeting a cross this time from Ronaldo but Milan skipper Alessio Romagnoli blocked.

Higuain returned from a back problem to face his parent club but it was to be a nightmare outing for the forward who had been loaned out to Milan last summer to make space for Ronaldo.

The Argentine missed a penalty awarded after Medhi Benatia handled in the area five minutes before the break with Juventus goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny tipping the ball onto the post.

Ronaldo tested Gianluigi Donnarumma in the AC Milan goal early in the second half before finally blasting in nine minutes from time for his first goal at the San Siro.

Minutes later Higuain saw red after shouting at the referee in frustration after a foul on Benatia, and was led off the pitch in tears.

"I told him not to exaggerate, to calm down and not to risk a major penalty," said Ronaldo of what he told Higuain on the pitch.

"He was nervous, he was losing, but we must not blame him, he didn't say anything."

"I know that we are an example for all children, for those who play football, for the people watching, but we are not robots, and we carry things within us," Higuain said after.

"We are human, we feel emotions, the game was not going the right way and it was one of those days."

"I think sometimes the referees should understand the situation," added Higuain, who won two Serie A titles with Juventus after joining from Napoli in 2016.



Cristiano Ronaldo controls the ball during a Serie A match against AC Milan AP

AFP ■ MADRID

Real Madrid director Emilio Butragueno has said the club are delighted with Santiago Solari's spell in charge after the team posted their fourth consecutive win by beating Celta Vigo on Sunday.

Madrid claimed a 4-2 victory at Balaidos and the expectation is Solari will now be given the job full-time, following a transformation in results.

Four victories during his tenure have brought 15 goals scored and just two conceded while Real have cut the gap behind Barcelona to four points in La Liga.

The win over Celta was the club's last fixture before Solari's two weeks as an interim coach ends during the international break.

"He has done excellently," Butragueno said on Sunday. "He arrived in a very particular moment and has achieved very good results, above all today against Celta in a very difficult game. We are very happy with how things have gone."

Butragueno would not confirm whether Solari's position would be made permanent but it is likely the Argentinian will remain in the post, at least until the end of the season.

"We will see," Solari said. "I usually don't plan too far ahead but in principle, it's my day off tomorrow."

"The important thing is to do everything for the good of the team and Real Madrid. Nothing else is important for me."

Madrid defender Alvaro Odriozola said the players are behind Solari.

"These things are decided by those at the top, we just have to work to get out of the crisis," Odriozola said.

# Solari leads Los Blancos to 4th win



Sergio Ramos after scoring the third goal against RC Celta Vigo AP

## SOLARI TO COACH REAL MADRID

Madrid: Real Madrid have submitted documentation to make Santiago Solari their first team coach on a permanent basis.

The former midfielder took over the club at the end of October, replacing Julen Lopetegui. Madrid have since won four games in a row under Solari and have now given him a permanent contract, which has been sent to the Spanish FA (RFEF).

Marca has confirmed the news after contacting the RFEF on Monday. Agencies

"We'll go to the death with him, he's a great coach and of course we want him to continue."

Madrid dominated a chaotic match against Celta that featured three goals and a red card in the final 10 minutes.

Karim Benzema scored a brilliant opener before instigating a second, his shot cannoning in off Gustavo Cabral.

Hugo Mallo pulled one back for the hosts in the second half but Sergio Ramos chipped in a late penalty to put the result beyond doubt and Cabral was sent off for receiving a second yellow card. Dani Ceballos' stunning effort made it four, with Brais Mendez adding a late Celta consolation.

"The team showed a lot of personality to come through all the circumstances of the game," Solari said.

Madrid suffered a spate of injuries as Casemiro, Sergio Reguilon and Nacho were all forced off. Gareth Bale took a knock to his left ankle in the first half but was able to continue.

"Gareth made a massive effort, his ankle was very swollen," Solari said. "Celta played very aggressively, on the edge of the rules."

## SINGLES

### CHHETRI OUT OF JORDAN FRIENDLY

**NEW DELHI:** India's star striker Sunil Chhetri will miss the upcoming international friendly against Jordan due to an ankle injury that has ruled him out for at least two weeks. Chhetri suffered the injury during Bengaluru's Hero ISL match against Kerala Blasters on November 5. "The BFC Medical Team have shared the MRI reports and medical assessments and we have scrutinised them thoroughly. Sunil needs rest of around two weeks and proper rehabilitation after which he can get back to training," said Indian team's physiotherapist Gigy George. The match against Jordan is slated to be played at the King Abdullah II Stadium in Amman on November 17. The Indian will depart for the game on November 15.

### EVES FACE MYANMAR IN OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

**YANGON:** India will have their task cut out when they face hosts Myanmar in their third and final match of the 2020 AFC Women's Olympic Qualifiers here on Tuesday. Coach Maymol Rocky's charges will have momentum on their side as they go into the match on the back of a stunning 7-1 win against Bangladesh. After playing out a 1-1 draw in their opener against Nepal, the Indian women responded with a resounding victory in their second game, with Bala Devi getting on the scoresheet four times and Kamala Devi scoring twice. India have four points from two matches, the same as Myanmar who won their first match by a 5-0 margin against Bangladesh and followed it up with a surprising 1-1 draw against Nepal on Sunday.

### HARIKA BOWS OUT OF WORLD C'SHIP

**KHANTY MANSIYSK:** Indian challenge ended at the World Women Chess Championship with grandmaster D Harika bowing out following a defeat against former champion Alexandra Kosteniuk of Russia in the second set of tie-break games here. Harika had carried the Indian hopes nicely till the tie-breaker of the third round. However, she got a jolt in the first game of the rapid tie-break where both players had 25 minutes on their clock. The Indian looked down and out but a major comeback was on the cards as she won the return game with white pieces to level scores. But in the 10-minute games, Harika again lost the first game with black on Sunday.

### LAHIRI LOGS TOP-10 AT MEXICO

**PLAYA DEL CARMEN:** Anirban Lahiri secured his first Top-10 finish since the first week of August after carding a three-under 68 on the final day of the Mayakoba Golf Classic here on Monday. Lahiri, who once again was off to a brilliant start on the front nine with four birdies against no bogeys - he had five on the front stretch on the third day, aggregated 16-under 268 to finish T-10th. Lahiri's last Top-10 finish was at the WGC-Bridgestone where he signed off at Tied-6th place. In the six starts in between those two Top-10s, Lahiri had four missed cuts and a best finish of T-63 at CIMB Classic. "It was some relief, though it could have been much better," said Lahiri, who is now due to play for India at the World Cup in Melbourne alongside his teammate Gaganjeet Bhullar.

### EAST BENGAL HOST CHENNAI IN I LEAGUE

**KOLKATA:** On a high after two successive away wins, East Bengal will look to begin their home campaign on a rousing note when they face Chennai City in a top-of-the-table I-League clash here on Tuesday. Eyeing an elusive I-League title, East Bengal began their campaign with wins against Neroca FC and Shillong Lajong in the hills and, before playing their first home game of the season at the Salt Lake Stadium. Chennai City, who have played one match extra, have two wins against Indian Arrows and Gokulam Kerala and were held by Churchill Brothers. The last meeting between the two teams at this ground, nine months ago, resulted in a disaster for Chennai City with East Bengal pumping in seven goals. Agencies

# Cavani's hat-trick adds to Henry woes

AFP ■ MONACO

Thierry Henry's disastrous start as coach of Monaco continued on Sunday as Edinson Cavani's VAR-assisted hat-trick helped Paris Saint-Germain to an easy 4-0 win in the principality that saw them extend their perfect record in Ligue 1 this season.

Neymar netted a penalty to complete PSG's victory, as they made it 13 wins from 13 league games under Thomas Tuchel, further stretching their start to the season that is a record in France and in Europe's so-called big five leagues.

They go 13 points clear of second-placed Lille at the Ligue 1 summit, the club who have been their main challengers in recent seasons continued their deeply worrying slump, with Henry again left to look on helplessly from the touchline.

Champions in 2017, Monaco are in the relegation zone and five points away from outright safety having failed to win in six matches in all competitions since the Arsenal and France great took charge.

They have now gone 16 games with-



Kylian Mbappe, center, battles for the ball with Benjamin Henrichs during Ligue 1 at Stade Louis II AP

out a win altogether, with this result following a 4-0 home reverse against Club Brugge which knocked them out of the Champions League.

Monaco are on their worst run in

France's top flight in 32 years.

"We are playing for survival, nothing else," said Henry, who has picked up a squad cursed by injuries.

Here he was missing a dozen players

NEYMAR NETTED A PENALTY TO COMPLETE PSG'S VICTORY, AS THEY MADE IT 13 WINS FROM 13 LEAGUE GAMES UNDER THOMAS TUCHEL

due either to injury or suspension at kick-off, while both Belgian international Nacer Chadli and his replacement Jordi Mboula had to come off hurt.

"We lost two more players tonight, so it is starting to become a lot," he said, adding: "I am staying positive because even with all that we managed to create chances against PSG."

PSG went ahead in the fourth minute when Neymar drove the ball across goal

for Cavani to convert.

The goal was initially disallowed before being given by the Video Assistant Referee, and the same thing happened in the 11th minute when Cavani turned the ball in again after the flag was wrongly raised for an offside against Moussa Diaby.

In contrast to those two goals, a fine Julian Draxler finish in first-half stoppage time was initially given before being disallowed on review.

However, Diaby squared for Cavani to complete his hat-trick in the 54th minute, and Neymar then rolled in a penalty after Kylian Mbappe had been fouled by France teammate Djibril Sidibe.

"I am very satisfied with the result, and with the fact we showed the hunger to win a 13th straight game. That is extraordinary," said Tuchel.

"Monaco and Henry are in a very difficult situation with lots of players out injured. This wasn't the night for Monaco to challenge us. They can do that if they have all their players back but not today."

# Sindhu sets eyes on Hong Kong title



PV Sindhu prepares to return a shot BWF

PTI ■ KOWLOON

PV Sindhu will look to continue her consistent run when she spearheads the Indian challenge at the Hong Kong World Tour Super 500 tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Sindhu finished second best in the last edition after her gallant fight ended in agony against world No 1 Tai Tzu Ying and the Indian will have to once again bring her best to the fore to salvage any hopes of making the podium again in a tough field.

Sindhu begins her campaign against Thailand's Nitchanon Jindapol and is likely to face China's He Bingjiao in the quarterfinals, an opponent who has defeated her thrice this year.

Saina Nehwal, who claimed a second Commonwealth Games Gold and a Bronze at the Asian Games this season, will have a tough task at hand when she faces the formidable Akane Yamaguchi, the second seeded Japanese.

In the men's singles, Kidambi Srikanth will face Hong Kong's Wong Wing Ki Vincent in the opener and might face compatriot HS Prannoy in the second round if he crosses the opening hurdle.

Prannoy opens his campaign against Denmark's Anders Antonsen, an opponent he had defeated at the Japan Open last year in their only meeting.

Also in action will be Sameer Verma, who won the Swiss Open and Hyderabad Open this season. The 24-year-old will take on Thailand's Suppanyu Avihingsanon in the first round.

B Sai Praneeth, who won the Singapore Open last year, will also face a Thai player in Khosit Phetpradab in the opening round.

The men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, who reached the semifinals at the French Open, will have to fight it out against former world No 1 and London Olympic Silver medallist combination of Mathias Boe and Carsten Mogensen of Denmark.

Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy will take on Thailand pair of Bodin Isara and Manepong Jongjit in the opener.

In women's doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy will square off against the second seeded Japanese pair of Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi in the opening round.

Ashwini will also pair up with Satwik to take on Wang Chi-Lin and Lee Chia Hsin in mixed doubles.

# Federer crashes to Nishikori in opener

AFP ■ LONDON

Roger Federer suffered a shock straight-sets defeat to Kei Nishikori at the ATP Finals, severely denting his bid for the 100th title of his illustrious career.

The Swiss, who has won the season-ending event a record six times, produced an uncharacteristically error-prone and fractious display in the round-robin match on Sunday as the Japanese seventh seed prevailed 7-6 (7/4) 6-3.

The result means Federer is now in danger of failing to qualify for the semi-finals for just the second time in 16 appearances at the event.

"I felt we both struggled, you know, throughout the first set," he said.

"You could tell it was sort of a first round. I had my chances maybe a bit more than he did."



Kei Nishikori reacts after winning AP

"Then I started to feel better in the second set. I think we both did. The level went up. Unfortunately I couldn't keep the lead that I got early. That was important, I think, at the end. That was the key of the match."

Federer, 37, has beaten Nishikori in Shanghai and Paris

in recent weeks but despite having the backing of a full house at the O2 Arena, he never really settled into a groove.

The normally cool Swiss was warned by the umpire for ball abuse in the 12th game after Nishikori produced a staggering backhand winner down the line.

The Swiss great made 20 unforced errors in the first set and Nishikori capitalised, forcing a tie-break in which he raced to a 6/1 lead before sealing it 7/4.

Federer, showing real urgency, broke Nishikori immediately at the start of the second set but it proved a false dawn as he lost his own serve immediately Nishikori broke again in the sixth game and kept his nerve, serving out for victory.

"I lost to him twice in the last two months so I played more aggressively and things started working, especially in the second set. There were some lucky points but I played well today," said Nishikori.

Overall the statistics made grim reading for Federer, who made a total of 34 unforced errors against 19 winners.

Federer denied that cutting back on his schedule increased the pressure on him to do well at the tournaments he did play. "I don't think, per se, I'm playing worse because of it," he said. "I think I've had that pressure, not going out early, most of my career."

The ATP Finals is contested by the eight players who have accumulated the most ranking points over the season separated into two groups, with the best four players reaching the knock-out semi-finals stage.

# Hamilton wins in Brazil, Mercedes take constructors



AFP ■ SAO PAULO

New five-time world champion Lewis Hamilton steered his Mercedes to a nail-biting victory in Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix, a triumph that clinched the constructors championship for a fifth consecutive season for the team.

The 33-year-old Briton took advantage of a collision that cost Max Verstappen the lead in the closing stages to regain the initiative and then hang on with worn

tyres as the Red Bull came home second.

Kimi Raikkonen finished third on his 150th start for Ferrari ahead of Daniel Ricciardo in the second Red Bull, Valtteri Bottas in the second Mercedes and Sebastian Vettel who came home sixth for Ferrari.

The result ended Ferrari's hopes of stopping Mercedes' title triumph, brought Hamilton his tenth win of the year and 72nd of his career.

It was also the first time he had

won a late-season race after winning the drivers' title.

Charles Leclerc finished seventh for Sauber ahead of the two Haas cars driven by Romain Grosjean and Kevin Magnussen with Sergio Perez 10th for Force India.

Hamilton said: "It was an honour to drive for them (Mercedes) today. I saw it happen. I wasn't surprised by it. I saw them racing and they weren't racing for the same position."

# Australia 'different ball game': Rohit

Limited overs deputy believes even without Smith & Warner winning first Test series in Australia will be a tough challenge

AFP ■ CHENNAI

Batsman Rohit Sharma said India were brimming with confidence after their crushing home victories over the West Indies -- but warned that winning their first Test series in Australia was a challenge of a different order.

India completed a 3-0 Twenty20 series sweep over the West Indies on Sunday, to add to their 2-0 Test whitewash and 3-1 victory in the ODIs, extending their dominating home form.

But Sharma said an away series against old rivals Australia, even without their batsmen Steve Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft, who are banned for ball-tampering, would be a much sterner test.

"Australia is always challenging when it comes to going out there and performing. Every time you go there, you are tested as a player, as an individual and as a team as well," the veteran opener said after Sunday's win.

"I think we have got to be at our best and when you win a series like this (West Indies) and when you play like that in the tournament you are high on confidence. It's all about taking that confidence to Australia and doing what we did as a team."

India barely have time to catch their breath before heading on Friday to Australia, where the first of three T20 matches is in Brisbane on November 21. They will also play four Tests and three ODIs.

The world's number one Test side are only too aware that away from



Rohit Sharma plays a shot during his record fourth hundred run innings in second T20

## PREPARING FOR AUS TOUR BY WATCHING VIDEOS: SHAMI

**KOLKATA:** India pacer Mohammed Shami on Monday said he is preparing for the Australia series by watching videos of their opponents in order to get the line and length right. The Indian pace attack impressed in England but it's the batsmen who let them down to lose the series 1-4. "As a fast bowling unit, we did well in England. We are preparing for the Australia series and watching a lot of videos. The plan is to focus on the series as much as possible as the opponents are very strong. We will work on getting the line and length right," Shami told reporters here. Shami, who was part of the Test and ODI squads in their just concluded series against West Indies, was back home and visited the Eden Gardens on the sidelines

of Bengal's Ranji Trophy match against Madhya Pradesh. "We will always try to do our best. Winning or losing also depends on luck. We will give our 100 per cent," Shami said. According to reports, suspended duo of Steve Smith and David Warner may be reconsidered. "If those two don't play, they will obviously be weakened. But in the end, you have to stick to your plan and work on your strengths," Shami added. Asked if he's looking ahead to the World Cup next year, Bengal pacer Shami said: "It depends on who is fit and who is not during that time. My performance will be evaluated and I will expect to get a chance if I do well."

home, their form is fragile. They went down 2-1 in South Africa and then 4-1 in England this year.

Sharma said India must "start fresh" and forget about their recent wins if they are to take their home consistency to Australia.

"Australia will be a different ball game I completely understand. But I think the things that we have been doing as a team and as a player, we keep repeating it," he said.

"The best teams in the world keep repeating those performances. It will be important for us that we start fresh. Not think about what we have done in the past."

Sharma, the only batsman to hit four T20 centuries, is part of India's squad for the Tests which start in Adelaide on December 6 after being overlooked for the five-day games in England.

"I am someone who doesn't think too far ahead. So I am focusing on the T20 series first," said Sharma.

"Of course the Test match is something that I was looking forward for a long time and it will be nice to go out there and represent India in Tests, but we want to win the T20s first." He added: "The last time (2015-16) we played a T20 format in Australia we won 3-0."

## Finch warns faltering batsmen of shake-up

AFP ■ HOBART

Australia's one-day batsmen are under mounting pressure to keep their places after a lacklustre series defeat to South Africa, captain Aaron Finch warned on Monday, with a potential shake-up looming.

Finch admitted "we're all under pressure when we lose, no doubt about that" and hinted at changes ahead of their next series against India, ranked two in the world, in January.

"Between the batting line-up not having got it right for a little while now there's going to be questions asked whether it's Maxi, Lynny, Heady, or myself or Stoin," he said, referring to Glenn Maxwell, Chris Lynn, Travis Head and Marcus Stoinis.

"It's important that we really nut out the balance of the side and get that right over the next two months."

"We have to either adapt our game plan a little bit around the way the side structures up best or we slightly change our personnel to fit a style that we think can win."

Big-hitting Lynn was elevated to open the batting in Hobart in



Aaron Finch, right, returns to pavilion

a bid to get quick runs on the board, but it failed spectacularly when he was out first ball.

Despite this, Finch said the powerful right-hander, a prolific scorer in twenty20s, is likely to open again as Australia look for more aggression early in the innings.

"Yeah, it could be a long-term plan," he said.

"It was an attacking option to put Chris at the top, to change him and Travis (Head), to put a couple of guys up there who can get us off to a flyer. It was an attacking move."

"If I had my time again I'd still do it."

## Kuldeep reaches career-best T20 rankings

PTI ■ DUBAI

Indian chinaman Kuldeep Yadav, who played a key role in India's series win over West Indies, on Monday leapfrogged 14 places to a career-high 23rd in the latest ICC T20 rankings.

Yadav picked up five wickets in two matches at an economy-rate of 5.6 in India's home series 3-0 win over the current T20 champions.

Speedster Bhuvneshwar Kumar jumped nine places to break into the Top-20. He is placed at the 19th spot while Jasprit Bumrah gained five places to be world No 21.

Among the Indian batsmen, Rohit Sharma, who led India to the sweep, and opener Shikhar Dhawan made notable improvements.

Sharma (up by three places) is ranked seventh with Dhawan (up by five places) securing the 16th spot.

Pakistan and India retained their first and second place in the team rankings, collecting two and three points respectively. Pakistan moved to 138 points while India have 127 points.

There is no change in the top-four of the all-rounders' list with Australia's Glenn Maxwell leading the field. Mohammad Nabi is second, followed by Shakib Al Hasan and JP Duminy.

Meanwhile, Australia will be involved in all four remaining T20s later this month. They will play South Africa in a one-off match in Carrara on November 17, before taking on India in a three-match series from November 21-25.



## Ranji Trophy

### DALAL, SHOREY FIFTIES LIFT DELHI

**NEW DELHI:** Hiten Dalal scored a brisk 79 on debut before Himachal Pradesh fought back to reduce Delhi to 305 for eight at stumps on day one. Dhruv Shorey (88) too made a significant contribution but missed out on a hundred on a day when some questionable umpiring calls were made. Gautam Gambhir smashed 44 while Nitish Rana (6) could not do much on his captaincy debut. Dagar was the pick of the bowlers for Himachal Pradesh, taking three wickets for 57 runs in 21 overs while off-spinner Gurvinder Singh took two for 57 in 21 overs.

### GHOSH SLAMS TON ON COMEBACK

**KOLKATA:** Koushik Ghosh slammed his second first-class century in his comeback game, steering Bengal to 246/4 against Madhya Pradesh. Included in the side as an extra batsman, the left-hander repaid the faith in him with his 189-ball 100 (14x4). The 26-year-old, along with Abhimanyu Easwaran (86), stitched a 136-run partnership. But Madhya Pradesh ended the day on a positive note, picking two wickets — including Ghosh's — in two overs before bad light stopped play in 82 overs.

### REDDY'S HELPS HYD TAKE HONOURS

**TIRUNELVELI:** Skipper Akshath Reddy led from the front with a superb unbeaten 114 to help Hyderabad make 249 for 3 to take the honours on the opening day of the Elite Group 'B' match against Tamil Nadu. Akshath found an able partner in Himalay Agarwal (29). The two were involved in a half-century partnership to steady the Hyderabad innings. After Himalay's dismissal the big partnership of the day came as Akshath and B Sandeep (73 batting) joined forces.

### MILIND STARS FOR SIKKIM

**DIMAPUR:** Milind Kumar dished out an all-round show to guide Sikkim to 120 for 5 against Nagaland at stumps. Sikkim first bowler out Nagaland for 179 in 52.5 overs with Ishwar Choudhary (4/65), Bipul Sharma (3/46) and Milind (2/21) taking nine wickets among them. In reply, Sikkim had a jittery start with 9 for 2 in the fifth over. But former Delhi batsman Milind, continued his fine run, blasting an unbeaten 78 from 66 balls. Sikkim ended day one at 120/5, trailing Mizoram by 59 runs.

## Santner predicts high-scoring India-NZ series

PTI ■ MUMBAI

New Zealand's left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner believes the upcoming limited overs series in his home country against India could be a high-scoring affair due to the nature of grounds and wickets and hopes to be a part of it.

India, who last toured New Zealand in 2014-15, will return to Kiwiland for a five-match ODI rubber starting January 23 in Napier, to be followed by best-of-three T20 Internationals (T20Is).

"Both teams have changed a lot since then (the 2014 tour). India have performed in England and against (Australia) in conditions similar to New Zealand. It's (depends on) how quickly

they (India) can adapt to those conditions.

"If they can hit the ground running on those home conditions for us, it's going to make for a very interesting series. It can be a high-scoring series with the nature of grounds and wickets (on offer)," Santner said here on Monday.

Santner, along with compatriot Corey Anderson, spoke to reporters during a special interaction organised by Star Sports. "Virat (Kohli - the skipper) and other Indian batsmen are scoring a lot of runs at the moment and they haven't been to New Zealand for four years. But they have played all round the country and scored runs everywhere."

"So they will probably like

our conditions, where it's quite flat, with not a lot of turn. And obviously if there's not a lot of swing, it (series) can be high-scoring. So the batsmen will like it and hopefully the ball swings for us," added the 26-year-old spinner.

Santner also feels the two teams could take momentum from the series before heading into the 2019 World Cup, which starts in England at the end of May.

"The series will be a good test for

both the sides leading into the World Cup and I guess in similar conditions. Both the teams will be looking forward to the competition and to take some momentum into the World Cup," he added.

According to Santner, India have a "strong batting line up" and the key for the visitors, with wrist spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahar in operation, will be to get wickets in the middle overs.

"With the nature of flat wickets, the wrist spinners can spin the ball both ways. The key in ODI cricket is to get wickets in the middle (overs)."

"The wrist spinners - they might leak a lot more runs but have the option (chance) of getting more wickets (too)," he said.

All-rounder Anderson, on his part, said he would like to be in New Zealand's 2019 World Cup team.

## 'World C'ship must for Test's survival'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Former New Zealand coach Mike Hesson on Monday emphasised that the World Test Championship is "critical" for survival of the longest format of the game.

As per the International Cricket Council (ICC), the nine top-ranked sides will compete in the championship with each side playing six series on a home-and-away basis against mutually selected opponents in a two-year cycle.

The cycle will begin soon after the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, with the Ashes in England set to kick-start the event. The top-two sides will then contest in the ICC World Test Championship final in

June 2021.

"Test cricket will survive as long as there is context. The World Test Championship is critical to its survival. If there is no context to matches and they just operate bilateral tours in isolation, then the relevancy will disappear over time," Hesson said.

Hesson, who coached New Zealand for six years before taking over as head coach of IPL team Kings XI Punjab, stressed Test cricket even now generates a lot of interest.

"People are getting scared that Test cricket is disappearing, but I think that's not the case. There is still a high level of interest," added the 44-year-old Hesson.

## Rahim's record innings puts B'desh on top

AFP ■ DHAKA

Mushfiqur Rahim became the first wicketkeeper-batsman in history to score two double hundreds in Tests as Bangladesh built a strong total in the second Test against Zimbabwe in Dhaka on Monday.

Mushfiqur hit an unbeaten 219 to help Bangladesh declare their first innings at 522-7 an hour into the final session, before the hosts reduced Zimbabwe to 25 for one at stumps on the second day.

Tajjul Islam removed Hamilton Masakadza for 14 after an edge flew to Mehidy Hasan at first slip for Bangladesh's first breakthrough.

Brian Chari, 10 not out, and nightwatchman Donald Tiripano (naught) prevented further damage.

Zimbabwe, ahead in the two-match tournament 1-0, needs at least a draw to win their first Test series in seven years. But it was Mushfiqur who shone, pulling leg-spinner Brendon Mavuta for a single at square leg after the tea break to become the first wicket-

keeper-batsman ever to score two double tonnes in Test cricket.

Mushfiqur, who played 421 balls and hit 18 fours and a six, also surpassed Shakib al Hasan to become the highest individual scorer in an innings for Bangladesh in Test cricket.

Skipper Mahmudullah Riyad called the batsmen to the dressing room soon after Mushfiqur nudged Sean Williams for a single to pass Shakib's 217 against New Zealand at Wellington in 2017.

Mushfiqur shared a record 144-run in their unbroken eighth wicket stand with Mehidy Hasan, after Kyle Jarvis took two scalps in the afternoon session to complete his third five-wicket haul in Tests.

Mushfiqur also had a hand in the previous eighth wicket record when he added 113 with Naem Islam against England in 2010.

Jarvis, who claimed three wickets on the opening day, removed Mahmudullah for 36 and Ariful Haque for four but Mushfiqur and Mehidy denied the visitors further success.



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