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## Death halts tigers' translocation

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

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Odisha has three tiger reserve — Satkosia, Sunabeda and Simlipal. According to the 2016 tiger census, Odisha has 40 Royal Bengal Tigers — 13 males, 24 females and three calves.

The relocation is part of a tiger recovery programme to shore up the floundering population of tigers in Satkosia where tigers vanished due to biotic pressure.

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



Carcass of tiger MB2 inside Satkosia Tiger Reserve

### 3 tiger cubs mowed down by train in Chandrapur

PTI ■ NAGPUR

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

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

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

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

### Cubs of murdered Avni spotted alive in Maharashtra forest

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

## All-party meet on Sabarimala row abortive

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

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

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

Thanthri Rajeevaru, the chief priest, while speaking to the media after the meeting made use of the opportunity to plead with the women in the 10-50 age group not to come to Sabarimala and stay off the temple.

Later, speaking to *The Pioneer*, the Thanthri said he enjoys certain privileges as the chief priest of the temple.

"I am not a paid employee of the Government. I am reporting to Lord Ayyappa and

has the authority to order purification ceremonies and atonements," said the Thanthri.

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

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

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

### CAPSULE

#### EC REMOVES MIZORAM CEO AFTER PROTESTS

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

#### 'SUPER-EARTH' FOUND ORBITING A STAR

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

### MARKETS

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

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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



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

bodies were lying in a pool of blood.

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

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

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

"One of the accused Rahul Anwar was working as a tailor at deceased fashion designer's workshop and was staying in her home for the last three years. He committed the crime with two of his relatives in an attempt to loot," Joint CP Ajay Chaudhary said. A case has been registered and the three accused have been arrested, the DCP added.

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

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

"The moment ABVP won DUSU elections by 3:1, NSUI and other student organisations started raising questions on the authenticity of Baisoya's previous degree and his admission. Keeping in mind students' struggle, emotions and expect-



## Fadnavis calls for celebration after receiving report on Maratha quota

PNS ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

On August 7, the Bombay High Court had set November 15 as deadline for MSBCC to submit its report to it. Detailed report on P7

## Bengal BJP urges Shah to subdue NRC rhetoric

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

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

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



Dilip Ghosh on Thursday clearly said the State leadership was more in favour of the Citizenship Bill than the NRC. "I think once the Citizenship Bill is tabled and enacted the NRC will not be required because that will provide enough evidence of a person's citizenship credentials," Ghosh said.

## K'taka jumps on statue bandwagon for Mother Cauvery

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

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

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

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

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

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



revenue generated from the earning from tourists.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Limited patients to be admitted in GDMC hospital

**Ambulances to transport additional patients to other hospitals; dress code for patients and staff to be enforced**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Swinging into action after the unsavoury episode where a baby was delivered in the hospital toilet in the female wing of the Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) hospital, the Secretary, Medical Health, Nitesh Jha convened a meeting of senior officials of the health department on Thursday. At the meeting, a series of decisions to bring the things in the biggest hospital of the State into order were taken.

In an important decision, it was decided that patients in excess of the available beds in the hospital would not be admitted. The secretary said that no patient under any circumstances, should not be admitted in gallery or courtyard of the hospital.

A dress code for the patients admitted in the hospital and the members of staff would also be enforced.

Nitesh Jha said that in case of excess patients, 108-ambulance service would be used to transfer the patients to the nearby government hospitals. For the purpose 108-emergency ambulance service would be permanently deployed in the hospital. It was decided that patients of Uttarakhand would be treated on priority in the hospital and beds would be made available to the patients coming from Uttar Pradesh or Himachal Pradesh in case emergency only.

The secretary directed that only one attendant per admitted patient should be allowed and for it a pass system should be enforced.

He said that anti social elements making ruckus in the hospital should be identified with the help of Close Circuit TV Cameras (CCTV) and cases against them should be registered.

To oversee day to day functions, the secretary imparted financial and administrative rights to the medical superintendent. A three member committee consisting of MS Dr K K



Tamta, Dr K K Pant and Dr Meenakshi Joshi was constituted for expediting routine daily administrative works. The committee would handle activities related with National Health Mission (NHM), sanctioning leaves of staff and their duty roster.

In an important decision Nitesh Jha said that all the employees of health department should be immediately relieved and process of new appoint-

ments in the GDMC should be expedited.

He said that appointments from the outsourcing agencies should be made till permanent appointments are made.

The secretary said that private diagnostic centres should be hired for pathology, radiology and other diagnostic services. He directed that temporary appointment of specialist doctors under National Health Mission (NHM) should be

made till permanent recruitment. Nitesh Jha said that it should be ensured that doctors of all discipline are available after 2 PM. He said that a 25 bed modern Intensive Care Unit (ICU) should be set up in the hospital.

He said that all the private hospital having facility of safe delivery should be enlisted under the 'Ayushman Bharat scheme' so that load on the female wing of GDMC hospi-

tal is reduced.

The meeting was also attended by mission director of NHM, Yugal Kishore Pant, director general (DG) of health, Dr T C Pant, director of medical education, Dr Ashutosh Sayana, director of medical health, Dr Amita Upreti, director of NHM Dr Anjali Nautiyal, MS of GDMC Hospital Dr K K Tamta, Dr K C Pant and Dr Meenakshi Joshi among others.

# 2-day Kala Utsav begins in Doon

**Step to promote State's local, tribal and traditional arts**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A two-day 'Kala Utsav' aimed at promoting local, tribal and traditional arts and organised by the State Government started in the provisional State Capital on Thursday.

The programme started in the auditorium of Prantiya Rakshak Dal (PRD) located on Tapovan road which was virtually turned into a showcase of rich cultural heritage of Uttarakhand by enthusiastic government school students.

The festival was jointly inaugurated by the director of education, R K Kunwar and additional project director, integrated scheme of education, Mukul Kumar Sati.

The director R K Kunwar said that art and culture are integral part of our society and objective of the festival is to promote local art.

As per the guideline issues

by the government of India, the 'Kala Utsav' would showcase the disciplines of Solo music instrumental, solo music vocal, solo dance and painting. In every discipline separate categories have been made for boys and girls.

On the first day contestants showed their skills in solo music instrumental and solo music vocal disciplines.

On second day, on November 16 events of solo dance and painting would be organised.

One of the highlight of the first day was electrifying dance performance of Akash Thapa, who was runners up of the Sony TV's 'Super Dance' programme.

The students of different schools of all the districts of the state are participating in the two day event.

The winners of each category would participate in the national level programme to be held in the month of December - 2018 at New Delhi.

The programme was coordinated by administrative officer integrated scheme of education Bhagwati Prasad Maindoli.

**The festival was jointly inaugurated by the director of education, RK Kunwar and additional project director, integrated scheme of education, Mukul Kumar Sati. The director RK Kunwar said that art and culture are integral part of our society and objective of the festival is to promote local art**



Traffic comes to a halt at Lansdowne Chowk in the core area of Dehradun city during a campaign rally taken out by a mayoral candidate on Thursday. Pioneer photo

# FRI holds silviculture reorientation seminar

OFFICIALS FROM THREE STATES, REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS SECTORS DISCUSS ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A seminar on issues and challenges in reorienting silviculture was organised by the Silviculture and Forest Management Division of the Forest Research Institute here on Thursday.

Expressing her views on the occasion, the FRI director Savita emphasised on the need for reorienting the issues and challenges thrown by climate change and shift of focus from production forestry to conservation forestry. She highlighted the low productivity of forests in India as compared to forests in other parts of the world and the dependency of most of the people on the forest directly and indirectly.

Addressing the gathering in

the seminar, the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) deputy director general (Research) SD Sharma highlighted various issues related to forest management.

He spoke about the status of export and import of timber, degradation of forests, decreasing productivity of the forests, problems related to forest fires, role of forest policies and Acts, skill development for tribal people and human-animal conflicts.

The issues discussed in the seminar included impact of climate change on phenology of plants and reorientation silviculture activities, water harvesting for ground water recharge, managing the forests for water, biodiversity conservation, public participation in forest management, livelihood issues, development of nurseries and plantation techniques for the rare and endangered species (tree and shrubs) which are useful for the community and lesser known to forest departments, agro-forestry research,

new perspectives in silviculture research and demand and supply situation of raw materials for wood based industries.

Earlier, the head of the institute's Silviculture and Forest Management division, Arti Chaudhary said that the focus of the seminar was on current challenges in silviculture and forest management in the country. She also spoke of the past achievements of the division in silviculture like development of seed and nursery techniques for various forestry species and regeneration of forests among others.

The participants from Punjab, Haryana and Uttarakhand Forest Departments, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, WIMCO, Century Pulp and Paper limited, Lalkuan and representative from Bagwan Gram Udyog Samiti, Dehradun were invited in the seminar for discussions on the current challenges and issues of silviculture. All heads of divisions of FRI, senior scientists and officers also attended the seminar.



# Governor, Rawat greet media fraternity on National Press Day



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Greeting members of the media fraternity on the occasion of National Press Day, Governor Baby Rani Maurya and Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat stressed on the importance of an independent and unbiased media. In her message issued on the eve of the occasion, the governor said that the media is a

strong pillar of democracy. This year the Press Council of India has decided to deliberate upon the subject of journalistic ethics and challenges in digital age on the occasion of National Press Day. Along with modern technology, rapid changes are also being seen in the field of journalism. These changes also present various ethical challenges. In the present times, fake news on the

social media is also a major challenge which the media fraternity will have to think about seriously, said the governor.

Appreciating media as the fourth pillar of democracy, chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said that the Press has also been an important contributor to India's freedom movement. After independence, the media has also been playing an active role in the building a new India. He said that in view of various challenges in the present scenario, the role of the Press becomes more relevant and important. Independent, fair and bold media is essential for strengthening any democracy. Rawat said that the National Press Day not only reminds one of the freedom and strength of the media but also reminds one of the dedication of the Press towards fairness and high ethical standards.

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# Union MoS participates in Mahayagya at Shantikunj

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, Jaswantsinh Bhabhor visited Shantikunj along with his family members and sought blessings from head of All World Gayatri Parivar on Thursday. The minister was acquainted with various developmental programmes undertaken by the organisation for tribal areas in different states of the country.

Recounting a unique Dandak Aranya programme undertaken by Shantikunj in eight districts of Chhattisgarh head of AWGP, Pandya said that under this scheme, skill development and cottage industry programmes are run wherein people are given free



training to start their own cottage industry. He also said that the projects which Pandit Sri Ram Acharya conceptualised in 1950s are also being mobilised by the organisation. He further said that he was in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh last week and had seen himself the plight of the tribal people.

The minister said that the Nirmal Ganga Abhiyan, women awakening programme and Kanya Kaushal Vikas Yojana projects run by Shantikunj had benefited lakhs of people in the country. Earlier he participated in Gayatri Mahayagya in the morning and prayed for the success of his ministry.

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HC DIRECTS LOWER COURT

'Hear news channel CEO bail plea on Friday'

Sharma has remained in judicial custody in alleged sting operation conspiracy case

PNS ■ NAINITAL

The High Court of Uttarakhand has directed that the bail application of news channel CEO Umesh Sharma be heard by the lower court in Dehradun on Friday. Further, the division bench of the high court also directed that notices be issued to the brother of the Chief Minister, an acquaintance of the CM-Sanjay Gupta and the investi-



officer in the case.

After hearing on a petition seeking quashing of the FIR against Sharma, stay on narco test and brain mapping of the accused, the high court division bench comprising chief justice Ramesh Ranganathan and jus-

tice Alok Singh directed that Sharma's bail application should be taken up for hearing by the lower court in Dehradun on Friday.

During the hearing, the state government withdrew its application seeking permission for narco test and brain mapping of Sharma till the case is in the high court.

The order of the high court on Thursday is being seen as a jolt to the state government.

Earlier, the court had ordered stay on the arrest of four other accused persons in this case.

It is pertinent to mention here that Sharma had been arrested during a joint operation of the Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh police from his

DURING THE HEARING, THE STATE GOVERNMENT WITHDREW ITS APPLICATION SEEKING PERMISSION FOR NARCO TEST AND BRAIN MAPPING OF SHARMA TILL THE CASE IS IN THE HIGH COURT. THE ORDER OF THE HIGH COURT ON THURSDAY IS BEING SEEN AS A JOLT TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT. EARLIER, THE COURT HAD ORDERED STAY ON THE ARREST OF FOUR OTHER ACCUSED PERSONS IN THIS CASE

residence in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh earlier in October.

The police had also recovered cash, foreign currency and equipment used in sting operations in addition to a number of CDs, hard disks and other items seized from his

house. It will be recalled that earlier on August 10, Ayush Gaur, the investigation editor of Samachar Plus news channel had filed a complaint against the CEO Umesh Sharma, the then registrar of Uttarakhand

Ayurveda University, Mrityunjay Mishra and three others at Rajpur police station. Gaur had averred that Sharma had directed him to conduct sting operations targeting chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat and his close associates.

Anything incriminating captured in the sting operations was to be purportedly used for blackmail. Gaur had further revealed that he had successfully conducted sting operations on some senior officials, close relatives and acquaintances of the CM, though nothing incriminating had been found in them.

Based on his complaint, the police lodged cases under section 386, 388 and 120 B against Sharma and four others.

CANDID NOTES

Tactical Holidays



Gajendra Singh Negi

Congress party has made sparing use of indomitable Harish Rawat who till recently had towered over the politics of the party like a colossus. The BJP on the other hand has found it prudent to keep its tried and tested old war horses, Bhagat Singh Koshyari and Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' in the stable. It is apparent that the current state leadership of both these parties is perfectly aware about the capacity of these battle-hardened leaders to hog the limelight which invariably relegates others to the background so they are being kept at bay. One close lieutenant of Harish Rawat summed up things by candidly quipping, "We are reserve force of the party to be used during emergency."

Lofty claims of the TSR Government about increasing efficiency of administration by cutting down unnecessary holidays fell flat on its face recently as a pliable Government yielded to the demands of State Government employees and people of Purvanchal when it declared public holidays on the occasion of Govardhan Puja and Chhath respectively. In a departure from past where declaring holidays had been a favourite appeasement ploy of the politicians to garner sympathy of different sections of the society, the BJP government under TSR drew appreciation when it converted some public holidays into restricted ones. Last year the state government also took a commendable decision of declaring Chhath holiday in only plain districts but this year wary of attracting displeasure of people of Purvanchal in the ensuing elections of Urban Local Bodies it yielded and took the decision of public holiday across the state. Only a few days ago the pliant government had succumbed to the demands of state government employees when it had declared holiday on Govardhan Puja.

RESTED VETERANS

The silence of big guns of both BJP and Congress in the Urban Local Bodies elections is intriguing and brings into focus the internal dynamics of power in these major political forces of the Himalayan state. The

VISION DECISION

In an astute move, the state unit of Congress party released its 'Vision Document' for the elections of Urban Local Bodies instead of 'manifesto'. The change is important as it absolves the party from any obligation to fulfill its promises made ahead of the polls. It is learnt that some veteran Congressmen pointed out to the leaders engrossed in giving final touches to their 'Election Manifesto' that given the contours of power where BJP is ruling in both the state and centre, it would be counterproductive to promise anything for the electorate of ULB elections because even if voted to power in these bodies the party would not be able to do much with antagonistic state and union governments. These wise fellows having seen thick and thin of things calmly suggested the party that instead of releasing a mundane and morally binding 'manifesto' they should go for something glossy like 'vision document'. Their suggestion was gleefully accepted by the mandarins of the grand old party.

Cong delegation meets State Election Commissioner

Wants SEC to register cases of violation of code of conduct against CM, Minister Kaushik and MLA Ganesh Joshi

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

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

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



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

The congress leaders also handed over CDs as evidences against Ganesh Joshi and Madan Kaushik to the state election commissioner. The delegation also reminded the SEC that it had submitted a complaint against CM Trivendra Singh Rawat for making an announcement on the occasion of State Foundation Day (November 9)

that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would inaugurate Haridwar-Dehradun cooking gas pipeline on November 22 which is a clear case of violation of model code of conduct enforced in the state. The congress leaders said that it is unfortunate that the SEC has taken no cognizance on its complaint against CM which puts up a question mark over its impartiality. Congress leaders demanded that the SEC should register cases of violation of model code of conduct against CM Rawat, Minister Madan Kaushik and Ganesh Joshi.

Apart from Singh the delegation consisted of PCC Member Rajesh Chamoli, chairman of minorities cell Tahir Ali, state spokesperson Garima Dassani, state secretary Shanti Rawat and Pranita Badoni.

MLA was observing custom, not violating code, says BJP

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Regarding news about BJP MLA Ganesh Joshi distributing cash among women during Chhath festivity, the party's State media in-charge Devendra Bhasin has questioned the allegations of election model code of conduct being violated.

He said that Joshi was simply following the Hindu tradition of distributing shagun on the occasion of Chhath while members of the Congress and some others linked it to distribution of money during election, which is condemnable. Bhasin said that according to

tradition, on the occasion of Chhath, women apply tilak on the foreheads of their brothers, who in turn present dakshina to them.

In the eastern part of north India, this practice is popular like the custom of brothers presenting gifts to sisters who tie rakhis on their wrists on the occasion of Rakshabandhan. The BJP state media in charge further said that Congress leaders and others attempting to distort the observance of a sacred tradition should apologise if they possess even a little bit of morality. The BJP fully respects constitutional institutions and

rules. The party workers have full faith in the election commission and the model code of conduct.

Actually, it is clear in the video that Joshi offered the present only to those women who applied tilak on him. He has been participating in this custom for many years now, added

The party workers have full faith in the election commission and the model code of conduct

Rajaji Tiger Reserve reopened for tourists

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Rajaji National Park and Tiger Reserve which was closed in June was reopened for winter season on Wednesday by its field director Sanatan Sonkar in Chilla range along with other forest officials. The park witnessed good footfall on the first day of opening of the park but restricted number of Gypsy jeeps for safari kept many tourists waiting.

The principal chief conservator of forests Monish Mullick and Rajaji director Sanatan Sonkar cut the ribbon and declared the park open. It will remain opened for the next seven months.

This tourist season only 20 vehicles will be allowed for jungle safari in Chilla range of Rajaji Tiger Reserve following the High Court directions. To improve the facilities in the park, dustbins shall be installed in the safari vehicles. This is being done for the first time to stop littering in the park area.

Notably private vehicles were banned for jungle safari by the forest department last year and the number of authorised vehicles has also been decreased following court orders in August this year. The High Court had restricted the number of Gypsy jeeps hired by tourists in both Rajaji and



Corbett Tiger Reserves.

Speaking to The Pioneer, the Chilla range wildlife warden Ajay Sharma said, "In contrast to earlier system wherein 40 jeeps were allowed daily for jungle safari, this year it is 20 jeeps. A single jeep has occupancy of

seven tourists."

Penalisation system shall be enforced for those found littering and violating the rules. However this stringent system has brought displeasure to some wildlife lovers. Former honorary wildlife warden of Rajaji,

Rajiv Mehta said, "The notification of Rajaji National Park as the second tiger reserve after Corbett Tiger Reserve in Uttarakhand in 2015 had come as a major boost to the tourism sector but by putting restrictions on the number of safaris

This tourist season only 20 vehicles will be allowed for jungle safari in Chilla range of Rajaji Tiger Reserve following the High Court directions

to be carried out in a day, the park authorities are casting a negative impact. More wildlife tourism and movement of tourists actually keeps wildlife protected from poachers. Future generations need to be shown the wilderness, the habitats of animals and made more aware towards conservation of these forests but checking on their entry is reducing their involvement."

Instead of increasing their night patrol activities, park authorities are checking the inflow of tourists. "This Rajaji National Park and Tiger Reserve has become worse than even a forest division. Good tourism must be promoted," added Mehta.

On the issue of number of vehicles to be allowed, Wildlife Institute of India should be consulted as to how many vehicles must be allowed in a wildlife zone, he further opined.

UNDP team discusses scope for cooperation in U'khand



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

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

During the meeting, the chief secretary sought cooperation from UNDP pertaining to technical support and skilled human resources for the schemes implemented in the state in the field of waste management, sustainable development partnership, livelihood, solar and wind power, micro-

hydel project, health and drinking water. Singh said that the state has adequate sources of income available but to increase them, there is need for technical assistance from UNDP. He sought utilisation of UNDP's experience in the state regarding the work done by it in different countries in the area of climate change.

UNDP consultant Jacob J Simonsen talked about providing technical support to Uttarakhand in the field of tourism, climate change, disaster management, aromatic plants, small scale industries, self-help groups, branding of

products, livelihood security and other aspects. Additional country director of UNDP, Rakesh Kumar said that in the field of climate change, necessary efforts will be made by UNDP in coordination with the Forest Department. He talked about giving support for the branding of the state products on the lines of Haryana in the field of livelihood and providing assistance for the waste management project. Additional chief secretary Radha Raturi gave information about the various welfare schemes implemented in the state for women empowerment and child development. To make these schemes more effective, she expected technical support from UNDP.

Rural development principal secretary Manisha Panwar drew attention to capacity building in the livelihood programme in rural areas. She said that there are adequate opportunities for employment and economic development of rural youth in wool related projects. Power secretary Radhika Jha sought technical assistance in small hydro power projects, solar and wind power projects.

गामीन विकास मंत्रालय भारत सरकार एवं राज्य परियोजना प्रबन्धन ईकाई ग्राम्य विकास विभाग

उत्तराखण्ड सरकार

के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में

# उत्तराखण्ड सस्य मेला-2018

गामीन स्वयं सहायता समूहों द्वारा तैयार उत्पादों के प्रदर्शन एवम् विपणन हेतु आयोजित

दिनांक : 9 नवम्बर से 18 नवम्बर, 2018 स्थान : परेड गाउण्ड, देहरादून

आन्ध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, राजस्थान, केरल, पंजाब, हिमाचल, उत्तर प्रदेश, आसाम, गोवा, नागालैण्ड, तेलंगाना, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, जम्मू कश्मीर, छत्तीस गढ़, हरियाणा, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार, उत्तराखण्ड आदि राज्यों द्वारा प्रतिभाग

► गामीन स्वयं सहायता समूह/वस्तुकार/शिल्पकार द्वारा उत्पादित वस्तुओं, उत्पादों, शिल्पों एवं कलाकृतियों का विद्याल, भव्य प्रदर्शन एवं विक्रय ► देश में विविध प्रकार के गामीन जीवन का भव्य दर्शन ► विभिन्न प्रदेशों के सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों का मंचन

आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।  
(मेले का समय प्रतिदिन प्रातः 10.30 बजे से रात्रि 8.30 बजे तक)

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF TOOL DESIGN  
(Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India)

Entrepreneurship Development Programme on

## SOLAR ENERGY

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2018 (Two Days) Time: 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.  
Fees: 6,500/- Including GST (Course Fees, Certificate, Soft Study Material & Lunch)

Key Features: 1kw Solar Installation • How to Calculate & Design a Solar System • Installation & Assembling of Solar System • Maintenance of Solar System • on Grid/off Grid Solar System • Customizing System • Solar System Components • How to Get into Solar Industry. (By Expert Faculty)

Venue: Hotel Doon Castle, Saharanpur Road, Opp. Telephone Exchange, Miranjanpur, Patel Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand - 248001  
Contact: 9667730480, 9643228266 (Practical Session)  
Certificate will be awarded

PAREE PAIN KATHATIE

# SHGs to be roped in for Phase-II drive

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

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

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

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

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

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

## IT WAS DECIDED TO CONTINUE THE CAMPAIGN FOR CREATING A SAFE AND PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CHILDREN UPTO 18 YEARS OF AGE

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

of child labour, rehabilitation of vulnerable children, integrated development of the child, prevention of child marriage and implementation of Juvenile Justice Act etc.

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

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

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

# Cong mayoral candidate Hridayesh promises development works

## LoP claims BJP to suffer defeat as public looking towards Congress

PNS ■ HALDWANI

Continuing his campaign here, the Congress mayoral candidate for Haldwani, Sumit Hridayesh interacted with the public in various areas on Thursday. Eliciting votes from the public, he averred that the Congress would develop the municipal corporation of Haldwani into one of the better municipal corporations of the state.

Hridayesh went from door to door, interacting with the voters in Chadayal Nayak and Suyal areas. In the market area, he also interacted with representatives of the local business bodies. He assured members of the business fraternity that if he is elected the mayor of Haldwani, the bazaar area will be made conducive for business and convenient. This will prove to be beneficial for both the



business fraternity and the public. Welcoming him with enthusiasm, garlanding him while raising slogans in his favour, the local Vyapar Mandal announced that it would support the Congress candidate. Meanwhile, the leader of opposition and Haldwani MLA Indira Hridayesh also addressed public meets at various locations. She said that the BJP government in Uttarakhand was nearing two years in office but during this period, it had stalled developmental works across the state. The people are now disenchanted with the BJP and are looking towards the Congress, she opined.

# EXEMPLARY TEAM WORK IN JAJPUR Riverside villagers build bridge on their own

BY COLLECTING DOLES FROM EACH HOUSE



PNS ■ JAJPUR

It seems straight out of the Dilip Kumar-starrer Naya Daur in the 1960s wherein villagers on their own initiative built a village road.

Around ten villagers under Bari block in Jajpur district, may have not seen the Hindi movie, but have done something similar by building a 130-meter-long bamboo bridge. It is not reel story but a real one in these remote villages, crisscrossed with Bramahani river and its creeks.

The villagers were facing a lot of problems due to the non-construction of the bridge for which in a meeting on October 30, they decided to construct the bamboo bridge from their

own fund and labour for which they collected cash and paddy from each house. About 2,000 villagers had paid about Rs 50,000 and 10 quintals of paddy. The work started on November 4 and with free labour, they managed to construct the bridge.

They built the bridge within a short span of period of only eight days, said Mahendra Nayak of Kimbhiripala. After the construction of the bridge, the people of riverside villages of Kusabata, Kalakhanda, Swainkhanda, Jamapada, Balia, Paramnandapur, Isanapur, Kharipadia, Kimbhiripala, Balichanchia, Dhalsahi, Maladav, Jungana and others are now well connected with the nearby town Bari.

# Crime on rise in B'pur; patrolling sought

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

It seems the law and order situation in the silk city is deteriorating fast. According to information available, two chain snatching cases occurred in the city's most posh locality Gandhinagar 3rd Lane Extension (West) on Wednesday and Thursday.

According to information available, on Thursday early morning two unidentified youths came in motor bike and reportedly asked a house wife, who did not wish to be identified, to come down on the pretext of some urgent message and when the lady came down, the miscreants, taking advantage of the loneliness, snatched her gold chain and other ornaments and decamped. The residents of Gandhinagar led by

the BJD Corporator of BeMC Ranjit Pattnaik alleged police inaction resulting in a spurt in different crimes including the chain snatching. According to reports, Gandhinagar area is now under the command of some criminals. Eve teasing, snatching, loot and organized attacks are a common things. Thousands of students read in different private institutions and employees working in private firms from outside the district and the State are staying on rent in the Gandhinagar area. The owners without verification of their antecedents let them stay in their houses. Besides, there are many unauthorized hostels or messes for students. There is a public perception that, police need to prepare a database of such outsiders and study their antecedents.

The residents also demanded through their memorandum that, the police should intensify patrolling, especially in the morning from 5 am to 7.30 am and in evening from 6 pm to 9 pm, checking over-speeding and rash and drunken driving.

Similarly, drunken youths loiter in Gandhinagar Chhak, Sai Complex- Gandhinagar Road and the approaching road to Gandhinagar 3rd Lane Extension (West) road, creating nuisance. The police must take action against such people.

It may be recalled here that the Sadar police had busted a major chain-snatching racket and arrested four looters involved in a series of snatching cases and produced them before court two months back, who were later released from jail.

# Miscreants again loot ATM in Khordha

PNS ■ KHORDHA

After a few days' lull, unidentified miscreants looted cash again from a Tata Indicash ATM at Bajpur under the Sadar police station in the district late on Wednesday night.

Reports said the miscreants broke open the ATM and allegedly looted cash from the machine. Besides, CCTV cameras installed inside the ATM counter have been vandalised.

The matter came to light in the morning after a few locals reported the incident to the Sadar police.

Getting information, police reached the spot and began an investigation into the incident. The exact amount of cash looted has not been ascertained yet, sources said.

Of late, looter have found bank ATMs to be soft targets and incidents of ATM robberies were reported from various places including Nirakarpur, Tulasipur, Jatni and Baghamari in the district in the recent past.

Earlier this month, miscreants uprooted a TATA Indicash Automated Teller Machine (ATM) and decamped with cash around Rs 2 lakh in Tulasipur area in the district. But the district police are still groping in dark about the miscreants or gangs involved in the series of ATM loots.

# XIMB holds summit 'XpectRM'

**BHUBANESWAR:** The Xavier School of Rural Management (XSRM) in collaboration with the RM Alumni Committee of Xavier University, Bhubaneswar (XUB) hosted leadership summit 'XpectRM' here on Wednesday aimed to provide the students a comprehensive view on the wonders from rural inclusive finance, rural marketing to social business and entrepreneurship.

XSRM Dean Prof Kajri Mishra, XUB Registrar EA Augustine and Director (Finance) Donald D Silva attended as guests and inaugurated the summit where



Ratnesh Jha, Rajendra Narayan Mahapatra, Jayesh K Jain, Tanwi Kumari, Phaneendra Doddapaneni, Alok Pattanayak, Charudutta Panigrahi, Pratyush K Panda, Tapan Kumar Das, Ramesh Jena, Rajarshi D Sarkar, Aditi Nanda, Vasudevan Chinnathambi and Lopamudra Mohanty were the speaker.

Augustine and Silva congratulated the committee and spoke on the need for such events that aims at extracting more and more knowledge from experiences of industry stalwarts, who are great leaders in their respective fields.

Different session focused on 'Development Policy and Livelihood', 'Social Business and Entrepreneurship', 'Rural Inclusive Finance' and 'Rural Business Development and Marketing' were held followed by an interactive question and answer round. The annual magazine of the committee 'Alohomora' was released on the occasion.

# Bhadrak Jr MVI under Vig scanner

PNS ■ BHADRAK

The Vigilance police on Thursday raided residence and office of an RTO official here for allegedly possessing assets disproportionate to his known source of income.

The houses of Shankar Narayan Choudhury, Junior MVI at RTO in Bhadrak, were raided simultaneously by a team of Cuttack Vigilance sleuths at six locations including in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar on Thursday morning.

According to reports, the Vigilance team raided the rented house of the official at



Charampa area in Bhadrak. They returned to his office as the house was locked up.

The sleuths reportedly seized several documents. As the probe was underway, the Vigilance officials declined to provide further information regarding the raid to media.

# SAMBIDHAN SAMMAN YATRA IN S'PUR 'Country facing Constitutional crisis'

Activists urge people to raise voice

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

All is not well in the country. Those who are ruling after getting people's mandate are misruling it rather. In such a situation, we, the people of the country, have to be careful and save our own Constitution," said speakers at Sambalpur and Jharsuguda who are moving all over the country on a 'Sambidhan Samman Yatra'.

The yatra has kicked off on October 2 on Gandhi Jayanti this year from Dandi in Gujarat in order to create awareness among the citizens of the country to save the Constitution as

well as constitutional rights of the people.

The speakers said that the country is passing through a critical juncture.

Whether democracy will survive or not is a question mark now. Undemocratic system rules the roost by a democratically elected Government.

Even efforts are being made to divide people in the name of caste, creed and religion. Atrocities on minority, SCs and STs are in the rising graph. People are feeling insecure everywhere.

Efforts are on to squeeze voice of those who are raising voice against such anomalies. Influential people are looting the natural resources of the country without slightest of the

problem to face. Rather, they are being encouraged in such practices. Hence, it is time for all of us to be alert and work jointly to protect secure Constitutional rights of the citizens, said the speakers.

A group comprising people from different States was here on Tuesday evening to sensitize people on the crucial issue. The members of the Sambalpur Jilla Krushak Samanway Samity led by Langaraj took an active part in organizing the meeting with warm welcome to the members at the entrance of the city.

"Gujarat is projected as the 'development model' by both the State and

Governments. But the reality is that, SC or ST people apart, the general category people have now demanded reservation there for their very survival," the speakers said further.

"The recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee are ignored by the present Government. Farmers are suffering out of poverty all over the country. Hence, it is right time that we have to become aware of the ongoing wrongdoings in the country and raise voice against it," they added.

# Assam youths' training begins at ICAR-CIFA

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A training programme on "Freshwater aquaculture as livelihood option for tribal youths" started at ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar on November 14 which will continue till November 17.

The programme is sponsored by 5/5 Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force), Indian Army, Assam. In total 22 persons are participating in the programme. The inaugural function, Col DD Swain, Commanding Officer, Bihar Regiment, 120 Battalion,

Indian Army, Bhubaneswar, was the chief guest.

He appreciated the role of Indian Army in exposing the unemployed tribal youths to scientific aquaculture practices.

Director, ICAR-CIFA Dr Bindu R Pillai presiding over the function highlighted the role of ICAR-CIFA for dissemination of freshwater aquaculture technologies to the tribal areas of the country, including north eastern hilly States. She encouraged the participants to get knowledge about fish culture from ICAR-CIFA and use it for their livelihood development.

# Ganjam lawyers embark on cease-work stir

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

The Ganjam Lawyers' Association resorted to a cease-work strike from Thursday, protesting the alleged assault of a lawyer Haraprasad Das by the Inspector-in-Charge and other staffs inside the Buguda police station in the district.

Sources said due to the cease-work stir by the lawyers, works in different courts across the district came to a grinding halt. Reportedly, after holding discussions with the Buguda Lawyers' Association, a team of the district lawyers' body lodged an FIR at the Buguda police station on Wednesday in connection with the incident.

"We want the suspension and arrest of the police officials who were involved in the attack. If our demands are not fulfilled at the earliest, we would resort to a State-wide stir", Ganjam Lawyers' Association president Mohan Singhari said. On the other hand, after the incident, Buguda PS Ramchandra Biswal was transferred to the District Reserve Police office on the day.

DGP RP Sharma on Wednesday informed that DIG (Southern Range) Ashish Singh and Ganjam SP Brijesh Kumar Ray have been directed to probe the alleged assault incident.

# 10K to be trained as e-commerce delivery girls Firm proposes at Make in Odisha

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

At least 10,000 girls from Odisha would be trained as drivers and helpers so that they can be employed as delivery girls for E-commerce within two-three years.

Women and Child Development Secretary Anu Garg stated this to mediapersons after a session on women entrepreneurs held at the 'Make In Odisha Conclave here.

"We have received proposals in this regard. We are presently reviewing these proposals to implement to develop women entrepreneurship and making our women self-employment," said Garg.

Speaking to The Pioneer, Hey Deedee MD Revathi Roy expressed her interest to work



in Odisha. "Our aim is to provide employment to 1lakh girls to develop them as delivery women in fast growing E-commerce industry and, of them, 10,000 girls from Odisha will

be trained as skilled workers for market ready e-commerce business," she said.

She further asserted that these women, when given employment, would be self-reliant. "Currently we are a ₹2-crore turn over company with 350 employees and 50,000 girls are undergoing training with us," Roy mentioned.

While elaborating her future plan, Roy said her firm is presently working in Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Bengaluru, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.



## Rama Paper Mills Limited

4th Km. Stone Najibabad Road Kiratpur-246731 District Bijnor U.P.  
CIN: L27104UP1985PLC007556

Website : www.ramapaper.com, E mail : cs@ramapaper.com

**Extract of Un-Audited Financial Results For the Quarter & Half Year ended on 30th September 2018**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ending 30.09.2018	Current Year Ending 30.09.2018	Quarter Ended as on 30.09.2017
1.	Total income from operations (Net)	4855.71	8957.30	3138.30
2.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items	272.86	2825.61	-459.65
3.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	272.86	2825.61	-459.65
4.	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	272.86	2825.61	-459.65
5.	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/Loss for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)	272.86	2825.61	-459.65
6.	Equity Share Capital	96.64	96.64	96.64
	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of previous year)			
7.	Earning Per Share (of ₹ 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)-			
	Basic:	2.82	29.24	-4.75
	Diluted:	2.82	29.24	-4.75

1. The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on 14th November 2018 in terms of Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations & Disclosure Requirements) Regulations.  
2. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of Quarterly Financial Results has been uploaded on the website of the Stock Exchange www.bseindia.com  
3. Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items adjusted in the Statement of Profit and Loss in accordance with Ind-AS/ AS Rules whichever is applicable.

**By order of the Board for Rama Paper Mills Limited**  
Sd/-  
Pramod Agarwal  
Managing Director (DIN: 0003838)

Date : 14th November 2018  
Place : Kiratpur

RERA REGISTRATION

# Maharashtra tops all States

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

In a move to regulate real estate sector and to protect homebuyers from fraudster real estate developers, as many as 33,750 projects and 26,018 property agents have been registered under the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) in the country. Maharashtra tops the list of States with 18,392 projects registered.

It is followed by Uttar Pradesh with 2,514 projects, Haryana, 1,214, Punjab, 602 and Uttarakhand, 221. Delhi has 23 projects registered.

As per the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry's data there are 3,873 projects registered by northern States, which is approximately 11 per cent of total 33,750 projects got registered pan India. If Uttar Pradesh is excluded, the percentage of 'projects registration' of rest of northern States will be 4.03 per cent.

Besides projects, Maharashtra also tops in the list of registering of property developers/agents. It has registered 17,188 property agents under the RERA followed by Uttar Pradesh of 2121 agents, Punjab of 1,267 agents, Haryana of 494 agents, Uttarakhand of 204, Delhi of 65 and Chandigarh of 60.

Meanwhile, speaking at a



workshop on RERA — a new era of transparency and accountability in Real Estate — 2 years of implementation and Way Ahead", the Union Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday categorically stated that the Government will not amend any provision of RERA and warned States against tweaking rules of the centre's real estate law, asserting that it will lead to "harsh consequences". RERA, which protects the interest of home buyers, was enacted by Parliament and States were given powers to notify their respective rules and appoint regulatory authorities.

As per the Ministry's data there are 28 States and Union Territories (UTs) have notified except the six north eastern States and West Bengal. "There

are 27 States that have established the Authority, out of which 14 States are interim. All the States of northern region have established permanent Regulatory Authorities except Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Chandigarh," an official of MoHUA said.

In a related development, Delhi has finally got a full-time real estate regulator under RERA with Lt Governor Anil Bajjal appointing retired IAS officer Vijay S Madan to the post. Until now, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) vice-chairman was the interim regulator under the Real Estate Regulatory Act (RERA), 2016.

Puri also pointed out that till the year 2016, there was no regulator for real estate and construction sector, which is the largest employer after agriculture and housing. He said,

in a landmark move, the Central Government, in the form of RERA, gave the real estate sector its first regulator w.e.f. from 1st May, 2016.

Puri also said that the "full benefit" of the Real Estate Regulatory Act (RERA) will be realised only when the its provision is implemented in letter and spirit. "We will not tweak RERA," Puri told reporters on the sidelines of a workshop on the real estate law, organised by his Ministry amid growing demands from builders to change rules.

Puri said the States which have made its own rules by tweaking provisions of the RERA, will have to "fall in line, otherwise, the consequence is very harsh".

There are some States who have watered down the provisions of central legislation. Asked about several homebuyers not being delivered their houses by developers on time, the Union Minister said, "We will not hesitate from naming and shaming (of those developers not delivering flats on time)." At the workshop, attended by associations of home-buyers, builders, banks and other stakeholders, Puri said Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab need to take suitable action so that their rules are line with the RERA.

# AFTER PROTESTS AGAINST MIZORAM CEO EC removes SB Shashank, Ashish Kundra takes charge

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Mizoram SB Shashank was removed on Thursday by the Election Commission, days before the State goes to polls, following widespread protests against him. Ashish Kundra, a 1996 batch IAS officer will be the new chief electoral officer (CEO) of the State.

The order came after some civil society groups in Mizoram demanded Shashank's ouster over a row on allowing Bru voters lodged in Tripura relief camps to exercise their franchise from there. The protesters had asked Shashank to quit by November 5 and leave the state after the principal secretary (home), Lalnimawia Chuauango, was removed following the chief electoral officer's complaint against him.

"The Election Commission of India in consultation with the Government of Mizoram hereby nominates Ashish Kundra as the chief electoral officer for the state of Mizoram with immediate effect," a notification issued by the EC said. Mizoram goes to the polls on November 28. The EC in its order further stated that Shashank shall be attached

with the Commission with immediate effect and until further orders.

The EC's move was welcomed by the civil societies that had spearheaded a movement to seek the poll officer's ouster. "We welcome anybody as state CEO, except Shashank, who was working against the interests of the Mizo people by making an all-out effort to register Bru voters in the Tripura relief camps without following established procedures," Vanlalruata, chairman of the NGO, Coordination Committee said.

Shashank had accused Chuauango of interfering with the revision of electoral rolls of Bru refugees from Mizoram, who have been living in relief camps in Tripura since ethnic violence drove them away in 1997. Most Mizos, including the State Government, are opposed to the Election Commission's proposal for allowing Brus to vote at their camps and want them to return to Mizoram for that.

The protests had forced the Election Commission (EC) to send a senior official for talks with the apex body leading the stir while accepting the "broad contours" of its resolution on

the CEO and Bru refugees submitted to a poll panel delegation.

After thousands of people gathered outside Shashank's office in Aizawl on Tuesday to seek his removal ahead of the November 28 assembly polls, an EC team comprising

CEO Lalbakhanga Khiangte, EC director Nikhil Kumar and EC secretary S.B. Joshi held talks with the Mizoram NGO Coordination Committee, an umbrella organization of non-government organisations and civil society groups. After the visits, the poll panel had asked the Mizoram government to suggest names for the CEO's post.

Shashank reportedly sought the deployment of additional Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) in the State. This did not go down well with the committee.

Earlier this month, Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue. "... As people have lost faith in him (Shashank), the only solution for the smooth conduct of the Assembly elections 2018 would be removal of CEO S B Shashank from office forthwith," he said.

# SC to hear CBI director Alok Verma's plea today

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Friday CBI director Alok Verma's plea challenging the Government's order divesting him of his duties and sending him on leave in view of allegations of corruption against him.

A three-judge bench, headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, is also likely to consider the report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), placed before it in a sealed cover, with regard to the probe into the allegations of corruption against Verma.

The bench is also likely to consider the report of acting CBI director M Nageswara Rao also filed in a sealed cover in the court with regard to the decisions taken by him from October 23-26.

Besides the plea filed by Verma, the court is also seized of the PIL filed by NGO Common Cause, which has sought a probe by special investigation team against CBI officers.

The court has issued notices to the Centre, CBI, CVC, special CBI director Rakesh Asthana, Verma and Rao asking them to respond to it by November 12. **PTI**

# Def procurement happening speedily but with 'due diligence intact'

Can't compel armed forces to buy from Indian firm: Sitharaman

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In an effort to give a boost to Indian defence industry and maintain operational preparedness of the armed forces, defence procurement has been simplified and is happening speedily but with "due diligence intact," Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said here on Thursday. However, the domestic manufacturers have to convince the armed forces of the quality, purpose, usefulness and the relevance of their product, she said.

Making this point, the



Minister said she cannot compel armed forces to buy equipment from them and it was up to the domestic companies to convince the forces that their product was "good enough." Addressing the Indian Defence Conclave 2018 organised by the Defence Innovators and Industry Association, she said "the armed forces who actual-

ly use the equipment should be convinced.

It is not necessary that the armed forces will have to be bound by me or forced by me or compelled by me to buy it (from an Indian company)... I cannot say that to them."

The Minister also lauded her predecessors Manohar Parikkar and Arun Jaitley, say-

ing they had not only simplified defence procedure but also ensured transparency. Steps were taken to make the procurement procedure less cumbersome, she noted. "Procurement has simplified. Procurement is happening with due diligence intact, but it is happening speedily," the Defence Minister said.

Her comments come in the backdrop of the controversy over the ₹58,000 crore Rafale deal with the Opposition, primarily the Congress, alleging corruption and demanding that the price details be made public. The Government has vehemently denied the charges of corruption and said any disclosure of price would be violation of the secrecy clause and would give an advantage to adversaries.

Sitharaman also urged defence manufacturers to get

out of the mindset of looking at the India market alone. "I appeal to you all to get out of that mindset. There are several other countries which are buying (defence equipment) that do not have the capacity to produce. They never had a history of attempting to produce defence components. Look at markets outside. Make in India is not just for making in India," she said.

The Minister assured the gathering that the Government will make sure the industry gets every possible help to export their products. To encourage domestic defence manufacturers, she said, several items have been removed from the list that was earlier reserved for ordnance factories and defence public sector undertakings. She also said the government's 'Make in India' project is not just on paper and that orders have been placed.

# NATIONAL HERALD BUILDING LEASE

## AJL gets breather after HC order to keep status quo till Nov 22

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The publisher of the National Herald newspaper, who was ordered by the Centre, to vacate its headquarters at 'Herald House' building by November 15, got a last minute breather on Thursday with the Delhi High Court directing status quo till November 22. However, the court did not stay the eviction notice, issued by Urban Development Ministry, which started eviction proceedings in the morning. Meanwhile, the Governor gave CBI sanction to prosecute former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Hooda for the alleged illegalities in the allotment of land in Panchkula for the National Herald newspaper.

In its petition in Delhi HC, the Associated Journal Limited (AJL), publisher of National Herald alleged that the proceedings by the Urban Development Ministry were being initiated for the purposes of "scuttling the voices of dissent" and the voice of the largest Opposition party in the country, a reference to the Congress.

Without naming the BJP, the AJL's lawyer and Congress leader Abhishek Singhvi further alleged that the order issued under pressure and directives from the ruling party at the Centre is vitiated by malafides, bias and had "oblique political motives". Singhvi said that the Government's actions were purely politically motivated and based on BJP MP Subramanian Swamy's petition.

Singhvi pointed out that the Centre has started eviction proceedings in the Herald House and argued that it is unfair when the matter is seized with the court. This was refuted by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and the court asked Singhvi to ask his clients to verify the submission. After a few minutes, Singhvi on instructions told the court that he has photographs of the two officials and said that their names were — Gopal Rastogi and K R Rana.

While Mehta said the matter would be looked into, Justice Sunil Gaur said, "they (L&DO) cannot take possession like this. They have to proceed under the Public Premises

(Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971". Later Mehta gave an oral assurance it will maintain status quo till November 22.

Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda said that he was a victim of "political vendetta" and has done no wrong in the case involving allotment of a plot of land in Panchkula to AJL. Hooda made the remarks on media persons' query on reports that Haryana Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya gave sanction to prosecute him in the AJL case.

"I have been maintaining that I am a victim of political vendetta," Hooda told reporters on the sidelines of a Congress workers' meeting. The case of cheating, corruption and criminal conspiracy, registered

by the Haryana Vigilance Bureau against Hooda and AJL for irregularities in allotment of a plot of land in Panchkula to the firm had been taken over by the CBI last year. Congress veteran leader Motilal Vora is also made as an accused in the CBI case along with Haryana Government officials.



Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, WSBI president Heinrich Haasis and president of WSBI Isidro Fainé during the 25th World Congress- 'Sustainable Retail Banking: Making Globalisation Inclusive for All' in New Delhi on Thursday **PTI**

# India hosts agriculture summit to boost agri produce trade

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To increase agricultural produce trade in Asia and the Pacific countries, India hosted a two-day meet of the general assembly of Network for Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and Pacific (NEDAC) to chalk out a strategy for regional trade. NEDAC also adopted a new constitution on Thursday.

While inaugurating the assembly Parshottam K Rupala, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Panchayatiraj, said, "Realising the need to enhance the farmers income to address agrarian distress and promotes farmers welfare Prime Minister has embarked on a mission for doubling farmers income by 2022." He further said that the cooperatives have exhibited better performance and are living success stories to enhance pro-

duction and better returns to produce from market through collective action. He added that the India is determined to improve productivity of agriculture products and use resources effectively and improve trade for farmers.

To establish marketing linkages among cooperatives in the ASEAN countries for possible business undertaking of their agricultural products, Sundeep Kumar Nayak, Managing Director of National Cooperative Development Corporation said India has hosted the event with an objective to increase trade between cooperatives of two or multiple countries. "Through this, we will be able to stimulate the capabilities and training human resources at all levels and accelerate development through a more efficient utilisation of human, physical and financial resources available," Nayak said.

# NE States to be ODF by Dec 2018

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While Sikkim has already taken lead in becoming the first Open Defecation Free (ODF) in the country, the other States from the Northeast region have committed to make the region ODF by December end this year.

This was decided at a regional review meeting of the North Eastern States — Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim held in Guwahati in Assam recently.

The workshop comprised discussions on sustaining ODF status, solid and liquid waste management (SLWM), and rural water supply. Teams from Key aspects of sustainability



such as geo-tagging, verification of ODF villages, conversion of dysfunctional toilets, IEC expenditure, Swachhagrahi engagement were reviewed.

Speaking on the occasion, Parameswaranlyer, Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation emphasized the importance of the joint effort

being made by the Central and State SBM teams towards sustaining gains made under the program so far.

He spoke about the importance of continued focus on behavior change communication and periodic verifications to ensure that the safe sanitation habits and practices devel-

oped over the past few years are sustained in the future as well.

The teams from the ODF States of the region spoke about efforts to sustain their ODF status. Sikkim highlighted the solid and liquid waste management initiatives being undertaken in the first ODF State of the country.

Non-ODF States committed to declaring themselves as ODF by December 2018. Assam shared highlights of "Mission Sambhav", under which more than one lakh pit digging activities were initiated on a single day during the Swachhata Hi Seva fortnight.

Akhay Rout, Director General, Special Projects from the Ministry pointed to the criticality of the sustainability phase of SBM and the necessi-

ty for the managers for regular monitoring.

V Radha, Joint Secretary from the Ministry spoke about the need to increase the coverage of household water supply connections by taking up community-managed, low cost schemes.

Since its launch in October 2014, the Swachh Bharat Mission, the world's largest sanitation program, has changed the behaviour of hundreds of millions of people with respect to toilet access and usage. About 300 million people have stopped defecating in the open since the Mission began, down from 550 million at the beginning of the programme to about 200 million today, according to the Government data.

# Freedom fighter's widow made to wait 30 yrs for pension

Chennai: The Madras High Court has directed the Union Home Ministry to sanction pension for the widow of a freedom fighter and slammed it for a delay of over three decades in considering the woman's application.

Justice R Suresh Kumar said the attitude on the part of officials responsible for keeping the application pending for more than three decades is to be deprecated. Had the application of the petitioner decided in 1973 and disposed of either way, the petitioner would have been in a position either to get the fruits of the freedom fighter family pension or would have protested over the issue in the matter known to law, the judge said. The matter relates to L Kathayee Ammal, the widow of freedom fighter Lakshmana Thevar, who has been made to wait for 30 years for the pension.

Ammal's application has been kept pending by the central government and the court wants to register its displeasure against all those responsible, the judge said in his order. The petitioner's husband was an ex-Indian National Army personnel who joined the INA in Malaysia and was captured by the British. After WWII, the petitioner's husband applied to the Tamil Nadu and Central Governments seeking freedom fighters' pension, but before the application was considered, he died in 1969. **PTI**

# BJP expels 64 rebel leaders ahead of MP Assembly polls

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The rebel candidates denied tickets in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan may impact results of many constituencies in two States as the BJP has expelled 64 of them in MP and working overtime to seek withdrawal of as many of them from the electoral fray.

After inducting several fresh faces in Madhya Pradesh to fight anti-incumbency in the Assembly polls, the BJP is facing problem of dissidents and has so far expelled 64 of its rebel, including former Ministers Sartaj Singh, Ram Krishan Kusmaria and former Gwalior mayor Sameeksha Pandey. A total of 2,932 candidates filed nominations out of which 578 were rejected and 538 withdrew their papers for the November 28 poll in the State.

Kusmaria has been an MP thrice and has also served as a Minister in the Shivraj Singh Government between 2008 and 2013. The BJP had sent its central leader Prabhat Jha to salvage the situation but he could not succeed in his efforts.

For the Congress, Xavier Meena, a former Minister from

Jhahu is a key dissident in Madhya Pradesh. Congress has been able to restrict the rebel numbers by succeeding to have a chunk of them withdraw their nominations.

In Rajasthan, ahead of the December 7 Assembly elections, the BJP's Nagaur MLA Habibur Rahman rejoined the Congress after a decade. BJP's Dausa MP Harish Chandra Meena, former DG police, also joined the Congress. Meena had joined the BJP in 2014. Meena joined the Congress in the presence of former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot, whose father Rajesh Pilot held the Dausa constituency.

Meena's elder brother Namu Narayan Meena is a senior Congress leader who was defeated by Harish Meena from Dausa.

BJP is locked in a tough electoral battle with the Congress in both the states and deployed all its key leaders led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and party president Amit Shah to override the incumbency factor. It is estimated that at least 30 to 40 seats in MP could be a touch and go affair on account of 'rebel' candidates presence.

# Didi steps up attack on BJP over NRC

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# 2 terrorists held in Poonch part of LeT module: SSP

PTI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

Two AK-56 rifles, two magazines, 60 rounds and four hand-grenades were seized from their possession.

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

Presenting the arrested persons before the media persons, he said preliminary investigations revealed that they were not in the district to carry out any terror activity.

"They are associates of terrorists and their only motive was to shift the weapons from Poonch to Kashmir," Pandey said.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

## CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

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

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

## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM JAMMU

[www.jammutourism.gov.in](http://www.jammutourism.gov.in), e-mail: [dirtsjammu@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsjammu@gmail.com)  
Tel. 0191-2548172, Fax.0191-2548358

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

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

Directorate of Tourism, Jammu intends to make TVCs/AVs/Short-Films/Docu-drama/Documentaries on different tourist destinations and of tourism products for the year 2018-19 to promote Jammu as a prominent independent tourist destination covering various aspects of State tourism like monuments, wildlife, ecotourism, hill stations, shopping, fairs and festivals, heritage, resorts, cuisines and handicrafts covering the captivating beauty, diversity and spirituality of Jammu in such a way that it offers the viewers a cherish-worthy and engaging experience about Jammu on the rates approved by Department of Information and Public Relation, J&K.

Pursuant to the above, E.O.I is invited from registered Production House/Film Maker/Agency/Company in J&K for the production of TVCs/AVs/Short-Films/Docu-drama/Documentaries and other related works.

**S.No. 1, Name of work :- Empaement of Production House/Film Maker/Agency/Company for Production of short films to promote Jammu Tourism.**

Name of Division :- DDT (Pub) Jammu  
Cost of document (In Rs.) :- Rs. 200/-  
Earnest Money (In Rs.) :- 10,000/-  
Time and date of opening of E.O.I :- 26.11.2018 at 11:00 hrs.

Who can apply :- Registered Film Maker/Agency/Company/Production House of J&K having a prominent media presence and Minimum experience of making 03 films/TVCs/AVs/Short-films/Docu Drama/documentaries during last 03 years in J&K.

1. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> from 10:00 Hrs on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2018 upto 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, 2018 till 14:00 Hrs. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, terms and conditions and other details.

**Sd/- (Er.S.K.Attri) KAS**  
**Deputy Director Tourism**  
**Publicity, Jammu**  
DIPJ/3711/P/18  
Dated: 14.11.2018

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

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

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

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

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

"On one hand, they (NC and PDP) say they will not take part in elections to safeguard Article 35A, on the other, they demand dissolution of assembly and fresh elections. Tomorrow if assembly elections are held, will you will fight or go by your boycott?" Madhav said at a function in Kathua on Tuesday night.

NC and PDP did not participate in urban local bodies elections held in the State last month after a gap of nearly 13 years due to the legal challenge to Article 35-A of the Constitution, which guarantees exclusive residency rights to people of the State only, before the Supreme Court.

TENDER NOTICE						
SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX) IN Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER
1	IRRIGATION & W.R. DEPTT., PALWAL	CONSTG. PUCCA HUMP AT KM 7.50 OF UDD FOR PROVIDING IRRIGATION FACILITY IN ADJOINING AREA OF VILLAGE KHIRBI AND RECHARGING THE RICH OF GROUND WATER.	05.12.2018 07.12.2018	160.71 LACS	<a href="http://etenders.hry.nic.in">http://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	xenpwl79@gmail.com 01225-432129
2	IRRIGATION DEPTT., JHAJJAR	INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF RAWA MINOR RD 0 TO 28500 + 9 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 19.11.2018	6.97 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO 6803-16/A DATED 08.11.2018	xen-wjar.ir@gmail.com 2015684182
3	PWD B&R KARNAL	CARRYING OUT SURVEY GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION AND PREPARATION OF GADS, BOQ., DETAILED DESIGNING, WORKING DRAWING, DETAILED ESTIMATES & UNIT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF H.I. BRIDGE	13.11.2018 28.11.2018	7 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	pwd-eeadkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
4	PWD B&R NARAINGAR	PROVIDING WIDENING AND STRENGTHENING OF LINK ROAD BHLUPURA TO PILKANAN IN AMBALA DISTT (D 152) CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE 23376	19.11.2018 03.12.2018	114.69 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	pwd-eeupl-naraingar@hry.nic.in 01734284035
5	PWD B&R, KARNAL	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING WITH WBM + BM + PC RD 0 TO 400 & 400 TO 1700 ON KALWHERI APP ROAD (ROAD ID - 7224) KM 0 TO 2.200 IN KARNAL DISTRICT	02.11.2018 18.11.2018	78.66 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	pwd-eeadkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
6	PWD B&R, KARNAL	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING WITH WBM + BM + PC RD 0 TO 1000 & CCR RD 1000 TO 1100 ON NRD ROAD TO ANANTHALLI ROAD (ROAD ID - 7432 ) LENGTH KM 1.100 IN KARNAL DISTRICT CODE NO 23301	14.11.2018 05.12.2018	37.40 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	pwd-eeadkarnal@hry.nic.in 0184-2251029
7	PWD B&R, NUH	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE AT FEROCZEPUR BIRKA IN NUH DISTT	15.11.2018 17.12.2018	1190.30 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	01267-271237
8	FOREST DEPTT., PANCHKULA	NUKAD NATAK, SHORT DRAMA / SKIT IN 22 DISTRICTS OF HARYANA	14.11.2018 29.11.2018	EMD 50000	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	cfsfamb@gmail.com 9416378656 0172-2563861
9	FISHERIES, DEPARTMENT	EXCAVATION & PRE-CAST C C LINING WORK OF PONDS AT NATIONAL FISH SEED FARM, JYOTISAR (KURUKSHETRA) +13 NO. OTHER WORKS AT DIFF GOVT. FISH SEED FARMS IN HARYANA	15.11.2018 28.11.2018	85.24 LACS	<a href="http://www.harfish.gov.in">www.harfish.gov.in</a>	fisheries.haryana@gmail.com 7982484936
10	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, YAMUNA NAGAR	PLANNING DESIGNING CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLING TESTING, COMMISSIONING, STARTING UP, STABILIZATION AND O & M FOR 5 YEAR OF 0.20 MLD PACKAGE TYPE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT BASFD ON SBR TECHNIQ DGN INCLUDING AH CIVIL, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, PIPING AND INSTRUMENTATION WORKS COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS AT BHOGT MAJRA DISTT YAMUNA NAGAR	16.11.2018 30.11.2018	74.50 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a>	Executive Engineer, Division No.2, Yamunanagar
11	PT. DEEN DAYAL UPADHAYAYA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES KARNAL AT KUTIAL	PROCUREMENT OF PHYSIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT FOR COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY	16.11.2018 30.11.2018	1 LACS	<a href="https://kcgmc.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://kcgmc.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> in KCGMC/Proc/2018/12153 dated 14.11.2018	ubskarnal2018@gmail.com 0184-2266254
12	HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION PANCHKULA	E-TENDER FOR BIOMETRIC ATTENDANCE WITH DEVICE AND MANUAL BIOMETRIC ON THE ATTENDANCE SHEET & QM ETCC, VIDEOGRAPHY, CCTV CAMERA, JAVAYER AND PHYSICAL SCREENING TEST (PST) AND PHYSICAL MEASUREMENT TEST (PMT)	15.11.2018 07.12.2018	1 LACS	<a href="http://www.hssc.gov.in">www.hssc.gov.in</a> HSSC/E-TENDER/01/28/2018	secretaryhssc01@gmail.com 828047291

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in](http://www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) RO NO. 73574

TENDER NOTICE						
SR No	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, FARUKH NAGAR	ESTIMATE FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREET LIGHT FOR ONE YEAR (0.99*12=11.88)	CLOSING DATE 26.11.2018	11.88 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in/cgpp/tender/No.2018/HRY/71852">https://etenders.hry.nic.in/cgpp/tender/No.2018/HRY/71852</a>	9467388174 secvcmfarukhnagar@gmail.com
2	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, HISAR	SPECIAL REPAIR WITH MASTIC OF ROAD FROM PARSHURAM CHOKH TO GANDHI CHOKH HISAR + 2 OTHER WORKS	30.11.2018 05.12.2018	40.92 LACS	<a href="http://mehisar.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">mehisar.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender No 105028, 105031, 105105	xenmehisar@gmail.com
3	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	CONSTRUCTION OF FITS FOR COLLECTION OF DUNG (GOGBAR) & CONSTRUCTION OF TANKS FOR COLLECTION OF WASTE WATER FOR DIARY COMPLEX DARWA FOR COMPOSTING + 1 OTHER WORK	15.11.2018 21.11.2018	49.22 LACS	<a href="https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender No 105145, 105150	9818656867 xen.mcynt@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI	PATCH WORK AND POT HOLES REPAIR IN VARIOUS POINT IN WARD NO. 08 TO 20 YAMUNANAGAR + 2 OTHER WORKS	15.11.2018 22.11.2018	40.60 LACS	<a href="https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender No 105147, 105149, 105145	9818656867 xen.mcynt@gmail.com
5	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	REPAIR OF EXISTING DRAINS AND LAYING OF RCC NP3 PIPE DRAINS, PROVIDING & FIXING SFRC DOUBLE ROAD GULLY SIZE 1448MM * 457 MM AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO IN THE BALANCE AREA OF SECTOR-86 GURUGRAM, UNDER MCG + 2 OTHER WORKS	09.11.2018 26.11.2018	116.06 LACS	<a href="https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">https://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender No 104676, 104680, 104681	ec5@mca.gov.in
6	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL & BARBED WIRE FENCING AT NEAR HOUSE NO. 46, POCKET-A, IN SECTOR-59, (WARD NO.28) UNDER MCG.	20.11.2018	3.65 LACS	<a href="http://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">http://mcynt.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender No EE-118/IV/MCG/E-5/2018/48717 DT.05.11.2018 EE-118/IV/MCG/E-5/2018/49538 Tender No-104425	9821395203 ec3@mca.gov.in
7	HVPNL PANCHKULA	PROCUREMENT OF BOLT,SSS C-TYPE WEDGE CONNECTORS FOR I. TARANTULA-TARANTULA CONDUCTOR (2400 NO.) II. ZEBRA-ZEBRA CONDUCTOR (7700 NO.)	17.11.2018 01.01.2019	2.80 LACS	<a href="http://www.hvpon.org.in">www.hvpon.org.in</a> Tender No CDR 1153, NIT NO 1005 DT.14.11.2018	0172-2583789 soro@hvpon.org.in
8	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL ODGG FOUNDATIONS, ODCT AT 220 KV SUB-STATION LULA AHIR, (R-8)	CLOSING DATE 05.12.2018	20.46	<a href="http://www.hvpon.org.in">www.hvpon.org.in</a> Tender No-12/CWR/HVPN/2018-19	0172-2583789 soro@hvpon.org.in
9	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF RADIATOR FOUNDATION, OIL TANK FOUNDATION, SURFACE DRESSING & SPREADING OF CRUSHED BARRI AT 220KV S/STN. UNISPUR (CIVIL WORKS).	19.11.2018	7840 FOR GENERAL 3920 FOR REGISTERED SOCIETY	<a href="http://www.hvpon.org.in">www.hvpon.org.in</a> Tender: No 21/2018-19 Dated 18.11.2018	0172-2583789 soro@hvpon.org.in
10	HVPNL PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF ODGG FOUNDATIONS, ODCT AND OTHER ALLIED WORKS AT 132 KV SUB-STATION KANINA, (R-8)	05.12.2018	21.66	<a href="http://www.hvpon.org.in">www.hvpon.org.in</a> E-Tender: Eoguyr/No-11/CWR/HVPN/2018-19	0172-2583789 soro@hvpon.org.in
11	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH	PROVIDING AND INSTALLATION OF 07 MTR. STREET LIGHT POLL ON JHAJJAR ROAD TO SECTOR ROAD ALONG WITH ITI BAHADURGARH CITY + 3 OTHER WORKS	27.11.2018 28.11.2018	69.84 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in Tender No 784, 785, 786, 787	9466279801 mcsharh@gmail.com
12	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	RE-TENDER FOR 3RD SURROUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA FOR HIRING OF AGENCY FOR PROVIDING WALKIE-TALKIE/WIRELESS SETS + 17 OTHER WORKS	16.11.2018 03.12.2018	EMD-6.1 LACS	<a href="http://haryanatourism.gov.in">haryanatourism.gov.in</a> Tender No Htc-2018/SXMA/Agencies	haryanatourism@gmail.com 9216400456
13	UHBVN PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT CONCRETE INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK ROAD AT 38KV S/STN, DIKADOLA	14.11.2018 28.11.2018	7.16 LACS	<a href="http://www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender: No.26/CBR/2018-19	xenciviluhbvnotak@gmail.com 0172-2565625
14	UHBVN PANCHKULA	ANNUAL BUILDINGS MAINTAINANCE AND REPAIR OF 33 KVS/STN. UNDER "OP" CITY DIVN. PANIPAT	14.11.2018 28.11.2018	5.69 LACS	<a href="http://www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in">www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in</a> Tender: No.27/CBR/2018-19	xenciviluhbvnotak@gmail.com 0172-2565625
15	UHBVN PANCHKULA	1 NOS. JEEP/BOLERO WITH HARD TOP WITH DRIVER	29.11.2018 30.11.2018	6000	<a href="http://www.uhbvn.org.in">www.uhbvn.org.in</a> NIT No.51/XEN/SL/2018-19 Dt.16.11.2018	0184-2268351 xenopuhbvnotak@gmail.com
16	HARTRON	PURCHASE OF 170 NOS. I5 PROCESSOR BASED COMPUTERS + 1 OTHER WORKS	16.11.2018 10.12.2018 & 16.11.2018 07.12.2018	2 LACS	<a href="http://www.hartron.org.in">www.hartron.org.in</a> Tender No/Hartron/HW/2018-19/46, 2018-19/47	agmprocurement@gmail.com 0172-2720113

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in](http://www.haryanaaprocurment.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) RO NO. 73573

MARATHA RESERVATION

Maha Govt to make announcement on Dec 1

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

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vibrant Gujarat roadshow to be held in Delhi today

NAYAN DAVE ■ GANDHINAGAR

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

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

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

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

Yatra to spread awareness on Patel's contributions

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

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

Region known as Dholera SIR - a Greenfield city being developed in the proximity of Ahmedabad with all state-of-the-art amenities to attract big ticket investments. Unlike previous summits where the State Government

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

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

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

Geelani released from house arrest

KHURSHED WANI ■ SRINAGAR

The Governor's administration in Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday relaxed restrictions on the movement of separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani to

travel to his native village in north Kashmir's Sopore. Geelani has been held under house arrest since 2015 since he returned from New Delhi after spending winter months there.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BHIMA-KOREGAON RIOTS CASE

Chargesheet against 10 persons, including 5 activists

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

The ten accused named in the first chargesheet in the

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

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

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

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

गाजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण

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

सार्वजनिक सूचना  
"मै. शिप्रा एस्टेट लि. द्वारा भूखण्ड सं.-10 वैभव खण्ड इन्दिरापुरम पर पूर्व में स्वीकृत कराये गये मानचित्र सं.-191/जी.एच./जोन-6/2012-13 में आंशिक रूप से संशोधन करते हुए नवीन प्रस्तावना दी गई है जिसमें भूखण्ड के भू-भाग सं. 10/2 समूह आवास एवं 10/3 पर व्यवसायिक निर्माण की प्रस्तावना दी गई है। जनसामान्य, किसी भी कार्य दिवस में मुख्य नगर नियोजक कार्यालय में संशोधित मानचित्र का अवलोकन कर विज्ञापित प्रकाशित होने के 1 माह (30 दिन) के अन्दर अपनी आपत्ति/सुझाव से लिखित रूप में प्राधिकरण को अवगत करा सकते हैं। निर्धारित समय अर्थात् के उपरान्त प्रस्तुत होने वाली किसी भी आपत्ति/सुझाव पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

उपाध्यक्ष  
Email: help@nigda@gmail.com, @gdagzb, @gdagzb  
Helpline No.: 0120 3342433, WhatsApp: 9818988807, Website: www.gdaghaziabad.com

एक सुन्दर शहर..... हमारा संकल्प

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified female 50 years of age whose name, residence and family is unknown, was found dead in the drain DDA Park, A-B Block, Saraswati Vihar, P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi on 06.11.18 at 12:38 pm. In this regard a vide has been registered with DD No: 16A, dated 06.11.18 at P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to identify the deceased female but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the UIDB is as under:  
Sex: Female, Age: 50 years, Height: 5'2", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Wearing: Yellow colour Suit, Brown Colour Printed Salwar and Blue colour Slippers in Feet.  
If anyone has any information about her relatives, kindly inform the SHO/ Rani Bagh, Delhi.

SHO  
P.S. Rani Bagh, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-27015329, 27015793

DP/8473/NW/18

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male, Age: Approx 28-32 years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'6", Face: Oval, Built: Thin, was wearing White Check Shirt & Light Blue colour Underwear and barefoot, was found at MG Marg Near Rajghat Bus Depot, Public Gate Side Darya Ganj. In this regard a FIR/DD No. 264/18, dated 12.11.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi.  
Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO  
P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23279331, 23274683

DP/5859/CD/18

POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU & KASHMIR JAMMU

e-NIT No. 59 OF 2018  
DATED 13.11.2018

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

A pre-bid conference shall be held on 19.11.2018 at 1500 hours in Conference Hall at PHQ, Gulshan Ground J&K, Jammu to clarify the queries of prospective bidders if any. The intending bidders should attend said conference to clarify matters related to this tender enquiry if any. The tenders (technical bids only) will be opened online on 08.12.2018 at 1100 hours at Police Headquarters Gulshan Ground J&K, Jammu.

Detailed tender documents (SBD) with terms and conditions are available on J&K State e-Procurement Portal [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in).

Sd/-  
AIG (Provision/Transport)  
For Director General of Police  
J&K Jammu

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

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED/MISSING

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

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

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

SHO  
P.S. North Rohini, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-27048210, 27048211

DP/2301/RD/18

SEARCH FOR MISSING

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

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

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing person, may inform SHO, Navli Karim, Delhi at E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO  
P.S Nabi Karim, Delhi  
Ph. No. 011-23521081, 23531734,  
DP/5851/CD/18 8750870428

REGENT ENTERPRISES LIMITED

REGD. OFFICE : E-205 (LGF), Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110 048  
Telephone No.: 011-25213191 Email: [Dstradersltd@gmail.com](mailto:Dstradersltd@gmail.com)  
CIN: L15500DL1999PLC153163

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

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

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

on behalf of Board of Director  
For Regent Enterprises Limited  
Sd/-  
Vikas Kumar  
Director  
Din: 95368192

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 14/11/2018

Note: The Company has sent letters for Compliance to SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/DOPI/CIR/P/2018/73 dated April 20, 2018 and SEBI Notification No. SEBI/LAD-IR/24 dated June 8, 2018, the same letter were sent to 2087 Shareholders who hold physical Shares of the Previous Year. 730 courier has not been received by the shareholders till the date due to various reasons, thus shareholders of the Company are requested that kindly update their address or detail with the Company.

DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD

Office of the Executive Engineer C-4  
Govt. of NCT of Delhi  
First Floor, Office cum Shopping Complex,  
New Ranjeet Nagar, New Delhi-110008  
email : [ee4.dusib@gmail.com](mailto:ee4.dusib@gmail.com)

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

PRESS NOTICE FOR INVITING E-TENDERS

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

NIT No. 57 /EEC-4/ DUSIB/2018-19  
E-Tender No. 2018\_DUSIB\_161864\_1  
Name of work :- Pay & Use JSC (Revenue)  
Sub Head :- Up-gradation of Jan Suvidha Complex in JJ Cluster Rakhi Market Zakhira including provisions for additional 8WCs and 2 Baths. (PMS:9989).

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

Executive Engineer C-4, DUSIB

NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

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

E-Procurement Tender Notice - III' Call

Tender ID : 2018\_NDMC\_161933\_1

Subject: 9-B Suspense Stock during 2018-19.  
SH: Supply and Stacking of GT Cover with Frame, GT Cover Only Manhole Cover with Frame & Manhole Cover only in NDMC Civil Store.

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

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

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

To be the global Benchmark for a Capital City

WESTERN RAILWAY

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

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

DECEMBER 2018	DEPOT	DEPOT OFFICER IN CHARGE	CONTACT NO.
05.12.2018	18.12.2018	Maniaxmi	Deputy Chief Material Manager- Maniaxmi 022-24929571 09004495750
07.12.2018	19.12.2018	Pratapnagar	Deputy Chief Material Manager - Dahod 02673241295 09724090455
08.12.2018	20.12.2018	Dahod	Deputy Chief Material Manager - Dahod 02673241295 09724090455
12.12.2018	22.12.2018	Sabarmati	Deputy Chief Material Manager-Sabarmati 07927500080 09724093770
10.12.2018	24.12.2018	Mumbai Central	Sr.Divl. Material Manager, Mumbai Central 022-23094142 09004499003
11.12.2018	21.12.2018	Ahmedabad	Sr.Divl. Material Manager - Ahmedabad 0792205888 09724093750

For detailed information please contact the concerned Depot Officers. Note:-  
1. Railway reserves the right to withdraw any lot from e-Auction. 2. e-Auction will start at as per scheduled time. 3. e-Auction catalogues will be available on site [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) e-Auction portal. 4. In case of any assistance required regarding e-Auction, digital signatures, Registration procedure and participation, please contact above mentioned depot Officer. 5. All payment transactions shall be done through the online payment gateway.  
(No.5438/e-Auction/2018-19 Dated 12.11.2018)

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## Gaping hole

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



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

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

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

## Rajasthan rumble

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



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

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

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

# Missing inclusivity

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



BHOPINDER SINGH

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## SOUNDBITE

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



Home Minister —Rajnath Singh

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



Afghan President —Ashraf Ghani

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



Producer —Ritesh Sidhwani

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



Woman activist —Trupti Desai

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Temporary respite

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

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

G David Milton  
 Maruthancode

### Nehru and his undermined legacy

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

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



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

Sujit De  
 Kolkata

### Unanswered questions

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

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

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

is made public.

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

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

While all this would lead

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

Shalini Gerald  
 Chennai

### Et tu, Dassault?

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

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

Anna Mary Yvonne  
 Chennai

Send your feedback to:  
 letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

## The emerging New India

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



NAVNEET ANAND

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

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

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

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

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

(The writer is a strategic communications professional)

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

—US VICE PRESIDENT MIKE PENCE

POINT COUNTERPOINT



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

—MYANMAR'S DE FACTO LEADER AUNG SAN SUU KYI

# Indigenous modernity

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



SACHIDA NAND JHA

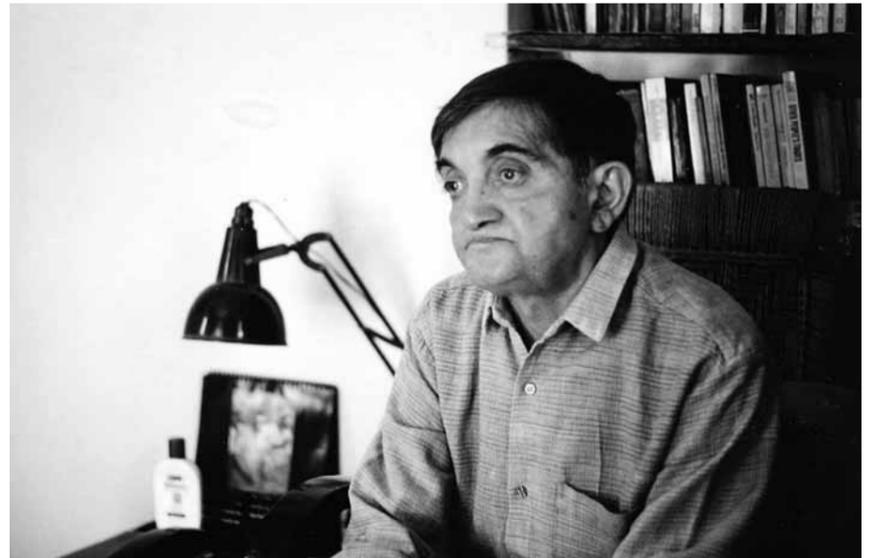
Remembering the legendary Indian writer, Nirmal Verma, necessarily encourages one to revisit some of his literary works which turn out to be completely mesmerising. Indeed, it is akin to doing a literary pilgrimage. Such a pilgrimage is particularly significant for the fact that he appears to never ever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

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

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

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

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



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

resolution of all those problems we face today.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Corruption and abuse of power

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



PRABHU GUPTA

The Ministry of External Affairs was ordered recently by the court to renew the passport of an Indian citizen who'd been in Canada on a work permit. His passport renewal had been held up for two years, putting his job and his residence status in Canada at risk, apparently because the Ministry suspected that he might in some way be involved in acts against "the public interest." That is the code language for saying that the man might have terrorist links or be involved in hawala type transactions. The latter possibility can be eliminated in the blink of an eye — the man would not be working as a lorry driver if he was making money from

hawala transactions.

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## NO PROSPECT OF GOING BACK

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

(The Guardian editorial)

# FinMin plans offer for sale of GIC, New India Assurance

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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



Government in the stake sale process by December 7, 2018, said the EOI floated by DIPAM.

General insurer New India Assurance had raised ₹9,600 crore in the initial public offer (IPO) and had priced its shares at ₹770-800 a piece.

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

Reinsurance company GIC

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Loss-making national carrier Air India plans to mop up ₹700-800 crore by selling over 70 residential and commercial properties spread across the country, a senior airline official said on Thursday. This fresh bid is a part of the airline's real estate assets monetisation plan approved by the then UPA Government in 2012. As per the plan, Air India had to the garner funds to the tune of ₹5,000 crore between April 2014 and March 2021, with an annual target of ₹500 crore from FY13 onwards.

The properties, which are spread over 16 cities pan India, will be e-auctioned through the state-run auctioneer MSTC.

"We are expecting to raise about ₹700-800 crore by e-auctioning of these over 70 properties, which comprises both residential as well as commercial. Some of these properties are those which we put up on the block earlier but could not get a buyer," the official said.

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

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

# Rebirth of a classic

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

KUSHAN MITRA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

# Telecom sector reaches 5 lakh mobile tower mark

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

# HAIER BRINGS A NEW ERA OF SMART HOME SOLUTIONS IN INDIA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

# NHAI to get ₹10,000 cr: Gadkari

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

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

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

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

# Business Corner

## BIS ORGANISES SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

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



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

## MOTHERS ON WHEELS — OUT TO HEAL THE WORLD

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



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

## POSOCO ORGANISES ANNUAL CULTURAL MEET

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



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

## SNEHA SCHOOL CELEBRATES CHILDREN'S DAY

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



## NMDC LIMITED CELEBRATES ITS 61ST FOUNDATION DAY

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



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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's exports rose by 17.86 per cent to \$26.98 billion in October mainly due to the low base effect even as trade deficit widened to \$17.13 billion, according to the Commerce Ministry data.

The exports on monthly basis were down compared to \$27.95 billion in September. Imports during October also rose by 17.62 per cent to \$44.11 billion, leading to widening of trade deficit to \$17.13 billion.

The deficit widened despite a steep decline of 42.9 per cent in gold imports to \$1.68 billion during the month under review.

The trade gap was \$14.61 billion in October 2017.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# SEARCH FOR MISSING



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

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

# PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

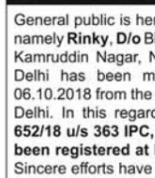
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

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

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

DP/1562/OD/18

# SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



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

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

E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in  
Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641  
Fax : 011-24368639  
SHO P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi  
Ph. No.: 011-25946700, 25946710  
DP/1558/OD/18

# PUBLIC NOTICE FOR THE LOSS OF SALE AGREEMENT

Notice is hereby given to the Public at large that the DEED OF SALE dated 24th August 2007, executed between Dr. Anibal Monar Perpetuo Scocorro Da Costa (THE VENDOR), in favour of M/s Manas Realty Project Pvt Ltd (THE PURCHASER) for the property being addressed at

1. "PREDIO URBANO OU CASAS DE MORADA COM SUA PINTURA QUINTAL" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 27511 of Book No. 70 New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 871.
2. "BENZOUXALEM NOVO alias BENZOUXALEM NOVO" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 6727 of Book B 17 of New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 870 &
3. "BENZOUXALEM alias MALPEAZOXALEM" described in the land registration office of salcete under no 7025 of Book B 18 of New Series, registered in the Revenue Office (Matriz) under no. 867.

The aforesaid three properties are adjoining each other and are surveyed under survey no. 208 sub division 3 totally admeasuring 5225 sq. meters. Along with a residential house bearing no. 817 in the said property.

Portion of the property "Valadra" described in the land Registration office Salcete under no. 10085 New Series and inscribed in the Taluka Revenue office (matriz) under no 94 and survey no. 210 sub-division 3 situated at Aesona ward of Benaulum village, admeasuring 192 sq. meters.

Subsituated at Aesona ward of Benaulum Gram Panchayat Salcete Taluka, Salcete Sub-District of District of South Goa has been lost which is duly registered vide registration No. 1583 registered at Book No. 1 Volume No. 2888 from Page No. 85 to 118 with the sub register. All the people are hereby informed to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing document, if anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days from the present.

Sd/-  
**DEEPAK KUMAR TYAGI**  
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY  
Manas Realty Project Pvt Ltd  
Address: 6, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi - 110017, India

Place: New Delhi Date: 15.11.18

**BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED**  
CIN: L01403AS1999PLC005741  
Regd. Office: 202, Royal View, B.K. Kakoti, Ulubari, Guwahati, Assam-781007  
Corp. Office: 281, Deepali Pitampura, New Delhi-110034  
Tel No.: 0361-2464670/71, Fax: +91-361-2464672  
Website: www.barakcement.com; E-Mail Id: cs@barakcement.com

# EXTRACT OF STANDALONE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND HALF YEAR ENDED 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2018

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

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

By Order of the Board  
For **BARAK VALLEY CEMENTS LIMITED**  
Sd/-  
(Kamakhyia Chamaria)  
Vice Chairman and Managing Director  
Place: New Delhi Date: 14.11.2018

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

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Short E.NIT No. 20 of 2018-19 Dated: 12-11-2018

Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Reasi on behalf of Government of J&K State, invite tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors with J&K State Govt./CPWD and Railways upto **1800 Hrs on 27-11-2018** for the following work:

**S. No. 1 :- Name of Work :-** Construction of road from Govt. High School PHC Panassa Km 1st RD0-1000. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div., Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 11.04. **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost. **Time Allowed for completion :-** 30 days. **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours). **Class of Contractor :-** A, B, C & D

**S. No. 2 :- Name of Work :-** Construction of Hall for Wrestlers near Kalka Temple at Kalka Hills Reasi. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div., Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 8.83. **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost. **Time Allowed for completion :-** 60 days. **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours). **Class of Contractor :-** A, C, D

**S. No. 3 :- Name of Work :-** Construction of VIP Suit at Panassa (G. Floor & F. Floor) Including Boundary Wall. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div., Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 47.90. **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost. **Time Allowed for completion :-** 90 days. **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours). **Class of Contractor :-** A & B

**S. No. 4 :- Name of Work :-** Construction of road from PMGSY road to Hospital at Arnas by way of 100mm thick RBM, 150mm thick WBM, 75mm thick WMM, 25MM thick R/C 01 No.0.90 H.P. Culvert, R/wall, B/wall & Pacca Drain in stretches Km 1st RD 0-600. **Name of Division :-** PWD (R&B) Div., Reasi. **Estimated Cost (in lacs) :-** 34.90. **Cost of document (in Rs.) :-** 600/-, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :-** @ 2% of the Estimated cost. **Time Allowed for completion :-** 60 days. **Time & date of opening of tender :-** 28-11-2018 (1200 hours). **Class of Contractor :-** A & B

1) Date of Publishing from 12/11/2018  
2) The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jitenders.gov.in> from 0900 Hrs on 12/11/2018 to 27/11/2018 (1800Hrs)  
No. DIPJ-3688-P/18 Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD (R&B) Division, Reasi  
Dated: 13.11.2018

# ZEL JEWELLERS LIMITED

REGD. OFFICE : E-5, South Extension, Part-II, New Delhi-110 049  
CIN: L74999DL1999PLC058832 Website: www.rkjewelers.in  
Landline: (91)11-26252416 Email ID:zeljewellers@yahoo.co.in

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

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

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

# CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer (E), Electrical Division-I, CPWD, Gate No. 6, Jalebi Chowk, North Block,

# Sensex ends 119 pts higher, Nifty breaches 10,600-mark

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE benchmark Sensex ended 119 points higher on Thursday and the broader Nifty went past the 10,600 mark on positive investor sentiment amid easing crude oil prices and firm rupee.

The 30-share index opened a shade higher at 35,145.75 points, hovered in the range of 35,402 and 35,118.42, before ending the session at 35,260.54, with a gain of 118.55 points, or 0.34 per cent over its previous close.

The gauge had shed 2.50 points on Wednesday in a highly volatile session.

The NSE Nifty also closed 40.40 points, or 0.38 per cent higher at 10,616.70 after shuttling between 10,646.50 and 10,557.50.

The appreciation in rupee, firming trend in other Asian markets and a higher opening of European equities too influenced market mood here. Traders said falling crude prices in the global market was a big boost for the economy as it lightens the country's import bill burden, eases inflation and current account deficit concerns.

Global crude oil prices have fallen nearly 30% to USD

65 per barrel from over USD 86 in early October. Brent crude fell 0.47% to USD 65.81 per barrel.

Meanwhile, the rupee strengthened further by 44 paise to trade at 71.87 against the dollar in late afternoon trade in the forex market.

However, profit-booking at higher levels by speculators at the end of the session trimmed some of the day's gains, traders added.

According to analysts, a drop in US 10-year bond yield, followed by gradual pick up in foreign institutional investor (FII) inflow to domestic market and slide in oil prices eased the concerns of liquidity.

FII bought shares worth a net of ₹277.38 crore, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) sold shares to the tune of ₹272.34 crore on Wednesday, provisional data showed.

Uncertainty over the US-China trade deal and next Federal Reserve policy, which is likely to see hike in December, may add volatility in the near term, the analysts added.

Shares of Jet Airways climbed 24.52% amid reports that Tata Group was in talks to buy a controlling take in the

cash-strapped airline. Adani Ports took the top position among Sensex constituents by surging 4.19%, followed by Kotak Bank rising 2.61%.

Other big gainers included Axis Bank advancing 2.11%, Hero MotoCorp 1.95%, Tata Motors 1.78%, Maruti Suzuki 1.50%, Vedanta Ltd 1.37%, Power Grid 1.18%, L&T 0.97%, Bharti Airtel 0.85%, ICICI Bank 0.82%, HDFC Bank 0.80%, and HDFC 0.75%.

SBI, Infosys, RIL and IndusInd Bank, too, finished with gains of up to 0.56%.

Shares of private lender, Yes Bank emerged worst performer by plunging 7.42% after its non-executive chairman Ashok Chawla resigned with immediate effect.

The bank also said that independent director Vasant Gujarathi had tendered his resignation with immediate effect due to personal commitments.

Other laggards were NTPC, ONGC, Sun Pharma, Coal India, TCS, HUL, ITC, M&M, Asian Paint, Bajaj Auto, Wipro and Tata Steel falling by up to 2.16%.

Shares of Grasim Industries tumbled 7.91% following the Aditya Birla Group

firm's announcement of ₹1,300 crore consolidated loss in the September quarter.

Shares of state-run oil marketing companies such as HPCL, BPCL and IOC continued to show a bullish trend and surged up to 2.28% on falling global crude oil prices.

Among the sectoral indices, BSE consumer durables index gained the most by rising 1.60%, followed by realty index 1.58%, bankex 0.79%, metal 0.66%, capital goods 0.66%, auto 0.54%, healthcare 0.32%, infrastructure 0.19% and PSU index 0.10%.

However, FMCG, power, oil & gas, tech and IT indices ended in the negative zone.

The broader markets, too, displayed a firm trend with the mid-cap index rising 0.68% and small-cap index gaining 0.40%.

Globally, most of other Asian markets ended higher. Shanghai's Composite Index rose 1.36%, Hong Kong's Hang Seng was up 1.67% while Taiwan index gained 0.35%. Japan's Nikkei, however, shed 0.20%.

In Europe, Paris CAC 40 was up 0.49%, Frankfurt's DAX gained 0.48%, while London's FTSE was up 0.40%.

## RInfra Q2 net profit slips 49% to ₹277 cr

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Anil Ambani-led Reliance Infrastructure (RInfra) has posted a 49 per cent decline in its consolidated net profit to ₹277.19 crore for the quarter ended September 2018.

The company had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹543.8 crore in the year-ago period, RInfra said in a filing to the BSE, on Wednesday.

However, the company's consolidated income increased to ₹7,207.3 crore in the July-September quarter, over ₹5,898.7 crore in the year-ago period.

RInfra is a leading infrastructure company, developing projects through various special purpose vehicles (SPVs) in several high growth sectors such as power, roads and metro rail in the infrastructure space and the defence sector.

RInfra through its SPVs has executed a portfolio of infrastructure projects such as a metro rail project in Mumbai on build, own, operate and transfer (BOOT) basis; eleven road projects with total length of about 1,000 kms on the build-operate-transfer (BOT) basis.

## Liquidity crunch not systemic, NBFCs meeting payment obligations, say bankers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Top bankers on Thursday said the current liquidity crunch was not a systemic problem and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) were meeting payment obligations.

"All (NBFCs) of them have been able to meet their commitments as far as roll overs are concerned," SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar said on the sidelines of an event organised here.

Speaking on liquidity position in the banking system, National Bank For Agriculture And Rural Development (NABARD) Chairman HK Bhanwala said the condition was improving as interest rates were seen declining.

"So as such there is no big problem... This issue arose on account of some of entities which had borrowed short and created long assets. So, it may be specific problem. It does not seem to be a systemic problem," Bhanwala said.

Fears of liquidity crunch gripped the market following a series of defaults by group companies of IL&FS in the past two months. These led to concerns that non-banking lenders would be unable to meet their commitments for market borrowings, impairing

growth. Bhanwala further said that various banks were supporting NBFCs, including Nabard which had an exposure of around ₹15,000 crore.

"(Our) total assets are ₹4.80 lakh crore. Of this, the ₹15,000 crore exposure to NBFCs is small. Nothing is at risk. I haven't seen any default. Everybody is meeting the commitments to Nabard," Bhanwala said.

On capital infusion from the government, he said Nabard had already received ₹2,000 crore and it may not require more funds this year.

On the financial inclusion, the SBI Chairman said the massive Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) and other social security schemes launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had changed the complexities.

"...when we started this (PMJDY) programme and over this period of time, more than 300 million financial accounts have been opened. It is unparalleled in the world. And all these accounts started with zero balance but today more than 85 per cent of the accounts are having balance in the accounts. With SBI, we are having an average balance of ₹1,800 in these accounts," Kumar said.

## Govt plans to make gold hallmarking mandatory soon

New Delhi (PTI): The government is planning to soon make hallmarking mandatory for gold jewellery sold in the country, Food and Consumers Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Thursday.

The hallmarking of gold, which is voluntary in nature at present, is a purity certification of the precious metal. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), under the Consumer Affairs Ministry, is the administrative authority of hallmarking.

"BIS has set standards for hallmarking of gold jewellery in three grades of 14 carat, 18 carat and 22 carat. We are going to make it mandatory soon," Paswan said at a BIS event organised to commemorate World Standards Day with a theme on 'Global Standards and the fourth Industrial Revolution'. He, however, did not specify the date of implementation of the mandatory gold hallmarking, but stressed on the need to adopt the standards in the interest of consumers. India has over 220 BIS-recognised assaying and hallmarking centres, maximum of them are located in Tamil Nadu, followed by Kerala. As fourth industrial revolution would be of smart technologies, Paswan said the BIS had a challenge to speed up setting of standards to ensure the country did not lag behind in this area.

### NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	10,580.60	10,646.50	10,557.50	10,616.70	40.4
ADANIAPORTS	334	347.85	330	346.2	14.2
TITAN	892.35	924	889	911.55	29.35
EICHERMOT	23,400.00	24,041.95	23,291.50	23,920.00	629.50
KOTAKBANK	1,139.00	1,166.00	1,132.00	1,161.15	31.25
HEROMOTOCO	2,872.00	2,934.90	2,856.20	2,919.70	72.15
HINDPETRO	244	250.9	238.6	249	5.3
BPCL	315.5	325.45	308.5	322.5	6.55
BAJFINANCE	2,287.00	2,348.00	2,285.10	2,339.00	45.00
AXISBANK	613.25	632.5	610.75	623.95	11.25
TECHM	702	721.9	697.35	713.05	12.8
TATAMOTORS	178	182.7	177.5	179.8	3
VEDL	205.3	209.65	202.75	207.1	3
JSWSTEEL	340	345.9	338.05	343.8	4.2
MARUTI	7,378.90	7,515.10	7,333.55	7,459.60	90.55
HINDALCO	229.5	234.8	225.3	232.8	2.8
LT	1,388.00	1,408.00	1,386.10	1,399.95	15.25
ZEE	438.2	444.6	432.4	440	4.8
ICICIBANK	366.1	374.9	362.1	369.75	3.15
HDFCBANK	1,961.90	1,977.30	1,931.20	1,973.10	15.35
UPL	761.95	769.95	756	766	5.75
IOC	146	148.7	142.75	146.35	0.95
BAJAJFINSV	5,578.90	5,685.00	5,578.90	5,630.00	31.10
HDFC	1,837.00	1,858.00	1,824.20	1,848.00	9.85
SBIN	283.85	287.05	281.15	285	1.4
DRREDDY	2,456.80	2,497.95	2,449.95	2,460.00	10.75
CIPLA	511.9	525	514.65	518.2	2.25
INFY	654	666	646.7	655.65	2.45
POWERGRID	186	188.5	185.5	186.6	0.65
BHARTIARTL	301.3	306.7	298	301.8	0.5
INDUSINDBK	1,515.00	1,533.25	1,498.00	1,511.00	-2.55
TCS	1,864.00	1,899.00	1,857.60	1,877.00	-3.60
RELIANCE	774	775.8	755	767.5	-2.1
MBL	1,096.95	1,103.00	1,086.50	1,094.70	-3.25
TATASTEEL	590.3	596.9	581.45	587.2	-1.9
ASIANPAINT	1,320.00	1,331.85	1,313.40	1,315.95	-4.6
ULTRACEMCO	3,927.80	3,933.80	3,830.05	3,903.50	-14.05
BAJAJ-AUTO	2,681.00	2,699.00	2,661.10	2,665.55	-12.95
ITC	276.85	279.25	273.5	274.4	-2.05
SUNPHARMA	522	528	508.1	516.15	-3.95
COALINDIA	265.75	266.5	261.1	263.65	-2.1
HCLTECH	999.9	1,029.00	982.8	988.65	-8.45
HINDUNILVR	1,717.75	1,728.40	1,696.65	1,700.95	-14.55
WIPRO	324.15	330.5	323.15	321.7	-2.85
GAIL	330.7	334.4	334	347.5	-5.05
ONGC	161.4	162	158.1	158.45	-2.55
INFRAEEL	261.95	261.95	254	254.8	-5.25
NTPC	157.95	159.15	153.4	153.55	-3.8
IBULHSGFIN	839.95	846.55	784	803	-36.3
YESBANK	215	217.95	202.25	205.9	-16.5
GRASIM	855	855	795.2	806.1	-70.25

### NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27,298.70	27,298.70	26,964.85	27,254.65	105.35
BANDHANBNK	430	463.95	430	463.5	29.9
SIEMENS	889.75	942	869	935.2	49.4
DLF	163.8	171.3	162.4	168.9	6.25
SHREECEM	15,389.90	15,959.00	15,100.00	15,864.00	570.5
ABCAPITAL	107.4	111.15	107.4	110.6	3.3
LICHSGFIN	454.95	469	444.15	467	12.9
ACC	1,478.00	1,518.00	1,451.75	1,516.80	43.8
AMBUJACEM	211.4	219	208.2	217	5.8
CONCOR	665	685	665	685	17.7
DABUR	382.5	389.85	375.3	388.6	9.75
HAVELLS	672.8	688.5	672	687.1	14.5
SRTRANSFIN	1,240.00	1,265.05	1,211.00	1,261.95	22.6
LUPIN	841	855	840.2	852.5	12.25
COLPAL	1,113.20	1,132.10	1,110.50	1,127.00	15.25
BHEL	66.1	67.7	66.85	68	1.15
BEL	95.7	97.45	94.05	96.7	0.9
L&T	1,339	1,363.35	1,318.5	1,351	1.25
PIDILITIND	1,088.70	1,114.00	1,076.95	1,106.55	10.2
HINDZINC	262.3	267.7	262.3	267	2.4
OFSS	3,440.00	3,501.95	3,439.05	3,480.00	30.25
BRITANNIA	5,794.00	5,828.00	5,732.05	5,812.10	31.25
SAIL	64.15	65.1	63.55	64.6	0.45
GICRE	308.05	313.6	306.65	311.8	2.05
GODREJCP	715	725.5	703.3	717	4.25
DMART	1,387.00	1,397.00	1,377.50	1,387.00	6.3
MRF	65,999.00	66,333.00	65,200.00	65,800.00	304.05
BIOCON	625	631.5	620.6	627	2.45
OIL	2,280.10	2,305.00	2,262.10	2,295.00	6.05
PEL	203.75	205.5	202.1	203.5	0.5
ICICI	829.95	830	818.6	830	18.05
BOSCHLTD	19,280.00	19,393.65	19,080.00	19,221.85	27.85
PGHM	9,453.05	9,520.00	9,453.05	9,505.00	7.25
ABB	1,285.95	1,314.90	1,285.00	1,287.90	0.25
BANKBARODA	112.9	114.45	111.15	112.55	-0.2
SRLIFE	584	584	576.55	581.9	-1.1
ASHOKLEY	107.5	108.05	105.5	106.25	-0.25
NILCIL	220.15	222.25	218.45	220	-0.8
INDIGO	1,039.00	1,057.90	1,035.60	1,043.40	-3.05
MCDOWELL-N	650	653.1	633.05	644	-5.95
MARICO	390.5	391.1	380.9	386.2	-2.2
AUROPHARMA	782	792.4	776.6	778	-5.1
NMDC	107.55	108.5	106.15	107.25	-0.85
HDFCLIFE	402.7	402.7	395.15	397.45	-4
PETRONET	215	216.55	212.5	213.3	-1.55
SUNTV	613.75	618.55	594.75	597	-2.75
ICICIPRULI	339	339	325.95	329.95	-10.65
CADILAHC	371.35	371.5	357.95	359.35	-11.85
NIPCO	164	164.5	158.26	161	-1.1
MOTHERSUMI	154	156.35	148.8	142.25	-10.9
IDEA	40.15	40.5	38.25	37	-4.4

### BSE 500

Script	Last	Abs	Change	Cap	430	-0.05	-0.01
3MINDIA	20685.45	-48.1	-0.23	CARELIND	1010	-21.25	-2.06
8KMILES	111.8	5.3	4.98	CARELIND	149.85	-0.95	-0.63
AARTIND	1427	10.6	0.75	CCL	274.9	4.45	

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

PTI ■ LONDON

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



Minutes after Vara stepped down as Northern Ireland minister, Prime Minister May was hit by a bigger blow as her Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab resigned from the Cabinet saying he "cannot in good conscience" support the draft of the

withdrawal agreement with the 28-member bloc.

Hours after a spate of resignations, prominent Brexititeer Jacob Rees-Mogg directly challenged May in the House of Commons. He later submitted a letter of no confidence in her leadership of the Conservative Party.

Vara, Conservative Party MP for North-West Cambridgeshire, who has been a minister in the Northern Ireland Office since January, said,

## ALPHA CORP DEVELOPMENT PRIVATE LIMITED

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### UNAUDITED STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Sr. No.	Particulars	Six months period ended September 30, 2018 (Unaudited) (refer note 2)	Six months period ended September 30, 2017 (Unaudited) (refer note 2)	Year ended March 31, 2018 (Audited)
1	<b>Income from operations</b>			
(a)	Revenue from real estate operations	7,118.58	3,147.77	8,916.24
(b)	Other Operating revenue	243.71	39.19	220.85
	<b>Total income from operations</b>	<b>7,362.29</b>	<b>3,186.96</b>	<b>9,137.09</b>
2	<b>Expenditure</b>			
(a)	(Increase) / decrease in project work in progress	3,282.65	(854.03)	(7,617.16)
(b)	Project approval charges	53.06	436.09	1,394.49
(c)	Cost of land/development rights	-	-	4,200.00
(d)	Employee cost	858.80	868.92	1,777.24
(e)	Depreciation and amortization expense	74.92	96.73	206.80
(f)	Subcontractor, material and labour charges	850.31	1,460.52	4,697.17
(g)	Other Expenditure	684.13	649.09	1,535.13
	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>5,803.87</b>	<b>2,657.32</b>	<b>6,193.67</b>
3	<b>Profit/(loss) from operations before other income, finance costs (1-2)</b>	<b>1,558.42</b>	<b>529.64</b>	<b>2,943.42</b>
4	Other income	368.52	124.49	744.36
5	<b>Profit/(loss) from operations before finance costs and exceptional items (3+4)</b>	<b>1,926.94</b>	<b>654.13</b>	<b>3,687.78</b>
6	Finance costs	2,287.52	1,599.49	3,592.12
7	Exceptional items	-	-	-
8	<b>Profit/(loss) from operations before tax (after exceptional items) (5-7)</b>	<b>(360.58)</b>	<b>(945.36)</b>	<b>95.66</b>
9	Tax expense	-	-	75.13
	Current tax expense	-	-	-
	Adjustment of tax relating to earlier periods	-	-	-
	Deferred tax expense/(credit)	524.37	-	(13.57)
10	<b>Net Profit/(loss) for the period (8-9)</b>	<b>(84.21)</b>	<b>(945.36)</b>	<b>34.10</b>
11	Other Comprehensive Income/(loss) (net of tax)	(12.96)	(22.53)	(15.24)
12	<b>Net Profit/(loss) for the period (10-11)</b>	<b>(97.17)</b>	<b>(967.89)</b>	<b>18.86</b>
13	Paid-up equity share capital (face value of Rs.10 per share)	0.93	0.93	0.93
14	Paid-up preference share capital (face value of Rs.10 per share)	300.00	300.00	300.00
15	Paid-up debt capital/ outstanding debt (refer note 10)	4,600.00	4,600.00	4,600.00
16	Net worth (refer note 10)	27,638.15	35,102.29	36,389.97
17	Debt redemption reserve (refer note 13)	18.86	-	18.86
18	Capital redemption reserve (refer note 13)	321.70	321.70	321.70
19	Earning Per Share (EPS) (not annualised)			
	Basic (in Rs.)	(9.560.65)	(19.087.94)	368.51
	Diluted (in Rs.)	(9.560.65)	(19.087.94)	30.68
20	Debt Equity Ratio (refer note 10)	0.99	0.56	0.77
21	Debt Service Coverage Ratio (refer note 10)	0.58	0.32	0.25
22	Interest Service Coverage Ratio (refer note 10)	0.87	0.67	1.09

NOTES: (1) The above financial results for the half year ended September 30, 2018 have been reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on November 14, 2018. The statutory auditors of the Company have carried out a limited review of the financial results for the half year ended September 30, 2018. The Company's debentures are listed and therefore, Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) 2015 is applicable to the Company. (2) The financial results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Indian Accounting Standards ("IND AS") as prescribed under section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 (read with relevant rules there under). (3) In line with the provisions of Ind AS-108 "Operating Segments" and basis the review of operations being undertaken by the senior management, the operations of the Company primarily fall under real estate business, which is considered by the management to be the only reportable operating segment. (4) CRISIL has reassigned CRISIL BBB+ negative ratings from CRISIL BBB+(SO) ratings for the Company's redeemable non-convertible debentures with letter dated May 07, 2018. (5) Paid up Debt Capital represents: (a) 4,600 Series A Fully Paid, Rated, Listed, Secured, Redeemable, Non-Convertible Debentures of Rs. 100,000 each amounting to Rs.4,60,00,000. The proceeds have been utilized for the purpose as mentioned in the offer documents and there is no material deviation in the utilization of the proceeds. (b) 2,900 Series B-2,900 debentures of Rs. 100,000 each amounting to Rs. 2,90,00,000 issued by the Company and pertaining to the Mail Undertaking, that have been transferred to Euthoria Developers Private Limited (the Resulting Company), pursuant to Composite scheme of arrangement as approved by the Honorable High Court of Punjab and Haryana vide order dated March 31, 2017, and accordingly, the same has not been included in Paid up Debt Capital under Note 5. The Company's management and the Resulting Company's management are currently in the process of completing procedural formalities with the Debenture Trustee and the Stock Exchange for affording the transfer of such debentures to the Resulting Company and believe, no further adjustments are required in these financial results. (6) The Series-A Non-Convertible Debentures are secured by way of first ranking exclusive charge over Amritsar MPJ project land, receivables from sale of Amritsar MPJ project and Faleahabad project, insurance coverages- Penguin and Ambrose, the escrow accounts and monies lying to credit thereof. (7) Ind AS 115 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, mandatory for reporting periods beginning on or after April 1, 2018, replaces existing revenue recognition requirements. The application of Ind AS 115 has impacted the Company's accounting for recognition of revenue from real estate projects. The Company has applied the modified retrospective approach to contracts that were not completed as of April 1, 2018 and has given impact of Ind AS 115 application by detailing related earnings as at the said date by Rs. 7,853.92 lakhs (net of tax) pertaining to recognition of revenue based on satisfaction of performance obligation at a point in time. Accordingly, the figures for the comparative previous periods have not been restated and hence, the current period figures are not comparable with previous period figures. Due to the application of Ind AS 115 for the half year ended September 30, 2018, revenue from operations is higher by Rs. 4,69,68 lakhs and net loss after tax is lower by Rs. 830.59 lakhs than what it would have been if erstwhile standards were applicable. Similarly, the basic and diluted earnings/(loss) per share for the current period is lower by Rs. (9.73/5.1) per share. (8) Next due dates for repayment of interest and principal of non-convertible debentures (NCDs):

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

\*As per the terms of issue of 4,600 Series-A NCD, these are redeemable after 10 years from the deemed date of allotment i.e. November 13, 2015. However, the Company has the option to redeem these debentures at any time after the expiry of 3 years from the deemed date of allotment. (9) There is no investor grievance pending or received during the period under review. (10) Ratios have been compiled as follows: (a) Debt equity ratio = paid up debt capital/equity, where:

"Equity represents issued, subscribed and paid up share capital, equity component of compulsory convertible preference shares and reserves and surplus." Reserves and Surplus includes securities premium, retained earnings and other reserves. "Paid up debt capital represents long term and short term borrowings excluding deferred payment liabilities. (b) Interest service coverage ratio = Earnings before finance costs, tax and depreciation/finance costs. (c) Debt service coverage ratio = Earnings before finance costs, tax and depreciation/finance costs + principal repayment of paid up debt capital (as defined in (a) above) during the period. (d) Net worth represents Equity.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2018	Notes	September 30, 2018	March 31, 2018
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant & equipment	3	1,287.01	1,133.39
Capital work in progress			30.75
Investment property	4	5.77	6.54
Other intangible assets	5	133.10	133.10
Rights in developed properties	6	2,460.59	249.06
Deferred tax assets (net)	7	267.80	267.12
Tax assets (net)	8	963.37	43.39
Loans	9	1,224.90	1,224.90
Investments	10	866.96	211.35
Other financial assets	11	228.98	228.98
Other non current assets		7,459.16	3,708.56
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories	12	62,530.18	51,359.45
Financial assets			
Trade receivables	13	3,858.32	8,529.96
Cash and cash equivalents	14	1,159.15	5,510.46
Bank balances (other than cash and cash equivalents)	15	830.61	2,013.93
Loans	16	1,349.30	800.00
Other financial assets	10	1,865.26	2,634.65
Other current assets	14	4,848.13	4,286.21
		76,440.95	75,134.66
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>83,939.15</b>	<b>78,843.24</b>
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Equity share capital	15	0.93	0.93
Instruments entirely equity in nature	15	300.00	300.00
Other equity	16	27,337.22	36,089.04
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>27,638.15</b>	<b>36,389.97</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Financial Liabilities			
Borrowings	17	25,520.08	26,807.90
Other financial liabilities	20	428.37	392.30
Provisions	18	-	-
<b>Total Non-current liabilities</b>		<b>25,948.44</b>	<b>27,000.20</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Financial Liabilities			
Borrowings	17	3,606.74	3,305.23
Trade payables	19	-	-
Total outstanding dues of micro enterprises and small enterprises		3,057.78	3,464.90
Total outstanding dues of creditors other than micro enterprises & small enterprises	20	1,551.81	1,247.78
Provisions	18	272.74	144.79
Other current liabilities	20	21,863.69	7,290.37
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>30,352.56</b>	<b>15,453.07</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>83,939.15</b>	<b>78,843.24</b>

\*to the extent of information available with the management. (12) During the year 2018, the Company received a demand for Rs. 1,440 lakhs from Municipal Corporation, Amritsar towards the levy for Change in Land Use Fee (CLU Fee) in relation to Company's retail mall at Amritsar. The Company filed a writ petition with the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana challenging the levy of CLU Fee by the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar. Pending the disposal of said writ petition by the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana, the Company had deposited Rs. 1,260 lakhs (net of Rs. 180 lakhs recovered from another party as their share of the said demand) under protest pursuant to directions by the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana vide its order dated March 3, 2018 had adjudicated that the basis of levying CLU Fee is untenable and the amount collected from the Company is liable to be refunded with simple interest @ 9% per annum from the date of collection by the authorities till the date of payment. Subsequently, the Municipal Corporation had preferred a Letters Patent Appeal (LPA) against the order of the Hon'ble High Court with Hon'ble High Court on May 12, 2018 and the same had been disposed off in favour of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar. During the year 2018, as per the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana, the deposited sum was refunded back to the Company. However, the Company had furnished a Bank Guarantee for securing the above sum in favour of the Registrar of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana with the condition that if the Municipal Corporation of Amritsar succeeds in the LPA filed in the aforesaid Hon'ble High Court, the Company shall pay the amount to the Municipal Corporation of Amritsar with the same rate of interest which has been awarded by the single bench in its order dated March 03, 2018. As mentioned herein above, the aforesaid LPA was disposed off in favour of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar, against which the Company has preferred a Special Leave Petition (SLP) in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which was admitted and against which the Court had issued notices to both the parties and restrained the Municipal Corporation from enforcing the bank guarantee. Subsequently, the Company in compliance of the order passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on August 18, 2017 had deposited a sum of Rs. 200 lakhs consequent to which the amount of bank guarantee furnished by the Company in favour of the Registrar of the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana had got released to Rs. 1,240 lakhs.

Based on expert legal inputs, the management is confident of obtaining favorable orders from the said Court in its favour. Further, in accordance with the 'Facilitation and Collaboration Agreement' and 'Termination-cum-Settlement Deed' entered into with the landowners, the liability in relation to the 'Change of Land Use' is to be borne by the landowners. Accordingly, while finalizing these financial results, no provision has been considered necessary at this stage. (13) Debenture redemption reserve is created to the extent of availability of profits as per section 71 of the Companies Act, 2013. Due to non-availability of sufficient profits, debenture redemption reserve has not been created in the current period financial results.

Place: GURGAON Date: November 14, 2018 For Alpha Corp Development Private Limited Sd/- Ashish Sarin (Director & Chief Executive Officer) DIN: 00887673

# KHASHOGGI KILLING

## Five Saudi officials face death penalty

AFP ■ RIYADH

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



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

The announcement follows growing international outcry over the killing of Khashoggi, a Washington Post columnist and critic of the Saudi rulers who was last seen entering the consulate on October 2 to obtain paperwork for his marriage.

Khashoggi died after being drugged and then dismembered, a spokesman for the public prosecutor's office said in the first Saudi confirmation of how he was killed.

The journalist's body parts were then handed over to an agent outside the consulate grounds, the spokesman said.

He denied Prince Mohammed had any knowledge of the murder.

The deputy chief of Saudi Arabia's intelligence, General

## Turkey says Saudi explanation of Khashoggi murder 'insufficient'

AFP ■ ISTANBUL

Turkey on Thursday said the Saudi statement over the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi was "insufficient" and insisted that the killing was "premeditated."

"We find all those steps positive but insufficient," Foreign Minister Mevut Cavusoglu said in a televised speech.

His comments came shortly after Saudi Arabia admitted that 59-year-old Khashoggi was drugged and dismembered inside the kingdom's Istanbul consulate last month.

Riyadh's public prosecutor said the journalist's body parts were then handed over to an agent outside the consulate grounds and that five Saudi officials were facing the death penalty over the murder.

## China says foreign concerns over Muslim rights unwarranted

AP ■ BEIJING

China said on Thursday that 15 foreign ambassadors exceeded their diplomatic roles by issuing a letter expressing concern about the incarceration of hundreds of thousands of members of the country's Muslim minorities in re-education camps.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters at a daily briefing that it would be "problematic" if the diplomats were attempting to put pressure on local authorities in the northwestern region of Xinjiang, where the detentions have taken place.

## Chaos in Lanka Parliament as Speaker comes under siege

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan lawmakers on Thursday exchanged blows and threw objects at each other, leaving at least one of them bleeding, as MPs loyal to President Maithripala Sirisena surrounded the Speaker in his chair after Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, who lost a floor test, demanded fresh elections to resolve the raging political turmoil.

Trouble erupted when Speaker Karu Jayasuriya agreed to a request from ousted premier Ranil Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP) that a vote be taken on a statement made by Rajapaksa demanding fresh polls.

Jayasuriya had allowed Rajapaksa to make a statement after stating that he does not recognise the claim of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) leader who lost a no-confidence motion on Wednesday.

"I was the president and premier, so this Prime Minister's post is not important," Rajapaksa said.

"I urge all 225 members to join me in calling for a fresh election. We want a general election," he said, adding that a fresh election was the best way to resolve the crisis. UNP legislator Lakshman Kiriella urged Jayasuriya to take a vote by name, showing the loss of confidence over Rajapaksa's remarks.

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

PTI ■ LONDON

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

The potentially rocky planet, known as Barnard's star b, is a 'super-Earth' and orbits around its host star once every 233 days, said researchers from Queen Mary University of London in the UK.

The findings, published in the journal Nature, show the planet lies at a distant region from the star known as the 'snow line'.

This is well beyond the habitable zone in which liquid water, and possibly life, could exist, researchers said. The planet's surface temperature is estimated to be around minus 170 degrees Celsius, meaning it is likely to be a frozen world which is uninhabitable to Earth-like life, they said. However, if the planet has a substantial atmosphere the temperature could be higher and conditions potentially more hospitable.

"Barnard's star is an infamous object among astronomers and exoplanet scientists, as it was one of the first stars where planets were initially claimed but later proven to be incorrect.

## IMRAN KHAN TO VISIT MALAYSIA NEXT WEEK

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

## 'TRUMP-KIM MEETING LIKELY IN MEETING'

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

## Afghan officials: Taliban kill 30 policemen in west province

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

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

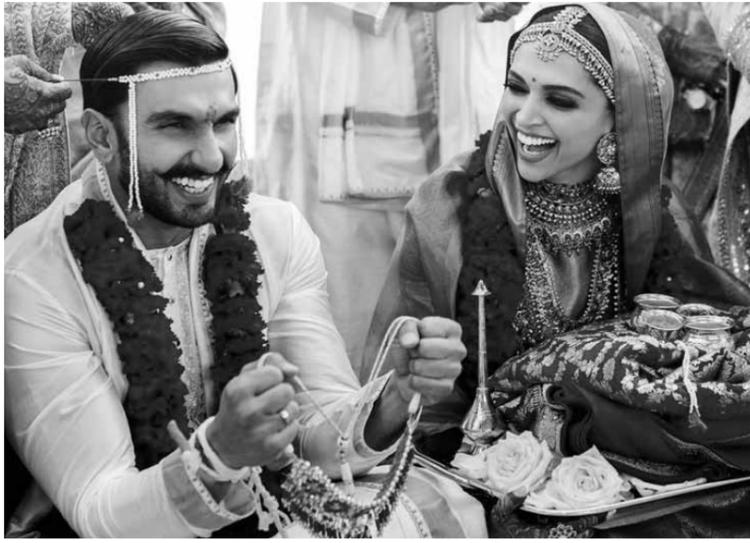
Sr. No.	Particulars	Half Year Ended 30/09/2017 (Unaudited)	Half Year Ended 30/09/2018 (Unaudited)
1	Total Income From Operation	2.13	-14.76
2	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	(2.44)	(22.49)
3	Net Profit for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	(2.44)	(22.49)
4	Net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

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

SD/-

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

By TEAM VIVA



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

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

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

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



KUSHAN MITRA



## Kerb this madness

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



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

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

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

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

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

# THE LAKE WHICH REVIVES LOVE

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

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

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

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



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

## And thereby hangs a tale

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## COUNTER-TOP COMEDY

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

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

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

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

Asked how a non-verbal play was written, read and comprehended, he told us, "The non-verbal play is written as usual plays or musical performances. But we then convert them according to the ease of emotional expressions since they don't have lines. In order to present a character's emotions through multiple expressions and movements, the acting is mostly physical and exaggerated. This brings in a comic element. The audience can easily understand, relate themselves to the situational context and enjoy the performance in that way."

The artists start practicing at least six months before with drums, knives, fire and pots before presenting a choreographed flow. Practice is the only key to success. The perfection in rhythm and synchronisation is the result of their hard work. The show has been running in South Korea since 1997 and has toured in over 314 cities of 28 countries across the globe. It even had a year-long run in Broadway, a prestigious claim for an Asian production with no dialogue.

### Trend Blazer

#### Big B writes to Neena Gupta

Actor AMITABH BACHCHAN wrote a personalised note to veteran actress NEENA GUPTA after watching her latest film *Badhaai Ho* as he was highly impressed by her performance.

Neena took to Instagram to share a snapshot of the letter and captioned it:

"Aapse ye patr aur pushp paake ankhein khushi se bhar aayi. (Got tears in my eyes after receiving this letter and flowers from you.) Thank you so much, Amitabh Bachchan sir." In the letter, Big B, 76, praised the film and the acting by the entire cast. He said he got tears of joy after watching it. The film also stars Gajraj Rao, Ayushmann Khurrana and Sanya Malhotra, and is based on the story of an elderly couple who are expecting their third child.

#### Stan Lee's last message for fans

After the demise of comic book legend STAN LEE, his social media handlers shared an emotional video clip which has Lee's final message to his fans.

"I love my fans so much. I cannot describe my love for them. Sometimes at night, I am sitting here and thinking What's it all about? And then I get a letter from a fan or I read something, I realise, it's so lucky to have fans, who really care about you. That's the reason I care so much about them as they make me feel so great," Lee said.

Known for co-creating Marvel's beloved superheroes like Spider-Man, The X-Men, The Fantastic Four, the Hulk, Iron Man, Thor, and Doctor Strange. Lee died at the age of 95 after suffering from pneumonia.

# Buddha was a Hindu



Maria Wirth

Some years ago, I met an American from Seattle, who studied Sanskrit at the university there. He had come to India to meet his guru and had even taken an Indian name. He told me that westerners, including professors, at his university who had accepted Buddhism had no hesitation to openly identify as Buddhists, yet those, who felt close to Hinduism, would not identify as Hindus. He summed it up: to be a Buddhist makes you look intellectual in the eyes of others, but to be a Hindu makes you look somewhat suspect.

A few months after I had met this American, Julia Roberts openly declared that she is a practising Hindu and I wondered whether those Americans now also have more courage to stand by their conviction.

In India, the English educated elite seem to have taken a cue from the west, as they do so often. They also seem to feel that Buddhism is intellectual and Hinduism is suspect. Several years ago, Thich Nhat Hanh, a Buddhist monk from Vietnam, who lives in France since decades, came to India to give workshops. I signed up and was amazed that many of the elite in town were present - people who would never listen to a Hindu Swami. The most reputed school in town, and maybe in the whole of India, hosted the event. A big hotel catered food. The hall was packed on the first evening. The Kendrya Vidyalayas, schools run by the central government, had dispatched two teachers each to attend. Thich Nhat Hanh had come with a group of monks and nuns, dressed in dark, long robes who chanted behind him. It surely was impressive.

What the Buddhist monk said was good advice, but common knowledge and more attuned to western societies, like "If you have misunderstandings with your father, clear them before he dies."



The attendance thinned out over the three days of the workshop, in spite of the good food, yet the teachers of the Kendrya Vidyalayas were stuck. I talked to some of them and they were of the view that any Hindu Swami could do the same, if not a better job. They had a point, as Thich Nhat Hanh made a few blunders, like when he mentioned, "A French philosopher said that there is no death". This French philosopher probably got his knowledge from the Bhagavad Gita...

Recently a question was asked on Quora, why not more Indians are aware of Buddhism, though Buddha was born in India.

I replied that Hinduism has many sages and Buddha was one of them. Many of those sages could have started an '-ism' in their names. Luckily they did not. It is doubtful whether Buddha had approved of Buddh-ism. It was Emperor Ashoka a few hundred years after Buddha, who was intent to make people follow what Buddha had preached.

A nice story is usually

taught about Ashoka, that he was moved by the terrible violence in a war and then followed Buddha's non-violent teaching. It may not be fully true, as it is hardly possible to push a whole people to change its ancient ways of worshipping the Divine without violence. And there are indications that he forced his conviction on his countrymen. They, however, fell back to their old ways some centuries later. Adi Shankara did his bit on the intellectual and spiritual level to restore trust in the Vedas by challenging Buddhist scholars for debates and coming out of them convincingly.

A physical, deadly blow was given by Muslim invaders under Khilji around 1200 AD, who ransacked the Nalanda University which housed thousands of Buddhist monks from all over Asia. Monks were killed and the huge library was burned. It is said that it burned for three months. Imagine the wealth of knowledge that went up in flames, at a time, when the west just started to establish

universities.

Hinduism is a new term, introduced by the British, and does not do justice to the great variety of views, of philosophies, of gods, of rituals and to the huge body of knowledge that is contained in the Vedas, which includes 'worldly' subjects like medicine, economy, astronomy, mathematics, architecture, arts and so on. In fact, Hindus don't see a dichotomy between worldly and sacred. All is a manifestation of the one great, invisible Brahman or Ishwara.

Hindus don't feel the need to pledge that they only follow one particular human being. They are free to choose what suits them best to connect with the Divine, which the Vedas claim is one's innermost essence. No need to identify with only one strand of the many possible helpful strands, which have emerged over many millennia.

An example from my own experience: In my early years in India some 35 years ago, most of the foreigners I met

identified as Buddhists. Most of them also felt that Buddhism was superior to Hinduism. They were attending teachings by their root lama. I met several of those lamas. Once, a French girl wanted me to join her and take an initiation from a high Tibetan lama. It was clear that if one wanted to take the initiation, one had to become Buddhist by 'taking refuge'. So I told her that I don't want to limit myself and keep my freedom. She felt I was missing a great chance and a few days later, she said, she had talked to the lama and I could take part without taking refuge. I did. Next time, I visited another lama and his first words were: "Oh Maria, you are now a Buddhist." My spontaneous reaction: "No, I am not..."

In 1985, I had a chance together with two German friends to spend over an hour with HH the Dalai Lama. I mentioned that I had met several Hindu sages and was greatly impressed by Indian philosophy. The Dalai Lama asked whether I think that the concept of Atman in Hinduism makes any difference to Buddhism. I was sure that it does not and quoted from the Upanishads "Ayam Atma Brahman" (This Atman is Brahman). I was however not sure, whether the Dalai Lama saw it also like this.

A few weeks later, I met Sakia Trizin, the head of the Sakya sect of Tibetan Buddhism, and asked him, "What is the difference between Buddhism and Hinduism?" Immediately, he replied: "The concept of Atman".

Buddhist monks have to study plenty of Buddhist texts, and I guess, to mark a basically non-existent border to Hinduism, they learn that Atman signifies a kind of separate entity. Some philosophers may see it like this, but Advaita Vedanta does not.

Hindus respect Buddha. Buddha is even seen as an avatar. He is one of their own. Hindus do not feel the need for a demarcation to other views. They are the least dogmatic of all and have the most profound philosophy as a solid basis for the manifold ways of connecting with the all-pervading Divinity for which (though formless and nameless) they have varied names.

(The writer is a German psychologist and author who writes in German and English. Views expressed are personal.)

## From 'Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan : A Commemorative Volume'

"From the beginning of history, India has adorned and idealised not soldiers and statesmen, not men of science and leaders of industry, not even poets and philosophers who influence the world by their deeds or by their words, but those rarer and more chastened spirits whose greatness lies in what they are and in what they do, men who have stamped infinity on the thought and life of the country, men who have added to the invisible forces of goodness in the world. To a world given over to the pursuit of power and pleasure, wealth and glory, they declare the reality of the unseen world and the call of the spiritual life... Whatever we may mean about secularism, religion is there, rooted in the nature of man. Man's impulse is to



grow upward, to surpass himself, to complete himself, to know more and to love more, to create beauty. There is this spirit in man which makes him dissatisfied with the condition in which he happens to be. There is always this impulse in him to go beyond his present incomplete, degenerate condition and grow into what may be called a spiritual one. But we never said that it is only one particular religion that could help us to reach this conclusion. Whether we worship in the temple or in the mosque or kneel in the church, we all belong to the one central household of God. That has been the general principle which we adopted. At times we might have forgotten those principles but in recent times, through the influence of Ramakrishna, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Tagore and Gandhi, we preach One God to all the peoples and call upon them not to go about quarrelling about the names we give to God or the descriptions which we give to the Supreme itself. That is how we developed in recent times."

# Discovery of India by Sister Nivedita



Vinayak Lohani

In June 1899, Sister Nivedita travelled to America in Swami Vivekananda's company. She got ample opportunity to hear Swami's deepest thoughts on issues ranging on an astonishingly large canvass during the sea voyage. She felt that her Master's teachings were so vast and so sweeping that she needed a definite reference point in order to put them into action. It was during this time when Nivedita realized that what India needed most immediately for its overall regeneration was freedom from the oppressive foreign rule.

Vivekananda passed away in 1902. Having lost the one, following whose footsteps she had come to live in a land not of her birth, she could have very well decided to go back. But she was made of sterner stuff and with steady resolve she stayed put, always being aware of the responsibility of carrying out her Master's ideas and wishes in sphere of national awakening.

Re-gathering herself, she began to give shape to the future direction of her work - translating her Master's ideas of 'Man-Making

into 'Nation-building'. All her efforts in diverse domains were to bring about a certain conception of 'Nationality' (that was the term she used) to India, in the hearts and minds of the people. What she meant by 'Nationality' was people feeling for the land as their 'spiritual home', and identifying with it in a way that it becomes an essential part of the individual's self-concept. That to Nivedita was the starting point for any national consciousness. She wrote in a letter to a friend:

The whole task now is to give the word 'nationality' to India, in all its breadth and meaning. The rest will do itself. It means a final understanding of the fact that the political process and the economic disaster are only side issues - that the one essential fact is realization of its own nationality by the Nation.

From a teacher of a few girls she was set to become the sister, teacher, and servant of the whole country.

She plunged into a whirlwind of activities, contributing towards all aspects of national awakening like the freedom struggle, promotion of Indian Art and Science, and National Education. She wrote profusely towards the theme of Indian nationhood, knowing that to be her chief task. Nivedita held that no story of its analysed fragments, racial, lingual, or political, could ever be the story of India. She thoroughly believed that India was a synthesis with great strands of unity. She in fact thought that the British were quick

to understand the underlying unity of the country and thus could put it under a common administration. She relentlessly attacked the idea



that it were the British who had united India:

"If India had no unity herself, no unity could have been given to her. The unity which undoubtedly belonged to India was self-born and had its own destiny, its own functions and its own vast powers; it was gift of no one."

Nivedita's Baghbar quarters had become a rendezvous of sorts

for eminent Indians of the time like Tagore, JC Bose, Gokhale, Aurobindo Ghosh and a large number of her young admirers

Nivedita was one of the pioneering practitioners of the idea of worship of the nation as mother. Following the Partition of Bengal when the government prohibited the chanting or singing of 'Bande Mataram', Nivedita continued it as a part of her school's prayer. She passionately advocated the idea of worshipping the nation-mother. "Dedicate some part of every puja to this thought of the Mother who is Swadesh," she said.

She was possibly the first person to have conceived and designed an Emblem and Flag for the country. She chose the 'Vajra' (the thunderbolt) as the emblem as it symbolized 'the power of selflessness. In Nivedita's flag design, there were two Vajras crossed in order to signify coordinated and selfless actions of multiple individuals (of the nation) acting in effect as one national organism.

Nivedita championed the cause of the Tata Institute (later the Indian Institute of Science) by extensively writing in Indian as well as English press, meeting high officials and rallying the support of some of the world's best minds when the British Government under Curzon had scuttled the proposal given by J.N. Tata. Her more direct and intensive involvement for more than a decade was with the pioneering Indian experimental scientist JC Bose, for whom she not only

organized a steady stream of funds for research, but also edited and helped in writing four of his important books that took his work to a broader world audience. Nivedita always had a sharp critical mind on art developed right from her early days of schooling and she had made a deep study in museums across the Europe and visited several ancient sites of India like Sanchi, Bodhi-Gaya, Ajanta-Ellora, Udaygiri-Khandagiri, Sarnath etc, making her well-steeped in knowledge of artistic traditions of both India and the Occident. She played a very crucial role in inspiring Indian artists to rediscover the roots of their own artistic traditions at a time when their artistic practice was largely informed by the traditions of the West. In this her efforts along with those of E B Havell and Abanindranath Tagore led to the flourishing of what came to be known as the Bengal School of Art - which influenced a whole new generation of young painters like Nandalal Bose, Asit Haldar, and Suren Ganguly. Nivedita was at the forefront of attacking the then prevalent Western claim that it was Hellenic art that had inspired Indian art and that there were no proper Indian artistic traditions before that.

(To be concluded.....)

(The author writes on humanistic ideals of Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda and is also the founder of humanitarian institution Parivaar.)

# Srikanth, Sameer enter quarters

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

PTI ■ KOWLOON

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

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

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

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

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

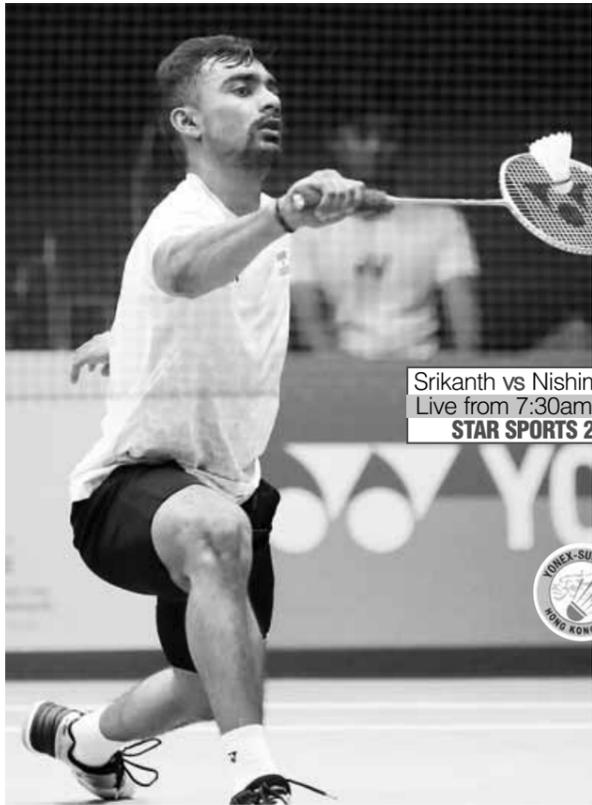
Srikanth will now face Japan's Kenta Nishimoto in the last eight match.

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

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

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

However, mixed doubles pairing of



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

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



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

Men's doubles pair of B Sumeeth Reddy and Manu Attri also failed to clear the second round hurdle, losing to Chinese Taipei combination of Jhe-Huei Lee and Yang Lee 16-21, 15-21.

Earlier, the match between the two trainees of the Pulella Gopichand Academy turned out to be a pulsating contest as former world no 1 Srikanth did the catch up act with Prannoy enjoying the early spoils.

Prannoy, who had defeated Srikanth at the Senior National final last year, moved neck-and-neck till 9-9 before the former jumped to a 14-10 lead.

Srikanth clawed back at 15-15 before Prannoy again moved ahead to secure the opening game.

The second game was a cliffhanger as the duo played out of their skin, giving nothing away. After a close-battle, Srikanth grabbed a slender 11-10 lead at the break, which evaporated soon as Prannoy took a 15-12 lead.

Srikanth again drew parity at 16-16 and moved to 19-17. However, Prannoy took two points to make it 19-19.

After that, there was nothing to separate the two as both kept taking points alternatively before Srikanth managed to grab the upper limit of 30 points first to pocket the game and roar back into the contest.

In the decider, Srikanth continued his momentum surging to a 11-4 lead at the interval. Prannoy caught up at 16-16 before Srikanth again moved ahead to seal the contest.

Elsewhere world number Japanese Kento Momota beat countrymen Tsuneyama 17-21, 21-17, 21-16, while Olympic champion Spanish Carolina Marin wins 21-14, 21-8, women's top seed Chinese Taipei Tai TY triumphs 17-21, 21-16, 21-9.

## INDONESIA SHINE

One Indonesian shuttler went through to the quarterfinal of the Hong Kong Open badminton tournament and two women's doubles pairs also won their second round matches on Thursday. Jonatan Christie defeated his compatriot Anthony Sinisuka Ginting in the Hong Kong Coliseum, 21-15, 25-23 in 54 minutes, and will face either Kento Momota or Kanta Tsuneyama in the quarterfinal.

In the women's doubles pairs, Indonesian Greysia Polii/Apriyani Rahayu and Riski Amelia Pradipta/Della Destiara went through to the quarterfinals of the tournament.

Greysia/Apriyani defeated South Korea's Baek Ha Na/Kin Hye Rin 21-15, 21-18, and Riski/Della beat Thailand's J o n g k o l p h a n K i t t i h a r a k u l / R a w i n d a P r a j o n g j a i 19-21, 21-9, 21-10.

# Tough road awaits Sarita, Manisha

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A tough road awaits veteran I. Sarita Devi and rookie A. Manisha Moun as they open India's campaign at the AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships here on Friday.

The 36-year-old Sarita, who got a first round bye in 60kg category, faces Diana Sandra Brugger of Switzerland in the second round.

Brugger had defeated Huswatum Hasanah of Indonesia in the first round as the 10th edition of the championships began at the K D Jhadav Stadium here on Thursday.

Sarita, who won a Gold in the 2006 edition held here, has come into the tournament after winning a bronze each in the India Open and Silesian Women's Boxing championship in Gliwice, Poland this year. Her opponent Brugger, on the other hand, does not have a formidable reputation.

But, it will not be an easy outing for the Manipuri as her opponent has been an experienced campaigner having taken part in World Championships since 2008.

Sarita, seeded fourth in the tournament, would be searching for her second Gold at home but to do that she will have to beat the likes of defending world champion Yang Wenlu of China and Rio Olympics Bronze medalist Anastasia Beliakova of Russia.

On the other hand, the 20-year old Manisha (54kg) faces 2016 World Championships Bronze medalist Christina Cruz of the United States in her first round bout.

Cruz is also a Bronze medalist at the 2012 World Championships but Manisha was not perturbed by her opponent's reputation.

Manisha won a Silver in the Senior Nationals and a Gold in the India Open this year. She also won a Silver in the Silesian Women's Boxing championship in Poland where she defeated reigning world champion Dina Zholaman of Kazakhstan.

India's 69kg constant Lovlina Borgohain also faces a tough opponent in her first bout on November 18.

Borgohain, who got a first round bye, will either face 2014 World Championships Gold medalist Atheyna Bylon of Panama or Yulia Stoiko of Ukraine.

AIBA Boxing W C'ship  
Live from 1:00pm IST  
STAR SELECT 1 & HD



## SINGLES

### ADVANI AMASSES WORLD TITLE NO 20

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

### RAMKUMAR, PRAJNESH SEEDED

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

### QATAR STUN SWISS IN FRIENDLY

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

### MI RETAIN 18 PLAYERS FOR IPL 2019

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

### SHARMA SLIPS TO T-47 AT DUBAI

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

# Priority is to top the pool and make quarterfinal: Manpreet

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

"Though we won we don't want to

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

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

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

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

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

# Cilic, Thiem shine

AFP ■ LONDON

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

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

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

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

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

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

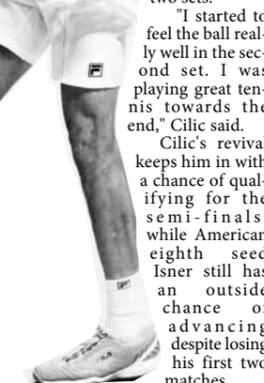
John Isner vs A Zverev  
Live from 7:30pm IST  
SONY ESPN NETWORK

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

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

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

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



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

Jordan, who are ranked 112 in the latest FIFA rankings, lost 1-2 to FIFA World Cup 2018 finalists Croatia in their last friendly fixture.

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

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

# Sushil, Swapna dropped from TOPS

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

# Nishu, Jacki called for Jordan clash



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

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

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

## SQUAD

**Goalkeepers:** Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, Amrinder Singh.

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

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

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

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

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

The system allows referees to review video footage of key decisions such as the awarding of goals, penalties and red cards during matches.

"The decision to include VAR was only made on September 26 and that has meant a tremendous amount of work has been required to ensure that it can play a role at the tournament from the quarter-final stages," Windsor John, the

AFC general-secretary said in a statement.

The bigger 2019 Asian Cup will feature a record 24 teams from all corners of Asia, up from 16 that participated in the previous four editions.

The Asian Cup UAE 2019 runs from 5 Jan to 1 Feb 2019, with 51 matches being played in eight world class stadiums. **AFP**

# 'NO MORE CHOPPING AND CHANGING TILL WC'

Shastri indicates to play around World Cup probables in the remaining 13 games before 2019 World Cup

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India coach Ravi Shastri on Thursday said that there won't be any more "chopping and changing" with the ODI side with just 13 matches remaining before the opening World Cup game against South Africa on June 5.

Shastri indicated that from now on, they will be playing around those 15 players, who are going to board the UK bound flight.

"We will try to play (those) 15, who will go to the World Cup. Chopping and changing is over now. The grace period is over now," Shastri made it clear during the pre-departure press conference ahead of the Australian tour.

"Now it is the time to really get focussed and play as a unit and then hopefully not have too many injuries, so that we don't have to look elsewhere and take it from there.

"We don't have too many games now. We have 13 games, so we will look to play the best team at all times," he added.

The 13 games include three-match away series against Australia followed by five-match series against New Zealand and then a return five-match series against Australia at home early next year.

India will play a four-match Test series beginning on December 6 at Adelaide and Shastri said that the visitors will have to learn from their experience in South Africa and England to challenge Australia.



Skipper Virat Kohli along with coach Ravi Shastri speaks during team's Australia tour pre-departure press conference at the BCCI headquarters in Mumbai PTI

"I see a lot of progress across all formats and I say that in spite of the (series) scoreline in England. When you look at actual performances in conditions that are foreign to us, we are more than happy," he said.

The coach is hopeful that players have learnt from their mistakes of previous tours.

"It is a learning process. If we learn from the mistakes that we made in South Africa and England, it will hold us in good stead in Australia.

"Test cricket obviously is different, it is the last series that we play before the World Cup. So the focus will be entirely on the series."

## 'ALL DEPARTMENT MUST FIRE'

Indian captain Virat Kohli on Thursday staunchly supported Ravi Shastri, saying the growing perception of head coach being a "yes" man to the skipper "is the most bizarre thing he has ever heard."

"That is the most bizarre thing I have heard. In Indian cricket, I don't think there is anyone else who has said no to me more than him honestly. He is one guy I can speak to and can get an honest opinion. I have made more changes

## KOHLI HAPPY TO PLAY 'WITHOUT ALTERCATION'

MUMBAI: The Australian players have of late refrained from sledging, which is perfectly fine with Indian captain Virat Kohli, who is happy to compete "without any altercation" during the upcoming series Down Under.

The Australian cricket is going through a massive restructuring and the "win at all costs" strategy employed by teams of yesteryears, is not being encouraged anymore.

Both Kohli and senior-most pacer Ishant Sharma felt that it is entirely up to the Australians as to how they play their cricket but assured that their players won't be the first ones to indulge in any kind of sledging.

"I think that's (no sledging policy) a very personal thing for them. But when it

comes to getting engaged in an argument on the field or a fight as people want to call it excitedly, I have been completely ok with playing without the altercation," Kohli told mediapersons at the pre-departure press conference.

Senior pacer Ishant said that he didn't mind if Australians sledged like earlier tours because he has the ability to give it back if they start.

"Let's see what Aussies do. We will only come to know once we reach there. You don't expect them to be really friendly and this is a man's sport. You will go there and get tough conditions. When you play for your country, no one will give you easy runs or wickets. If it's a tough sport, then you got to be tough and up for any sort of challenge," Ishant said. PTI

to my game listening to him than anyone else in the past," said Kohli before the team's departure.

The 30-year-old spoke on a range of issues facing the team ahead of the squad's departure to Australia where it will play three T20s, four Tests and three ODIs starting November 21.

Kohli went on to say that not only him, other players have also learnt immensely from Shastri.

"His contribution ever since we started building this team is making people believe that they belong there. We all went through a tough time in 2014 (the England tour) and for me to be able to come

out of that, and Shikhar (Dhawan) in the 2015 World Cup, he can vouch for that. He (Ravi bhai) knows how to get the best out of the players," said Kohli.

Batting let the team down in South Africa and England, leading to a back-to-back series defeats. With Australia without the suspended Steve Smith and David Warner, India have a good chance of recording a maiden series win in Australia. But Kohli is not looking too far ahead.

"There is a lot of room for improvement. That is something we realise as a team also. We understand what we need to work on so it is up to the individuals to take ownership of that," said Kohli, referring to the batting especially.

"There were lot of things we discussed after England, on what went wrong. We felt there was not a lot that we did wrong but whatever was not right went extreme. We played good cricket but the mistakes were also very extreme.

On the contrary, the bowlers did well in the last two away tours but Kohli said all departments must fire in unison to achieve a series win.

"From the last time we went there (to Australia), fitness levels of the bowlers are surely up, which is the most important factor in Australia. The pitches can get boring at times, the Kookaburra doesn't do much. So, it is about maintaining the pace with which you start your day."

He cited the example of South Africa, who are one of the few teams to win a Test series in Australia in recent times.

"That is why South Africa have done well. They had Morkel, Kallis, Dale Steyn and now Kagiso Rabada. They are relentlessly bowled in the right areas to get those wickets. Our guys are surely capable too to do a similar kind of job but I don't want to focus on that. The batsmen need to step up as well.

"We have spoken as team after England on putting up a complete performance. Everyone is keen to correct those things. People have to take more ownership especially the batsmen. The whole combination has to come together to win series and not just one Test."

## RANJI TROPHY

### DELHI FAIL TO REGISTER OUTRIGHT WIN

New Delhi: Delhi's left-arm spin duo Vikas Mishra and Varun Sood put up a disappointing show on a helpful last day track as Himachal Pradesh managed to eke out a point in a group B. Needing nine wickets on the final day and Himachal left with an improbable chase of 376, Mishra (2/57 in 33 overs) and Sood (1/51 in 21 overs) failed to break through the opposition middle-order. HP finished their second innings at 266 for 5, primarily due to Nikhil Gangta (66 no, 184 balls) and Rishi Dhawan (52 no, 110 balls). Sumeet Verma (43, 91 balls) also played his part to perfection as Delhi bowlers sans Ishant Sharma (2/42 in 16 overs) looked below-par. Delhi bowled close to 30 overs (29.4 overs) after Himachal lost their fifth wicket at 184 but the two spinners let it drift during the unbroken 82-run stand for the sixth wicket between Gangta and Dhawan.

### TN, HYDERABAD GAME END IN DRAW

Tirunelveli: Tamil Nadu and Hyderabad had to settle for one point each as the first innings remained unfinished resulting in the Elite Group 'B' match ending in a tame draw. In reply to Hyderabad's 565 for 8 declared, the home team was 409 for 4 in 154 overs riding on tons by Abhinav Mukund (178) and N Jagadeesan (131 not out, 16X4, 3X6) at close of play on the fourth and final day. Resuming at 163 for 2, Tamil Nadu lost skipper Baba Indrajith (33) for the addition of 15 runs. Wicketkeeper-batsman Jagadeesan, then added 171 runs with Mukund to dash any hopes Hyderabad would have entertained of obtaining a lead. After the exit of the left-handed opener, Jagadeesan and B Anirudh Sitarum kept the rival bowlers at bay, adding 60 runs.

### MP SALVAGE DRAW AGAINST BENGAL

Kolkata: Left-handed opener Arjuman Birla slammed his maiden first-class century to help Madhya Pradesh salvage a draw following on, as Bengal had to settle for three points in their first home match of the season. Scion of the Birla family, Arjuman remained unbeaten on 103 in his third first-class match, while Shubham Sharma gave him fine support with 100 not out on the fourth day to hand Madhya Pradesh one point in their Elite Group B fixture. Bengal, who enjoyed a first innings lead in their last match in Himachal Pradesh, have now six points from two games. Having taken a first innings lead over Tamil Nadu in their last match, Madhya Pradesh now have four points.

### PUDUCHERRY GET THREE POINTS

Puducherry: Debutants Puducherry opened their account with three points by virtue of a first innings lead over Meghalaya in a rain-hit Plate Group fixture. Resuming the day on 95/4 in their second innings, Puducherry were 129/7 when rain stopped play in 47.1 overs at the Siechem ground here. With cyclone Gaja looming large, there was no respite from a downpour as only 17.1 overs could be possible and home team got three points, thanks to their first innings lead. Puducherry had made 389 in their first innings before bowling out Meghalaya for 326. Rain remained the common feature in the second match of the group in Jorhat where the final day's play was abandoned without a ball being bowled as Arunachal Pradesh were lucky to bag three points, thanks to their first innings lead over Mizoram.

### JACKSON, JADEJA STAR IN SAURASHTRA'S WIN

Rajkot: Sheldon Jackson hit a strokeful half century while Ravindra Jadeja made a crucial unbeaten 48 to guide hosts Saurashtra to a three-wicket win over Railways in a Group A match. Saurashtra lost seven wickets while chasing 184 for an outright win, but Ravindra Jadeja (48 not out) held his nervous along with Kamlesh Makwana (14 not out) to take their side to victory. Jackson's 65-ball 54, which had eight fours and two sixes proved to be the difference among the two sides. Saurashtra were four wickets down for 65 at one stage, but then Jackson and Jadeja pulled the team out of trouble. Jadeja, who remained unbeaten on 178 in the first innings, carried on his form and responded to his team's call. Earlier, Saurashtra bowlers did a decent job to bundle out Railways for 331 in their second innings and ensure that the target remained below 200.

### RAJASTHAN, UP, ASSAM NOTCH UP WINS

Jaipur: Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Assam registered wins in their respective Elite Group C matches played across different venues in the country. While Uttar Pradesh thrashed hosts Odisha by 10 wickets in Bhubaneswar, Assam defeated Tripura by a massive 211 runs in Agartala. On the other hand, Rajasthan hammered Services by five wickets at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, chasing a stiff 357-run target. Rajasthan rode on a magnificent 159 by their opener Amitkumar Gautam, who struck 13 fours and six other hits over the fence. Opener Gautam, who had fallen cheaply in the first innings, and his partner Chetan Bist (78) laid the foundation of the win with their 170-run stand for the first wicket. 23-year-old Gautam, a right-handed batsman, scored runs when his team needed the most. He hammered a listless Services attack as their bowlers leaked runs. When Gautam fell, the job was nearly done as Rajasthan needed just another 25 runs. Then R K Bishnoi (26) and T N Dhillon (10) took their side home with five wickets to spare as Rajasthan earned six points. PTI

# 'Don't think current Indian side is better than ones I played against'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former Australia captain Steve Waugh is "not sure" if the current Indian team led by Virat Kohli is any better than some of the sides that he played against during his international career.

Waugh spoke in reference to India coach Ravi Shastri's comments that this is "the best Indian side in the last 15 years".

"Look I have played against some great Indian sides and I am not sure that the current side is better than the ones we played against," Waugh told ESPN Cricinfo.

The 53-year-old said such comments could have been avoided as it puts pressure on the team.

"I am not really sure but probably not a great thing to say as it puts extra pressure on the team. Once they start losing, they will get a lot of criticism for that. Look, it's good that Ravi Shastri believes in his side but comments like these could be kept to him-



Steve Waugh in action against India File Photo

self," Waugh said.

The former skipper known for his mental disintegration tactic feels that Australia despite recent problems would be hard to beat in their own den.

"Australia will be hard to beat in Australia. We have a bowling attack as good as any team in world cricket and we can take wickets. It's our batting if we score 350 runs in first

innings, I think we will be very hard to beat. And someone will always come and do well and that's the nature of the sport.

"I am still pretty confident that we can win in Australia but it's going to be a close series though," Waugh said about the Test series starting December 6.

Like everyone else, he praised Virat Kohli for his supreme consistency comparing him with Brian Lara and Sachin Tendulkar.

"He is a great player and he loves these big moments. He is like Tendulkar and Lara. They wait for these and that's where they want to show their best. He will be the danger man straightaway but they have some pretty good batsmen," Waugh said.

"Actually, India have quite a rounded team and they will see this as a significant chance. They would have prepared for this tour for a long time. I think it is going to be really close series," he added.

# 'Aus WC stars to miss parts of IPL'

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Putting country first, Cricket Australia will not allow its players, picked in the World Cup squad, to take part in the last few weeks of the 2019 Indian Premier League (IPL) so that they prepare well for the big-ticket event.

The lucrative IPL Twenty20 tournament is likely to start early than the scheduled time to give the players enough time to rest and prepare for the ODI World Cup, starting in England on May 30.

Advancing the IPL dates to March means it will clash with the last part of Australia's domestic season as well as their ODI series against Pakistan.

The final round of the Sheffield Shield is scheduled from March 20 to 23, while the Pakistan ODI series, though not confirmed, has been pencilled in for March 15-29.

Cricket Australia has made it clear that World Cup remains the priority for the defending champions and the players will



Suspended duo of David Warner and Steve Smith

have to complete their Sheffield Shield commitments and national duties to get approval to play in the IPL.

Cricket Australia also said the 15 players selected in the World Cup squad will have to attend a pre-tournament camp in early May, which means they could miss the final 2-3 weeks of the IPL.

Fast bowler Mitchell Starc, who has already been released from the KKR squad, has said that he will not put himself available for the 2019 IPL auction.

# Pakistan look to Yasir, Abbas to tame tough New Zealand

AFP ■ ABU DHABI

Pakistan skipper Sarfraz Ahmed is confident leg-spinner Yasir Shah and medium pacer Mohammad Abbas can combine to tame "tough" New Zealand in the first Test starting in Abu Dhabi on Friday.

The fast-rising Abbas took 17 wickets in a two-match Test series, including a ten-wicket haul at Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, as Pakistan beat Australia 1-0 last month.

Abbas, who made his debut last year, has 59 wickets from his first 10 Tests and will be backed by the spin duo of Yasir and Bilal Asif.

Sarfraz said he expects more from Yasir, who managed just eight wickets against Australia.

"Yes, our bowling attack is good," said Sarfraz on Thursday.

"Abbas has been bowling superbly while Yasir didn't look as great as we had expected, but in this series I expect more from Yasir."

Yasir has been a match winner on the neutral venues of United Arab Emirates (UAE). He took 15 wickets in the



Pak skipper Sarfraz Ahmed, NZ captain Kane Williamson pose with trophy PCB

1-1 series draw against New Zealand in the UAE in 2014. Pakistan's home series there is a lot of work to do in terms of the overseas sides adapting to the conditions as best as they can," said Williamson.

"Obviously, coming into Pakistan's home series there is a lot of work to do in terms of the overseas sides adapting to the conditions as best as they can," said Williamson.

"I think it's important that we adapt with this inexperienced side that we have come here with and look to learn as we can and do that quickly because we want to be playing our best cricket under these conditions."

Williamson, who returns to the squad after missing the third one-day with a groin strain, hopes his team adapt fast.

"New Zealand are a good side and gave us tough times both in the Twenty20s and one-day internationals," said Sarfraz of the preceding series.

Abbas is likely to share the new ball with Hasan Ali with Yasir and Asif assisted by Mohammad Hafeez in spin.

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson, who returns to the squad after missing the third one-day with a groin strain, hopes his team adapt fast.

# B'desh win 2nd Test, level series

AFP ■ DHAKA

Zimbabwe's Brendan Taylor fought valiantly with his second century of the Test but Bangladesh won the final match by 218 runs to end the series at 1-1 on Thursday.

Needing a mammoth 443 to win, Zimbabwe were bowled out in the second session on the fifth day in Dhaka with Taylor remaining unbeaten on 106.

Taylor's knock of patience and controlled aggression came from 167 balls and featured ten fours. He had hit 110 in Zimbabwe's first essay of 304.

Off-spinner Mehidy Hasan was the wrecker-in-chief on the final day as he returned bowling figures of 5-38 -- his fifth five-wicket haul in Tests.

Mehidy denied Zimbabwe any chance of repeating their clinical performance of the first match in Sylhet that they won by 151 runs.

Tajjul Islam added two more wickets to his five in the first innings and finished the series with a career best haul of 18 scalps in two matches. He was named the player of the series.

The home side declared the first innings on 522 for seven with Mushfiqur Rahim hitting an unbeaten 219 -- the first time a wicket-keeper hit two double tons in Test cricket.

The visitors' hopes of securing a draw rested on the pairing of Taylor and Peter Moor, whose 139-run sixth wicket stand in the first



B'desh players celebrate after dismissing Zimbabwe batsman during final day of 2nd Test ICC

innings took the visitors past the 300 mark.

But once Moor departed after a 79-ball vigil for a paltry 13 runs, smartly caught at short leg by Imrul off Mehidy, the Zimbabwe batting fell flat.

Resuming at 76 for 2, Zimbabwe lost another key man Sean Williams for 13 after pace bowler Mustafizur Rahman provided Bangladesh with the day's first breakthrough.

Spinner Tajjul dismissed Sikandar Raza for 12 by taking a sharp return catch to reduce Zimbabwe to 120 for 4.

But Taylor and Moor saw their side through to the lunch break with an unbeaten 41-run stand for the fifth wicket.

Bangladesh declared their second innings on 224 for six at the tea break Wednesday after skipper Mahmudullah Riyad completed his second century in eight years.

The victory was Bangladesh's first this year and it came after eight innings in which the Test minnows could not cross the 200 run mark.

# Roshen helps SL pick vital lead

AP ■ KANDY

Sri Lanka fought back admirably against England thanks to a back-to-the-wall 85 by Roshen Silva to earn a first-innings lead of 46 runs in the second test on Thursday.

However, Silva's failure to ground his bat and run short conceded a rare five penalty runs to England.

Sri Lanka was all out for 336 in reply to England's 285, boosted to 290 with the penalty runs at Pallekele International Stadium.

England faced just one over before stumps on day two and promoted Leach to open the innings. The nightwatchman negotiated six deliveries from Dilruwan Perera without further drama on a day where momentum swung both ways.

At 165-6 and still 120 runs behind England's first-innings total, the Sri Lankans were under pressure. But Silva put up a magnificent show, teaming with the tail to push the hosts in front. However, the Sri Lankans will still have to bat last on a pitch that has plenty to offer for spin bowlers.

Silva, in for injured captain Dinesh Chandimal, ninth worth 56 runs between Silva and Akila Dananjaya (31). The Sri Lankans were giving England a taste of its own medicine, after England added 60 runs for the last wicket.



Roshen Silva plays a shot during his innings against England in 2nd Test

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was on 6 when Angelo Mathews fell for 20, and from there he stitched some valuable partnerships with the lower order to post a competitive total, Sri Lanka's highest in the series.

Silva and Niroshan Dickwell put on 46 runs for the seventh wicket but the stand that handed Sri Lanka the initiative back was the

Silva added 28 runs for the last wicket. Silva was the last man dismissed when he attempted to loft Rashid to the boundary but failed to clear mid-on.