

WORLD 5
AT LEAST SIX KILLED IN
KABUL SUICIDE ATTACK

OPINION 6
IN THE DRAGON'S
EMBRACE

MONEY 10
JET AIRWAYS REPORTS NET
LOSS OF ₹ 1,261 CRORE

RAIPUR, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2018; PAGES 12 ₹3



JUVENTUS
BEAT AC
MILAN 2-0
11 SPORT



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

Voters defy Naxals in their bastion

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



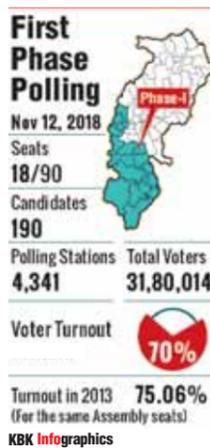
CRPF personnel help an elderly voter to reach a polling station for casting her vote during the first phase of Chhattisgarh Assembly elections, in Naxal-affected Sukma district, on Monday

PNS ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh's insurgency-hit 18 Assembly seats witnessed heavy polling on Monday as voters defied Maoists' boycott call. It has set the tone for the Assembly elections in five States that have been viewed as a "semi-final" before the country goes for the Lok Sabha battle in 2019.

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

Government officials, political parties and intellectuals described the higher turnout as an indication of "Maoists losing influence in jungle areas where Naxals had a monopoly for over a quarter century".



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

a monopoly for over a quarter century".

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

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

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

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

Continued on Page 4



Ananth Kumar passes away

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

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

ANANTH KUMAR

Senior BJP leader and Union Minister Ananth Kumar, 59, died at a private hospital here in the early hours of Monday, party spokesman said. He was suffering from lung cancer and had come back from the US in October after treatment at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre, New York. He is survived by wife and two daughters.



— JULY 1959-NOV 2018 —

The Karnataka Government has declared a three-day State mourning till November 14 as a mark of respect to Ananth Kumar. His last rites will be performed on Tuesday with all Government honour, an official release said. Ananth had built the BJP in Karnataka and was the sole Member of Parliament from the State.

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

As a Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister, his performance was appreciated by all. Even though he was identified as Advani's man, he succeeded in getting close to Narendra Modi later. Mourning the death of Ananth, Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy said, "Kumar's pro-people attitude and activities made him apple of the eyes of people."

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

Ananth, was widely regarded as an able political organiser who helped the BJP expand its reach in country's south. His organisational skills and proficiency in Kannada, Hindi, Marathi and English caught the attention of the party's top leaders like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and LK Advani, who made him a BJP national General Secretary at a young age. An urban face of the BJP, Ananth was a six-time par-

liamentarian from the high-profile Bengaluru South Lok Sabha constituency since 1996. He became a Union Minister at a young age (37) in the Vajpayee's Governments of 1998-99 and 1999-2004. In the 1996 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP denied ticket to sitting MP renowned economist Professor K Venkatagiri Gowda from Bangalore South and fielded a new face, Ananth Kumar. The move raised eyebrows. Ananth Kumar was just 36 years old, a newcomer and an 'outsider' from Hubli-Dharwad. The Congress had fielded Varalakshmi, the widow of former Chief Minister R Gundu Rao, against him. The Janata Dal, led by HD Deve Gowda, was in power in Karnataka. Most thought that Ananth had no chance against such formidable candidates from the Congress and the Janata Dal, though Bangalore South had the unique distinction of electing only the Opposition candidates for decades. Proving the sceptics wrong, Ananth Kumar, the blue-eyed boy of BS Yeddyurappa, won his maiden election, beating Varalakshmi Gundu Rao by a small margin. Born into a middle class Brahmin family in Bengaluru on July 22, 1959, Kumar went to school in the city and joined college at Hubli when his father HN Narayan Shastry, a Railway employee, was transferred to the northwest town about 400 km from here.

CVC files confidential report on Verma graft

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Acting CBI director M Nageswara Rao too filed in a sealed cover the decisions taken by him from October 23-26 with regard to the transfer of investigations and change of



SC to examine/hear case on Nov 16

investigators of the agency.

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

Sources privy to the CVC enquiry said the report has flagged certain questions with regard to the probe against

Verma for which a separate and further enquiry is required. It implies there is no clean chit to Verma and the CVC preliminary report has left it for the apex court to decide further course of action, the sources added.

The CVC and Rao placed three copies of their reports in compliance with the October 26 order of the SC.

"Report of the Central Vigilance Commission with regard to the preliminary enquiry held in respect of the petitioner — Alok Kumar Verma — in sealed cover has been submitted in court by Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General," the Bench said.

Likewise, the apex court noted in its order that the report of the orders passed by the acting director was filed in sealed cover, in terms of the earlier order of the court dated October 26, 2018, by Additional Solicitor General PS Narasimha.

"Both the aforesaid reports are taken on record. All the matters will be considered on Friday next i.e. November 16, 2018," the Bench said.

Continued on Page 4

Abided by DAC to buy Rafale: Centre to SC

Govt submits price details in sealed cover

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A mid raging controversy over the ₹59,000 crore Rafale fighter jet deal with allegation of wrongdoing, the Government on Monday stated in the Supreme Court that it abided by the Defence Procurement Procedure-2013 and due approval was taken from the Defence Acquisition Council and the Cabinet Committee on Security.

The Centre also placed in a sealed cover before the apex court the price details of 36 Rafale fighter jets which India is buying in fly-away condition from France through a Government to Government deal inked in October 2016.

The SC will take up the case on November 14. The court on October 31 had asked the Centre to place before it within 10 days the pricing details of 36 Rafale fighter jets. In the last hearing, the Centre was reluctant to share the price details and Attorney General KK Venugopal had told a Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi that pricing details of these jets were not

even shared with Parliament. The Centre made public the 16-page document titled "Details of the steps in the decision making process leading to the award of 36 Rafale fighter aircraft order," which stated the process as laid down in the Defence Procurement Procedure-2013 has been followed in procurement of Rafale aircraft.

The document says after the Indian negotiation team submitted its report on fully-loaded Rafale jets on August 4, 2016, it was vetted by the Finance and Law Ministries within 20 days and the CCS approved the deal on August 24, 2016. The document also said the Government had no role in the selection of the Indian offset partner. The Congress is alleging that the NDA Government nudged the French to opt for Reliance as an offset partner. Former President Francois Hollande also said he was nudged by Centre to have Reliance as a partner in the offset deal with Rafale jet manufacturer Dassault. Document placed before the court said the Indian Defence Ministry negotiated with their French counterparts for a year before signing the Rafale agreement.

Continued on Page 4



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

Wary Kushwaha flexes muscles, meets Sharad

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Seat-sharing within the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) constituents is not a settled matter even as BJP president Amit Shah last month announced here with Nitish by his side that his party and the JD(U) would contest equal number of Lok Sabha seats with other NDA constituents like RLSPTA and Lok Jan Shakti Party (LJP) of Ram Vilas Paswan need to adjust with lower number of seats than they contested in 2014.

Continued on Page 4

Modi: Don't need 'honesty certificates' from corrupt

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT ■ BILASPUR

Hitting back at Rahul Gandhi who questioned him on demonetisation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that the Congress President and his mother Sonia Gandhi were out on bail but issuing "honesty certificates" to others.

"The mother-son duo who are out on bail are giving me a certificate and asking from me the benefits of demonetisation," he said sarcastically at a massive election meeting at Bilaspur, the second most populous city of Chhattisgarh.

"Those who are out on bail are distributing certificates of honesty," remarked Modi amid huge chant of Modi-Modi by thousands of BJP cadres.

The Gandhis have secured bail in the National Herald case. Rahul Gandhi has been questioning Modi about the benefits of note ban and accused the Prime Minister of being silent on the issue.

Slamming the Congress President and UPA Chairperson, Modi said: "Due to demonetisation, over three lakh shell companies were closed. It is the result of demonetisation that your company (National Herald) was caught and you had to seek bail."

Referring to the benefits of demonetisation, the Prime Minister said: "People ask me how I am able to construct so many roads, electrify houses and improve the railway infrastructure. I tell them that before demonetisation the money was stacked up below the beds and stuffed inside cupboards and sacks. But after demonetisation all the money has come out and with that money all the projects of development are going on," he said.

Taking Rahul Gandhi head-on, Modi said that the Congress manifesto released on Saturday in Chhattisgarh had 36 points for the state. "But while releasing the manifesto, their leaders took the name of their leader over 150 times. It was noted by journalists."

"The whole politics of the Congress starts from a family and ends with the same family. While our (BJP) politics starts from the poor man's hut. Without changing the life of the poor, we will not sleep."

"For the Congress, welfare of Chhattisgarh is not a priority. Their priority is to serve one family," he alleged.

Attacking the Congress over corruption, Modi said: "Their third generation Prime Minister (late Rajiv Gandhi) had said that the poor in the country receive 15 paise out of one rupee sent from the centre.

"What kind of scheme was that which reduced the rupee to paise? The demonetisation brought out those paise," he thundered.

Modi said that people do not have much expectations from those who are corrupt but expects development from those not corrupt.

Highlighting the works of the BJP Government in the state, Modi said over 1.5 lakh people got the benefit of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana while over 42 lakh people would benefit with the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

He said the number of the houses the BJP built in the State in the last four years, the Congress would have taken around 30 years to build them.

The Prime Minister said the BJP Government with a proven track record of development had schemes for all sections of the society.

छत्तीसगढ़ पहला राज्य है जिसने
मनरेगा के तहत 200 दिन के रोज़गार की गारंटी दी

रामन पर विश्वास

कमल संग विकास

कमल का बटन दवाएँ - भाजपा को ज़िताएँ

भारतीय जनता पार्टी (छत्तीसगढ़)

RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY POLLS

BJP fields 25 new faces

DEEPAK UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

As the BJP released its first list of candidates for Rajasthan with 25 new faces and almost over with most of its 230 seats of Madhya Pradesh, the party is simultaneously engaging in the task of managing rebel candidates in the tough electoral battles with the Congress in the two States. The Rajasthan list of the BJP has 12 women candidates, 17 scheduled castes and 19 Scheduled tribes. The BJP has 25 new candidates while there are 85 sitting MLAs. Rajasthan is to go to polls on December 7.

Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje will contest from her traditional Jhalrapatan Assembly seat. It has fielded Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria from Udaipur, Urban Development Minister Srichand Kripalani from Nimbahada and Agriculture Minister Prabhulal Saini from Anta.

In both the States BJP is fighting long anti-incumbency and hence dozens of new winnable candidates have found place in place of some "veterans". The party has retained 85 sitting MLAs and dropped 26 MLAs, including two Ministers and one of two Muslim MLAs, while there is no change in the constituencies of 85 MLAs who have been retained.

Ministers Rajendra Rathore,



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

Gulab Chand Kataria, Vasudev Devnani, Srichand Kripalani, Kiran Maheshwari Anita Bhadel, Ajay Singh, Krishnendra Kaur, Gajendra Singh and Prabhu Lal Saini have made it to the list.

The saffron party has also given tickets to family members of a few sitting MLAs and other leaders. These include Poonam Kanwar, daughter-in-law of former BJP MLA Devi Singh Bhati (Kolayat seat); Atul Bhansali, relative of Jodhpur MLA Kailash Bhansali (Jodhpur seat); Hemant Meena, son of Tribal Affairs Minister Nandlal Meena (Pratapgarh seat); Ramswaroop Jat, son of former MP Sanwar Lal Jat who died last year (Nasirabad seat); Suresh Singh, son of former BJP Minister Digambar Singh who died last year, among others. Some of the

candidates like Shambhu Singh Khetasar (Sardarpura), Sumit Godara (Lunkaransar), Satish Poonia (Amber), Jaswant Gurjar (Bari), Babu Lal Kharadi (Jhadol) and Khemraj Garasia (Bagidora) had lost the 2013 Assembly elections.

The BJP has two sitting Muslim MLAs — Habibur Rahman (Nagaur) and Transport Minister Yoonus Khan (Deedwana). The party has dropped Rahman and the candidate for the Deedwana seat has not been announced yet.

Water Resources Minister Surendra Goyal and Tribal Affairs Minister Nandlal Meena could not make it to the list. However, the party has fielded Meena's son from his constituency. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has also retained Deputy Speaker Rao Rajendra

Singh and chief whip Kalu Lal Gurjar in the first list.

Jaisalmer-Barmer MP Sonu Ram was also given ticket from Barmer. BJP is almost over with its list of candidates for Madhya Pradesh as on Monday it released the third list of 32 candidates for the ensuing Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections. The party released the second list of 177 candidates on November 5 and first list of 17 candidates on November 2. The State is slated to go to polls on November 28 for 230 constituencies.

BJP has fielded national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya's son Akash Vijayvargiya from the Indore-3 constituency and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Babulal Gaur's daughter-in-law Krishna Gaur from Govindpura constituency. Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan is will be contesting from his home constituency, Budhni.

BJP has denied tickets to over 35 sitting MLAs in Madhya Pradesh. Apprehensive of rebellion in the ranks, the party has deployed central state-charge and other senior leaders to placate party leaders who have not found their names in the lists.

A group of central leaders have been asked to monitor "rebel activities" and resolve issues before nominations are completed.

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Associated Journals Limited (AJL), the publisher of National Herald newspaper, on Monday approached the Delhi High Court challenging the Ministry of Urban Development order ending its 56-year-old lease and asking it to vacate the premises in the press enclave area at ITO. Meanwhile, the Congress has accused the BJP-led Central Government of embarking on a "witch-hunt" and claimed that it was putting pressure on the machinery to revoke the lease of the Herald House at any cost, but its design would be defeated.

The plea, challenging the October 30 order of the Urban Development Ministry ending the lease and asking it to vacate the premises by November 15, is scheduled to come up for hearing Tuesday before Justice Sunil Gaur.

The plea alleged that the Land and Development Office's order was "illegal, unconstitutional, arbitrary, tainted with malafide and without authority and jurisdiction". The petition, filed through advocates Sunil Fernandes and Priyansha Indra Sharma, said that the Centre has warned them of action under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971, if they failed to vacate the premises.

One of the grounds men-



HERALD HOUSE

tioned in the L&DO order is that no press has been functioning in the premises for last at least 10 years and that it is being used only for commercial purposes in violation of the lease deed. This allegation has been refuted by AJL in the petition.

Bjp leader Subramanian Swamy had approached the Urban Development Ministry to take over the Herald House citing that no newspaper activity publishing activity is going there.

Accusing BJP, senior Congress leader and party treasurer Ahmed Patel said National Herald, Qaumi Awaz and Navjivan — all the newspapers run by the National Herald newspapers from the Herald House had the spine to speak the truth, which made those in power uneasy.

"The BJP Government has embarked on a witch hunt and is pressurising the machinery to revoke lease of Herald House at any cost. National Herald, Qaumi Awaz and the Navjivan

have the spine to speak the truth which makes those in power uneasy. "The Government's design will be defeated," he said on Twitter.

In December 2017, the Income Tax Department had imposed a fine of ₹250 crore on Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi-controlled firm Young India, which took over AJL through a "covert and fraudulent" way. The Delhi High Court ordered Young India to deposit ₹10 crore for entertaining its appeal against the Income Tax fine order.

In the trial court, the National Herald case is now in the process of submission of evidences by the petitioner Subramanian Swamy, who started his deposition on July 15. The next hearing of the date is scheduled for August 25. The accused Congress leaders in the case have filed a petition in the court for restraining Swamy from tweeting about the case details and defaming them.

India, Morocco sign pact to help in criminal matters

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and Morocco on Monday signed an agreement to help each other in criminal matters and provide legal assistance wherever required, the Home Ministry said. The agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters was signed by Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju on behalf of India and Mohamed Aujjar, the Minister of justice on behalf of Kingdom of Morocco, here.

The pact will strengthen bilateral cooperation with Morocco and enhance effectiveness and provide a broad legal framework for prevention, investigation and prosecution of crimes, as well as in tracing, restraint and confiscation of funds meant to finance terrorist acts, a Home Ministry statement said. Both the Ministers reiterated their resolve to jointly counter the threats posed by organised crime and terrorism, it said.

Govt cancels ED officer Rajeshwar's leave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has cancelled Enforcement Directorate Joint Director Rajeshwar Singh's leave without citing any reasons. The leave was granted to him last month by the then ED Director Karnal Singh.

Singh is facing investigation for writing a letter against Finance Secretary Hasmukh Adhia earlier this year. In his letter, Singh had asked Adhia, who was then Revenue Secretary, if he had developed animosity against him by "siding with scamsters and their affiliates".

The Department of Revenue (DoR), under the Union Finance Ministry, disallowed Rajeshwar Singh's study leave. However, the then ED Director Karnal Singh sanctioned his leave on October 27, days before his retirement on October 31. Rajeshwar Singh had sought leave for pursuing an LLM course.

IRS officer Sanjay Kumar Mishra was subsequently appointed the new ED chief following his predecessor's retirement.

The Department of

Revenue has overturned Karnal Singh's order sanctioning leave to Rajeshwar Singh without citing any reasons, officials said. The ED functions under the Department of Revenue.

According to the leave sanction order approved by the former ED chief Karnal Singh, Rajeshwar Singh will be available whenever he is required for "assistance in investigations or trial in court" with regard to cases probed by him, including the 2G spectrum allocation and the Aircel-Maxis money laundering cases.

Rajeshwar Singh had last month also handed over his charge of joint director (Lucknow zone) of the ED after the leave was sanctioned. The Union Finance ministry had submitted a secret report to the Supreme Court in June, apparently carrying details of a phone call received by Rajeshwar Singh from Dubai.

The report was prepared by country's external intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) and handed over to the DoR.

The Government subsequently launched an investigation against Rajeshwar Singh for the letter against Adhia.

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With demand for air conditioning units set to cross one billion by 2050 in India, the climate change-conscious Government is now looking for an energy-efficient technology that will have at least five times less climate impact than the standard room ACs sold at present.

To encourage innovation in this regard, the Government on Monday announced the launch of the first-of-its kind \$3 million Global Cooling Prize, an international competition asking the researchers and innovators from across the world to develop such a cooling technology to combat the climate change threat.

Announcing the award, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Science, Technology and Earth Sciences said rising temperature will affect the health and productivity of billions of citizens. We support this innovation challenge, which aims to develop sustainable and efficient technology to provide thermal comfort to all, he said while speaking at the inaugural of the two-day Global Cooling Innovation Summit here.

Presently, there around 1.2

billion room air conditioning units in service around the world. The number is set to increase to at least 4.5 billion by 2050, according to an estimate. India alone will see over 1 billion air conditioning deployed in the market by 2050. The energy consumption associated with comfort cooling represents one of the largest end-use risks to the climate, putting the most vulnerable populations at risk.

The prize is supported by Government's Mission Innovation through the Department of Science and Technology and its partner organizations Ministry of Power, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, and Environment Ministry while a coalition of research institutes—Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), Conservation X Labs, the Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), and CEPT University will oversee it.

John Loughhead Vice-Chair, Mission Innovation Steering Committee said, "This is exactly what Mission Innovation was set-up to deliver - new collaborations between governments, innovators and the private sector to unleash innovation in climate critical technologies."

Iain Campbell from RMI

said, "A technology developed through the Global Cooling Prize has the opportunity to capture a \$20 billion market and transform the global AC market for the better."

Over \$3 million will be awarded in prize money over the course of the two-year competition. Up to 10 short-listed competing technologies will be awarded up to \$200,000 each in intermediate prizes to support the design and prototype development of their innovative residential cooling technology designs. The winning technology will be awarded at least \$1 million to support its incubation and early-stage commercialisation, said an official from the S&T Ministry.

On the occasion, "Solving the Global Cooling Challenge" report prepared by the RMI was released. It said adoption of a 5X solution by year 2040, about 75 per cent less electricity will be needed globally to operate the room air conditioners in 2050. "The 5X solution can achieve cumulative emissions reductions of up to 100 gigatons by 2050 — equivalent to taking 50% of today's global stock of passenger vehicles off the road — and help mitigate up to 0.5°C in global warming impact," it added.



President Ram Nath Kovind with Commandant of National Defence College Vice Admiral Srikanth at a meeting at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Monday

Buffalo meat exports down 5% at 6.18L tonnes

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Buffalo meat exports fell by 5 per cent to 6.18 lakh tonnes during the first half of this fiscal, but increased by 8 per cent in value terms to ₹12,980 crore, an official data showed. According to agri-export promotion body APEDA, the country exported 6,18,559 tonnes of buffalo meat for ₹12,980 crore during the first six months of 2018-19 fiscal.

Buffalo meat exports stood at 6,21,541 tonnes worth ₹12,035 crore in the corresponding period of last fiscal. Vietnam, Malaysia and Egypt are the three

major destinations for the country's buffalo meat shipments.

Total exports of agriculture and processed food products rose to ₹61,789 crore from ₹56,741 crore during the period under review. Of the total exports, cereals contributed maximum at ₹27,174 crore during the first six months of this fiscal as against ₹25,813 crore in the year-ago period.

India exported 20,82,583 tonnes of basmati rice for ₹15,331 crore as against 21,34,757 tonnes for ₹13,706 crore. Non-basmati rice exports fell in both the volume and value

terms at 37,23,828 tonnes worth ₹10,426 crore from 42,86,605 tonnes worth ₹11,236 crore during the period under review.

The exports of livestock products rose to ₹15,272 crore during April-September 2018 from ₹13,707 crore in the year-ago period. Fruits and vegetables exports rose from ₹4,230 crore to ₹4,298 crore, while shipments of processed fruits and vegetables increased from ₹3,547 crore to ₹4,141 crore.

The exports of other processed food including Sorghum went up to ₹10,080 crore from ₹8,808 crore.

Promoting role of family in diabetes management, care

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With diabetes becoming a "family disease" that can potentially affect every household—emotionally as well as financially, this year's World Diabetes Day on Wednesday will highlight the role of caregivers in supporting the people living with the chronic disease.

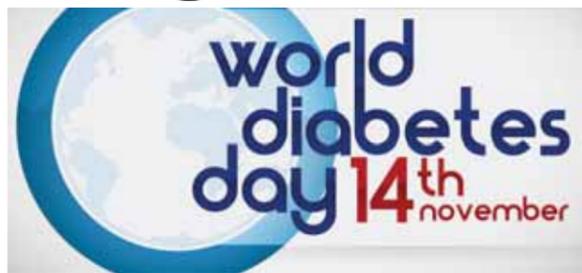
Aptly themed "Diabetes concerns every family," by the International Diabetes Federation and WHO, the two-year-long awareness programmes will focus on raising awareness on the impact that diabetes has on the family, besides promoting the role of the family in diabetes management, care, prevention and education.

"Families have a key role to play in addressing the modifiable risk factors for type 2 diabetes, which can be prevented by adopting healthy lifestyle including regular physical activity, a healthy and balanced diet, and the promotion of healthy living environments," said an official from the Health Ministry.

Hence it is important that families are provided with the education, resources, and environments to help the patient live a healthy lifestyle, he said.

The official added that currently, at least 425 million people are living with diabetes. Most of these cases are type 2 diabetes, a chronic condition that occurs either when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces.

While the Union Health Ministry has planned a string of programmes focusing on diabetes awareness programmes for the



Family as healthcare provider

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

families so that they can help ease the life of the patient, the Ayush Ministry will have a special focus on educational programmes about the role of the traditional medicines in ayurveda, Unani and homeopathy can play in controlling the condition.

"There are many scientifically developed anti-diabetic ayurvedic medicines such as BGR-34 developed by CSIR using

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

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) has asked the Mizoram Government to suggest two more names for the post of State Chief Election Officer (CEO). Earlier, the chief secretary of Mizoram has sent the three names — Lalthmingthanga, H Lalengmawia, and K Lalthawmmawia for the chief electoral officer's post. There has been no decision regarding the removal of CEO SB Shashank, who had courted controversy in the poll-bound State.

Sources in the EC said the poll panel has sought two more panel names for the CEO's post from the Mizoram Government.

The EC will only appoint someone as CEO if he or she is capable of conducting free, fair and peaceful election. Meanwhile, the EC will again be meeting Shashank to know what exactly the level is of preparedness and what should be done in Mizoram because the new incumbent will have very little time to deliver polls in the State, said officials.

Deputy Election Commissioner Sudeep Jain, who led the second EC team to Mizoram on Friday, had told officials that it would take two-three days to select and appoint a new CEO. Jain had also assured the NGO Coordination Committee leaders — who were spearheading the movement against Shashank — that the CEO would be replaced and the Bru voters housed in Tripura relief camps would exercise their franchise from Mizoram, which were the primary demands of the organisation.

The EC had initiated the process of finding an alternative to the Mizoram CEO on Saturday. Thousands of people took to the streets and picketed in front of Shashank's office for two days last week. The protesters, under the aegis of the NGO Coordination Committee, had also set an ultimatum for Shashank to leave urgently.

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

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea challenging the Constitutional validity of Section 375 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) which deals with rape on the ground that the provision is not gender-neutral.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice S K Kaul said the issue raised in the petition is subject matter of the legislature's domain.

"We are not inclined to interfere at this stage as the issues raised pertain to legislations to be made by the Parliament, for which adequate recommendations have already been made by the Law Commission," it said.

It said that NGO 'Criminal Justice Society of India' "may seek such other remedy, as may be available in law" and disposed of the PIL.

"The issue falls in the realm of the Parliament. We don't want to say anything on it right now," the bench said, while granting liberty to the petitioners to make a representation to the legislature.

While Section 375 of the IPC deals with rape committed on a woman by a man, Section 376 lists out the punishment for the offence.

The top court was hearing a petition filed by NGO Criminal Justice Society of India, through advocate Ashima Mandla, contending that

Section 375 violates Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution as it does not account for rape of men and Transgender persons.

The plea sought that the definition of rape under Section 375 be held "ultra vires" for being "discriminatory and violative of Articles 14 (right to equality), 15 (prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex...) and 21 (right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution". The petitioner has submitted that the section applies only to women as victims and men as perpetrators. It does not take into account non-consensual sexual assault inflicted on a woman by a woman, on a man by another man, on transgender by another transgender or a man or woman, on a man by a woman.

The plea referred to the August 2017 order passed by a nine-judge bench of the top court that declared privacy as a fundamental right and also cited the NALSA judgment that recognised transgenders as the third gender.

"It is imperative to note that transgenders including but not limited to homosexuals & bisexuals, and men are sequestered from the point of view of victims of rape under the existing penal laws of the country, despite an impending need for the same", the plea said. PTI



Voters display their EPIC card while enthusiastically waiting their turn to cast votes on Monday in violence-plagued Bastar region



Smiling women and a few girls who are set to cast votes for the first time, pose for a photograph while standing in a queue at a polling booth on Monday at Jagdalpur



A differently abled man being assisted by his son, on way to polling booth to cast his vote in Dantewada



An elderly couple heads to a polling booth in Chitrakot Assembly segment on Monday during first phase of polling



Women show ink mark after exercising their franchise in Bastar

5 troopers hurt in IED blast

STAFF REPORTER ■ BIJAPUR/DANTEWADA/KANKER/SUKMA

Five elite troopers from Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) were injured in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast triggered by Maoists in Chhattisgarh's restive Bijapur district on Monday, police said. The incident took place during morning hours in a forest patch of Mehandiguda coming under the limits of Pamed police station when a team of CoBRA battalion was out on a 'search-cum-area domination' operation. The Improvised Explosive Device (IED) went off when the team was cordoning off a jungle stretch, causing minor injuries to One Assistant Commandant, one Sub

Inspector, a head constable and two constables.

The injured troopers were taken to State Capital for urgent medical attention. In another incident Maoists exploded IED near Nayanar polling booth in Katekalyan police station limits in Dantewada.

No casualties were reported in the incident. In Konta police station limits under Sukma district, a polling booth was shifted 100 meters to another place after getting information of IED in Anganbadi polling booth.

While in two separate incidents, security forces seized and diffused Improvised Explosive Device (IED)s from Bhairamgarh police station area in Bijapur and Kodekura Police Station Limits in Kanker district.

Daughters of Bastar arrive from US to cast votes

STAFF REPORTER ■ KANKER

The enthusiasm to participate in the biggest democratic festival drew two sisters from restive Bastar region to cross the geographical boundaries from US to exercise their franchise at Kanker, one of the most Naxal-infested assembly seats in Chhattisgarh.

The mineral-rich State witnessed first phase of polling for 18 seats on Monday while polling in remaining 72 seats would be held on November 20.

Supraja Murthy, a software engineer and her sister Dr Vijaylaxmi. Supraja who actually belonged to Kanker and settled in US, reached their native village specifically to cast votes. They waited in queue for about three hours



and felt 'excited' after voting. A total of 190 candidates were in the fray for 18 constituencies spread over eight districts where Maoists have been active for over a quarter century. The first phase polling sealed the political fate of Chief

Minister Raman Singh from Rajnandgaon seat and his two ministerial colleagues Kedar Kashyap from Narayanpur seat and Mahesh Gadge from Bijapur seat. Meanwhile residents of four villages—Amapani, Rawas, Prarebeda and Nishaharra under Kanker

Supraja Murthy, a software engineer and her sister Dr Vijaylaxmi. Supraja who actually belonged to Kanker and settled in US, reached their native village specifically to cast votes

assembly constituency could not exercise their right to vote on Monday as their polling centres were shifted out.

Surrendered Naxal couple casts vote, lauds democracy



STAFF REPORTER ■ NARAYANPUR

A surrendered Naxal couple cast their vote on Monday at a leftist militancy hit area in Narayanpur Assembly constituency and asserted that only democracy could bring peace and prosperity in sprawling mineral-rich Bastar.

First phase of polling was held in 18 assembly constituencies spread over Bastar and Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh. The polling was largely peaceful.

As per details available, surrendered Naxal couple Mainuram alias Malol alias Bandu with wife Rajbatti Dugga alias Ameshwari Dugga resident of Uchchakot of 84-

Narayanpur Assembly constituency, reached their polling centre number 49 and cast their vote.

Rajbatti Dugga was commander of Kiskodo Dalam (LOS) while her husband Mainuram was Militia member of same dalam. The couple had been active for two years. Both had surrendered before the police in year 2014. At present, Mainuram is working as a mason and taking care of his family.

During discussion, the surrendered Naxals said that under the police rehabilitation policy, at district headquarters Narayanpur, they have been given financial assistance for purchase of residential plot and to construct a house.

Brave voters cross over Indravati to cast votes

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer Subrat Sahoo offered his salute to the indomitable spirit of the villagers having crossed the Indravati River at different places mainly in Sukma and Dantewada to participate in the biggest democratic exercise.

Briefing the media about the first phase of polling, he said that the villagers of Pahurnar, Tumdigunda, Cherpul and Karaugaon irrespective of all the threats and warnings from the Maoists in the region, had crossed over the river using local boat to cast their vote. Around 4500 electors had crossed the river. In year 2013 polls, at Banda of Sukma and at



Kistaram of Dantewada when the villagers were crossing the river using the traditional wooden boat was attacked by the Maoists. They had overturned the boat. This year, irrespective of the threat looming over them, the villagers crossed the river to participate in the polling

process. On poll boycott call issued by Maoists, Sahoo said that in village Amapani and its dependent village under Kanker constituency, the polling centre was shifted to Tema. The information was given to all the political parties and villages, one month in advance.

RaGa on 2-day tour from today

Gandhi will address public meetings at Mahasamund

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

All India Congress Committee (AICC) Chief Rahul Gandhi would be on a two-day visit to Chhattisgarh from Tuesday to address a series of election rallies in the State that goes to polls for the second and final phase on November 20.

Gandhi will address public meetings at Mahasamund, Baloda Bazaar, Janjgir-Champa and Kharsia in Raigarh on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, he would be campaigning at Ranjana in



Katghora of Korba district, Takhatpur in Bilaspur district besides Kawardha and Bhalai.

He will return back to Delhi by a regular flight on Wednesday evening from Raipur.

Polling parties carried back to headquarters in choppers



STAFF REPORTER ■ NARAYANPUR

22 hyper sensitive polling booths in extreme Naxal-hit heavily forested and hillock areas under Narayanpur assembly seat, were brought back safely to district head-

quarters by choppers after polling ended at 3 p.m. on Monday.

These 22 polling booths were situated in Akabeda, Nednar and Orcha blocks. The district administration heaved a sigh of relief when all the polling teams returned back safely after successfully

conducting polling.

The EVMs and VVPATs were thereafter safely taken to the strong room situated in Atmanand Mahavidyalaya of the district headquarters. Kedar Kashyap, cabinet minister in Chhattisgarh government is one of the contenders from Narayanpur seat.

Senior Cong leader Ghanaram joins BJP

Durg: Senior Congress leader and former Chairman of Kisan Ayog, Ghanaram Sahu on Monday formally joined the Bharatiya Janata Party before party's national president Amit Shah at Patan in Durg district.

Congress state president Bhupesh Baghel is contesting from Patan seat and with joining of Ghanaram, the BJP is expecting to pull off a victory in favour of its official candidate Motilal Sahu.

Notably, Ghanaram quit Congress the other day by sending resignation letter to Baghel. He alleged neglect and humiliation in the party by Baghel and Tamradhwaj Sahu, the Congress Lok Sabha MP from Durg.

Along with Ghanaram, State President of OBC Wing of Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (JCC) Jogi (J), Monu Sahu and an Independent candidate from Patan Harishchandra Sahu also joined BJP on Monday. SR

WORLD PNEUMONIA DAY OBSERVED

Doctors stress on greater use of anti-pneumonia vaccination

RADHIKA NAGRATH ■ HARIDWAR

To mark the World Pneumonia Day, observed on November 12, specialists warned that whenever one feels difficulty in breathing the doctors must be consulted immediately. They further say that if lung infection sets in, something must be done to fight it. It is easily treated if the patients come to the doctors soon after the problem starts, they say.

The secretary, Association of Physicians of India, Dr Sanjay Shah says, "There is a variety of pneumonia. But the major prevention for all lies in taking a balanced nutritious diet. The under-nourished children are more prone to pneumonia. However, one thing must be kept in mind that the problem of malnutrition is not found just in the poor children

from the developing countries. Even the obese children from the developed nations may catch the disease on account to lack of balanced nutrition."

The fatal pneumonia in the children is preventable with a vaccine, the doctors say and add that Pneumococcal Bacteria spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes. "The pneumococcal vaccine helps build immunity in the child," said Swami Dayadhipananda of Ramakrishna Mission Hospital here. India alone accounts for 20% of all pneumonia deaths across the world, he informed.

It is learnt that in India, two lakh children die from pneumonia annually and it kills more children in India aged below five years than any other infectious disease does.

The doctors expressed concern over the fact that a very few states have adopted the

vaccine so far. It costs approximately ₹11,000 per child for all the three doses of the vaccination. More and more states must adopt the vaccination programme to keep the disease at bay, they affirm.

Besides conventional medicines, it is important to have nutritious diet to reduce damage to the lungs, advise the nutritionists. Pneumonia diet should be rich in Vitamin C like lemons, pineapple and oranges while milk should be shunned, they say and add that the spices rich in antioxidants like turmeric, Dalchini and Tulsi are good. They say that pneumonia prevents lungs from moving enough oxygen into the bloodstream. Blood tests and chest X-ray are the general methods used to confirm an infection and its location. Besides, they help identify the type of organism causing the infection.

'Tigress Avni shot from behind, not in self-defence'

Nagpur: Tigress Avni was shot "when she was facing away" from the gunman hired by the Maharashtra Government, the report of an independent Government-appointed expert revealed here on Monday.

The detailed analytical report has been prepared by Wildlife Biologist Milind Pariwakam of the Wildlife Conservation Trust, who attended Avni's autopsy as a representative of Maharashtra's Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. Pariwakam's report raises doubts on the claims made by the hired shooter and officials that Avni was shot in "self-defence" after a darting attempt failed.

"Bullet trajectory as inferred from the post-mortem observations shows that the animal was facing away from the person who fired the bullet," Pariwakam has stated in the report, which forms an annexure to the autopsy report released earlier. Contacted by IANS, Pariwakam declined to comment as separate committees appointed by the Centre and the State Government are now probing the tigress' shooting. IANS

Punjab Coop Dept to channelise energies on financial revival of cooperative societies

Chandigarh: Punjab Cooperation Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa on Monday directed Deputy Registrars of all the districts to channelise all their energies on the financial resuscitation of the cooperative societies. The directions were issued by the Minister while chairing a meeting of all the Regional Officers of the Department.

On the occasion, the State Additional Chief Secretary (Cooperation) and Agriculture Viswajeet Khanna, said that Markfed and IFCCO jointly supply 50 per cent fertilizers through the Cooperation Department whereas in the distribution of agricultural chemicals, this share comes down to less than 10 per cent. PNS

Stubble fire on wane, Delhi breathes easy



SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's air quality improved significantly from "severe" to "very poor" on Monday as stubble burning cases in Capital's neighborhood was recorded "marginal" down. Its contribution in Delhi's air pollution came down from 36

per cent to 7 per cent on the National Air Quality Index (NAQI) graph.

The week started on a good note in terms of air quality. System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) in its air quality forecast said, "Air quality is likely to improve further by Tuesday but will remain in very poor category. The Particulate Matters (PMs) levels are declining and stubble related impact continue to remain nominal due to slow transport winds."

The SAFAR said the trend on stubble burning is fluctuating between 7 per cent and 10 per cent and will remain like this till November 15. Incidentally, on October 27, stubble fire's share in Delhi's pollution was 36 per cent, which was the highest of the



season. Satellite pictures on SAFAR's website explained how winds played crucial role in transporting half-burnt particles in Delhi air.

Stubble burning data pointed out that the biomass burning was the highest contributor to air pollution since October 11. The SAFAR mentioned that the moderate north-westerly wind with abysmally slow speed of five kilometre an hour was the reason behind escalation of pol-

lutants in the air.

"Surface wind at 18 km per hour, inversion layer height, favourable to moderate stagnation are the factors for better dispersion of pollutants," SAFAR mentioned in its report. "Shallow boundary layer continued and local weather are the most dominant factors responsible for pollution," the Center-run pollution watch body said.

The report also analysed the trends of different factors caus-

ing pollution since 2010 and it said transport emission in the national Capital has increased significantly at 41 per cent in the last eight years. The residential bio-fuel emission declined significantly in Delhi to 64 per cent since 2010, the report said.

The SAFAR issued a health advisory due to increased pollution levels in Delhi, urging people with heart or lung disease, older adults and children to avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. It also recommended people to go for shorter walks instead of jogging, keeping windows closed and wearing masks while stepping outside.

It may be recalled, Union Environment Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan had said the Centre has decided to initiate criminal prosecution against agencies which do not comply with the directives to check air

pollution.

Meanwhile on Monday, the air pollution levels in Delhi's air were recorded 402 and 268 microgram per cubic. Importantly, the level of PM 10 is still high on NAAQI, however the overall Average Air Quality Index was at 399.

Five areas which recorded severe pollution include Anand Vihar, Dwarka Sector 8, Narela, Punjabi Bagh and Rohini. Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Greater Noida and Noida recorded severe air quality while Gurgaon showed improvement in air quality as it stood in moderate category, according to the CPCB.

An AQI between 0 and 50 is considered good, 51 and 100 satisfactory, 101 and 200 moderate, 201 and 300 poor, 301 and 400 very poor, and 401 and 500 severe.

Voters defy Naxals in...

From page 1

Sahoo said five elite troopers from Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) were injured in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast triggered by Maoists in Bijapur district.

The IED went off when the CoBRA team was cordoning off a jungle stretch. The injured troopers were airlifted to Raipur for urgent medical attention. Political analysts say that Raman Singh's clean image and popularity could help the BJP to register the record fourth consecutive victory in the mineral-rich state. The second and final phase of polling in Chhattisgarh will be held on November 20 for remaining 72 seats. The counting will take place on December 11 along with four other States.

Wary Kushwaha...

From Page 1
The RLSP, which had fought three seats in 2014 and won all, is unlikely to be spared not more than two seats by the BJP.

Kushwaha has maintained he is ready to "sacrifice" for the NDA and would like Prime Minister Narendra Modi to return to power at the Centre, but wondered as to why he was being kept out of the Nitish Kumar-led JD(U)-BJP coalition in Bihar.

The OBC leader, who is also a Union Minister, has once famously said "Nitish is capable of sinking any boat he rides on." He accused Nitish of conspiring to break the RLSP. Kushwaha had also attacked Nitish for allegedly insulting him and had targeted him again on Sunday over reports that two MLAs of his party may join the JD(U).

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

Sharad Yadav had snapped his ties with Kumar after the JD(U) chief joined hands with

the BJP last year and currently working to rally the Opposition against the BJP-led NDA. Sharad recently also met with Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu who has also been working with opposition leaders including Congress president to forge a national alliance against the NDA.

RLSP and LJP leaders and State presidents have insisted that both the parties have not agreed to the reduction of their LS seat share and would contest the same number of seats which were allocated to them in 2014.

An old rival of Kumar, Kushwaha had also attacked the Chief Minister for allegedly insulting him and had targeted him again on Sunday over reports that two MLAs of his party may join the JD(U).

He had said he would apprise Shah of the "humiliation" he had suffered at the hands of Kumar and also request him to clear the confusion over seat-sharing among the NDA constituents in the State at the earliest.

Kushwahas have good 10 to 12 per cent vote share and are considered the second-most dominant caste in the OBC category after Yadavs (15%) in Bihar.

Punjab CM inaugurates 100-bedded cancer hospital

Announces Oncology training centre in Sangrur

PNS ■ SANGRUR/CHANDIGARH

To take forward Congress Government's mission to provide affordable cancer care to the people of Punjab, the Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday inaugurated 100-bedded ultra-modern Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital in Sangrur.

The Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital in Sangrur has been established in association with the State Government, which has also planned a State-of-the-art Oncology Training Centre at the newly inaugurated hospital, said the Chief Minister, who was accompanied by Health Minister Brahm Mohindra and PWD Minister Vijay Inder Singla.

Capt Amarinder also launched a Cancer Prevention Programme for Sangrur district, under which intensive health education on the risk factors and preventive measures of the disease (cervix, oral and breast cancer) and easy access for diagnosis and treatment, would be provided to the people at their doorsteps.

Government hospitals.

He said that 588 doctors would shortly be joining the Health Department, and they would be posted near their residential places to enable them to render their whole-hearted services to the patients.

"All tests of Tuberculosis and Hepatitis-C besides dialysis facility are being provided free of cost in all 22 Government hospitals," said Mohindra adding that the Government was working on a Clinical Establishment Act to regulate the services of private hospitals.

Singla recalled his maiden meeting with Tata Memorial Hospital director Padma Shri Dr RA Badwe on the directions of the then Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh for establishing cancer hospital in Sangrur.

"The hospital would provide 66 per cent subsidy on medicines, tests on nominal rates, and free treatment after detection of disease," he said.

Dr Badwe, in his address, said that the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital had been running five BSc courses through Baba Farid University of Health Sciences and one Master of Science in Histopath was being added from this academic year.

He added that BSc ICU and Diploma on Oncology Nursing will be added from next year.

Meanwhile, reviewing the progress of the Mullanpur hospital in Chandigarh later, the Chief Minister assured the Director of Tata Memorial Hospital Mumbai of all support and assistance to ensure timely completion of the ₹664 crore project.

Expressing concern over the high incidence of cancer in the State, especially in southern Punjab, the Chief Minister asked Dr Badwe to further intensify their efforts to prepare database of cancer patients suffering from various types of cancer, with early screening to ensure timely detection and treatment.

Capt Amarinder also asked the Health Minister to explore the possibility of engaging companies supplying medical equipment and infrastructure to the Government hospitals free of cost to further augment state's efforts to ensure affordable and hassle-free treatment to the poor and needy.

He also asked the Health Minister to rope in various philanthropic, NGOs, religious and social organisations for this purpose.

Suvichar suggests measures for tackling key issues

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



PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

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

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

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

CAPITAL FIRST LIMITED
One Indiabulls Centre, Tower 2A & 2B, 10th Floor, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, (West), Mumbai - 400 013
CIN No. L29120MH2005PLC156795

(Notice Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of the Security Interest Act, 2002)

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from Capital First Limited. The Loans of the below mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loans were classified as NPA as per the RBI Guidelines. Amounts due by them to Capital First Limited, are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers	Outstanding as per 13(2) notice	Notice date	Details of secured asset
1	1187976 2294306 1177937	Loan Against Property	1. Binod Kumar Agramodi 2. Sunita Agramodi	Rs. 80,18,966.03	25.10.2018	Flat No.404, 4th Floor, Block No.4, Ashoka Ratan Diamond, Shankar Nagar, P.H. No.110, Ward No.27, Raipur (CG)

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts due to Capital First Limited as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings U/s 13(4) and Sec. 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to Capital First Limited. Further you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Date : 13.11.2018
Place : Chhattisgarh

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Capital First Limited

CVC files confidential resport on Verma graft

From page 1

Mehta, appearing for the CVC, told the court that former SC judge A K Patnaik has supervised the CVC enquiry as directed by the apex court and the probe was completed on November 10. To this, the CJJ observed that the Registry was open on Sunday for one hour but neither the reports were filed nor any intimation was given to the Registrar regarding their filing.

"On Sunday we kept the registry opened for one hour but neither the reports were filed nor any intimation was given. How long will the Registrars

wait?," the CJJ said. The Solicitor General later tendered an apology and said though he was not explaining the circumstances, there was delay on their part in submitting the report.

In its order on October 26, the SC had set a deadline of two weeks for the ongoing CVC probe against Verma. The CVC probed the August 24 note/letter of Asthana to the Cabinet Secretary wherein he had alleged corruption by Verma and meddling in high profile cases in disregard of the CBI manner. The Cabinet Secretary had referred Asthana's complaint to the CVC for probe.

Abided by DAC to buy Rafale...

From page 1

The details of the documents were shared with the petitioners as directed by the Supreme Court.

The petitioners include former Union Ministers Yashwant Sinha and Arun Shourie, along with activist lawyer Prashant Bhusan. They had sought registration of an FIR into the fighter jet deal alleging "criminal misconduct" by high public functionaries. The trio has also sought a direction to the CBI to investigate the offences mentioned in their complaint in a "time-bound" manner and submit periodic status reports to the apex court.

A team of Indian negotiators formed to buy 36 Rafale fighter jets had got a better deal

on price and maintenance of the planes as compared to the earlier offer from French firm Dassault, according to the Centre's report on the purchase of the jets submitted to the Supreme Court last month.

The Indian negotiating team headed by a Deputy Chief of Air Staff rank officer carried out negotiations for over a year. This team submitted its report in July 2016 and the deal was cleared by the Cabinet Committee of Security and Defence Acquisition Council. India is buying 36 jets off the shelf from France and the entire lot will be delivered within 67 months after the contract was signed. The Rafale fighter jet is a twin-engine Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA). The UPA

regime was negotiating for a 126-jet deal with Dassault with 18 of them to be procured off the shelf and the remaining to be manufactured by the public sector Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) India.

However, the proposed contract could not mature due to various issues and the NDA Government scrapped the earlier process and announced to buy 36 Rafales to meet the urgent requirement of the IAF to bolster its depleting squadron strength.

However, the Congress is claiming that price at which India is buying Rafale aircraft now is Rs 1,670 crore each, three times the Rs 526 crore, initial bid by the company when the UPA was trying to buy the aircraft.

At least six killed in Kabul suicide attack

Kabul: Six people were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up in Kabul on Monday, close to where scores of Afghans had been protesting against Taliban attacks on the minority Hazara ethnic group.

The attack is the latest in a wave of violence across war-torn Afghanistan as the Taliban intensify pressure on beleaguered Government security forces, which are suffering record high casualties.

Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said 20 were wounded in the blast, which struck in front of a high school in the downtown area of the Afghan capital.

Initial reports indicated most of the victims were members of the security forces, but Danish said civilians, including several women, had borne the

brunt of the carnage.

A photo shared on WhatsApp showed several bodies lying on the ground.

"The suicide attacker on foot wanted to target protesters, but he was stopped at a security checkpoint some 200 metres (660 feet) from the site," interior ministry deputy spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said.

A police officer at the scene said he saw 10 to 15 casualties on the ground, as well as body parts.

The centre of Kabul was blanketed with heavier-than-usual security for the protest, which began on Sunday night and continued into Monday.

"It was a huge blast near Istiqlal high school, very close to where the demonstrators were gathering," witness Qais Nawabi said.



Trump largely alone as world leaders take aim at nationalism

AP ■ PARIS

For President Donald Trump in Paris, America First meant largely America alone.

At a weekend commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, the president who proudly declares himself a "nationalist" stood apart, even on a continent where his brand of populism is on the rise.

He began his visit with a tweet slamming the French president's call for a European defense force, arrived at events alone and spent much of his trip out of sight in the American ambassadors' residence in central Paris. On Sunday, he listened as he was lectured on the dangers of nationalist isolation, and then he headed home just as the inaugural Paris Peace Summit was getting underway.

Back at the White House

on Monday, Trump tweeted that "much was accomplished" in his meetings, but voiced a familiar complaint about America's allies. He said the US pays billions "protecting other countries, and we get nothing but Trade Deficits and Losses." He added: "It is time that these very rich countries either pay the United States for its great military protection, or protect themselves."

His France trip made clear that, nearly two years after taking office, Trump has dramatically upended decades of American foreign policy posture, shaking allies. That includes French President Emmanuel Macron, who on Sunday warned that the "ancient demons" that caused World War I and millions of deaths were once again making headway.

Macron, who has been urging a re-embrace of multi-

national organizations and cooperation that have been shunned by Trump, delivered a barely veiled rebuke of Trumpism at the weekend's centerpiece event: A gathering of dozens of leaders at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the base of the Arc de Triomphe to mark the passage of a century since the guns fell silent in a global war that killed millions. Bells tolled across Europe's Western Front and fighter jets passed overhead to mark the exact moment the devastating war came to a close.

With Trump and other leaders looking on, Macron took on the rising tide of populism in the United States and Europe and urged leaders not to turn their backs by turning inward. "Patriotism is the exact opposite of nationalism: Nationalism is a betrayal of patriotism," Macron said.

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

Cairo: Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Khaled al-Falih on Monday said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allies have agreed to reduce oil supply by 2019 to some 1 million barrels per day.

Al-Falih, who made his remarks at the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), pointed out that the technical analysis reviewed on Sunday showed the reduction was required to rebalance the market, Efe news reported.

The Saudi Energy Ministry said on Sunday that Al-Falih appreciated the cooperation of all

producers to ensure the "stability of the markets" and that there were "sufficient supplies".

For his part, Suhail bin Mohammed Faraj Faris Al Mazrouei, the UAE Energy Minister and President of the OPEC Conference in 2018 — said the member countries of OPEC, mainly the UAE and Saudi Arabia, were prepared to meet the needs of the world crude market in case of a fall in supply for political reasons.

The OPEC previously pointed to rising oil prices, while the experts of the organization pointed to geopolitical tensions, in reference to sanctions imposed by the US on Iranian crude since November 5.

Lankan parties move SC against Parl dissolution

Colombo: Sri Lanka's major political parties and an election commission member on Monday dragged President Maithripala Sirisena to the Supreme Court, challenging his controversial move of dissolving Parliament, almost 20 months before its term was to end.

Sirisena dissolved Parliament on November 9 and announced snap polls to be held on January 5 next year after it became evident that he did not have enough support in the House to prove the premiership of 72-year-old Mahinda Rajapaksa, whom he has appointed PM after abruptly sacking Ranil Wickremesinghe on October 26.

Rajapaksa needed the support of minimum 113 parliamentarians in the 225-member House to prove his majority.

Wickremesinghe's United National Party (UNP), the main opposition Tamil National Alliance (TNA) and the leftist JVP or the People's Liberation Front (PLF) were among the 10 groups that filed the fundamental rights petitions in the apex court, seeking declaration of the president's action as illegal, officials said.

The petitioners also include Election Commission member Prof Ratnajeewan Hoole. The Supreme Court adjourned till Tuesday morning the hearing of the petitions. The petitions were taken up for hearing before a three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Nalin Perera, Justices Prasanna Jayawardane and Priyantha Jayawardane.

Grim search for more fire victims; 31 dead across California

AP ■ PARADISE

As wildfires raged at both ends of California, officials released another grim statistic: six more dead in a swath of Northern California wiped out by fire, raising the death toll there to 29. It matched California's record for deaths in a single fire and brought the statewide total to 31.

Another 228 remain unaccounted for as crews stepped up the search for bodies and missing people. Two people were killed in a wildfire in Southern California.

Ten search teams were working in Paradise — a town of 27,000 that was largely incinerated last week — and in surrounding communities in the Sierra Nevada foothills. Authorities called in a DNA lab and teams of anthropologists to help identify victims.

Statewide, 1,50,000 remained displaced as more than 8,000 fire crews battled wildfires that have scorched 400 square miles with out-of-state crews continuing to arrive. Whipping winds and tinder-dry conditions threaten more areas through the rest of the week, fire officials warned.

"This is truly a tragedy that all Californians can understand and respond to," Gov. Jerry Brown said at a press briefing. "It's a time to pull together and work through these tragedies." Brown, who has declared a state emergency, said California is requesting aid from the Trump administration.

GLOBE TROTTER

DUTCH EMBASSY IN PAK DENIES ITS CLOSURE

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

ROCKETS FIRED FROM GAZA TOWARD ISRAEL

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

175 DEAD BY NIGERIA CHOLERA OUTBREAK

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

POLLUTION MAY UP HEART, LUNG DISEASE RISK

Washington: Exposure to certain air pollutants may increase emergency department (ED) visits for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, a study has found.

B'DESH POLLS PUSHED BACK TO DEC 30

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

MINISTER: REPORTS OF AASIA LEAVING PAK 'FAKE'

Lahore: The Pakistan Government on Monday rejected the reports claiming Aasia Bibi has fled abroad, saying the images on the social media showing the recently-acquitted Christian woman being greeted overseas are "fake".

TULSI PLANS TO RUN FOR US PRESIDENCY IN 2020

Washington: Tulsi Gabbard, the first Hindu lawmaker from Hawaii in the US Congress, is considering to run for American presidency in 2020, according to sources close to her.

NEPAL NAMES EX-LAW MINISTER AS ENVOY TO INDIA

Kathmandu: The Nepal Government on Monday nominated former law minister and senior politician Nilambar Acharya as ambassador to India.

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

Adong: A \$300 bottle of wine sold in the US and Europe is made in the unlikelyst of places: at the foot of the Himalayas in China, where farmers sing traditional songs while picking grapes. A stone's throw away from Tibet, Ao Yun's vineyards are located beneath the sacred Meili mountain at altitudes ranging up from 2,200 metres in the southwestern province of Yunnan. Wine consumption is soaring in China, it is not known

as major producer, but French luxury giant Moët Hennessy has bet on this remote location to show Asian country can produce first-class bottle of red.

It took four years to find ideal spot in vast country and result was Ao Yun, Chinese for "flying above the clouds", which debuted in 2013. "The place is magical, it has this wild side," Maxence Dulou, Ao Yun's estate manager, said as he carefully inspected grapes at one of

vineyards.

Dulou said he had "dreamed" of discovering a great "terroir" — the unique French term for the ground and climatic conditions in which grapes are grown — in China since his university days. The company wanted to show that a great wine could be made in China, where even local consumers trust French wines more than homegrown products, he said.

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

Shanghai: China has shown the missiles in its advanced J-20 stealth fighter jet to the public for the first time at its largest airshow, the Global Times newspaper reported.

The newspaper said two J-20 fighter jets opened their missile bay doors during a flypast on Monday, revealing that each jet had four missiles in its fuselage and one on either side of the aircraft. Citing Chinese experts, the newspaper said the demonstration, which came

on the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Air Force, displayed the J-20's superiority to the top US fighter jets, the F-22 and F-35, as well as the PLA's growing confidence.

It also quoted military expert Song Zhongping as saying the four missiles in the J-20's fuselage were long-range air-to-air missiles, while the two on the sides were short-range combat missiles meant for aerial combat.

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

Islamabad: Around 69 per cent Pakistanis between the ages of 15 and 65 do not know what the internet is, an information communication technology (ICT)-based survey has revealed. The survey was conducted by LimeAsia, a think-tank based in Sri Lanka that carries out ICT research, Dawn news reported on Monday.

The report is based on a survey of 2,000 households in Pakistan. LimeAsia claims that the sampling methodology was designed to ensure representation of 98 per cent target population aged 15 to 65 at a national level.

Conducted between October-December 2017, this demand side survey helps understand how users use or

do not use ICT services.

"The 152 million active cellular subscribers mentioned on Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) website, despite a good SIM registration system, tell nothing about the subscribers — whether they are men and women, rich or poor and does not really help understand access and usage gaps," LimeAsia CEO Helani Galpaya said in the report.

The study points out that lack of internet awareness is a considerable problem across Asian countries, including Pakistan, where just 30 per cent of the population in the age group of 15-65 is aware of the internet (they were asked if they use the 'internet' without explaining what it is).

Govt. of Bihar

BIHAR STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Bihar Undertaking)
Beltron Bhawan, Shastri Nagar, Patna-800023

Telephone No. 0612-2281857, 2281856 Fax No. 0612-2281857
Email: sujeet.kumar@bihar.gov.in

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

e-Tender Notice

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

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

Managing Director

PR.11262 (Ni Ni) 2018-19 ब्रेटी हे एक वरदान। देहे देकर मत करो अपमान।।

Govt. of Bihar

Department of Industries
Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan, Patna

Tender Notice

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

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

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

DIRECTOR, UMSAS
Patliputra Industrial Area, Patna, Bihar

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

SALE NOTICE

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

S. No	Matter Name	Vehicle Make	Vehicle No	Manu Year	Reserve Price (Rs)	EMD Amount (Rs)
1.	ICICI Bank Ltd v/s Sathya Devendra in CS. No 457/18	HONDA AVIATOR	DL85 BZ1497	2016	30000/-	3000/-
2.	ICICI Bank Ltd v/s Shabi Mohammad in CS. No 458/18	Yamaha FZ (FZS-F1)	DL3S DM1740	2016	40000/-	4000/-

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

Press Notice
Notice Inviting Tender

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

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

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

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

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://govtprocurementdelhi.gov.in> at I,D, No, 2018,PWD_161812_1

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

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

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

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

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

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

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

E- Tender Period: - As per Online Key Dates

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

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Gondia Irrigation Division,
Gondia

GDIPR/2018-2019/4207

Congress calisthenics

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



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

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

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

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

Safety last

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



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

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

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

In the Dragon's embrace

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



SANDHYA JAIN

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

The B&RI covers around

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SOUNDBITE

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



Vice President —Venkaiah Naidu

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



UN chief —Antonio Guterres

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



Iranian filmmaker —Majid Majidi

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



Defence Minister —Nirmala Sitharaman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Scope for improvement

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

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

Animesh Gupta
Ujjain

Tackling pollution

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

New weapon in India's bowling armoury

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

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



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

Ganapathi Bhat
Akola

No offence

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

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

JS Acharya
Hyderabad

Brilliant innings

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

Mohd Tariq Qasmi
Secunderabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

What went wrong?

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



GWYNNE DYAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The writer is an independent journalist)

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

—CONGRESS PRESIDENT RAHUL GANDHI

POINT COUNTERPOINT



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

Steady military modernisation

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



PATHIKRIT PAYNE

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Israel Aerospace Industries for Barak-8 Long Range Surface to Air Missile (LR-SAM) to arm India's frontline warships. This was followed by the mammoth \$5.43 billion deal with Russia in 2018 for S-400 Triumf air defence systems, capable of shooting down almost all kinds of incoming missiles, fighters and drones.

The deal for 6,000 missiles and associated equipments, including jam resistant phased array radars, was inked in spite of threats of sanctions by US. This was followed in quick succession with a \$950 million deal with Russia for two frigates of Project 11,356 class for Indian Navy.

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

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

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

#MeToo: Clarion call to something bigger

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



RAGHAV PANDEY NEELABH BIST

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

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

Normally, the legal consequences of bringing out the mis-

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

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

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

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

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

From the experience drawn from the US, where the #MeToo movement had seen its inception, many valuable lessons can be learned on how to reform the law. The first change that the law should provide for is an opt out option in non-disclosure agreements (NDAs).

It was observed in the United States that a big impediment in the reporting of sexual misbehaviour was the NDA. In many cases, the NDAs were so much customised to such effect that a victim was compensated with a financial settlement while gagging him/her from speaking about the abuse.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



MISSING LEGITIMACY OF THINK TANKS

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

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

PM unveils a string of projects for Varanasi

RAMESH K SINGH ■ VARANASI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mizoram CM declares moveable assets worth over ₹1 crore

PTI ■ AIZAWL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

He has an agricultural land worth around ₹7.50 lakh.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ KOLKATA

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

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

"The police and the State Government are yet to grant permission. Time and again we have tried to meet the police officials and the Home Secretary, but in vain. Until and unless we have the permission how will we organize the entire route?" Ghosh said.

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

"If the Government is try-



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

permission we will move court and fight it out," he said. At the conclusion of the 'yatra', the party plans to hold a massive rally in Kolkata which is likely to be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

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

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

PTI ■ AGARTALA

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

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

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

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

"What are the provisions for a holiday? They (previous Left Govt) used to grant holiday to the entire State on this day here," Deb told a conference of the Tripura Gazetted Officers Sangh here on Sunday. The Tripura Government in a notification on November 3 had said that Government employees would be allowed to avail any four holidays chosen by them out of a list of restricted holidays during 2019.

The list of restricted holidays had 12 festivals or occa-



sions in it.

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

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

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

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

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

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

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

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

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

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



RSS leaders calling on DMK chief MK Stalin on Monday

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

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

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

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

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

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



A sadhu waits to meet officials of Kumbh mela festival in Allahabad on Monday. Millions of Hindu pilgrims and holy men are expected to attend the festival, starting in January next.

Soldier martyred in another Pak sniper attack at border

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

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

The deceased soldier was identified as Lance Naik



Antony Sebastian KM while injured soldier was identified as Havildar Mari Muthu D. According to Defence PRO, Lance Naik Antony Sebastian KM, aged 34, hailed from Ernakulam district of Kerala and is survived by his wife. This is the fourth incident in a row in which Indian army has lost its third soldier while one civilian porter attached with the Indian army had earlier succumbed to his fatal injuries on Friday in Akhnour sector.

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

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

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

General Rawat also claimed, "Indian army is continuously engaging the 'adversary' and hitting back in equal measure".

He said there is lot happening from our side also but we don't want to blow a trumpet unnecessarily.

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

TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PANCHKULA	CONDUCTING OF INTERNAL AUDIT OF HOUSING BOARD HARYANA HEAD OFFICE PANCHKULA & ITS FIVE DIVISIONS & ESTATE BRANCHES AT VARIOUS STATIONS IN HARYANA FOR THE YEAR 2017-18	02.11.2018 20.11.2018	5000	http://haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.HB/H/Act/2018/4944 DT. 30.10.2018	0372-2562031
2	UHVBN	CONSTRUCTION OF PLATFORM BRICK FLOORING AT C/STORE ROHTAK	05.11.2018 20.11.2018	1.17 LACS	www.ubhbn.org.in Tender No. 23/CB/2018_19	9354726012 xensivubhbnrohtak@gmail.com
3	THE ROHTAK CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD, ROHAK A UNIT OF HDPC LTD	SUPPLY OF PACKING MATERIAL I.E GHEE POLY FILM, EMPTY GLASS BOTTLE 200ML, CPP BOTTLE 200ML, PP CAP FOR 200 ML BOTTLE, PVC SHRINK LABELS & EASY PEEL RETORT GRADE LTD FILM	05.12.2018	1.70 LACS	www.vilindia.org.in Tender No. 2840.10.11.2018	vircobtek@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KATHAL	AUGMENTATION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN KATHAL TOWN INCLUDING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, AUTOMATION OF WTP, BOOSTING STATIONS AND O&M FOR ONE YEAR DURING 18 MONTH PERIOD AND FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER UNDER AMBIT PROGRAM	02.11.2018 22.11.2018	2689 LACS	https://ulb.haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.104324 Augmentation of water supply system in kathal town including distribution system, automation	mckathal@gmail.com 9511188854
5	RGTPP, HPGL KHEDAR, HISAR	SETTING UP RUNNING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRST AID CENTRE AS WELL AS HEALTH CENTRE ALONG WITH AMBULANCE SERVICE, ROUND THE CLOCK, AT FOR 2*600 MW, KHEDAR, HISAR	06.11.2018 26.11.2018	1.18 LACS	https://haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.105219	raman.vadav@hpecl.org.in 01693250192
6	HVPNL	EXECUTION OF WORK FOR REPLACEMENT OF 132 KV BREAKER CONTROLLING 132/33KV 12.5MVA T-1 T/F WITH HEALTHY 132 KV SF-6 BREAKER OF BUS-COUPLER AT 132 KV SYSTEM BOOHNI	16.11.2018	1.05 LACS	www.hvpng.org.in Tender No.104653_35/ev-70/2018-19 DT. 08.11.2018	pro@hvpng.org.in 0372-2583789
7	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	NEW INFRASTRUCTURE WORK FOR SURAKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFT MELA-2019 (REPLACEMENT OF MAIN LT PANEL & PDS, CAPACITOR BANK PANEL), PROVIDING & LAYING 80 MM THICK INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK IN VARIOUS STREETS IN DHEERAJ NAGAR 9 (PART-A/P) WARD NO. 26 FARIDABAD	12.11.2018 10.12.2018	10.80 LACS	haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No. 2018_HTC_71654	haryanaaeprocurement@gmail.com 9216100561
8	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FARIDABAD	PROVISION OF PROVIDING AND LAYING RMC M 35 GRADE WITH CEMENT 400 KG/CM3 IN NEAR RAJIV CHOWK OLD FARIDABAD TO SEC-18 & 17 T-POINT (LEFT SIDE) OLD FARIDABAD IN WARD NO. 31 FARIDABAD	12.11.2018 10.12.2018	245.65 LACS	https://mcbf.haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.105818	shyamingsh.ansar@gmail.com 9818653723
9	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FARIDABAD	PROVISION OF PROVIDING AND LAYING RMC M 35 GRADE WITH CEMENT 400 KG/CM3 IN NEAR RAJIV CHOWK OLD FARIDABAD TO SEC-18 & 17 T-POINT (LEFT SIDE) OLD FARIDABAD IN WARD NO. 31 FARIDABAD	12.11.2018 10.12.2018	160.25 LACS	https://mcbf.haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.105298	shyamingsh.ansar@gmail.com 9818653723
10	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	PROVIDING AND FIXING OF DMOLPUR STONE CANOPY 12' DIA NEAR CIVIL HOSPITAL, SECTOR-10 WARD NO-13, GURUGRAM + 2 OTHER WORKS	10.11.2018 26.11.2018	26.02 LACS	https://municipal.haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No.104682_104683_104684	eeh@mccg.gov.in
11	THE KARNAL COOP SUGAR MILLS LTD. KARNAL	SALE OF BAGASSE (5000 MT APPROX.),PURCHASE OF COSTLINE + 1 OTHER WORK	09.11.2018 15.11.2018	2 LACS	haryanaaeprocurement.gov.in Tender No. smk-18/P/2711 dt.19.11.2018	8950143977

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

FORM-1

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

E-mail address:- northmumbai.ee@mahapwd.co.in Telephone/Fax Number 26231964/26205788

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

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

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

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

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

REVISION PETITION AGAINST SC VERDICT

Sundaram recuses from Sabarimala case

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

call off from the case was a political one and smacks of politics.

Kerala saw massive protests all over the State against the Supreme Court verdict allowing the entry of women of child bearing age into the sanctum of the temple on Sunday and Monday. TV Mathew, a former judge and a devotee Christian inaugurated the protest rally held at Perumbavoor on Sunday which saw massive crowd participation. Mathew wanted all women representatives of the three-tier local bodies in Kerala should intimate their views to the Supreme Court while the revision petition is heard. "I see big opposition and resistance from the women to the verdict delivered by the Supreme Court and now it is time for the women members of Panchayath, district panchayaths, municipal and corporation councils to come together and take a call on this issue," said Mathew.

call off from the case was a political one and smacks of politics. Kerala saw massive protests all over the State against the Supreme Court verdict allowing the entry of women of child bearing age into the sanctum of the temple on Sunday and Monday. TV Mathew, a former judge and a devotee Christian inaugurated the protest rally held at Perumbavoor on Sunday which saw massive crowd participation. Mathew wanted all women representatives of the three-tier local bodies in Kerala should intimate their views to the Supreme Court while the revision petition is heard. "I see big opposition and resistance from the women to the verdict delivered by the Supreme Court and now it is time for the women members of Panchayath, district panchayaths, municipal and corporation councils to come together and take a call on this issue," said Mathew.

Kerala Govt mulling all-party meet on Sabarimala

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bengal BJP wants to field more Muslims in LS polls

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hiking cane price a pre-poll challenge for UP Govt

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

If their demands are acceded to by the Government, the sugarcane price will be ₹400 per quintal for the 2018-19 season. The sugar industry, which is predominantly in the private sector, on the other hand, has reiterated its inability to pay even the existing cane price of ₹315 per quintal (common variety) fixed last year for the 2017-18 season.

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

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

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

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

The millers have cited

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

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

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

In run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha poll, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party can ill afford to antagonise the state farmers, especially in western UP that has higher concentration of sugar mills. So far, about a dozen sugar mills have started their crushing operations in UP, out of the total 119 units in the private and Cooperative sectors. Minister of State for Sugarcane Development, Sugar Mills (Independent Charge), Suresh Rana on Monday directed sugar mills to commence cane crushing by November 25 and clear the cane arrears by November 30. **PNS**

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

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

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

VHP national vice-president Champat Rai said that Hindus were hurt by the attitude of Supreme Court in solving this issue. "We were quite hopeful about an early settlement of the case but by deferring the hearing to January, the apex court has played with the sentiments of the majority community," Rai said in a statement after the 'bhoomi puja' on Monday.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shiv Sena leader takes a jibe at VHP

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

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

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

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

SEARCH FOR MISSING

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

Complexion: Wheatish, **Height:** 5'3", **Face:** Round, **Build:** Medium, **Clothing:** Wearing not known.

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform undersigned.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail: cbi@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.No.: 011-24368638, 24388641
P.S. Desh Bandhu Gupta Road, Delhi
DP/5843/CD/18 Ph.: 011-23537374, 23613252

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

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

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

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

CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

PALIKA KENDRA, NEW DELHI-110001

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Tender ID No. 2018_NDMC_161755_1

Name of Work: MLA LAD Fund
Sub-Head: Providing and placing precast RCC Public Toilets in NDMC area.
Estimated cost: ₹11,56,472/-
Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution : 08.11.2018
Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution : 20.11.2018 at 4:00 PM

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

Note: To participate in e-tender in NDMC registration with e-tendering system Government of NCT of Delhi is mandatory. **Sd/- EE (RIP)**

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

Regd. & Corp. Office: C-16 Vidyut Sadan, Sector-6, Panchkula, Haryana

Phone No. 09354726012, Web site: www.uhbvn.org.in
CIN: U40109HR1999SGC034166, E-mail: xenciviluhbvnrohtak@gmail.com

Corrigendum

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

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

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

Sd-
XEN Civil Const. Divn.,
UHBVN, Rohtak
RO NO. 73432 Dt. 12-11-2018

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

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

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

The bids forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD or www.eprocure.gov.in.

PRASAR BHARATI

[INDIA'S PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTER]

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION WING: ALL INDIA RADIO

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

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

NIT No.: 17/EE [E]-P/NIT/2018-19, dated: 30.10.2018, Name of Work : SITC of Gas flooding system for server room at 5th Floor, Prasar Bharati House, Mandi House, New Delhi - Balance Work, Estimated cost: ₹ 5, 85, 280/- Earnest Money Deposit: ₹ 11,706/-, Period of completion : One Month Last date & time of submission of bid: Up to 3:00 P.M. on 16.11.2018.

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

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
davp22439/1/0005/1819 [E]-Project

BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi

... A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: 13.11.2018

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

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

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

Regd. Off: BSES Yamuna Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karakardoma, Delhi-110002 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC111525
TEL: 011-39997111 | Fax: 011-39992076 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

हरियाणा सरकार

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	WORKS AND C.D. DEVELOPMENT, REWARI	TPT	CLOSING DATE 25.11.2018	NIL	https://haryanaaprocmnt.gov.in	perewari_wd@gmail.com 01274-223694
2	PANCHAYATI RAJ, KARNAL	CONSTRUCTION OF I/R/IBP STREET +5 OTHER WORKS	10.11.2018 30.11.2018	177.49 LACS	https://haryanaaprocmnt.gov.in	prexeeng_sr@hry.nic.in 0184-2262916
3	PWD SBR, HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF TFSHS BUILDING AT RANIA IN DISTT. SIRSA	CLOSING DATE 20.11.2018	4.67 LACS	https://haryanaaprocmnt.gov.in	pwd-ee@fssar@hry.nic.in xenelect.pwd.hisa@gmail.com 01662-226551
4	IRRIGATION DEPT., GOHANA	RE-CONSTRUCTION OF V.R. BRIDGE AT RD 40220 NAI NALA DRA V. (WILLONHATE-RA TO JAGSI) +1 OTHER WORK	16.11.2018 28.11.2018	257.52 LACS	www.hid.gov.in	xenghr@rediffmail.com
5	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, BAWAL	AUGMENTATION OF 5 NO. EXISTING CANAL BASED WATER WORKS COVERING 24 VILLAGES & CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CANAL BASED WATER WORKS AT BIRPUR CHAMRAWAS & BACHRAWAN VILLAGES COVERING 31 NO. VILLAGES & 3 NO. DHANES OF TENSIL & DISTRICT REWARI.	07.11.2018 06.12.2018	378.40 LACS	https://haryanaaprocmnt.gov.in	TENDER NO 104508
6	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, HISAR	ESTIMATE FOR REPAIR / RENOVATION OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF VILLAGE JAKHOOD KHEDA DISTT HISAR	CLOSING DATE 20.11.2018	74900	http://phed.haryanaaprocmnt.gov.in	TENDER NO 104475 1662242227
7	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ROHTAK	EYE MEDICINES/ CONSUMABLE/ POOL/ ACID	CLOSING DATE 26.11.2018	15000	https://tenders.hry.nic.in	CSRTK/EYE/9/2018 9416570251

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

RO NO.73442

Sensex falls 346 pts as crude prices rise

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

Similarly, the NSE Nifty fell by 103 points to 10,482.20 points.

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

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

Besides, a caution prevailed among investors ahead of key macro data — index of industrial production (IIP) for September and CPI inflation for October — to be released later in the day.

Mixed leads from most other Asian markets and a lower opening of European shares too fuelled the downturn.

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

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

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

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

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

Meanwhile, on a net basis, foreign funds bought shares

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

Selling was more pronounced in auto, oil and gas, PSU and banking stocks which dragged the indices into the negative zone.

Among Sensex constituents, Tata Motors was the worst hit, plunging 4.84 per cent, followed by Hero MotoCorp at 3.82 per cent.

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

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

The inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3.7 per cent in September 2018 and 3.58 per cent in October 2017. The retail inflation number is the lowest since September 2017 when it touched 3.28 per cent.

The rate of price rise in the food basket contracted by 0.86 per cent in October compared to 0.51 per cent rise in September, according to the Central Statistics Office data.

Vegetable prices declined by 8.06 per cent in October against a 4.15 per cent contraction in September.

Inflation also slowed to 0.35 per cent in the fruit basket as against 1.12 per cent recorded a month ago.

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

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

₹ drops 39 paise as crude oil rebounds

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Business Corner

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

GAIL GAS SIGNS MOU WITH EESL

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

KARNATAKA WOMEN MUNICIPAL COUNCILORS VISIT NDMC

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

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK OBSERVED IN POWERGRID

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

NHPC CELEBRATES 44TH RAISING DAY

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



Foundation Stone of Auditorium, Guest House & Hostel at ICMR National Institute of Malaria Research, Dwarka in New Delhi was laid by Prof. Balmurghav, Secretary, DHR & DG, ICMR, Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, SEARO, WHO & Neena Valecha, Director, NIMR in presence of Minister of State Health & Family Welfare on Skype. HSSC is the project consultant for this work.

Mahindra launches new Scorpio variant priced at ₹13.99 lakh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mahindra & Mahindra announced on Monday launch of a new variant of SUV Scorpio priced at ₹13.99 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). The 'feature-packed' S9 will be available pan India across Mahindra dealerships with immediate effect, the company said in a statement.

equipped with features such as fully automatic temperature control, 15 cm touchscreen infotainment with GPS navigation in ten languages and panic brake indication, among others. M&M Chief of Sales and Marketing — Automotive Division, Veejay Ram Nakra said, "The new Scorpio S9 offers a great feature package at an attractive price point making it a compelling buy for customers looking for a true-blue SUV."

Jet Airways reports net loss of ₹1,261 crore

PTI ■ MUMBAI

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

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

first loss since becoming a publicly traded company.

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

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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Ficci and the Niti Aayog on Monday jointly organised a workshop on the 'Online Digital Payments Programme' aimed at capacity building and imparting training to the officials working in this area.

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

DSP MUTUAL FUND LAUNCHES DSP HEALTHCARE FUND

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (₹P)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Total Loan Outstanding (As on 31st July 2018)
MR. BALJINDER SINGH (BORROWER) for MRS. DALJEET KAUR (CO-BORROWER) Plot no. 2, Sukh Vihar, NDMC CHBS Ltd, Parwana Road, New Delhi-110051 (Loan Code No. 409903, 505665 and 419032)	19/10/2016 for Rs. 37196901/-	THE PROPERTY BEARING PLOT NO-2, (UPPER GROUND FLOOR, FIRST FLOOR AND THIRD FLOOR) Sukh Vihar, New Delhi-110051 Admeasuring Built up Area 180 sq. Yds & UGF, FF, AND TF Prop Area 1296 Sq.ft.	Rs. 4,30,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Thirty Lakh Only)	Rs. 43,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Only)	Rs.5,06,48,257/- (Rupees Five Crore Six Lakh Fourty Eight Thousand Two hundred Fifty Seven Only)

IMPORTANT TERMS & CONDITIONS:

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

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

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

For SD/-
Authorised Officer
Karvy Financial Services Limited
Date : 13th November 2018
Place : NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

DGIPR/2018/2019/4232

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

Extract of Standalone Unaudited Results for the Quarter Ended 30/09/2018

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

Notes:

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

By Order of The Board
For Prakash woollen & Synthetic Mills Limited
Sd/-
Vijay Kumar Gupta
Whole Time Director & CFO
DIN: 00335325

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

Juve keep flying high

Mandzukic and Ronaldo score either side of half-time while Higuain was sent off in Milan's loss

AFP ■ MILAN

Cristiano Ronaldo scored as Juventus bounced back from their midweek Champions League defeat by Manchester United with a 2-0 win over 10-man AC Milan in Serie A, as Gonzalo Higuain missed a penalty before being sent off for the hosts.

Mario Mandzukic headed in the opener in the eighth minute at the San Siro on Sunday with Ronaldo adding a second on 81 minutes as Juventus maintained their six-point cushion ahead of the international break.

It got the defending seven-time Serie A champions back on track after suffering their first defeat of the season by United following two late goals despite Ronaldo's stunning volley.

"Winning tonight was the only way to put aside what happened in the final five minutes of the Champions League game," said Juve coach Massimiliano Allegri.

"It was important to win without conceding a goal and to regain the six-point advantage over Napoli who are having an excellent championship."

A third loss of the campaign, however, saw AC Milan drop out of the Champions League places behind Lazio who moved back into fourth despite a 1-1 draw at Sassuolo.

Juventus have 34 points from 12 games -- six ahead of Carlo Ancelotti's Napoli with Inter a further three behind.

"I'm very happy, especially for the team, because playing away to Milan is always very difficult," said Ronaldo.

"It was important to win, because Napoli beat Genoa last night and we had to keep our distance."

Allegri's side rarely looked threatened by AC Milan with Mandzukic rising highest to nod in

an Alex Sandro cross to dampen spirits among the 75,000-capacity crowd at the San Siro.

The Croatian World Cup runner-up could have made it two shortly after, meeting a cross this time from Ronaldo but Milan skipper Alessio Romagnoli blocked.

Higuain returned from a back problem to face his parent club but it was to be a nightmare outing for the forward who had been loaned out to Milan last summer to make space for Ronaldo.

The Argentine missed a penalty awarded after Medhi Benatia handled in the area five minutes before the break with Juventus goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny tipping the ball onto the post.

Ronaldo tested Gianluigi Donnarumma in the AC Milan goal early in the second half before finally blasting in nine minutes from time for his first goal at the San Siro.

Minutes later Higuain saw red after shouting at the referee in frustration after a foul on Benatia, and was led off the pitch in tears.

"I told him not to exaggerate, to calm down and not to risk a major penalty," said Ronaldo of what he told Higuain on the pitch.

"He was nervous, he was losing, but we must not blame him, he didn't say anything."

"I know that we are an example for all children, for those who play football, for the people watching, but we are not robots, and we carry things within us," Higuain said after.

"We are human, we feel emotions, the game was not going the right way and it was one of those days."

"I think sometimes the referees should understand the situation," added Higuain, who won two Serie A titles with Juventus after joining from Napoli in 2016.



Cristiano Ronaldo controls the ball during a Serie A match against AC Milan AP

AFP ■ MADRID

Real Madrid director Emilio Butragueno has said the club are delighted with Santiago Solari's spell in charge after the team posted their fourth consecutive win by beating Celta Vigo on Sunday.

Madrid claimed a 4-2 victory at Balaídos and the expectation is Solari will now be given the job full-time, following a transformation in results.

Four victories during his tenure have brought 15 goals scored and just two conceded while Real have cut the gap behind Barcelona to four points in La Liga.

The win over Celta was the club's last fixture before Solari's two weeks as an interim coach ends during the international break.

"He has done excellently," Butragueno said on Sunday. "He arrived in a very particular moment and has achieved very good results, above all today against Celta in a very difficult game. We are very happy with how things have gone."

Butragueno would not confirm whether Solari's position would be made permanent but it is likely the Argentinian will remain in the post, at least until the end of the season.

"We will see," Solari said. "I usually don't plan too far ahead but in principle, it's my day off tomorrow."

"The important thing is to do everything for the good of the team and Real Madrid. Nothing else is important for me."

Madrid defender Alvaro Odriozola said the players are behind Solari.

"These things are decided by those at the top, we just have to work to get out of the crisis," Odriozola said.

Solari leads Los Blancos to 4th win



Sergio Ramos after scoring the third goal against RC Celta Vigo AP

SOLARI TO COACH REAL MADRID

Madrid: Real Madrid have submitted documentation to make Santiago Solari their first team coach on a permanent basis.

The former midfielder took over the club at the end of October, replacing Julen Lopetegui. Madrid have since won four games in a row under Solari and have now given him a permanent contract, which has been sent to the Spanish FA (RFEF). Marca have confirmed the news after contacting the RFEF on Monday.

"We'll go to the death with him, he's a great coach and of course we want him to continue."

Madrid dominated a chaotic match against Celta that featured three goals and a red card in the final 10 minutes.

Karim Benzema scored a brilliant opener before instigating a second, his shot cannoning in off Gustavo Cabral.

Hugo Mallo pulled one back for the hosts in the second half but Sergio Ramos chipped in a late penalty to put the result beyond doubt and Cabral was sent off for receiving a second yellow card. Dani Ceballos' stunning effort made it four, with Brais Mendez adding a late Celta consolation.

"The team showed a lot of personality to come through all the circumstances of the game," Solari said.

Madrid suffered a spate of injuries as Casemiro, Sergio Reguilon and Nacho were all forced off. Gareth Bale took a knock to his left ankle in the first half but was able to continue.

"Gareth made a massive effort, his ankle was very swollen," Solari said. "Celta played very aggressively, on the edge of the rules."

SINGLES

CHHETRI OUT OF JORDAN FRIENDLY
NEW DELHI: India's star striker Sunil Chhetri will miss the upcoming international friendly against Jordan due to an ankle injury that has ruled him out for at least two weeks. Chhetri suffered the injury during Bengaluru's Hero ISL match against Kerala Blasters on November 5. The BFC Medical Team have shared the MRI reports and medical assessments and we have scrutinised them thoroughly. Sunil needs rest of around two weeks and proper rehabilitation after which he can get back to training," said Indian team's physiotherapist Gigy George. The match against Jordan is slated to be played at the King Abdullah II Stadium in Amman on November 17. The Indian will depart for the game on November 15.

EVES FACE MYANMAR IN OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS
YANGON: India will have their task cut out when they face hosts Myanmar in their third and final match of the 2020 AFC Women's Olympic Qualifiers here on Tuesday. Coach Maymol Rocky's charges will have momentum on their side as they go into the match on the back of a stunning 7-1 win against Bangladesh. After playing out a 1-1 draw in their opener against Nepal, the Indian women responded with a resounding victory in their second game, with Bala Devi getting on the scoresheet four times and Kamala Devi scoring twice. India have four points from two matches, the same as Myanmar who won their first match by a 5-0 margin against Bangladesh and followed it up with a surprising 1-1 draw against Nepal on Sunday.

HARIKA BOWS OUT OF WORLD C'SHIP
KHANTY MANSIYSK: Indian challenge ended at the World Women Chess Championship with grandmaster D Harika bowing out following a defeat against former champion Alexandra Kosteniuk of Russia in the second set of tie-break games here. Harika had carried the Indian hopes nicely till the tie-breaker of the third round. However, she got a jolt in the first game of the rapid tie-break where both players had 25 minutes on their clock. The Indian looked down and out but a major comeback on the cards as she won the return game with white pieces to level scores. But in the 10-minute games, Harika again lost the first game with black on Sunday.

LAHIRI LOGS TOP-10 AT MEXICO
PLAYA DEL CARMEN: Anirban Lahiri secured his first Top-10 finish since the first week of August after carding a three-under 68 on the final day of the Mayakoba Golf Classic here on Monday. Lahiri, who once again was off to a brilliant start on the front nine with four birdies against no bogeys - he had five on the front stretch on the third day, aggregated 16-under 268 to finish T-10th. Lahiri's last Top-10 finish was at the WGC-Bridgestone where he signed off at Tied-6th place. In the six starts in between those two Top-10s, Lahiri had four missed cuts and a best finish of T-63 at CIMB Classic. "It was some relief, though it could have been much better," said Lahiri, who is now due to play for India at the World Cup in Melbourne alongside his teammate Gaganjeet Bhullar.

EAST BENGAL HOST CHENNAI IN I LEAGUE
KOLKATA: On a high after two successive away wins, East Bengal will look to begin their home campaign on a rousing note when they face Chennai City in a top-of-the-table I-League clash here on Tuesday. Eyeing an elusive I-League title, East Bengal began their campaign with wins against Neroca FC and Shillong Lajong in the hills and, before playing their first home game of the season at the Salt Lake Stadium, Chennai City, who have played one match extra, have two wins against Indian Arrows and Gokulam Kerala and were held by Churchill Brothers. The last meeting between the two teams at this ground, nine months ago, resulted in a disaster for Chennai City with East Bengal pumping in seven goals.

Cavani's hat-trick adds to Henry woes

AFP ■ MONACO

Thierry Henry's disastrous start as coach of Monaco continued on Sunday as Edinson Cavani's VAR-assisted hat-trick helped Paris Saint-Germain to an easy 4-0 win in the principality that saw them extend their perfect record in Ligue 1 this season.

Neymar netted a penalty to complete PSG's victory, as they made it 13 wins from 13 league games under Thomas Tuchel, further stretching their start to the season that is a record in France and in Europe's so-called big five leagues.

They go 13 points clear of second-placed Lille at the Ligue 1 summit, the club who have been their main challengers in recent seasons continued their deeply worrying slump, with Henry again left to look on helplessly from the touchline.

Champions in 2017, Monaco are in the relegation zone and five points away from outright safety having failed to win in six matches in all competitions since the Arsenal and France great took charge.

They have now gone 16 games with-



Kylian Mbappe, center, battles for the ball with Benjamin Henrichs during Ligue 1 at Stade Louis II AP

out a win altogether, with this result following a 4-0 home reverse against Club Brugge which knocked them out of the Champions League.

Monaco are on their worst run in

France's top flight in 32 years.

"We are playing for survival, nothing else," said Henry, who has picked up a squad cursed by injuries.

Here he was missing a dozen players

NEYMAR NETTED A PENALTY TO COMPLETE PSG'S VICTORY, AS THEY MADE IT 13 WINS FROM 13 LEAGUE GAMES UNDER THOMAS TUCHEL

due either to injury or suspension at kick-off, while both Belgian international Nacer Chadli and his replacement Jordi Mboula had to come off hurt.

"We lost two more players tonight, so it is starting to become a lot," he said, adding: "I am staying positive because even with all that we managed to create chances against PSG."

PSG went ahead in the fourth minute when Neymar drove the ball across goal

for Cavani to convert.

The goal was initially disallowed before being given by the Video Assistant Referee, and the same thing happened in the 11th minute when Cavani turned the ball in again after the flag was wrongly raised for an offside against Moussa Diaby.

In contrast to those two goals, a fine Julian Draxler finish in first-half stoppage time was initially given before being disallowed on review.

However, Diaby squared for Cavani to complete his hat-trick in the 54th minute, and Neymar then rolled in a penalty after Kylian Mbappe had been fouled by France teammate Djibril Sidibe.

"I am very satisfied with the result, and with the fact we showed the hunger to win a 13th straight game. That is extraordinary," said Tuchel.

"Monaco and Henry are in a very difficult situation with lots of players out injured. This wasn't the night for Monaco to challenge us. They can do that if they have all their players back but not today."

Sindhu sets eyes on Hong Kong title



PV Sindhu prepares to return a shot BWF

PTI ■ KOWLOON

PV Sindhu will look to continue her consistent run when she spearheads the Indian challenge at the Hong Kong World Tour Super 500 tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Sindhu finished second best in the last edition after her gallant fight ended in agony against world No 1 Tai Tzu Ying and the Indian will have to once again bring her best to the fore to salvage any hopes of making the podium again in a tough field.

Sindhu begins her campaign against Thailand's Nitchanon Jindapong and is likely to face China's He Bingjiao in the quarterfinals, an opponent who has defeated her thrice this year.

Saina Nehwal, who claimed a second Commonwealth Games Gold and a Bronze at the Asian Games this season, will have a tough task at hand when she faces the formidable Akane Yamaguchi, the second seeded Japanese.

In the men's singles, Kidambi Srikanth will face Hong Kong's Wong Wing Ki Vincent in the opener and might face compatriot HS Prannoy in the second round if he crosses the opening hurdle.

Prannoy opens his campaign against Denmark's Anders Antonsen, an opponent he had defeated at the Japan Open last year in their only meeting.

Also in action will be Sameer Verma, who won the Swiss Open and Hyderabad Open this season. The 24-year-old will take on Thailand's Suppanyu Avihingsanon in the first round.

B Sai Praneeth, who won the Singapore Open last year, will also face a Thai player in Khosit Phetpradab in the opening round.

The men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, who reached the semifinals at the French Open, will have to fight it out against former world No 1 and London Olympic Silver medallist combination of Mathias Boe and Carsten Mogensen of Denmark.

Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy will take on Thailand pair of Bodin Isara and Manepong Jongjit in the opener.

In women's doubles, Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy will square off against the second seeded Japanese pair of Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi in the opening round.

Ashwini will also pair up with Satwik to take on Wang Chi-Lin and Lee Chia Hsin in mixed doubles.

Federer crashes to Nishikori in opener

AFP ■ LONDON

Roger Federer suffered a shock straight-sets defeat to Kei Nishikori at the ATP Finals, severely denting his bid for the 100th title of his illustrious career.

The Swiss, who has won the season-ending event a record six times, produced an uncharacteristically error-prone and fractious display in the round-robin match on Sunday as the Japanese seventh seed prevailed 7-6 (7/4) 6-3.

The result means Federer is now in danger of failing to qualify for the semi-finals for just the second time in 16 appearances at the event.

"I felt we both struggled, you know, throughout the first set," he said.

"You could tell it was sort of a first round. I had my chances maybe a bit more than he did.



Kei Nishikori reacts after winning AP

"Then I started to feel better in the second set. I think we both did. The level went up. Unfortunately I couldn't keep the lead that I got early. That was important, I think, at the end. That was the key of the match."

Federer, 37, has beaten Nishikori in Shanghai and Paris

in recent weeks but despite having the backing of a full house at the O2 Arena, he never really settled into a groove.

The normally cool Swiss was warned by the umpire for ball abuse in the 12th game after Nishikori produced a staggering backhand winner down the line.

The Swiss great made 20 unforced errors in the first set and Nishikori capitalised, forcing a tie-break in which he raced to a 6/1 lead before sealing it 7/4.

Federer, showing real urgency, broke Nishikori immediately at the start of the second set but it proved a false dawn as he lost his own serve immediately Nishikori broke again in the sixth game and kept his nerve, serving out for victory.

"I lost to him twice in the last two months so I played more aggressively and things started working, especially in the second set. There were some lucky points but I played well today," said Nishikori.

Overall the statistics made grim reading for Federer, who made a total of 34 unforced errors against 19 winners.

Federer denied that cutting back on his schedule increased the pressure on him to do well at the tournaments he did play.

"I don't think, per se, I'm playing worse because of it," he said. "I think I've had that pressure, not going out early, most of my career."

The ATP Finals is contested by the eight players who have accumulated the most ranking points over the season separated into two groups, with the best four players reaching the knock-out semi-finals stage.

Hamilton wins in Brazil, Mercedes take constructors



AFP ■ SAO PAULO

New five-time world champion Lewis Hamilton steered his Mercedes to a nail-biting victory in Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix, a triumph that clinched the constructors championship for a fifth consecutive season for the team.

The 33-year-old Briton took advantage of a collision that cost Max Verstappen the lead in the closing stages to regain the initiative and then hang on with worn

tyres as the Red Bull came home second.

Kimi Raikkonen finished third on his 150th start for Ferrari ahead of Daniel Ricciardo in the second Red Bull, Valtteri Bottas in the second Mercedes and Sebastian Vettel who came home sixth for Ferrari.

The result ended Ferrari's hopes of stopping Mercedes' title triumph, brought Hamilton his tenth win of the year and 72nd of his career. It was also the first time he had

won a late-season race after winning the drivers' title.

Charles Leclerc finished seventh for Sauber ahead of the two Haas cars driven by Romain Grosjean and Kevin Magnussen with Sergio Perez 10th for Force India.

Hamilton said: "It was an honour to drive for them (Mercedes) today. I saw it happen. I wasn't surprised by it. I saw them racing and they weren't racing for the same position."

Australia 'different ball game': Rohit

Limited overs deputy believes even without Smith & Warner winning first Test series in Australia will be a tough challenge

AFP ■ CHENNAI

Batsman Rohit Sharma said India were brimming with confidence after their crushing home victories over the West Indies -- but warned that winning their first Test series in Australia was a challenge of a different order.

India completed a 3-0 Twenty20 series sweep over the West Indies on Sunday, to add to their 2-0 Test whitewash and 3-1 victory in the ODIs, extending their dominating home form.

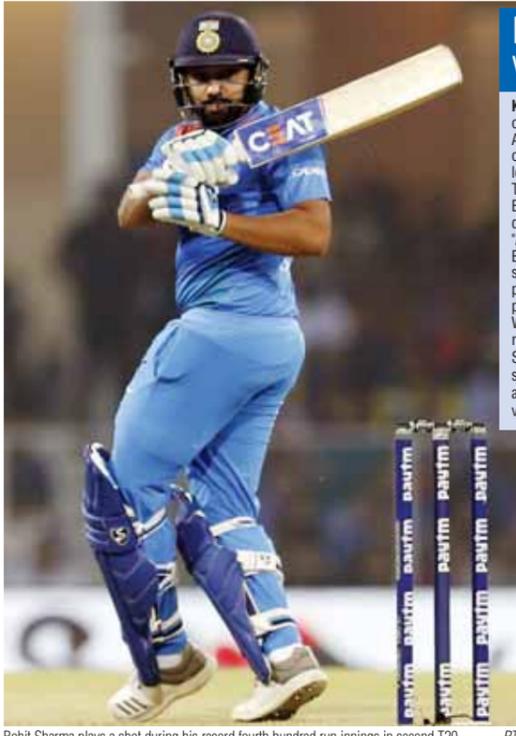
But Sharma said an away series against old rivals Australia, even without their batsmen Steve Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft, who are banned for ball-tampering, would be a much sterner test.

"Australia is always challenging when it comes to going out there and performing. Every time you go there, you are tested as a player, as an individual and as a team as well," the veteran opener said after Sunday's win.

"I think we have got to be at our best and when you win a series like this (West Indies) and when you play like that in the tournament you are high on confidence. It's all about taking that confidence to Australia and doing what we did as a team."

India barely have time to catch their breath before heading on Friday to Australia, where the first of three T20 matches is in Brisbane on November 21. They will also play four Tests and three ODIs.

The world's number one Test side are only too aware that away from



Rohit Sharma plays a shot during his record fourth hundred run innings in second T20

PREPARING FOR AUS TOUR BY WATCHING VIDEOS: SHAMI

KOLKATA: India pacer Mohammed Shami on Monday said he is preparing for the Australia series by watching videos of their opponents in order to get the line and length right.

The Indian pace attack impressed in England but it's the batsmen who let them down to lose the series 1-4.

"As a fast bowling unit, we did well in England. We are preparing for the Australia series and watching a lot of videos. The plan is to focus on the series as much as possible as the opponents are very strong. We will work on getting the line and length right," Shami told reporters here.

Shami, who was part of the Test and ODI squads in their just concluded series against West Indies, was back home and visited the Eden Gardens on the sidelines

of Bengal's Ranji Trophy match against Madhya Pradesh.

"We will always try to do our best. Winning or losing also depends on luck. We will give our 100 per cent," Shami said. According to reports, suspended duo of Steve Smith and David Warner may be reconsidered.

"If those two don't play, they will obviously be weakened. But in the end, you have to stick to your plan and work on your strengths," Shami added.

Asked if he's looking ahead to the World Cup next year, Bengal pacer Shami said: "It depends on who is fit and who is not during that time. My performance will be evaluated and I will expect to get a chance if I do well."

home, their form is fragile. They went down 2-1 in South Africa and then 4-1 in England this year.

Sharma said India must "start fresh" and forget about their recent wins if they are to take their home consistency to Australia.

"Australia will be a different ball game I completely understand. But I think the things that we have been doing as a team and as a player, we keep repeating it," he said.

"The best teams in the world keep repeating those performances. It will be important for us that we start fresh. Not think about what we have done in the past."

Sharma, the only batsman to hit four T20 centuries, is part of India's squad for the Tests which start in Adelaide on December 6 after being overlooked for the five-day games in England.

"I am someone who doesn't think too far ahead. So I am focusing on the T20 series first," said Sharma.

"Of course the Test match is something that I was looking forward for a long time and it will be nice to go out there and represent India in Tests, but we want to win the T20s first." He added: "The last time (2015-16) we played a T20 format in Australia we won 3-0."

Finch warns faltering batsmen of shake-up

AFP ■ HOBART

Australia's one-day batsmen are under mounting pressure to keep their places after a lacklustre series defeat to South Africa, captain Aaron Finch warned on Monday, with a potential shake-up looming.

Finch admitted "we're all under pressure when we lose, no doubt about that" and hinted at changes ahead of their next series against India, ranked two in the world, in January.

"Between the batting line-up not having got it right for a little while now there's going to be questions asked whether it's Maxi, Lynny, Heady, or myself or Stoin," he said, referring to Glenn Maxwell, Chris Lynn, Travis Head and Marcus Stoinis.

"It's important that we really nut out the balance of the side and get that right over the next two months."

"We have to either adapt our game plan a little bit around the way the side structures up best or we slightly change our personnel to fit a style that we think can win."

Big-hitting Lynn was elevated to open the batting in Hobart in



Aaron Finch, right, returns to pavilion

a bid to get quick runs on the board, but it failed spectacularly when he was out first ball.

Despite this, Finch said the powerful right-hander, a prolific scorer in twenty20s, is likely to open again as Australia look for more aggression early in the innings.

"Yeah, it could be a long-term plan," he said.

"It was an attacking option to put Chris at the top, to change him and Travis (Head), to put a couple of guys up there who can get us off to a flyer. It was an attacking move."

"If I had my time again I'd still do it."

AFP ■ DHAKA

Mushfiqur Rahim became the first wicketkeeper-batsman in history to score two double hundreds in Tests as Bangladesh built a strong total in the second Test against Zimbabwe in Dhaka on Monday.

Mushfiqur hit an unbeaten 219 to help Bangladesh declare their first innings at 522-7 an hour into the final session, before the hosts reduced Zimbabwe to 25 for one at stumps on the second day.

Tajjul Islam removed Hamilton Masakadza for 14 after an edge flew to Mehidy Hasan at first slip for Bangladesh's first breakthrough.

Brian Chari, 10 not out, and nightwatchman Donald Tiripano (naught) prevented further damage.

Zimbabwe, ahead in the two-match tournament 1-

Rahim's record innings puts B'desh on top

0, needs at least a draw to win their first Test series in seven years.

But it was Mushfiqur who shone, pulling leg-spinner Brendon Mavuta for a single at square leg after the tea break to become the first wicketkeeper-batsman ever to score two double tonnes in Test cricket.

"I wasn't in bad form in Tests, but yes I wasn't getting a big innings. I believed that it was around the corner," Mushfiqur said at the close of second day's play.

"I knew that converting a fifty would ensure a big score. I had a lot of self-belief. I had my preparations in place." Mushfiqur, who played 421 balls and hit 18 fours and a six, also surpassed Shakib al Hasan to become the highest individual scorer in an innings for Bangladesh in

Test cricket.

Skipper Mahmudullah Riyad called the batsmen to the dressing room soon after Mushfiqur nudged Sean Williams for a single to pass Shakib's 217 against New Zealand at Wellington in 2017.

Mushfiqur shared a record 144-run in their unbroken eighth wicket stand with Mehidy Hasan, after Kyle Jarvis took two scalps in the afternoon session to complete his third five-wicket haul in Tests.

Mushfiqur also had a hand in the previous eighth wicket record when he added 113 with Naem Islam against England in 2010.

Jarvis, who claimed three wickets on the opening day, removed Mahmudullah for 36 and Ariful Haque for four but Mushfiqur and Mehidy denied the visitors further success.



याद है ना?

15 साल पहले

जब टेक्नोलॉजी की मदद के बिना
हर काम मुश्किल था

अब SKY से हर योजना का
लाभ मिलना आसान हुआ है

रमन पर विश्वास

कमल संग विकास

भारतीय जनता पार्टी (छत्तीसगढ़)
Connect with us: [BJP4CGState](#)

कमल का बटन दवाएं **भाजपा को जिताएं**