

**OPINION 6**  
INDIA-RUSSIA RESET:  
S-400 SOVEREIGNTY TEST

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LIFT SOME IRAN SANCTIONS

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BHOPAL, THURSDAY OCTOBER 4, 2018; PAGES 12+4 ₹1.50



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AKHILESH ASKS  
CONG TO BECOME  
INCLUSIVE  
9 NATION

## Maya spurns Rahul's hand in MP, Raj

Cong plays it down but BSP chief vehement in her criticism of the grand old party

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

In a snub to the Congress and a big jolt to the Opposition unity ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, Mayawati-led Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) on Wednesday announced to go it alone in the Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan Assembly polls slated for later this year.

The announcement was made on the day senior Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijay Singh, in an interview to a private news channel, alleged that Mayawati was reluctant to be part of an Opposition alliance as she had succumbed to the pressure of the CBI and Enforcement Directorate (ED).

"We will have no truck with the Congress in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan Assembly polls and the party will contest all the seats in both the States," Mayawati announced in the national Capital on Wednesday.

Trying to play down the development, the Congress

hoped that the BSP chief reposing her faith in Rahul and Sonia Gandhi will provide it a window of opportunity and "creases will be ironed out" with harmony.

The Congress may be hopeful of still wooing Mayawati, but the BSP chief was vehement in her criticism of the grand old party. Mayawati claimed that BSP had the power to change the political tide of the country and the Congress was just trying to hold the party to ransom by offering a few seats in the alliance. She even went to the extent of alleging that the Congress was trying to finish the BSP.

Mayawati went on to allege that the Congress always tried to corner the BSP and other smaller parties. "They should know that the BSP is a party which came into existence from struggle to represent the sarv samaj along with Dalits, tribals and the poor. We have experienced several such bullying tactics in the past by the Congress and the BJP but have never bowed down to any pres-



sure," she said.

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "Mayawati has expressed her sentiments and we respect that. She has reposed full faith in Rahulji and Sonijaji and we respect that too. If there is harmony among Sonia Gandhi, who is our guide, and Rahul Gandhi, who is our leader, and Mayawati, then no fourth person can create a rift among them."

"If there are any creases left, they will be ironed out mutually among them with harmo-

ny," he told reporters, adding once the leaders have amicable, respectable, fruitful relationship with each other, all other creases can be ironed out.

"In this yajna, those who will support the Congress will move together with us and they are welcome according to the political situation. Those who are unable to walk along are free to choose their own path. But, that does not mean, the Congress' pledge and fight against the BJP and in removing it from power has weakened. It can be a thought of a

particular person, but not us," Surjewala said.

The BSP has already forged a pre-poll alliance in Chhattisgarh with the Janata Congress (Chhattisgarh), led by former tribal Chief Minister Ajit Jogi last month.

Talking about the sacrifices made by the BSP and herself, Mayawati said that she sacrificed her Government in UP in 2003 while later a few years back she resigned from the Rajya Sabha for the cause of Dalits and sarv samaj.

"We have never compro-

mised on issues of Dalits and other backward communities in the past and will not do so in future too," she said.

Mayawati alleged that the Congress had always insulted Dalits and even Dr BR Ambedkar and Kanshi Ram were not spared by them. "These feudal-minded political parties, who are castist and have communal faces, are always opposed to leaders who come from backward castes and now they are trying to wipe out the BSP through their political conspiracy," she said.

The BJP president also did not spare the Congress and the BJP were two sides of the same coin. "The BJP has ditched the people of the country by not fulfilling any of the promises made during the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, besides demonetisation and GST have broken lives of the people and the economy. Rising prices of petroleum products and devaluation of rupee in comparison to dollar has created an economic crisis in the country," she added.

## CJI bars urgent listing till court sets parameters

Death, eviction still matter of immediate hearing, says Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Justice Ranjan Gogoi takes oath as the 46th Chief Justice of India at Rashtrapati Bhawan on Wednesday. Alwin Singh | Pioneer

Justice Ranjan Gogoi, who took over as the 46th Chief Justice of India on Wednesday, did some plain speaking on his first day in office, telling the lawyers that fresh parameters would be worked out for urgent mentioning of the matters for hearing.

The CJI also came out with a new roster allocating cases to various benches and decided that the Public Interest Litigation matters will be heard by him and a Bench headed by Justice Madan B Lokur, who is next in seniority to him.

Justice Gogoi was administered oath of office by President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on Wednesday morning after which he attended the court and sat with Justice SK Kaul and KM Joseph in court number 1, the CJI's court.

"No urgent mentioning of cases will be allowed", except in matters like execution of death penalty and eviction till "parameters" are laid down for them, the CJI said. "We will work out

the parameters, then we will see as to how mentioning will be done," he told lawyers led by Prashant Bhusan.

The Bench, also comprising Justices SK Kaul and KM Joseph, was told by Bhusan that some Rohingya refugees were on the verge of being deported and the matter required urgent hearing.

Making an exception he said, "If somebody is going to be hanged tomorrow, then we can understand (urgency)."

The Supreme Court website showed the roster of the work for fresh cases notified under the order of the Chief Justice of India with effect from October 3 till further orders. The CJI has decided to keep with himself the PIL and the petitions based on the letters received.

### CAPSULE

#### RAFALE GAME-CHANGER FOR SUBCONTINENT: IAF

**New Delhi:** Amid the raging row over the Rafale fighter jet, Indian Air Force chief Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa on Wednesday said the deal was a "good package" and the aircraft will be a "game-changer" for the subcontinent.

#### REFUND FEES OR FACE MUSIC: HRD MINISTRY

**New Delhi:** The Ministry of Human Resource Development has warned higher educational institutions of strict action if they do not return the fees of those withdrawing admissions.

#### SABARIMALA: KERALA NOT TO CHALLENGE SC ORDER

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Rejecting the Opposition demand to file a review petition in the Supreme Court against its order, allowing women of all age groups into the Sabarimala temple, the Kerala Government on Wednesday said it would implement the verdict in the this pilgrim season itself.

## Caste to change electoral scenario in MP too

GIRISH SHARMA ■ BHOPAL

This will be for the first time in the entire Madhya Pradesh that caste-based elections would be witnessed in the next couple of months.

So far, caste based polling was clearly witnessed in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar only. In Madhya Pradesh, such a trend was limited to only Gwalior-Chambal region.

But this time, presence of the caste based organizations in the political arena would certainly change the scenario. These caste-based parties would be posing a threat to the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the upcoming assembly elections in the State.

These caste-based organizations including Anusuchit Jati-Janjati Evam karmachari Sangh (AJAKS) and Samanya Pichhra Alpsankhyak Kalyan

Samaj (SAPAKS) are up in the arms against the political parties. AJAKS has clearly said that people belonging to reserved categories would not vote for the savarn (upper caste) candidates in the elections, while the SAPAKS has decided to field its candidates in all the 230 assembly constituencies.

Besides, Jai Adivasi Yuva Shakti (JAYS), a tribal organization, too has now announced that it contest the upcoming State assembly elections and the first list of candidates would be declared soon.

JAYS is an organisation that represents the educated and progressive youth from the tribal community, announced that it will contest for 80 seats in the tribal-dominant areas of the State.

It has declared 35 seats on which candidates would be fielded.

Vice-president of the State BJP Vijesh Lunawat told 'The Pioneer' that the changed scenario would not affect the BJP, as it believes in Sarv sparshi and sarv vyapi ideology and believes in development of everyone.

The party follows the sentiments of its ideology Deen Dayal Upadhyay that last person in last queue should get benefitted. This is why people of the State voted the BJP to power in Madhya Pradesh. This time too, the BJUP would come to power, he added.

Lunawat further stated that the BJP is against victimization of anybody in the society. It believes in taking along all the sections of the society. This is for the betterment of the society and the State. Whoever is going away following different issues would be convinced soon, he added.

## Pradhan appointed in-charge for MP

**Bhopal:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan as in-charge of assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh. The orders in this regard were issued by the national BJP Headquarters General Secretary Arun Singh on Wednesday. SR

## Unwitting crime of failing to crack colour code

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

Cabs and private vehicles that are entering the national Capital are flouting the Supreme Court order which in August had ordered them to paste hologram-based coloured stickers on vehicles on the basis of fuel they use — CNG, petrol and diesel — in order to control air pollution from October 2.

In a reality check by *The Pioneer*, it was found that none of the vehicles — private or commercial like cabs, tempos and other four-wheelers — that entered the national Capital had the coloured stickers pasted on their windscreens.

Most of the vehicle owners,

cab drivers and other motorists were not of the SC order and even those who had information appeared confused as they were not sure how to get these coloured stickers.

As per the recent advisory issued by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the "self-destructive type" hologram-based stickers of light blue colour should be used for petrol/CNG and orange colour for diesel vehicles. The self-destructive type is for the security purpose. The Government has introduced grey colour for all other vehicles. "I am aware of the new policy but confused where to go to procure the stickers. The Government

should advertise or announce on radio or television then only people will get to know," said a businessman who travels to Delhi from Gurugram every day.

An executive with a multinational firm, who travels from Ghaziabad to Delhi, said, "It seems the implementing authority itself is not sure. Are stickers available at petrol pump, regional transport offices? Commuters are quite confused." When asked, Sanjeev Singla, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Gurugram, said, "As of now, we have not got any information or notification from the State transport authority of Haryana regarding the implementation of coloured stickers." However,

Delhi will be the first to implement the colour coding policy. The transport Department of the city Government has successfully implemented the hologram based colour stickers on Wednesday but that too for only the newly purchased vehicles not for the older/existing ones. "The policy has been started in Delhi from Wednesday onwards but currently it is implemented only for the new vehicles not for the existing vehicles. The decision for implementing it to the older vehicles is pending due to some reasons, so the department has decided to divide it in stages," said a senior ranking official from the transport department.

## Treat false charges against Govt as paid news, Chouhan to EC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Wednesday suggested to the Election Commission to treat news reports based on false charges against his government as paid news.

After meeting EC officials along with others leaders of his party, including BJP vice president Vinay Sahasrabudhe, who is also the state's in-charge in the organization, he talked to media persons.

With the Congress, spearheaded by Kamal Nath in the state, attacking his government over a host of issues, Chouhan is seeking to turn the tables on the opposition party as the latter has often accused BJP leaders of using money to plant propaganda items as news in the media, calling it a case of paid news.

The chief minister told reporters that the BJP has been in power in the state for 15 years, and it is natural that the party will go to the masses on the back of its achievements.

"At times when these achievements are reported in newspapers, then complaint is made that this is a case of paid news... We have urged the commission that it should also probe when false allegations are levelled against us as we are in power, and they then get printed and are publicised among the masses. Action of paid news should be taken in such cases as well," he said. He accused the Congress of going to courts and the EC over baseless issues to create an atmosphere of confusion and vitiate the election process.

His suggestion for regular display of polling percentage of both men and

women voters- is apparently aimed at using the formidable saffron organisational machinery in the state to mobilise its voters.

Chouhan urged the Commission to display polling percentage at all booths every two hour on the day of election so that political parties can mobilise voters to boost the voting percentage if it is low.

He cited the opposition's allegation of over 60 lakh fake voters in Madhya Pradesh's electoral rolls, which an EC inquiry had found to have no merit, to make his point.

He had asked the EC to take action against complainants if their allegations are found to be false, Chouhan said. Om Pathak, an office-bearer in the party, said various other constructive suggestions were also made to the EC.

**मध्यप्रदेश  
शिखर खेल  
अलंकरण  
समारोह 2018**

**मध्यप्रदेश के शीर्ष खिलाड़ियों का सम्मान**

मध्यप्रदेश खेल और युवा कल्याण विभाग  
द्वारा आयोजित शिखर खेल अलंकरण समारोह-2018

**मुख्य अतिथि**  
यशोधरा राजे सिंधिया  
मंत्री, खेल और युवा कल्याण, धार्मिक न्यास एवं धर्मरत्न, म.प्र.शासन

**विशिष्ट अतिथि**  
श्री आलोक संजर सांसद, भोपाल | श्री रमेश मेन्दोला अट्यक्ष, मध्यप्रदेश ओलंपिक संघ एवं विधायक

**विशेष उपस्थिति**  
पद्मश्री सुशील कुमार अजुन अवार्ड ओलंपियन एवं एशियन गेम्स 2018 के पदक विजेता

कु. हर्षिता तोमर सेलिग | श्री विवेक सागर पुरुष हॉकी | कु. मुस्कान किरार तीरंदाजी

**आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।**

04 अक्टूबर, 2018 | समय- प्रातः 10.30 बजे  
स्थान- तात्यालोपे राज्य खेल परिसर, भोपाल

खेल और युवा कल्याण विभाग, मध्यप्रदेश



# Welcome and farewell party of IIFT organised

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Between the joy of meeting new friends and the sorrow of separation from the seniors, the Welcome and Farewell party of International Institute of Fashion Technology (IIFT) students were held on Wednesday at the Hotel Noor-Us-Sabah.

During this time, when senior students appeared to be welcoming to new students, the students who were leaving the institute were seen promising to meet again with each other. As some eyes were filled with happiness, other students had teary eyes and promised to meet each other soon. There was a party theme. For the freshers it was floor length evening gown, and the seniors appeared in the red sari wrapped in different styles. On this occasion, various performances were also held. There were different categories of performances.

The seniors performed dance on different Bollywood



Students of International Institute of Fashion Technology (IIFT) enjoying at fresher cum farewell party organised at Hotel Noor-Us-Sabah palace in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

numbers and the freshers left everyone astounded with the spectacular ramp walk. There group and solo dance performances. From classical to western, all forms of dance performances were seen on the floor. In group performances there were dances on Beti Bachao, bass gloves, sparkling queens, rhythmic eagles, lady rebels, and dancing

duties.

During this time, recreational games were also organized and the winners of various competitions during the year were also awarded.

Judges in the programme included Vishal Talreja, Sapna Singh Parmar and Veenas Rakkaswar. Miss IIFT title was won by Mridhashini Diwan.

# Free dental check-up, awareness camp held: 100 examined

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A free dental check-up-cum awareness camp was organized at Sarvdharm colony on Wednesday. The camp was organised under the joint collaboration of OSMO Foundation, Patistha and the dental surgeons of Ekdant dental clinic.

As many as 100 students and locals were examined in the camp. Apart from treatment, the students and locals were made aware about dental health and hygiene by the team of experts and doctors. OSMO Foundation provided free dental kits to all the participants during the camp. On behalf of OSMO Foundation Secretary Atul Pathak and Akshay Bajpai show their presence while from Pratistha...ek nayi pehal Prastitha Suraj Sharma and Arvind Mishra were present during the camp.

Dental Surgeon, Dr Swapnil Jaiswal, Dr. Bhupendra Mishra, Dr. Vinod Kumar, Dr. Sakshi Sharma, Dr. Heena Mishra, Dr. Meenu Tiwari and Dr. Prerna Jaiswal of Ekdant Dental Clinic examined people. Dr Jaiswal said that the modern eating habits are one of the biggest reasons for dental problems. "If we regularly visit our dentist and follow good eating habits we can avoid oral problems. But in modern hectic life we are least bothered about our oral care and that contributes to our oral problems", he added. He also explained in detail the procedure and techniques of oral care. He briefed the gathering about techniques of brushing.

He also gave tips for keeping the teeth and gums in good shape. He said that most of the dental diseases can be prevented by simple practice of brushing twice daily with a soft bristle brush.



Prof Neeraj Upmanyu from People's University addressing an orientation workshop for pharmacists organised by MP Pharmacy Council at Samanvay Bhawan in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

# MP players are excelling in every sport, says Min

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Appreciating the players, State Revenue, Science and Technology Minister Umashankar Gupta said, "Our players are excelling in every sport and bringing laurels to the State and country."

He was addressing the closing ceremony of Mukhya Mantri Cup on Wednesday. Addressing the ceremony, he said that players of Madhya Pradesh are now on the glob-

al horizon as the best facilities and high level training are made available to the players of the State.

On this occasion, he felicitated the winners and runners-up players of the Mukhya Mantri Cup Competition, giving the trophy and medals. On this occasion, Joint Director Sports Vinod Pradhan, officials and players were also present.

Assistant Director and in-charge O.P. Harod said that Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 75,000 and Rs.

50,000 as first, second and third were given to the winners respectively. Besides, to the runners-up the prizes of Rs. 10000, Rs. 7000 and Rs 5000 to first, second and third winners respectively.

On Wednesday, six matches were played including Football, Athletics, Wrestling and Kabbadi. In athletics, under girls category Bhopal Division won the first prize, Rewa Division second prize and Sagar won the third prize.

# Ashadh Ka Ek Din: 1st modern Hindi play staged

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Considered to be the first modern Hindi play that debuted in 1958, 'Ashadh Ka Ek Din' was staged at Shaheed Bhawan auditorium on Wednesday. The play marked the closure of three-day theatre festival Rajat Parv.

Directed by Nazir Qureshi, the play was written by Mohan Rakesh. The three-act play is centred on Kalidas' life, sometime in the 100BCE-400CE period. The play was performed by the artists of Karwaan Theatre Troupe, Bhopal.



A scene from the play 'Ashadh Ka Ek Din' staged at Shaheed Bhawan in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

peaceful life in a Himalayan village and is romantically involved with his sweetheart, Mallika. However, he is approached to appear at King Chandragupta II's court in far-off Ujjayini. Torn between his current idyllic existence and love on one hand, and the desire to achieve greatness on the other, he leaves for Ujjayini in a conflicted state of mind. Mallika wants the best for the man she loves, so she encourages him to go to Ujjayini.

Kalidas has achieved fame and is married to a sophisticated noblewoman, Priyanganjari, while Mallika

is heartbroken and alone. Kalidas visits his village with his wife and a small retinue. He avoids meeting Mallika, but Priyanganjari does. Priyanganjari demeaningly offers to help her by making her a royal companion and marrying her to one of the royal attendants, but Mallika declines.

Years later, Kalidas re-appears in the village. Mallika, who is now a prostitute with a small daughter learns that he has renounced his courtly life and the governorship of Kashmir that he had been granted.

The play begins with showing that Kalidas is leading a

## मध्यप्रदेश पर मुस्कुराता सूरज

# फायरिंग रेंज के रूप में उपयोग हो रही बंजर ज़मीन पर अब 750 मेगावाट की सौर परियोजना

नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

शिवराज सिंह चौहान, मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

**पूर्व में स्थल पर फायरिंग की प्रैक्टिस होती थी**

**तब**

3 सितम्बर 1990 को संसद में प्रश्न पूछा गया कि रीवा के गूढ़ में फायरिंग से कितने व्यक्ति हताहत हुए।  
उत्तर : विगत पांच वर्षों में 3 मृत और 5 घायल

**अब**

**150 मेगावाट उत्पादन प्रारम्भ**

**दावे नहीं प्रमाण**

रिवर्स ऑक्शन फरवरी 2017

रीवा अल्ट्रा मेगा सोलर (रम्स) म.प्र. ऊर्जा विकास निगम व सेकी की साझा उपक्रम कम्पनी

- उपभोक्ता : एमपीपीएमसीएल, दिल्ली मेट्रो
- विकासक : महिंद्रा रिन्यूएबल्स प्रा. लि., एक्मे सोलर पॉवर प्रा. लि. और एरिन्सन एनर्जी प्रा. लि.
- विश्व बैंक, IFC, PGCIL, एमपी ट्रंस्को, IREDA व NISE के सहयोग से

वाणिज्यिक समापन अप्रैल 2017

वित्तीय समापन फरवरी 2018

भारत में पहली बार

- सौर ऊर्जा राज्य के बाहर प्रदाय हेतु सीधे राष्ट्रीय ग्रीड में (दिल्ली मेट्रो के लिए)
- नवकरणीय ऊर्जा की Scheduling किसी अन्य क्षेत्र के open access उपभोक्ता को (पश्चिमी क्षेत्र से उत्तर क्षेत्र में)
- स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकी निधि (CTF) से ऋण (0.25% प्रति वर्ष की रियायती दरों पर)
- वर्ल्ड बैंक ऋण : वर्ल्ड बैंक एवं CTF की रियायती दरों से सौर पार्क प्रभार में कमी
- त्रि-स्तरीय भुगतान सुरक्षा प्रक्रिया
- भुगतान सुरक्षा निधि की व्यवस्था बाजार दरों पर कार्यशील पूंजी के आधार पर
- पॉवर अनुबंध के स्थान पर ऊर्जा अनुबंध
- Optimum Scheduling, जो दिल्ली मेट्रो के दिन की मांग को पूरा करेगी

राष्ट्रीय ग्रीड से संयोजन जून 2018

संयंत्र की अनूठी विशेषताएं

- नवीन एवं नवीकरणीय मंत्रालय, भारत शासन द्वारा रीवा पॉवर प्लांट की निविदा की विशेषताओं को अपनी स्टैण्डर्ड बिडिंग गाइडलाइन्स में अपनाया गया
- राज्य के नेतृत्व में नवगठित RUMS द्वारा विश्व स्तर की परियोजना क्रियान्वित
- तत्समय सबसे कम ट्रेडिफ रिकॉर्ड रु. 2.97 प्रति यूनिट (बिना वीजीएफ के)
- राज्य को रु. 4600/- करोड़ की बचत
- दिल्ली मेट्रो को रु. 1400/- करोड़ की बचत
- 20 अंतरराष्ट्रीय व राष्ट्रीय कंपनियों द्वारा पारदर्शी निविदा में सहभागिता
- कुल 33 घंटे घली ऑनलाइन नीलामी
- राज्य/RUMS के बिना व्यय के 220/440 के.वी. सब स्टेशन का निर्माण
- कार्बन डायऑक्साइड (CO<sub>2</sub>) उत्सर्जन में प्रति वर्ष 15.4 लाख टन की कमी, जिसके लिए हमें 2.6 करोड़ वृक्ष लगाने होते

विद्युत प्रवाह की शुरुआत जुलाई 2018

## पूरा किया विकास का वादा, आगे है अटल इरादा

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# Guv: Women SHGs should eradicate evils, addictions

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Governor Anandiben Patel has said that women self-help groups should ensure their contribution in removing evils and addictions that are spreading in the society. Patel was addressing the closing ceremony of the national level exhibition-cum-sale fair of products of self-help groups, artisans and agriculturist organizations organized by NABARD. Patel said that if we all take the pledge to follow the path shown by Gandhiji of not taking intoxicants and following the path of truth and non-violence, it will be a true tribute to Gandhiji. She said that all the countries of the world consider

their nation masculine, but our country is worshipped as Bharat Mata. Therefore, women in our country have been honoured for centuries. She said that Mahatma Gandhi fought for freedom by running a spinning wheel, thousands of freedom fighters laid down their lives for the country without any discrimination, and today we are struggling with the problem of casteism. Patel said that today we will have to think what we wish to do for our country. The Prime Minister's Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas concept can be realized only, if we love our country and work in the country's interest by extending support and cooperation for education of all, help to poor and

development of all. She said our ancestors encouraged the idea of reaching out to the masses. The Prime Minister endeavoured to reach out to the masses by making schemes as per Gandhiji's dreams in the last four years. Commissioner Agriculture Production PC Meena, Principal Secretary Agriculture Rajesh Rajoura, Principal Secretary Cooperatives KC Gupta, Chief General Manager State Bank of India Yogendra Singh, General Manager Union Bank of India JS Chouhan and senior officials and representatives of other departments were present on the occasion. Women, agriculturists and elite citizens in a large number took part in the programme.



Retrenched literacy motivators in Madhya Pradesh School Education department demonstrating demanding for their jobs including several other demands in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

# 31-year-old dies after school bus hits bike

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 31-year old man died after his motorbike was hit by a speeding school bus near Sagar Golden Palm under Katara Hills police station area in the afternoon on Wednesday. According to the police, the victim was rushed to a nearby hospital where he was declared dead after a speeding vehicle hit his motorbike. The deceased was identified as Umesh Lohwanshi who was a resident of Hinotia Kolar and was on his way to but was hit by a speeding school bus. The deceased used to work as welder and was on his way to work on his motorbike bearing registration number MP04MN6825 and was hit by speeding bus bearing registration number MP04PA3090 of DPS School. The errant driver

escaped the spot leaving the bus and is still at large. After the preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem. The police have registered a case under section 304-A of the IPC and have started further investigation. The post mortem report is awaited which could help in obtaining details about the deceased had taken liquor or not and same would be investigated for the errant driver who remains absconding. Impact of the accident proved fatal for the deceased who died at the spot and was declared dead after he was taken to hospital. Police said that the deceased was alone at the time of the incident and in the bus there were no students. The accident in which the motorbike was hit by speeding bus took place at around 3 pm.

# Parents should build reading habit in children, says Guv

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Addressing an award distribution programme organized at Raj Bhavan in Tuesday on the occasion of the 150th Gandhi Jayanti, Governor Anandiben Patel said that parents should encourage children to develop reading habit since childhood and should give them general knowledge. She said that a book based on the paintings of students and

## Parents should also minimize use of mobiles

speeches of the students taking part in the competition will be published. She suggested the teachers to get book based on the paintings and speeches participating in the competition in the schools published. This effort will inspire children to take admission in school in future. Patel said that parents should inspire children to use mobile phones in a controlled manner. They should try to change the habit of excessive use of mobiles in children. Parents should confine the use of mobiles by children to subject of study and fix time. She said that they should make the children understand the ill-effects of the excessive use of cellphones. Parents should also minimize use of mobiles. The Governor distributed trophies and certificates to children of Raj Bhavan employees and officials and students from various schools who took part in speech, debates and painting competitions. Prizes were given to winners based on a survey conducted of cleanliness of the houses of Raj Bhavan employees and officials under cleanliness campaign. The competition was organized with the support of the School Education Department.

# Nrityollas: Inter-school Folk Dance Competition held

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With an aim of honing the dancing skills of the students, under the aegis of Sahodaya Group of CBSE Schools, an Inter school Folk Dance Competition 'Nrityollas' was held at Sagar Public School, Gandhi Nagar. The stage came alive when the students of 24 different schools from Bhopal staged spectacular dance performances in the competition. The dance troupes from various schools mesmerized the audience with their performances based on the theme 'Folk Dances of India'.

The attractive costumes, fluid dance movements and fascinating props made it tough for the judges Shamal Khadwe, Natyashree Shaji and Gungun Vishwakarma to decide the winner. The first position of the competition was bagged by DPS Neelbad, the second position was won by Sagar Public School, Gandhi Nagar and the third position by Carmel Convent Senior Secondary School, BHEL. The Best Dancer Male was won by Chitransh Sadhwani of DPS Neelbad and Best Dancer Female was won by Khushi Gupta of Sagar Public School,

Gandhi Nagar. All the teams appreciated the competition and hospitality of the school and enjoyed the sumptuous lunch served. Lauding the performances, Principal, Sagar Public School, Gandhi Nagar, Jaishree Kanwar said that dancing is the most beautiful art as it is not mere translation or abstraction from life, it is life itself. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by the Vice Principal Alpa Prabhu followed by Prize Distribution and memento presentation to all the escort teachers along with their group photographs as a souvenir.

# Multiple burglaries; police searching for accused

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Burglars struck at a house in Riviera Town under Kamla Nagar police station area on Tuesday and decamped with valuables worth lakhs of rupees. According to the police, the victim, Ashish Agrawal is general manager with the BSNL and he had gone for some work on September 25 and on Tuesday he was informed that locks of his house were broken and valuables were burgled. A complaint was lodged by the victim's relative with the Kamla Nagar police and in his complaint he stated that victim had gone for some work and on

October 2 valuables were found burgled. Gold and silver jewelry, cash and wrist watches were burgled from the house and total loss would be provided by the victim on his return. The police have registered a case under sections 457 and 380 of the IPC and have started further investigation. The security guards of the society and domestic help would be questioned in the investigation. Meanwhile, electronic goods were burgled from P & T colony under Kamla Nagar police station area on Tuesday; police have started investigation. Police said that the victim Lalit Singh was at his work where his mobile phone was stolen. The victim lodged a complaint with the Kamla Nagar police. Footages of installed CCTV cameras would be searched during the further investigation to establish the identity of the miscreants. The neighbors have expressed ignorance over the burglary. The victim works as contractual worker with CPWD. The police have registered a case under section 380 of the IPC and started further investigation.

# Man arrested for sexually assaulting married woman

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Gunga police have booked a miscreant for sexually assaulting a 30-year-old married woman at Ladia Barri village on Tuesday; accused went absconding after the complaint was lodged by the victim with the police. Police said that the accused came to the house in the night on Tuesday when the victim was asleep and tried to sexually assault her but victim woke up and alerted forcing the accused to leave the house. The victim reported the incident to her husband and later a complaint was lodged with Gunga police against accused identified as Jeevan Jaat. In her complaint the victim stated that she was attacked and sexually assaulted by the accused in forest near Ladia Barri village on Monday and escaped the spot and when he found that the victim had not reported the incident to family and police he again went to sexually assault her at her house late in the night on Tuesday but the victim braved to raise alarm forcing the accused to escape the spot. On the first instance of sexual assault the victim had gone to pick fire wood during the day on Monday. The victim feared spreading of the information in the society remained mum but on Wednesday she decided not to become victim of the atrocity by the accused. Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 376, 354, 452 and 506 of the IPC and started further investigation. The details of the accused are searched and his family and friends are questioned to get his whereabouts.

# 750 MW Rewa Solar Project a milestone

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Ltd (RUMSL) has implemented the innovative 750MW Rewa Solar Project with historical outcomes. RUMSL is a joint venture of Government of Madhya Pradesh owned MPUVNL and Government of India owned SECI. RUMS has now issued notice inviting tenders for solar projects in 550 MW Agar Solar Park, 450 MW Shajapur Solar Park and 500 MW Neemuch Solar Park. The project, double the size of Rewa, is another major step towards fulfilling Prime Minister's mission of 100 GW solar by the year 2022. RUMSL will hold a roadshow for launching the bidding process for the project on October 5, 2018 during the 2nd Global RE-Invest in New Delhi. In September 2018, Cabinet of Government of Madhya Pradesh approved the project, underscoring the

commitment of Government towards green and cheaper power. During the roadshow, RUMSL will sign a term sheet with Indian Railways and Railways Energy Management Company Limited (REMCL) for procuring about 23 per cent energy from the project, with Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company (MPPMCL) procuring the rest. Further, RUMSL will also sign an agreement under which IREDA will, for the first time ever, provide a long-term overdraft facility that would enable RUMSL to extend payment security to developers for the Rewa project. Principal Secretary of New and Renewable Energy Department, GOMP, Manu Srivastava informed that by mobilizing private investment of about ₹6330 crore or USD 875 million, the projects will further showcase Madhya Pradesh as a preferred investment destination. The project will repeat

several features of the Rewa transaction. The project intends to be the second project in the country, after Rewa, to supply power to a big institutional customer, namely, Indian Railways. These features of the Rewa project made it highly attractive with 20 bidders, including 6 international bidders, participating in a State led bid for the first time, resulting in historic low tariff that changed the solar power market in India. The Government of India adopted several features of the project in the competitive bidding guidelines for the country. It is the only project in the country to be supplying power to a big institutional consumer, namely Delhi Metro, using inter-State open access, thus establishing the principle that renewable projects are viable on commercial considerations and not merely on the basis of regulatory directions.

# 'SAPAKS will never claim reservation'

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Samanya Pichhra Alpsankhyak Kalyan Samaj (SAPAKS) party has never claimed reservation for any specific community and would never make such claim, said General Secretary of SAPAKS Samaj party Hariom Gupta. He condemned the rumors circulating over social media regarding promise of 27 per cent of reservation for OBC and alleged that it is conspiracy by BJP which is trying to create rift in SAPAKS Samaj party formed with the aim to benefit all sections of the society. The party has only promised to give reservation on financial status of an individual and the same demand has been raised before the formation of the party. Earlier Congress and now BJP are working on the lines of divide and rule policy in the country. The BJP is campaigning to 'import' leaders of other political parties in their party.

# Damoh will be given a unique identity in the field of sports: Fin Min

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Finance Minister Jayant Malaiya has said that Damoh will be given a unique identity in the field of sports. A Sports Complex equipped with facilities for other sports also including lawn tennis, badminton court will be built in Damoh in the coming time. Malaiya was addressing the dedication ceremony of the Synthetic, Hockey Astro turf ground constructed at Damoh at a cost of ₹5.20 crore on Tuesday. MLA Lakhan Patel and local public representatives were also present on this occasion. Malaiya said that hockey has a golden history in Damoh as the city has produced international hockey players. Referring to the skill development programme, the Finance Minister said that youth will be given employment opportunities in the state. He informed that a skill

development programme was started in Bhopal at a cost of ₹300 crores with the support of Japan. In yet another programme of the Cooperative Bank, Finance Minister Malaiya said that the production of agriculture has gone up 5 times in Damoh districts. He said that agriculture loan is being provided to the farmers in the state at zero per cent. In addition, the State government has given incentive amount under the Mukhya Mantri Krishak Samridhi Yojana to give the farmers the right price for their produce. The Finance Minister said that the working capital of Damoh District Co-operative Central Bank has increased from ₹300 crore to ₹500 crore. Very soon the working capital of the bank will reach four digits. District Cooperative Bank President Rajendra Guru also addressed the programme.

## IN BRIEF

**'CONGRATULATIONS FOR CHAMPIONS OF THE EARTH AWARD'**  
Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan congratulated the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has been honoured with the prestigious 'Champions of the Earth' award by the United Nations. He also expressed gratitude on behalf of the people of Madhya Pradesh for approval granted in the meeting of the Union Cabinet held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister Modi for Metro Rail Projects of Bhopal and Indore. Chouhan said that the respect and dignity of India has enhanced in the entire world under the leadership of our PM.

**'NEW RLY TRACK WILL BE LIKE INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR'**  
Bhopal: Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that the Budhni-Indore railway track will be developed as an industrial corridor. This railway line will accelerate the development of Rehti, Nasrullaganj, Khateagan and Kannod and create new employment opportunities. The foundation of the railway line worth ₹3260 crore will be laid on October 4. Chouhan gave this information while laying the foundation of the third railway line on Budni -Barkheda rail section in Sehore district late on Tuesday.

**'PADHE BHOPAL' TO BE HELD ON OCT 9**  
Bhopal: Governor Anandiben Patel presided over the meeting of Senior Officers of the Higher Education, School Education Department and Vice Chancellors of the Universities held at Raj Bhavan in connection to the programme 'Padhe Bhopal' to be organized in Bhopal on October 9, 2018. Patel gave instructions to hold the programme at a wide level. The Governor instructed that seating arrangement should be made for students, teachers, parents and other persons to facilitate them to read books of their interest at the premises of all educational institutions and universities' campus including Raj Bhavan from 8.45 am to 9.30 am.

**NEW VC FOR BHOJ OPEN VARSITY**  
Bhopal: Governor and Chancellor Anandiben Patel has appointed Jayant Sonvalkar, the Professor and Head of the Department of Patrakarita evam Jansanchar Adhyanshala of Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya- Indore as Vice Chancellor of the Madhya Pradesh Bhoj (Open) University. Sonvalkar has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor for a period of 4 years from the date of his taking charge or 65 years of age, whichever is earlier.

# Asha workers protest to regularise job, woman police among 3 injured



Police personnel rescue a woman activist who climbed a tower during ASHA and USHA workers demonstration in front of CM's residence demanding for hike in their wages and regularization of their jobs in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Three persons including a woman police personnel and an ASHA worker were injured after protesting ASHA-USHA workers tried to climb up tower at the Polytechnic Square demanding regularization of job and hike of minimum salaries on Wednesday. Unable to attract and gain

sympathy and assurance for the past 24 hours protesting ASHA-USHA workers tried to climb the tower at Polytechnic Square. The protestors remained stationed from Monday on the spot but nothing went in their favour and intensifying the protest ASHA-USHA workers tried to climb the tower and woman police personnel

climbed to bring down the protestors but in a bid to bring them down one of the protestors lost balance and fell down along with other woman police personnel injuring three persons including one police personnel. The ASHA-USHA workers across the state protested at the Polytechnic Square. The workers demanded that they were not paid salary which is paid to other workers of health department and are devoid of perks provided to employees of department. Police barricades were placed around the spot where the protestors staged protest. They remained at the place throughout the night but they lost their patience and went aggressive. After the workers and police personnel fell the protested were engaged in scuffle with the woman police personnel who was later pacified. The injured were rushed to Hamidia hospital and are undergoing treatment. Their condition is reportedly stable. After the incident protesting women were arrested and were taken in police custody.

Office of The Chief Municipal Officer, Nagar Palika Parishad, Raisen, Distt. Raisen (M.P.)					
No. 827		DT.- 29/09/2018		Notice Inviting Tenders	
This is for information of all concerned that online bids for the following works have been invited:-					
S.No./Pkg/Code	Tender No.	N.I.T. No.	Work	Probable Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Completion Period (months)
1	UADD/TENDER NO- 69649	815	Construction of CC Road at ward no 14 H/O Teerath Chand to H/O Kaashiram	6.71	02
2	UADD/TENDER NO- 69653	816	Construction of CC Road at ward no 12 H/O Vijay Khatri to H/O DP Sharma	18.78	02
3	UADD/TENDER NO- 69658	817	Construction of CC Road at Ward no 12 H/O Raju Joshi to H/O Shalendra	8.55	02
4	UADD/TENDCR NO- 69660	818	Construction of CC Renuwal Coat at Ward no 04 H/O Babulal Kushwah to H/O Manoj	6.67	02
5	UADD/TENDER NO- 69664	819	Construction of CC Road at ward no 13 H/O Mohar Singh to WBM Road	9.78	02
6	UADD/TENDER NO- 69666	820	Construction of RCC Drain at ward no 14 H/O Bharat Bhai to H/O Shrawan Singh Vishwakarma	2.35	02
7	UADD/TENDER NO- 69667	821	Construction of WBM Road at ward no 12 H/O Mohan Singh Ahirwar to H/O Pyarelal	3.54	02
8	UADD/TENDUR NO- 69756	825	Purchasing of hydraulic trolley at Nagar Palika Raisen	4.00	01
9	UADD/TENDER NO- 69757	826	SUPPLY 02 UNIT OF TIPPER FOUR WHEEL VEHICLE AT NAGAR PALIKA RAISEN	12.00	15 days

1. Interested bidders can view the detailed NIT in the Tenders Section of the website [www.mpeproc.gov.in](http://www.mpeproc.gov.in)  
2. The Bid Document can be purchased only online from 10:00 Hrs (time) 01-10-2018 (date) to 17:30 hrs (time) 09-10-2018 (date).  
3. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

(Jamna Sen)  
President  
Nagar Palika Raisen  
District-Raisen (M.P.)

Chief Municipal Officer  
Nagar Palika Parishad  
Raisen  
District- Raisen (M.P.)



# BJD women to gherao IOCL office today

TO PROTEST MASSIVE SCAM IN UJJWALA YOJANA

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Biju Mahila Janata Dal (BMJD) on Wednesday said it would hold a massive demonstration at the IOCL office here on Thursday, alleging that there has been a massive scam in the implementation of the Ujjwala Yojana in Odisha.

BMJD president Pramila Mallick informed this at a Press meet held at the party's State head office here.

"According to the reply submitted by Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, a total

of 30,48,000 beneficiaries had been involved in the Ujjwala Yojana in Odisha by July 30, 2018. Of total beneficiaries, 8,18,786 had refilled their cylinders in 2016-17 and the number of such beneficiaries came down to 6,45,265 in 2017-18. While 24 lakh beneficiaries have not come for a second refilling, it clearly indicates about a massive scam committed in Odisha in the scheme," alleged Mallick.

She further remarked that, out of 1,05,808 beneficiaries given cylinders in Pradhan's home district, Angul, only 35,406 beneficiaries refilled in 2016-17 and the number came down to 16,950 in 2017-18.

She wanted that the Minister should make a state-



ment in public as to where did the refilling gas of balance cylinders go.

Similarly, Mallick said the NDA Government increased LPG price 22 times during the last five years despite the fact that the crude oil prices decreased from USD 102 in

2014 to USD 52 in 2017. The refilling price of a cylinder has increased from Rs 414 in 2014 to Rs 480 in 2017. Similarly, the price of non-subsidized cylinder has increased by Rs 59 since September 30, 2018.

"In Kendrapada district,

cylinders have been distributed to ghost beneficiaries. The IOCL authorities have conceded to this and cancelled an agency," said Mallick.

"While the Union Government had claimed that the Ujjwala Scheme has wiped out tears from eyes of housewives, in reality it has lit a fire in their eyes in Odisha," Mallick alleged further.

She said the Biju Mahila Janata Dal will hold a demonstration in protest against the massive scam at the IOCL office here on Thursday.

Among others, spokesperson Sulochana Das, vice-president Geetanjali Bastia and Bhubaneswar district president Bharati Singh were present.



Police detained Sadhus who were demonstrating near Chief Minister Shrivraj Singh Choudhary's residence in Bhopal on Wednesday demanding land rights of mutts and temples and to stop interference of district administration in religious places. Pioneer photo



Newly inducted Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) take part in a convocation parade after the completion of their training at Madhya Pradesh Police Training Academy at Bhauri, in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

## Power engineers rue delay in cadre restructuring

Convention held in city

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

At a convention of the All Odisha Power Engineers Federation (AOPEF) here on Tuesday, engineers of the State electricity distribution, transmission and generation sector were of the unanimous opinion that they are victims of gross neglect and irresponsible and unjust action of HRD departments of all corporations.

Almost in all departments in the State Government, cadre restructuring is complete except in electricity sector which provides 24X7 services to people. With increased asset and consumer base and in the absence of required manpower, engineers are facing extreme difficulty in providing service to consumers said the speakers.

After pay revision, non-executives have been given HRA and medicine allowance in the revised rate while depriving similar benefits to engineers. This violates one organ-

isation one HRA principle. In a complete unjust way and blatant violation of rules, the training period of engineers was enhanced from one year to two to three years in Discoms, due to which many engineers lost their seniority which adversely affects their career prospects. Even after 10 years of repeated reminders the matter is yet to be resolved, the speakers rued.

By giving undue favour and blatant violation of rules, juniors were promoted ahead of seniors in Nesco. The matter is yet to be resolved.

For the last four years, promotions have not been given to the engineers of Wesco. They have also been

deprived of benefits of Assured Career Progression (ACP).

Due to adoption of wrong policy, senior engineers in OHPC are losing their promotional benefits, alleged the speakers.

Federation chairman Biswaranjan Mishra presided over the meeting. Among others, secretary general Brahma Prakash Paital, vice-chairman Prasant Ku Pattnaik and additional secretary general Jagannath Barik was present. Treasurer Amiya Ku Mohanty, executive committee Members Pravat Dash, Pravat Kar, Ananta Narayan Bisoi and Prasant Patanaik coordinated the convention.



## Metro to win hearts soon in Bhopal, Indore

Bhopal: Metro rail will become reality soon in two major cities Bhopal and Indore of Madhya Pradesh. The Union Cabinet has granted approval to Bhopal and Indore Metro Rail Projects today. The approval has been given in the first place by the Union Cabinet after the release of Metro Rail Policy-2017 by the Government of India.

Two corridors will be built under the 27.87 km long Bhopal Metro Rail Project.

The first Purple Line corridor will cover a distance of 14.99 km from Karond Chouraha to AIIMS hospital, whereas the second red line corridor will cover a distance of 12.88 km from Bhabhbada Chouraha to Ratnagiri Tiraha.

A total of 30 stations will be constructed, which will have 16 purple line and 14 red line corridors. An amount of ₹6,941.40 crore will be spent on this project. SR

## Lawyers to prolong stir till Oct 10

Even as IGP investigates into 4 cases

PNS ■ CUTTACK

While the Orissa High Court on Wednesday adjourned to October 10 the hearing of the writ petition pertaining to the lawyers-police standoff, the agitating lawyers of the city, who are on strike since August 29, too decided to continue their strike till Wednesday next.

"The High Court Bar Association general body decided to continue the strike till October 10 and further course of action will be decided on that day," said association secretary Satyabrata Mohanty. Notably, the High Court will remain closed for the Puja vacation from October 13 to 24.

Meanwhile, pursuant to an order passed by the Supreme Court on September 27, IGP Arun Kumar Bothra of the

Crime Branch has been entrusted to investigate into all the four cases registered by police following the lawyer-police spat on August 28.

The cases, including three against a lawyer, were first handled by an Inspector of the city police. Then following HC orders, the cases were first handed over to a DSP of the Crime Branch and subsequently to a DIG. After the SC order, now the cases will be investigated by IGP Bothra.

Ordering the cases to be investigated by an IGP, a Supreme Court Bench headed by the then CJJ Dipak Misra had also directed the lawyers to call off their strike and join their court works. But the lawyers defied the SC order and even burnt an effigy of the CJJ.

Notwithstanding the defiance of the apex court order by the lawyers, the Orissa High Court on Wednesday, while adjourning the writ petition to be heard again next week, hoped that the IGP, who is carrying out the investigation, would examine the matter without fear and favour.

## Hry Opp highlights farmers' issues

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Leader of opposition in Haryana Assembly and senior leader of Indian National Lok Dal, Abhaya Chautala on Wednesday shot off a letter to Chief Minister Manohar Lal demanding special girdawari (crop loss assessment exercise) and compensation at the rate of Rs 25000 per acre for affected farmers in the state. In the letter written to the Chief Minister, Chautala said, "Newspaper reports suggest that you have a firsthand knowledge of the damage thus caused. It, therefore, surprises me that special girdawari to assess the damage done to the crops has neither been announced nor has it begun."

"On behalf of the farmers

of the state and as a Leader of opposition and INLD's senior leader, I demand that a special girdawari be announced immediately to assess the loss to the farmers due to damage to crops. I also demand that compensation at the rate of ₹25000 per acre be announced," he said in his letter.

Meanwhile, former Haryana Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda has also demanded that the State Government give a special package to farmers whose crops were damaged due to heavy rains in the last few days.

Paddy, bajra and cotton crop were damaged due to heavy rains which lashed the state between September 22 and 24.

## Filing of nominations for college polls ends

Violence rocks many campuses; final list today

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As the aspiring candidates filed their nomination papers for the students' union elections, violent incidents rocked the college campuses across the State on Wednesday.

Students of Rama Devi Women's University, BJB Autonomous College, Maharishi College of Natural Law and Rajdhani College in Bhubaneswar filed their nominations for the elections scheduled to be held on October 11.

The candidates and their supporters came in processions and filed their nomination papers from 9 am to 12 pm



while scrutiny of the papers was done between 2 pm and 4 pm.

Candidates are allowed to withdraw their names on Thursday after which the final list of candidates will be published on the same day. The "What I stand for" meeting will

be held on October 10. However, even as nominations were filed, violence incidents were reported from a number of institutions in the State. Unidentified miscreants hurled bombs at the women's hostel of NC College in Jajpur in the early morning forcing

the authorities to close the college sine die. However, no casualties or damages were reported in the incident.

In another incident, panic struck Niali College in Cuttack district after some motorbike-borne miscreants threw bombs inside the campus while students were filing their nomination papers. Later, adequate police forces were deployed in and around the college to avoid any untoward situation.

Poll-related violence was also reported from Deogarh College after the students locked up the main gate of the college on Wednesday.

Bombs were also hurled in Anandapur College in Keonjhar district on Tuesday late night. However, the filing of nomination was carried out in the college on the day as per schedule amid tight security.

# UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES TO BE REGULARISED

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Nearly 7,000 illegal colonies, plots or buildings, set up before March 19, 2018, are set to be regularised. For, the Punjab Cabinet on Wednesday okayed the regularisation policy for the same.

All the colonies, developed before March 19, this year — the day on which the Cabinet passed 'Punjab Laws (Special Provisions for Regularisation of Unauthorised Colonies) Bill-2018' — would be covered under the decision to check the mushrooming of unplanned and haphazard constructions across the state.

At the same time, the Cabinet has decided to initiate stringent action against the coloniser of a colony, which comes up after the cut-off date, that is March 19, 2018, and also against those who do not apply for regularization.

As per the available data, there are presently around 7,000 illegal colonies, of which 5,000 were located outside the municipal limits.

The move is expected to give an opportunity for regularisation to colonisers or residents who have failed to apply for either getting their unauthorized colonies regularised or unauthorised plots or buildings falling in unauthorised colonies compounded under previous policies, or whose application are pending.

Spokesperson said that the policy would enable residents, living in these colonies, to get facilities of basic civic amenities like water supply, sewerage, electricity and road connectivity etc.

Highlighting the key features of the policy, the spokesperson said that unauthorised colonies developed before March 19, 2018, shall be regularized, with regularization charges earlier paid under the previous policies to be adjusted.

The charges, thus received from the regularization of the particular colony, would be used for providing basic infrastructure to that specific colony only and payment of charges shall be made in instalments.

Besides, committees of officers shall also be constituted for quick regularization of colonies, as well as plots falling in these unauthorised colonies.

"Residents Welfare Association (RWA) can also submit an application for regularization of the colony. Where there is no colonizer, creation of RWA shall be mandatory. However, the area under the road or park would be transferred in the name of the local authority immediately, and subsequently would be transferred to RWA as and when formed for its maintenance. Till that time, the upkeep shall be the responsibility of the colonizer," said the



spokesperson.

Unauthorised colonies have been categorized into four categories — where up to 25 percent plots are sold, where 25 to 50 percent plots are sold, where more than 50 percent plots are sold and a special provision for exceptional colony having more than 75 percent built-up area.

Spokesperson said that the colonizer would be required to submit registered sale deeds within three months from the grant of provisional regularization certificate in case sale agreements are submitted as proof of sale. No legal action shall be initiated against the colonizer who pays full charges as per demand notice, and no interest shall be levied on the pending payment, added the spokesperson.

**PUNJAB TO SETUP 'PUNJAB GHAR GHAR ROZGAR AND KAROBAR MISSION'**

Punjab Cabinet on Wednesday gave approval to setting up the 'Punjab Ghar Ghar Rozgar and Karobar Mission' (PGRAKM), with Chief Minister to be the chairman of its Governing Council.

The Mission, to be registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, would facilitate every jobseeker in securing wage or self-employment in Punjab, India or abroad.

Spokesperson said that the proposed society would focus on creation of necessary framework to facilitate wage and self-employment for state's unemployed youth, besides improv-

ing employability through skill training or skill upgradation. It would also identify areas having the potential for employment generation and would strive to harness that potential with government intervention.

The Mission would facilitate job seekers for placement in government, private jobs, overseas employment and skill training as per their aptitude and skills, said the spokesperson adding that it would also offer a platform for major job and entrepreneurship ventures, and bring employers and employees together.

It would also create an exhaustive database of unemployed household in the state, besides developing and promoting an ecosystem, conducive to employment generation,

amongst all stakeholders which would help to ensure at least one job or source of employment or self-employment in each household — as promised by the Congress before elections.

**PUNJAB'S 42L FAMILIES TO BE COVERED UNDER PMJAY**

Giving in-principle approval to the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Punjab Cabinet has extended the central scheme to cover over 42 lakh families, instead of the proposed 14.96 lakh SECC (Socio-Economic Caste Census) families, thereby fulfilling the Congress poll promise of providing universal health cover.

But, the Centre's 'Ayushman Bharat-National

Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM)', renamed as PMJAY, provides ₹5 lakh coverage per family annually, would be implemented with another name in Punjab. For the same, the Cabinet has authorized the Chief Minister to rename the scheme for Punjab, where the Congress, in its election manifesto, had committed itself to providing universal health insurance.

The Cabinet has decided to set up a committee under the Chief Secretary to work out the financial modalities for the implementation of the scheme to be implemented at an estimated cost of over ₹300 crore by cutting the budgets of other departments, as and where necessary.

While PMJAY had proposed to cover 14.96 SECC families in the state, the Captain Amarinder Singh government has decided to extend the scheme to provide ₹5 lakh insurance cover to 42 lakh of the total 61 lakh families in the state, including families of farmers, construction workers and small traders, as well as other poor families (currently covered under the Bhagat Puran Singh Sehat Bima Yojana — BPSSBY).

With another six to seven lakh government employees already covered, only the few rich families are left out of the purview of the scheme, thus

effectively reaching out to the entire population of the state.

Spokesperson said that estimated cost of annual premium at the rate of ₹1,082 per family would be shared between the Central and State Governments in the ratio of 60:40, which would cost ₹65 crores to the State Government annually, for which the Finance Department had already agreed.

The Cabinet also gave concurrence to extend the period of Bhagat Puran Singh Sehat Bima Yojana (BPSSBY), which is expiring on October 31, 2018, for the next three months or implementation of revised scheme, whichever is earlier.

**PUNJAB GST ACT, 2017, AMENDED**

Cabinet has also decided to amend the Punjab Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, through an Ordinance to simplify the process of filing returns and payment of tax with minimum paper work.

Notably, Punjab Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, is replica of Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017. Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha on August 9, 2018. Similar amendments have to be made in Punjab Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, for which the special session of Vidhan Sabha would be convened soon.



Rafale fighter jets a game changer: IAF chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As controversy rages over the ₹59,000-crore Rafale deal, IAF Chief BS Dhanoa on Wednesday termed the induction of the fighter jets as a "game changer in the sub-continent and said along with the S-400 Triumf missile defence system, it will act as a "booster dose."



Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa addresses the annual Air Force press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday

Defending the Government-to-Government deal with France for 36 Rafale jets, the Air Chief also asserted that the IAF was consulted at the "appropriate level."

The IAF was not in the loop before the deal was announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Paris in 2015. The Air Chief also lamented delays in delivery schedules of some frontline fighter jets by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Fielding a host of questions of over the Rafale deal during the annual news conference ahead of the Air Force Day on October 8, Dhanoa said the IAF had given options to the Government to address the issue of bolstering the dwindling fighter jet squadron strength of the force.

Giving the background, the Air Chief said the earlier proposed deal

for buying 126 medium multi-role combat aircraft (MMRCA) had reached an "impasse" in negotiations due to differences between HAL and Dassault, manufacturer of Rafale, over issues like price, man hours and as to who will be responsible for 108 jets to be manufactured by HAL in India.

The IAF had three choices. They included either to wait for the ongoing negotiations and hope for the best or withdraw the Request for Proposal (RFP) or go in for emergency purchase of two squadrons, he said adding the government took the "bold step" by going with the last option.

The Air Chief also said issu-

ing fresh tenders would have delayed the acquisition process of modern fighter jets by another five to seven years.

Claiming that the Rafale deal was a "good package" and the aircraft will be a "game-changer" in the subcontinent, he said adding "we got a lot of advantages in Rafale deal."

The jet comes with modern sensors, latest electronic warfare systems and India specific enhancements, he said. Refraining to put a figure to the cost of each aircraft, he said Minister of State for Defence Subhash Bhamre and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had given the amount and "we stick to same figures."

mentioned in a reply in Parliament in 2016 that the price of each Rafale is ₹670 crores while Jaitley said recently the NDA deal was nine per cent cheaper than the negotiated price by the previous regime.

Besides charging the present Government with buying Rafales at a very high price than negotiated by it, Congress is also accusing the government of benefitting Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence Ltd from the Rafale deal. The BJP has dismissed all the allegations as false.

Asked about this issue, Dhanoa said he cannot "comment" on the partnership adding as per offsets clause of Defence Procurement Policy (DPP), the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) chooses his Indian partner. In this case Dassault opted for Reliance and when former French president Francois Hollande's claims came out the French aerospace conglomerate said it chose Reliance.

Justifying the decision to buy 36 jets, the IAF chief in the past too India had gone in for such a step to meet operational requirements.

On question marks about the capabilities of the HAL to build latest generation aircraft, Dhanoa said he was grateful to HAL for support to the IAF. However, he flagged concern over delay in delivery schedules of ongoing projects including six year time overrun for Jaguars, three years for SU-30, two years for Mirage-2000 and five years in case of indigenously developed Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA).

Plans to monitor infra development to counter Chinese contingencies

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The IAF is monitoring infrastructure development in China and has plans to counter contingencies, Air Chief BS Dhanoa said here on Wednesday against the backdrop of reported presence of more than 50 Chinese fighter jets in Tibet. Asserting they were not a threat, he, however, expressed concern over the depleting strength of fighter jet squadrons of the IAF.

At present, the IAF has 31 squadrons (one squadron has 18 to 20 jets) against the approved 42 squadrons to fight a two-front war with Pakistan and China simultaneously. In this backdrop, Dhanoa said "the depleting fighter jets is an issue."

As regards China, the Air Chief, while addressing annual news conference ahead of the Air Force Day on October 8, said "we are watching infrastructure development in China. They have been saying airports are coming up there for improved regional connectivity and

not offensive." However, the IAF has plans in place to meet any threat, Dhanoa said.

He made this point when asked about China building airports especially in the border regions at a rapid pace thereby posing a threat to India. Fielding another question about the reported presence of more than 50 fighter jets in Tibet, Dhanoa said "it is not a threat."

The Air Chief also said India is also undertaking infrastructure development hinting at better airports and advanced landing grounds (ALG) in border areas facing China besides strategic roads to maintain logistical support to the armed forces.

A few weeks back Dhanoa had said China was significantly increasing its air power including deploying fighter jets in Tibet and India must modernise its air force to match the capabilities of its "adversaries".

India was facing a unique situation of having two nuclear armed neighbours — China and Pakistan — on its borders and the intentions of the adversaries could change overnight, he said.

"China has approximately 1,700 fighter aircraft of which 800 are fourth generation jets. A large number of these can be expected to be brought against us in the Tibet Autonomous Region in case of hostilities," he had observed while addressing a seminar.

The Air Chief also said though India was facing a grave security threat, its combat squadron has come down to 31 from sanctioned strength of 42 which is a matter of concern. Each fighter squadron has 16-18 aircraft.

"Indian armed forces are operating in a unique environment. Presently, there are very few countries which are facing security challenges as grave as ours," he said, referring to threats from Pakistan and China. "India's neighbours are not sitting idle.... We have a unique situation of having two nuclear armed neighbours on our borders. No other country in the world has this kind of a situation," Dhanoa said.

China has significantly developed and upgraded infrastructure in Tibet Autonomous Region and that fighter jets and surveillance jets have been permanently stationed in airfields in the area bordering India, he said adding "We have to match the force level of our adversaries so that we can fight simultaneously on two fronts."

Cabinet OK's ₹14,441 cr for Bhopal, Indore metros

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the coming Assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh this year, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved ₹14,441 crore for metro projects in Bhopal and Indore. Both the projects would be completed in four years. These two metro rail projects will impact at least three dozen Assembly seats in the State. There will be 30 stations each in both these metro lines and the per km is expected to be between ₹182 crore and ₹200 crore.

The Union Cabinet also approved redevelopment of Railway Stations by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency and main Project Development Agency, through simplified procedures and for longer lease tenure of up to 99 years. This program will help provide state-of-the-art amenities for passengers, generate additional revenues and will be overall at least cost neutral to Ministry of Railways

(MoR) over a basket of stations. Furthermore, redevelopment of railway stations across the country will have a multiplier effect in the economy with increased job creation and improved economic growth.

The idea of setting up metro rails in Bhopal and Indore was conceived in 2009. This is the first metro proposal, approved after the implementation of new Metro Rail policy. Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad made the announcement after the Cabinet meeting and said that the project in Bhopal would be a 50-50 arrangement between the centre and the State Government. The total length of Bhopal metro would be 27.87 kilometres while the expenditure is estimated at ₹6,941.40 crore. The length of Karond to AIIMS corridor is 14.99 km, which is mostly elevated and partly underground (at Bhopal Railway Station and Bus Station) and comprises of 16 Stations (14-elevated and 2-underground). The length of Bhadbhada to Ratnagiri Tiraha corridor is 12.88

km comprising of 14 stations all elevated. As many as 23 lakh of Bhopal agglomeration area is expected to be benefitted from this project.

The metro project in Indore would run at 31.55 kilometres stretch. It would cover most of the city. The total cost of the project is estimated at ₹7,500.80 crore and would also take four years to complete. The Ring Line will be from Bengali Square — Vijay Nagar — Bhawarsala — Airport — Palasia — Bengali Square. As per plan, numbers of stations on the Ring Line are 30.

The Ring line will connect densely populated areas of the city with the new developing areas along with Railway Station, Airport and ABD under Smart City project. The financing of Indore Metro Rail Project will be partly from Central Government and State Government of Madhya Pradesh on equal equity basis and partly as loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) and New Development Bank (NDB).

Modi bags UN's highest environmental honour

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A clean and green environment is at the root of his Government's policies, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Wednesday as he was presented the UN's Champions of the Earth Award by United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres.

Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron were jointly awarded the UN's highest environmental honour for their pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance and promoting new areas of cooperation on environmental action.

In his address, Modi said climate and calamity are linked to culture, and it will be difficult to avoid calamity as long as concerns for the climate do not become a part of culture.

From agriculture and industrial policies to building houses and construction of toilets, the need for a clean environment has been driving his government's programmes, Modi said.

India's commitment to environment has only increased, he said, adding that his Government is working to bring down "emission intensity" by 20-25 per cent in the next two years against its 2005 figure and by 30-35 per cent by 2030.

"We have also pledged to get rid of single-use plastics by 2022," he said in his speech.

Citing ancient Hindu shlokas and texts, the Prime Minister also referred to India's traditions to assert that respecting nature had always been part of Indian society.

The honour bestowed on him is a recognition of Indian tribes living in forests who respect trees who capture only as much fish as they need to earn their living and farmers whose lives are intertwined with the cycle of seasons, he said.

It is also an honour for Indian women who have worshipped trees as gods. "Reuse and recycle" have always been a part of their lives, the Prime Minister said.

Govt requests Tibetan leader Karmapa to return to India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After having goofed up by easing out travel restrictions against the 17th Karmapa Gyen Trinley Dorje leading to his flight to the US in April, 2017, the Centre has now asked the Tibetan spiritual leader to return to India.

Union Home Ministry officials said the Government has asked the Karmapa to return to India as his followers want him to stay in the country.

The Karmapa was staying in India on a refugee card since January 5, 2000 and has been negotiating with the Indian interlocutors for parity of status with the 14th Dalai Lama who has been granted political asylum since his arrival to India in 1959.

The Karmapa in collusion with the Central Tibetan Administration has been trying to sideline the 83-year old Dalai Lama, the tallest leader in the Tibetan Buddhism hierarchy. The Karmapa, who is an accused in a money laundering case in India, has acquired a passport of Dominican Republic, considered to be a money laundering hub. Interestingly, the travel restrictions put earlier Karmapa were relaxed despite the Union Home Ministry having an advisor for Tibetan affairs Amitabh Mathur, a former Research and Analysis Wing officer. Mathur was appointed for the job in October 2017 for a period of three-year term which ended on September 23.

Currently, the Karmapa is allowed to travel anywhere in India, except the Rumtek monastery in Sikkim but with prior permission from the Union Home Ministry.

The Cabinet Committee on Security, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has also decided to allot a piece of land to the Karmapa in Delhi to construct his monastery. The CCS has decided to allot six acres of land to the Karmapa in Delhi, possibly in the Dwarka area, officials said.

Despite repeated assurances to the Indian officials, the Karmapa has ditched to return to India that granted him a refugee card. Karmapa is the singular Tibetan spiritual leader recognized by both the Dalai Lama and the Chinese government. He heads the Kagyu sect of the Tibetan Buddhism.

SC seeks reply from States, UTs on rehabilitation homes for mentally ill

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday sought reports within two weeks from State Governments and Union Territories on the status of setting up rehabilitation homes for people with mental illness.

Ten States and a UT have filed their response on the compliance of the Centre's guidelines for setting up of rehabilitation homes for persons living with mental illness (who have been cured, or who do not need further hospitalisation, or who are homeless or are not accepted by their families).

A bench of Justices U U Lalit and D Y Chandrachud which issued fresh notice said that it will go into the merits of the case after

all States and UTs have filed their responses in two weeks.

Petitioner in-person advocate Gaurav Bansal said that more than 15,000 people are forced to stay with the mentally ill patients.

He said that except for few, many States and UTs have not complied with the order of July 10, 2017, in which they were asked to implement the guidelines prepared by Centre within one year period.

The bench said it will take up the matter for hearing immediately after three weeks and asked Bansal to prepare a chart based on the replies filed by the state. PTI

RSS on Sabarimala verdict: Devotees sentiments cannot be ignored

New Delhi: Noting that devotees' sentiments "cannot be ignored" while considering the Supreme Court verdict allowing entry of women into the Sabarimala temple, the RSS on Wednesday called upon all stakeholders to come together and address the issue availing "judicial options also".

The judgement of the Supreme Court should be honoured, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) maintained.

"The recent judgement on Sabarimala Devasthanam has evoked reactions all over the country. While we all respect the varied temple traditions followed by devotees in Bharat, we have to also honour the hon-

ourable Supreme Court," RSS General Secretary Suresh Bhayyaji Joshi said in a statement.

On September 28, the apex court threw open the doors of Sabarimala temple in Kerala to girls and women of all age groups by lifting the ban on the entry of those between the age of 10 and 50, holding this centuries-old Hindu religious practice is illegal and unconstitutional.

"While the Supreme Court judgement should be respected, RSS calls upon all the stakeholders, including spiritual and community leaders, to come together to analyse and address the issue availing judicial options also," the RSS said.

Emphasising that it is an issue of

a local temple tradition and faith to which sentiments of millions of devotees, including women, are attached, the RSS underlined that these sentiments of the devotees cannot be ignored while considering the judgement.

"There is an obvious reaction to the same by the devotees, especially women, who are protesting against the forceful breaking of the tradition," Joshi said.

The RSS, which has wide presence in the Left-ruled Kerala and has been at loggerheads with the ruling CPI(M), termed the state government's decision to implement the apex court's order with immediate effect as unfortunate. PTI

BHIMA-KOREGAON CASE

Maha Govt moves top court against release of Navlakha from house arrest

New Delhi: The Maharashtra Government on Wednesday moved the Supreme Court against the Delhi High Court order allowing Gautam Navlakha, one of the five activists arrested in connection with the Koregaon-Bhima case, to be freed from house arrest.

The Delhi High Court freed Navlakha from house arrest on Monday, five weeks after he and four other rights activists were arrested in connection with the Koregaon-Bhima violence in Maharashtra.

The plea challenging the order was filed in the apex court registry Wednesday morning. Nishant Katneshwar, counsel for the Maharashtra government, told PTI.

Granting relief to Navlakha, 65, the high court also quashed the trial court's transit remand order which he had challenged before the matter was taken to the Supreme Court.

The high court said Navlakha's detention had exceeded 24 hours which was "untenable".

The bench of Justices S Muralidhar and Vinod Goel, while setting aside the August 28 order of the chief metropolitan magistrate granting Navlakha transit remand, had said there was non-compliance of basic provisions of the Constitution and the CrPc which were mandatory in nature.

The bench also said the trial court order was unsustainable in law. PTI

Stop data manipulation to show improvement in punctuality: Piyush to Rly zones

New Delhi: Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal has warned zonal railways to stop data manipulation to show improvement in punctuality, indicating that punctuality figures provided by zones varied from passengers' feedback.

The national transporter had released figures that showed 76 per cent trains were running on time, as compared to an average 60 per cent all through.

In a letter to the zonal heads, the Railway Board last week warned against such fudging of data.

"Wrong feeding of arrival/departure of trains at terminals and interchange points continues to be adopted by zonal railways and divisions falsify records to improve punctuality. "Feedback from general public

through social media is continuously being received on daily basis. MR (Minister of Railways) has expressed his serious displeasure and directed that the practice must stop forthwith. Please ensure strict compliance to avoid any unpleasant situation," it said.

Punctuality performance of mail/express trains during the period from September 17 to September 23 showed that the Ranchi division in the South Eastern Railway had achieved 100 per cent punctuality and 21 divisions had recorded punctuality of 90 per cent and above during the period.

This is a major improvement from the average 60 per cent punctuality being maintained just two months back. PTI

'Coalition not in Cong' DNA: BJP's dig after Maya announced to go solo in Rajasthan, MP

New Delhi: With Mayawati announcing to go alone, the BJP on Wednesday took a dig at the Congress saying forging a coalition was not in its DNA and it only gives importance to the Gandhi family.

"With whom the Congress allies is entirely their business, but in light of concerns and pain of Mayawati, I can only say that coalition is not a part of the Congress DNA. They only give importance to the family," Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told reporters.

The BSP supremo announced that her party will contest Assembly elections in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh either on its own or in alliance with regional parties but not with the Congress. PTI

She accused the Congress of trying to "finish" the BSP, saying the grand old party was more interested in destroying her party than dislodging the BJP.

BJP general secretary Ram Madhav also took a dig at the Opposition over its unity efforts.

"Mahagathbandhan (grand alliance) in 'progress'. First AAP and now BSP calling the bluff. Mayawati says Congress arrogant, a new revelation for her, and declares no alliance in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan too. Chhattisgarh already dumped," he tweeted.

Mayawati has announced that the BSP will tie up with Ajit Jogi's party for Chhattisgarh Assembly polls. PNS

INSHORT

BJP APPOINTS MUKUL AS WB POLL IN-CHARGE

New Delhi: BJP president Amit Shah on Wednesday appointed former Minister and national executive member Mukul Roy as election in-charge of West Bengal. Besides, he also appointed Union Ministers JP Nadga election prabhari of Telangana, Prakash Javadekar of Raj and Dharmendra Pradhan as Prabhari of MP.

FINAL CALL ON TRANSFER OF 2K SSB MEN TO IB SOON

New Delhi: The Government is expected to take a final call soon on the transfer of a "dying" cadre of about 2,000 personnel of the Sashasthra Seema Bal (SSB) to Intelligence Bureau to bolster the latter's on-ground presence at India's eastern borders with China, Nepal and other countries. They said Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba will hold a meeting this week with IB Director Rajiv Jain and newly appointed SSB chief S S Deswal.

PANIC FEATURE BUTTON TRIAL SUCCESSFUL IN UP

New Delhi: Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi on Wednesday said user trial of a panic button feature on mobile handsets, to provide emergency response to women in distress, has been completed successfully in 47 districts of UP.

AFSPA EXTENDED IN 3 DISTRICTS OF ARUNACHAL

New Delhi: The Centre has extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in three districts of Arunachal Pradesh and its eight police station areas bordering Assam by another six months, in view of continuing activities of banned insurgent groups of the Northeast.

REFUND FEE OR FACE ACTION: HRD MINISTRY

New Delhi: The Ministry of Human Resource Development has warned higher educational institutions of strict action if they do not return the fees of those withdrawing admissions. Institutions are bound to return fees and original documents of students in case a candidate opts to withdraw the admission, according to the norms of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

SUSHMA, UN CHIEF DISCUSS KEY ISSUES

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on Wednesday met United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and discussed key issues such as UN Security Council reforms and climate change. "Working in close synergy with the highest organ of multilateralism. EAM @SushmaSwaraj welcomed UNSG @antonioguterres. Had productive discussions on issues related to climate change, UNSC reforms and other areas of mutual interest." MEA spokesperson Ravesh Kumar tweeted after Swaraj's meeting with Guterres.

AMBUJA CHAIRMAN APPOINTED AS AIMA PREZ

New Delhi: Ambuja Neotia Group chairman Harshvardhan Neotia has been elected the President of All India Management Association (AIMA) for the year 2018-19.



# On the move

### They may have dispersed for now but the farmers who laid siege to Delhi made their point

There are two distinct aspects of the farmers' agitation or Kisan Kranti Yatra that culminated on Tuesday at the Capital's doorstep which should not be conflated. The first, is the genuine issues in India's agricultural sector which is in clear and present distress. The second is the politics of the agitation. On the first issue, anyone travelling through rural India cannot but see that there is genuine rural distress caused by the prolonged slump in the agricultural sector despite some good policy initiatives by the current ruling dispensation over the past four years which followed up on the measures taken by successive governments at the Centre post-1991 initiation of the economic reforms process. As has been pointed out by many commentators, official figures from the last agricultural census conducted in 2015-16 showed that more than 86 per cent of farmers own less than two acres of land giving credence to the assertion that an overwhelming majority of Indian farmers are engaged in subsistence or marginal-profit agriculture. The average size of an operational holding is estimated to be just around one acre and non-agriculture employment has not kept pace to absorb the younger people coming into the market given the sub-division, with each generation, of already quite small plots of farmland which has made agriculture an unsustainable occupation for most. Now, it is argued by most political parties that the 86 per cent, as it were, need state intervention and there can really be no argument with that. But its natural corollary, that the 14 per cent of middle and large farmers, the kulaks of Marxist lore, should be brought into the personal income-tax net is a political hot potato nobody is willing to touch. Then there is the trend of providing ad hoc relief such as loan waivers which all political parties have indulged instead of focussing on structural reform including but not limited to taxing the rural middle and upper classes, ensuring a social security safety net for the rest, setting up robust and specifically targeted price-control mechanisms to ensure input costs thanks to sky-rocketing diesel prices or the relentless rise in per unit cost of electricity don't become debilitating, encouraging land-pooling for farm sizes become viable for commercial agriculture and aligning the agricultural sector to prevailing market realities. In relation to the last mentioned, for example, it is important to note that there is a glut of sugar in the domestic market due to a dip in exports because of international factors and an enhanced yield of the sugarcane crop which has led to non-payment of thousands of crores of rupees to farmers by sugar mills. But the solution cannot be for the government to bail out using public funds the mill owners and comparatively affluent western Uttar Pradesh sugarcane farmers, neither of whom are in the 86 per cent tery, landholding subsistence farming or petty rural business category.

It is here that the politics of the Bharatiya Kisan Union led farmers' agitation is pertinent to keep in mind. Not only were the protesting farmers drawn substantially from the western UP sugarcane belt and Haryana with a token presence from other North Indian States, they were predominantly from the Jat community, which is to say, their demands were specific to the region they represent and cannot be uniformly extrapolated to a national level. Naresh Tikait, the BKU leader, knows that no Government and certainly not the Narendra Modi regime can ignore them with elections around the corner.

**50 WORD EDIT** Moment of pride  
Amid the fury over the "Physics was built by men" comment by an Italian scientist at the CERN particle physics laboratory in Geneva, Prof Donna Strickland's winning the Nobel Prize in Physics — the first woman in 55 years to do so in the category — has been the best riposte to misogynists. She is the third woman to receive the award in the past century. Take a bow, Prof Strickland.

# Clean India

Laudable as the Swachh Bharat mission is, there's a long way to go before we inculcate behaviour change

As India inches closer towards the goal of becoming open defecation-free by 2019, which will also mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, the Prime Minister's four-year-old Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is perhaps the best tribute to the torch-bearer of cleanliness and sanitation in India whose birth anniversary we marked on Gandhi Jayanti earlier this week. The Prime Minister's flagship scheme, which aims to make rural and urban India cleaner than ever before by 2019, has been applauded domestically and internationally. While the UN termed it as the "biggest movement" for public health, hygiene and sanitation in the world, UNICEF lauded the Modi Government for making the country defecation-free a high priority. The WHO, too, lauded India's efforts and said that "India has elevated the challenge of ending open-defecation to the highest level". Certainly, India has raised the benchmark for other developing countries as it is close to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals on sanitation 11 years before the deadline set. It isn't surprising that China and Pakistan too have taken a cue from us to launch similar campaigns. Swachh Bharat, it must be pointed out, takes forward the achievements of its predecessor schemes launched by the UPA Government — Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan and Total Sanitation Campaign — in its coverage which saw a 54 per cent jump in the last four years. More than 4.50,000 villages are now defecation-free. Importantly, India improved its metrics of accounting for 60 per cent of the global population defecating in open; the figure now stands at 20 per cent.

The not-so-good news is that unfortunately, for many in officialdom the sole objective of the Swachh Bharat scheme has come to rest solely on the construction of toilets. The latest NFHS-4 report made it clear that while open defecation has become less common than it was 10 years ago, it is still highly prevalent. It must be said that the Government's effort has been not just limited to the construction of toilets; it has launched advertisement and publicity campaigns at metro stations, on television, radio and online to spread the message of swachhata. The Prime Minister himself has used every opportunity and platform to literally pick up the broom and clean streets and this has led other well-known personalities from various fields to follow suit. But the problem in India is also to do with notions of 'dirty' which contemporary caste biases still underlie. For example, ritual cleanliness matters more than physical cleansing for many and anything to do with the loo, as it were, is considered 'dirty' and not a job fit for so-called upper castes. Here lies the challenge for the Swachh Mission — to change mindsets. And that will take some time.

# India-Russia reset: S-400 sovereignty test

### Time-tested, all-weather and special are evocative terms applied to India-Russia relations but going forward it's time to get real as the two nations will pursue independent strategic interests that may not converge



Reset seems to be the reigning buzzword, and strategic autonomy the operative mantra in Indian diplomatic lexicon. In fact, it is set to be the year of diplomatic reset for India with three of its key strategic partners and major global players, including the US, Russia and China. Amid a rapidly mutating geo-strategic environment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held his first informal summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Wuhan in April, paving the way for a new phase of post-Doklam stability in India-China relations. With the US, India held its first 2+2 dialogue in September which underlined growing strategic connect between the world's leading democracies.

The reset with Russia, amid mutual misgivings sparked by third country relationships, started with Prime Minister Modi's first informal summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the resort city of Sochi in May. Building on the Sochi understanding, India is now rolling out the red carpet for President Putin, a trusted and time-tested friend.

Amid concerns in Moscow about New Delhi's tilt towards Washington, Modi's annual summit meeting with President Putin in New Delhi on October 5 is set to reaffirm the pivotal importance of India-Russia special and privileged strategic partnership in the foreign policy calculus of New Delhi. The multifarious outcomes during President Putin's visit will not only galvanise multi-faceted India-Russia ties across the spectrum, but will also underline India's strategic autonomy and sovereignty against the backdrop of mounting concerns in Moscow about New Delhi's deepening strategic connect with Washington.

**S-400 dilemma:** India has been under pressure from the US to curtail and roll back its robust defence partnership with Russia, especially regarding the planned purchase of the S-400 missile system. The S-400 missile system could potentially be targeted by secondary sanctions under Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) as there is no categorical statement by the US yet on a waiver for India. Given India's high stakes in its relations with its leading strategic partners, US and Russia, it's not an easy decision to make. But in a delicate diplo-

matic tightrope walk, the Narendra Modi Government has already taken an overarching strategic decision to go ahead with this crucial acquisition.

Ahead of Putin's visit, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has expressed hope that India will make a "sovereign decision" on Russian defence purchases, which are facing possible US sanctions. Going by the latest developments, India is set to pass this sovereignty test. India is also hopeful of a waiver by US President Donald Trump for the S-400 purchase as it has been made clear to the US that the missile system is needed to bolster India's deterrence.

For a rising power, faced with a host of security challenges in its periphery, it's not possible to keep all its partners happy at all times. In situations which are fraught with competing interests, national security interests will prevail. India's decision to buy S-400 system has, therefore, become synonymous with an assertion of sovereignty and independent foreign and security policy.

Similarly, India will find a way to skirt the US sanctions to continue importing oil after the November 4 deadline imposed by Washington for reducing imports of Iranian oil to zero. Any such dramatic reduction is simply not viable and the US or imports of Iranian oil, India will continue to assert its strategic autonomy and underline that it can't be dictated to by Third

countries when it comes to its vital security and economic interests.

All eyes will be on defence deals, especially the S-400, but Putin's India visit will not be just about military hardware. The annual India-Russia summit will not only buttress key pillars of India-Russia strategic partnership, namely defence, nuclear energy and space, but will also seek to address the economic deficit in the India-Russia relationship as it has remained heavily security-centric. This economic focus will be crystallised in the big-ticket meeting of around 100 CEOs of India and Russia will brainstorm to forge an action plan to upscale economic partnership. New energy deals in areas of civil nuclear energy and hydrocarbons are expected to be sealed during the visit.

**Partnering in third countries:** Given their convergent interests and expanding global footprints, India and Russia are also expected to firm up plans for advancing their cooperation in third countries. India and Russia are already partnering in setting up of a nuclear power plant in Bangladesh. Similarly, there is an enormous potential for forging India-Russia collaboration in regions ranging from Afghanistan and Central Asia to Africa. Although there is some disconnect between New Delhi and Moscow over the latter's enthusiasm about reconciliation with the Taliban, this should not deter the two countries from pursuing joint projects in the violence-torn countries.

**Get real:** The future outlook for India-Russia relations is largely positive and optimistic but one should try to resist the temptation of romanticising this relationship. Time-tested, all-weather, special and privileged — these evocative expressions applied to India-Russia relations still remain resonant, but going forward, it's time to get real as India and Russia will pursue their independent strategic interests and Third country relationships, which may not exactly converge. But even allowing for minor notes of dissonance, the sheer scope and range of India-Russia strategic partnership, encompassing frontier areas of science and technology, space, defence, nuclear power and hydrocarbons, can't be surpassed.

The two partners are setting their sights high for this mutually empowering and energising partnership. Russian collaboration in 'Gaganyaan', India's first planned manned space mission, which was announced by Prime Minister Modi during his Independence Day address this year, could be another soaring moment in this enduring friendship that is set to grow stronger amid geopolitical shifts.

*(The writer is Editor-in-Chief of India and World magazine and a commentator on international affairs)*



Prime Minister Narendra Modi (right) with Russian President Vladimir Putin (left) during their summit in Sochi, May 2018.

## POINTCOUNTERPOINT

The decision to ban daily *Deshar Katha* is a politically motivated move. This is a brazen attack on Press Freedom.

—CPI-M leader SAUMITRA DAS

*Deshar Katha*, which is the mouthpiece of CPI-M, is being run illegally. The BJP has nothing to do with this.

—BJP secretary RAJIB BHATTACHARJEE

# Remembering Mahatma Gandhi

### The case for arriving at some approximation of a need-based existence and the establishment of the primacy of the principles of truth and non-violence has never been stronger than today



October 2 came and went in India with pro-forma speeches, meetings, messages and celebrations and the usual tributes paid to the life and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and his leadership of India's freedom struggle. Worldwide, it was observed as the International Day of Non-Violence, designated as such by a resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly on June 15, 2007, which asked all member countries to commemorate the day "in an appropriate manner and disseminate the message of non-violence through education and public awareness."

Yet, was rage in Syria and Yemen, Afghanistan, India and Bangladesh are targets of sustained Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. Fundamentalist Islamist terrorism, stalks Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Holland and Spain. In India, the levels of both criminal and social — particularly communal and gender-related — violence are at an alarmingly high. The cases of lynching happening at the slightest provocation or suspicion warrant serious concern. Clearly, the steps taken to counter these and the condemnatory statements, have not helped.

This is perhaps because people's actions are determined more by forces operating on the ground, collective social, ethnic or religious allegiances and antagonisms, and group and individual interests, rather than received messages. This is particularly so when the lives and conduct of people delivering the latter do not reflect any great commitment to the principles of truth, non-violence, social inclusiveness and simple living, and methods of non-violent resistance that the Mahatma had advocated. In India, Jayaprakash Narayan was the last great protagonist of Gandhian values and ideals, which he blended with his own belief in socialism. Globally, there has been no striking application of Gandhian precepts and methods of resistance after Aung San Suu Kyi's epic struggle against Myanmar's military.

As to the ground realities, truth has generally received lip service since the beginning of recorded history and has been defenestrated whenever circumstances demanded. Besides, what appears to be truth to some may not appear so to others because, given conflicting versions of an incident, one is inclined to accept as true the one that fits in with one's worldview. Thus, while the Hungarian uprising of 1956 was seen by the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies as a "counter-revolution" that had to be crushed, the overwhelming majority of Hungarians as well as the Western democracies viewed it as a surge for freedom from Soviet colonialism.

Non-violence as a method of conflict resolution has a difficult slot for survival when some countries — Pakistan being the prime example — seek to extend their hegemony over other countries through war and/or state sponsorship of unconventional warfare through terrorism. Equally, the doctrine of non-violence is under serious challenge from ideologies propagating violent revolution as the only means of a root-and-branch change encompassing not only an existing regime but the prevailing fundamentalist social and economic relations. Marxism is one such ideology with its concept of the proletarian revolution; as are the various nationalist ideologies wedded to revolutionary praxis and forms of Islamist extremism propagating violent jihad. Whatever their differences, each of these rejects non-violence.

Third, the economic universe that Mahatma Gandhi visualised for India is in total conflict with the technology-driven, large-scale production based, market-oriented and consumption-inducing capitalist economy now dominating almost all the world. His emphasis was on need-based simple living expressed through his oft-quoted statement, "The world has enough for everybody's need, but not enough for everybody's greed." Against transnational production and marketing in the world increasingly becoming a global village, Mahatma Gandhi conceived an economic structure, the constituent unit of which was to be the self-sufficient and self-sustaining village that was a unit by itself in a decentralised political system. Local demand was to be met by local production with villagers taking to vocations catering to local needs.

Leaving aside the question of superiority of either system, the establishment of the one that Mahatma Gandhi advocated required the dismantling of the capitalist mode of production, financing and distribution that had developed under British rule. Given the deep roots of the capitalist system had struck by the time of Mahatma Gandhi, the latter's vision of those at his helm had built up any such attempt, if seriously made, would have thrown the economy and society into a massive turmoil, crippling both for decades.

Over the years since 1991 when the economic reforms began, market capitalism has grown exponentially, and the consumer culture, spreading on the wings of advertising, has become a dominant influence on society. The goal is ever-increasing consumption and not the fulfilment of needs. But, surely, there is a need for change. Frustration from failure to meet compulsive consumption aspirations is leading to escalating criminal and social violence; the production of enormous varieties of goods and the provisions of services increasingly in demand, is depleting the earth's resources and emitting greenhouse gases whose disastrous impact in the form of global warming is increasingly manifest. The case for arriving at some approximation of a need-based existence has never been stronger. The same goes for the establishment of the primacy of the principles of truth and non-violence. The effort should be to formulate a strategy for achieving all this by October 2 next year which would be the Mahatma's 150th birthday.

*(The writer is Consultant Editor, The Pioneer, and an author)*



Minor ports in India do not act as a growth engine unlike in developed countries. Mere development of infrastructure will not make them financially viable. Strategy must focus on creating economic epicentres around minor ports

India has a coastline of 7,500 km and is studded with 12 major ports and close to 200 minor ports. However, about 60 per cent of the total cargo traffic is handled by major ports and the rest by intermediate and minor ports. The volume of cargo within the intermediate/minor ports are also unevenly distributed — bulk of the cargo moves through a few ports while the rest of the ports are utterly under-utilised.

Of all the minor ports, only 61 handle export-import cargo and others are mainly fishing harbours. Even out of these 61, only six enjoy rail connectivity upto the port. Another eight to 10 need last-mile connectivity. Even road connectivity is a serious bottleneck. This highlights the necessity for an integrated planning for port location along with rail and road investments.

However, as revenue growth from cargo movement in minor ports are minimal/modest, operating surplus from minor ports are not large enough to justify large-scale infrastructure upgradation in minor ports when public resource is scarce. Thus, minor ports in India do not act as an engine of growth unlike global counterparts in developed countries or in fast growing countries.

In India, nearly whole of the revenue of minor ports comes from cargo movement. On the other hand, the successful business model for minor ports in developed/developing countries operates on the premises that this is only another source of revenue minor ports. These ports have drawn lessons from the technological changes in recent years in production and transport systems as a whole and maritime transport in particular. They have reoriented the working of minor ports in development and diversified the sources of revenue to meet the challenges posed by these new innovations. Let us elaborate on their business model.

In the light of the globalised world economy, the role of organisers, as well as providers of transport services, is changing. A special position in the integral global system has been acquired by logistics, which allows management of goods and information flows from the source of raw materials to the consumers of finished products.

The role of sea carriers is changing too. In addition to their conventional transport function, they are involved in organising the movement of cargo. Hand-in-hand with these changes, the role of ports is also subject to change. Apart from their conventional operations (such as loading, transhipment and discharge), ports are developing into consolidation centres in which numerous other operations (tallying, sorting, refining/improving the semi-manufactures and products) are performed. As a result of this altered role, ports are assuming the function of logistics and distribution, along with their traffic, commercial and industrial function, combining transportation by sea, road, railway, inland waterways and air, as the more recent development shows.

This development brings about a change in the traditional function of seaports that have so far performed primarily the traffic, merchant and industrial functions. In modern logistics and supply-chain management, a new function — the logistical and distributional function — has joined the traditional group of functions.



Minor ports in India do not act as a growth engine unlike in developed countries. Mere development of infrastructure will not make them financially viable. Strategy must focus on creating economic epicentres around minor ports

Both logistics companies and shippers agree that value-added services in logistics centres are important in supply-chain management. The pressures of value added logistics (VAL) services in the logistics chain have increased the demands of logistics centre behind port areas.

This financial model is now being replicated elsewhere, particularly in a case of minor ports in Europe and the United States. For instance, relatively smaller ports such as Le Havre, Rouen and Barcelona in Europe are developing themselves as regional logistics centres.

In the Port of Rouen, where most of the land set aside for logistics service has already been leased out, the logistics zone has attracted business rapidly by offering shippers savings on their transportation, storage and personnel costs.

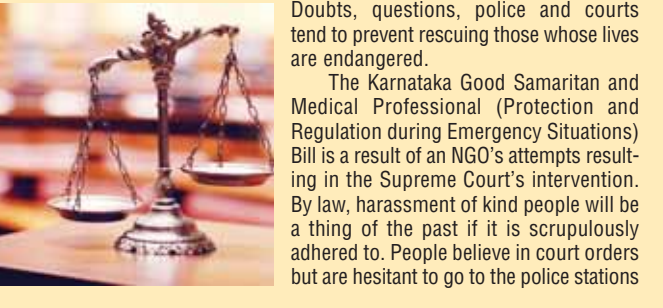
Indeed, there are many opportunities for small ports to function as logistics centres by making extensive use of their location and land holdings. A number of smaller ports on the west coast of North America have grown by converting land no longer used for marine cargo handling into logistics centres and foreign trade zones.

The Port of Olympia has also developed a logistics centre and is using it to its advantage. Though decreased ports-of-call means that each year, business is booming.

# Shot in the arm for good samaritans

Doubts, questions, police and courts tend to prevent rescuing those whose lives are endangered.

The Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations Bill is a result of an NGO's attempts resulting in the Supreme Court's intervention. By law, harassment of kind people will be a thing of the past if it is scrupulously adhered to. People believe in court orders but are hesitant to go to the police stations



Good Samaritans help those in need. The Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations Bill is a result of an NGO's attempts resulting in the Supreme Court's intervention.



And courts in person. The bottom line is effective implementation of the law so that the rule transcends paper to practice. This Bill is also about protecting doctors and other medical professionals from intimidation so that they can freely the injured to their fold and go about providing first aid and treatment without distractions. Other States must follow Karnataka in this direction.

Ganapathi Bhat  
Aloka



Aerial view of a port showing infrastructure and cargo handling.

INDEED, THERE ARE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL PORTS TO FUNCTION AS LOGISTICS CENTRES BY MAKING EXTENSIVE USE OF THEIR LOCATION AND LAND HOLDINGS

shippers savings on their transportation, storage and personnel costs.

Indeed, there are many opportunities for small ports to function as logistics centres by making extensive use of their location and land holdings. A number of smaller ports on the west coast of North America have grown by converting land no longer used for marine cargo handling into logistics centres and foreign trade zones.

The Port of Astoria, the Port of Longview and Port of Vancouver (in the United States, not in Canada) have drawn in multinationals by developing new logistics centres on land that was formerly used for commercial marine operations. As such, a substantial portion of their revenue now comes from property and facility leasing.

The Port of Olympia has also developed a logistics centre and is using it to its advantage. Though decreased ports-of-call means that each year, business is booming.

With the Government having launched a series of measures, most notably the Sagarmala initiative, the focus is mainly on development of infrastructure at the ports. Since many of the non-major ports have large land banks, they are ideally suited to be developed as logistics hubs. Mere development of the physical infrastructure or connectivity with hinterland will not make the minor ports financially viable. Right strategy would be to create economic epicentres around the minor ports with world-class infrastructure.

*(The writers are associated with the National Council of Applied Economic Research. Views expressed here are personal)*

# Tyranny of India's electricity demand

Hydroelectric power cannot be a long-term substitute for thermal power. There has to be a robust renewable strategy that can alleviate India's energy needs

With a population of 1.35 billion, India is finding it hard to provide basic resources for the ever-growing needs of its people. Electricity is no exception. 32 per cent of the population residing in India is in a never-ending demand for electricity, water and housing, among other basic amenities. The fact that renewable sources of energy are nowhere near the scale that is required to substitute for conventional sources of power, makes matters worse. About 65 per cent of the electricity consumed in India is generated by thermal power plants, 22 per cent by hydroelectric power plants, three per cent by nuclear power plants and 10 per cent from other alternate sources like solar, wind and biomass. Around 53.7 per cent of India's commercial energy demand is met through the country's vast coal reserves. In this evidently weak representation of renewable energy, the only renewable energy source that is producing thermal energy, hydroelectricity is fast gaining preference. But the point being missed is that this form of electricity needs dam to be constructed, which in turn have severe repercussions for the environment.

India is facing stiff opposition at home and abroad over its carbon emission levels which are expected to double by 2030 unless dependence on thermal energy is not reined in. To counter this and to cater to the rising power demand, the Government of India is aiming to construct 292 dams throughout the Indian Himalayas with the objective of doubling the current hydropower capacity and continuing six per cent to projected national energy needs by 2030. If all these projected dams are indeed constructed as proposed, in 29 of the 32 major river valleys, the Himalayas will have one of the highest average dam densities in the world, with one dam for every 32 km of river channel. One can only imagine the plight of the fragile ecology. Assuming that these dams do materialise, it may not mean a solution for energy demands alone. It will also be the source of some serious environmental problems. For instance, studies have recognised dam building as the most substantial human impact on riverine ecosystems.

This rampant development of the Himalayan range for hydro-electricity is not without its demerits and environmental costs are not the only ones. In the last few decades, hydro projects, developed at the cost of ecology and taxpayers' money, have also been exposed to the vagaries of nature, especially earthquakes and landslides. During the 2015 Nepal earthquake, the hydropower sector experienced severe losses. The country temporarily lost about 20 per cent of its hydropower capacity and more than 30 hydropower projects were damaged. The projects, which were affected by earthquake triggered landslides, were the worst hit. Two years prior to that, the June 2013 flooding in Uttarakhand damaged at least 10 big hydropower projects in operation and under construction. Another 19 small hydropower projects, which collectively generated under 25 megawatts, were destroyed. These actual events have put the viability of hydro projects in greater doubt. Given these developments, it is crucial for the Government to understand that hydroelectric power is not and cannot be a long-term substitute for thermal power. There has to be a robust renewable energy strategy that can alleviate India's energy needs.

The impact of hydroelectricity projects on environment and ecology is an irreversible one. The Government must be aware that despite the availability of systematic planning frameworks, it has not conducted a countrywide review of institutional accountability, is a problem in all stages of EIA implementation. A first step would be to ensure that professional standards are followed for certification of private consultants who prepare EIA reports. Another improvement would be for the Government and private developers to embrace new protocols released by the International Hydropower Association. These standards could help identify problems early in the EIA process, include more stakeholder public participation and better target national and state parties to be held accountable for implementation. India must choose what will comprise its energy mix. It involves carefully scaling down thermal power dependency while notching up on renewable energy usage, whose carbon-bility meanwhile has to be bolstered. While the renewable energy sector gathers muscle, hydroelectricity can be a stopgap option provided the environment and local population are accounted for. The cascading ill-effects of dams on the Himalayas will be felt for generations unless adequate steps are taken to prevent them.

**Jubel D'Cruz**  
Mumbai

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

*(The writer is an environmental journalist)*



# JD(U) holds Dalit meet to expand its support base

FAIZAN AHMAD ■ PATNA

The JD(U) has stepped up organising its caste oriented meetings and conferences ahead of general election. The party in power for about 14 years in alliance with the BJP has once again started making all out efforts to win over the support of Dalits and EBCs. In this series the party held a Dalit & Mahadalit Sammelan here on Wednesday. Earlier a meeting of Kushwaha society had also been organised.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar addressing the well attended Sammelan declared that no power on earth could snatch the reservation benefit enshrined in the Constitution which was authored by B R Ambedkar. "There are a lot of rumour mongering that the reservation benefit would be taken off but this is only a false propaganda by vested interest who have nothing to do and only to create confusion," he said without elaborating.

The reservation policy, the CM added, was to help the marginalised sections and to bring them in mainstream and this policy could not be amended or diluted. "The country cannot prosper with the prosperity of a handful of people," he said.

Nitish said when he came to power in 2005 the budget for the scheduled cases was only ₹12.5 crore which has jumped to



JD(U) president and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar being felicitated by party MLA Shyam Rajak during Dalit-Mahadalit Sammelan in Patna on Wednesday. PTI

₹1,224 crore in 2018-19. The 12.5 per cent out of school children, mostly dalits, have been brought to schools, several hundred new schools opened and over a lakh teachers appointed for the educational push to dalit children.

"The neglected and oppressed class will not remain so," declared Nitish and asked the society to remain united and maintain communal harmony at every cost for the larger interest of the society and the nation and development. He also claimed that the total prohibition enforced by his Government was bearing positive results in the society particularly the dalits and mahadalits where boozing was part of their culture and civilisation and the men were dying at lesser age.

"Do you know why no man with grey hairs in

Musahar community is found?" asked former MLA Arun Manjhi. And he answered, because of death in this community at earlier stage due to boozing habit.

Earlier Sammelan convenor and JD(U) national secretary Shyam Rajak highlighted the works done by Nitish for the dalit society. He said he gave a sense of honour and dignity to the class by elevating their social status. The CM, Rajak said, has made a practice to invite the senior dalit villager to hoist flag on Independence and Republic Days every year in a remote village. This was the second dalit conference, the first being at Barh a couple of days back, and the brain behind the organisation is JD(U) top leader RCP Singh who has planned to hold such conferences across the State.

# BJP to replicate its Gujarat organisational model in Bengal

NAYAN DAVE ■ GANDHINAGAR

Ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, the ruling BJP has chalked out a plan to replicate 'Gujarat Model' to strengthen organisational structure of the saffron brigade in Mamata Banerjee's bastion West Bengal by sending senior Gujarat BJP leaders to train local party workers of the eastern State.

Sources in the state BJP unit said that already 20 'Vistaraks' have been trained at Gujarat BJP's headquarters 'Shri Kamalam' recently.

Now senior BJP leaders handpicked by BJP president Amit Shah would camp at Kolkata and other cities to impart micro management system of campaigning during the elections.

"The training sessions for Bengal BJP leaders and workers would be part of the party's long term plan and not limited to upcoming Lok Sabha polls. BJP is making its base broad in the state and the party is also eyeing to win 2021 assembly polls there," said a senior BJP leader.

Amit Thaker, senior BJP leader and former national president of BJP Yuva Morcha, the youth wing of the saffron party has been appointed as the

coordinator in West Bengal.

Immediate past president of Gujarat BJP Yuva Morcha Pradipsinh Vaghela and another leader Prithviraj Patel have also been appointed as Assistant Coordinators, who would work along with some other Gujarat BJP leaders in Bengal under the leadership of Thaker.

The first batch of BJP workers from Bengal, who took training in Gujarat also travelled various districts of Gujarat and attended meetings of different committees and morchas.

They also studied responsibilities given to page-presidents during elections. They were given knowledge of Gujarat BJP's operations right from booth level.

They were given chance to meet top brass of BJP including state president Jitu Vaghani, secretary organisation Bhikhu Dalasania and others.

Meanwhile, Gujarat BJP workers from Saurashtra region and northern parts of the State to support their counterparts in poll bound Rajasthan. Trained party workers from central and south Gujarat would visit Madhya Pradesh where assembly polls would be held during the current year.

# Owaisi-Prakash Ambedkar pact creates ripples in Maha

Aurangabad rally attracts huge crowd

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD



Saheb Ambedkar who gave equality and fraternity," he said.

Giving entire credit of giving right to liberty, equality and fraternity to each and every citizen of the country "We will have to pay back the debt of Dr Ambedkar by sending Prakash sahab to the Parliament," he said. Owaisi vowed to work to get him elected to Parliament the same way as Muslims of Bengal had elected Dr BR Ambedkar to the constituent Assembly of India.

"Who gave us this constitution? Not the Sanghi organization (RSS), not the Nehru Gandhi family. The constitution was given to us by Dr Ambedkar," he said amid the slogans of "Jai Bheem Jai meem" signifying the Dalit-Muslim alliance.

He recalled how the Dalits were subjected to inhuman treatment and the practice of untouchability before the constitution came into effect.

"Who are the people who are suffering the worst discrimination even today, Dalits and Muslims have the same

problems and they will have to work together to solve them," he said. He said that the alliance would work to win at least five Lok Sabha seats from Maharashtra in the coming elections.

Prakash Ambedkar, who was a popular Dalit leader in Maharashtra, said that the success of the Alliance would depend on how closely and harmoniously both the Muslims and Dalits work together on the ground. "It is for you to strengthen it and make it successful," he said.

The rally was preceded by a daylong convention, which was attended by delegates from several districts of Maharashtra. The leaders of Bahujan Vanchit Aghadi from districts said that the Dalit would have to dispel the impression that any upper caste party can buy the over by offering them a little money or a liquor bottle.

The alliance and the rally mark major step forward for the MIM in Maharashtra where it had won 2 assembly seats in 2015 and has presence in several civic bodies of the State.

# A BLOT ON THE FACE OF DEVELOPMENT

## Husband carries dying wife on shoulders through river



A cotton farmer Ram Rathod of Umbri village in Adilabad district carries his dying wife through river in absence of motorable road. She was later declared dead on arrival at a rural health centre. Pioneer I photo

## Failed to save her

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD

In a shocking incident a farmer had to carry his dying wife on his shoulder for three kms and also waded through a river to take her to a Government hospital. But all his frantic efforts went in vain and she was declared dead on reaching the rural hospital.

According to the police 30 year old Pushpa Rathod, a debt ridden tenant farmer attempted suicide by consuming pesticide after her cotton crop was destroyed by the recent rains. Her husband Ram Rathod said that they had borrowed a loan of ₹1,00,000 from bank and private moneylenders to grow the crop but his wife went into depression when the crop was destroyed by the heavy rains recently.

A resident of remote Umbri village of Adilabad district, Pushpa consumed pesticide on Tuesday to end her life.

Her desperate husband made repeated calls for an ambulance to take her to hospital but could not get any help, as there was no navigable road linking the village to outside world.

Finally the husband carried Pushpa on his shoulder and waded through a river to reach the spot where a vehicle was arranged. But by the time she was taken to Government primary health centre at Narnoor she had breathed her last.

The heartrending tragedy took place just 300 kms away from the State Capital Hyderabad, one of the fastest growing and one of the most developed city in India. This has come close on the heel of another incident in neighboring Andhra Pradesh where a tribal woman had to deliver in the open forest area while she was being taken by the local people on a makeshift palanquin.

The video of the incident made by a tribal youth had gone viral on social media.



An artisan decorates earthen pitchers used during Gujarati folk dance 'Garba', ahead of Navratri festival in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. PTI

# BJP sweeps Panchayat bypolls in Tripura

Agartala: The ruling BJP on Wednesday swept the bypolls for the vacant seats in different Panchayati Raj Institutions, bagging 113 Gram Panchayat seats, officials said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party's ally Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) secured nine seats in Gram Panchayats, Tripura State Election Commission (TSEC) officials said.

The opposition Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) and the Congress won four seats each.

The BJP also won five Panchayat Samiti seats while the CPI-M managed only two seats. The by-elections to 3,386 seats — 3,207 Gram Panchayat seats, 161 Panchayat Samiti seats and 18 Zilla Parishad seats — were scheduled for September 30, but polling was held in only 130 Gram Panchayat and seven Panchayat Samiti seats in 11 blocks as over 96 per cent of the seats were won by the BJP candidates unopposed.

These seats fell vacant following large-scale resignations of elected representatives of the Left and other parties after the BJP-led coalition came to power in Tripura in March.

Some of the three-tier Panchayat seats were lying vacant also due to the death of the elected representatives. Almost all parties, including the BJP's junior partner IPFT, had been demanding rescheduling of the September 30 Panchayat elections to ensure the participation of all parties following large-scale violence during electioneering.

The Opposition CPI-M-led Left Front, the Congress and the IPFT, a tribal-based party, had separately urged the State EC to reschedule the election process as they claimed that "massive violence prevented their nominees from filing papers."

IANS

# Kerala asks fishermen not to venture into sea amid cyclone fears



IANS ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Government has told fishermen not to venture into the sea after October 5 following warning of a cyclone by India Meteorological Department, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said on Wednesday.

The Government is making arrangements to inform people in the coastal areas of the state, he said.

"The IMD has sounded a red alert in Idukki, Palakkad and Thrissur districts, as very heavy rain has been predicted on October 7, while several parts of the State are likely to get heavy rains on October 5," the Chief Minister told media here.

District authorities have been asked to be ready for any

eventuality as landslides can be expected, said Vijayan.

"In view of the forecast, it's better to avoid travel at night, especially in the hilly areas. Starting Friday, travel towards Munnar should be avoided until further orders. Also, those living along the banks of lakes and rivers should not go out for fishing," said Vijayan.

# TDP leader Murthy dies in US road accident

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD



Former MP and senior TDP leader Murthy

A veteran Telugu Desam Party leader, member of Andhra Pradesh legislative council and former Member of Parliament from Visakhapatnam MVVS Murthy was killed in a road accident in the United States of America on Tuesday.

According to his family members in Visakhapatnam 76 years old Murthy, who had founded the renowned deemed university "Gitam" died when the car he was travelling in collided with a truck in Alaska. Murthy, also famous as "Gitam Murthy" and Gold Spot Murthy for successfully marketing the soft drink of that brand, was in the USA to address an Alumni meet of the university he founded.

Murthy and three others died when they were on their way from Alaska to visit Anchorage wildlife sanctuary. Others who died in the accident include V Basavapunniah, V Shivaprasad, VBR Choudhary, Telugu Association of North America president Satish Yemana said that all the four bodies were shifted to Alaska State Medical Examination Centre for postmortem. Another person who was injured in the accident was also admitted to hospital.

The news of his death sent waves of shock in Visakhapatnam from where he was elected to Lok Sabha

twice in 1991 and 1999. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu expressing deep grief and distress over the death of senior party leader directed the State Government officials based in New Delhi to make necessary arrangements to bring the body of Murthy for funeral with State honors. MVVS Murthy was with the TDP since its formation by the film star turned politician NT Rama Rao.

A successful businessman Murthy turned to education when he founded Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management and worked hard to take it to new heights. The Institute was recognized by the Government of India as a deemed university.

Another addition to a long list

Murthy's death has come even before the TDP could recover from the shock the death of another senior party leader N Harikrishna in a road accident in Nalgonda district near Hyderabad recently.

The latest in the series of many such tragedies hitting the TDP men has left the party cadres wondering whether the party was hit by any curse.

The long list of party leaders who fell victim to the road accidents include former Parliamentary party leader K Yerran Naidu who was killed on November 2, 2012 in when he was returning to his hometown Srikaulam from Visakhapatnam.

His car was hit by a truck. He was one of the polituro members of the party.

TDP general secretary and former MP Lal Jan Basha, another key leader of the party died on August 15, 2013 while going from Hyderabad to his hometown Guntur.

His vehicle overturned near Narkatpally in Nalgonda district and he died on the spot.

It was in the same district that another polituro of the TDP N Harikrishna died on August 29 last when his vehicle over turned after hitting divider at a very high speed. He was on his way to attend a wedding. He was son of party founder NT Rama Rao and brother in law of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

# K'taka Govt, Infosys join hands against cyber crime

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

In a major initiative to combat cyber crimes, Karnataka Government has roped in Infosys foundation, the philanthropic arm of Infosys, on Tuesday and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Karnataka Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and Data Security Council of India (DSCI) for setting up the Centre for Cybercrime Investigation Training & Research (CCITR).

As part of this MoU, the Infosys Foundation will support the establishment of the Centre that will house the CCITR through a public-private-partnership model.

The CCITR aims to train police, prosecution, judiciary and other departments in handling technology investigations and create standard operating procedures (SOPs) in cyber-crime investigations. The center will also be used to perform research in digital forensics and cybercrime investigation that will improve the prosecution of cybercrime cases inves-

tigated by the Karnataka Police. Infosys Foundation Chairperson Sudha Murthy said CCITR is a project for the present and the future, aiming to build the state-of-the-art facilities to tackle cyber and forensic crimes in Karnataka.

"Once operational, it will be a proud milestone for CID and DSCI to curb misuse and unethical use of technology to create distress and uneasiness for fellow beings," she said. "The CCITR is a project for the present and the future; aiming to build state of the art facilities to tackle cyber and forensic crimes in Karnataka. Infosys Foundation is proud to contribute to this project. Once operational, it will be a proud milestone for the CID and the DSCI to curb misuse and unethical use of technology to create distress and uneasiness for fellow beings, she added."

Under the MoU, the Infosys Foundation will support the setup cost and associated facility management and operational costs, including maintenance of equipment and their fittings, the capital

Investment for hardware, software and working capital requirements for conducting training programs, conferences and digital forensic analysis, Technological infrastructure by providing specialized tools and incurring relevant licensing costs, Upgradation of the existing cyber lab for a period of five years.

"Cyberspace has turned out to be the world's largest ungoverned space demolishing all geographical boundaries. Crimes using cyberspace will be the biggest organised crime in the times to come. Law enforcement agencies need to proactively get equipped in terms of hardware, software and expertise to face this chal-

lenge", said Praveen Sood, Director General of Police, CID, Karnataka.

"DSCI continues its commitment to build the capacity of law enforcement in handling cybercrimes through our Cyber Forensics initiative. The Cybercrime investigation manuals developed by DSCI are acting as reference material for the police, prosecution and judiciary in handling cybercrimes. DSCI is pleased to partner with Infosys Foundation in scaling up the capacity building efforts and setting up the Centre for Cybercrime Investigation Training and Research at CID Headquarters which would enhance the investigation capabilities of Karnataka State Police," said Rama Vedashree, CEO, Data Security Council of India.

Deputy Chief Minister and Home minister G Parameshwara, stressed the need for such a lab to detect crimes in an effective and quick manner. The required training for the personnel would be ensured by inviting cyber experts from other countries, he said.

# 7 Myanmarese nationals to be deported today

ANUP SHARMA ■ GUWAHATI

Seven Myanmar national who had been in a detention camp for over last five years would be deported to the neighbouring country on Thursday. Additional Director General of Police (Border) Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said this today while adding that all the seven Myanmarese nationals would be deported through the Moreh International border in Manipur.

"They were lodged in Silchar detention camp. We have sent them to Moreh today after their travel documents have arrived. They would be deported tomorrow morning in presence of officials of both the countries," said Mahanta.

It may be mentioned here that several foreign nationals including Bangladeshi, Myanmarese and Pakistanis are languishing in different jails and detention camps in Assam. They were arrested from different places at various times for entering the country without valid documents and overstaying.



# Akhilesh asks Cong to become inclusive

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Soon after the Bahujan Samaj Party dumped the Congress and announced to contest the Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan assembly polls alone, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav gave a pep talk to the Congress, asking it to be large hearted and inclusive for carrying along all like-minded parties.

"Congress was delaying the issue of alliance for assembly polls in MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh with like-minded parties. This was creating confusion among smaller parties. It is the duty of the Congress to act as an elder brother in the alliance but they seem to have other priorities," Akhilesh Yadav said in a statement issued in Lucknow on Wednesday.

The SP president said that due to the delay in the announcement of alliance, other parties were announcing their candidates.

The SP chief defended the BSP saying, "A deliberate lie is being spread that the BSP chief is under pressure from Central Government or Central investigation agencies. At the same time, I must say that the Congress too is a good political outfit."

Akhilesh Yadav has been visiting MP frequently and addressing public meetings there, and has asked the party's state leadership to select candidates for the assembly polls.

Meanwhile, Akhilesh

## SP sets terms for Congress tie-up

**Lucknow:** Following in the footsteps of Bahujan Samaj Party, Samajwadi Party has also set terms for an alliance with Congress in Uttar Pradesh for the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The SP has conveyed to the Congress that any electoral alliance will be meaningful only if it is for three poll-bound States and Uttar Pradesh. Three States, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh will go to polls in November.

A senior SP leader said that the party cadre wanted seats from the Congress in poll-bound Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in exchange for a pact in UP, where the SP already has an alliance with the Bahujan Samaj Party.

"After fighting against each other in these States, an

alliance only for UP will look absurd," SP general secretary Kiranmoy Nanda said.

The SP wants to spread its wings in the three Hindi-speaking States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh where assembly elections are due next month.

Akhilesh has toured Madhya Pradesh several times in the last couple of months, including a recent one to Shahdol district of MP. Earlier, the BSP, too, demanded a pan-India pact with the Congress as the two sides were negotiating alliance in poll-bound States.

BSP chief Mayawati eventually picked Ajit Jogi's Janata Congress over the Congress in Chhattisgarh, and announced candidates for 22 seats in Madhya Pradesh.

Lalitpur sub-divisional magistrate shot himself as he was under immense pressure.

"Governance in UP has slipped from bad to worse. The situation is such that now if anyone travelling in a car does not stop, then he/she may be shot," Akhilesh said, referring to the murder of Apple executive Vivek Tiwari by two constables in Lucknow.

# Cong vs BJP slug fest hijacking J&K civic polls

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

As the campaign in the ongoing Municipal polls in Jammu & Kashmir is reaching its crescendo, the common issues of 'aam admi' hovering around 'biji', 'sadaq' and 'pani' have taken a back seat while slug fest between Congress and BJP and other issues of national politics have taken centre stage.

Almost all the parties in the fray barring independent can-

didates are resorting to raking up emotive issues to pin down their nearest rivals.

Instead of debating their own report card before the electorate the State BJP leadership is still relying on the charisma of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bail them out. On the other hand the opposition parties including the Congress and Panthers party are cornering the BJP over ignoring the plight of people

belonging to Jammu region and its poor performance in the State Government.

To defeat Congress at any cost in the municipal polls the BJP has gone to the extent of telling the voters in municipal wards, "every single vote in support of the Congress party will be a vote in favour of Pakistan, and terrorist outfits like Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad".

Every where State BJP

# Scam-hit BoM tightens belt, announces closure of 51 branches

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The loan scam-hit Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has announced a closure of 51 branches across the country as part of a cost-cutting measure.

The BoM, which was in the news for the wrong reasons in June this year after its CMD Ravindra Marathe, his predecessor Sushil Mhnot and four others in connection with the ₹2,043 crore DSK group scam case, has begun to tighten its belt fiscally.

Through an advertisement published in a Marathi newspaper on Monday, the Pune-headquartered BoM stated that it had either closed or merged 51 branches across the country and by December 31, 2018, it would annul the IFSC and MICR codes of these branches.

According to informed sources in the bank, all the 51 branches are in urban centres and have been identified for the action as they were declared unviable and incurring huge losses.

While the BoM is in the process of cancelling IFSC and MICR codes of these all the Savings, Current and other bank accounts have been transferred to the branches with which these have been merged.

The BoM has, meanwhile, directed all customers to deposit their cheque-books issued from the closed branches with the old IFSC/MICR Codes by Nov. 30, and collect their payment instruments

bearing the new branch's IFSC/MICR Codes.

Simultaneously, the BoM cautioned that since the old IFSC/MICR Codes have been spiked and shall be discontinued permanently from Dec. 31 this year, henceforth customers should conduct all their banking transactions only with the new IFSC/MICR Codes.

It may be recalled that nine days after they were arrested in connection with the ₹2,043 crore DSK group scam, the BoM had on June 29 this year divested its Managing Director and CEO Ravindra P. Marathe and its Executive Director R K Gupta "of all the functional responsibilities of the bank with immediate effect".

Simultaneously the BoM entrusted A C Raut, Executive Director of the Bank with all the functional responsibilities as the Managing Director and CEO and other Executive Director of the bank.

The reshuffle in the upper echelons of the BoM had come after the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Pune police had on June 20 arrested Marathe, Gupta, BoM's former Managing Director and CEO Sushil Mhnot and three others in connection with the ₹2,043 crore DSK group scam case.

The bank executives and officials have been charged with advancing huge sums of loans to the fraud-accused developer Kulkarni and his companies in alleged violation of banking norms.

# RAPS-3 sets record of 766 days' continuous operation

Mumbai: The Unit 3 of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS-3) on Wednesday set a new record of continuous operation of 766 days, by surpassing the earlier record of 765 days set by the Unit-5 of RAPS-5 in 2014.

Another NPCIL reactor — the 220 mw Unit -1 of Kaiga Generating Systems (KGS-1) — has been operating continuously for 873 days. "Our reactors continue to demonstrate continuous operation of more than a year 28 years so far," a NPCIL spokesperson said.

"The consistent, safe and reliable of reactors for long period bears testimony to the maturity achieved in nuclear power technology," the spokesperson said.

According to the spokesperson, the experts in the Operation Safety Review Team (OSART) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), following the peer review of RAPS 3 and 4 had stated: "Open Communication, enthusiasm, motivation and sense of ownership were observed at all levels during the OSART Mission. These attributes have cultivated an environment of safety culture at RAPS 3 & 4".

Currently, NPCIL has 22 nuclear reactors with a capacity of 6780 MW in operation and eight reactors with a capacity of 6,200 MW are under construction. "Work has been initiated on 12 reactors with total capacity of 9,000 MW—for which administrative approval and financial sanction have been accorded by the Government," the spokesman added.

TN RAGHUNATHA

# Nagerbazar blast: CID takes over case

PNS ■ KOLKATA

Considering the "gravity" of the Nagerbazar explosion that on Tuesday rocked a congested residential area of South Dum Dum Municipality in northern suburbs of Kolkata killing a child dead and leaving at least 10 people battling for their lives the State Home Department on Wednesday entrusted the Criminal Investigation Department to investigate into the matter.

The CID sources said a suo motu case had already been registered against unknown persons for causing death and destruction.

"We are looking into all possible angles," a CID official said refusing to dwell on who prompted the ground zero to be cleaned up even before the probe team could arrive at the spot. "We have been asked to

conduct the investigation and the Department will leave no stone unturned to unearth the reason behind the blast," the officer said remaining noncommittal about discovery of any clue.

A local 7-year-old boy died on Tuesday morning when a 4-kg socket bomb resembling a directional mine exploded severely injuring about 10 people. "It was a socket bomb explosion," officials said adding "a socket bomb is an improvised explosive device which may have exploded due to pressure."

"It is not only about the boy who died yesterday. About 5 more people are in a very serious condition with some of them getting their abdomen blown off literally," a senior doctor said from RG Kar medical College Hospital said.

# CMC Hospital fire: 400 patients evacuated

**Kolkata:** Fires do not seem to leave Kolkata. About 400 patients admitted in Asia's oldest Calcutta medical College and Hospital had a providential escape when the radiology and intensive care units of the hospital caught fire on Wednesday morning.

The fire that broke out in the pharmacy nearly consumed the patients but for the instant measures taken by the staff, doctors and the patients' relatives who carried out the rescue work literally carrying ITU patients rapped in bed sheets or simply by hand.

"We could not see any fire but smoke billowed out asphyxiating the patients about 400 in number and it took great effort to bring them out in a matter of minutes," a security staff said adding the fire brigade broke open a side wall and allowed the smoke to billow out.

Apart from the firefighters and the police, West Bengal's disaster management authority officials have also reached the medical college.

There was chaos and panic after the fire broke out. Many patients had to be taken out of the building in stretchers and even bed sheets with their saline drips. A large number of patients were shifted to neighboring medical colleges including RG Kar and NRS Medical College and Hospital.

Sources said one patient died of asphyxiation though the hospital staff would not provide the reason of the death.

This is the second fire in a fortnight the first one destroying the 150-year-old Bagri market, Asia's one of the largest whole-sale facilities. A few years ago a similar fire at Kolkata's AMRI Hospital choked to death about 90 patients.

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi					
NOTICE INVITING TENDER					
Date: 04.10.2018					
BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd., Delhi intends to invite tenders from all bidders in two envelope system for following job:-					
NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
1. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/724	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN SOUTH-1 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 13 LOCATIONS	211.34 Lacs.	2,11,634.44/-	08.10.2018 3.30 PM	08.10.2018 4.00 PM
2. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/725	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN SOUTH-2 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 15 LOCATIONS	378.33 Lacs.	3,78,333.84/-	---	---
3. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/726	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN SOUTH-3 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 14 LOCATIONS	265.28 Lacs.	2,65,285.42/-	---	---
4. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/727	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN SOUTH-4 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 14 LOCATIONS	256.03 Lacs.	2,56,036.25/-	---	---
5. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/728	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN WEST-1 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 14 LOCATIONS	219.55 Lacs.	2,19,557.47/-	---	---
6. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/729	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN WEST-2 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 11 LOCATIONS	238.77 Lacs.	2,38,778.87/-	---	---
7. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/730	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN WEST-3 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 13 LOCATIONS	218.17 Lacs.	2,18,175.24/-	---	---
8. CMC/BR/18-19/SV/AN/731	RENOVATION OF OFFICE BUILDING / COMPLAINT CENTER IN WEST-4 CIRCLE (CIVIL & ELECTRICAL WORKS) - 13 LOCATIONS	260.25 Lacs.	2,60,253.58/-	---	---
9. CMC/BR/18-19/FK/MS/722	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF HVAC SYSTEM AT GROUND AND THIRD FLOOR AT CSO, BSES BHAWAN NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI IN BRPL	90 Lacs.	1,80,000/-	18.10.2018 3.30 PM	18.10.2018 4.00 PM
10. CMC/BR/18-19/FK/MS/714	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF EXTERNAL LED LIGHTING SYSTEM AT CSO, BSES BHAWAN NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI IN BRPL	40 Lacs.	80,000/-	18.10.2018 4.00 PM	18.10.2018 4.30 PM
11. CMC/BR/18-19/FK/MS/732	SUPPLY OF OFFICE CHAIRS AT CSO, BSES BHAWAN NEHRU PLACE, NEW DELHI IN BRPL	55 Lacs.	1,10,000/-	18.10.2018 4.30 PM	18.10.2018 5.00 PM

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/-

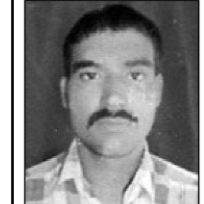
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com) Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC11527 | Telephone No.: +91 11 3999 9444 | E-mail: [trpl.eauction@retlancadea.com](mailto:trpl.eauction@retlancadea.com) | Website: [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com)

**NOTICE**  
A Notice of intended marriage has been received from Mr. Marshall Singh Chaudhary S/o Mr. Ashok Singh Chaudhary R/o D-138, Sector-40, Noida, Distt.-Gautam Budh Nagar and Ms. Charlotte Bignon Fretot D/o Mr. Jean-Luc Chateauroux, France in the office of the undersigned, any person interested therein, may file objections to it on any day upto 14.10.2018 in the office of the undersigned.

**Marriage Officer**  
Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P.)

## SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that this person (depicted in the photo) namely: **Noor Hasan@Bona, S/o Kallu, R/o H. No. E-1475, Nand Nagri, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from his house since 13.09.2018. In this regard DD No. 11-A dated 14.09.2018 as been registered at **PS Nand Nagri, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Male, **Age:** 35 years, **Height:** 5'3" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Saleti Colour Uniform and Black Chappal in feet.  
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following:-

**SHO**  
**Website:** <http://cbl.nic.in>  
**E-mail:** [cic@cbl.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbl.gov.in)  
**Tel. No.:** 011-24368638/24368641  
**Fax No.:** 011-24368639

**P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi**  
**Ph. No.:** 011-22585985  
**Mob. No.:** 8750870730  
**DP/657/NE/18**

## NAGAR NIGAM HARIDWAR

Letter No. 1831/NNH/Namami Ganga/2018-19 Dated: 03.10.2018

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Nagar Nigam Haridwar (NNH) invites online tenders for the work mentioned below:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	EMD to be deposited by bidder (Rs)	Tender Document Fee in INR (inclusive 18% GST)	Bid Release time and Date	Last date for online Submission of bid	Tender Opening Date
1	Cleaning of Ghats at Haridwar under Namami Ganga programme for a period of three years	30.0 Lakh	5900.00	04/10/2018 @17:00 hrs	24/10/2018 @17:00 hrs	25/10/2018 @15:00 hrs

- Tender will be opened on 25/10/2018 @15:00 Hrs
- The detail tender notice and Tender Document can be seen on website <https://uktenders.gov.in> by the Firms / Individual registered on the Portal.
- Possession of Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and registration of the contractors on the portal i.e. <https://uktenders.gov.in> is a prerequisite for e-tendering.
- For any other queries, please contact Nagar Nigam Haridwar phone no. 91-1334-227006. For further details and e-tendering schedule, visit website <https://uktenders.gov.in>.
- As the Bids are to be submitted online and are required to be encrypted and digitally signed, the Bidders are advised to obtain Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) at the earliest. For obtaining Digital Certificate, the Bidders should follow "General Terms and Conditions for e-tendering".
- Bidder should abide by any instruction by competent authority released in the meantime.

(Dr. Lalit Narayan Mishra)  
Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam Haridwar

**FDDI**  
Footwear Design & Development Institute

Ref: FDDI/HO/10(1)/HR/ADVT/2018 Date: 04.10.2018

FDDI is an Institute of National importance under the aegis of Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. FDDI invites applications from talented and experienced professionals to join FDDI at various Non-Academic Posts for its Pan India locations, on contractual basis for a period of three years.

**Terms:** Duration of appointment: Contractual basis for 3 years (extendable)  
Last Date of application: 18th October 2018

For more details may kindly refer to [www.fddiindia.com](http://www.fddiindia.com).

**Footwear Design & Development Institute**  
(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)  
A-10/A, Sector-24, NOIDA-201301, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar (UP).  
Tel: 0120-4500120/ 4500122 E-mail: [jobs@fddiindia.com](mailto:jobs@fddiindia.com)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that a person namely **Mukesh S/o Ram Chander R/o A-4/136, Nand Nagri, Delhi** has been missing since 27.07.2018 from his house. In this regard a **DD No. 12-A** dated **02.09.2018** has been lodged at PS, Nand Nagri, Delhi. The description of missing person is as under:

**Name :** Mukesh, **Father's Name :** Ram Chander, **Age :** 40 years, **Height :** 5'6", **Face :** Round, **Complexion :** Shallow, **Built :** Normal, **Wearing :** Shirt and Pant. **Mind Abnormal.**

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

**SHO**  
**P.S., Nand Nagri, Delhi**  
**Ph. : 011-22137761**  
**8750870730**  
DP/6575/NE/18

**HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT**  
**NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**  
PALIKA KENDRA, NEW DELHI-110001

**e-Procurement Tender Notice**

Tender ID No. 2018\_NDMC\_159460\_1  
Name of Work :- M/o Parks and Garden 2018-19  
Sub Head :- P/F M.S. Frame structure at NDMC School Kidwai Nagar (East) & any location of NDMC area.  
Estimated Cost :- Rs. 6,19,286/-  
Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution 28.09.2018  
Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution 09.10.2018 at 3:00 PM  
Further details can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>  
Note: To participate in e-tender in NDMC registration with e-tendering system, Government of NCT in Delhi is mandatory.

Sd/- DY, DIRECTOR (H-V)

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**DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE No.36/F0/Hort./SE/DDA/2018-19 (PART-I)**

On line Item Rate Tenders are invited through E-tendering mode for the following works by the Dy. Director (Hort.) Division No. 1, Sheikh Sarai Ph-II, New Delhi-110017 on behalf of DDA from the approved and eligible contractors registered under Horticulture category only of DDA & CPWD and those of appropriate list of MES, BSNL and Railway. **Last date & time of submission of tender is 15.10.2018 upto 3.00 pm.**

- NIT No. 76/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Aff. M.P. Green area at Kalkaji (Near PTC). Sub Head: Supply and stacking of good earth, cattle manure, Neem oil cake and plants etc. at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 14,21,789/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 28,436/-, **Period of Completion :** 8 Months.
- NIT No. 77/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Distt. Park Kalkaji Ph. I (Aastha Kunj Ph-II) between P.M. Stone to Amritpuri. Sub Head :- Complete maintenance of park at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 10,06,056/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 20,121/-, **Period of Completion :** 8 Months.
- NIT No. 81/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Aff. M.P. Green area at Tekhand Ph.-I near DESU substation. Sub Head: Digging of holes, Supply and stacking of good earth, cattle manure, red bajari, Jamuna sand, plants etc. at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 24,30,711/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 48,614/-, **Period of Completion :** 75 Days.
- NIT No. 83/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Distt. Park Kalkaji Ph.-I (Aastha Kunj Ph-II) i/c Shambhu Dayal Bagh area between Lotus Temple & Captain Gaur Marg. Sub Head:- Complete maintenance of park at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 17,57,590/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 35,152/-, **Period of Completion :** 6 Months.
- NIT No. 84/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Aff. M.P. Green area Picnic Hut Tuglakabad. Sub Head:- Supply and stacking for good earth, cattle manure, Jamuna Sand, Red Bajri etc. at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 14,23,368/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 28,467/-, **Period of Completion :** 40 Days.
- NIT No. 87/DD/Hort.1/DDA/2018-19, Name of work :** (M/o Completed Scheme under NA-II (SZ), M/o Recreational complex at Tughlakabad. Sub Head:- Complete maintenance of all garden features and cleaning/sweeping etc. at site. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 6,79,072/-, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 13,581/-, **Period of Completion :** 6 Months.

Please also visit the website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> or send mail ID: [support-eproc@nic.in](mailto:support-eproc@nic.in) or dial Helpline Number 0120-4200462, 0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-6277787.

Please give your feedback on DDA Apps at Google play

Please visit DDA's Website - [www.dda.org.in](http://www.dda.org.in) or dial Toll Free No. 1800110332





**We return \$79 billion to shareholders through dividends share repurchases. Our market capitalisation increased by \$68 billion. Dividends per share nearly tripled from \$1.16 to \$3.17, and we generated total shareholder return of 162 per cent**

**Indra Nooyi, Former CEO, PepsiCo**

## BUZZ FROM CORP

**I can see enormous energy in India from various States to beat plastic pollution who have made very very strong commitments (to beat plastic pollution). It is doable. There is a strong push by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to beat plastic pollution**

**Erik Solheim, Chief, UN Environment**



# ₹ crashes 43 paise, hits record 73 mark

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee on Wednesday plunged by 43 paise to breach the historic low of 73 level as soaring crude oil prices fuelled worries over capital outflows and widening current account deficit.

The domestic currency closed at a record low of 73.34, down by 43 paise or 0.59 per cent at the interbank foreign exchange here.

In the day trade, the rupee crashed to its all-time low of 73.42 per dollar as crude oil prices breached the \$85 per barrel mark, leading to huge outflows of cash.

Investors remained concerned over sustained foreign capital outflows and soaring crude oil prices, analysts said. After breaching the US \$5 per barrel level, the benchmark Brent crude stayed near four-year high levels at \$84.86 per barrel.

According to the provisional exchange data, foreign investors withdrew ₹1,550 crore on a net basis from capital markets on Wednesday.

Rising US interest rates and bond yields have encouraged investors to pull out funds from emerging markets to pocket better returns, analysts said.

"The rupee has made a new record low today on the back of consistent rise in the

crude oil prices. A sharp rise in crude oil along with steep depreciation in the rupee might push inflation higher in coming months," Rushabh Maru - Research Analyst, Anand Rajathi Shares and Stock Brokers.

The Reserve Bank refused to open a special window for oil marketing companies which affected market sentiments, VK Sharma, Head Private Client Group & Capital Market Strategy at HDFC Securities.

Stocks also fell by more than 1.5 per cent due to the rupee falling to record low levels. The benchmark BSE Sensex plunged by 550 points or 1.51 per cent while the broader Nifty tanked 150 points or 1.38 per cent.

The rupee opened lower at 73.26 per dollar due to high crude oil prices against the last close of 72.91 per dollar. The currency pared some losses to touch a high of 72.90 per dollar on market speculation that RBI may open special dollar window for oil companies.

However, without any clear signals from the central bank, the rupee crashed to all-time lows before settling at 73.34.

Meanwhile, the FBIL set the reference rate for the dollar at 73.02 per dollar. The reference rate for euro was fixed at 84.57 against 84.37 previously and for the British pound at 94.98 against 94.88 on October 1.

## SENSEX CRASHES 550 PTS ON RUPEE WOES, RISING CRUDE CONCERNS

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE benchmark Sensex plunged over 550 points on Wednesday to slip below the 36,000-mark on heavy selling in IT, auto and telecom stocks, after the rupee collapsed to a new life-time low amid surging crude oil prices.

After a weak start, The BSE 30-share barometer plummeted below the 36,000-mark to hit a low of 35,911.82, finally settling 550.51 points, or 1.51 per cent, down at 35,975.63. The gauge had gained 299 points in the previous session Monday after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced measures to shore up liquidity.

The NSE Nifty, too, stayed in the negative terrain through the session and hit a low of 10,843.75, finally ending 150.05 points, or 1.36 per cent, lower at 10,858.25.

Market cracked as rupee hit a new low due to increase in oil prices and concern over balance of payment, said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

"Despite Government's plan to cut borrowing in H2FY19, yields continued to increase due to rate hike expect-

ation from RBI. Sentiment for equity has turned tepid given heightened volatility in the domestic and global financial markets," he added.

According to market analysts, the outcome of RBI monetary policy, which is scheduled Friday, will provide further direction to the markets.

The three-day RBI policy review began Wednesday, and the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is expected to go for a 25 basis points hike. The rupee breached the 73-mark for the first time to hit an all-time low of 73.41 (intraday) against the US dollar.

Meanwhile, Brent crude oil near \$85 a barrel.

In the Sensex pack, M&M was the biggest loser, tumbling by 6.66 per cent, followed by TCS dropping 4.14 per cent.

Other laggards include Axis Bank, ICICI Bank, Maruti Suzuki, Kotak Bank, Infosys, Bharti Airtel, Hero MotoCorp, Reliance Industries, Asian Paint, PowerGrid, HUL, Wipro, Sun Pharma, SBI, NTPC, Tata Motors, ITC, Tata Steel, IndusInd Bank, HDFC Bank, Adani Ports, and L&T, falling up to 3.91 per cent.

On the other hand, Yes Bank continued its recovery for the second straight session and emerged top gainer in the Sensex kitty by surging 5.79 per cent, followed by Vedanta rising 3.09 per cent, Coal India 1.60 per cent, ONGC 1.45 per cent and Bajaj Auto 0.16 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, the BSE auto index emerged the worst performer by declining 2.90 per cent, followed by tech shedding 2.38 per cent, IT 2.23 per cent, bankex 1.54 per cent, FMCG 1.17 per cent, consumer durables 0.83 per cent, power 0.48 per cent and healthcare 0.38 per cent.

While, metal, oil and gas, PSU and capital goods indices managed to end in the positive zone, rising up to 1.74 per cent.

In the broader markets, the mid-cap index fell by 1.47 per cent, while small-cap index shed 0.40 per cent. Domestic markets were closed on Tuesday on account of Gandhi Jayanti.

Meanwhile, foreign funds sold shares worth a net of ₹1,842 crore, while domestic institutional investors bought equities worth ₹1,805 crore Monday, provisional data showed.

IL&FS group stocks continue to rally; surge up to 20%

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of IL&FS group companies continued to remain in huge demand on Wednesday, surging up to 20 per cent.

The scrip of IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company zoomed 19.79 per cent, IL&FS Transportation Networks surged 19.29 per cent and IL&FS Investment Managers soared 9.91 per cent on BSE.

Shares of IL&FS group companies had surged up to 20 per cent Monday also.

In a rare move, the Government superseded the board of IL&FS on Monday against the backdrop of debt defaults by some of its group entities that triggered fears of liquidity crunch.

As per its latest balance sheet, IL&FS Group has infrastructure and financial assets exceeding ₹1,15,000 crore and is facing tremendous debt pressure and struggling to service around ₹91,000 crore in debt.

Meanwhile, the BSE 30-share barometer plummeted 550.51 points or 1.51 per cent to end at 35,975.63.

# SFIO starts probe into IL&FS crisis

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The SFIO has started investigations into the affairs of crisis-hit IL&FS and its subsidiaries amid concerns over financial irregularities, according to a senior official.

In a rare move, the Government has superseded the board of IL&FS on Monday against the backdrop of debt defaults by some of its group entities that triggered fears of liquidity crunch.

The corporate affairs ministry, on whose petition the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) allowed superseding IL&FS board on Monday, has ordered the SFIO probe.

The official said the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has started the probe into affairs of IL&FS and its subsidiaries.

The agency has started gathering information and once the hypothesis is ready, then a decision would be taken into what all specific aspects need to be investigated, the official added.

IL&FS had 24 direct and 135 indirect subsidiaries in 2017-18. In a release issued on Monday, the ministry said the decision to supersede the board was taken after considering a report from its Regional Director, Mumbai, that "clearly brought out serious corporate-related deficiencies in the

IL&FS holding company and its subsidiaries."

"It was noted that the consolidated financial statement of IL&FS holding company and its subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures projected a picture through highly exaggerated depiction of non-current assets in the form of intangible assets amounting to over ₹20,000 crore," it had said.

According to the ministry, there have also been serious complaints on some of the companies for which an SFIO investigation has been ordered.

Among other factors, the ministry said that due to excessive leveraging, there was "deep-rooted mismatch in the debt-equity ratio."

"The high debt stress was clearly visible in the company and its main subsidiaries for the last so many years, but was camouflaged by misrepresentation of facts. Besides, the fact that the company continued to pay dividends and huge managerial pay-outs regardless of looming liquidity crisis..." the release had said.

## Mobikwik launches 'Boost' for instant loan approval and disbursal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

MobiKwik, a digital financial services platform on Thursday announced the launch of Boost, that offers instant loan approval and disbursal to MobiKwik users. This is the first-of-its-kind of credit disbursal product, wherein loans of upto ₹60,000 are sanctioned as well as disbursed quickly. MobiKwik has partnered with a number of NBFCs to offer this service to its users.

'Boost' offers loans without any hassles of submission of paperwork or collaterals. The loan sanction decision will be taken in 30 seconds, on the basis of an innovative risk scoring model called 'Mobiscore', developed by MobiKwik. The real time underwriting has been possible only because of artificial intelligence and data analytics capabilities used in the entire loan journey.

Users can apply for loans

ranging from ₹5,000 upto ₹60,000 through MobiKwik app. MobiKwik users who avail loans via the app will have the option to transfer their loan amount to their bank account.

The amount credited can be utilized by the app users across a range of use cases including urgent purchases, marriage expenses, travel plans, hotel bookings, medical emergency, as well as payments to offline and online merchants.

## Power tariff stays at decade high of ₹18.20/unit in spot market

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Power tariff touched a fresh decade-high of ₹18.20 per unit at the spot market on Wednesday as electricity demand mainly for evening hours continues to outstrip supply amid low wind and hydro energy production.

Coal shortage at independent thermal power plants and captive power plants has also affected supplies to the grid, forcing big power consumers to make a beeline at the exchange, according to sources.

A total of 268 MU (million units) were sold for supply on Thursday, the IEX data showed. In the DAM trading session concluded Wednesday at IEX, there were buy bids for 332 MU against sell bids for 288 MU.

"Spot power price for supply on Thursday touched 10-year high of ₹18.20 per unit in spot trading on Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) on Wednesday. The average spot power price was also high at ₹7.50 per unit at IEX on Wednesday," a source said.

## RBI allows oil cos to borrow long-term working capital from overseas

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday relaxed policy on borrowing from overseas to allow State-owned fuel retailers to raise up to \$10 billion external debt for working capital needs.

Till now oil marketing companies were not allowed to raise external commercial borrowing (ECB) for working capital needs on a long-term basis. They could raise a maximum of one-year overseas loan by way of buyers credit, repay it within 12 months and raise it again thereafter.

Now, the RBI has allowed them to raise ECB of minimum maturity of 3 or 5 years.

The move comes at a time when international oil prices have hit four-year high of near \$85 per barrel and the rupee plummeted to close at an all-time low of ₹73.34 to a US dollar.

Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) will be allowed to raise overseas funds with a minimum average

maturity period of 3 or 5 years under the automatic route.

The RBI also lifted the individual borrowing limit set at \$750 million under the external commercial borrowing (ECB) framework.

With oil prices climbing to four-year high and the rupee plunging to new lows, imports have come costlier. Oil companies now need a higher working capacity to meet their monthly import requirements.

India is 81 per cent dependent on imports to meet its oil needs.

"Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies will raise \$10 billion for 3-5 year financing their permanent working capital. RBI has also granted necessary exemptions under the ECB policy," Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg said in a tweet.

Separately, the RBI said the overall ceiling for such external commercial borrowings will be \$10 billion equivalent and the said facility will come into effect from the date of the circular.

## Business Corner

### GENERAL MANAGER NORTHERN RAILWAY RELEASES A BOOKLET

In this age of change, to keep pace with the changing times, Indian Railways constantly innovates. Northern Railway which is the largest among all zones, lead from the front. However, many of the innovations, being undocumented neither are spread nor are adopted by others. An effort has therefore been made to document these initiatives. In this regard, Northern Railway has recently published a booklet titled "Recent Innovations". The same was released by Vishwesh Chaube, General Manager Northern Railway



### NHPC DIRECTOR VISITS LOKTAK POWER STATION

Nikhil Kumar Jain, Director (Personnel), NHPC Ltd., made his maiden visit to Loktak Power Station during 29th September to 2nd October, 2018. Upon his arrival, Jain was given warm welcome by all employees of Loktak Power Station led by KT Rajah Pandian, Chief Engineer (E), Loktak Power Station. During his visit, Jain inspected all the vital components/installation of Power Station including Power House at Leimatok, Ithai Barrage at Ithai and other water conducting systems of Power Station.



The largest PSU in the fertiliser sector, National Fertilisers Limited, has been conferred with the Best Performing PSU Award for Swachchhita activities during the Swachchhita Pakhwada 2018 by the Department of Fertilisers. Bharathi Sivaswami Sihat, Secretary (Fertilisers), presented the award to Manoj Mishra Chairman and Managing Director of NFL.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank**  
ICICI Bank Limited

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390007, Gujarat.  
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400051  
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 2nd floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn, New Delhi

A notice is hereby given that the following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notice dated were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses as provided to the bank by them, that in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice/Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Mohender Agarwal/ Gaurav Agarwal/ Sunita Agarwal/ House No. 12, Road No. 75, Punjabi Bagh West, New Delhi/ LBDEL00001646302 and LBDEL00002076743	Front Side (Facing Road), First Floor Of Property No. 12, Road No.75, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi	01-09-2018 Rs.12413343/- and Rs.326377/-	30-04-2018
2.	Mohender Agarwal / Gaurav Agarwal/ Sunita Agarwal / Ashima Agarwal/ House No. 12, Road No. 75, Punjabi Bagh West, New Delhi/ LBDEL00001849142 and LBDEL00001940757	Front Side (Facing Road), First Floor Of Property No. 12, Road No.75, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi	01-09-2018 Rs.20917783 /- and Rs.12596649/-	30-04-2018

The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2), failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2) dated mentioned above as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

Date: 04 Oct, 2018  
Place: DELHI

**HARYANA SHAHRI VIKAS PRADHIKARAN**

DETAIL NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS  
SINGLE PERCENTAGE/ ITEM RATE ONLINE TENDER

On behalf of Haryana Shahri Vikas Pradhikaran Online E-Tenders on the website: <https://etenders.hry.nic.in> are hereby invited from the eligible contractors/firms enlisted with HSPV, PWD B&R, PHED, MES, CPWD & other central / State Govt. & other Govt. Department and undertaking of central & State Govt. in appropriate class/category for the works as mentioned below:-

Name of Work	Approximate value of works (Rs.)	Bid Doc. Cost	EMD (Rs.)	Download tender document and online bid submission	Tender to be opened on	Time limit for completion of work
Job No. 32/2018 Development i.e. Construction of road, Providing and laying of W/S, Sew. & SWD in Balance Pocket in Sector -30, Gurugram. Earthwork in excavation, preparation of Sub Grade, providing & laying GSB, WMM, Prime Coat, Tack coat, DBM, BC, thermoplastic paint for lane marking, D.I. pipes for W/S, SW pipe for Sew., RCC pipe NP-3 for SWD and providing and fixing kerb and channel, sluice valve, SFRC road Gulley and all other works contingent thereto". (Including 3 years mtc./ defect liability period free of cost).	79.80 Lakh	2000/-	159200/-	28-09-2018 to 09-10-2018 upto 5:00 PM (Manual submission on 11-10-2018 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM	12-10-2018	03 Months

Full details all terms & conditions for eligibility including the tender documents are available on the web site: <https://etenders.hry.nic.in> besides being available for reference at the office of the undersigned.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF HSPV  
Executive Engineer,  
HSPV, Division No. VI,  
Gurugram.  
E-Mail:- [xen6hsvppgm@gmail.com](mailto:xen6hsvppgm@gmail.com)  
Office:-0124-4805697

RO No. 72380 Dt. 03-10-2018

## PIN code made mandatory for generating e-way bill

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tightening the norms for issuance of e-way bill, the GST Network has made it mandatory for businesses and transporters to mention PIN codes of places of loading and unloading of consignments.

Quoting of PIN codes, according to officials, will help in calculating the correct distance and determine the validity of the electronic way or e-way bill, which is used by businesses to transport goods worth over ₹50,000 both within and outside a state.

So far, businesses and transporters are required to broadly mention the distance and place of loading and unloading of consignments for generating e-way bill. As the validity of the e-way bill depends upon the distance mentioned by the businesses, it was feared that this could lead to tax evasion by transporters making multiple trips on the basis of same e-way bill.

The validity of the e-way bill is one day if the distance to be covered is less than 100 km. For every additional 100 kms or part thereof, the validity of the bill goes up by one day.

Under the revised procedures for obtaining e-way bill, the GSTN has introduced the facility of auto population of state name based on the PIN code entered at consignor or consignee addresses, an official statement said Wednesday.

The move would further smoothen the experience of users generating e-way bill, the Goods and Services Network (GSTN) said.

## More Jet Airways employees hit by salary default

PTI ■ MUMBAI

After delaying salary to its pilots and engineers along with senior management, Jet Airways has now defaulted on the payment of September salary to other categories of employees as well, an airline source said on Wednesday.

The Mumbai-based full-service airline, partially owned by UAE national carrier Etihad Airways, has been facing financial problems for quite some now.

The Naresh Goyal-controlled airline is struggling to mop up funds to meet its payment obligations, including salaries to its over 16,000-strong workforce.

A query sent to Jet Airways on the issue did not elicit a written response. On September 6, the full service airline informed senior employees that their salaries would be paid in two instalments till November.

## India moves up to 28th rank in Govt e-payment adoption: Survey

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India's overall ranking on the Government's adoption of e-payments has moved up to 28th in 2018, from 36th in 2011, but it needs to do more on digital infrastructure access and socio-economic factors, a survey said on Wednesday.

The country is taking "rapid strides" in advancing government e-payments capabilities and is one of the top-performing countries in terms of citizen-to-Government (C2G), business-to-Government (B2G) and government-to-business (G2B) transactions, the survey by The Economist Intelligence Unit commissioned by payments company Visa said.

The country holds the top ranking on B2G and G2B, and comes third on C2G jointly with Argentina. Norway leads the pack in the 73-country ranking, followed by France and Denmark. The 73-country survey, which was last conducted in 2011, looks at availability of government electronic transaction services and the underlying environment of mechanisms that support digitisation for all transactions in a market, such as policy and infrastructure. "India" could further improve its standing by focusing on expanding access to digital infrastructure, investing in socio-economic development, and promoting a healthy, competitive market," the survey said.



# UN court orders US to lift some Iran sanctions

AP ■ THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

The United Nations' highest court on Wednesday ordered the United States to lift sanctions on Iran that affect imports of humanitarian goods and products and services linked to civil aviation safety.

The ruling by the International Court of Justice is legally binding, but it remains to be seen if the administration of President Donald Trump will comply.

Trump moved to restore tough US sanctions in May after withdrawing from Tehran's nuclear accord with world powers. Iran challenged the sanctions in a case filed in July at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

In a preliminary ruling, the court said that Washington must "remove, by means of its choosing, any impediments arising from" the re-imposition of sanctions to the export to Iran of medicine and medical devices, food and agricultural commodities and spare parts and equipment necessary to ensure the safety of civil aviation.

By limiting the order to sanctions covering humanitarian goods and the civil avi-

ation industry, the ruling did not go as far as Iran had requested.

The US ambassador to the Netherlands, Peter Hoekstra, pointed that out in a tweet. "This is a meritless case over which the court has no jurisdiction," the ambassador tweeted. "Even so, it is worth noting that the Court declined today to grant the sweeping measures requested by Iran. Instead, the Court issued a narrow decision on a very limited range of sectors."

While imposing the so-called "provisional measures," the court's president, Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, stressed that the case will continue and the United States could still challenge the court's jurisdiction.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif praised the court ruling on Twitter, calling it "another failure for sanctions-addicted" U.S. and a "victory for rule of law." He added that it is imperative for the international community "to collectively counter malign US unilateralism."

Iranian state television trumpeted the court's decision in a scrolling graphic at the bottom of TV screens, "The victory of Tehran over

Washington by the Hague Court."

No date has been set for further hearings in the case. At hearings in August, Tehran sought the suspension of sanctions while the case challenging their legality is being heard — a process that can take years. US lawyers responded that the sanctions are a legal and justified national security measure that cannot be challenged by Tehran at the world court.

In its decision, the court said that the US sanctions "have the potential to endanger civil aviation safety" in Iran and that sanctions limiting sales of goods required for humanitarian needs such as food, medicines and medical devices "may have a serious detrimental impact on the health and lives of individuals on the territory of Iran."

The court said the Trump administration must "ensure that licences and necessary authorisations are granted" and payments not restricted if they are linked to the humanitarian and aviation goods.

The court also told both the United States and Iran to "refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute."

# Saudi King wouldn't last 2 weeks without US support: Trump

Dubai: President Donald Trump said Saudi Arabia's king "might not be there for two weeks" without US military support, further increasing his pressure on one of America's closest Mideast allies over rising oil prices.

As crude oil prices reach a four-year high, Trump repeatedly has demanded OPEC and Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, push prices down. However, analysts are warning prices could go up to \$100 a barrel as the world's production is already stretched and Trump's sanctions on Iran's oil industry take effect in early November.

Criticising America's long-standing military relationships with allies has been a hallmark of Trump's presidential campaign and his time in office. Trump returned to that theme Tuesday night in Southaven, Mississippi, mentioning both Japan and South Korea.

Trump's comments on Saudi Arabia implied the kingdom's Al Saud monarchy, which oversees holiest sites in Islam, will collapse without American military support. "We protect Saudi Arabia — would you say they're rich?" Trump asked cheering crowd. "And I love the king, King Salman, but I said, 'King we're protecting you. You might not be there for two weeks without us. You have to pay for your military, you have to pay.'" AP

# S Arabia not to be made part of CPEC: Pak

IANAS ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has announced that Saudi Arabia will not be made part of the \$50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework and the kingdom's proposed investments would fall under a separate bilateral arrangement, days after Islamabad said Riyadh will be the third "strategic partner" of the project.

Speaking at a joint news conference with Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry, Minister for Planning and Development Khusró Bakhtiar on Tuesday said there was no decision to bring a third country, like Saudi Arabia, under the framework of the CPEC.

The CPEC envisages linking China's Kashgar in Xinjiang to Pakistan's Gwadar port. The project — a key component of Beijing's Belt and Road programme — is opposed by India as its planned route goes through the disputed Kashmir region. Many countries including India suspect the project is China's geostrategic ploy.

Bakhtiar said there could be many offshoots of the CPEC

where third countries could be involved in a trilateral arrangement for infrastructure development, Dawn online reported.

"Saudi Arabia is not to become a collateral strategic partner in the CPEC. This impression is not true," he said, adding that third country participation in the CPEC was not limited to Saudi Arabia but other countries could also become part of the business and investment ventures arising out of the project.

"The framework between China and Pakistan is bilateral and Saudi Arabia is not entering that framework as a third-party investor, rather the base of CPEC will be broadened and its pace will be expedited," he said.

Bakhtiar was responding to questions about the possibility of Saudi Arabia becoming part of the Joint Working Groups or Joint Coordination Committee on the CPEC. He expressed ignorance when asked how the cost of the Main Railway Line (ML-I) had been reduced from \$8.2 billion to \$6.2 billion as claimed by Railway Minister Shaikh Rashid Ahmed.

# N Korea said to have stolen a fortune in online bank heists

Washington: North Korea's nuclear and missile tests have stopped, but its hacking operations to gather intelligence and raise funds for sanction-strapped Government in Pyongyang may be gathering steam.

US security firm FireEye raised the alarm Wednesday over a North Korean group that it says has stolen hundreds of millions of dollars by infiltrating the computer systems of banks around the world since 2014 through highly sophisticated and destructive attacks that have spanned at least 11 countries. It says the group is still operating and poses "an active global threat."

It is part of a wider pattern of malicious state-backed cyber activity that has led the Trump administration to identify North Korea — along with Russia, Iran and China — as one of the main online threats facing the United States. Last month, the Justice Department charged a North Korean hacker said to have conspired in devastating cyberattacks, including an \$81 million heist of Bangladesh's central bank and the WannaCry virus that crippled parts of Britain's National Health Service.

On Tuesday, US Department of Homeland Security warned of use of malware by Hidden Cobra, the US Government's byword for North Korea hackers, in fraudulent ATM cash withdrawals from banks in Asia and Africa. It said Hidden Cobra was behind theft of tens of millions of dollars from teller machines in the past two years, it said. AP

# GLOBE TROTTER

**EU WANTS 40% LESS CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS BY 2030**  
Brussels: The EU has voted to cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new cars and vans by 40 per cent by 2030 and will take this position into talks with the European Union's 28 nations.

**OZ TO EXEMPT SANITARY PRODUCTS FROM GST**  
Canberra: Australia's Treasury agreed to exempt women's sanitary products from GST following years of campaigning by female groups.

**POMPEO TO MEET KIM NEXT WEEK**  
Washington: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will travel to Pyongyang next week to meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, his spokesperson said on Tuesday. Pompeo, on a four-nation Asian trip from October 6 to 8 would also travel to Japan, South Korea and Beijing.

**'TRUMP ADMIN UNLIKELY TO CHANGE PAK POLICY'**  
Washington: The US is unlikely to revoke the suspension of aid to Pakistan until it sees substantial progress against terrorists and their safe havens, the Trump administration has told Islamabad as top officials of the two countries met here to try to reset their strained ties.

**SPERM-LIKE ROBOTS CAN DELIVER DRUGS IN BODY**  
London: Scientists have created miniature robotic swimming devices, which mimic the appearance of sperm cells and could be used to deliver drugs to specific areas of the body. The devices, which measure as small as one millimetre long, consist of a magnetic head and flexible tail that allows them to 'swim' to a specific location when activated by a magnetic field.

# Horror difficult to erase for Indonesians as toll tops 1,400

AP ■ PALU

For some who survived the massive earthquake and tsunami on Indonesia's Sulawesi island last week, the memories and the horror of experiencing a disaster that has left more than 1,400 people dead are both hard to erase and understand.

Furniture maker Khairul Hassan recalled working at a shop near the beach in front of a row of warehouses when the ground came alive and shook violently. He ran to a nearby hill and watched as the ocean heaved up and hurled forward. Now he can't forget.

"I saw the waves come and sweep out everything — buildings, factories, warehouses and some people who were lost, racing from the waves, some of them women and children," he said Wednesday. "Also, warehouse workers who were trapped under goods, all swept by the sea. It's so tragic. It's so scary to remember."

Five days later, aid was slowly creeping into areas



Rescue teams continue to search through the wreckage in Palu on Wednesday

where victims have become increasingly desperate after being left without food, water, fuel and medicine. In one neighborhood in the city of Palu, residents celebrated as they swarmed a truck deliver-

ing aid — clapping, cheering and high-fiving.

"I'm so happy," said Heruwanto, 63, who goes by one name. He was clutching a box of instant noodles. "I really haven't eaten for three days."

The official death toll increased to 1,407 on

Wednesday, with thousands injured and more than 70,000 displaced from their homes, said national disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho. He said the number of dead would increase, but that rescue crews had reached all affected areas.

# Trump mocks Kavanaugh accuser

AP ■ SOUTHAVEN, MISS.

President Donald Trump ignited a crowd at a campaign rally in Mississippi by mocking a woman who has claimed she was sexually assaulted by Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh decades ago.

The audience laughed as Trump ran through a list of what he described as holes in Christine Blasey Ford's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

She testified that Kavanaugh pinned her on a bed, tried to take off her clothes and covered her mouth in the early 1980s, when the two were teenagers.

Kavanaugh has denied Ford's allegations. "How did you get home? 'I don't remember,'" Trump said at the rally Tuesday in Southaven. "How did you get there? 'I don't remember.' Where is the place? 'I don't remember.' How many years ago was it? 'I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.'"

Imitating Ford, he added, "But I had one beer — that's the only thing I remember." It marked the sharpest criticism by Trump of Ford since she came forward publicly with the allegation last month.

# Trump mocks Kavanaugh accuser

AP ■ SOUTHAVEN, MISS.

President Donald Trump ignited a crowd at a campaign rally in Mississippi by mocking a woman who has claimed she was sexually assaulted by Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh decades ago.

The audience laughed as Trump ran through a list of what he described as holes in Christine Blasey Ford's testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

She testified that Kavanaugh pinned her on a bed, tried to take off her clothes and covered her mouth in the early 1980s, when the two were teenagers.

Kavanaugh has denied Ford's allegations. "How did you get home? 'I don't remember,'" Trump said at the rally Tuesday in Southaven. "How did you get there? 'I don't remember.' Where is the place? 'I don't remember.' How many years ago was it? 'I don't know. I don't know. I don't know.'"

Imitating Ford, he added, "But I had one beer — that's the only thing I remember." It marked the sharpest criticism by Trump of Ford since she came forward publicly with the allegation last month.

# Trio win Nobel Chemistry Prize for research harnessing evolution

Stockholm: US scientists Frances Arnold and George Smith and British researcher Gregory Winter won the Nobel Chemistry Prize on Wednesday for applying the principles of evolution to develop enzymes used to make everything from biofuels to medicine.

Arnold, just the fifth woman to clinch chemistry's most prestigious honour, won one half of the nine million Swedish kronor (about \$1.01 million or 870,000 euros) award, while Smith and Winter shared the other half.

"The 2018 Nobel Laureates in Chemistry have taken control of evolution and used it for purposes that bring the greatest benefit to humankind," the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences said. The trio used the same principles of evolution — genetic change and selection — to develop proteins used in a range of fields.

"They have applied the principles of Darwin in test tubes. They have used the molecular understanding we have

of the evolutionary process and recreated the process in their labs," the head of the Academy's Nobel Chemistry committee, Claes Gustafsson, told reporters.

"They have been able to make evolution many 1000s of times faster and redirect it to create new proteins," Arnold, 62, who has survived breast cancer and is a single mother to three sons, is a professor of chemical engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Her method of rewriting DNA to mimic evolution has helped solve problems such as replacing toxic chemicals like fossil fuels.

Meanwhile, Smith, of the University of Missouri, and Winter, a 67-year-old genetic engineer at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology at Cambridge, developed an "elegant method" known as phage display, where a bacteriophage — a virus that infects bacteria — can be used to evolve new proteins, the jury said. AFP

# DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

**National Office:** DHFL House, 4th Floor, 19, Sahar Road, Off Western Express Highway, Vile Parle (East), Mumbai- 400099  
**Branch office:** DHFL, Dreams Mall, first Floor, L.B.S Marg, Bhandup (West), Mumbai - 400078

**DEMAND NOTICE**  
Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DHFL) under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to DHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to DHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount With NPA date	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
(LC No. 0000180 of Dwarka Branch) Rohitash Kumar Gupta (Borrower) Neeraj Gupta (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 4704959/- (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Nine Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Plot No. WZ-85 Kharsa No-414/348/2 1st Floor, Village- Nangal Raha Mohan Nagar, Delhi, New Delhi- 110046, Delhi.
(LC No. 00042867 of Delhi - Safdarjung Branch) Gulshan Sharma (Borrower) Harisharan Dat Sharma (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 3701114/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Lakhs One Thousand One Hundred Fourteen Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Ground Floor, Plot No. 305-A Gali No. 4, Out Of Kharsa No. 600/92, Govindpur, Kalkaji, New Delhi- 19, New Delhi- 110019, Delhi.
(LC No. 00001626 of Gurgaon Branch) Aman Deep Singh (Borrower) Surbjeet Kaur (Co Borrower) Harcharan Singh (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 3319844/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Four Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Flat No B- 47, First Floor Gujranwala Appt Vikas Puri, New Delhi- 110018, Delhi.
(LC No. 00001714 of New Delhi-west Branch) Sonia (Borrower) Sohan Singh (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 1918119/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Eighteen Thousand One Hundred Nineteen Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	P.no. 109-A & 110, Ugr Back Side (I.h.s) Kh.no.102/20, 21, Village Palam, Block. C Vishwas Park, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi - 110059, Delhi.
(LC No. 00001446 of New Delhi-west Branch) Mahipal Singh (Borrower) Anita (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 1620605/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Twenty Thousand Six Hundred Five Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Prop No. RZ-F-908/1, Old No. RZ-F-906/4 Second Floor Northen Side, Kh No-50/20/2 Raj Nagar- 2, Village Palam, New Delhi- 110045, Delhi.
(LC No. 00004084 of New Delhi Branch) Om Prakash (Borrower) Chandher Prabha (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 4495198/- (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Ninety Five Thousand One Hundred Ninety Eight Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	H No 10, Blok A-1 Krishna Nagar, Delhi, New Delhi- 110051, Delhi.
(LC No. 00004260 of New Delhi Branch) Om Parkash (Borrower) Chandher Prabha (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 1900070/- (Rupees Nineteen Lakhs Seventy Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Plot No. A- 1/10, Vacant Plot, Plot No. 10, Block-A-1, Out Of Kharsa No 427, Krishna Nagar, New Delhi- 110051, Delhi.
(LC No. 00000519 of Faridabad Branch) Hardev Singh (Borrower) Jasvinder Kaur (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 806558/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Six Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Eight Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	Plot No D 1/104 First Floor Pocket D 1 Sector-16 Rohini, Delhi, New Delhi- 110085, Delhi.
(LC No. 00001054 of Greater Noida Branch) Jai Shree (Borrower) Parmod Taneja (Co Borrower)	28-08-2018/ ₹ 1294764/- (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Four Only) (NPA date : 01-08-2018)	House No -429, Ground Floor, Block-B Pocket-11, Dda Janta Flat Jasola, Delhi, New Delhi-110025, Delhi.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to DHFL as aforesaid, DHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of DHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 04-Oct-2018  
Place: Delhi  
Sd/- (Authorised Officer)  
Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited

# Najib's wife arrested on corruption charges

Kuala Lumpur: Wife of former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak was arrested on Wednesday on money-laundering charges related to corruption scandal. Rosmah Mansor was arrested by Malaysia's Anti-Corruption Commission and will face several money laundering charges, Efe news reported citing a statement. This was Rosmah's third appearance in front of commission after she was interrogated on June 5 and September 26. IANS

# NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Deputy Director (Hort.), Horticulture Division No. III, CPWD, New Delhi on behalf of the President of India invites online items rate tenders in two bid (Eligibility & Financial) system (CPWD-8) from the contractors / firms who fulfil the following eligibility criteria. The bidder should have satisfactorily completed the works as mentioned below during the last seven years ending previous day of the last date of submission of tenders. For this purpose 'cost of work' shall mean gross value of the completed work including the cost of materials supplied by the Government / Client, but excluding those supplied free of cost. This should be certified by an officer not below the rank of Dy. Director (Hort.)/Executive Engineer / Project Manager or equivalent. Three similar works, each of value not less than Rs. 3,13,456/-, or two similar works each of value not less than Rs. 4,70,184/- or one similar work of value not less than Rs. 6,26,912/- for the following works:-

No.	NIT No.	Name of work and location	Estimated Cost put to tender	Earnest Money	Period of Completion	Last date and time submission of tender	Time and date of opening of Eligibility bid	Time and date of opening of Financial bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	153/2018-19/DD/HD-III/DELHI/3 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Call)	Providing and making of flower arrangement and preparation of flower bouquets at Dhoipur House (U.P.S.C.) under Sub-Division-3/III, C.P.W.D., New Delhi Dg. 2018-19	Rs. 7,83,640	Rs. 15,673/-	06 (Six) Months	Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 11.10.2018	at 11:30 Hrs. on 11.10.2018	at 11:30 Hrs. on 12.10.2018

The tender forms and other details can be seen on website : [www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD) or The press notice is also available on [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in).

**Form No. : 5**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, LUCKNOW**  
(Jurisdiction : Part of U.P. and Uttaranchal)  
600/1 University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow 226007  
Summons for filing Reply & Appearance by Publication

**OA No. 214/2018** Date : 29.11.2018  
(Summons to Defendant under section 19(4), of the Recovery of Debt due to the Bank and Financial Institution Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)

**VERSUS** .....Applicant

**M/s Prakash Trading Company & Others** .....Defendants  
1. M/s Prakash Trading Company through its proprietor Shri Ankur Gupta resident of 218, Pacca Bagh, Hapur-245101, Uttar Pradesh. 2. Shri Ankur Gupta son of Ram Prakash Gupta resident of 218, Pacca Bagh, Hapur- 245101, Uttar Pradesh. 3. Mrs Dipika Gupta wife of Ankur Gupta resident of 218, Pacca Bagh, Hapur- 245101, Uttar Pradesh. ....Defendants

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in Paper Book form in Two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 29-11-2018 at 10.30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Registrar  
Debt Recovery Tribunal, Lucknow

**नगर निगम, रोहतक।**  
विधिदा सूचना प्रेषण नोट

नगर निगम रोहतक के कर्मचारियों के लिये वर्दी तथा जूते खरीद लिये जाते हैं। इसके लिये ई-टेंडर अनिवार्य लिये जाये गे। विधिदाओं से संबंधित सभी जानकारी व विधिवार भरो के लिये [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) पर लॉगिन कर सकते।

विधिदा अर्हो की आरम्भ तिथि दिनांक 29.09.2018 सांघ 09:00 बजे से  
विधिदा अर्हो की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 03.10.2018 दोपहर 11:30 बजे तक  
विधिदा फौस/दस्तावेज दर्ती कार्यालय दिनांक 03.10.2018 दोपहर 03:00 बजे तक में जमा करवाने की तिथि  
विधिदा खोलने की तिथि दिनांक 03.10.2018 दोपहर 04:00 बजे तक

नोट इस बारे अधिक जानकारी हेतु, मुख्य सफाई निरीक्षक नगर निगम, रोहतक के कार्यालय में किसी भी कार्य दिरख में संपर्क कर सकते है।

हस्ता/-  
मुख्य सफाई निरीक्षक,  
नगर निगम, रोहतक।

RO No. 72385 Dt. 03-10-2018

# Mass grave with skeletal remains of over 150 people found in S Lanka

Colombo: A mass grave with skeletal remains of around 151 people have been found in Sri Lanka's former war zone where the government forces and Tamil Tiger rebels were engaged in a 30-year civil war, officials said on Wednesday.

At least 14 of the skeletal remains found in the north-eastern district of Mannar were of children. The digging work at the old cooperative store site in Mannar was conducted for the 79th day Tuesday to establish if it was a mass burial site.

In March, the construction workers had found remains when the ground was dug to build a new construction. Excavations were on since March. The remains have been kept in a special room of the Mannar magistrate court and will be sent for carbon testing.

Amid international complaints of large numbers of missing in Sri Lanka's conflicts since the 1980, the office of missing persons was set up this year. Various probes set up from time to time since the 1990s have found that nearly 25,000 people are missing as a result of the armed conflicts.

Mannar was occupied by the LTTE during Sri Lanka's civil war between 1983 and 2009. PTI





मध्यप्रदेश शासन, ऊर्जा विभाग



नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

## सरल बिजली बिल स्कीम

एवं

मुख्यमंत्री बकाया बिजली बिल माफी स्कीम

मुख्यमंत्री जन-कल्याण

## (संबल) योजना



शिवराज सिंह चौहान, मुख्यमंत्री

### मुख्यमंत्री बकाया बिजली बिल माफी स्कीम

77 लाख परिवारों को मिला लाभ



6000 करोड़ रु. के बिल माफ

सरकार की है नीयत साफ गरीबों के बिल किए माफ

किसानों एवं श्रमिकों के 3 लाख प्रकरण अदालतों से वापस

### सरल बिजली बिल स्कीम

50 लाख श्रमिक परिवारों को 200 रु. के बिल जारी



61 लाख से अधिक श्रमिक परिवार लाभान्वित

200 रुपये में हर घर उजियारा सरल बिजली बिल ने दिया सहारा

77 लाख गरीब परिवारों को बिल माफी प्रमाण पत्र वितरित

## गरीबों की बदली जिंदगी

सौभाग्य में देश में अक्ल मध्यप्रदेश 19.70 लाख घर हुए रोशन

48 जिलों के सभी घर विद्युतीकृत

“हम गरीबों के जीवन से अंधकार को मिटाना चाहते हैं। संबल योजना के अंतर्गत बकाया बिजली बिल माफी योजना और सरल बिजली बिल योजना ने गरीबों के जीवन को आसान बनाया है। हमारा प्रयास है कि गरीबों के परिवार सुखमय जीवन जी सकें। सभी पात्र व्यक्ति इस योजना का लाभ अवश्य लें।”

—शिवराज सिंह चौहान, मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश



### गरीबों के जीवन से मिटता अंधकार - मध्यप्रदेश सरकार

जो परिवार स्कीम का लाभ नहीं ले सके हैं, वे नजदीकी बिजली कार्यालय में तत्काल संपर्क करें। पंजीयन जारी है।

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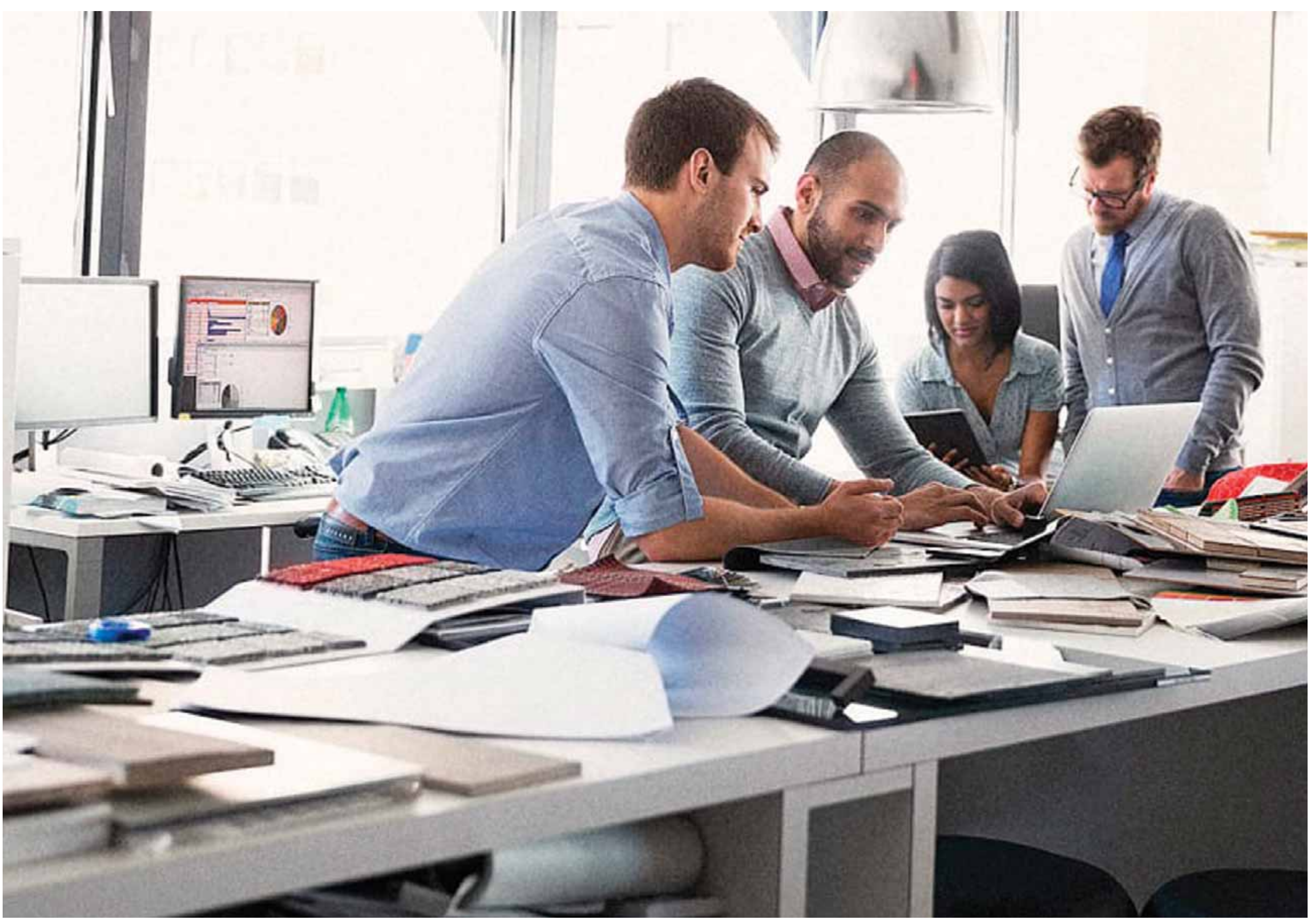
# vivacity

WOMEN MUST SPEAK UP:  
NANDITA DAS  
- P 14



# The relevance of work culture

Top-notch brands with decent package is something that we all are inclined towards. Nevertheless, work culture plays an important role to retain quality staff in any organisation, says **TEAM VIVA**



With the right workplace culture, your staff want to come to work every day – and they're less likely to quit. Given that it can cost thousands of dollars to recruit and train a new staff member, keeping staff engaged makes solid business sense. When we talk about aspects of what makes an organization a good place to work, the primary factors most of us take into account are brand value of the organization and compensation paid to the employees.

Most managers and senior professionals intend to believe that these two elements are sufficient to attract talent to their organizations. However, one of the most important things that we often fail to give due importance is the work culture, which often plays a deciding role in retaining and binding people to an organization.

Work culture is an intangible ecosystem that makes some places great to work and other places toxic. In a nutshell, the ideology of an organization is what constitutes its work culture.

It affects or defines the ability of the leadership and employees to relate to each other for the common good of the organization and operate within a mutually agreed and acceptable boundary of cultural values and emotional interface.

It is widely understood that a positive ambience can make or mar your

performance, be it school, college or workplace. No matter how talented and smart you are, you can work to the best of your capabilities and creative skills when you are surrounded by an encouraging environment that values human resource.

This is why work culture is so important in bringing out the best from your employees even in adverse circumstances. Negativity not only kills creativity and will to perform but also does not allow an employee to develop a sense of affection and ownership with the organization.

Human beings are fundamentally simple and a positive work environment impacts the way they think, act and reflect.

Creating a positive workplace culture is often seen as time consuming, and a drain on company resources. It doesn't have to be. The first step is to identify and evaluate existing patterns to see what needs changing.

For example, if staff members always need to check their ideas with managers, the predominant culture is one in which people are either reluctant to have their own opinion or the leadership are too controlling.

Cultural change can happen quickly with effective initiatives from leaders that instil trust and confidence in their staff. The speed of cultural change is directly related to the speed at which company leaders

**In some cases organisational cultural change can be immediate. Small changes can occur immediately through increased discussion and demonstration of the new cultural behaviours.**



demonstrably get on board and support the change in their own and their team's daily behaviours.

In some cases organisational cultural change can be immediate. Small changes can occur immediately through increased discussion and demonstration of the new cultural behaviours. Great leadership is the key to sustained positive cultural change. Leaders who build trusting environments, communicate effectively, are consistent in their behaviours, and role-model desired behaviours, create sustained positive cultural change.

A negative work environment has career and health consequences

for employees. An employee's less-than-exemplary job performance resulting from frustration with bureaucracy, a bad boss, 70-hour-a-week work culture, coworker conflicts and hostility raises fears of dismissal, stress and unhappiness. Leaving a negative job situation carries economic uncertainty and interrupts a chosen career path.

Contrary to common belief, compensation and appraisals are not the only factors that bind employees to an organization for a longer duration. Whether the employee feels happy and satisfied in his/her work space is another crucial determinant.

A dissatisfied employee who

feels haggled by the daily questioning and accusations by seniors, and backbiting by colleagues will be the first one to look out for another job opportunity, even if he/she is being compensated well.

Apart from encouraging seniors and supportive colleagues, other factors that make an organization a good place to work include respect for employees' private space (that is displayed by a policy of not disturbing them on off days unless absolutely urgent), respecting their right to avail leaves, and encouraging them to take up new challenges and opportunities at work.

Work culture is important for the

organization as it directly impacts the ability to attract and retain talent. A positive workplace is reflected in the positive work relationships which exist at the workplace; the concern and genuine care for each other.

A positive workplace will have a higher degree of employee engagement – as employees respond positively and actively to organizational initiatives. A negative work place will be reflected in low energy and detached work environment with employees operating in insulated silos.

Much like a compatible spouse makes your family life happy or dissatisfied, good colleagues make your work life endearing or difficult. While to some extent, the behavior of employees towards each other depends upon their individual nature and characteristics, a lot of it is defined by how the organization shapes them up.

A new employee who enters an organization and watches a culture of cohesion among workers, where all employees helps each other, will automatically imbibe these values in his/her daily life. On the contrary, an organization where back-stabbing and squabbling is the norm, any new employee will adapt to these traits.

A good work culture is one which encourages employees to behave like a family and watch each others' back. This culture can

only be built by pursuing ethical role modeling values and walking the talk.

The onus lies on the leadership as their behavior gets magnified and replicated many times over. Showcasing and rewarding positive behavior reinforces the intended behavior and directly influences the workplace culture.

A happy employee will spread around the word very effectively and be instrumental in attracting talent to the organization. People today are constantly looking for change and new opportunities in search of a happy, satisfied and balanced work life.

An organization with a healthy workplace culture can also instill employees with as sense of pride and belonging which in turn encourages employees to recommend the organization to friends and family or even potential customers.

HR professionals should view having a good workplace culture as an investment which improves employee turnover and boost profits. A good workplace culture can only be achieved through continuous practice. HR professionals and managers need to work closely with employees to ensure that a good workplace culture is maintained and all negative behavior is stamped out.



Trend Blazer

Rasika to do show on authors

Actress **RASIKA DUGAL** aims to do a series on the forgotten authors of India and says it is important that their thoughts and stories be kept alive with the youth of the country. "While preparing and promoting *Manto*, I realised that there are so many people who are eager to share what they have read and what resonated with them about the film and others who have been inspired to read it after getting to know about the film. There is a wealth of literature from *Manto* and so many of his contemporaries — Ismat Chughtai, Krishan Chandar, Rajinder Singh Bedi and many more. I think it is important that their thoughts and stories be kept alive with the youth," said Rasika.



**'The more women speak up, the more it will give confidence to the abused and will also serve as a deterrent to those who have felt they can get away with it. For me, #TimesUp is a better movement as it doesn't solely put the onus on the victims'** — Nandita Das



Bollywood actor **SHAKTI KAPOOR** laughed off the Tanushree Dutta harassment incident recently during a press conference saying that he was a child ten years ago when it took place. "I don't know anything about this case. This was 10 years back, I was a kid back then," he said. Many actors in the industry have spoken for and against the allegations Dutta has levelled against Nana Patekar.



**'Racism needs to be addressed'**

Supermodel-actress **CARA DELEVINGNE** feels issues like immigration, classism and racism need to be addressed, and says that is the reason behind doing the TV series *Carnival Row*, directed by Jon Amiel. It is described as a fantasy-noir set in a neo-Victorian city with mythical creatures fleeing their war-torn homeland gathering in the city. "The part I play has so much fire... Other characters and the story relate to what is happening in the world right now," Cara said.



The first paying guests to the ground-floor studio flat newly posted on Airbnb were innocuous enough: A family, come to experience the joys of Paris, like many millions of others.

Franck Briand, who lives in the apartment directly above, now looks back on that moment as the start of what he calls his Airbnb "nightmare." The ensuing four years, he says, have been an incessant carousel of late-night parties, drunken revelers and the rattle of newly arrived groups, sometimes 15 at a time, dragging wheeled suitcases across the cobbled courtyard.

"I want to leave," Briand says. "But I said to myself that it shouldn't be the weakest, those under threat, who give in."

Paris, long one of the world's top destinations, is still grateful for the billions of euros that tourists pump into the French capital's economy and the 300,000 jobs they sustain. But Parisians and City Hall officials also are expressing deep qualms about having so many visitors directly in their midst, no longer largely corralled in hotels but instead living, albeit temporarily, cheek-by-jowl with locals in properties rented online.

The backlash in Paris against intrusive, on-your-doorstep tourism hasn't yet reached the proportions of other heavily visited cities. Venice and Barcelona, among other destinations, have seen repeated protests. But concerns voiced in top European destinations are often the same: That mass tourism and its online platforms are hollowing cities out, driving away locals with higher prices, higher rents and sheer inconvenience.

Jacques Boutault, mayor of Paris' central second arrondissement, is among those sounding the alarm. The rectangular district he oversees, boxed in by some of the city's must-visit sites, including the Pompidou art museum, has experienced a precipitous population decline as Airbnb has taken Paris by storm, with more listings than any other city worldwide.

"The population is changing completely, from those who have been here for years to one that is just passing through," says Boutault, the district mayor since 2001. The second arrondissement has lost 3,000 inhabitants in the past four years, more than 10 per cent of its total and many of them families, he says. The district's schools have shut three classes as a result.

"I don't want to be the mayor of a museum, that's to say pretty walls where people spend a bit of time and then leave," Boutault says. "It's important that town centers remain authentic and alive. In fact, that's what tourists come for."

**HOLIDAY RENTALS DRIVING LOCALS OUT**

Online home rental companies in Europe are forcing inhabitants out of their neighbourhoods. Paris has finally revolted

In 2012, Airbnb had 4,000 Paris-area listings. That surged to more than 40,000 by 2015, when Airbnb CEO Brian Chesky was welcomed at City Hall. Three years on, Airbnb counts 65,000 listings inside Paris alone. But relations with City Hall have soured.

Paris Deputy Mayor Ian Brossat, in charge of housing, says the capital has lost 20,000 homes in five years, "homes that were lived in by Parisians but are now populated by tourists. They are no longer homes, they are clandestine hotels."

"Airbnb has veered away from its original model," he says. "We've gone from a sharing economy to a type of predatory economy, with professionals that bought homes, sometimes buildings, in bulk to transform them into cash machines. So our role is to restore some order."

To regulate the growth of Airbnb and similar platforms, Paris has since December required proprietors who list online to register. Parisians are only allowed to rent out the property they actually live in to tourists, and for a total of no more than 120 days a year. Any



other Paris residence they may have can't be rented to tourists at all.

But even with inspection teams going door-to-door and fines for the most egregious violators, the rules remain scantily enforced. Brossat is now lobbying for a blanket ban on tourist rentals in central Paris, arguing that home owners in the first, second, third, and fourth arrondissements — "those most impacted by the Airbnb phenomenon," he says — should still be allowed to rent out spare rooms but not their entire property.

Airbnb France, in a statement, called Brossat's proposal "out of touch with pub-

lic opinion, divorced from legal reality." It said renting out properties on Airbnb helps Parisians "boost their income and afford rising living costs in their communities, where housing capacity has failed to meet demand for decades."

More pressure on Airbnb and similar sites is coming with a new housing law about to get parliament's final blessing. It opens the door for large fines to be levied against sites that host properties not in conformity with French regulations.

Brossat expects the law to mark a turning point. "The gentrification of Paris

didn't start with Airbnb. But Airbnb is an accelerator of gentrification," he said. "The risk is that Paris becomes a city no longer lived in by inhabitants but solely by tourists or foreign investors."

In 2017, citizens of Venice and Barcelona had organised anti-tourism marches. In 2016 alone, Spain, where the protests had begun, had seen 75.6 million tourists, including 17.8 million from the UK. This had been the culmination of years long price rise in properties because of companies like Airbnb but the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) had defended the tourism sector and called on authorities to make sure that the growth was sustainable.

In India, the frenzy has not reached to such heights and the company sees future growth in home-sharing than temporary rentals. Currently, they are present in 100 cities in the country with over 35,000 properties. They have tie-ups with the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation and the North East Tourism Development Council and want to create 50,000 hospitality entrepreneurs, including 15,000 women, by 2020. (With agency inputs)

**One home everywhere**

Designer **NITIN KOHLI** tells **CHAHAK MITTAL** how interiors have become universal globally due to changing lifestyles

With a radical tapestry of modern hues and classic shades, an interplay of colours and fabrics, Nitin Kohli Home presents a right mix of interior designs and house decor for the festive collection through its display of home furniture made with vinyl and oak wood.

The collection titled *Avant Garde* presents a wide range of shades that are timeless in their existence. An effervescent style lends the furniture pieces a refreshing and futuristic vibe.

As one enters the Nitin Kohli Home at the Ambavatta Road, near Qutab Minar, one comes across furnitures and objects seen in our daily routines that we hardly pay attention to. He follows themes for all kinds of spaces in the home — dining hall, living room, bedroom and even the conference room — and reveals the colours that lead the trend these days.

As we walk with him to have a look at the furniture display, he tells us that the drawing room section follows a specific colour pattern. From chartreuse, emerald, sage, basil and fern to seaweed, the section has all shades of green. Nitin says, "It follows a very colourful approach. We have chosen all sorts of greens and blues." As Nitin points out towards corners and rooms that are more for formal purposes, he states that "in the formal section the colour trend that we are introducing are rose, pinks and creams, which are a part of the softer colour palette." He adds, "It works this way. For formal, we go for the softer colour palettes and for the informal ones, a bit colourful and strong palettes are preferred. In the conference room, we keep it really simple through the creams and the whites. Today even the conference rooms come with a kind of dining setup, which is generally not seen."

He explains that it is because it needs to be very simple as well as exquisite "because once we are sitting with the clients there and discussing certain things and colours, it helps us to actually see those colours in neutrality. Hence, a place for informal meetings should be filled with more vibrant colours and formal spaces should be simple."

"People are really looking for vibrant, beautiful and yet simple designs. They do not want anything that is filling and restraining to the eye. It should be elegant to look at. So with this



new collection, we have also moved towards a modern take on classic designs," he said.

The bedroom is littered with fabric panels, paintings and photographs of places and scenic landscapes clicked by Kohli, who calls himself "a passionate photographer." While some are in-house, other artworks and paintings canvas are done by renowned artist Sunayana Molhotra who is currently also displaying her works in Europe.

As technology and comfortable decors change the living habits, Nitin, who is a veteran now, explains how the change has come about and how shrinking homes have given more space for the designers to innovate themselves. He says, "Things have really evolved over the years. Today, we display not just furniture, curtains or interior designs, but we also present how our way of living has changed. For instance, the children's room, which

used to be so simple once, with a single-bed and a study table, is no longer in vogue. Today, even children work and study on laptops and ipads, they don't want a huge tables or shelves for their books. In fact electronics have shrunk. You have a phone in your hand so a TV in every room isn't important. The TV has become so small, it's in your hands. A sleeker and trendier kind of furniture is what people are shifting towards." For designers, it's a boon since they don't have to design keeping bulky electronics in mind.

While eating on the floor has been known as the true Indian aesthetic and culture we have shifted towards the dining table, incorporating Western table manners. Nitin refers to one such example of blending Western cultures and Indian home aesthetics, which is no longer a challenge anymore since everything is now "universal." He says, "Even eating patterns are the same universally. People want to eat on the bed all over the world. They would prefer their beds more than tables while eating at home. Of course, it's a different set up when guests come over, but in daily routines, it's their bed."

With luxe materials and upholstery, and carefully-handcrafted furniture, the furniture at NKH is taking inspiration from the real world and local and global cultures to furnish an urban home.

**All you need is love**



Director **YASHRAJ JADHAV** talks about how a group of Hindi-speaking singers set up a Spanish zarzuela in less than a month. By **TEAM VIVA**

You can cut all the flowers but you cannot keep spring from coming; "I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where. I love you simply, without problems or pride." Do these lines from Pablo Neruda not make you feel that love shall never perish? That it's unconditional and eternal just like the spring that might be forgotten for some time, but would never draw its last breath.

*The Republic of Love*, a zarzuela, directed by Yashraj Jadhav and Santanu Bose, is a production of the Neerwana Music Foundation in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain in India and Instituto Cervantes. They are bringing a saga of love to India, an operetta sung in Spanish with scenes in English.

While his other plays have been based on different themes and subjects, a Spanish zarzuela was a first for Jadhav. It is a Spanish lyric-dramatic genre that alternates between spoken and sung scenes, the latter incorporating operatic and popular song, as well as dance.

This zarzuela production is a 1909 musical comedy by Vicente Leo, set in the Indian sub-continent, in the land of Amalandia. It talks about a rare species of trees that bloomed once in a century and to let it happen the trees shed flowers with a subtle dust that exerted a mood of falling in love on the creatures that inhaled it. As the tree blossoms, everybody falls in love and there is excitement and nervousness in the air. In a garrison ruled by a disciplinarian, many will fall in love including the stickler for rules himself.

"Santanu and I have only done the drama part and casting the actors. How they enter and exit, with what emotions and expressions they speak. Music is in Spanish and is done by a different team. It wasn't as difficult as it seemed because once you get to know your teammates, about the play and its writer, you tend to get familiar with it. I have an inclination towards knowing about different cultures, so it was easy for me to understand the subject of the story.

We gelled and learnt more about it together," he said.

What made this production more interesting to put together was that it wasn't enacted by a troupe of actors, but by singers, who have not acted before. This, for Jadhav, who has been in the industry for more than 25 years, was the most "surprising" aspect.

"These are singers-turned-actors and most of them do not know Spanish. In fact some of might not even know how to speak English fluently, since we are all Hindi-speaking people." He added, "It's difficult to balance the two because for opera-singing, you need to have a large vocal apparatus and work on a lot of high notes. You need to have the energy and timing to walk, dance, move, speak and sing, all together, and on top of it, you have to sing in Spanish, a language you are not even familiar with. It's like a combination of all kind



of arts."

Despite the challenges they put up the production just over a month. Jasmin Morotell, the voice coach, and Nadya Balyan, the choir conductor, who has been working in India for the past 12 years, believe that "it wasn't that difficult to train the singers who were not familiar with the Spanish language. It was rather one beautiful journey of spending time with some really fantastic and talented troupe of singers."

Among the performing singers were Shambhavi Mishra, Jahnnobi Roy, Akash Gadamsetty, Nishant Rana, Rajeev Sahore, Gabriel Harrison, Navmeet Kaur, Pratikesh Bansal, Vaibhavi Singh, Shivam Sharma, Subhankar Sharma, Oliva Kullu, and Rueben Mathew.



# MAY THE BEST SKILLED WIN

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is strengthening its representation for the 45th WorldSkills Competition at Kazan, Russia in 2019 with a preview—IndiaSkills 2018. This will see over 400 participants from 27 states compete in around 60 categories

The IndiaSkills National Competition 2018, the biggest skill competition of the country, kicked off in New Delhi on Tuesday. The five-day event which is being hosted from October 2 to 6 is being organised by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). The competition has brought together over 70 corporates and academic institutes, along with 22 state governments to realise the vision of establishing India as the skill capital of the world. The event will witness over 400 participants from across 27 states and union territories showcasing their talent and competing in 45 skills, 10 traditional skills and four demo skills.

The competition was inaugurated by Dharmendra Pradhan, the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The minister said, "I welcome all those who have made their mark at the regional levels and have reached the national stage.

It is the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to make India the skill capital of the world and the IndiaSkills Competition is another initiative towards realising this. The participation of divyans (Abilympians) is also a wonderful addition to this event. The perception of skill is changing, making it more aspirational. The landscape of skills is undergoing transformation and we are seeing the addition of more, new-age skills. Innovation and technology are going to play a major role in



shaping the future of jobs and Skill India has taken several initiatives to train our youth in the emerging areas."

The event will for the first time, see Abilympics—the 'Olympics of Abilities' for persons with disabilities (PwDs). As many as 60 participants will com-

pete across 10 skill competitions in the Abilympics and the winners will be felicitated at the closing ceremony on October 6. These winners will then undergo the best-in-class industry training for the WorldSkills International Competition in Kazan, Russia in August 2019.

Commenting on the importance of such a completion, Dr K P Krishnan, the Secretary, MSDE, said, "We have improved our performance at WorldSkills over the years and are at the 19th position today. The IndiaSkills 2018 promotes the aspirational value of acquiring skills. The government has been offering assistance to states and we have organised over 150 workshops to improve participation in these competitions. The difference can be seen in the number of entries that has doubled this year. A platform like IndiaSkills inculcates a strong sense of pride in the youth and goes a long way in taking us closer to the vision of a new India." With one Silver, one Bronze and nine Medallions of



Excellence won by the country, India ranked 19th among 56 countries at the WorldSkills 2017 in Abu Dhabi. More than 1,300 competitors competed in 51 skills at this event.

In order to select the best talent to represent at IndiaSkills 2018, the MSDE and NSDC have competed at more than 500 district and state level and over 40 regional competitions in 46 skills including 3D game art, aircraft maintenance, autobody repair, bakery,

beauty therapy and bricklaying to name a few.

Apart from the skill competition, the event is also hosting several engaging initiatives such as career counseling, a skill exhibition and try-a-skill event among others for the youth. Several other events such as the State Minister's Conference, a Skill Conclave, and an Industry Round Table will also be organised on the sidelines of the IndiaSkills Competition.



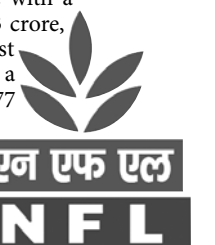
## SHAREHOLDERS APPLAUD NFL'S MILESTONES

The largest Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) in the fertiliser sector—National Fertilisers Limited (NFL) recently hosted its 44th Annual General Meeting at New Delhi. The AGM was chaired by NFL's chairman and managing director, Manoj Mishra, which saw various shareholders of the company in attendance.

The chairman informed that during the financial year 2017-18, NFL delivered superlative performance. The company registered a record total income from operations (standalone) of ₹9025 crore with a profit before tax (PBT) of ₹334.83 crore, which is also the best ever in the last 15 years. The company also earned a net profit (profit after tax) of ₹212.77 crore for this financial year. NFL has recorded the highest ever Urea production of 38.10 lakh MT and a record fertiliser sale of 43.09 lakh MT which comprises the sale of 39.16 lakh MT of Urea and 3.93 lakh MT of other fertilisers.

While highlighting the achievements of the company, Mishra said, "NFL has gradually transformed from a single product to a multi-product organisation in the last few years by way of adding DAP, MoP, SSP and complex fertilisers, bentonite sulphur, seeds, new strains of bio-fertilisers and agro chemicals in its product line."

The shareholders applauded the overall performance of NFL and the milestones achieved by NFL under the leadership of Mishra.



On the occasion of completion of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, a Multimedia Exhibition was organised in New Delhi which used new technologies to bring to life the various aspects of the father of the nation to every citizen of the country. Organised by the Bureau of Outreach Communication, the exhibition was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and Sports and Youth Affairs, Col Rajyavardhan Rathore (Retd) in the august presence of the Secretary of Information and Broadcasting, Amit Khare, the Director General of Bureau of Outreach Communication, Satyendra Prakash and the Director General of Publications Division, Dr Sadhana Rout among other senior officials of the ministry.

Addressing the audience, Col Rathore said,

## Mahatma's life through the eyes of technology



"New technologies used in this exhibition have brought the life of Mahatma Gandhi much closer to the people. This multimedia exhibition is more interactive and engaging." He expressed that this multimedia exhibition should be conducted in various cities across the country to take the idea to a much larger audience. "The life of Gandhi is an example for all. He is a global citizen and the pride of every citizen. He dedicated his life for swachhata seva. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken this as a challenge and now change is visible through Jan Andolan," added Rathore.

The exhibition showcased many engaging

features like a quiz on the life of the Mahatma, interactive timeline depicting his life, a photo booth with various backgrounds to choose from, a 3D video wall and so on. On this occasion, Col Rathore released 11 books by various authors on the life of Mahatma Gandhi which have been brought out by the Publications Division. He also released three short films on Mahatma Gandhi, produced by the Bureau of Outreach Communications, Doordarshan and the Films Division respectively. A magazine titled—'Jan Connect' with the theme of development of farmer's livelihood was also released during the event.

## IN-FLIGHT 'CHAT MODE' KEEPS YOU GROUNDED

The latest product feature introduced by EMT aims to break the monotony of the journeys by air where the passengers are requested to keep their phone on flight mode. With the Airplane Chat, passengers can now chat with their co-passengers using the Android app via Bluetooth. Commenting on the same the company's co-founder, Nishant Pitti, said, "Long-haul flights happened to be really boring for us and even in-flight entertainment could not help in killing time during the journeys. So, I always used to think that there should be something that not just keeps us engaged but can also help in networking with like-minded people. This idea clicked into our mind when I along with my brothers Rikant and Prashant were discussing the same thing and finally agreed to develop a tool that may help the travellers in spending their travel time comfortably."

A major distinguishing feature of EMT from its competitors is that the company does not charge any convenience fee for flight bookings. Pitti points out that the app receives around 1200-1300 bookings daily due to its excellent deals on flight tickets. While the airline segment contributes around 75 per cent of the business, Pitti identifies the corporate sales, meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions as one of the emerging segments for the company, where these segments contribute around 12 percent to the company's overall busi-

ness. EaseMyTrip (EMT) has introduced an exclusive feature— Airplane Chat on its Android mobile app which allows co-passengers to talk among themselves in offline mode during the course of the flight



During 2017-18, EMT achieved a turnover of ₹2,400 crore. Pitti informs that the company has seen a consistent growth since its inception in 2008 without raising any funds from investors. A market leader in flight bookings for all major domestic and international destinations, EMT represents almost 5-6 per cent of the domestic market share and around 12 per cent of the total online market. "Of the total business, almost 85 per cent comes from the online market where customers book directly with us on the website or the app whereas 10-

15 per cent comes from travel agents. The B2B segment is a very strong pillar for the company. We have an extended arm of over 42,000 travel agents who book tickets on our online platform. We have identified some high footfall areas like paan shops, cyber cafes and small retail shops and offered them our branding to sell travel products, thus extending the reach of the company," added Pitti.

Though the company started as a predominantly flights provider, it now has an array of diversified offerings which include hotels, bus tickets, holiday packages and railways. "We have integrated the IRCTC platform into our online portal and now offer rail ticket bookings as well. The travel agents are provided with a login-id and an EMT wallet which they can integrate with other wallets," said Pitti.

The growth plan of EMT looks robust and very promising. The company plans to focus on its corporate business for the upcoming years and is also planning to reach out to a huge segment of SMEs across Tier-II and Tier-III cities. "We also have plans to open EMT Holiday Hubs in all major cities to increase revenues from non-air products," he said.

### CORPORATE BRIEFS



On the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) under the Ministry of Textiles, organised a street play in Dilli Haat to raise awareness among the people and instill a feeling of service to the nation through 'Swachhata hi Seva' mission.



The Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu conferred the 'Vayoshrestha Samman-2018' on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their services towards the cause of the elderly persons on 'International Day of Older Persons'.

### ITPO TO ORGANISE IISE FROM OCT 5-7

The 21st edition of the India International Security Expo (IISE) will be inaugurated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Hansraj Gangaram Ahir on October 5, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The event will be held from October 5 to 7 and is being organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) with the support of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The co-organisers are CISF and BPR&D. This is the only security expo in South Asia region which enjoys the support of all state police forces, NDMA, CRPF, BSF, ITPB, SSB, Delhi Police, SPG and DFS, ONGC, Delhi Metro, NDMC, NSIC, SAIL, NBCC, Shapoorji Pallonji, L&T and Amity University, Noida.



### PATNA'S GIRL CRACKS SSB IN FIRST ATTEMPT

Ojaswita Shree from Patna has been shortlisted in the group of top 12 girls pan-India in the Combined Defense Services Exam conducted by the UPSC. She cracked the SSB interview in her first attempt. Expressing her gratitude towards the valuable guidance provided to her by Army Officer Surendra Singh, she said, "It helped me immensely in cracking SSB and eventually making it to the top ranks."

### CORPORATE BRIEFS

#### NIOS LAUNCHES A SIGN LANGUAGE CHANNEL

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has launched its Swayam Prabha Channel 30-Gyan Amrit, for those learners who are either deaf or can listen partially. The channel was inaugurated by Prakash Javadekar, the Minister for HRD in the presence of the Chairman of NIOS, C B Sharma. For classes 10th and 12th there will be a video in sign language in each subject. A new course to revive vedic education in Sanskrit medium under Bharatiya Gyan Parampara has also been launched. All lessons on this course will also be available on this channel.



#### LEMON TREE HOTEL, AURANGABAD WINS NATIONAL TOURISM AWARD

The Lemon Tree Hotel, Aurangabad, has won the National Tourism Award 2016-17 for the best hotel in the three-star category. The president of Lemon Tree Hotels Limited (LTHL), Vikramjit Singh, said, "We have focused our efforts on redefining the mid-scale hotel segment and on offering our consumers great, consistent quality at a very reasonable price."

#### MARY KOM IS TRIBES INDIA'S BRAND AMBASSADOR

The Tribes India and TRIFED, under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, launched the 'Punch Tantra' Diwali collection and announced Mary Kom as the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India. The Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Jual Oram, said, "The probable potential of TRIFED is more than many other PSUs and if utilised properly, it may become a game changer in the Indian economy."



#### ATAL TINKERING LAB OPENS AT NAVYUG SCHOOL, DELHI

The Union Minister for Human Resources Department (Higher Education), Dr Satyapal Singh, inaugurated the Atal Tinkering Lab at the Navyug School at Sarojini Nagar along with the NDMC School Management System. Sanitary Napkin Vending Machines in 29 secondary and senior secondary schools of the NDMC were also commissioned.



#### NORTHERN RAILWAYS' VOLUNTARY ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN

In collaboration with the Organ Retrieval Banking Organisation (ORBO), AIIMS, Delhi, the general manager of the Northern Railways, Vishvesh Chaube, has initiated a voluntary organ donation awareness and registration camp at New Delhi to sensitise the employees to voluntarily donate organs.

## Mauritius targets 1.2 lakh Indians by 2020

With a wide-range of tourism products on offer for the Indian travellers, the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA), is undertaking aggressive marketing activities to attract more Indians to the island country. In line with the same, the tourism board conducted a four-city roadshow in New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Chennai and Mumbai recently. The objective of the event was to acquaint the Indian travel partners with the destinations and meet the hoteliers, destination

management companies and activity companies.

Arvind Bundhun the director of MTPA, said, "Mauritius is a heaven of peace besides a rich melting pot and a glamorous destination. We excel in different niche; golf, spas, hotels, gastronomy and above all, a sense of hospitality. This year, about 89,000 Indian tourists are expected to visit Mauritius."

Vivek Anand, the Country Manager—India, MTPA, said, "We have seen a 11 per cent year-on-year growth in the Indian tourist arrivals over the last four years, taking the number to 86,000 in 2017. We are targeting 1,20,000 tourists by

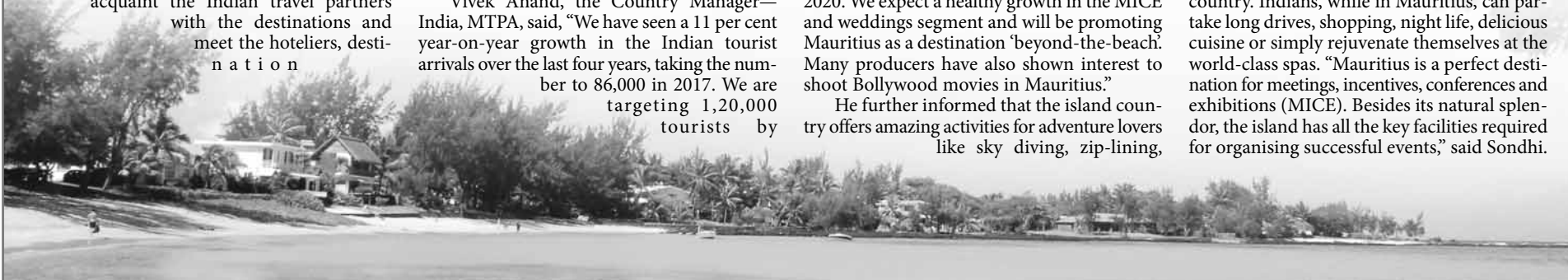


2020. We expect a healthy growth in the MICE and weddings segment and will be promoting Mauritius as a destination 'beyond-the-beach'. Many producers have also shown interest to shoot Bollywood movies in Mauritius."

He further informed that the island country offers amazing activities for adventure lovers like sky diving, zip-lining,

quad biking sea-karting, submarine rides, helicopter tours, and some once-in-a-lifetime experiences among others.

Sanjay Sondhi, the CEO of Om Tourism, which represents Mauritius in India, identified that rum and tea tasting tours are gaining popularity among tourists. Those who are inclined towards sports can enjoy a game of golf at one of the many championship level courses in the country. Indians, while in Mauritius, can partake long drives, shopping, night life, delicious cuisine or simply rejuvenate themselves at the world-class spas. "Mauritius is a perfect destination for meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE). Besides its natural splendor, the island has all the key facilities required for organising successful events," said Sondhi.





# JUVE WIN; CHAMPIONS FALL

Italian giant beat Young Boys 3-0 to maintain unbeaten run; CSKA Moscow shock Real; Utd, Bayern play draw

AFP ■ PARIS

Paulo Dybala scored a hat-trick as Juventus shrugged off Cristiano Ronaldo's absence with a 3-0 Champions League win over Young Boys on Tuesday to go top of Group H ahead of Manchester United who were held goalless at home by Valencia.

The suspended Ronaldo watched from the stands after his red card during the Italian side's 2-0 win over Valencia in the first round of games.

But Dybala, who has been overshadowed since the arrival of Ronaldo from Real Madrid, ran riot in his first European appearance this season, volleying in the opener following a Leonardo Bonucci long ball after five minutes.

He doubled his account on 33 minutes when he picked up a rebound from a Blaise Matuidi shot, with Juan Cuadrado setting up the Argentine for his third on 69 minutes.

The Swiss champions played the final quarter of an hour a man down after Guinean centre-back Mohamed Ali Camara was sent off for a second yellow card provoked by Dybala.

"I wanted to have a game like this," said 24-year-old Dybala.

"Obviously, a player always wants to play. Last season I had the opposite, as I started with a lot of goals and then lost my way a little.

"Being left out made me work harder and get back into shape, so I am taking full advantage of that now."

Juventus confirmed their 100 percent record after nine games this season — seven league games and two in the Champions League.

It was Young Boys' second defeat from two group games after they lost their opener 3-0 at home to Manchester United.

## VALENCIA HOLD UNITED

At Old Trafford, the pressure continued to build on Mourinho as United produced another insipid attacking display in their goalless stalemate with Valencia.

They are now four games without a win, and Mourinho's decision to recall Alexis Sanchez — after dropping the



Robert Lewandowski, center right, Dani De Wit, center left and Daley Blind, center rear, jump to head the ball AP

Chilean for the weekend defeat at West Ham United — failed to pay off.

"Our attacking players aren't in their best moments of confidence and individual level," moaned Mourinho.

"We thought with three or four chances we would score and win the game."

## CITY FIGHTBACK

Guardiola saw Manchester City come from behind to beat Hoffenheim in Germany in Group F.

David Silva scored three minutes from time to get the Premier League champions back on track after they started their campaign with a 2-1 home defeat against Lyon.

Ishak Belfodil had put Hoffenheim ahead after just 44 seconds, but Sergio Aguero equalised in the eighth minute before Silva's late winner.

"This competition isn't always a red carpet. Manchester City is a fantastic club, but we don't have a history of having to fight and we fought for absolutely everything here," said Guardiola.

"This is one of the happiest days I have had at this club as it will help us going forward."

City next face Shakhtar Donetsk, who squandered a two-goal lead to draw 2-2 with Lyon in France, in a game played behind closed doors.

Brazilian forward Junior Moraes scored twice for Shakhtar, but Lyon fought back to draw with goals from Moussa Dembele and Leo Dubois.

It was a good result for Lyon, whose fans were missing as a punishment for trouble at a game against CSKA last season, and they now top the group.

## BAYERN SHARE POINTS

Meanwhile, Bayern could not hang on to the early lead given to them against Ajax when Mats Hummels headed in Arjen Robben's cross. Young full-back Noussair Mazraoui equalised to give the Dutch side a 1-1 draw.

Those sides are level atop Group E ahead of Benfica, who won 3-2 in a thriller at AEK Athens with Alfa Semedo scoring the deciding goal.

Czech champions Viktoria Plzen, who were crushed 5-0 by Roma.

Edin Dzeko scored a hat-trick for the Italian side, with Cengiz Under and Justin Kluivert also netting.



Marouane Fellaini, right, runs for ball with Cristiano Piccini during the Champions League group H match AP

## MADRID SLIP TO SHOCK DEFEAT

AFP ■ MOSCOW

Toni Kroos' mistake proved costly as Real Madrid's goalkeeping problems continued on Tuesday with a surprise 1-0 defeat to CSKA Moscow in the Champions League.

Gareth Bale and Sergio Ramos were among a number of key players missing at the Luzhniki Stadium but it was Kroos' dreadful backpass that allowed Nikola Vlasic, on loan from Premier League Everton, to put CSKA ahead after just 68 seconds.

Madrid searched for an equaliser but, despite hitting the woodwork three times, was resisted by a determined CSKA defence. The reigning European champions have now failed to score in three consecutive matches.

CSKA's veteran goalkeeper Igor Akinfeev was sent off deep into added time after picking up two yellow cards for dissent but nothing could spoil the hosts' victory which lifted them above Madrid in Group G.

Julen Lopetegui's side lacked spark, thrust and cutting edge in attack. They missed Bale, Isco and, perhaps even, the lethal touch of Cristiano Ronaldo.

"Goals come when you keep creating chances and believe you will be more accurate," Lopetegui said.

"That is all we can do. I am sure we will soon be scoring again and winning again."

Some of the changes were enforced,



CSKA players celebrate after beating Real Madrid

with Isco and Marcelo out injured, but Bale and Ramos were left at home to rest and Luka Modric started on the bench.

Madrid were three down by half-time against Sevilla last week and this time they were behind within two minutes.

It was self-inflicted as Kroos tried to half-volley a bouncing ball back to Navas but Vlasic read it and intercepted. Raphael Varane was slow to react and the weaving forward finished into the corner.

CSKA coach Viktor Goncharenko said biggest concern was that his players would slump after the high of a remarkable victory.

"We played aggressively, boldly, we defended really well. Of course an early goal helped us a lot," he said.

"Now we will all enjoy the evening. I'm afraid my players' emotions will come down after this win. Hopefully because they are young they will survive it without any serious damage."

## SINGLES

### INDIA CLINCH SERIES AGAINST ENGLAND

**NEW DELHI:** India beat England by 55 runs in the second T20 game here Wednesday to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the bilateral cricket series for blind. England captain Ed Hossel won the toss and put the hosts in. The captain led from the front, picking up a wicket with the first ball of the match. The English bowlers bowled tight lines as they picked four Indian wickets in the first eight overs. Skipper Ajay Reddy along with Pankaj Bhue steadied the ship with a 100-run partnership, helping their team post an imposing total of 217 for five. Chasing a huge target, the English batsmen were never in the hunt as the Indian bowlers chipped in with regular wickets.

### RED BULL SHUTTLE UP KICK STARTS IN OCT 2018

**NEW DELHI:** The inaugural edition of the first ever exclusive women's doubles tournament in the country, Red Bull Shuttle Up kick starts in October 2018. With the growing popularity of the sport be it viewership (5th most viewed) or participation (2nd most played), the tournament aims to further boost and improve participation and popularity amongst aspiring women players. Red Bull Shuttle Up Qualifiers will be held across 5 cities - Delhi, Bangalore, Guwahati, Hyderabad and Mumbai. The winning pair gets an exciting opportunity to play against the best badminton doubles player in the country Ashwini Ponnappa and her partner. The Delhi edition will take place on 5th October at Flow Sports Life, Gurgaon-Sector-48, which will be followed by subsequent ones in Bengaluru (7th), Guwahati (13th), Hyderabad (14th) and Mumbai (20th).

### INDIAN MEN LOSE TO ARMENIA; WOMEN HELD BY ITALY

**BATUMI:** India men's team's medal chances took a hit as Grandmaster Krishnan Sasikiran lost a crucial match which resulted in Indian men's team shock defeat at the hands of eighth seeded Armenia in the ninth round of the 43rd Chess Olympiad here. Sasikiran was key to India's success till this round but he ran out of steam on a day when two main players - Viswanathan Anand and P Harikrishna signed peace early. B Adhian, in the absence of Vidit Gujrathi, played out a draw on board three to reduce the deficit margin to 1.5-2.5. It turned out to be a bad day from Indian perspective overall as the women team played out a draw with lower-ranked Italian women. Tania Sachdev, who had started with five victories in her first five games, crashed to her second defeat in a row and the victory by D Harika on second board could only prove to be the leveler once Koneru Humpy and Padmini Rout were held to draws by lower rated opponents.

### CA BOSS SUTHERLAND REPLACED BY ROBERTS

**SYDNEY:** Cricket Australia (CA) on Wednesday named insider Kevin Roberts — who spearheaded an ill-fated attempt to slash players' pay last year — to lead the troubled organisation in the wake of the ball-tampering scandal. Roberts was appointed chief executive officer and on October 25 will formally replace James Sutherland, who announced in June he was stepping down after 17 years at the helm. Roberts takes over with CA still under fire over the cheating scandal and divisions between players and administrators still raw from the pay dispute. "The game and Cricket Australia have faced some difficult times recently, but we will bounce back," the 46-year-old said.

### SHUBHANKAR TO LEAD INDIA IN TAIWAN

**LINKOU:** Young golfer Shubhankar Sharma will lead a large Indian contingent of 14 players at the Yeangder Tournament Players Championship (TPC) which gets underway at the Linkou International Golf and Country Club on Thursday. The Indian contingent has both youth and experience ranging from veteran two-time Asian Tour No 1 Jeev Milkha Singh, whose T-18 last week was his best finish in nearly two years to Viraj Madappa, the latest Asian Tour winner from India, who grabbed the Take Solutions Masters title in August. However, the defending champion Ajeetesh Sandhu has skipped the event in favour of Dunhill Links Championships, where he got a spot, and the in-form Gaganjeet Bhullar has clearly opted for rest ahead of three big weeks at CIMB Classic, CJ Cup and WGC-HSBC. **Agencies**

## Pune hold Dynamos in ISL

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Miguel Angel Portugal's Pune City managed to earn a hard-fought 1-1 draw at the death against home side Delhi Dynamos in their Hero Indian Super League opener here on Wednesday.

Delhi seemed set for all three points after a wonderful long-range strike from Rana Gharami (44th minute) but for second-half substitute Diego Carlos who equalised with two minutes left on the clock.

Rana Gharami became the first Indian footballer to score a goal in the ISL 2018-19 season.

Coach Josep Gombau had Delhi Dynamos line up in a 4-2-3-1 formation with Andrija Kaluderovic leading the lines. Former Pune City midfielder Marcos Tebar started in midfield with Bikramjit Singh while Nandhakumar and Lalanzuala Chhangte provided the width.

Pune City, playing a 4-3-3 formation, started brightly, with Ashique Kuruniyan finding a lot of space down the left flank. An early cross from the youngster almost found Emiliano Alfaro inside the box.

Just after quarter of an hour, Delhi started to assert themselves and fashioned several key chances. With a minute to go for



Dynamos player battles for ball against opponent ISL

the half-time whistle, Delhi Dynamos got a deserved lead through an outrageous strike from Rana Gharami. The defender got on the ball from about 40 yards out and hit a thunderous strike that flew into the top corner, much to everyone's wonder.

The second half got off to a slow start as both teams failed to create chances of note. Emiliano Alfaro cut a lone figure up front for Pune City while Delhi Dynamos pressed well but could not trouble the Stallions' defence.

The Dynamos continued to exploit the wings and should have doubled their lead

in the 67th minute. Nandhakumar went on a brilliant run down the right wings and squared the ball for Kaluderovic who met it with a weak left-foot that saw the effort trickle well wide.

Portugal threw on Diego Carlos as he searched for an equaliser while Gombau sent on Romeo Fernandes for Nandhakumar. It was the latter who would fashion a chance as he galloped down the right wing and almost found Kaluderovic inside the box, but for an alert Mills.

With Pune turning desperate for a goal, Delhi had two good chances to score a second. First, Ganni Zuiverloon failed to direct a volley at the backpost from Das' free-kick on target. Then a smart inter-play between Kaluderovic and Chhangte set the latter through on goal but he shot straight at Vishal Kaithi.

With two minutes left in the tie, Pune City equalised after brilliant link-up play between Alfaro and Carlos. The Brazilian played in Alfaro inside the box. The Uruguayan passed it back on to Carlos' path who shifted on to his left and sent an arrowing finish to the far corner.

Though Delhi pressed hard to regain their lead, Portugal's men held on to clinch a point from a tightly-contested clash.

## JAYARAM, SOURABH WIN IN TAIPEI OPEN

PTI ■ TAIPEI CITY

Indian shuttler Ajay Jayaram started off a spirited challenge from Japan's Hashiru Shimono before Sourabh Verma also won to enter the second round of the Chinese Taipei BWF World Tour Super 300 tournament here on Wednesday.

Jayaram, who had reached the finals at Vietnam Open and White Nights, defeated Hashiru 18-21, 21-17, 21-9 within an hour to set up a second-round clash with Denmark's Kim Bruun next.

Verma beat local player Chia Hao Lee 18-21, 21-16, 21-13 in a 52-minute match. He lost the first game and then bounced back in style to clinch the issue.

However, young Sri Krishna Priya Kudaravalli couldn't cross the opening hurdle, despite giving her everything as she went losing 13-21, 10-21 to fourth seeded Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia.



Ajay Jayaram plays a shot during match PTI

Yeligar and Mugdha Agrey too flopped in the opening round matches as they went down without a fight.

While Abhishek was shown the door by fifth seed Jan O Jorgensen of Denmark 5-21, 6-21 in men's singles, seventh seed Soniia Cheah of Malaysia ended Mugdha's campaign with a 21-11, 21-4 win.

India's Tarun Kona and his Malaysian partner Lim Khim Wah also suffered the same fate, losing 13-21, 10-21 to fourth seeded Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia.

## 'Hungry' Hamilton seeks Japan boost

AFP ■ TOKYO

Lewis Hamilton will be looking to restore normal service at the Japanese Grand Prix after being gifted a controversial victory by Mercedes in Russia last weekend.

But the runaway Formula One championship leader appears to have complicated that task by refusing to rule out leaving Mercedes when his current contract expires in 2020.

Hamilton was allowed to claim a 70th career win when Valtteri Bottas was ordered to move over in Sochi — with the world champion describing it as "the strangest day" of his career.

The Briton, who has opened a 50-point advantage over Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel with five races left this season, will want to prove he can win in his own right at Suzuka this week as he chases a fifth title.

Hamilton's eighth win of the season and third in a row left the Silver Arrows red-faced and sparked fresh debate over team orders with many Formula One fans taking to social media to vent their anger. Despite the criticism, Mercedes team



Lewis Hamilton hugs Valtteri Bottas after Russian GP

boss Toto Wolff insisted he had no regrets about issuing the instruction to let Hamilton pass.

"I'd rather be the baddie today than the idiot at the end of the year," he said. "Rationally it was the right call."

Wolff expects Hamilton, who won in Japan for the fourth time last year, to continue his dominance this weekend.

"Lewis is hungry, focused and determined to succeed," he said. "It has been great to see the power he has brought to this cship and how he's taken it to the next level."

## Potro seals ATP Finals spot

AFP ■ BEIJING

Favourite Juan Martin del Potro avoided the fate of third seed Grigor Dimitrov to surge into the quarter-finals of the China Open and seal his spot at the ATP Finals on Wednesday.

The towering Argentine top seed, enjoying one of the best seasons of his injury-blighted career, dismissed Russia's stubborn Karen Khachanov 6-4, 7-6 (7/4).

Victory means that Del Potro has qualified for the season-ending ATP Finals for the first time since 2013, joining Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic in London in November.

It underlines the 30-year-old's return to the men's elite after years of wrist problems that threatened to destroy his career.

The world number four faces Filip Krajinovic of Serbia in the last eight on Beijing's outside hard courts.

Bulgaria's Dimitrov was on the end of a major shock in the Chinese capital, totting up nine double faults in a three-set defeat to Serbian qualifier Dusan Lajovic.

Lajovic meets Britain's fifth seed



del Potro hits a return shot between his legs while competing against Karen Khachanov AP

Kyle Edmund in the quarter-finals.

In the women's draw, number two seed Caroline Wozniacki rounded off a polished display with an ace in a 7-5, 6-3 victory over Petra Martic of Croatia.

The Dane faces Estonia's Anett Kontaveit in the last 16.

Seventh seed Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic set up a meeting against China's top player Wang Qiang.

## KYRGIOS ADVANCE IN TOKYO

**TOKYO:** Former champion Nick Kyrgios flickered into life for just long enough to dispatch wildcard Yoshihito Nishioka 7-5, 7-6 (7/3) in the first round of the Japan Open on Wednesday.

He faces eighth seed Richard Gasquet for a place in the quarter-finals.

Meanwhile, Wimbledon finalist Kevin Anderson survived a scare against Kyrgios's fellow Australian Matthew Ebden, winning in three sets to avoid the same fate as top seed Marin Cilic who flopped at the first hurdle in Tokyo a day earlier.

Second seed Anderson came through a tough opener 4-6, 7-6 (7/1), 6-2 as the South African goes in search of a fifth career title.

The world number nine, runner-up to Novak Djokovic at Wimbledon this year, struggled against Ebden until recovering his mojo in the second-set tiebreak, surrendering just one point.

An early break in the decider broke the Australian's resistance and Anderson closed out the match with a thumping serve down the centre line. He plays American Frances Tiafoe in the last 16.

Earlier, Australia's Alex De Minaur beat France's former world number six Gilles Simon 6-7 (1/7), 7-6 (7/5), 6-2.