

WORLD 5
14 IRAN SECURITY PERSONNEL
ABDUCTED ON PAK BORDER

OPINION 6
SIR SYED KHAN: THE
RENAISSANCE MAN

MONEY 10
₹ SPURTS 35 PAISE TO NEARLY
2-WEEK HIGH

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UMESH YADAV
INCLUDED IN
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12 SPORT

Unviable alternative fails to douse stubble fire

Farmers logic to defy ban: Time gap between harvesting too short to await tardy Govt steps

SHEKHAR SINGH/ABHINAV SINGH/CHANDAN PRAKASH ■ KARNAL/SONIPAT

Thick blanket of smog that engulfs the national Capital year after year during winter is clearly visible on the GT Karnal Road connecting Delhi and Karnal in Haryana as it originates from the burning farm stubble and is a major cause of pollution in Delhi-NCR. Even after the NGT pulled up the State Governments and Haryana came up with an alternative solution, stubble burning is continuing unabated in Haryana and Delhi stares at another winter covered in a cloud of pollutants triggered by the biomass burning. The Pioneer visited the fields of Sonapat, Panipat and Karnal on Monday night to find out the compelling reasons that farmers often give to buttress their claims that there is

no attractive alternatives before them except to burn the stubble to immediately free the land for another cycle of farming. However, if the Haryana Government is to be believed they have provided alternatives to the paddy growing farmers in the form of "in-situ" management of stubble by using specialised farm equipment. But the farmers still prefer to burn it as they find it more convenient and alleged that the pieces farm equipment are too costly to rent from Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) promoted by the Government. For farmers, there is a very short window of time between harvesting of paddy and cultivation of wheat and the farmers alleged that if they wait for the "in-situ" management to be done their turn would come very late and by that time the sowing period would get over. They said equipments at

- Haryana Government is to be believed they have provided alternatives to the paddy growing farmers in the form of "in-situ" management of stubble by using specialised farm equipment
- But the farmers still prefer to burn it as they find it more convenient and alleged that the farm equipments are too costly to rent from Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) promoted by the Government



CHC are too less to cater to the large number of farmlands within the stipulated time of fortnight in which they have to sow next crop. Also they said renting these equipments is costly and hence not viable solution. With farmers miffed with the Centre and the State Governments over the ban it is expected to have political overtones ahead of the Assembly polls due next year. While officials of the agricultural department of Haryana are claiming that the Government has taken adequate steps and have flowed enough funds for sustaining the

"The farmers are being stimulated to prefer the mechanism provided by the Government instead of burning it. Action has also been taken against the erring farmers," said Dabas. Reports from Karnal and adjoining districts show that the combines without 'Straw Management System' (SMS) has fizzled out, leaving no option other than to burn crops residue. According to farmers, there are insufficient numbers of combines with SMS. "The harvesting cost of combines with SMS is more than Rs 3,000 per acre. We can't delay harvesting. The Government should ensure that the cost of combines with SMS is brought down to less than Rs 2,000," said Tek Chand Dahiya, a paddy farmer from Gudha village near Gharunda, Panipat. Ramesh Battan, another farmer in Phurlak near Gharunda, said he sowed paddy on 32 acre and it would be ready for harvest in a few days. "The village has paddy on nearly 2,200 acre, but has only one Happy Seeder with a

farmer and it can manage 6-7 acre in a day. A Happy Seeder of Rs 1.50 lakh costs Rs 75,000 after subsidy. But it will be used only for six hours in the whole year. How can a farmer invest so much on a machine which is to be used for six hours a year?" he said. "Burning is the only solution to get rid of this trash. We will have to do it again despite knowing that it causes pollution and invite legal action," Ramesh said. Burning of stubble, which is agricultural biomass residue, increases the Particulate Matter (PM) concentration in air which is extremely hazardous for the human health. Further the smog reduces the visibility and is a major cause of road accidents in winter taking toll on human lives. Each year, crop burning in the region is the start of the annual escalation of pollutant concentrations in the air, leading to massive winter pollution in the region. It is further gravitated by the massive usage of firecrackers in the region, around "Diwali". Followed by this, the weather patterns change, making temperatures drop and reducing the dispersion effect of pollutants.

Delhi air turns very poor

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's air quality nosedived to "very poor" category on Tuesday even as authorities put several key measures in place to combat air pollution. The overall Air Quality Index (AQI) of Delhi was recorded at 293, eight points below the "very poor" category, according to the System of Air

Quality Forecasting and Research. A senior Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) official said several factors like vehicular pollution, construction activities and meteorological factors like wind speed are responsible for stagnant pollution in the city despite measures being taken up. *Continued on Page 4*

CAPSULE

PRASHANT KISHORE APPOINTED JD(U) V-P

New Delhi: Janata Dal (United) chief Nitish Kumar appointed Prashant Kishore as the party's vice-president on Tuesday, effectively making him the second most powerful person in the party over a month after he joined it.

FUGITIVE INDUSTRIALIST MITTAL EXTRADITED

New Delhi: Absconding industrialist Vinay Mittal, wanted in seven bank fraud cases worth ₹40 crore, has been extradited to India from Indonesia, officials said on Tuesday.

JASWANT SINGH'S SON TO JOIN CONG TODAY

Jaipur/Barmar: Veteran BJP leader Jaswant Singh's son and MLA Manvendra Singh will join the Congress on Wednesday, ahead of the Assembly polls in Rajasthan in December.

KOLKATA METRO REGISTERS RECORD FOOTFALL ON PUJA

New Delhi: The Kolkata Metro has recorded its highest-ever footfall of more than nine lakh passengers on Shashiti, the sixth day of Durga Puja festival, railways said on Tuesday.

CONGRESS LOSES VOTES IF I CAMPAIGN: DIGVIJAY

Bhopal: A controversy has been kicked off in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh by a viral video in which senior Congress leader Digvijay Singh is heard saying that his party's votes get reduced if he campaigns for it. While Chief Minister

D-Day for Sabarimala: SC order meets devotees' ire

Court ruling comes into effect today

PNS ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala geared up for massive Kunrest on Wednesday over the implementation of the Supreme Court order allowing women of all age groups to enter the Sabarimala temple. With thousands of men and women devotees of Lord Ayyappa opposed to entry of women of menstrual age into the temple and threatening to commit mass suicide, the State administration faces a serious challenge in maintaining law and order situation. Wednesday is the first day when the SC order will come into force. The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB), which manages the temple, held a meeting to find a way to defuse the situation, but Pandalam royal family and other stakeholders walked out over the TDB's reluctance to discuss the issue of filing a review petition against the apex court order. While Chief Minister



Women protesters check Sabarimala-bound vehicles at Nilakkal to ensure that no women of menstruating age are going to Lord Ayyappa temple in dense forests at Sabarimala, on Tuesday

Pinarayi Vijayan has asserted his Government will implement the SC order, the police face an uphill task as hundreds of women devotees of Lord Ayyappa, the eternally celibate deity of Sabarimala, picketed the road to the hill shrine and prevented women they suspected were of menstrual age from proceeding to the shrine some 20 km away. Lustily chanting "Swamiya Saranam Ayyappa" hailing the Lord, the devotees checked buses and private vehicles for girls and women of the "banned" age group and forced them to abandon their journey. Television channels showed some college students, including young girls wearing black dresses, being ordered to get down a bus. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan issued a stern warning to those who dared block devotees from entering the temple. "We will ensure security to all. Nobody will be allowed to take law into their hands. *Continued on Page 4*

35p gain jacks up ₹ to 2-week high of 73.5/\$, markets rally

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

The rupee climbed 35 paise to end at nearly two-week high of 73.48 per dollar on Tuesday amid softening crude oil prices and easing concerns over the trade deficit. Stock markets welcomed a retreat in oil prices and gains in the rupee with the benchmark 30-share Sensex rising by 297.38 points to close at 35,162.48. The NSE Nifty after regaining the 10,600-mark hit a high of 10,604.90 on the back of widespread gains, and finally concluded 72.25 points at 10,584.75. As the equity market continued its winning run for the third straight session on Tuesday, investor wealth soared ₹5.30 lakh crore in the rally since Friday. Traders said foreign fund inflows and greenback weakening against other currencies were the other factors that provided support to the home unit. At the Interbank Foreign Exchange, the rupee opened on a firm note at 73.79 from Monday's close of 73.83. During the day the domestic currency gained further ground to hit a high of 73.47 against the US dollar, driven by selling of the greenback by exporters. *Detailed report on P10*

2 Cong MLAs join BJP, shatter party's Goa plan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress' efforts to form a Government in Goa suffered a major setback when two of its MLAs joined the ruling BJP. Congress MLAs Subhash Shirodkar and Dayanand Sopte on Tuesday resigned from the Goa Assembly and also from the primary membership of the party and joined the BJP at a special event in presence of Union Minister Piyush Goyal. Shirodkar and Sopte reached the national Capital on Monday late night and met BJP president Amit Shah before quitting the party. The Congress has accused the ruling party of "poaching" the legislators by using "money power and threats". Their resignation has now reduced the Congress' strength from 16 to 14 in the 40-member House led by ailing Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar who enjoys the support of 26 MLAs. The Congress had emerged as the single largest party after the 2017 Assembly elections, winning 17 seats. However, within days its number was reduced to 16 when its newly-elected Vishwajit Rane resigned. The Congress had submitted a memorandum to Governor Mridula Sinha, stak-

GOAHOUSE: 40MLAs
Ruling side: BJP 16 + GFP 3 + MGP 3 + NCP 1 + Independents 3 = 26
Opposition: Congress 14 = 14



Goa Congress MLAs are felicitated by Piyush Goyal on joining BJP in Delhi on Tuesday. Alwin Singh | Pioneer

ing claim to form an alternate Government. The Congress had then claimed it has the support of legislators from other parties and can form the Government, if given a chance. The Congress had sensed an opportunity to topple the BJP Government when Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar was admitted into the AIIMS in Delhi and BJP's allies started talking about the need for change of leadership. However, the party manager failed to engineer the much-needed defection in the BJP rank to pose any serious threat to the State Government. *Continued on Page 4*

Allahabad is now Prayagraj as UP Cabinet changes name

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Accepting the demand of saints and others, the Yogi Adityanath Government on Tuesday announced to rechristen Allahabad to its old name Prayagraj. The decision was taken in a meeting of the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet chaired by the Chief Minister in Lucknow on Tuesday. State Government spokesperson and Health Minister Sidharth Nath Singh told reporters that now all departments like Railways and others would be asked to change the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj in their records. "It was the demand of saints and people of Allahabad to restore the historic name of the city and this demand has been accepted by the Government ahead of Kumbh Mela scheduled next year," he said. "Rig Veda, Mahabharat and Ramayana also mention Prayagraj (for Allahabad)," he noted. Earlier, Singh had also written to Governor Ram Naik to consider renaming Allahabad as Prayagraj. He had also ridiculed the Opposition for resisting the renaming process. *Continued on Page 4*

Killer baba Rampal gets life behind bars

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Self-styled godman Rampal was on Tuesday sentenced to life imprisonment by a Hisar court in connection with a 2014 murder case. The court of Hisar Additional District and Sessions Judge DR Chaliya also gave life imprisonment to 14 followers of Rampal, head of Satlok Ashram, and slapped a fine of ₹1 lakh each. The court has pronounced the verdict after a nearly four-year-long trial of the 27 accused in a makeshift court inside the Hisar district jail, where Rampal (67) and his followers have been lodged since their arrest in November 2014. This court will now pronounce the quantum of punishment for Rampal in a second murder case on Wednesday. The court had on October 11 convicted Rampal and 26 of his followers in two separate cases of murder and other offences, including wrongful confinement of his victims at his ashram. The two murder cases



against Rampal relate to the murder of six people, including five women and one infant, during violent clashes between his supporters and Haryana Police at his Satlok Ashram near Barwala town in Hisar district in 2014. Thousands of his followers had clashed with police when they had come to arrest him following directions of the Punjab & Haryana High Court over contempt of court in November 2014. The HC had ordered Rampal's arrest after he failed to appear before the court in connection with a 2006 murder conspiracy case. *Continued on Page 4*



An aerial view of Rani Jhansi Flyover that was inaugurated at Filmistan Cinema in New Delhi on Tuesday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

Hunt on for gun wielding ex-MP son after Hyatt video goes viral

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A manhunt has been launched to nab the absconding son of a former BSP MP Rakesh Pandey, who was booked, for allegedly brandishing a pistol in the foyer of a Hyatt Regency in South Delhi. After the video of the Sunday incident went viral, Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju said police had initiated action in the case. A team of the Delhi Police reached Lucknow on Tuesday in connection with the investigation into the incident in which the accused has been identified as Ashish Pandey, who hails from Lucknow and whose brother, Ritesh Pandey, is a sitting MLA in Uttar Pradesh. One of the victims said the accused walked up to him and hurled abuses. It is suspected that both the parties involved were drunk at the time of the incident, said police officials.

CVC to CBI: Nail firm promoters making fortune at bank cost

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After analysing top 100 bank frauds in the country, the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has directed the probe agencies, especially the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to go after the promoters who are siphoning money from company to create personal wealth and attach their properties. In its 47-page report released on Tuesday, the CVC analysed the banking frauds committed by promoters in 13 sectors including media, gems and jewellery, manufacturing, aviation, services and projects, and discounting of cheques. The report authored by Vigilance Commissioner TM Bhasin, who was former CMD of Indian Bank and chairman of Indian Banking Association, said basic fraud is committed by creating fake invoices and manipulation of accounts to cheat banks by the promoters of the companies. The CVC has shared their report to the Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Finance and major investigating agencies and Vigilance Units of the banks. The report urged that the agencies like, the CBI to take parallel steps to attach the properties of the promoters along with filing of chargesheet and trial court proceedings to recover the loss. It reiterated that agencies should concentrate on money trail from company accounts to promoters' personal wealth creation. The top most vigilance body also noted that gem and jewellery sector is the most non-transparent sector with many fake accounting practices. The report observed that this sector cheats the banks with fake bills with some time with inflated bills or undervalued bills. *Continued on Page 4*

Centre orders special audit of SIC

7-member panel set up to probe misappropriation of funds and misuse of facilities at Safdarjung Hospital's Sports Injury Centre

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The state-of-the-art Sports Injury Centre (SIC) at New Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital is under the Centre's scanner for alleged misappropriation of funds and misuse of facilities.

The Union Health Ministry has set up a seven-member panel, headed by Joint Secretary Rajeev Manjhi, to take up the special audit of SIC's functioning in various areas ranging from equipments and facilities for operation theatres to their procurement and maintenance. The committee has a one-month deadline to submit its report.

This is for the first time that the functioning of the SIC, which was inaugurated in September 2010, just before the Commonwealth Games, with an objective to provide integrated surgical, rehabilitative and diagnostic services under one roof for the management of sports injuries and related joint disorders, is being audited.

The panel was formed following complaints from Dr R K Arya, who recently took over as the SIC Director. Prior to him, the SIC was headed by Dr Deepak Chaudhary, who has now joined a private hospital in the national capital.

In fact, sources said, Dr Chaudhary's resignation is yet to be accepted by the Ministry in the wake of the allegations of corruption in the SIC during his tenure.

The panel is already on job: Constituted on September 20,

2018, the panel has the mandate to audit equipment and facilities for operation theatres with reference to their procurement, maintenance and allied expenditure with particular reference to their usability and usefulness. It is also looking into "equipment and facilities for physiotherapy unit of the centre with reference to their usability and usefulness," said the sources.

Two private diagnostic facilities-M/s Mahajan Imaging and M/s Khanna Pathcare -set up on the premises of the SIC have also come under the scanner. Sources said that the panel is auditing "the revenue sharing with M/s Mahajan Imaging and M/s Khanna Pathcare for radiological and pathological facilities respectively at the SIC."

The other area the panel is probing is about the implants needed by the SIC and Safdarjung Hospital for reconstructive and Orthopaedic plastic surgeries, their availability and plan of procurement by the former.

The team will also audit issues related to allied health-care professionals, recruitment, and service conditions among others.

Sensing widespread bungling, the Ministry has also asked the committee to look into the status of the SIC with regard to whether it is an autonomous body/semi-autonomous body or department under the Safdarjung Hospital administration. Issues related to budget provision for



the two would also be looked into.

The other members of the panel are Dr HL Nag, Professor, Department of Orthopedic, AIIMS, Dr Deep Sharma, Additional Professor and Head of Department (HoD) Orthopedic from JIPMER, Puducherry, Dr DD Maheshwari, Under Secretary (Health Ministry) and Amit Chobey, Deputy Director,

DGHS and one representative each from IFD and Procurement Division in the Health Ministry.

When contacted by The Pioneer, while Dr Arya refused to speak on the matter citing confidentiality, sources said it was he who had rung the alarm bells, seeking a special audit of the SIC. Incidentally, soon after taking over as the head of the SIC, he had also cut

down the prices of some implants. (See box)

However, this is not the first time that the Ministry has investigated the functioning of the prominent centre which is meant to treat sports persons with their injuries.

Last year, in April, the Health Ministry's Directorate General of Health Services had set up a three-member committee to look into what was happening at the SIC. The panel members were Dr K.T. Bhowmik, Dr Anita Jain and Dr R.K. Anand, all from Safdarjung Hospital. The DGHS had noted that the personnel requirements at the SIC for both annual maintenance and operation and facility management services were excessively high. However, the fate of the report is not known till date for the best reasons known to the Ministry.

Comparative price chart of implant used at SIC as on 21/8/2018

Surgery	Earlier Price ₹	Current Price ₹	Price Drop ₹
Surgery knee arthroscopy			
*Single bundle ACLR/PCLR (Adjustable loop endobutton+ Bioresorbable screw)	36,750	27,300	9,450
*Double Bundle ACLR/PCLR (Adjustable loop endobutton + bioresorbable screw)	56,000	54,600	1,400
*Single bundle ACLR/PCLR (Instabutton (Indian) with Bioresorbable screw (Imported))	21,000	16,275	4,725
*Single bundle ACLR/PCLR (Adjustable loop endobutton + bioresorbable screw) + single bundle PCLR Double screw bioresorbable + PLC reconstruction)	1,02,375	79,800	22,575
Surgery shoulder			
*Double row rotator cuff repair	94,500	71,715	22,785
*Bankart repair	69,300	51,000	18,300
Surgery knee arthroplasty			
*TKR	As per NPPA	2,000-4,000 lesser than NPPA	2,000-4,000

(NPPA: National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority)

Rahul living in self-delusion, concocting falsehood: Jaitley

Denies allegation of meeting absconding Nirav Modi in Parliament

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



Mixing his sharp attack on Congress president Rahul Gandhi with a strong dose of satire, Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Tuesday accused the former of living in "self-delusion" and being bereft of facts concocting repeat falsehood on several issues including the Rafale deal, Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Non Performing Assets (NPA).

Writing in his blog titled "Is the Clown Prince out-clowning himself", Jaitley dismissed Rahul's claim that he (the Finance Minister) met absconding jeweler and bank defaulter Nirav Modi in Parliament and helped him escape the country.

"I do not recollect ever having even seen Nirav Modi in my life. The question of his meeting me in Parliament does not arise. If he came to Parliament, as Rahul Gandhi claims, then reception records would show that. Where have I admitted all this Mr.Gandhi," Jaitley asked.

On Rahul's claim that he also met another business tycoon Vijay Mallya in Parliament, the Finance Minister repeated his earlier assertion that he was chased by Mallya in the corridor of Parliament.

"If the factual narrative does not suit him (Gandhi) then concoct an alternative. Repeat the false narrative a dozen times and convince yourself that falsehood is in fact is

the truth. Thereafter, you can comfortably live in self-delusion", Jaitley wrote in his Facebook post.

"Many young lawyers practising criminal law used to get an advice early in their career from veterans in the field. They were told "if you are strong on facts, bang the facts. If you are strong on law, bang the law. If you are weak on both, then bang the desk." Those who advise Rahul Gandhi appear to have persuaded him that he is cut out only for the third option."

Jaitley gave a pointed rebuttal to the allegations and charges levelled by the Congress regarding the contract for the French fighter jets as also the allegations that the Modi Government favoured a private defence firm, Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence, to get the offset contract with Dassault Aviation, at the cost of State-run defence firm Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). Congress had alleged that Reliance Defence "got an advantage ranging from ₹38,000 Crore to ₹1,30,000 Crore," Jaitley noted in his blog post and went on to explain the "truth".

The finance minister said in his blog post, "Rafale aircraft and its weaponry is not being manufactured in India at all, neither by Dassault or by any

other private company. All 36 aircrafts and their weapons in a fully flyable and usable form will arrive in India. After the supplies begin Dassault has to make purchases in India for 50% of the contract value. This is as per the UPA's policy to promote make in India."

"If the total deal is for ₹58,000 Crore, 50 per cent of that amounts to ₹29,000 Crore. These supplies to Dassault are to be made by over 120 offset suppliers and which the business house named is one of them. Dassault has said that only 3 per cent of offset may come to that business house which is less than ₹1,000 crore."

On the issue of "loan waiver" and non-performing assets (NPA) in banks, Jaitley countered Rahul's claims that PM Modi had helped "15 of his friends" get a loan waiver. "Loans were given during the UPA period. Not a single Rupee has been waived," he said.

Cong: Country needs Finance Min, not babble-blogger

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala attacked Jaitley accusing him of "banging" the economy by his "incomprehension". Taking to Twitter, he said the country needed a Finance Minister and not a "babble-blogger". "Hollow rants of a 'Court Jester' - 'Mr Jait-Lie' - won't change the truth that You bang the truth to hide ineptitude, You bang the Rupee by your mismanagement, You bang exports by your incompetence, You bang the Economy by your incomprehension. India needs a FM, Not a 'Babble Blogger', he tweeted.

In a first, India, China to sign internal security cooperation pact next week

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and China will for the first time sign an internal security cooperation agreement next week, marking a new beginning in bilateral relations.

Zhao Kezhi, China's Minister of Public Security, will visit India on October 22 and hold meetings with Home Minister Rajnath Singh during which they will discuss various aspects of security cooperation between the two countries.

During the visit of the Chinese leader, an agreement on internal security cooperation between the two countries will be signed.

The proposed pact is expected to cover areas of intelligence sharing, exchange programme, sharing of best practices, cooperation in disaster mitigation besides others, an official said.

The move comes just a year after a two-month-long border stand-off between the India Army and the China's People's Liberation Army at Doklam on the India-Bhutan-China tri-junction.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held an informal summit in Wuhan, China, in April this year which helped repair bilateral ties.

A Chinese delegation met an Indian team on August 28 to hold discussions on the forthcoming visit of the Chinese Minister of Public Security and the proposed pact on security cooperation between the two countries, the official said.

This will be the first such agreement between the authorities of India and China which look after internal security of the respective countries, the official said.

Centre orders transfer of 2K Sashastra Seema Bal personnel to IB

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has cleared a proposal for absorption of over 2,000 non-combated personnel of the Sashastra Seema Bal into the Intelligence Bureau in order to strengthen the presence of the covert agency along the frontiers with China and Nepal.

The order to the effect was issued by Ministry following a high level meeting between Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba and IB chief Rajiv Jain.

According to the blueprint for movement of the SSB personnel to the IB, the trained, experienced and well acquainted personnel of the paramilitary will be used to upgrade country's intelligence generation and gathering capability along 15,000-kms of India's border. The personnel could undertake tasks aimed at generating nationalist sentiments among the border population. The personnel would be chartered over a period of next few months and both the central agencies will "mutually decide the detailed implementation modalities including those related to transfer of assets of the Sashastra Seema Bal to the IB."



External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj exchanges documents of agreement with her Tanzanian counterpart Augustine P Mahiga in New Delhi on Tuesday

PTI

Crime scene videography mandatory for 6 major cities, Centre informs SC

New Delhi: In a giant leap towards digitisation of criminal investigation, police in six major cities, including Delhi and Mumbai, will mandatorily conduct videography of a crime scene, the Centre has told the Supreme Court.

Besides Delhi and Mumbai, the other cities where videography of crime scenes would be mandatory are Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Chandigarh.

The top court had in April asked the Centre to prepare a plan for introducing videography in criminal investigations to strengthen the rule of law.

Taking the lead, the Gujarat Police has set up a central server which is connected to a specially designed application called "Mobile Pocket Cop".

The app can be downloaded on a cell phone provided to every police station for use in an investigation.

A bench of justices UU Lalit and DY Chandrachud sought a reply in four weeks from home secretary, Gujarat government, on the aspect of testing of another app developed by the Bureau of Police Research and Development as proof of concept.

PTI

MeToo: NSUI prez quits after sexual harassment allegations

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Against the backdrop of the MeToo campaign, NSUI national president Fairouz Khan did not take any chance and stepped down from his post following charges of sexual harassment against him. Sources in the party said that Congress president Rahul Gandhi has accepted Khan's resignation.

Khan, who hails from Jammu & Kashmir, submitted his resignation on Monday evening, saying he quit keeping in mind the party's interests. According to sources, Khan said in his resignation letter that he has decided to step down since the charges against him are hurting the party's image. He, however, has denied the charges against him.

The Congress had set up a three-member committee to look into the issue after a woman, a party worker from Chhattisgarh, levelled charges of sexual harassment against the chief of its students' wing. The panel, which is talking to all the concerned parties, is yet to give its report, the sources

said.

The woman had first complained against Khan in June. She had then met Rahul Gandhi and other senior leaders of the party demanding action against the NSUI president, who, she alleged, had sexually harassed her and her sister and some other women from the party.

She also lodged a complaint against him at the Parliament Street police station in September, saying that she feared for her life and security.

The allegations against Khan have come in the midst of the MeToo movement gathering pace in the country. Congress was under pressure to act against the NSUI chief as the party is seeking action against Union Minister M J Akbar, who has been accused by several former women colleagues of sexual harassment when he served as editor at various media organisations.

The Opposition party has attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for keeping quiet about the allegations against Akbar and has demanded the latter's resignation.

CBI to probe 2017 Tihar custodial violence case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has taken over investigation into the custodial violence at Tihar jail last year where 18 inmates were allegedly beaten up by the prison staff.

The incident had occurred on November 21 last year at High Security Ward of Central Jail No 1 at Tihar. The agency has registered two FIRs in connection with the incident. The CBI took over the case following a directive from the Delhi High Court on May 15 this year.

The cases have been registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code relating to grievous injury and common intention against the then Sub Inspector

S Muthupandi of the Tamil Nadu Special Police and other members of his 52-member team.

The court had ordered the CBI probe in response to a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by advocate Chinmay Kanojia, who had alleged that his client Shahid Husuf, who was being investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), was beaten up without any reason by the jail staff.

The High Court had termed the incident as "very disturbing".

The plea has said a particular community, including Husuf, was being targeted by the jail staff causing serious injuries to him and others.

No material info on number of EVM, VVPAT needed for parallel polls, says EC



New Delhi: The Election Commission does not have any "material information" on the number of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) needed to conduct simultaneous elections, the panel has said in a reply to an RTI query.

Pune-based Vihar Durve, through his RTI application, had approached the Commission seeking to know the availability and need of EVMs and VVPAT to carry out elections across the country in 'one nation, one poll' mode.

In his response, Election Commission undersecretary Madhusudan Gupta said, "The information sought by you is not available in any material form as mentioned under Section 2 (f) of the Right to Information Act."

The section defines information as "any material in any form, including records, documents, emails, opinions, advices, press releases, logbooks, con-

tracts, reports, papers, samples, data material held in any electronic form and information relating to any private body which can be accessed by a public authority under any other law for the time being in force".

In their discussions on holding simultaneous elections in the country, the EC officials had said they would need around ₹4,500 crore to buy nearly 12 lakh additional EVMs and an equal number VVPAT machines.

The estimate was based on the current cost to procure the devices.

BJP president Amit Shah had written to the Law Commission on August 13 supporting holding the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls simultaneously.

A paper by the Law Commission had recommended holding the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls in two phases beginning 2019.

Political parties are divided on the issue. PTI

INSHORT

RAILWAYS BRACES FOR FESTIVAL RUSH



New Delhi: Railways is preparing to ferry around 16 crore passengers in the next 30 days to clear the festival rush. This will include about 10 lakh additional passengers to be carried by trains which were introduced last year during Chhath.

HARIVANSH STRESSES ON FREE, FARE TRADE

New Delhi: Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh who is currently attending the 139th Assembly of the Inter Parliamentary Union at Geneva on Tuesday emphasised the need for sharing the benefits of international free and fair trade and investment to enable the people to seize the opportunities and benefits of economic globalisation.

INDIA, UAE TO DEEPEN DEFENCE COOPERATION

New Delhi: India and the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday agreed to deepen their defence cooperation in a range of areas including military-to-military exchanges, training of personnel and defence production. The decision was taken during talks between Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and the UAE's Minister of State for Defence Affairs Mohammed Ahmed Al Bowardi Al Falacy.

'NO DIFFERENCES. ALL SUPPORT VASUNDHARA'

New Delhi: Asserting that there were no differences among the leaders in poll-bound Rajasthan, the party's election in charge for the State Prakash Javadekar on Tuesday said there was only a "communication gap" which has been bridged and the entire unit was behind Chief Minister Vasundhara Rajae.

HEALTH MINISTER HOLDS ZIKA CONTROL MEETING

New Delhi: Union Health Minister J P Nadda on Tuesday held a high-level meeting to review the activities for prevention and control of Zika virus and seasonal influenza in the country and stressed on the need for undertaking exhaustive control measures including intensive fogging for next month in order to ensure vector control in the area.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacting with the medal winners of the 2018 Asian Para Games in New Delhi on Tuesday

PTI

Shukla enters 'Ektama Parisar' in protest

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Senior Congress leader and former Member of Parliament Karuna Shukla, who is also niece of Late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee created uproar on Tuesday while claiming that the BJP is doing disrespect to urn which contained ashes of the former Prime Minister while still keeping it at the BJP's 'Ektama Parisar' office in Raipur.

She blamed that the ashes were not yet immersed as per rituals and was kept in the office.

Later, the police reached the spot and Karuna Shukla and other leaders of Congress party who had entered Ektama Parisar were arrested.

Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee President Bhupesh Baghel was also present near Ektama Parisar and kept an eye on movements of party colleagues but didn't enter the BJP's office premises.

The matter got heated when a regional electronic news channel aired a news while showing alleged disrespect of the Urn containing ashes of former PM kept at the 'Ektama Parisar'.

Shukla while taking cognizance of the matter charged that her sentiments were hurt with the alleged act of BJP.

She accompanied by other



KARUNA SHUKLA CHARGES BJP OF KEEPING URN CONTAINING ASHES OF FORMER PM LATE ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE'S IN 'EKTAMA PARISAR' INSTEAD OF IMMERSING THEM AS A RITUAL

leaders later reached the BJP office and staged a sit-in there.

In between, BJP Co-Organizational General Secretary Saudan Singh and Chhattisgarh In charge of BJP Anil Jain also entered the office.

Raising slogans against

BJP, the Congress leaders led by Karuna Shukla created uproar in the BJP office and a minor scuffle was also reported with the BJP workers present there. Later police was called and the Congress leaders were arrested.

It's soil for late PM's Memorial, not ashes: Dharamlal Kaushik

It was not the ashes of Vajpayee but the soil collected from different parts of country: BJP chief

PNS ■ RAIPUR

Over alleged issue of senior Congress Leader and niece of late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Karuna Shukla terming insult to ashes of late PM, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in a strong worded statement said that the Congress party should not stoop so low in politics.

Denying the allegation in a hurriedly called media briefing, State BJP President Dharamlal Kaushik said that it was not the ashes of late Atal Bihari Vajpayee but the soil being collected from different parts of State in the plastic bottles for the proposed Atal Memorial at Atal Nagar. The bottles has started to arrive in state capital.



On former MP Karuna Shukla, Kaushik said that she is always welcome as for her, the office of BJP would ever remain open.

"She could have quietly walked in and even checked if any such act of disrespect is being shown to her paternal uncle by the BJP or its leaders", Kaushik said.

He said that had if she was so much concerned about her paternal uncle, she should have arrived when the ashes were there and took some part, so that it could have been immersed with rituals as a family member.

LURING OF CONGRESS MLA INTO BJP

Political storm erupts on alleged audio clip

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

A political storm has emerged with charges being traded by both Congress and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) against each other after an alleged audio clip in which interaction of one 'Kambal Wale Baba' and Lundra Congress MLA Chintamani Maharaj had been released linked to allurements to join the BJP.

While the BJP has categorically denied the allegation, the Congress party has termed that the alleged allurements began during Antagarh Lok Sabha bye-poll and is still continuing in the State.

As per alleged audio interaction between 'Kambal Baba' and Lundra MLA, the Baba was allegedly luring Chintamani Maharaj while stating that Ramdayal Uike had been lured with Rs 10 crore cash and ministerial post as assurance to join the BJP.

Baba had offered Uike victory in polls and post of minister if he joins BJP. When Chintamani raised the suspicion, Baba was assuring that the

interaction would not be leaked nor any photograph be taken during the interaction with party leaders.

The 'Kambal Baba' is said to be the person doing treatment of State Home Minister Ramsevak Paikra for diabetes. Chintamani in the interaction could be heard saying that he cannot breach the trust of Congress party.

Chintamani Maharaj while talking to media persons claimed that the voice in the audio clip released is his and for last three days, phone calls were coming on regular basis. The offer for money was of ₹1.50 crore and post of minister including meeting with Chief Minister, to leave Congress party.

Attacking BJP over the issue, Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee President Bhupesh Baghel said that BJP had started it in Antagarh.

"It has come out that Home Minister visits Kambal Baba who had said that he would help to form BJP government. Now it is in public as to how BJP carries out the dealing," he said.

Baghel sought probe in the case of Ramdayal Uike also.

He said that BJP does not believe in democracy that is why it is trying to fill the loss by indulging in such act.

Reacting to the incident, Chief Minister Raman Singh said BJP has the capability to win election on its own and there is no need for luring candidates.

"BJP is going to win 65 seats and return to power. There are many Babas running their shops to polish their own identity. BJP does not keep any relationship with such people," he said.

Denying of any act, State BJP President Dharamlal Kaushik said that BJP has nothing to do with the viral audio. The party does not need assistance of any person to win election.

On statement of BJP National General Secretary and State In-charge Anil Jain that more Congress leaders are waiting to join BJP, Kaushik categorically denied to comment on it and said that media should seek information from Jain to clarify on it.

True face of BJP unmasked: Baghel

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Launching a scathing attack on Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee Chief Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday said that the alleged incident of the BJP luring Congress party leaders shows that it doesn't believe in democratic traditions.

In a statement, Baghel said the viral audio has unmasked BJP and was showing that anyhow it wants to retain power.

The 'Kambal Wale Baba' is close to the State Home Minister and he had already claimed that he (Baba) would make effort for making the BJP government this time and the current incident is a proof of his effort, he alleged.

The way the BJP is luring leaders has now come to fore before the people of the state and they will give a befitting reply in the upcoming elections, Baghel said.

INC lodges complaint on violation of MCC



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee lodged the complaint with Chief Electoral Officer seeking assessment of advertisement published on October 15, birthday of Chief Minister, as part of violation of election model code of conduct. The party pointed out that before releasing advertisement prior permission was not taken from Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC). Party sought immediate action on it.

Submitting the complaint, former Raipur Mayor and Media Committee member Kiranmayee Nayak stated that as

per norms prior permission of MCMC has to be taken before publication of advertisements. On October 15, photograph of Chief Minister along with BJP Member of Parliament, and photographs of ministers and party symbol, full page advertisements were released in all prominent Hindi newspapers, which were two to four pages. One of the newspapers carried four page special editions, which falls under paid news. The estimated total cost of advertisements is ₹ 1.53 crores.

Kiranmayee said that as per model code of conduct, after October 6, if any proposed candidate or his supporters released any advertisement, which is before filing of nomination,

after filing, the expenses would be added to the election expenses. Similarly, in social media like Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, WhatsApp also such advertisements were released.

Congress leader urged that after MCMC verification, all the expenses be added to the election expenses of Raman Singh. It has been released by different cabinet ministers and all have knowledge of election rules. In case, if they are also in election fray, these expenses be added to their election account and commence Income Tax probe. As with notification for polling in first phase, the assembly constituency of Chief Minister would also go for poll.

MCMC certifies ads for publication

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

One application for clearance of advertisement was received by the Media Certificate and Monitoring Committee which was cleared in the maiden meeting of committee chaired by additional Chief Electoral Officer Dr S Bharatidasan, at office of Chief Electoral Officer.

One State level and in each district level one MCMC has been constituted

The committee cleared the advertisements for the publication by issuing no objection certificate.

The certificate committee has Dr Renuka Shrivastava (Returning Officer Raipur South, Akashwani Programme head S Padmaja and Doordarshan Programme head PK Shrivastava.

As per the Election Commission of India directive, one State level and in each district level one MCMC has been constituted. MCMC constituted at State level a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the chairperson.

The members are one Returning Officer of Raipur, Chhattisgarh and two class I officers.

Farmer loans to be waived off if Cong forms Govt: Singhdeo



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Chairperson of Election Manifesto Committee of Chhattisgarh unit of Congress party T S Singhdeo on Tuesday reiterated that loans of farmers would be waived off and their power tariff bills would be curtailed to half if the party forms Government after Assembly polls in the State.

Notably, Singhdeo had also sought suggestions from more than one lakh citizens from every walk of life for the party's poll manifesto in the making.

Citing several suggestions and making certain declarations, Singhdeo claimed that the party will release the poll manifesto by November 8.

Addressing a press conference here on Tuesday, Singhdeo claimed that the party will prepare the manifesto in such a manner that none of the

promises turn out to be 'hollow.' "We will make promises with expenditure to be made on tasks in a separate column and a comprehensive manifesto would be prepared with an expected budget estimate of around Rs 80,000 crore keeping in view the budget of previous year while setting our priorities, he said.

The manifesto covers the issues of all sections of life whether be it farmers, labourers, government employees, Ad-Hoc employees, students, doctors, health workers, trade unions, vegetable and fruit vendors and we will try to fulfill the aspirations of all of them, he said.

Regarding curbing corruption in the state, Singhdeo said the party will have 'Lokpal' as has been advised by social worker Anna Hazare.

About stand of Congress

party on tackling Naxal menace, he said three pronged action would be implemented. At first the Maoists would be invited for talks, in second step we will execute development in the insurgency infested area so that they could join the mainstream and third option is of stern action if the two earlier steps don't work.

The Congress leader also stated that party is against outsourcing and if it comes to power it will implement 'zero' outsourcing. Local industries would also be persuaded to train the local youth and employ them instead of hiring from outside, he said.

Singhdeo also declared that for farmers, the party will provide Rs 2500 Minimum Support Price per quintal of paddy including the bonus which the BJP had failed to provide.



The preparations for effigy burning of Ravan on Dussehra has begun in Raipur

Santosh Sahu | Pioneer

Day one passes without any nomination papers filed

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The poll process has been kicked off in Chhattisgarh for the first phase of polling with the respective eight District Electoral Officers (DEOs) who are also district collectors issuing notification for polls including the schedule of filing of nomination papers.

The nomination filing opened on Tuesday with notification during morning hours as part of Assembly Election 2018. On day one, no nomination papers were filed in 18 assembly constituencies.

Even though the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and opposition Congress has not officially announced the candidates for first phase of polls, both parties are undertaking extensive meetings for declaring the candidates so to file nomination before the last date. Meanwhile, other parties like AAP, Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (Jogi) and other parties have already declared their candidates.

With the notification, the prominent candidates likely to contest elections are Chief Minister Raman Singh from Rajnandgaon seat, School

Education Minister Kedar Kashyap from Narayanpur, Mahesh Gagda from Bijapur, Deputy Leader of Opposition Kawasi Lakhma who had been retaining the seat till date from Kanta, Santosh Bafna, who had won twice from Jagdalpur seat which is a general seat in tribal belt. BJP sources informed that Vikram Usendi, Member of Parliament from Kanker is likely to contest state assembly election. He had also earlier elected to assembly before contesting Lok Sabha polls.

As per information received from Chief Electoral Officer, the notification has been issued by Sukma district for Kanta Assembly constituency, Bijapur district for Bijapur, Dantewada district for Dantewada, Bastar district for Chitrakote, Bastar and Jagdalpur, Narayanpur district for Narayanpur, Kondagaon district for Keshkal and Kondagaon, Kanker district for Antagarh, Bhanupratappur and Kanker, Rajnandgaon district for Khairagarh, Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon, Dongargarh, Khujji and Mohala-Manpur Assembly constituencies. Last date for submission of nomination papers is October 23.

PM to give keys to PMAY beneficiaries in Maha

Mumbai: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hand over keys of houses to some beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) and interact with them at popular temple town Shirdi in Maharashtra on October 19, an official said on Tuesday.



Modi will be present at the e-griha pravesh ceremony for 40,000 beneficiaries of the affordable housing scheme of the Government, he said. The Prime Minister will also participate in functions to mark the conclusion of the year-long Saibaba Samadhi centenary programme organised by the Sai temple trust. Modi is also expected to perform ground breaking ceremony for some projects of the trust, including the new "darshan" queue shelter to be constructed in the Sai temple, the official said.

Legislative Council Dhananjay Munde Tuesday claimed that the State Government is spending ₹2 crore to bring beneficiaries for the October 19 function. The State Government has allocated ₹2 crore and given targets for its officers to identify and escort the beneficiaries to the event, Munde claimed. "None of the Government schemes are reaching the target group. So now they've opted for false promotion of the schemes, with elections approaching," he alleged. "In fact, PMAY is merely

the old Indira Awas Yojana combined with a few other schemes and rechristened. Its implementation has been such that they are having to search for beneficiaries now. Also given the drought situation, why are Government funds being spent on such propaganda?" he said. Munde said the Rural Development Department, headed by his estranged cousin Pankaja Munde, was spending Government money to arrange food and travel of those attending the event and for putting up banners on buses. **PTI**

Rahul to visit AIMIM fortress

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD

Congress will take its fight against All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) to its heart — the old Hyderabad when party president Rahul Gandhi will visit Charminar on coming Saturday. Telangana State Congress president N Uttam Kumar Reddy told the reporters on Tuesday that Rahul will visit the historic monument to commemorate Rajiv Gandhi Sadhbhavana yatra.



During the day long visit Rahul will attend the commemoration meeting in the shadows of Charminar, present Rajiv Gandhi Sadhbhavana award to veteran Congress leader and former Chief Minister K Rosaiah and address the meeting. He will later fly to another Muslim pocket Bhainsa in Nirmal district and addressing an election meeting there. Muslim dominated old city of Hyderabad was traditionally a fortress of MIM and it represents 7 Assembly con-

stituencies in the city apart from winning the Hyderabad Lok Sabha seat uninterrupted from 1984. Ever since the relations between the two parties broke about a decade ago on a sour note, and MIM became a close friend of ruling TRS over the last five years, Congress has been bitterly attacking MIM leadership. Interestingly BJP President Amit Shah has also vowed to give a tough fight to MIM and wrest its seats in the coming elections. In his response MIM President Asaduddin Owaisi challenged Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to contest against him from Hyderabad. "Congress party would give a tough fight on all seats of Old City of Hyderabad in next elections and would win at least 2-3 seats", Uttam Kumar Reddy said.

Cong loses votes if I make speeches: Digvijay Singh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/BHOPAL



A controversy erupted in Apoll-bound Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday after a video went viral in which senior Congress leader Digvijay Singh is heard saying that his party's votes get reduced if he campaigns for it. The video was recorded on October 13 but it emerged on a day Congress president Rahul Gandhi is in the State to campaign for the upcoming Assembly elections. Singh, the two-time former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, has been conspicuous by his absence in the programmes and rallies which Gandhi has been addressing in the State over the last few weeks. ". Mera kaam keval ek. Koi prachar nahi, koi bhashan nahi. Mere bhashan dene se to Congress ke vote kat-te hai, mai jata nahi" (I have only one job, no campaigning, no speech. When I deliver a speech, Congress votes get reduced, so I don't go)," Singh is heard saying in the video. In the video, in which he is

seen talking casually to party workers at the residence of MLA Jitu Patwari here, Singh also advises Congress workers to campaign for candidates wholeheartedly to achieve victory. "Dekho, khwaab dekhte rah jaoge agar kaam nahi kiya to. Nahi banegi sarkar aise kaam kiya to. Jisko ticket mile, chahe dushman ko mile, jitao (You will continue dreaming if you do not work. You can't form the Government if you work like this. Even if the ticket is given to a rival in the party, you should ensure his victory)," he is seen telling the party workers. Singh however said the video was not being shown in a proper manner. "It is not being shown in the right man-

ner, especially the first part. If you hear the first part, you will understand it in a proper way," Singh said. The ruling BJP was quick to take a dig at the opposition party over Singh's comments, with Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan saying the Congress should not treat one of its senior leaders in this manner. "We (BJP) have not given him (Singh) this pain. It was given by the Congress itself. His posters are not being put up, he is not being given prominence," Chouhan said. "I never imagined the Congress will treat one of its leaders in this manner. Congressmen should, at least, respect their leader," the chief minister added. State Congress chief Kamal Nath parried questions on Singh's video by saying, "I am not aware of the context in which he was stating this". Polls for the 230-member MP Assembly are scheduled for November 28 while counting of votes will be taken up on December 11.

17 women scribes back Ramani, to testify against Akbar over MeToo

New Delhi: As the #MeToo movement gains ground, 17 women journalists who have worked with 'The Asian Age' newspaper, came out in support of their colleague Priya Ramani who has accused Union Minister M J Akbar of sexual harassment, said a joint statement issued by them. The journalists have urged the court to hear their testimonies against Akbar, claiming that some of them suffered sexual harassment by the Minister and others have been a witness to it.

"Ramani is not alone in her fight. We would request the honourable court hearing the defamation case to also consider the testimonies of sexual harassment of some of us at the hands of the petitioner, as also of the other signatories who bore witness to this harassment," the journalists said in the joint statement undersigned by them. Meenal Baghel who worked for Asian Age (1993 to 1996), Manisha Pande (1993-1998), Tushita Patel (1993-2000), Kanika Gahlaut (1995-

1998), Suparna Sharma (1993-1996), Ramola Talwar Badam (1994-1995), Hoihnu Hauzel (1999-2000), Aisha Khan (1995-1998) and Kushalnani Gulab (1993-1997) have signed the statement. Kaniza Gazari (Asian Age 1995-1997), Malavika Banerjee (1995-1998), A T Jayanthi (1995-1996), Hamida Parkar (1996-1999), Jonali Buragohain, Meenakshi Kumar (1996-2000), Sujata Dutta Sachdeva (1999-2000) and Sanjari Chatterjee are the other journalists to sign the statement. **PTI**

KCR takes populist path to woo voters

Vows farm debt waiver, unemployment allowance, hike in welfare pensions

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Rashtra Samiti has unveiled a part of its manifesto for the coming Assembly elections in the State and promised ₹3,016 per month unemployment allowance for the jobless youth. TRS President and caretaker Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao came out with fresh promises after a

meeting of the manifesto committee on Tuesday in Hyderabad. He said that after coming to power the TRS Government will study the models of unemployment allowance being implemented in various States and decide the modalities of its implementation including the eligibility criteria. "We will pay the allowance to all the unemployed youth irrespective of their numbers. From the comprehensive household survey we have an idea" he said. KCR came out with another set of promise to help the state farmers stand on their own feet. He promised another round

of waiver loans to the tune of ₹1 lakh per farmer. The incentive under the Rythu Bandhu scheme will be increased from ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 per acre per crop and every farmer will get ₹10,000 for two crops per acre every year, he told the media. He also promised that the age of eligibility for the old age and other pensions will be brought down to 57 years and it will be increased to ₹2,016 per month. The State has 40 lakh beneficiaries of pension schemes for aged, single women, widows, differently abled, beedi workers and toddy tappers.

Delhi air turns very poor

From Page 1

Several measures are in force in the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) like mechanised sweeping of roads, ban on garbage burning, pollution control measures at brick kilns and deployment of police to ensure smooth passage of traffic at vulnerable areas. The use of gensets has also been banned in the city but they are being allowed to operate in parts of the NCR due to

power issues. The emergency plan gets implemented if "very poor" or "severe" air pollution levels are recorded for 48 hours but given the extent of winter pollution witnessed in the national Capital, the plan has been implemented as the air quality slipped to the "poor" category, the official said. In addition, the CPCB has also deployed 41 teams to monitor the implementation of measures taken to combat air pollution. On Tuesday, Anand Vihar recorded an AQI of 381, Dwarka Sector 8 registered AQI of 373, ITO recorded 296 and Jahangirpuri recorded an AQI of 321, according to CPCB data.

Killer baba Rampal...

From Page 1
To prevent the godman's arrest, Rampal and his aides had barricaded themselves and holed themselves up inside the sprawling 12 acre Satlok Ashram. The controversial godman was arrested on November 19 after a two-week long stand-off between his followers and police which had left six dead and several others injured.

During his participation in Kumbh Margdarshak Mandal meeting at Allahabad with saints some time back, Yogi had assured to rechristen Allahabad as Prayagraj. The meeting was also attended by Governor Ram Naik, who had instantly given his nod.

Prayag was renamed as Allahabad by Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1580 as he maintained that it was Allah's place and hence coined its name. "The wrong that the Mughal emperor did should be corrected. We expect that the Chief Minister will issue orders for changing the name of Allahabad as Prayagraj," the saints had advocated. In 2001, after the Kumbh Mela, then Chief Minister Rajnath Singh and then Governor Vishnu Kant Shastri had also favoured changing the name of Allahabad to Prayagraj but the promise remained unfulfilled.

was suspended by the Speaker. Shirodkar and Sopte had faxed their resignation letters to Speaker Pramod Sawant. Goa Pradesh Congress Committee president Girish Chodankar said the BJP has engineered a split in the Congress in a bid to "manufacture" majority in the House. The Congress had last month demanded a floor test while claiming that the BJP-led alliance Government is in disarray in view of the ill health of Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar. "The BJP has engineered

CVC to...

From Page 1

Giving details of the frauds in the gem and jewellery sector, the report cited different modus operandi by private companies, including inflating the valuation of diamonds with the malafide intention to avail higher credit facilities from the lenders. It cited absence of effective mechanism in banks and certain other loopholes that led to frauds in this sector and suggested systemic changes. "The gem and jewellery sector credit facilities to these companies increased manifold within a short span of time in an effort by the banks to increase their credit dispensation. There should have been some segment related limits on such type of credit exposures," the report suggested.

The major recommendation was the use of real time information technology and strengthening the core banking system and its linking with all major units of the banks. The CVC also noted that automated money transfer system like SWIFT is at present not available to many officers of the banks. The report suggested that this should be available to all senior banking officers to detect frauds in automated transferring money. The report also noted many internal frauds committed by banking staffers by obtaining commission from canvassing deposits from Government organisations and PSUs. "These studies have been done by the commission as a preventive vigilance tool by utilising its vast experience of handling various cases of frauds and staff accountability related matters," said Bhasin.

He said as a conscious decision and with a view to maintaining discreteness, the names of borrower accounts or entities, and the names of the banks have not been disclosed in the report. "However, steps are being taken for all encompassing actions such as investigation by the premier investigative agencies, fixing staff accountability and recovery measures, etc. For effective action," he said.

Bhasin said the findings have also been shared the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The measures suggested include strengthening of standard operating procedures (SOPs) and the monitoring system, and also highlighting the role of controlling offices, so as to examine the aspect of quality of business, Bhasin said.

2 Cong MLAs join BJP, shatter party's Goa plan

From Page 1
However, the Congress maintained that the twin resignations were not a setback for the party as they were confident of roping in four MLAs from the BJP in their fold. "It is not a setback for the Congress. We may have been reduced by two numbers, but our efforts to form the State Government will continue. They have taken two of our MLAs and we will get four from their camp," Goa Congress spokesperson Nilkant Halarnkar said. Congress Legislature Party

(CLP) held a meeting on Tuesday in Panaji during which the current political situation in the coastal State was discussed. Coming out of the meeting, former Chief Minister and Congress legislator Pratapsinh Rane said his party will fight back. "They have left the party but they will have to face by-elections. We will fight it out during the election," Rane said. Meanwhile, the resignation letters of two MLAs were allegedly "leaked" on social media by a member of the watch and ward staff of the Legislative Assembly and he

split by taking away two MLAs of the Congress in a bid to manufacture majority on the floor of the House, which indicates that the ruling party lacks majority," alleged Chodankar. He said rest 14 MLAs of the Congress would remain together and there is "no possibility of any further split in the party". "The BJP is trying to break the Congress and poach MLAs either by using money power or terrorising them. Some MLAs had said in the past that they and their family members had been threatened," he said.

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D-Day for...

From Page 1

My Government will not allow any violence in the name of Sabarimala," he told reporters in Thiruvananthapuram as followers of Lord Ayyappa virtually besieged Nilackal, about 225 km from the State capital. "Stern action will be taken against anyone who prevents devotees from going to Sabarimala," he warned, and ruled out any rethink of his Government's decision against seeking a review of the Supreme Court order. "We will go by what the Supreme Court says," he asserted. The TDB, meanwhile, went into a huddle with stakeholders, including the Pandalam royal family representatives and priests, to soothe the frayed tempers amid escalating protests by the Hindu right and common Ayyappa devotees. There was, however, no breakthrough. The meeting also attended by Ayyappa Seva Samajam and Yoga Kshema Sabha ended in a deadlock as the TDB stuck to its stand of not filing a review petition. "It is very painful and we cannot agree. We wanted a decision on filing the review petition to be taken today itself, but the board said it can be discussed only at the next meeting of TDB on October 19," Shashikumar Varma, a member of the Pandalam royal family said. "We all wish that Sabarimala should not be made

a war zone," Varma, the president of Pandalam Royal Palace Trust, told journalists after walking out of the meeting in a huff. TDB president A Padmakumar, however, dismissed suggestions that the meeting was a "failure". "What they (stakeholders) wanted was to file the review petition now itself. But the Supreme Court is closed till October 22. They also wanted to maintain the status quo on the customs and traditions. "As the Supreme Court has passed a verdict, what can the board do? But the board will continue to talk with them to resolve the issue," Padmakumar said. He said the October 19 meeting will take up the issue of the review petition. Kerala has witnessed a series of protests and prayer marches over the last few days over the Government's decision to enforce the Supreme Court order. The Shiv Sena recently warned of "mass suicides" if women of menstrual age were allowed into the temple. Some other organisations have said women and girls aged between 10 and 50 years will have to tread on them before entering the temple. Actor-turned-BJP politician Kollam Thulashi went to the extent of saying women of "banned age" visiting the shrine should be "ripped apart".

IIM-R holds 'Garba Night'



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The students of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Raipur came together to celebrate the 'Garba Night' in festival of Navratri the other day. The event was organized by RANG, the institute's Cultural Club. It was the first cultural event which was orga-

nized in IIM's newly constructed campus at Atal Nagar. The theme for the night was "Deck up and Dance Out". The event started with worshipping Lord Ganesha and Goddess Durga and by praying for the bright future of students and the Institute at large. The IIM Raipur student and staff fraternity came out in huge numbers to join the event.

Punjab-Israel cooperation to see a new high: Punjab CM

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday paved way for his visit to Israel next week, with the confidence that it would open new vistas of growth and cooperation in key areas of mutual interest, particularly the agriculture, horticulture and dairy sectors. The Chief Minister, accompanied by a high-level delegation, is scheduled to leave for his five-day visit to Israel on October 21. At a meeting with Charge de' Affairs of Israeli Embassy Maya Kadosh, the Chief

Minister also hoped to share Israel's expertise in the field of internal security to further strengthen the State's defence preparedness. Seeking to position Punjab as the most favoured investment destination among foreign investors, Capt Amarinder said that his Government was keen to tap the technological advancements on offer by Israel. India and Israel share glorious historical ties which should be fully harnessed through mutual cooperation to ensure overall growth and prosperity for both sides, said Capt Amarinder.



Bharatiya Janata Party State Election Committee meeting was held at Ekmatra Parisar on Tuesday. BJP State president Dharamlal Kaushik, Chief Minister Raman Singh and other leaders participated. Meeting was held for finalisation of list of candidates which would be then sent to Central Committee.

14 Iran security personnel abducted on Pak border

AFP ■ TEHRAN

The province has long been a flashpoint, with Baluchi separatists and jihadists based in Pakistan regularly attacking security posts

Fourteen Iranian security personnel, including Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) also known as *Pasdaran- Inqilab-i Islami* intelligence officers, were abducted on the volatile south-eastern border with Pakistan on Tuesday, State media reported.

The border guards were "abducted between 4 am and 5 am in the Lulakdan area of the border by a terrorist group," the official IRNA news agency said.

Lulakdan is a small village 150 kilometres southeast of Zahedan, capital of the south-eastern province of Sistan-Baluchistan.

The 14 were involved in "a security operation" and included two members of the elite Revolutionary Guards intelligence unit, seven *Basij* militiamen and five regular border guards, the Young Journalists' Club (YJC), a State-owned news website, said.

The report was deleted from the YJC website shortly afterwards.

The province has long been a flashpoint, with Baluchi separatists and jihadists based in Pakistan regularly attacking Iranian security posts.

On September 28, the Guards said they had killed

four militants who had slipped across the border.

Sistan-Baluchistan has a large, mainly Sunni Muslim ethnic Baluchi community which straddles the border.

Sunni extremist group *Jundallah* (Soldiers of God) launched a bloody insurgency in the province in 2000 targeting the security forces and officials of Iran's Government.

The campaign peaked with a spate of deadly attacks from 2007 — including twin suicide bombings against a Shiite mosque that killed 28 people — but abated after the group's leader was killed in mid-2010.

In 2012, *Jundallah* members formed a successor organisation called *Jaish al-Adl* (Army of Justice), which has carried out a spate of attacks on the security forces.

Iran has alleged that the group has received support from the US, Israel and Saudi Arabia, with the complicity of Pakistan.

TRUMP URGED TO DECLARE CHINA 'CURRENCY MANIPULATOR'

Washington: Expressing concerns over China's currency actions, a top US Senator has urged US President Donald Trump to name China as a "currency manipulator".

Raising concerns about the depreciation of the Chinese yuan against the dollar, Senator Tammy Baldwin in a letter to Trump said that ever since his administration's tariff actions began in the spring, the yuan has fallen nine per cent.

Writing to Trump ahead of the release of the report, Baldwin reminded Trump about his election promise that he would declare China a currency manipulator on the very first day.

"But in three previous reports you have failed to do so. I am concerned that China's currency actions amount to manipulation, in violation of World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules. I ask that you use your upcoming report to make good on your promise to name China a currency manipulator and begin the statutorily-required process to encourage China to correct its undervaluation," the Wisconsin Senator said. **PTI**

Saudis likely to admit Khashoggi died during interrogation: Report

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is understood to be preparing a report in which it is likely to admit dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi died during an interrogation at its consulate in Istanbul, according to a media report.

Khashoggi is feared to have been killed inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey. The incident has resulted in a global outrage and more so in the US as he lived here as a legal permanent resident and worked for *The Washington Post*.

US lawmakers have been demanding scrapping of the \$110 billion mega defence deal with the Saudis, whereas heads of several companies, CEOs, newspapers have announced not to attend an upcoming finance conference in Saudi Arabia.

President Donald Trump on Monday talked to the Saudi King, during which the latter flatly denied having any knowledge of the missing journalist.

Officially Saudi Arabia has insisted that the journalist left its consulate, but so far has not been able to give any proof of it. Trump, who has warned Saudi Arabia of severe consequences, has dispatched his Secretary of State Mike Pompeo for talks with the Saudi leader.



People hold signs during a protest at the Embassy of Saudi Arabia on Wednesday in Washington. **AP**

Saudis agree for 'thorough' probe into missing dissident writer: US

Riyadh: US top diplomat Mike Pompeo met Tuesday with Saudi King Salman and the crown prince seeking to defuse a crisis over missing dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi, with American officials saying Riyadh had agreed the need for a "thorough" probe.

The urgent talks came after Donald Trump dispatched Pompeo to the Gulf kingdom amid a growing international outcry about Khashoggi's disappearance. Khashoggi has not been seen since he walked into the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on October 2 to sort out marriage paperwork. "Rogue killers" could be to blame, Trump said after telephone talks on Monday with the King. **APF**

Ecuador asks Julian Assange to take better care of cat: Report

London: WikiLeaks co-founder Julian Assange has been given a set of house rules at the Ecuadorian embassy here that include taking better care of his cat and cleaning his bathroom, a media report said Tuesday.

The whistle-blower, who has been holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy since 2012, was sent a memo in which he was warned that his feline companion could be confiscated, the BBC reported.

The 47-year-old Australian national was also told to look after its "well-being, food and hygiene" in the set of guidelines, written in Spanish. Assange had his online access cut in March this year after "interfering in other countries' affairs", Ecuador said.

In a set of guidelines presented to him this month, Ecuador warned Assange to provide better care of the feline that he shares the embassy with or it may be handed to a refuge.

The cat — which was given to Assange by his children — often appears at the embassy window to watch the journalists gathered outside.

The cat also has its own Twitter feed, which says it is "interested in counter-purveillance".

It is unclear what is behind Ecuador's concern over Assange's treatment of his roommate, the report said.

On the subject of cleanliness, however, Assange tweeted earlier this year: "Save water, don't shower." Some reports said Assange is prohibited from "interfering in the internal affairs of other states" or from activities "that could prejudice Ecuador's good relations with other states." **PTI**

US highly concerned with militarisation of SCS: Mattis

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The United States remains highly concerned with China's continued militarisation in the South China Sea and its predatory economic behaviour, US Defense Secretary James Mattis said Monday.

"We remain highly concerned with continued militarisation of features in the South China Sea. Plus, we look at what we consider to be almost predatory force in the relations between the two countries," Mattis said.

Responding to a question, Mattis said the US is not looking for a confrontation with China. "We are not seeing a more military, confrontational approach vis-a-vis China," he said.

China that's grounded in fairness, reciprocity and respect for sovereignty. That means respect for international rules and for all nations' sovereignty, whether they're large or small, he said.

"So, we're two large powers, or two Pacific powers, two economic powers. There's going to be times we step on each other's toes, so we're going to have to find a way to productively manage our relationship. And the military relationship is to be a stabilising force in the relations between the two countries," Mattis said.

Referring to the major policy speech of Vice President Mike Pence last week, Mattis said the Trump administration seeks a relationship with

Israeli fire wounds 32 Palestinians in Gaza protest



AP ■ GAZA CITY

Gaza's Health Ministry says 32 Palestinians have been wounded by Israeli fire during a mass protest along the beach near the Israeli frontier.

Protesters threw flaming tires over the fence Monday, while fishing boats hoisted Palestinian flags. Israeli forces responded with tear gas and live fire. The ruling Hamas militant group has been staging border protests for the past six months in hopes of easing a crippling Israeli-Egyptian blockade.

It has intensified the protests in recent weeks as Egyptian-mediated cease-fire efforts have faltered. Over the weekend, Israel halted Qatar-donated fuel shipments to Gaza's power plant in response to the escalated protests. Since March, 155 Palestinians participating or attending the protests were killed.

Israel says it is defending its border. An Israeli soldier was fatally shot in July.

Trump suggests 'rogue killers' murdered Jamal Khashoggi

AP ■ WASHINGTON

In a comment that could give Saudi officials a route to climb down from outright denials, President Donald Trump has suggested that "rogue killers" could be responsible for the disappearance and presumed murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who hasn't been seen since entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul two weeks ago.

Trump's comment came after a 20-minute phone call with Saudi Arabia's King Salman in which Trump said the king adamantly denied any knowledge of what happened to Khashoggi.

Trump announced he'd dispatched Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to the kingdom — and anywhere else necessary — to get to the bottom of the apparent demise of Khashoggi, a Saudi who had been living and working in the United States.

GLOBE TROTTER

ROAD ACCIDENTS KILL 15 IN PAKISTAN

Multan: Pakistani officials say at least 15 people, mostly women and schoolgirls, were killed in two separate road accidents.

Police officer Mohammad Tahir said a speeding bus rammed into a van carrying schoolgirls near the city of Sargodha on Tuesday, killing six girls and the van driver, and seriously wounding three other girls.

EX-PAK FINANCE MIN'S PROPERTY ATTACHED

Islamabad: Former Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's property in Pakistan has been confiscated and efforts to extradite him are underway, the Supreme Court was informed on Tuesday.

CHINESE BISHOPS INVITE POPE FRANCIS

Vatican City: Two Chinese Catholic bishops attending a Vatican meeting for the first time following a landmark deal between Beijing and the Holy See said Tuesday they have invited Pope Francis to visit.

HALF WOMEN IN ETHIOPIA CABINET

Addis Ababa: Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on Tuesday unveiled a downsized Cabinet where, in a first, half the members are women, a top official said.

MONGOLIA INVITES KIM JONG UN TO VISIT

Ulaanbaatar: Mongolia has invited Kim Jong Un to visit the nation's capital, which once hoped to host the historic summit between the North Korean leader and US President Donald Trump, an official said Tuesday.

EGYPTIANS FARMED FISH 3.5K YRS AGO: STUDY

Jerusalem: Egyptians practised fish farming more than 3,500 years ago, the earliest evidence of such activity worldwide according to a joint German-Israeli study released on Tuesday. Scientists studied 100 fish teeth found at archaeological sites across modern-day Israel to conclude they had been plucked from a lagoon in Egypt's Sinai thousands of years ago.

Britain records surge in religious hate crime: Home Office data

PTI ■ LONDON

Britain has witnessed a surge in the incidents of religious hate crime over the past few years, mostly aimed at Muslims, according to official figures released Tuesday.

The UK Home Office data revealed that 94,098 hate crimes were recorded by the police in England and Wales in 2017-18, an increase of 17 per cent on the year before.

This annual increase equates to a 40 per cent spike for "religiously-aggravated hate crime",

UAE CHARGES BRITISH STUDENT WITH SPYING

Dubai: The United Arab Emirates has charged a British PhD student with spying in the Gulf country, as his wife Tuesday called on Britain to defend his innocence.

Matthew Hedges stands accused of "spying for a foreign country, jeopardising the military, political and economic security of the state", UAE attorney general Hamad al-Shamsi said late Monday.

The 31-year-old, who was researching the UAE's foreign and internal security policies after the 2011 Arab Spring revolutions, was detained at Dubai airport on May 5. **AFP**

China's Communist party expels former military chief

PTI ■ BEIJING

China's ruling Communist Party has expelled former military chief Gen Fang Fenghui from the party and referred his graft case to a military court for trial, the military said Tuesday.

Gen Fang, 67, headed the 2-million-strong People's Liberation Army (PLA) till last year. He was also the former chief of the Central Military Commission (CMC), which is now headed by President Xi Jinping.

The CMC is the overall high command of the Chinese armed forces.

ORIENTAL NAGPUR BETUL HIGHWAY LIMITED
 Regd. Off.: OSE Commercial Block, Asset 5B, Aerocity, Hospitality, District, IGI Airport, New Delhi-110037
 Tel: 91-11-46044604, Email: spv.ose.secretarial@gmail.com
 CIN: U45400DL2010PLC203649

(AUDITED HALF YEARLY FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018)
 (Amount in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Particulars	Half year Ended 30.09.2018 (Audited)	Half year Ended 30.09.2017 (Audited)	Year Ended 30.09.2018 (Audited)
1	Total Income from operations (net)	30,980.67	24,739.10	49,977.56
2	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax and Exceptional Items)	12,892.19	10,562.36	19,609.72
3	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional Items)	12,892.19	10,562.36	19,609.72
4	Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional Items)	7,460.64	7,865.00	17,252.82
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	7,460.64	7,865.00	17,252.82
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital	1,813.45	1,813.45	1,813.45
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	97,365.43	80,508.87	89,896.69
8	Net Worth	99,178.88	82,322.32	91,710.14
9	Paid up Debt Capital	8,796.02	7,906.38	8,326.93
10	Debt Equity Ratio	2.83:1	3.34:1	3.14:1
11	Earnings Per Share (of Rs 10/- each)			
	1. Basic:	41.14	43.37	95.14
	2. Diluted:	41.14	43.37	95.14
12	Debt Redemption Reserve	55,461.78	7,734.25	48,001.14
13	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.08:1	1.20:1	1.11:1
14	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	1.95:1	2.05:1	1.82:1

Notes:

a) The above is an extract of the detailed format of half yearly audited financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulations 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the half yearly audited financial results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange(s) and the listed entity. (URL of the filings).

b) The above financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on October 15, 2018.

c) Ratios have been computed as follows:

(i) Debt Equity Ratio = Paid up Debt Capital/Equity, where,

- * Equity represents issued, subscribed and paid up share capital and other equity
- * Paid up Debt Capital represents long-term and short-term borrowings excluding deferred payment liabilities and finance lease obligations.

(ii) Interest Service Coverage ratio = Earnings before finance costs, tax and depreciation / finance costs.

(iii) Debt Service Coverage ratio = Earnings before finance costs, tax and depreciation / (finance costs + net principal repayment of paid debt capital during the period/year).

(iv) Net worth represents Equity.

(v) Paid up equity capital represents issued, subscribed and paid up share capital.

d) For the items referred in sub-clauses (a), (b), (d) and (e) of the Regulations 52(4) of the SEBI (Listings and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the NSE Stock Exchange (s) and can be accessed on the URL (specify URL).

For and on behalf of Board of Directors of
Oriental Nagpur Betul Highway Limited
 Sd/-
 Sanjiv Bakshi
 Director
 DIN - 0020852

Date: 15.10.2018

Aro granite industries Ltd.
 CIN : L4899DL1988PLC031510
 Regd. Office : 1001, 10th Floor, DLF Tower A, Jasola, New Delhi - 110025
 Ph. : 011-41686169, Fax : 011-26941984, Email : arodelhi@arogranite.com, Website : www.arogranite.com

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulation 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Saturday, the 27th October, 2018 inter-alia to approve the Audited Financial Results for the second quarter and six months period ending 30.09.2018.

The above details of the said meeting are also available on the website of the Company www.arogranite.com and also at the website of the Stock Exchanges www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

For **Aro granite industries Ltd.**
 Sd/-
 Sabyasachi Panigrahi
 Company Secretary & Compliance Officer.

Place : New Delhi
 Date : 17.10.2018

Corrigendum No-02

Name of office: Executive Engineer/ TS, HVPNL, Hisar
 Ph: 01662-220998, 9354689298

E-Tender Enquiry No – 08/2018-19/XEN/TS Div. HVPNL, Hisar (Tender ID 99838) Dated: 22 -09-2018 due for opening on (08 -10-2018) has been extended as under

Revised due date of submission of tender 22-10-2018 upto 13:00 Hrs.

Revised due date of Opening of E - 22-10-2018 at 15:00 Hrs. tender

The other terms and conditions of NIT also modified. For detailed NIT please visit website <https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in> or our website at <https://www.hvnpn.org.in>

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer,
 TS Divn. HVPNL, Hisar

RO NO. 72889 Dt. 16-10-2018

WESTERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM

Sr. No.	Notice Number & Date	Work	EMD amount as per published NIT ₹	Revised EMD amount ₹
1	CA/11/Bulk Tender (NKT)/2018 Dated: 25.09.2018	Bulk Advertising Rights of Churcharge station Non ticketing area over Mumbai Division on Western Railway for a period of 5 years	1,08,37,069/-	20,41,930/-
2	CA/11/Bulk Tender (TKT)/2018 Dated: 25.09.2018	Bulk Advertising Rights of Churcharge station ticketing area over Mumbai Division on Western Railway for a period of 5 years	87,70,552/-	16,50,853/-
3	CA/11/Bulk Tender DDR/FOB/2018 Dated: 26.04.2018	Bulk Advertising Rights of Dadar station (FOB's) over Mumbai Division on Western Railway for a period of 5 years	67,76,676/-	12,75,552/-
4	CA/11/Bulk Tender DDR/PF&BK/G/2018 Dated: 26.04.2018	Bulk Advertising Rights of Dadar station platform & booking over Mumbai Division on Western Railway for a period of 5 years	78,51,194/-	14,77,824/-

The NIT, Tender Document and Corrigendum is uploaded on website www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in

Like us on: [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follows us on: [Twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

UJVN Limited
 H.O. : "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
 Telephone: 0135-2763898, Fax No. : 0135-2763598
 CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

"e" Procurement Date Extension Notice

Due to unavoidable circumstances, due dates of receipt of bid in portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>" and opening of the bid at website against e-NIT No. **03/EE(P&C)/2018-19** for Procurement of HP make cartridges for various offices of UJVN LTD. located at Dehradun, invited by the office of the EE(P&C),Ganga Bhawan, Yamuna Colony, Dehradun is hereby extended as follows:

Last Date/Time for receipt of bid in the portal : 24.10.2018 upto 16:00 Hrs.
 Date of opening of bid on the website : 27-10-2018 at 13:00 Hrs.
 Time for submission of original documents as mentioned of above tender : Date 25-10-2018 upto 11:00 Hrs.

All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://uktenders.gov.in>"

655/UJVNL(AdvT) Dated 15-10-2018 EE(P&C),Ganga Bhawan, Dehradun
 "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer (E) ED-16, CPWD, VidyutBhawan, New Delhi-110001 (Phone: 011-23413773/ Fax : 011-23413774) on behalf of President of India, online Percentage Rate tenders for the following work:-

1) In Two Bid System, NIT NO- 37/EE(E)/ED-16/2018-19. Name of Work: RMO 8 passenger lift installed at Niti Aayog, New Delhi. (SH: Operation of 8 passenger lift) Estimated Cost Rs. 14,55,628/- Earnest Money Rs. 29,113/- Period of completion 12 Months. Last time and date of submission of bids 24/10/2018 at 2:00pm.

2) In Single Bid System, NIT NO- 39/EE(E)/ED-16/2018-19. Name of Work: MOE1 & fans at Niti Aayog, New Delhi. 1. (SH:- Attending day to day complaints and maintenance of 1st floor, VIP rooms, Conference room and other related rooms i/c passage) 2. (SH:- Providing services of khallasi to assist wireman/ mechanical/ lift operator). Estimated Cost Rs. 11,79,732/- Earnest Money Rs. 23,595/- Period of completion 12 Months. Last time and date of submission of bids 24/10/18 at 2:00pm. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD or www.cpwd.gov.in or www.eprocure.gov.in.

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
 (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
 Corporate Identity No. UA40109UP2001SGC025867/2358
 Victoria Cross Vajra Ganga Singh Ujja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun - 248001 Telephone - (0135) 2763072-75, Fax - (0135) 2760229, Website : www.uptenders.in

E-TENDER NOTICE (SPECIFICATION NO.CCP-II/22/2018-2019)

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., invites e-tender for following as given here under :

Sl. No.	Description	Estimate Cost (in ₹) (in lacs)	Average Annual Turnover of the bidder for last three financial Years (in ₹) (in lacs)	Earnest Money (in ₹)	Cost of tender document including GST (in ₹)	Last date & time of online request for Tender and submission of tender in online & offline mode	Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online & offline mode
01	Engagement of consultant for Audit of receivables for sale of power.	24.60	73.80	73,800/-	1180/-	05.11.2018 upto 17.00 Hrs.	06.11.2018 at 15.30 Hrs.

For further details, please visit our website www.uptenders.gov.in

No. 526/EE (CM) /UPCL /A-2 / Dt. 15.10.2018

Superintending Engineer Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION. Use Led Bulb Save Electricity. (Toll-Free - 1912) "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org"

(For information on Electricity theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

COMMENT & ANALYSIS Sir Syed Khan: The renaissance man

As we celebrate the 201st birth anniversary of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan today, his invaluable contributions towards bringing about an Indian renaissance are worth commemorating

No matter how much successive Governments may have done to make India a major power, we lag behind China

With Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping of China scheduled to meet for the fourth time this year on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Argentina next month, the focus on Sino-Indian ties and the two major competitors for regional and/or global power status is in focus again. The relationship between the two Asian giants has proven to be resilient enough to put the tensions of Doklam 2017 behind it, but it is still, realistically, an unequal one with the balance of power very decidedly in favour of Beijing. While everybody and their uncle has an opinion on what India has, or has not, done right, there is relatively less attention paid to how China has over the past two decades risen.

Clues can be found when you drive past the Hongqiao hub on the western outskirts of Shanghai and where you might just notice the massive train yard beside the highway. But the trains parked there aren't your regular locomotive and coaches; all the trains are high-speed trainsets, each capable and regularly achieving speeds of 350 kilometers per hour on a daily basis. Unlike France and Japan, where high-speed rail was developed in the 1960s, there was no concept of a high-speed rail in China until the mid-2000s. Indeed, one could argue that at the turn of the millennium, India's rail network was far superior to anything in China. But in a decade-and-a-half, China has laid down 30,000 kilometers of high-speed track. Not only is that a multiple of all the high-speed rail track elsewhere in the world, we in India, to put it perspective, get excited over the concept of even 'semi-high-speed' tracks where our trains manage around 160 kilometers per hour. While we have started work on a high-speed track, povertarian politicians say we can't afford it. But a supposedly socialist society can. How?

The answer to that question can be found in the factories where Chinese work 11-hour shifts in industrial units which is why they have become the factory to the world whereas in our outposts of communism in India 'workers' demand to be paid even to watch others work because it is their 'right'. Ratan Tata once famously cribbed about the work ethic of Western workers compared to Indians to the former's detriment. But the fact is that we have nothing on the Chinese. Which is why every single year they're pulling further ahead of us and we will just keep fighting amongst ourselves. Yes, but we have a democracy and Facebook of which we are definitely in favour of retaining the former. But is democracy and rule of law not being undermined each day as kids die of malnutrition, inequality grows, jobs are hard to find, growth looks as though it may stall, investment is drying up, social media campaigns occupy the minds of the urban elite, social tensions are rising? Modi is doing his best as have other Prime Ministers before him. But unless there is a resolution to our perennial internal crises, parity with China in any meaningful way is distant dream.

50 WORD EDIT Name game

There can really be no objection to the Yogi Adityanath Government's move to change the name of the city of Allahabad back to its ancient name Prayag or Prayagraj. But it does indicate the sense of priorities that occupy our leaders' minds. While nobody is arguing a name-change and better civic services can't go hand in hand, the fact is that Allahabad is plagued with issues from sanitation to law and order and lack of employment opportunities to a filthy Ganga, none of which yet been addressed.

Shashi's sallies

Shashi Tharoor certainly knows what he is doing. The question is, do the Congress and BJP?

Congress MP from Thiruvananthapuram Shashi Tharoor has once again set the cat among the pigeons with his statement, factoring in the clarification he issued, which amounted to saying that while he conceded most Hindus do indeed believe Lord Ram was born at the Ayodhya Jamnasthan, he kind of hoped that no 'good' Hindu would want a temple to be built by destroying another's place of worship. His 'unclarified' statement, as it were, made at a literary event previously, seemed to suggest that no good Hindu would want a Ram Temple at Ayodhya which the BJP, of course, has latched on to. While it suits the BJP — whose spokesperson stretched logic to its extremities by discerning in Tharoor's statement evidence that the Congress high command was trying to whip up sentiment against the construction of a Ram Temple — to play the issue for as long as it has traction given the coming Assembly polls, the Congress needs to get a fix on what its campaign pitch will be. Tharoor is willy-nilly a front, even if he doesn't intend to be, for those in the party who seem to be convinced that there is space in the polity for a 'reclaimed' Hindu mainstream which in their view is uncomfortable with the 'hard line' taken by some in the BJP. This section of Congress leaders' thinking is that co-terminus with wooing the minority vote which is anyway not going to the BJP and has to be fought for by the Congress with various regional forces in different States, it's makes sense to make a play for the 'moderate', relatively educated, urban 'Hindu' vote. But much like its new-found love for Hindu symbols, identities and temples, in articulating this allegedly evolved, 'moderate' view, the party does itself no favours by statements of the Tharoor kind which end up offending most people because they are seen as utilitarian. The gift of the gab has its pitfalls.

The BJP too, however, needs to take note of this development within Congress ranks rather than only use hyperbole to hit these perceived wild tosses out of the park. For, as the lasting legacy of one from its own pantheon, AB Vajpayee, has shown, there is indeed a place for moderate politics from an Indian tradition that he epitomised. If middling achievements on secular issues such as the economy, infrastructure, jobs and services are the cause of anti-incumbency against the BJP, a moderate line may be better placed to counter it than amplifying fundamentals. The latter strategy works best electorally when the secular governance trends are either very bullish or abysmally bearish. It may be too late to course correct in time for the Assembly polls but it's surely a lesson worth keeping in mind for the General Election come 2019.



Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was born to a noble Syed family in Delhi on October 17, 1817, and gradually earned the reputation of a distinguished scholar at that time. By the second half of the 19th century, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan became one of the most charismatic and far-sighted person who realised the need to educate the Indians in general and the Indian Muslims in particular. He felt that empowerment came only with knowledge, awareness, character and social identity.

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was a dynamic person, a versatile genius, a scholar, social reformer, educationist, historian, archaeologist and linguist who was gifted with a rare vision and intellect. He was one of those pioneering and revolutionary figures of history who shaped the destiny of the nation and also changed the course of history. Sir Syed, a great doyen of education in India, devoted his entire life for the educational uplift-

ment of a community which was despondent, dejected and was socially, economically deplorable after the fall of the Mughal empire. The aftermath of the tragic events of the mutiny of 1857 had made him ponder deeply about the morass of degradation and chaos into which the Indian Muslims had plunged. Eventually, Sir Syed became the man whom destiny had chosen to play the role of a messiah for the community. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was very intelligent and a dedicated person. Even as he had differences of opinion for the opening of a college, he convinced the community that this was the only way to go forward and become successful. The movement started by him, commonly known as the Aligarh Movement, heralded the era of an intellectual and cultural renaissance for the Indian Muslims. His movement was an offshoot of this and laid the foundation for Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College in 1877 which was later converted to the Aligarh Muslim University in 1920.

Sir Syed's liberalism and educational thinking found full manifestation in the ideals of the MAO college which were eloquently stated as "free enquiry, pure morality and large-hearted tolerance" at the time when the foundation stone was being laid by the Viceroy, Lord Lytton on January 8, 1877. Sir Syed was probably the first intellectual who presented the meaning of 'culture' as prevalent in the West in the 19th cen-

POINT COUNTERPOINT

Many people from the ruling party were in touch with me. Vishwajit Rane used to call me often. He has a fear psychosis... — Coa Congress leader CHALLAKUMAR

I have no interest and I never contacted him, though he had tried to reach me. There is no question of me contacting Chellakumar. — Coa BJP Minister VISHWAJIT RANE

All set for Telangana poll

Chandrashekar Rao has played his cards well. The popular perception is that his party, the TRS, will win the Assembly poll. A united Opposition, however, can dent its votes



Telangana, the country's youngest State, will face elections on December 7 for the second time since its birth in 2014. Chief Minister Chandrashekar Rao took a big risk by advancing the Telangana Assembly polls by eight months. It was also his bravado to announce the list of 105 candidates on the same day even before the Election Commission of India announced the polling dates. But the question is: Will he succeed in his gamble?

Though it was the Congress Government at the Centre then that agreed for a bifurcation of the State in 2014, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) came to power, riding on the Telangana wave. Contrary to its expectations, the Congress was split off from both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

As there is no wave this time, the polls are a fight for survival for the Opposition, including the Congress. The Telugu Desam Party (TDP), the Congress, Communist Party of India and the Telangana Jana Samithi have formed a *Maha Kutami* (grand alliance) against the TRS. M Kodandaram of the Telangana Joint Action Committee, who has fallen out with KCR, heads the Telangana Jana Samiti (TJS). Interestingly, the Congress and the TDP, one-time arch-rivals, have come together gasping for political survival. It is not clear how their chemistry will work. The TRS did not expect this development but is taking the alliance seriously.

In 2014, the TRS won 63 out of the 119 seats while the splintered Opposition was reduced to 56. The Congress and the TDP won 21 and 15 seats respectively. Rao has systematically decimated the Opposition and strengthened his party by poaching on the TDP (13) and the Congress (12) as also other parties. The Congress and the TDP strategists hope that the former will get a big chunk of upper caste Reddy, SC/ST and minority votes and the TDP can get a substantial number of its core OBC votes.



Rao is now facing new challenges. He has built a personality cult around himself. He has made his son KT Rama Rao as his number two in his Cabinet, his nephew Harish Rao as a Minister and daughter Kavitha as an MP. The Opposition is trying to make his style of authoritarian functioning, dynastic rule and his secret understanding with the BJP as election issues besides jobs and non-delivery of promises. The TRS is now ready to bail out the BJP in case it misses the 272-mark in next 10 surveys done and is confident that his party would get at least 100 seats while realists put it at 70 or 80 seats. He believes that the surprise element will go

Why did Rao go for this gamble? Astrologers rule KCR on practically everything. Before taking the decision, KCR got at least 10 surveys done and is confident that his party would get at least 100 seats while realists put it at 70 or 80 seats. He believes that the surprise element will go

in his favour. Rao wants the polls to be a KCR versus the rest and not a Modi versus KCR. He is confident of winning as neither the Congress nor the BJP or the TDP has local leaders of his stature. If he wins, he proposes to install his son Rama Rao in the Chief Minister's post and move to national elections. KCR has big dreams of becoming the next Prime Minister. On the plus side, the KCR Government has already announced many welfare schemes, including Rythu Bheema and Rythu Bandhu schemes for the farmers. He has also taken up various projects such as Kaleshwaram project, Mission Kakatiya, Haritha Haram and Mission Bhagiratha. The manifesto will come up with more poll promises. Besides, Telangana is also one of the top rankers in the ease of doing business rankings. It registered an increase in gross domestic product growth and industrial development. It is way ahead of other States in the per person consumption of power, progress in the service sector and IT exports.

However, it is not all hunky dory for KCR as he has not delivered on the two-bedroom house scheme, transformed the BCD unit into Golden Telangana, filled up 1.50 lakh vacancies or provides jobs to those killed in the Telangana agitation. From a surplus State, it has now become a revenue deficit State.

Traditionally, the Congress had the backing of dominant Reddys and Scheduled Castes while the TDP had a substantial number of its core OBC votes. The Congress is seen as a Reddy party while the TRS is Velmala party. Muslims and Dalit voters are key to the polls. The State, a part of the erstwhile Nizam territory, has around 12 per cent Muslim population. The AIMIM, a one-time ally of the Congress, has moved closer to the TRS and both have decided to go for friendly contests where they have no conflict of interest.

Most surveys predict a clear win for the TRS. As of now, the prediction is that it is advantage TRS, although fight by a united Opposition can dent its votes. But the lack of a Telangana wave is a big minus. A win or lose ultimately depends upon Opposition unity, youth support, anti-incumbency and communicative skills of the players. (The writer is a senior political commentator and syndicated columnist)



SIR SYED WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST INTELLECTUAL WHO PRESENTED THE MEANING OF "CULTURE" AS PREVALENT IN THE WEST IN THE 19TH CENTURY. HE COMPREHENSIVELY DEFINED AND ALSO REVIEWED ITS ELEMENT AND DYNAMICS

He comprehensively defined and also reviewed its element and dynamics which was one of the objectives of his journal *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq*. He began with an emphasis on the foundation of Muslim cultural thought on scientific lines and for this purpose, set up the scientific society. It was due to the strong personality and intellectual stead-fastness of Sir Syed that educated people began to follow him. Sir Syed Khan in his writings through *Tahzeeb-ul-Akhlaq* emphasised two things on which the educational vision should be based: Adoption of modern education and moral education. Sir Syed was a great intellectual, an enlightened and forward-looking educationist, an outstanding literary genius, an erudite theologian, a versatile writer, a fearless journalist, a pragmatic social reformer, an apostle of secularism and Hindu-Muslim unity, and a very distinguished architect for modern India. He was a farsighted and practical man and, hence, realised that India is a multi-religious, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multilingual country. He was, therefore, convinced that the Muslims of our country could not make any worthwhile progress in any sphere of life unless they learn to live in a society which had so many divergent elements in it. Unity in diversity is India's distinguishing feature. He was not only aware of it but also felt proud of it. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan once said, "We (Hindus and Muslims) eat the same crop,

drink water from the same rivers and breathe the same air. As a matter of fact, Hindus and Muslims are the two eyes of the beautiful bride that is Hindustan. The weakness of any one of them will spoil the beauty of the bride (*dulhan*)."

"We believe in inspiring minds, improving their intellectual capacity and building character which our students will treasure for their lifetime. We also endeavoured to inculcate social values and principles of personal excellence and care for others, said the Vice-Chancellor Professor Tariq Mansoor of Aligarh Muslim University, who is also one of the prominent surgeons of this country." He further expressed his feeling that "AMU doesn't only focus on education but it works in a manner by developing personal qualities such as leadership, teamwork, determination, flexibility, confidence, self-belief, respect etc, in all to mould a versatile person and become successful in his career. AMU focuses on creating a holistic learning environment."

Professor M Sufyan Beg, principal, Zakir Husain College of Engineering and Technology, also serving as the Chairperson of the Alumni Affairs Committee said that the message, teachings, philosophy, vision and ideology of Sir Syed have become more relevant today than ever before not only for the Muslims but for the entire community. Despite popular belief, Sir Syed was a firm believer of the importance of Hindu-Muslim unity for India to prosper. He realised

that together, we can achieve more and he strived for a united country until his last breath. The most important first contributions to Sir Syed for the construction of building came from Hindus like Choudhary Sher Singh, Kunwar Lekhraj Singh, Raja Shiv Narain Singh, Raja Ghanshyam Singh, Raja Uday Pratap Singh, Lala Phul Chand, Lala Vasudeo Sahai and others. Their name continues to adorn old buildings of AMU. And what better tribute could have been paid to Sir Syed's idea of Hindu-Muslim unity and the idea of a cosmopolitan, modern India he championed than this — the first student to pass out of MAO college (AMU) was Mr Ishwari Prasad, was a Hindu not a Muslim.

As a tribute to Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, the Government of India should expand the horizon of AMU in the country and increase the grant to enrich the existing infrastructure of the university. Keeping the sentiment of the people of this nation, it would also be a welcome gesture by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to declare October 17 as Sir Syed Day. To carry the legacy of this great noble soul, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Aligarh Muslim University vice-chancellor Tariq Mansoor has clearly said that he will continue with Sir Syed's vision of imparting modern education. (The writer is a well-known linguist, author and columnist and teaches at the Department of Linguistics at the Aligarh Muslim University)

A peaceful living for the leopard

Amid the sorrowful story of the two super cats — the Asiatic Lion and Royal Bengal Tiger — is the story of the smartest big cat, the Indian leopard, which is on the path to re-capturing its lost habitats...



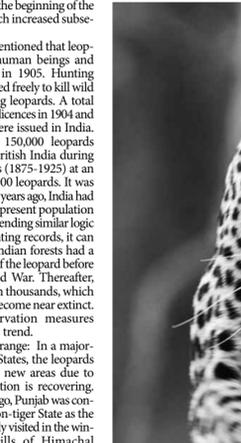
The two super cats, the Asiatic lion and the Royal Bengal tiger, drew the maximum attention of conservationists in India. But the third largest cat, the Indian leopard, has its own story under the shadow of its two big tribes. Two recent stories — one, the death of 23 lions in Gir due to COVID and Pratozoa infections and second, the hunt for a man-eating tiger in Maharashtra — grabbed headlines in Indian newspapers and electronic media.

But this story is about the smartest big cat — the Indian leopard (Panthera pardus fusca), a subspecies of the nine subspecies of all leopards in the world. It is widely distributed across the country — from Jammu & Kashmir in the north-west to the southern part of Tibet in China in the north-east. It is also seen in Cape Comorin in the south and in the Gir forest (Saurashtra) and thorn forest in the arid zone of Kachchh in the west to the moist forest of Myanmar in the eastern border of India.

Similarly, about two and a half dozen of leopards marked their presence in the Shivalk of Haryana a decade ago. The animal dispersed from the Shivalk of Himachal Pradesh and from the Aravallis hills ranges of Rajasthan to the forests of Haryana. At present, forests in 10 districts in Shivalk and the Aravallis of Haryana have been captured by the leopards in good numbers.

At present, the Indian leopard is distributed in 29 States and one Union Territory. Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh have over two-thirds of the total leopard population of the country. In the 1990s, the leopard's presence was recorded in 196 sanctuaries and national parks across 26 States in the country.

Since then, the number of States and protected areas has increased and expanded. As per latest reports, the animals' presence has been registered from 384 national parks and wildlife sanctuaries across the country, although few other protected areas seasonally or occasionally visited by the leopard.



Area of these leopard supporting national parks and wildlife sanctuaries is about 136,550 km. Of this, about 50 tiger reserves and their buffer zones in 17 States are occupied by the Tigers and five national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in Gujarat by the Asiatic lion. In the rest of the leopard supporting protected areas, the leopard is a top predator but compete with the hyena. Experts believe that though the sanctuaries and national parks accommodate a good number of the animal, a large number of them are found outside these boundaries than those within, and some are using non-forest areas, including scrublands, tea garden, ravines, sugarcane fields and another vegetation cover.

In the State of Gujarat, as per the leopard census report in 2011, about 38.2 per cent of the leopard population was counted in the protected areas. In the State of Karnataka, the leopard population was counted in 25.2 per cent, 44.1 per cent and 35.3 per cent respectively. An analysis of data from 12 major leopard States reveals that about one-third of the



leopards were found in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. Also, based on census reports of a few States, about 15 per cent of the leopards used habitat beyond the boundaries of the forests.

Leopards occupancy in the major part of 14 tiger States was 173,900 in 2014. As per the rough leopard distribution range, provided by the Chief Wildlife Wardens and wildlife experts in the States, the leopards occupy about 114,000 km in other 15 States and Union Territories. Thus, the leopards occupy over 287,900 km forest areas of the country. Tea gardens have become a major man-leopard conflict zone because a good number of them breed and hunt in these areas. At least 5,670 km of the hilly terrain or slopes in Nilgiri hills (Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka), Darjeeling hills, drained lands of Doosars and Terai down the hills in West Bengal and moderate hills and slopes in Assam and other such lands in the North-East States, Uttarakhand and Himachal are under tea cultivation. Presence of leopard and human-leopard conflict in these tea gardens have been recorded for over 100 years. Most of these areas form contiguous leopard habitat with the adjoining forests.



The Indian leopard is distributed in 29 States and one Union Territory. Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh have over two-thirds of the total leopard population

Recently, maximum human-leopard conflicts were recorded in and around the sugarcane fields in some States. Sugarcane cultivation has expanded with the expansion of irrigation network. The adaptive big cat has successfully exploited the dense sugarcane crop for littering. During the last five years, the extent of sugarcane cultivation in India ranged from 44,360 Km to 50,670 km. Leopards are frequently seen in the sugarcane fields. Majority of such dense tall crops in the four States — Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, which cover about 31.9 per cent of the sugarcane cultivation area in the country — are infested by the leopard. The animal is also seen in the sugarcane fields in Terai belt in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

A recent paper, 'Big Cat in Our Backyards', published by the journal 'Public Library of Science', made headlines by reporting up to six resident leopards per 100 km in the sugarcane fields in Sangamner region of Maharashtra. The big cats hide in the dense cover of sugarcane crops during the day, preying on dogs, pigs, cat, and poultry in the night in the villages and towns. When one or two leopards killed five people in Mandvi Taluka of Surat district, Gujarat in the post-monsoon and early winter in 2010, while hunting and trapping the man-eater, about two dozen leopards, including dogs, were eliminated from the sugarcane areas of the village in three months. When a leopard killed four people in sugarcane zone in Veraval in Junagadh (Gujarat) in March 2012, a total of nine leopards were trapped and removed from the area. There are several such stories in the sugarcane belt.

The extent of forests cover with canopy density of more than 10 per cent is 683,925 sq km in 29 States and one Union Territory which support leopards. The shrublands and ravines outside the forests also support leopards. In the leopard State, about three-fourth of the forest cover is expected to be potential habitat, although present occupancy area of the leopard is lesser than the potential habitat. The analysis indicates that the leopard occupancy area in India may be in an extent of over 300,000 km, although potential habitat is high.

(This is the first article in a two-part series on Indian leopards. The second part will appear in these columns on Thursday, October 18. The writer is Member, National Board for Wild life)

Together, we can fight fake news

This refers to the article, "When nationalism takes over the internet" (October 16) by Dipayan Pal. Rumours and fake news that have been circulated by cyber-nationalists must effectively be dealt with to unplug the panic channel that can instigate the mob to lynch. Recent cases of lynching have their origin in hate-speeches and rumours in social media, which snowballed to street murders. It was reported that some Rajeshwari, an Indian police officer in Telangana, ordered training sessions for 500

police officers to counter fake news. Officials go to villages and spread awareness about social issues. They have also joined WhatsApp groups in villages to nip any rumour in the bud. Given that lynching has become a new normal, Rema Rajeshwari's model needs to be followed in every district of the country so as to effectively stop rising incidents of lynching. West Bengal police have also done a good job by tackling rumours timely and effectively. Recently, a fake news that the

State Government had sanctioned a five-day Eid holiday was doing the rounds in social media. But the police over there promptly took help of Twitter to dispel the truth. Such administrative vigil is the need of the hour to weed out any kind of hatred generating rumour. There should be an effort to build strong public opinion against lynching as it throws down the gauntlet to the law of the land. Suji De Kolkata

Restoring Ancient Names Madhu Agrawal Delhi

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CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016

AGP set to meet JPC members to oppose it

ANUP SHARMA ■ GUWAHATI

Assam's regional political party Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) has decided to meet the members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 to express their opposition to the proposed Constitutional Amendment Bill before October 23.

Senior AGP leader Kamala Kalita said this on Tuesday while adding that an AGP delegation will go to New Delhi soon to meet each of the 30 members of the JPC on Citizenship (Amendment) Bill to impress upon them the dangers looming large on Assam if the Constitutional Amendment Bill is passed.

"We have met the JPC during its hearing in Assam and expressed our reservations regarding the proposed Bill. We are not going to accept the passing of the Bill at any cost. We are also going to hold a mass rally in Assam on October 23 expressing our stiff opposition to the Bill," he said.

The AGP and Bodoland Peoples' Front (BPF) are the partners of the BJP led

THE CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN THE LOK SABHA ON JULY 15, 2016, SEEKS TO AMEND THE CITIZENSHIP ACT, 1955 TO PROVIDE CITIZENSHIP TO ILLEGAL MIGRANTS, FROM AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN, WHO ARE HINDU, SIKH, BUDDHIST, JAIN, PARSIS OR CHRISTIAN

alliance Government in Assam. Assam had witnessed severe protests earlier this year protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill 2016.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on July 15, 2016, seeks to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955 to provide citizenship to illegal migrants, from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, who are of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian extraction.

While the Assam Government is yet to make its stand clear on the Bill, the Meghalaya Government—where BJP is a partner—has

taken a cabinet decision to oppose the Bill as it might affect the indigenous people of the State. Different organisations and civil society groups in other northeastern States like Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh have also been opposing the Bill.

Meanwhile, the opposition Congress in Assam has slammed the AGP terming the regional party's opposition to the controversial Bill as mere eyewash and said that the Bill poses gravest threat ever to Assam and its indigenous people.

"The controversial Bill is the gravest threat ever faced by Assam since Independence. It is the biggest ever injustice meted out to Assam. The AGP is hand in glove with the BJP. If the AGP is really against the Bill, they should come out of the alliance," said former Chief Minister and Congress leader, Tarun Gogoi.

"There is no point of dramatizing a sensitive issue like the Citizenship Amendment Bill. The AGP is not even registering their protests over the Bill," said Leader of the Opposition of Assam Legislative Assembly, Debabrata Saikia.

Prashant Kishor is JD(U) national V-P

PNS ■ PATNA

Just a month after joining the JD(U), Prashant Kishor has been appointed as national vice president of the party. With this elevation PK, he is quite popular with his abbreviation in political circles, is only next to national president Nitish Kumar.

The official statement regarding PK's appointment was issued on Tuesday by the party's secretary general KC Tyagi who expressed confidence that his experience and expertise will take the party to a new height.

Kishor, 41, had formally joined the JD(U) on September 16 at the party's State executive committee meeting here. After grabbing limelight following huge victory of mahagathabandhan, which involved the JD(U) and the RJD apart from others, he was keeping a low profile. The victory of 2015 Assembly election was largely credited to the poll strategy engineered by Kishore who in 2014 general election had reportedly crafted the strategy for Narendra Modi.

With his elevation as JD(U) national vice president Kishor is now the most powerful leader of the party only after Nitish, who is supposed to have clipped the wings of many other leaders in the party who were supposed to be his close confidants.



It is also expected that Kishor will have his say in all the top level deliberations with other parties in the NDA and in the decision making his inputs and suggestions would be given weightage by the party supremo. There had been wild speculations about his role in the party after he joined the JD(U) last month. There were reports that he might contest Lok Sabha polls from Buxar constituency, his hometown, and some suggested he might be made a powerful Minister. But Nitish seemed to have proved all those speculations wrong.

In a recent interview to a senior TV journalist and answering the questions of the students of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, Kishor said he would not move out of Bihar for the next 10 years.

Avoiding a direct reply to the possible poll outcome in 2019, Kishor said he would not make a prediction but claimed that BJP was still in lead position.

Statue of Unity symbolises patriotism, says Rupani

GANDHINAGAR: Announcing 'Ekta Yatra' or 'Unity March' across 5,000 villages of the State, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said that the Statue of Unity—world's tallest statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel would emerge as symbol of national unity in the coming days.



The tallest statue of the world being constructed near Sardar Sarovar Dam site would be unveiled by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 31, 2018 to mark 144th birth anniversary of the Ironman of India, said Rupani adding that the first phase of Ekta Yatra will be during October 19 to 29 and second phase would be between November 15 and 25. Interestingly foundation stone of the project was laid by Modi when he was Gujarat CM on October 31, 2013 for the project built at a cost of ₹2,389 crore. The statue stands 3.2 km downstream of the Narmada dam on the islet, Sadhu bet.

"The entire precinct, including the installation place of 'Statue of Unity', would be made patriotic place with the theme 'One India, Best India' along with tourist spot. The landscape of the place is developed with the soil pieces collected from over 6-lakh villages across the country. The place will also have attractions like valley of flowers, boating, three-star hotel

and food court to name few. Another major attraction would be 'Light and Laser show' which would give information about Sardar Patel and his role in the freedom movement of the nation as well as unification of India post-independence.

Meanwhile, Gujarat Ministers and top bureaucrats including CM Rupani are roaming across the country in order to invite Chief Ministers of all the States for the grand inauguration of the statue of unity project—182 metres high statue of Sardar Patel.

The Gujarat Government wants this unveiling to be a grand event and has drafted almost all the Ministers to different States invite the respective Chief Ministers. Rupani recently went to Uttar Pradesh to invite his counterpart Yogi Adityanath. Deputy CM Nitin Patel went to invite Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnis. Minister Vibhavribe Dave visited the north eastern State Tripura.

Agriculture Minister RC Faldu has been tasked to invite the Assam Chief Minister, Education Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama just returned from his trip to Haryana, while Food and Civil Supplies Minister Jayesh Radadia has been sent to Uttarakhand. Energy and Petrochemicals Minister Saurabh Patel is right now visiting Bihar with an invite for Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for the event.

Minister of State for Home Pradeepsinh Jadeja returned from his trip to Himachal Pradesh. Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Ishwarbhai Parmar went to Goa for the purpose. Forest Minister Ganpat Vasava went to Tamil Nadu, while another Minister Dilip Thakore has been sent to Naveen Patnaik's Orissa, Revenue Minister Kaushik Patel to Jharkhand. Other members of Gujarat's council of Ministers are visiting Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and other States.



Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu interacts with people in cyclone-affected Vajrapukothuru mandal of Srikakulam district on Tuesday. Pioneer photo

Shaktisinh threatens to file criminal suit against Guj CM

PNS ■ GANDHINAGAR

Apparently angry over Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani's allegations on his involvement in the violence against Hindi-speaking migrant labourers, Congress Bihar in charge Shaktisinh Gohil has threatened to file criminal and civil suits against Rupani if he does not apologise.

CM Rupani had made the remarks during his recent visit to Lucknow where he went to invite his counterpart from Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath for the inauguration ceremony of Statue of unity project.

At a Press conference on Tuesday Gohil claimed that the BJP backed hooligans were responsible for attacks on migrant workers. He went on to say that BJP supporters



spread anti-migrant messages on social media platforms. "I was in Bihar when violence broke out against migrants. As soon as I came to know about such incidents I immediately appealed people to maintain peace and harmony in Gujarat. Besides I also demanded to take action against attackers," he added.

At a Press conference on Tuesday Gohil claimed that BJP backed hooligans were responsible for attacks on migrant workers. He went on to say that BJP supporters spread anti-migrant messages on social media

away North Indians who came in Gujarat for employment.

The ruling BJP's politics of division in the name of caste, religion, region and community is well known, he alleged adding that despite the party got maximum seats from Hindi belt consisting Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhatisgarh and Rajasthan, BJP is targeting the people of these states.

Criticising NRC in Assam Gohil said that BJP was targeting innocent vulnerable people. In Shilong people belonging to Punjab were targeted only after BJP came in power there. He has also demanded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention and apology in the issue of attacks on migrants in Gujarat.

Advisory panel in place for rebuilding flood-hit Kerala

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An advisory committee headed by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has been set up for implementation of various projects for rebuilding the flood-ravaged state.

Announcing this at a press conference here, Vijayan said the committee, comprising Union Tourism Minister Alphons Kannamtham, would give advice for implementing the projects.

Leader of Opposition in Kerala Assembly Ramesh Chennithala, T K A Nair, who served as advisor to former prime minister, and former state chief secretary K M Chandrasekhar are among the other members of the committee, he said.

The first meeting of the committee would be held on October 22, the chief minister said.

Besides this, a high-powered committee would monitor the implementation of the projects approved by the state cabinet, he said.

The chief minister also launched a portal for crowd funding as part of the government's efforts to mobilise funds for rebuilding and rehabilitating the people affected by the flood in the state.

Vijayan is scheduled to leave for some of the Gulf countries on Wednesday as part of the efforts to mobilise funds from Kerala expatriates there.

Seventeen of the 20 state ministers have also planned to visit different countries in the Gulf and Europe to mobilise funds.

However, the Centre has approved the foreign visit of the chief minister also so far.

Answering a question in this regard, Vijayan said the state government had expected that the Centre would give sanction for the ministers also.

Jaswant Singh's son Manvendra to join Cong

PTI ■ JAIPUR/BARMER

Veteran BJP leader Jaswant Singh's son and MLA Manvendra Singh will join the Congress on Wednesday, ahead of the Assembly polls in Rajasthan in December.

Singh (54), who won Barmer's Sheo constituency as the BJP candidate in 2013 Assembly elections, had announced at a rally last month that he is leaving the Bharatiya Janata Party.

"Kamal ka Phool Badi Bhooh", he had said then, claiming that going with the BJP's election symbol, the lotus, was a "big mistake".

Congress leaders claimed his move will help bring Rajput votes to the party-fold while the BJP said the MLA's "politically wrong decision" will have no impact on the ruling party.

"Manvendra Singh will join the Congress tomorrow in Delhi in the presence of



party president Rahul Gandhi," Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee president Sachin Pilot told PTI Tuesday.

"There is a long list of leaders quitting the BJP and the party should introspect why this is happening," he said. "We are welcoming Manvendra Singh and this will strengthen the party."

He added the party will ensure his active participation in the upcoming assembly elections in the state.

Rajasthan's Parliamentary Affairs Minister Rajendra Rathore claimed Singh's deci-

sion is a political misstep and he should have thought before switching sides.

"The Congress is helpless. Therefore it is adopting sidelined BJP leaders. It is his personal decision but this is a politically wrong decision. He is not going to get anything with this," Rathore told reporters at Ranakpur in Pali.

As for the Rajput votes, Rathore said the community has traditionally voted for the BJP.

"There will be no impact of this as the Rajput votes will remain with the BJP only," he said.

Fateh Khan, the president of the Barmer unit of the Congress, said the Rajputs are not happy with the Vasundhara Raj government in Rajasthan.

"The Congress party is going to gain when Manvendra joins Congress," he said.

In western Rajasthan, the Rajput vote is often considered a deciding factor on many seats.

The Congress is also hoping to get the support of communities like the Rajpurohiths, Charans and Prajapats with Singh joining the party.

Manvendra Singh won Barmer's Sheo assembly constituency in 2013 with a margin of 31,425 votes.

His father Jaswant Singh, who is in coma for the last four years, was denied ticket by the BJP from the Barmer-Jaisalmer constituency in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

He then contested elections as an independent and lost the seat to BJP's Sonaram, who had joined the party after switching from the Congress. There was resentment among Jaswant Singh supporters over the denial of the BJP ticket for the veteran, and they blamed Vasundhara Raj government for this.

These supporters had then rallied around his son Manvendra Singh, calling it an issue of 'swabhiman' or self-respect.

J&K Governor speaks to Javadekar over AMU row

PIANS ■ SRINAGAR

Jammu & Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik on Tuesday urged Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar to intervene and ensure a smooth conduct of academic activities in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

The university administration has suspended three Kashmiri students on charges of trying to organise funeral prayers on the campus for slain Hizbul commander Manan Bashir Wani, an AMU research scholar who had joined militancy in January this year.

Kashmiri students at the university are protesting the suspension of the three. About 1,200 Kashmiri students have written to the AMU authorities, threatening that they would quit studies at the university unless sedition charges were dropped against the accused students.

The Governor spoke to

1,200 Kashmiri students have written to the AMU authorities, threatening that they would quit studies at the university unless sedition charges were dropped against the accused students

Javadekar seeking his intervention to ensure "smooth studies of the Kashmiri students at AMU", an official statement said.

The Governor also spoke to the Vice Chancellor of AMU, Tariq Mansoor.

Malik urged Javadekar and Professor Tariq to ensure that the issue was resolved at the earliest and there was no disruption to Kashmiri students' studies.

Dhinakaran vows to 'retrieve' AIADMK

Chennai: AMMK leader TTV Dhinakaran on Tuesday launched a scathing attack on the AIADMK leadership, saying the ruling party has "lost its identity" and was "stuck" due to a "few selfish" people.

The ousted AIADMK leader also claimed that his Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) would 'retrieve' the ruling party.

In an apparent reference to Dhinakaran, the AIADMK dubbed him an 'overnight' leader rejected by the people.

"One cannot deny the fact that the party has lost its identity and ideology and veered away from the path laid down by Amma (the late J Jayalalithaa). It is now stuck due to a few selfish persons," Dhinakaran said without naming anyone.



He was apparently targeting AIADMK Coordinator O Panneerselvam and the Joint Coordinator K Palaniswami, with whom he is in a running feud for control of the ruling party.

Palaniswami is Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu while Panneerselvam is his deputy. In a letter to partymen ahead of the AIADMK founding day on October 17, Dhinakaran said while the late Chief Minister M G

Ramachandran had launched it, Jayalalithaa had taken it forward and made it a popular movement in the state. His jailed aunt VK Sasikala had stood 'solidly' by Jayalalithaa during her political journey, he said.

But post Jayalalithaa's death in 2016, "hegemonic forces" had taken over the AIADMK, Dhinakaran said in the letter.

Reiterating his oft repeated charge of the AIADMK being 'subservient' to the BJP-led government at the Centre, he said his AMMK would retrieve the AIADMK and restore it to its old pride.

The AIADMK has "lost its identity and become someone's slave," he said but did not name anyone. Dhinakaran claimed 90 percent of AIADMK workers were sup-

porting AMMK and that the rest were in the ruling party due to "selfish motives".

"AMMK has been the true AIADMK. In the coming days, it will retrieve AIADMK," he added. His victory in the RK Nagar bypoll in December 2017 was proof of people's sentiments as the voters elected him as Jayalalithaa's successor, he said. The bypoll was necessitated due to the death of Jayalalithaa in December 2016. Dhinakaran, who contested as an independent, had defeated ruling party nominee E Madhusudhanan by a good margin.

Meanwhile, Panneerselvam and Palaniswami said those who have emerged as "overnight leaders" have been rejected by the people. PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Vinod Kumar who are purchasing the Plot No. 100 admeasuring 100Sq. Yds. out of Kharsa No. 424 Min., Situated at Village Dharoti Khurd, Pargana-Loni, Tehsil & District-Ghaziabad, U.P. from Mr. Sewa Ram Garg and further will be mortgaging against the financial assistance from VASTU HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. To comply the requirements of bank/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property in favour VASTU HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 09 days from the date of this notice at below address.
Laxmi Legal LLP
269, Rama House, Ground Floor, Masjid Mohd, Opp. Uday Park, South Ex-II, Delhi-49 # 011-40046316

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
The Executive Engineer, Building Division South-East (M-421), PWD (GNCTD), Police Colony, Hauz Khas, New Delhi invites on behalf of the President of India percentage/item rate tender in two bid condition for following work(s):-
1. NIT No. 07/SE/SOUTH-EAST (M)/PWD/2018-19, Name of Work: Renovation of children home at Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Renovation of Sick room, counselling room, Reception and Staircase in Ground floor and C/o superintended room, class room and toilet on First floor etc. & Electrical works) (Balance work), Estimated Cost: Rs. 49,68,315/-, Earnest Money: Rs. 99,366/-drawn in favour of EE, CBMD M-421, PWD, New Delhi, time of completion of work 04 Months, The Last date & time for receipt of Tenders through e-procurement is 25.10.2018 upto 15.00 Hours & Tender ID No 2018_PWD_160251_1.
2. NIT No. 81/South-East(B)/M/New Delhi/2018-19, Name of Work: A/R & M/O Non Residential Building Under South-East(Bldg)/M, Division, PWD, Hauz Khas, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Providing Services of computer operator, Office Assistant, Auto Cad Operator cum Draftsman and Peon-cum-Messenger & Sweeper), Estimated Cost: Rs. 82,825/-drawn in favour of EE, CBMD M-421, PWD, New Delhi, time of completion of work 12 Months, The Last date & time for receipt of Tenders through e-procurement is 25.10.2018 upto 15.00 Hours & Tender ID No 2018_PWD_160257_1.
Further details of the tender can be had from: <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgep/app>
DIP/Shabdarth/1986/18-19

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank
ICICI Bank Limited

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chaki Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390007.
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051
Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi- 110055

Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of property/ Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Madan Mohan Mittal / Rekha Mittal / Akhil Mittal / Gaurav Mittal / LBNOD00001818978	Office No. DGO 238, DLF Galleria, Mayur Vihar, Delhi/ 12-10-2018	April 20, 2018 / Rs.1,93,06,551/-	Delhi

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 days Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: 17-Oct-2018
Place: Delhi/ NCR
Sd/-
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

THEMES INUNDATE DURGA PUJA PANDALS

As millions flood City of Joy

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

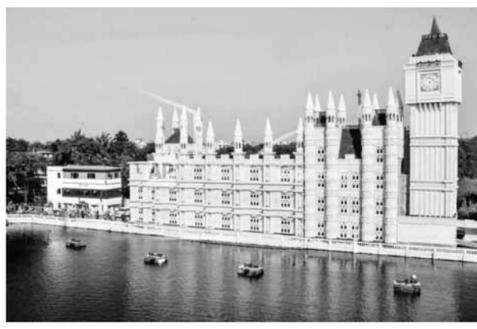
With "themes" once again inundating Durga Puja pandals in 2018, efforts are on to get the City of Joy declared as UNESCO's City of Literature.

True, Kolkata has once again decked up to the inimitability of its Durga Puja pandals — with each of 3,000-odd Puja pandals exhibiting a creativity of the sublime class blended with abstract mysticism and temporal message.

Welcome to Chaltabagan Durga Puja committee in North Kolkata, where the organisers have set up their Puja Pandal around the theme of Poet Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's Shantir Nir (Abode of Peace). S Bhutoria, the chief patron of the Puja, says, "We have woven our craft around this theme so that Kolkata can be enlisted as India's first 'City of Literature' in the UNESCO list."

World cities like Milan, Norwich, Edinburgh, Prague, Melbourne, Baghdad, Granada, Barcelona Dublin, Krakow, Heidelberg, Quebec etc have already been declared as cities of literature.

The artist has conveyed Tagore's message of universal peace and harmony through excellent display of motifs and reliefs. In an apparent bid to blend literary flavour with religiosity the ceiling of the pan-



A view of Durga Puja pandal made as a replica of 'Palace of Westminster with Big Ben' during Durga Puja festival in Kolkata on Tuesday

dal has been decorated with books.

Towards the North Eastern fringes at Sribhumi Sporting Club the Puja organisers have reproduced the gigantic pandal after Chittaurgarh Fort. The Theme here is Padmavat. The exclusive art work of the pandal will make it difficult to read between the original and the imitation.

The artist who constructed the Durga Puja pandal at Raja Santosh Mitra Square seems to have worked wonders by building a mammoth 60-feet tall Arjuna's Rath. The specialty of the chariot is: it is plated with silver. "We have used about 10 tons of silver costing about ₹40 crore; add another ₹2 crore as construc-

tion cost," said one of the organisers. "This Rath of Mother Goddess Durga aims at bringing rule of law, peace and justice on the earth," he said.

Down South at Ekdalia Evergreen Puja Committee, presided over by senior Minister Subroto M Kherjee the pandal is shaped in classical pattern. "We have no deviation as we rely on heritage," he says. So the entire set up is classical. "The temple structure is enormous, and beautifully crafted, while the inside is decorated by idols of gods and is stunningly colourful.

"I have not seen such a huge crowd for so many days. Gosh! It is stupendous," says Elei from the USA who has

come to visit a friend in Kolkata.

A mile away at Tridhara Sanmilani which has been winning numerous prizes for its exquisite art work the organisers have concentrated on the traditional handicraft of Bengal. While artist Gauranga Quilla has used the traditional earthen pottery as his theme he has given the finishing touch with jute. The minute art words and the finesse has led the Club to win more than three dozen prizes this year.

"Such exquisite is the artistry of the craftsmen that people not only from all over the State but all over the world have poured in to hop pandals 24x7," says a Dy Commissioner of Police. "We are receiving about 7-8 million additional people walking throughout the day and night in Kolkata for the past several days and the figure is likely to cross one crore by Navami Day," he added

Cut to Badamtala Ashar Sangha where the theme for this year's puja is "shob choritro kalponic (all characters are fictional)." Even as they celebrate women this year an organiser said "in the modern world, there are numerous successful women, but there are those who are subjected to malice and hatred. The puja is dedicated to those women and is an ode to the spirit of womanhood."

Police crack model's murder case in 4 hrs, arrest teenager

- Boy strangled the upcoming model, packed body in large travel bag, dumped it in a bush in suburban Mumbai
- Mobile number registered with cab service company helped cops track down murder suspect



Mansi had come in contact with Sayyed through social media.

During the questioning after his arrest, Sayyed reportedly admitted to the police that after a tiff, he had hit Mansi on her head with an iron stool leading to her death. However, the investigators are not ruling out the possibility of Sayyed having strangled Mansi to death.

Two versions were making rounds as to the circumstances leading to Sayyed hitting Mansi with an iron stool. While one version said that Sayyed and Mansi had known each other for some time, the tiff between them was genuine one and the death was accidental, the second version was that Mansi used to work as an "escort" whom Sayyed had hired her by making an online payment.

However, according to the second version, the dispute arose between them after the model demanded an additional payment of ₹2,500 when she landed at Sayyed's residence on Monday afternoon, a demand that enraged the boy leading to the incident. Sayyed allegedly strangled her to death. After packing Mansi's body in a travel bag, Sayyed hired a taxi over phone on the pretext of going to the Mumbai International Airport. However, after reaching the secluded Mindspace locality where he dumped the bag in a bush and took an autorickshaw.

Having cracked the sensational murder of a 20-year-old upcoming model in just over four hours, the city police have arrested a 19-year-old college student for allegedly killing her, packing her body in a large travel bag and dumping it in a bush near at Malad in north Mumbai.

The boy, identified as one Muzzamil Sayyed, who was arrested late on Monday evening, was on Tuesday produced before a suburban court which remanded him in police custody till October 22.

Acting on a tip-off from a taxi driver that an youngster had dumped the large travel bag in a bush in an isolated Mindspace locality at Malad (west) in a suspicious manner, a team of police officials formed by Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone-XI) Sangramsinh Nishal rushed to the spot and found the body of a deceased model inside the bag.

Sayyed, the accused boy who hails from Hyderabad and

PG woman student suspended for celebrating Bhagat Singh's birth anniversary

PTI ■ COIMBATORE

Celebrating the birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh on a Government college campus has landed a woman student in trouble as she has been suspended, an action which she termed as "suppression" of the freedom of expression.

S Malathi, a first year MA Student at the Government arts and science college, was suspended on October 1 after she and some other students organised a function to celebrate Singh's birth anniversary on September 28, despite being denied permission by the principal and the tutor, officials said.

"Malathi organised the meeting without permission, which would have affected peace in the campus. She was thus placed under suspension," Chitra, the college principal, said.

Malathi told reporters here Tuesday that she got to know of her suspension from a college professor.

"This (action) is nothing but suppression of the freedom of expression," she said.

Malathi claimed she was not officially informed of her suspension.

Though college authorities told her that a letter to this effect had been sent to her residence, it had not yet reached her home, she said.

Setback for Cong in Mizoram, ex-Min resigns

IAN S ■ AIZAWL

Ruling Congress continues to get setbacks in poll-bound Mizoram as former Minister and senior Congress leader

Buddha Dhan Chakma on Tuesday left the party and is likely to join the BJP soon.

Chakma has resigned from the State legislature and primary membership of the

Although he did not reveal his future course of action, the State Bharatiya Janata Party insiders said he is likely to contest the forthcoming Assembly polls from Tuichawng seat on a BJP ticket

Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC). The resignation of Chakma comes close on the heels of two other senior Congress leaders leaving the party.

Chakma said he was unhappy over the recent incident where some students belonging to the Chakma community were denied admission to medical colleges across the country, though they had qualified for MBBS seats under the State quota.

Although he did not reveal his future course of action, the State Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) insiders said he is likely to contest the forthcoming Assembly polls from Tuichawng seat on a BJP ticket.

Earlier, former Mizoram Home Minister and number two in the State Cabinet R Lalzirliana and former Minister Lalrinliana Sailo had resigned from the Congress. Lalrinliana joined the opposition Mizo National Front (MNF).

Mizoram is going to polls on November 28. BJP President Amit Shah will kick-start party's campaign for Mizoram Assembly elections on October 17 and also address booth-level workers the same day.

190 suspected Rohingyas in T voters list

PN S ■ LUCKNOW

The Opposition parties are tearing into the Yogi Adityanath Government over renaming of Allahabad as Prayagraj, but the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Samajwadi Party regimes did the same thing while in power.

The Governments of both the parties passionately indulged in name changing game in the belief that it would prove to be a gamechanger when the State went to the hustings.

Moreover, there is nothing new in the decision to rename Allahabad as Prayagraj. In fact, Yogi Adityanath is implementing the unfinished agenda of former Chief Minister Rajnath Singh, who had made an announcement to this effect ahead of Ardh Kumbh at Allahabad in 2001.

The proposal was duly approved by the state Cabinet and sent to the Union Government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee for approval. However, the Centre ignored the proposal

and a year later, in February 2002, the State went to polls and the Bharatiya Janata Party was defeated. The BSP-BJP coalition Government headed by Mayawati came to power and the proposal was shelved.

The name change campaign did not end there. If sources are to be believed, some other districts in UP with "Muslim sounding names" like Aligarh, Azamgarh, Shahjahanpur, Ghaziabad, Ferozabad, Farrukhabad, Moradabad and Muzaffarnagar could be rechristened and the process could be initiated in 2019.

Before the renaming of Allahabad, the Yogi Government had changed names of several roads, parks, crossings, buildings after BJP icon and former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, who passed away in August this year. During the spree then, two dozen public spots and facilities were named after Vajpayee in Lucknow itself.

The Yogi Government began its name-changing spree in July by deciding to rename

SP, BSP also indulged in name change game

THE POLITICS OF NAME-CHANGE BEGAN IN UP IN 2007 WHEN THE BSP WAS IN POWER. MAYAWATI RENAMED EIGHT DISTRICTS — MOST OF THEM AFTER DALIT ICONS

repainting of signage and reprinting of official stationery, it also led to widespread confusion. There were instances of people boarding wrong buses and sending postal goods to wrong addresses.

Mayawati had also renamed the historic King George's Medical University (KGMU) of Lucknow as Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Medical University. This had irked the alumni of the KGMU, popularly known as Georgians, across the world. Later, the SP regime had restored the old name of the medical university.

The name-changing did not help the BSP and the party was voted out of power in 2012 UP assembly election.

The next SP Government led by Akhilesh Yadav lost no time in restoring the public institutions to their original names. Though he did not rename the districts, he built new parks and buildings and named them after socialist icons, like Janeshwar Misra Park and JP International Centre.

and a year later, in February 2002, the State went to polls and the Bharatiya Janata Party was defeated. The BSP-BJP coalition Government headed by Mayawati came to power and the proposal was shelved.

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The Yogi Government began its name-changing spree in July by deciding to rename

the iconic Mughal sarai railway station after BJP ideologue Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.

The politics of name-change began in UP in 2007 when the BSP was in power. Mayawati renamed eight districts — most of them after Dalit icons. Shamli was renamed as Prabuddh Nagar, Sambhal as Bhim Nagar, Hapur as Panchsheel Nagar, Kanpur Dehat as Ramabai Nagar, Kasganj as Kanshi Ram Nagar, Amethi as Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Nagar, Amroha as Jyotiba Phule Nagar and Hathras as Mahamaya Nagar.

The process of renaming districts not only incurred huge financial burden due to

POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the authorized officer of the SYNDICATE BANK Under the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest. Act 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 11.12.2017 calling upon the borrower Mrs. Monika W/o Ishaan Singh R/o WP 456/1, Wazirpur Village, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi-110052 also at innovative Cooperative Bank 22, First Floor, Deepchand Bandhu Central Market, Community Centre, Ashok Vihar, Delhi-110052, Mr. Ishaan Singh S/o Mr. Mahesh Kumar R/o WP 456/1, Wazirpur Village, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi-110052 & Surety Mrs. Alka Bai W/o Mr. Vikas Bai R/o WZ MS 86, MS Block Gurudwara, Hari Nagar, South West Delhi, New Delhi-110064 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 44,70,808.70/- (Rupees Forty Four Lacs Seventy thousand Eight hundred Eight rupees and Seventy Paise only) within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/guarantor the owner of the property having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this 11.10.2018.

The borrower/guarantor the owner of the property in particular and public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Syndicate Bank for an amount of Rs. 44,70,808.70/- (Rupees Forty Four Lacs Seventy thousand Eight hundred Eight rupees and Seventy Paise only) and interest & charges thereon from 30.09.2018.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OWNED BY

UREM of freehold Residential Property House No. WP-456/1, Wazirpur Village, Delhi-110052 (measuring 59.975 Sq. Yards). Bounded by North: Road, South: Remaining Portion of the Property, East Remaining Portion of the Property & West: Road Owned by Mrs. Monika W/o Mr. Ishaan Singh.

Date: 11.10.2018
Place: NEW DELHI

Authorised Officer (Syndicate Bank)

KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one boy, **Namely:** Ankit Kumar, S/o: Udaivir, R/o: Village: Phugana, Vikas Khand: Bhudhana, Distt.: Mujaffar Nagar, U.P., has been kidnapped since 23.06.2018 from Gurukul, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi. In this regard, a Case Vides FIR No. 192/18 u/s 363 IPC, Dated 23.06.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Hauz Khas, New Delhi. Investigations has been carried out but despite best efforts, the boy could not be traced. The description of the kidnapped boy is as under:

Namely: Ankit Kumar, S/o: Udaivir, R/o: Village: Phugana, Vikas Khand: Bhudhana, Distt.: Mujaffar Nagar, U.P., Age: 14 years, Height: 4'6" Feet, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Yellow Colour Shirt, White Colour Dhoti and Hawai Chappal in feet. If anyone has any information about the kidnapped boy, then please inform P.S. Hauz Khas, New Delhi.

email: cbc@cbl.gov.in S.H.O
Fax: No.011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Hauz Khas, New Delhi
DP/4920/SD/18. Ph.: 011-26867878, 26510077

KIDNAPPED

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email: cbc@cbl.gov.in S.H.O
Fax: No.011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Hauz Khas, New Delhi
DP/4920/SD/18. Ph.: 011-26867878, 26510077

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified deadbody of male **Age :** About 40-45 years, **Height :** 5'8", **Face :** Oval, **Complexion :** Fair, **Build :** Strong, wearing grey colour T-shirt and black colour lower, was found dead on 09.10.2018 at Barah Tooti Road, Qutub Chowk, in the area of P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi. In this regard a FIR No. 237/18 dated 09.10.2018 u/s 237/304-A IPC has been registered at P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi. The dead was preserved for identification in the mortuary of Subzi Mandi, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this found person may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO : P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-23512411

DP/9273/N/18

Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER/ METERING
C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala, Punjab-147001
Tel. No.0175-2218871, Fax: 0175-2200284,
E-mail: se-hq-metering@pspcl.in
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813,
Registration Number: 33813, Website: www.pspcl.in
E-Tendering Portal: https://pspcl.abcpocure.com

Open e-Tender Notice

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering for supply of the following materials:-

Tender Specification No.	MQP-138/2018-19/PO (M)
Short Description	Procurement of ISI marked LT AC-3 phase, 4-Wire CT operated Static, DLMS Compliant, Energy Meters (Category-C1) of ratio -5/A of Accuracy Class-0.5S (for both active and reactive energy) with 'Optical port' & 'RS-232 port' along with compatible Software.
Quantity in Nos.	22000 meters
Eligibility Criteria	As per Tender specification.
Last date of downloading of tender documents.	14-11-2018 up to 11.00 Hrs.
Last date for Bid Submission	15-11-2018 up to 11.00 Hrs.
Bid opening (Part-I & II)	15-11-2018 at 11.30 Hrs.
Name of the publishing officer	Er. Inderjit Singh/ Purchase Officer/ Metering, PSPCL, Patiala
Contact number	+91-96461-22270

Tender specifications can only be downloaded from website <https://pspcl.abcpocure.com>. Details regarding E-Tendering is available on website www.pspcl.in. All the prospective bidders are requested to get their digital signatures, registered themselves on the website <https://pspcl.abcpocure.com> and get conversant with process of on-line submission of tenders well in time so as to submit the tender by due deadline. No request for extension in the due date of tender opening on the above grounds shall be entertained.

Note: Corrigendum, if any after the publication of this tender enquiry shall only be uploaded on website <https://pspcl.abcpocure.com> and will not be published in newspapers.

C-392/18 SE/HCM
PSPCL, Patiala
Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 on PSPCL website <http://e-payment.pspcl.in>

SMS Paryavaran Limited
SH-2, Vardhman Grand Plaza, Plot 7, Manglam Place, Sector 3, Rohini, New Delhi 110085
CIN : U41000DL1992PLC047372 website: <http://www.smsplindia.com>

PUBLIC NOTICE

For transfer of equity shares of the Company to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF)

The notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("the rules") notified by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs effective September 7, 2016 and subsequent amendments.

The shareholder may note that interim and final dividend declared by the company which remained unclaimed or unpaid for a period of 7 years, has already been transferred to IEPF on respective dates. The corresponding shares of those dividend accounts will be transferred to IEPF as per the procedure set out in rules.

The shareholder has communicated to the concerned shareholders individually whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF. Shareholders may not that both the unclaimed dividend and corresponding shares transferred to IEPF following all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back from IEPF after including the procedure prescribed in the Rules.

Concerned shareholders holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF, may note that the Company would be issuing duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu of the original held by them for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF as per Rules and upon such issue, the company shall inform the depository by way of corporate action to convert the duplicate share certificate(s) into DEMAT form and transfer in favor of IEPF. The original share certificate(s) which are registered in the name of original shareholders shall stand automatically cancelled and be deemed non-negotiable.

The shareholders may further note that the details of are made available by the company on its website should be regarded and shall be deemed adequate notice in respect of issue of duplicate share certificate(s) by the Company.

In the case Company does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders, the company shall with a view to adhering to the requirements of the Rules. Please note that no claim shall lie against the company in respect of unclaimed dividend amount and shares transferred to IEPF.

For any queries on the above matter, Shareholders are requested to contact :
Registered Office of SMS Paryavaran Limited at SH-2, Vardhman Grand Plaza, Plot 7, Manglam Place Sector 3, Rohini, New Delhi-110085, Tel. No. 01142433199
Email id: sms@smsplindia.com

For SMS Paryavaran Limited
Sd/-
Munendra Kumar Singh
Whole Time Director
DIN: 00255301

केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग
ई-टेंडर्स आमंत्रण सूचना

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से कार्यपालक अभियंता 'एस' मंडल, के०ल०नि०वि०, रामा कृष्णा पुरम, नई दिल्ली द्वारा अधोलिखित कार्यों के निष्पादन हेतु के०ल०नि०वि० के approved and eligible ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाइन प्रशिक्षित दर निविदा प्रणाली आमंत्रित की जाती है।

1. निोआओ नं० 65/EE/S Div/2018-19-(2nd-Call) Name of Work: "Providing and fixing anti-skid tiles in Lok Sabha Residential Multistories quarters at Sector-2, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 7,76,874/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 15,537/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-03 (तीन) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 25.10.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।

2. निोआओ नं० 101/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "A/R & M/O to Sector-3, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Disposal of Malba/building rubbish from the colony)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 10,22,485/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 20,450/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-12 (बारह) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 25.10.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।

3. निोआओ नं० 102/EE/S Div/2018-19 Name of Work: "A/R & M/O to various types of qtrs at Sector-3, R.K. Puram, New Delhi during 2018-19 (SH: Internal Finishing work)", अनुमानित लागत ₹ 26,71,420/- धरोहर राशि ₹ 53,428/- कार्य निष्पादन अवधि-06 (छः) मास बिड को जमा कराने की अंतिम तिथि व समय 25.10.2018 को 12:00 बजे तक।

नोट:- बिड प्रपत्र और अन्य विवरण वेबसाइट www.tendervizard.com/CPWD से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। प्रेस विज्ञान www.eprocure.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध है।

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, 'G' Division, CPWD, East Block-II, Level-II, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066 on behalf of the President of India invites online percentage rate tenders from the approved and eligible contractors of CPWD for the following work:

1. NIT No. - 34/EE/G-Divn./2018-19, Name of work: Upgradation of Kitchen in Type-IV Qtrs at Sector-12, R.K. Puram, New Delhi dg 2018-19. (SH: Providing & fixing modular kitchen in place of old existing 30 Nos. qtrs.). Estimated Cost:- Rs. 12,88,803/-. Earnest Money:- Rs. 25,776/-. Period of completion:- 03 (Three) Month. Last date and time of submission of tender Upto 03.00 PM on 29.10.2018

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tendervizard.com/CPWD. The Press Notice is also available on www.eprocure.gov.in

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

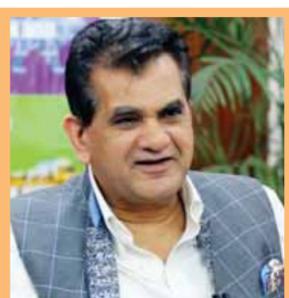
TENDER NOTICE
Date: 17.10.2018

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

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost	Cost of EMD	PRE BID Meeting	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/18-19/RB/AS/069	AWARD OF RATE CONTRACT FOR SINGLE /POLY PHASE METER INSTALLATION (MMG) IN BYPL 18-19	₹ 10.33 Cr	₹ 10.33 lkh	29.10.2018 16:00 HRS	06.11.2018 15:30 HRS	06.11.2018 16:00 HRS
CMC/BY/18-19/RB/AS/070	AWARD OF RATE CONTRACT FOR GCC/PREPAID/CT METER INSTALLATION IN BYPL 18-19	₹ 1.33 Cr	₹ 2.68 lkh	29.10.2018 16:00 HRS	05.11.2018 15:00 HRS	05.11.2018 15:30 HRS
CMC/BY/18-19/RB/AS/071	PROVIDING TELEPHONE OPERATOR IN O&M COMPLAINT CENTERS	₹ 2.31 Cr	₹ 4.6 lkh	30.10.2018 16:00 HRS	05.11.2018 15:30 HRS	05.11.2018 16:00 HRS
CMC/BY/18-19/RB/KA/072	CONSTRUCTION OF CABLE TRENCH AT MAIN ROAD CHANDNI CHOWK, BYPL	₹ 90 lkh	₹ 1.80 lkh	25.10.2018 15:00 HRS	30.10.2018 15:30 HRS	30.10.2018 16:30 HRS

Cost of each Tender Documents: ₹ 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 -> Tenders -> BSES YAMUNA POWER LIMITED -> Head (Contracts & Materials) Open Tenders

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



While India has focussed on innovation, infrastructure, structural reforms and ease of doing business, a lot of work still needs to be done on gender parity and exports and ensuring that India has growth with equity

Amitabh Kant, CEO, Niti Aayog



The Government has no business to interfere in pricing mechanism of petroleum products which has been left to the oil companies to decide on a daily basis. Some States have done it. Some like Delhi haven't. You should ask them why they haven't



Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Oil Minister

₹ spurts 35 paise to nearly 2-week high

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The rupee climbed 35 paise to end at nearly two-week high of 73.48 per dollar on Tuesday amid softening crude oil prices and easing concerns over the trade deficit.

Traders said foreign fund inflows and greenback weakening against other currencies were the other factors that provided support to the home unit.

At the Interbank Foreign Exchange (Forex), the rupee opened on a firm note at 73.79 from Monday's close of 73.83. During the day the domestic currency gained further ground to hit a high of 73.47 against the US dollar, driven by selling of the greenback by exporters.

The domestic unit settled the day up by 35 paise or 0.47 per cent at 73.48 to the dollar, the highest closing level since October 3.

The rupee had lost 26 paise to close at 73.83 on Monday.

Forex dealers said bullish trend in the equity market as well as easing crude oil prices supported the rupee's upward movement.

"Alongside positive news on crude, the ten-year bonds

rallied as yields closed lower. The currency rallied on the lower than expected trade deficit data," said Sunil Sharma, Chief Investment Officer, Sanctum Wealth Management.

The trade deficit dropped to a five-month low of \$13.98 billion in September even as exports declined by more than 2 per cent. A higher trade deficit inflates the current account deficit which has a bearing on the local currency due to fund outflows.

The benchmark Brent oil was trading 0.88 per cent lower at \$80.07 a barrel on Tuesday due to easing tensions over disappearance of a Saudi journalist which calmed the oil market.

US President Donald Trump Monday had said that "rough killers" could be behind the disappearance of journalist Jamal Khashoggi as opposed to his earlier threatening stance.

Stock markets also welcomed a retreat in oil prices



and gains in the rupee with the benchmark 30-share Sensex rising by 297.38 points or 0.85 per cent to close at 35,162.48.

The NSE Nifty after regaining the 10,600-mark hit a high of 10,604.90 on the back of widespread gains, and finally concluded 72.25 points or 0.69 per cent higher at 10,584.75.

Foreign investors bought shares worth ₹67.86 crore Monday, while domestic institutional investors purchased stocks worth ₹294.78 crore, provisional data showed.

The Financial Benchmark India Private Ltd (FBIL) set the reference rate for the dollar at 73.9041 per dollar.

The reference rate for euro was fixed at 85.5750 and for the British pound at 97.3327. The reference rate for 100 Japanese yen was 65.95.

Sensex zooms 297 pts to reclaim 35K; rupee, corp earnings drive optimism

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The equity benchmark Sensex continued its winning run for the third straight session on Tuesday, rising 297 points to scale the key 35,000-level on positive macro signs like strengthening rupee and healthy start to the corporate earnings season.

Meanwhile, the rupee strengthened by 25 paise to 73.58 (intra-day) against the US dollar in the forex market.

Besides, easing global crude prices and positive cues from Asian markets and a higher opening in European shares too fuelled the rally. Brent was trading 0.25 per cent lower at \$80.58 a barrel on Tuesday.

"Market maintained a positive momentum as healthy start to the earnings season and gaining strength in rupee supported the sentiment. Though rally was broad based, financials led from the front... Earnings season will dictate the trend in the market as investors are gradually shifting their focus from global volatility to domestic triggers," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said.

The 30-share Sensex stayed in the positive zone during the session and shuttled between 35,215.79 and 34,913.06, before settling 297.38 points or 0.85 per cent higher at 35,162.48.

The NSE Nifty after regaining the 10,600-mark hit a high of 10,604.90 on the back of widespread gains, and finally concluded 72.25 points or 0.69 per cent higher at 10,584.75.

"The Nifty was higher today again supported by mid- and small-cap stocks. The broader indices gained more ground than the Nifty. Banking stocks were mixed with PSU Banks taking the lead. Global cues were also mixed where US markets were down but most other markets appear to have stabilised," Rohit Srivastava, Fund Manager - PMS, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas said.

Domestic institutional investors (DIIs) bought shares worth ₹294.78 crore, while foreign institutional investors invested ₹67.86 crore on Monday, as per provisional data issued by the stock exchanges.

Shares of the country's second largest IT company, Infosys fell 0.39 per cent after cautious investors trimmed their positions ahead of July-September quarter earnings.

OPEC says it has not failed India, provided mkt stability

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi voiced concerns about high crude prices, oil cartel OPEC on Tuesday said it has not failed India and other major consuming countries as it restored stability in the market after four years of downturn.

Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Secretary General Sanusi Barkindo, however, said the stability achieved in past month is being threatened by headwinds from extraneous factors like frictions between leading trading partners of the world, revival of monetary stimuli and upward movement in interest rates.

Speaking at the India Energy Forum, he said a year ago Prime Minister Modi, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and industry chiefs had "all commended the joint effort of OPEC and non-OPEC to rescue the industry from the downturn".

"India, the third largest consuming country of hydrocarbon, has endorsed this collaborative effort to restore stability to the oil market and had, in addition, asked to do whatever is necessary to sustain this stability going forward," he said.

Without stability, major consuming countries cannot plan let alone manage demand-supply dynamics.

"We have not failed India, we have not failed major consuming countries. Our actions, decision all take into account the interest of consuming country," he said. "We have a vested interest in India continue to grow, prosper, continue to use oil in its energy mix."

On Monday, Modi had voice concerns about high oil prices killing global growth at a meeting where Saudi and UAE oil ministers as also industry captains were present.

India has been over the past two months battered by high crude oil prices that have sent retail petrol, diesel and LPG rates to record high, posed inflationary risks and together with a sliding rupee threatened to upset its current account deficit. Also, unrelenting fuel price rise since mid-August has negated cut in taxes and subsidy. Barkindo said the stability achieved over the past months is under threat from a combination of factors that are beyond the control of oil producers.

"In the short term we are also beginning to see a rise in volatility," he said. "Yes at the moment the market is well sup-

plied. However, these extraneous factors are beginning to make this balance look fragile. These factors are completely outside the control of OPEC and non-OPEC (oil producers)."

He said on Monday Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest exporter of oil in the world, assured all consumers "to remain claim, not to panic and that there is ample supplies to meet".

"Yes, the market is well supplied, a balance has been achieved. But this balance is looking fragile largely because of actors outside our control," he said.

Barkindo said the recently released OPEC's World Oil Outlook, primary energy demand, globally, is expected to increase by 33 per cent, or 91 million barrels of oil equivalent per day (mboe/d), between 2015 and 2040.

"A massive 24 per cent of this anticipated increase will be from India, or 22 mboe/d," he said. "World oil demand is expected to increase by 14.5 million barrels per day (mb/d), increasing from 97.2 mb/d in 2017 to 111.7 mb/d in 2040. India will account for oil demand growth of 5.8 mb/d, which represents an astonishing 40 per cent of the overall increase."

GOVT HIKES GPF INTEREST RATE TO 8% FOR OCT-DEC QUARTER

New Delhi: The Government has increased the rate of interest for General Provident Fund (GPF) and other related schemes by 0.4 percentage points to 8 per cent for the October-December quarter.

The rate is in line with that for Public Provident Fund. The interest rate on GPF was 7.6 per cent for the July-September quarter of 2018-19. The interest rate would apply on Provident Funds of central government employees, railways and defence forces.

Indonesia extradites Vinay Mittal; wanted in ₹40-cr bank fraud case

HE WAS AMONG TOP ECONOMIC OFFENDERS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indonesia has extradited absconding industrialist Vinay Mittal, who was wanted in seven bank fraud cases worth ₹40 crore, to India, CBI officials said here on Tuesday.

Mittal's name had figured in the list of prominent fugitive economic offenders of the Government which contained names of industrialists Vijay Malia, Nitin Sandesara, Nirav Modi, Mehul Choksi and Jatinder Mehta among others.

The CBI had registered regular cases against Mittal in 2014 and 2016 at the behest of Corporation Bank and Punjab National Bank, which is reeling under ₹1,300 crore bank fraud allegedly perpetrated by fugitive diamond traders Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi, the officials said.

The agency had filed seven charge sheets before designated courts in Delhi and Ghaziabad against Mittal after which he purportedly escaped from the country.

The court has declared him as absconder and the agency got issued a Red Corner Notice against him through the Interpol.

Subsequently, the agencies traced his location to Bali in Indonesia where he was living with his family. He was arrested by Indonesian authorities in January 2017 on the basis of Red Corner Notice.

Recently, Indonesian President had cleared his extradition to India following which he was sent to India this month. He was arrested upon arrival and sent to judicial custody.

After his extradition earlier this month, the agency also got a shot in arm when another accused Mohammad Yahya, accused in a ₹46 lakh bank loan fraud case, was deported from Bahrain.

RBI approves 3-year term for Bakhshi as ICICI Bank chief

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Adopting a seemingly cautious approach, the Reserve Bank has approved appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as ICICI Bank's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for three years as against a five-year term sought by the lender. ICICI Bank Tuesday informed the stock exchanges that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cleared Bakhshi's appointment for three years effective from October 15.

After ICICI group veteran Chanda Kochhar — who was facing inquiry related to alleged nepotism and quid pro quo in extending loans to certain entities — resigned earlier this month, the bank announced appointment of Bakhshi as the MD and CEO for five years.

In recent months, the RBI seem to be exercising a cautious approach when it comes to re-appointment of chiefs of private sector banks, especially against the backdrop of rising non-performing assets.

"We wish to inform you that RBI ... (on October 15, 2018) has approved the appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as Managing Director and CEO of the Bank for a period of three years with effect from October 15, 2018," ICICI Bank said in a BSE filing.

Bakhshi, who joined the ICICI group in 1986, was elevated from the post of Chief Operating Officer (COO) to MD and CEO of the bank after resignation of Kochhar on October 4.

SJM seeks PM's intervention in keeping ITC in Indian hands

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The RSS-affiliated Swadeshi Jagran Manch (SJM) on Tuesday sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention to ensure that the controlling stake in multi-business conglomerate ITC does not go to a foreign company.

The SJM wrote to Modi in the wake of reports of a possible takeover of ITC by British American Tobacco Company (BAT), a UK-based multi-national firm.

"Swadeshi Jagran Manch requests you to kindly intervene in this case in national interest, and pass instructions to increase the shareholding of

the Government to thwart the possibility of a takeover of an Indian company (ITC) by an MNC," its co-convenor Ashwani Mahajan said in the letter to Modi.

BAT already holds stake in the ITC, which has diversified business in a range of sectors including FMCG, apparel, hotels, specialty papers, packaging, agri-business and information technology among others.

Referring to ITC's shareholding pattern, he said shares held by domestic financial institutions used to be 32 per cent which has come down to 30.4 per cent.

BAT's stake is at 29.60 per cent in the company.

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H. O. "UJJAWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866
website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com, (Telle.: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508)

TENDER NOTICE
Office of Executive Engineer (Maintenance), Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi invites sealed tender from interested firms/contractors for the following works-

Tender No- (i) 21/EE(M)/2018-19 (ii) 22/EE(M)/2018-19 (iii) 23/EE(M)/2018-19

Name of work - (i) Fabrication and supply of gun metal bushes and S.S. sleeve (ii) Supply of runner cone (iii) Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of hydraulic thruster brake

Approximate value of Tender (₹)-
(i) 5,53,000.00 (taxes extra) (ii) 8,90,000.00 (taxes extra)
(iii) 3,00,000.00 (taxes extra)

Tender Cost (₹)-
(i) 590.00 (ii) 590.00 (iii) 295.00

Earnest Money (₹)-
(i) 16,600.00 (ii) 26,700.00 (iii) 12,000.00

Date of starting for download tender documents- 22/10/2018

Last Date for downloading of tender documents- 12/11/2018

Last date for submitting the tender Documents- 14/11/2018 up to 16:00 hrs.

Due date for opening of tender Documents-
(i) 19/11/2018 at 11:00 Hrs. (Tender No. 21/EE(M)/2018-19)
(ii) 19/11/2018 at 15:00 Hrs.(Tender No. 22/EE(M)/2018-19)
(iii) 20/11/2018 at 11:00 Hrs. (Tender No. 23/EE(M)/2018-19)

For eligibility criteria and further details kindly visit our website, "www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com." The Tenders can be downloaded only from our website and their cost has to be paid at the time of submission of the tender.

पत्रांक सं 657 /दिनांक 15.10.2018
Executive Engineer (Maint.)
"Save Electricity in the interest of Nation"

SBFC SMALL BUSINESS FINCREDIT Address: 762, Building No 7, 6th Floor, Solitaire Corporate Park, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400093 | Telephone: +91 22 67875300
SMALL BUSINESS FINCREDIT INDIA PVT. LTD. Fax: +91 22 67875334 | www.sbfc.com | Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2008PTC178270
(Erstwhile Mape Finance Pvt. Ltd.)

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by Small Business Finance India Pvt. Ltd. (Erstwhile Mape Finance Pvt. Ltd.) on or after 20th October 2018 at 10 AM at Lalpat Nagar Regional Office, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Panipat Branch address: K-17, 1st Floor, Lalpat Nagar-2, New Delhi-110024, 28/1, First Floor, N.T. Faridabad, Haryana-121001 and 1st Floor, Property No.42/79, Subhash Nagar, New Railway Road, Gurgaon-122001 & 1st Floor, Java Complex, Above Vijaya Bank G T Road, Panipat-132103, Haryana. In case the auction process is not completed on date 20th October 2018 then for the remaining auction process shall be continued till 31st of October 2018 till all auction items are sold off at the above mentioned location.
The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Loan Accounts of our various Customers who have failed to pay their dues. Our notices of auction have been duly issued to these borrowers.
The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Overdue Loan Accounts of our various Customers mentioned below with branch name.
Faridabad:- PRO0583755, PRO0585156, PRO0573231, PRO0565513, PRO0535947, PRO0583779, PRO0586210, PRO0575512, PRO0569516, PRO0547706, PRO0584116, PRO0582965, PRO0578381, PRO0569762, PRO0563106, PRO0584150, PRO0583197, PRO0578742, PRO05859763, PRO0564798, PRO0584153, PRO0583229, PRO0579210, PRO0572163, PRO0565735, PRO0584169, PRO0583231, PRO0579897, PRO0583665, PRO0566563, PRO0584170, PRO0583560, PRO0580411, PRO0583674, PRO0569380, PRO0585406, PRO0581515, PRO0590121, Gurgaon: PRO0583329, PRO0578564, PRO0554302, PRO0546626, PRO0519738, PRO0584649, PRO0578855, PRO0560800, PRO0548561, PRO052789, PRO0572433, PRO0586800, PRO0554891, PRO0565243, Laxmi Nagar: PRO0586441, PRO0579432, PRO0559813, PRO0557824, PRO0535369, PRO0592927, PRO0580974, PRO0571006, PRO0533115, PRO0546214, PRO0595789, PRO0546271, Lalpat Nagar: PRO0571934, PRO0573348, PRO0571043, PRO0566604, PRO0530422, PRO0572051, PRO0578785, PRO0571570, PRO0566647, PRO0552789, PRO0572433, PRO0586800, PRO0554891, PRO0565243, Laxmi Nagar: PRO0586441, PRO0582307, PRO0579459, PRO0557824, PRO0532564, PRO0588037, PRO0583443, PRO0579514, PRO0563315, PRO0558111, PRO0542309, PRO0542009, PRO0542314, Panipat: PRO0585640, PRO0571784, PRO0563449, PRO0558781, PRO0546615, PRO0586383, PRO0571907, PRO0571108, PRO0563920, PRO0556444, PRO0556860, PRO0558776, Rohini: PRO0586125, PRO0573473, PRO0563950, PRO0559813, PRO0557824, PRO0535369, PRO0592927, PRO0580974, PRO0579514, PRO0547717, PRO0550498, PRO0575353, PRO0569386, PRO0560670, PRO0543178, PRO0592763, PRO0578936, PRO0564126, PRO0560676, PRO0543781, PRO0594508, PRO0579673, PRO0564154, PRO0567868, PRO0545914, PRO0594621, PRO0583812, PRO0565732, PRO0573448, PRO0545916, PRO0594758, PRO0594761, PRO0559330, PRO0556294, Tughlakabad: PRO0586374, PRO0585804, PRO0583438, PRO0550996, PRO0540864, PRO0586897, PRO0585806, PRO0584295, PRO0571781, PRO0541282, PRO0587991, PRO0585937, PRO0584329, PRO0576441, PRO0543666, PRO0589015, PRO0586286, PRO0584899, PRO0572759, PRO0552476, PRO0589475, PRO0586366, PRO0584890, PRO0577970, PRO0560142, PRO0589476, PRO0586369, PRO0585393, PRO0581027, PRO0564589, PRO0590247, PRO0583711, PRO0585875, PRO0583986, PRO0565511, PRO0590751, PRO0568977, PRO0587007, PRO0581834, PRO0565588, PRO0593041, PRO0569128, PRO0595417, PRO0586391, PRO0567007, PRO0567301, PRO0586293, Uttam Nagar: PRO0586441, PRO0567471, PRO0579335, PRO0579338, PRO0572229, PRO0584893, PRO0567472, PRO0573936, PRO0581284, PRO0572230, PRO0585193, PRO0578228, PRO0586369, PRO0583915, PRO0572242, PRO0585881, PRO0569750, PRO0542464, PRO0584102, PRO0572283, PRO0586442, PRO0569842, PRO0543486, PRO0584349, PRO0572443, PRO0562503, PRO0572024, PRO0544669, PRO0584541, PRO058113, PRO0594599, PRO0562503, PRO0545310, PRO0554479, PRO0558216, PRO0567467, PRO0546687, PRO0547754, PRO0554479, PRO0558216, PRO0567467

For more details, please contact
Small Business Finance India Pvt. Ltd.
(Erstwhile Mape Finance Pvt. Ltd.)
Contact Number(s): Lalpat Nagar 1800-102-8012 / 011-40305228 / 207, Faridabad 01294314725/4104540 and Gurgaon Branch 01243220885/ 86/ 87 (Small Business Finance India Pvt. Ltd. (Erstwhile Mape Finance Pvt. Ltd.) reserves the right to alter the number of accounts to be auctioned & postpone / cancel the auction without any prior notice.)
KARVY FINANCE Retail is now SBFC

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRLS

General Public is hereby informed that two girls (depicted in the photo) namely Parul and Tannu D/o Mukesh Kumar R/o I-420, 1st floor, Mangolpuri, Delhi has been reported missing/kidnapped since 25.09.2018 vide FIR No. 890/18 u/s 363 IPC dated 27.09.2018 registered at Police Station Mangolpuri, Delhi. their physical description is as under-

Name: Parul, **Aged:** 16 Years, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 4', **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Black coloured t-shirt, black coloured pajama and slipper in feet.

Name: Tannu, **Aged:** 14 Years, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 4', **Face:** Long, **ID Mark:** A old scar mark on right cheek, **Wearing:** Green coloured t-shirt, black coloured pajama and orange coloured slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about these missing/kidnapped girls, may inform SHO, Mangolpuri, Delhi at E-mail : clc@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Sd/-
Tel. No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Mangolpuri, Delhi.
FAX No. : 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-27921168, 27922186
DP/1482/OD/18 Mob.: 7065036121

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is Publicly notified that Residential EWS Flat No.382, Block C-1, Sector-55, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., allottee of Sh. Tikraj Sanjay S/o Sh. Tuls Dass R/o 2M-32, N.T. Faridabad, Haryana, had sold on the basis of General Power of Attorney to the following persons. The General Power of Attorney was registered on dated 08-12-1995 in the name of Mrs. Mithlesh Sharma W/o Sh. Rajbir Sharma R/o C-1/382, Sector-55, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. and Agreement to Sell is executed in her favour which is not registered.

Because an Agreement to Sell is not registered so it is Publicly notified that the transfer of the property bearing Residential EWS Flat No.382, Block C-1, Sector-55, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. is going to be transferred in the name of Sh. Rajbir Singh S/o Sh. B.L. Sharma R/o C-1/382, Sector-55, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. If some one has/have any objection he/she file his/her objection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department (H) of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. Mrs. Mithlesh Sharma

Pak fight back after Aus attack

Sarfraz, Zaman score 94 each after Lyon scalps four to restrict Pakistan to 282 runs



Fakhar Zaman returns to pavilion after getting dismissed for 94 runs in his maiden Test innings; (right) Australian players celebrate after Nathan Lyon dismissed Babar Azam during the first day of Second Test



Umesh replaces injured Shardul in ODI squad

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Paceman Umesh Yadav was on Tuesday rewarded for his maiden 10-wicket haul in Test cricket with a recall in the ODI squad as a replacement for injured Shardul Thakur.

The selectors had announced the squad for the first two matches but Thakur has been ruled out of the five-ODI series after sustaining a right adductor tendon injury.

His much-awaited Test debut ended in a nightmare in Hyderabad as he bowled only 10 deliveries before hobbling out with a groin strain.

There has been considerable debate as to whether Thakur was fully fit and proper rehabilitation was done before naming him in the Test squad.

Umesh got the nod from the selection committee after his superb show in Hyderabad where he got 6 for 88 and 4 for 45 in the two innings.

He has so far picked 105 wickets from 73 ODIs with his last appearance in July against England at the Lord's.



Umesh Yadav prepares to bowl during the nets session PTI/File Picture

INDIA SQUAD

Virat Kohli (Captain), Rohit Sharma (vice-captain), Shikhar Dhawan, KL Rahul, Ambati Rayudu, Manish Pandey, MS Dhoni (wicket-keeper), Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Khaleel Ahmed, Umesh Yadav.

ICC suspends Windies coach from first 2 ODIs

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

West Indies coach Stuart Law was on Tuesday suspended from the first two ODIs against India for making "inappropriate comments" against a match official, adding to the Caribbean team's woes after a disastrous Test outing here.

Law was also fined 100 per cent of his match, the ICC said in a statement.

With the latest transgression, Law accumulated four demerit points within a 24-month period, leading to his suspension from the ODIs on October 21 and 24 against India in Guwahati and Visakhapatnam, respectively.

The incident that led to the action took place on the third and what turned out to be the final day of the second Test in Hyderabad.

Law, following the dismissal of opener Kieran Powell, went to the TV umpire's room and made inappropriate comments, the ICC stated.

"He then walked to the fourth umpire's area and, in the presence of the players, again directed inappropriate comments at the fourth official."

Law was found guilty of breaching Level 2 Article 2.7 of the ICC Code of Conduct.

This relates to "public criticism" or "inappropriate comment" of player, player support personnel, match official or team participating in any international match.

Law earlier received a 25% fine and one demerit point during the final day's play in the Dominica Test against Pakistan in 2017.

Four demerit points convert into two suspension points. On Monday, Law admitted the offence and accepted the sanction proposed by match referee Chris Broad, ruling out the need for a formal hearing.

The charges were levelled by on-field umpires Bruce Oxenford and Ian Gould, third umpire Nigel Llong and fourth official Nitin Menon.

Two suspension points equate to a ban from one Test or two ODIs or two T20Is, whatever comes first for the player or player support personnel.



West Indies coach Stuart Law in a file picture

AP ■ ABU DHABI

Pakistan recovered from 57-5 to post 282 and take two cheap Australia wickets on a compelling first day of the second cricket test on Tuesday.

Nathan Lyon took four wickets in six deliveries to embarrass Pakistan in the morning, but newcomer Fakhar Zaman and captain Sarfraz Ahmed led the rescue with identical scores of 94 runs each before both were dismissed by part-time legspinner Marnus Labuschagne.

Seamer Mohammad Abbas then put Pakistan on top at the end of the day by dismissing Usman Khawaja for 3 and nightwatchman Peter Siddle for 4 on the last ball of the day to leave Australia 20-2 in reply. Aaron

Finch was 13 not out.

Australia rallied to draw a thrilling first test in Dubai by batting out the last day and surviving with two wickets left.

The visitors started this test in equal fashion with a stunning 11-minute period by offspinner Lyon.

He took a return catch to remove Azhar Ali on 15 and then dismissed Haris Sohail, Asad Shafiq, and Babar Azam all without scoring.

Pakistan was in a reasonable position at 57-1 after winning the toss, but the Australia spinners were threatening.

Then the threat became reality. Lyon took the wickets of Ali and Sohail on consecutive balls to end his fourth over, the 20th of the innings. Shafiq blocked the hat-trick ball,

the first ball of the 22nd over, but got a faint inside edge to Lyon's subsequent delivery and was caught at bat-pad by Labuschagne after a successful decision review by the Australians.

Lyon struck again two balls later for figures of 4.4-4-4-4. In the process, Lyon surpassed former paceman Mitchell Johnson to move to fourth on Australia's list of all-time leading wicket-takers with 314. At tea, he had 4-58.

Pakistan's perilous position could have been worse. Zaman survived being dropped on 30 by Labuschagne off an irked Jon Holland, and later a close run out.

Labuschagne earlier brought off a sensational catch close to the wicket to dismiss opener Mohammad

Hafeez for 4 in Mitchell Starc's second over, before Zaman and Ali shared a half-century stand for the second wicket.

After crashing to 57-5 in the first session, Pakistan outsmarted Australia in the second session through Zaman and Ahmed as they scored 127 runs.

Zaman scored nearly three quarters of his runs on the offside, hitting eight fours and a six in his 198-ball knock.

He was six runs from a century on debut when Labuschagne, not given a bowl until just before tea, trapped Zaman leg before wicket on the stroke of tea. It ended a remarkable 147-run, sixth-wicket stand lasting 37 overs.

Ahmed was, by far, more aggressive,

and kept the scoreboard moving with constant rotation of the strike before his 129-ball knock was ended in which he hit seven boundaries. He tried an ambitious big hit to raise his hundred but sliced a catch to Siddle and missed out on his first century in four years.

No. 9 batsman Yasir Shah lifted the total with a breezy 28 before Pakistan was all out.

Pakistan made two changes to the lineup that started in Dubai, giving Zaman and left-arm seamer Mir Hamza test debuts as replacements for Imam-ul-Haq and Wahab Riaz.

Hamza bowled one over late in the day, but Abbas got both strikes, getting Khawaja caught behind down the leg side for his 50th test wicket, and trapping Siddle.

Mumbai face Jharkhand in Hazare semis

PTI ■ BENGALURU

A star-studded batting line-up, headlined by trio of Rohit Sharma, Ajinkya Rahane and rising sensation Prithvi Shaw, make Mumbai runaway favourites against Hyderabad in the first Vijay Hazare semi-final, here Wednesday.

With the inclusion of Prithvi and Rahane, who joined the squad after completing their Test match duty in Hyderabad along with presence of Rohit and Shreyas Iyer, the Mumbai batting does have a menacing look to it.

Ambati Rayudu and young pacer Mohammed Siraj do add muscle to the Hyderabad side, which has been impressive in the national One Day Championship so far.

With Prithvi set to open with India's limited overs vice-captain Rohit, left-handed opener Akhil Herwadkar is expected to be benched.

Rahane will come in place of either Siddhesh Lad or Suryakumar Yadav. The Indian ODI squad members are set to



Mumbai opener Prithvi Shaw bats during Vijay Hazare group A match; (right) Jharkhand players return to dugout after win



report in Guwahati on October 18 and if Mumbai happen to win the semi-final, Rohit will miss the summit clash on October 20.

For Mumbai, the three top run-getters in the tournament so far have been Shreyas (311 runs), Prithvi (287) and Yadav (237 runs). Rahane is fourth in the list with 230 runs.

The Mumbai bowlers have also been consistent with seamer Dhawal Kulkarni (14 wickets) and left-arm spinner Shams Mulani (15 wickets) sharing the bulk of the wickets.

Medium pacer Tushar Deshpande, who grabbed five against Bihar in the quarter-final also is in good form.

Mumbai vs Jharkhand Live from 9:00pm IST STAR SPORTS 2

Hyderabad, their premier performer has been BP Sandeep (342) and Tanmay Agarwal (292 runs). The bowling will depend on Siraj (8 wickets from 6 games) and Mehidy Hasan (13 wickets from 8 games).

SQUADS

Mumbai: Ajinkya Rahane(c), Rohit Sharma, Shreyas Iyer, Prithvi Shaw, Jay Gokul Bista, Suryakumar Yadav, Siddhesh Lad, Aditya Tare, Eknath Kerkar, Shivam Dubey, Akash Palkar, Dhawal Kulkarni, Shams Mulani, Vijay Gohil, Tushar Deshpande, Royston Dias

Jharkhand: Varun Aaron(c), Anand Singh, Ashish Kumar, Kumar Deobrat, Ishan Kishan, Jaskaran Singh, Monu Kumar, Shabbaz Nadeem, Shasheem Sanjay Rathour, Anukul Roy, Rahul Shukla, Sumit Kumar, Atul Singh Surwar, Saurabh Tiwary, Utkarsh Singh, Virat Singh.

Perera out of Eng series, Dawson goes home

AFP ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's middle order batsman Kusal Perera will skip the three remaining one-day matches against England, while visiting all-rounder Liam Dawson has been ruled out of the entire tournament, officials said.

Perera, who scored 30 in Saturday's second ODI, suffered a hamstring injury and will be replaced by Sadeera Samarawickrama for the rest of the five-match series, Sri Lanka Cricket officials said.

Dawson strained his right side while bowling during England's Saturday win, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said on Monday.

The top order batsman and leg spinner has been ruled out of the rest of the tour and was due to return home Tuesday. He has been replaced by Joe Denly, who is in England's Test squad.

The third one-day international is due to take place in Kandy on Wednesday.

The first ODI was washed out. Apart from the five-match ODI series, England will play three Tests and a one-off T20 in Sri Lanka with the tour due to end on November 27.

Duminy ruled out of Aus tour

AFP ■ CAPE TOWN

South African batsman Jean Paul Duminy has been ruled out of South Africa's limited overs tour of Australia, starting later this month, because of a shoulder injury which he sustained during Zimbabwe series.

He is the second experienced batsman to miss the tour because of injury. Hashim Amla is out because

of a finger injury.

Cricket South Africa announced in a statement on Tuesday that Duminy will undergo surgery on his right shoulder after aggravating an old injury during a series against Zimbabwe which ended last weekend.

Duminy will also miss the Mzansi Super League, which starts on November 15. He had been named as a marquee player for the Cape

Town Blitz team.

Team manager and doctor Mohammed Moosajee said it was not possible at this stage to estimate how long Duminy would be out of action.

"That is dependent on the results from the surgery," he said.

South Africa will play three limited overs internationals and one Twenty20 international in Australia.

Sindhu suffers shock, Saina moves on

PTI ■ ODENSE

Saina Nehwal rallied to carve out a hard-fought opening win but PV Sindhu crashed out of the Denmark Open with a stunning loss to American Beiwen Zhang in the women's singles event, here on Tuesday.

Saina defeated Hong Kong's Ngan Yi Cheung 20-22, 21-17, 24-22 in a draining clash that lasted 81 minutes.

However, third seed Sindhu lost 17-21, 21-16, 18-21 to Zhang in another tough opening encounter that lasted 56 minutes.

In a tense match, Saina had to endure a stiff challenge from Cheyung, who



PV Sindhu returns a shot during World Championship clash PTI/File Picture

she last played back in 2016 and went on to lose that match.

The see-saw battle was a thriller down to the last point with the Indian saving two match points at 21-

20 and 22-21 in the final game to emerge triumphant and move ahead.

Saina was also guilty of frittering away a match point of her own when she led 20-19 in the final game.

Halep pulls out of Kremlin Cup

AFP ■ MOSCOW

Romania's world number one Simona Halep on Tuesday withdrew from the Kremlin Cup, a joint WTA and ATP event, due to concerns over an ongoing back injury.

"I tried everything I could to be ready here as I really wanted to play," Halep said. "But unfortunately the back is still causing me pain and I don't want to take any unnecessary risks."

The 27-year-old's appearance in Moscow and the WTA Finals had been in doubt when she withdrew from Beijing two weeks ago and was diagnosed with a herniated disk in her back.

Halep, who has already qualified for the WTA year-ending finals in Singapore, said she needed more time to recover completely from her back injury.

"While it's disappointing to withdraw, I know it's important to put my health first," she



Simona Halep reacts after winning point AP/File Picture

added. Halep this year played two Grand Slam finals, winning the French Open crown at Roland Garros, and won titles in Shenzhen and Montreal, leading the rankings for 40 weeks this year.

India A look for improved show

PTI ■ MUMBAI

India A women will look for an improved show when they take on their Australian counterparts in a must-win game here on Wednesday in a 50-overs match.

Australia A are 1-0 up in the three match series courtesy their 91-run win on Monday at the MCA Bandra-Kurla facility against the hosts, led by skipper Poonam Raut.

Come Wednesday, the Indian eyes will be eyeing to put up a better batting and bowling show.

Poonam, who departed for a duck, will be hoping to get some runs under her belt. Even the likes of Mona Meshram, Rajeshwari Gayakwad and Shikha Pandey need to fire.

The positive for the home side in the opening game was the all-round show by Preeti Bose.

Even the bowlers, who were hammered by the Aussie batters, will be looking to perform better.

On the other hand, the visitors will look to notch up another win and seal the series.

The 50-over series will be followed by a T20 series.

India A: Punam Raut (c), Priya Punia, Devika Vaidya, Mona Meshram, Tanushree Sarkar, Sushma Verma, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Sushree D, C Prathyusha, Reemalaxmi Ekka, Shikha Pandey, Nethra L, Hemali Borwankar, Kavita Patil, Preeti Bose.

Australia A: Samantha Bates, Maitlan Brown, Lauren Cheatle, Piepa Cleary, Josephine Dooley, Heather Graham, Sammy Jo Johnson, Tahlia McGrath, Chloe Piparo, Georgia Redmayne, Naomi Stalenberg, Molly Strano, Belinda Vakarewa and Amanda-Jade Wellington.

STERLING BLOWS SPAIN AWAY

Raheem's first England's goal in over 1102 days seals Three Lions first Nations League win

AFP ■ SEVILLE

Raheem Sterling scored twice as England delivered one of their finest victories of the modern era by beating Spain 3-2 in Seville.

Away from home, and against a Spanish side in scintillating form under their new coach Luis Enrique, this was certainly England's best win under Gareth Southgate and, perhaps, their most impressive since thrashing Germany 5-1 in Munich in 2001.

Marcus Rashford was the other scorer in a breathless opening 45 minutes, which witnessed Spain conceding three on home soil for the first time in their history.

"To play the way they did, this should be a great reference point for this team for the future," Southgate said.

Paco Alcacer, on as a substitute, headed in before the hour to spark hopes of a comeback but England were home and dry by the time Sergio Ramos scored in the 98th minute, with the last action of the match on Monday.

It means England keep alive their hopes of finishing top of Group 4 in the UEFA Nations League, the position Spain had needed only a point to all-but-guarantee would be theirs.

It was a night for streaks ending and records tumbling. Sterling's opening goal was his first in 1,102 days for England, even more remarkable given he added his second 22 minutes later.

"The only thing we did say is when he scores he will score again," Southgate said. "He managed to do so pretty quickly." The last time England won away against Spain was 1987 -- which was also when they last scored against Spain away from home, Gary Lineker on target.

With an average age of just over 23, this



Spanish and English players scuffle each other during the UEFA Nations League match at Benito Villamarín stadium, in Seville; (right) Raheem Sterling, left, celebrates after scoring his side's third goal

was also the youngest England starting line-up in the 21st century. That will be the most exciting aspect for Southgate.

For Spain, Alcacer now has an astonishing 10 goals from his last 10 shots on target. But defeat represents something of a reality check. "Waving the flag for goals," read Marca's front page on Monday. They

had scored 12 in three games since Luis Enrique took charge.

"Clearly it wasn't our night," he said. "We have made mistakes on an individual level and their goals were medicine for them and poison for us." But Eric Dier set the tone early on. He left Sergio Busquets, sluggish throughout, hopping out

of his first pass and then slid through Ramos, who was also out of sorts.

After a frantic start, England settled and in the 13th minute, scored. Under pressure at the back, they kept the ball until the risk was too great and Jordan Pickford drove forward to Harry Kane.

With Spain caught upfield, he was able

THIS WAS CERTAINLY ENGLAND'S BEST WIN UNDER GARETH SOUTHGATE AND, PERHAPS, THEIR MOST IMPRESSIVE SINCE THRASHING GERMANY 5-1 IN MUNICH IN 2001



to turn and find Rashford, whose quick switch set Sterling free. He finished into the top corner.

"We are staying up," sang the away support as Thiago Alcántara danced around England's midfield with flicks and tricks. But to little effect.

Instead, Kane showed the value of a top-class centre forward for England's second. He outmuscled Ramos to win Pickford's punt downfield, outpaced Nacho to the loose ball with a superb reverse pass in behind. Rashford only had to finish.

Spain's early confidence was gone and England added a third before the interval, which was greeted by whistles from the home fans.

Ross Barkley's sumptuous ball over the top caught Ramos napping again and Kane squared for Sterling to tap in. "Are you Scotland in disguise?" came the taunt from the corner.

Spain were sent out early for the second period, among them Alcacer, who replaced Saul. He scored with his first touch, heading in Marco Asensio's corner, given away after a fumble by Pickford.

It was a nightmare few minutes for England's goalkeeper, who then dallied and was tackled by Rodrigo.

Pickford scrambled the ball away but probably fouled Rodrigo in the process and Spain were adamant they deserved a penalty. The referee was not convinced.

England played for time, with a handful of players going down injured, and Spain's pressure gradually eased. Rodrigo shot wide in the final 10 minutes. Asensio went even closer.

Marcos Alonso then deflected onto the bar deep into injury time and Ramos headed home in the 98th minute. But there was not even time for a restart. England's win was complete.

Dynamos and ATK eye first win

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Back in action after a fortnight break, Delhi Dynamos would look to put pressure on a struggling ATK and get their first win of the season when the two teams clash in their Indian Super League (ISL) match, here on Wednesday.

The hosts, who are coming into this game after playing a 1-1 draw against FC Pune City, are likely to play striker Daniel Lahlmpua, who was injured but midfielder Bikramjit Singh still remains a doubtful starter due to a calf injury he sustained against Pune.

Dynamos head into the game following a two-week break due to international fixtures but defender Rana Gharami believes that a long gap has allowed his team to prepare well for this game.

"We had a long break and that has given us a lot of time to figure this ATK team out. They have a strong team with really good foreign players so its going to be hard for us defenders, but we are confident heading into this game," he said.

"We were really close to winning the last match but that ended as a draw and it was a big disappointment for us.



Delhi Dynamos players during training session ahead of ISL clash against ATK

This is a must-win encounter for both the sides, so we really need to give our best," Rana added.

In the last fixture, Dynamos created a lot of chances but failed to hit the target on most occasions but that isn't bothering Head Coach Josep Gombau as he believes the side is working according to the plan.

"Last game we had a lot of chances and we missed. To win games you need to take these chances and we are working on that. Good thing is that we created chances. That's the difficult thing in football."

The visitors boast a strong squad and Gombau is wary of the threat they possess in terms of attack.

"ATK have a very good game. They have many good players in the side. Wednesday will be a difficult game for us."

The game meanwhile will mark the return of Dynamos' all-time top scorer Kalu Uche as he returns to the stadium where he was so prolific last season, for the first time.

Former Dynamos defender Sena Ralte though will miss the clash as he will be serving his suspension.

'Never thought Zidane, Ronaldo will leave Real'

IAN ■ MADRID

Real Madrid's Croatian international midfielder Luka Modric admits that neither he nor his team-mates expected both Zinedine Zidane and Cristiano Ronaldo to leave the club last summer.

Zidane stepped down as coach after leading the club to three consecutive Champions League titles, while Ronaldo ended his nine-year association with Madrid when he joined Juventus in July.

"I wasn't expecting either of the two to go; I didn't think Zidane would leave and the same with Ronaldo," said Modric in an interview with the latest edition of the magazine 'France Football'.

"In fact when the rumors about Cristiano appeared, we (Real Madrid players) had bets among ourselves and we

were certain he would stay, but everyone makes their own decisions," he added.

The 33-year-old, who is the favourite to win the prestigious 'Balon d'Or' award for this season, was asked which former players he would most likely to have lined up alongside. He said his first choice was former Croatian international Zvonimir Boban; "he was my hero in the Croatian team," he said, before naming Zidane as his second choice.

"I was lucky to have him as a coach and we have lived some incredible moments with him at Real Madrid, sometimes he has played alongside us and it was incredible to see how elegant he was and how he moved over the pitch," said Modric.

The Croatian described himself as "much more timid," than Ronaldo and that he didn't appreciate being over-exposed in the media. "I prefer simplicity," he said.



BOLT OFFERED CONTRACT WITH MALTA CLUB

AFP ■ SYDNEY

Sprint king Usain Bolt could be making his way to Europe after being offered a two-year professional football contract in Malta, reports said on Tuesday, with the club saying it wanted to "write history" with the signing.

Bolt, 32, has been on trial with A-League club the Central Coast Mariners since arriving in Australia in August in his bid to pursue a boyhood dream of becoming a footballer after retiring from athletics last year.

The 100 metres world record-holder scored his first two goals in professional football on Friday when he started a pre-season game against second-tier Macarthur South West United in Sydney.

Malta club Valletta FC said they had made a formal offer which includes playing in its upcoming cup final, with chief executive Ghasston Slimen saying the move to snare Bolt was "about writing history".



Usain Bolt in action during Australian league

"Usain Bolt broke the record in Beijing (Olympics) in 2008, and I have followed him for the last year-and-a-half on his football journey," Slimen told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"We play the final of the Super Cup on December 13, which we will win... so can you imagine Usain Bolt lifting the Super Cup trophy 10 years after he broke the record in Beijing?"

"This isn't about money, this is about history. This is something that they will talk about in 50 or 100 years' time."

Slimen admitted Bolt still had to improve his footballing skills, but said he was inspired by the former sprinter's jubilant celebrations -- including the trademark lightning bolt victory pose -- after the goals.

"I don't want him to be here on holiday, I want him training hard," he said, adding that he wanted Bolt to be lifting trophies during his stint at Valletta.

"I don't want to make a big fuss, I want him to sign the contract, get on the flight, arrive in Malta and train, because we need to prepare for the Super Cup."

The Australian agent who arranged Bolt's trial with the Mariners declined to confirm or deny the reports.

The 32-year-old previously tried out with clubs in Germany, South Africa and Norway to no avail.

Tiger Woods, only athlete bigger than sport: Jeev

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Tiger Woods is the only athlete in the world who is bigger than the sport he plays, Indian golf veteran Jeev Milkha Singh said Tuesday as he complemented the American superstar, who once described him as a "great guy and a good friend".

Jeev, whose career took a hit because of incessant injury breakdowns, praised the American for winning his 80th PGA Tour title last month, which was his first in five years.

The win made for a remarkable triumph over career-threatening injuries for the celebrated 42-year-old, who endured quite a few other setbacks in the last few years as well.

"I feel that he has got another three-four years during which he is going to win a few tournaments," said the 47-year-old Jeev.

"For me, personally, Tiger is the only athlete in the world who is bigger than the sport. There have been legends in basketball, in athletics, but I think what Tiger has done for golf, he is bigger than the sport.

"The awareness he has brought for golf, I think nobody could have done that," added Jeev.

In 2006, when Jeev was in peak form, Woods was effusive in his praise for the Indian for winning back-to-back titles in Japan. The American went on to say that he likes to track Jeev's progress and called him a "good friend".

Jeev was recently honoured by the The Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), which a tournament, the Take Open Golf Championship, after him.



Tiger Woods and Jeev Milkha Singh in a file picture

The tournament will be played at the Chandigarh Golf Club, Jeev's home club, from November 1 to 4 and will offer an enhanced prize purse of ₹ 1.5 crore. That's an increase of ₹ 50 lakh from last year's prize when Shubhankar Sharma won.

About the upcoming tournament, Jeev said, "I am sure it is going to be a grand success. Players love coming here to play, they enjoy the hospitality here".

Jeev said he plans to do full justice to the tournament as a host but that would not stop him from trying to win the title.

Asked if there would be pressure on him playing at his home course, he jokingly said, "As a host the pressure on me is going to be that players are well taken care of".

Chandigarh Golf Club President B S Gill said this tournament is going to be a game-changer for golf in India.

"What is happening in Chandigarh today is that there is a huge dynamic shift and players are wanting to come to the city to play," Gill said.

Panwar wins Silver in Youth Olympics

PTI ■ BUENOS AIRES

India's Suraj Panwar clinched a Silver in men's 5000m race walk event in the ongoing Youth Olympic Games to open the country's medal account in athletics here.

Panwar won the stage 2 competition by clocking 20 minutes and 35.87 seconds on Monday night but finished second overall.

In a new format, there are no finals in track and field (with the exception of 4km cross-country) in the Youth Olympics and each event is held twice, with results from both rounds counting towards the final standings.

The 17-year-old Panwar had finished second in the first stage in 20:23.30s, behind Patin Oscar of Ecuador.

Oscar, who finished second in Stage 2, won the Gold with timings of 20:13.69s and 20:38.17s.

Panwar's total time of 40:59.17s was over seven minutes slower than Oscar's 40:51.86s. Puerto Rico's Jan Moreu finished third to claim the Bronze.

This is India's first athletics medal in this edition and third overall. Arjun (men's discus throw) and Durgesh Kumar (men's 400m hurdles) had won a Silver each in the inaugural edition in 2010.

"It's a great feeling. I am very happy to have won a medal. I had put in a lot of hard work for the Games. It is my first medal for India," Panwar said after winning the Silver medal.

"My next target is to better my performance here and win a medal in the senior level also," he added.

BOXING CHALLENGE OVER
India's boxing challenge at the ongoing Youth Olympics ended at the



Indian athlete Suraj Panwar poses with the Silver medal

very first hurdle after former world champion Jyoti Gulia (51kg) lost her quarterfinal bout to Italy's Martina La Piana here.

Gulia was the lone Indian boxer to qualify for the Games owing to her world title and lost in a unanimous 0-5 verdict to the Italian on Monday night.

The 17-year-old Indian from Haryana was expected to do well at the event given that she was coming off a Gold medal winning performance at the Silesian Open in Gliwice, Poland last month.

India's maiden and only set of

medals in the Youth Olympics' boxing competition came in the inaugural edition of 2010.

Shiva Thapa and Vikas Krishan delivered a Silver and a Bronze medal respectively, which remain India's best performance. While Shiva won his Silver in the 54kg category, Vikas finished with a Bronze in the 60kg division.

In 2014, the best that India managed in boxing was Gaurav Solanki's fourth-place finish. Solanki (52kg) won the Gold medal in this year's Commonwealth Games.