

**OPINION 6**  
THE GLOBAL WARMING  
GOAL AND INDIA

**WORLD 5**  
US ASKS TURKEY FOR  
AUDIO TAPE: TRUMP

**NATION 8**  
BJP BEGINS SEARCH FOR  
PARRIKAR'S ALTERNATIVE

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## RSS chief pitches for Ram Mandir law

BJP netas hail push; Opp, Muslim leaders say call is politically motivated

TR RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Ahead of the crucial 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday put the contentious Ram Mandir issue back on the front burner, by exhorting the Narendra Modi Government "to clear the path for construction of a grand temple through appropriate and requisite law".

Addressing the RSS cadres at the RSS headquarters in Nagpur on Vijayadashami, Bhagwat charged that there was "an obvious game-plan" of a few elements to stall the judgment on Ram Mandir by presenting various newer interventions in the judicial process. He, however, stressed that the construction of Ram temple was necessary from the self-esteem point of view.

"It (Ram temple) will also pave the way for an atmosphere of goodwill and oneness in the country. This matter of national interest is being obstructed by some fundamentalist elements and forces that play communal politics for selfish gains. Despite such machinations, the decision regarding ownership of the land should be expedited, and the Government should clear the path for construction of the grand temple through appropriate and requisite law," Bhagwat said.

Several BJP leaders supported the RSS chief's push for a law to enable the construction

- Clear the path for construction of a grand temple through appropriate and requisite law, says RSS chief
- The construction of Ram temple is necessary from the self-esteem point of view, he says
- 'It (Ram temple) will also pave the way for an atmosphere of goodwill and oneness in the country'
- AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said Bhagwat's remarks indicated that the RSS and the BJP believed in totalitarianism and not in the rule of law
- BJP MP Subramanian Swamy said Bhagwat made a constitutionally valid demand and the Government should bring an Ordinance for construction of the temple



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat addresses the Vijay Dashmi function at RSS headquarters in Nagpur on Thursday

of Ram temple, saying legislation is a constitutionally valid option. Opposition and Muslim leaders, however, linked his call for the legislation to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, saying his demand is "politically motivated".

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said Bhagwat's remarks indicated that the RSS and the BJP believed in totalitarianism and not in the rule of law.

BJP MP Subramanian Swamy said Bhagwat made a constitutionally valid demand and the Government should bring an Ordinance for construction of the temple.

Shrikant Sharma, a

Minister in the Uttar Pradesh Government and its spokesperson, echoed the view, saying the legislation to build the temple at Ayodhya will be in accordance with the Constitution.

Termining Bhagwat's speech historic, former BJP MP Vinay Katiyar rejected the contention that he made the demand for a law for the temple with an eye on the 2019 elections.

In Lucknow, Opposition parties and Muslim leaders said Bhagwat's call was meant to serve political interests. "The statement on Ram temple given by the RSS chief is a political statement before the upcoming elections," Samajwadi Party

spokesman in Uttar Pradesh Rajendra Chaudhary told PTI. Darul Uloom Farangi Mahal rector Maulana Khalid Rashid Farangi Mahali said even a child knows that the Ram temple issue is raised by the RSS-BJP every time before the elections.

Babri Masjid Action Committee convener Zafaryab Jilani said Bhagwat is trying to influence the court, referring to the title suit for the disputed site in Ayodhya.

Firebrand Hindu leader Pravin Togadia questioned why such a law was not enacted in the last four and a half years of the BJP rule. The RSS is rais-

ing the issue now because elections are round the corner and the BJP Government's performance is dismal, he said.

Underlining the role of Sangh Parivar in the proposal to construct Ram Mandir (in Ayodhya), Bhagwat said: "In this very same context of honouring the 'Sewa' of the nation, Sangh has been associated with the sentiments of countrymen, in the efforts of constructing a magnificent Ram temple at the birthplace of Shri Ram who is the personification of the life energy of the nation and an icon of upholding dharma. "The place of Janmabhoomi is yet to be allo-

cated for the construction of the temple although all kinds of evidence have affirmed that there was a temple at that place. There is an obvious game-plan of a few elements to stall the judgment by presenting various newer interventions in the judicial process," the RSS chief said, as he called for expediting the decision on the ownership of the land and the BJP-led Government at the Centre bringing an "appropriate and requisite law" to facilitate construction of the Ram temple.

Through his remarks on Ram Mandir, Bhagwat has indirectly given a poll plank to the ruling BJP but also asked the Government to become pro-active in taking Mandir issue to a logical conclusion in the run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. It remains to be seen if the Narendra Modi Government would bring in a legislation in matters relating to the Ram Mandir construction, pending a Supreme Court verdict on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute, the hearing for which will commence from October 29 before a three-judge Bench.

In his Dussehra rally address, Bhagwat spoke on a host of issues, including national security, internal security, "disturbing trends" in the country, the recent verdict on Sabarimala temple and the RSS' role and views on the 2019 general elections.

Continued on Page 4

## Congress bets on sitting MLAs for Bastar battle



Kawashi Lakhma Manoj Mandavi Devati Karma

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Congress which is desperate to end BJP's winning streak in Chhattisgarh, on Thursday announced its candidates for all 12 assembly seats of restive Bastar region which goes to polls in first phase on November 12.

Congress has largely relied on its sitting MLAs and accommodated seven out of its eight sitting MLAs in the list.

Party has dumped Shankar Dhurva, sitting MLA from Kanker and replaced him with an emerging local popular face Shishu Pal Sori. In last Assembly polls held in 2003, Congress had bagged eight seats while the BJP won just four seats from Bastar region.

Overall 18 seats will go to polling in first phase and Congress has still been working on final candidates for Rajnandgaon district's

six seats.

Ruling BJP is expected to announce first list of candidates by Saturday. Congress has once again fielded trusted face Kawashi Lakhma from State's worst Naxal-hit constituency Kanta from Sukma district.

Lakhma is winning the seat for past three elections and he is largely described as 'undefeated candidate' in Bastar's political corridor.

State Congress has declared Anoop Naag from Antagarh seat, Manoj Singh Mandavi from Bhanupratappur seat, Santram Netam from Keshkal seat, Mohan Lal Markam from Kondagaon, Chandan Kashyap from Narayanpur, Lakheshwar Baghel from Bastar seat, Rekhand Jain from Jagdalpur seat, Deepak Kumar Bajj from Chitrakot seat, Devati Karma from Dantewada seat and Vikram Singh Mandavi from Bijapur seat.

## No Sabarimala entry for women on Day 2

MHA asks Kerala Govt to ensure peace; tradition not taken into account: Bhagwat



Devotees arrive to pay obeisance at Lord Ayyappa Temple in Sabarimala on Thursday

PNS ■ PAMBA (KERALA)/NEW DELHI

Protesters blocked the entry of women belonging to "banned" age group in the Sabarimala temple for the second day even as the Centre asked the Kerala Government to ensure peace across the

State following protests against the Supreme Court order allowing women of all age groups to enter the shrine. In an advisory, the Home Ministry said the maintenance of law and order, including providing security to women wishing to visit the temple, was the

responsibility of the State Government.

Sabarimala Thanthri (chief priest) Kantaru Rajeevaru appealed to those involved in the controversy not to make Sabarimala a centre of conflict. He dismissed the alleged propaganda through the social

media that doors of the temple would be locked if women in the "banned" age group reach the shrine. Asserting that he was a law-abiding citizen, the priest appealed to the women in menstruating age group not to climb the hills, hurting the sentiments of large number of Ayyappa devotees.

Protesters kept a hawk eye on the trek route to Sabarimala temple and made sure that women from "banned" age group did not dare to make any attempt to reach the shrine. After Wednesday's violent protest and clashes, fewer women turned up on Thursday to reach the shrine.

Amid ongoing protests at Sabarimala, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat also joined the issue saying the Supreme Court verdict has not taken into consideration the nature and premise of the tradition that has been accepted by society and has given rise to "divisiveness" in society.

He said questions such as why only the Hindu society experiences such repeated and brazen onslaughts on its symbols of faith, obviously arise in the public's mind and lead to unrest.

## Withdraw case against Ramani, Editors Guild tells ex-Union Min

New Delhi: The Editors Guild of India on Thursday asked MJ Akbar to withdraw the criminal defamation case he filed against journalist Priya Ramani, as the top editors' body came out in support of the women journalists. The Guild also offered legal support to women journalists who have levelled the allegations against Akbar in case he does not withdraw the present case or files such cases against other women too.

The Guild's support for the women came a day after Akbar stepped down as the Minister of State for External Affairs in the face of mounting pressure following allegations of sexual harassment against him by several women journalists.

In a statement, the Guild said it salutes the courage shown by several women journalists in bringing to light instances of how they were sexually harassed. While Akbar is entitled to all legal instruments available to a citizen to seek vindication, it would be paradoxical for a veteran editor to employ the instrument of criminal defamation, the Guild said, adding that, "more so for Akbar who happens to be a former president of the Guild." PTI

## Gun-toting ex-MP's son surrenders

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi's Patiala House Court on Thursday accepted the surrender plea submitted by Ashish Pandey, who was seen brandishing a gun and threatening a man at a five-star hotel in Delhi. Pandey, who is the son of former BSP MP Rakesh Pandey, was missing since October 14 when the incident occurred at Hyatt Regency. Metropolitan Magistrate Neetu Sharma's court considered rival submissions and allowed the Delhi police to quiz Ashish in custody for one day.

During the 20-minute hearing, the counsel representing the police said that the accused is from Lucknow. "Weapon has to be recovered to verify whether he has a licence for the gun or not. His custody is required to know the whereabouts of other accused and to recover the weapon," said the counsel. Whereas, advocate SPM Tripathi, appearing for Ashish, said the custodial interrogation was not required as police already knew that he possessed a licensed gun and he was being framed only because his father was a politician.

"The police are well aware that the gun is licensed. We are ready to provide the gun. There are no cases registered against Ashish. This is only because the father of the accused was a politician and the incident was hyped by media.

## ND Tiwari passes away on 93rd b'day

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister ND Tiwari who served in various positions at the Centre and in States and was even a strong contender for prime ministership in 1991, died on his 93rd birthday at a private Hospital in the national Capital on Thursday after prolonged illness. The veteran politician was admitted to the hospital on September 20, 2017 after suffering a brain stroke and had been there since.

Tiwari, a Congress veteran, had been in hospital for over a year. A team of doctors was monitoring his condition round the clock. A three-day State mourning has been announced in Uttarakhand.

Tiwari had been admitted to the Max Hospital since September last year, after suffering a brain stroke. In July, he was shifted to the ICU after multiple organ failure, his condition was described by hospital sources as "very serious". A former Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Tiwari was also Chief Minister of undivided Uttar Pradesh thrice. He also served as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh for two years after which he resigned in 2009 after allegations of a sex scandal at the Raj Bhawan.

A political heavyweight once, Tiwari was even considered a potential candidate to be Prime Minister in the early



1990s. He quit the Congress in 1994 and launched his own party the Congress (Tiwari) along with another prominent Congressman Arjun Singh, but they later returned when Sonia Gandhi took over as Congress president.

In 2008, Rohit Shekhar filed a paternity suit claiming that Tiwari was his biological father. The result in 2012 of a court-ordered DNA test proved the claim right. Tiwari pleaded with the media to let him be himself. "I have every right to live my life my way. No one has the right to look into my private life. Please respect my privacy," he was quoted as saying. In 2014, Tiwari married Shekhar's mother Ujjwala Sharma in Lucknow, finding a new family in the mother and son at the age of 88.

Tiwari had won his first election on a Praja Samajwadi Party ticket from Nainital in 1952. A decade later, he joined the Congress and stuck with it for most of his life.

Continued on Page 4

### CAPSULE

#### WISHING OUR READERS A Happy Dussehra

On account of Durga Puja and immersion ceremony, the offices of this edition of THE PIONEER will remain closed on October 19. The next issue of the paper will appear on October 21.

#### AZAD REMARKS AT AMU ABUSE FOR HINDUS: BJP

New Delhi: The BJP on Thursday accused the Congress of 'demeaning and demoralising' Hindus and termed as an 'abuse' a reported remark by Opposition party's leader Ghulam Nabi Azad that the Hindu candidates inviting him for campaigning has reduced drastically.

#### GIRL'S DECOMPOSED BODY FOUND IN CAPITAL

New Delhi: The decomposed lower portion of a girl's body was found in jungles in outer Delhi's Mundka area, police said on Thursday.

## DIY robots on jihadis agenda in Valley

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Intelligence agencies have received alarming inputs that Pakistan-sponsored terror groups Al Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) are trying to produce SAS313, a radio frequency-operated robotic device made by school students from Jammu & Kashmir under a Do It Yourself (DIY) project with an agenda to infuse technology into terror operations in the Valley.

The robot can be operated from a range of one kilometer and if deployed by terror groups, the terror operations will undergo a sea change in Jammu & Kashmir as they can hit police posts and paramilitary camps from a distance. This will change the dimension of the terrorist attacks against the security forces in the Valley.



Addressing commandos of the National Security Guard (NSG) at Manesar on Tuesday during the Raising Day celebrations, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh said threats posed by DIY terrorists and

lone wolf attacks are new and are a major challenge for the security agencies.

The name given to the robotic device — SAS 313 — itself suggests fusion of modern technology with jihadi agenda

and an indication of the high-tech nature of the next generation terror attacks being planned by the Pakistani terror groups.

While the alphabets have been taken from a variant of such a device from USA's NASA, the numerals indicate linkages to the terrorist ideology. A top Al Qaeda operative Iqbal Kashmiri, a former Pakistan Air Force official had formed a group named Brigade 313. Kashmiri was killed in a

drone strike by the US and his team members subsequently joined JEM. Intelligence officials said.

The officials said the model of the robotic vehicle and its usefulness for jihadi attacks are being circulated within the top echelons of the AQIS and JeM to their sympathisers to encourage them acquire such technology. The sympathisers of the these terror groups are also spreading on the social media that the talent of Jammu and Kashmir students involved in the DIY projects are not getting their due recognition.

"There is a need to compact the children's zeal in science and technology projects with counter radicalisation measures. The science teachers need to be exposed to containment of radicalisation," a counter terrorism expert said.

Continued on Page 4

# Imported lentils toxic: FSSAI

Food regulator asks people not to eat masoor, moong dal as they are induced with hazardous herbicide Glyphosate

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's apex food regulator, the Food Safety and Standards of India (FSSAI) has finally woken up to ensure Indians do not consume the highly toxic lentils imported from countries like Canada and Australia. The lentils such as masoor dal and moong dal are said to be induced with hazardous herbicide Glyphosate which is being used indiscriminately by farmers in some countries to clear weeds in the crop.

While India is yet to have its own standards for herbicide Glyphosate residues in lentils despite importing over 5 million tonnes of pulses, it has now, for the time being, decided to follow the international parameters to ensure that the pulses being sold and imported in the country are safe for consumption.

"There is a possibility of higher levels of residues of the herbicide Glyphosate in pulses which could adversely affect the health of consumers here. Since the minimum residual limits (MRL) for Glyphosate in pulses has not been specified in the FSSAI regulations, we have asked the concerned officials to follow the MRL for the herbicide as



MRL FOR GLYPHOSATE RESIDUES AS SPECIFIED IN CODEX	
Commodity	MRL
Beans (dry)	2 mg/Kg
Lentil (dry)	5 mg/Kg
Peas (dry)	5 mg/Kg
Soya bean (dry)	20 mg/Kg

(MRL: Minimum residual limit)

specified in the Codex standards. Since 1961, the Codex Alimentarius international food standards, guidelines and codes of practice has been providing a common set of standards for food safety, ranging from nutrition labelling to maximum residue limits (MRLs) for pesticides. However, countries can develop their own separate standards.

"This MRL (as specified in Codex) will also be taken into consideration for the purpose of import clearance (see box)," said an official from the top food regulator. The FSSAI, in a recent order in this regard has also directed the authorised officers to instruct laboratories to test for the presence of herbicide "Glyphosate" along with other parameters when the samples for pulses are forwarded for testing.

Known to be highly toxic and harmful to health, Glyphosate can adversely affect immunity to serious diseases and the absorption of mineral and vitamin nutrients, apart from disrupting protein-related functions.

The FSSAI action came after Indian-born Canadian food security activist Santanu (Tony) Mitra alleged that Australian moong dal and Canadian masoor dal contain high residues of Glyphosate. Food safety and agricultural scientists too are warning that the use of glyphosate may prove dangerous as in Sri Lanka, where many sugarcane farmers died due to renal failure after being overexposed to the herbicide.

Mitra thinks that the Indian diet might have become overly contaminated from imported pulses. The pulses need to be tested for glyphosate residue at

every entry point which is not being carried out presently, said the FSSAI official.

Till 2015, the herbicide was considered to be safe but then the World Health Organisation's IARC classified it as a probable human carcinogen. In India, it seems that Glyphosate is being used as a pre-harvest desiccant in several crops resulting in high residues in food.

Dr GV Ramanjaneyulu, agricultural scientist and founder of Centre for Sustainable Agriculture said in a report that while it is mandatory to label organic products, imported pulses are not labelled. "It's very difficult to find out if we are consuming Canadian pulses or locally grown ones, if they are sold in loose," he warned.

# Congress demoralising, demeaning Hindus: BJP

Rubbishes remark by Azad that number of Hindu candidates inviting him for campaigning has reduced drastically

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Hitting out at the Congress, the BJP on Thursday accused the Opposition party of demeaning and demoralising Hindus and rubbished the reported remark by its leader Ghulam Nabi Azad that the number of Hindu candidates inviting him for campaigning has reduced drastically.

Azad reportedly made the comments at an event of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Lucknow on Wednesday, apparently to criticise the political climate under the BJP-led Government.

BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said the falling stock of the Congress was the reason for fewer Hindu candidates inviting the Congress leader. He accused the Congress of demeaning and demoralising the Hindus. Patra also demanded a response from Congress president Rahul Gandhi saying the Congress will never use such remarks to refer to any other community.

"These are not ordinary words. It is an abuse for the country's secular fabric and Hindus. It is yet another attempt by the Congress to



BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said the falling stock of the Congress was the reason for fewer Hindu candidates inviting the Congress leader



demean and demoralise Hindus," Patra said.

He also rejected Azad's allegation that the BJP is defaming the AMU and targeting Kashmiri students, saying if prayer meetings are held for terrorists then it will be condemned.

Three Kashmiri students of the AMU were suspended and booked for sedition last week for allegedly raising "anti-India" slogans and trying to hold a prayer meeting for Hizbul Mujahideen commander Manan Bashir Wani, who was killed in an encounter in north Kashmir.

The varsity revoked the suspension of two students on Tuesday. Patra said Azad had earlier claimed that the Army kills more civilians in Kashmir than terrorists.

It seems he wants to campaign in Pakistan, the BJP

spokesperson said. He accused the Opposition party of conspiring against Hindus and said its leaders have used terms like "Hindu Taliban", "Hindu Pakistan" and "Hindu terrorists" in the past.

He even alleged that Congress was carrying out advertisement in Pakistan to oust the Modi-Government and wondered as to what was the need for doing so in the neighbouring country.

The BJP has been alleging that the Congress has teamed up with elements in Pakistan to remove Modi from the power.

Patra flashed copies of a Facebook page which shows an advertisement of the opposition party calling for "Desh bachao, Modi hatao" (Save country, remove Modi), with Pakistan being highlighted as the location.

## INSHORT

**FORM MeToo PANEL : MANEKA TO PARTIES**  
**New Delhi:** In the backdrop of the MeToo movement, Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi urged all recognised political parties to form internal committees immediately to look into complaints of sexual harassment. Maneka said she has written to six national parties and 59 regional parties to form internal complaints committee against sexual harassment and post information on it on their websites.

**RAFALE DEAL: RAHUL ATTACKS MODI GOVT**  
**New Delhi:** Congress president Rahul Gandhi attacked the Modi Government over the Rafale deal alleging that it renegotiated the contract to benefit crony capitalists and reduced India's prestige globally. In a Facebook post, Gandhi said due to the renegotiated deal, India could not get transfer of technology as negotiated during the UPA rule and it was shameful that Indian pilots have to put their lives at risk flying the ancient Jaguar aircraft as the new technology did not come into the country.

**NO RAFALE IMPACT ON INDIA-FRANCE TIES: MEA**  
**New Delhi:** India said the controversy surrounding the procurement of 36 Rafale jets from France has not impacted the strong ties between the two strategic partners at all. "We continue to enjoy very strong relationship with France. It is our strategic partner. I can say that this (Rafale controversy) has not impacted our relationship at all," MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said.

**LANKAN PM ON 3-DAY VISIT TO INDIA**  
**New Delhi:** Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe arrived on a three-day visit with an aim to boost ties in a range of areas, including trade and investment and maritime security. His visit comes in the backdrop of controversial media reports that Lankan President has accused Indian intelligence agency RAW of plotting his assassination, a claim firmly rejected as "false" by Colombo. Wickremesinghe and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold wide-ranging talks on Saturday.

**NEED MORE JOINT EXERCISES, SAYS MODI**  
**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday stressed need to hold more joint exercises by various stakeholders such as the NDMA to improve coordination between agencies in disaster relief management. Chairing the sixth meeting of the National Disaster Management Authority in New Delhi, he reviewed the activities of NDMA to effectively manage and respond to disasters. He also reviewed ongoing projects undertaken by the authority, a brief statement by the Prime Minister's Office said.

**WOMEN SHOULD BE TREATED WELL: HRD MIN**  
**New Delhi:** Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar on Thursday said women should be treated well everywhere and not only at workplace, as the #MeToo campaign continues to gather steam against sexual harassment faced by women in various spheres. Javadekar refused to comment on resignation of MJ Akbar.

**SEVERAL RECORDS MISSING FROM I-T DEPT**  
**New Delhi:** Several records have gone missing from Income Tax department because of restructuring drive in 2001 and 2013, the CIC has been informed. Information Commissioner Bimal Julka noted it in one of the cases heard by him when the tax department could not furnish information about pension fund in NTPC to an RTI applicant.

**AKBAR ATTENDS OFFICIAL MEETINGS**  
**New Delhi:** MJ Akbar attended official meetings on Monday and Tuesday as the junior External Affairs Minister after returning from a trip abroad, the Ministry said on Thursday, in issue. MEA Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said he was not aware of any specific meeting between External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Akbar on the allegations levelled against him.

**3-NATION ENVOYS PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO PREZ**  
**New Delhi:** Ambassadors of Kuwait, Belgium, Portugal and Cambodia presented their credentials to President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan here, official statement said.

# CBSE revamps norms for giving affiliation to schools

**New Delhi:** The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has revamped its norms for granting affiliation to schools, leaving the onus of the infrastructural audit on States and limiting its own role to academic quality monitoring.

Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar announced on Thursday that the affiliation by-laws of the CBSE have been completely revamped to ensure speed, transparency, hassle-free procedures and ease of doing business with the board.

"The new by-laws denote a major shift from the highly complex procedures followed earlier to a simplified system based on preventing duplication of processes. At present, for issuing recognition under the RTE Act and the NOC, the State education administration verifies various certificates to be obtained from local bodies, revenue and cooperative departments. CBSE re-verifies them after the applications are received and hence the process becomes long drawn," he told reporters here.

"The board will now not revisit any of the aspects vetted by the State during its inspection and the delay due to scrutiny and non-compliance of deficiencies in these documents shall be drastically curtailed. Inspection of schools by the CBSE will now be outcome-based and more academic and quality-oriented," Javadekar added.

The CBSE has 20,783 schools affiliated to it across the country and abroad, with over 1.9 crore students and more than 10 lakh teachers. The affiliation by-laws were formulated in the year 1998 and were last modified in 2012.

"The inspection by the CBSE will focus on academic excellence and progress of students over time, innovations



Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar addresses a Press conference in New Delhi on Thursday. Alwin Singh | Pioneer

- The new provisions mandate schools to make full disclosure of fee structure and prohibit them from levying any hidden charges
- CBSE will inspect schools for learning outcomes
- CBSE has 20,783 schools affiliated to it and abroad, with over 1.9 crore students and more than 10 lakh teachers
- The affiliation by-laws were formulated in the year 1998 and were last modified in 2012
- Inspection of infrastructure will be carried out only at State-level
- CBSE schools have to give an undertaking about making sports mandatory



and quality of pedagogy, capacity of teachers and teacher training, inclusive practices in school, quality of co-scholastic activities, whether the curricular load is as per norms and whether there is adequate emphasis on sports," he said.

According to the new norms, the pendency of the

applications will also be dealt with seriously and the applications will henceforth be disposed of in the same year, and the entire process will be online. The new provisions mandate schools to make full disclosure of fee structure and prohibit them from levying any hidden charges, Javadekar said. **PTI**

# India, Japan to hold joint exercise in Nov

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With the objective to further strengthen strategic and bilateral Defence ties, Indian and Japanese Armies will hold the first-ever joint exercise in India for a fortnight in November. The exercise named 'Dharma Guardian-2018', focusing on honing anti-terrorism fighting skills, will take place at Counter Insurgency Warfare School, Vairengte in Mizoram from November 1.

The Indian contingent will be represented by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles while the Japan Ground Self Defence Force will be represented by 32 Infantry Regiment, Army officials said, adding the drill will contribute immensely in developing mutual understanding and respect for each other's militaries and also facilitate tracking the worldwide phenomenon of terrorism.

During the fortnight long exercise, due emphasis will be laid on increasing interoperability between forces from both countries. Both sides will jointly train, plan and execute a

series of well developed tactical drills for neutralisation of likely threats that may be encountered in urban warfare scenario. Experts from both sides will also hold detailed discussions to share their expertise on varied operational aspects, they said.

Indian and Japanese navies besides Coast Guard regularly hold regular exercises in high seas but this is the first time ever that the armies of two nations will hold a joint exercise. It signifies deepening strategic and Defence relations through exercises and likely exchange visits of officers from two armies to each other's institutions in the coming years, sources said.

The decision to hold the first army exercise was taken during the annual Defence dialogue here in August between Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and her Japanese counterpart Itsunori Onodera. The two sides also decided to raise the level of maritime exercises particularly in the sphere of anti-submarine warfare and mine detection measures. The IAF fest is also likely to visit Japan in December.

# PM to inaugurate refurbished national police memorial on Sunday

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the refurbished national police museum on Sunday. Home Minister Rajnath Singh and the top brass of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), central security agencies and State police units will be in attendance during the event on October 21 at the memorial based in Central Delhi's Chanakypur area.

"The day is observed to pay homage to ten policemen killed in an ambush by Chinese troops in 1959 in Ladakh's Hot Spring area. Numerous other personnel who laid down their lives protecting India's unity

and integrity are also remembered on the occasion," CRPF Director General RR Bhatnagar said. Elaborate arrangements have been made for the event and the family of at least one personnel killed in the line of action from each force and police unit has been invited for the ceremony, officials added. The memorial has been refurbished and the central structure has been enhanced, they said. A large stone engraved in a raised platform has been erected at the memorial few years back at the same location.

The PM, during the event, will also unveil the country's first national police museum. The museum - depicting the history, artifacts, uniform and gear of central and state police forces - is coming up as an underground facility in the premises of the national police memorial. The museum project is being steered by the Intelligence Bureau (IB) in coordination with the central armed police forces (CAPFs) that function under the command of the Union Home Ministry.

# Talks & terror can't go together, onus on Pak: India

**New Delhi:** India on Thursday said the onus was on Pakistan to create conducive conditions for talks by taking steps such as action against terrorists and dismantling terror infrastructure operating from its soil.

During a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar reiterated India's stand that talks and terror cannot go together and said this was one of the reasons why the scheduled meeting in New York between the Foreign Ministers of India and Pakistan was cancelled.

Barely 24 hours after agree-

I am not aware of any proposal for a track 1 or track 1.5 dialogue or a meeting between India and Pakistan, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar

ing to the engagement, the Government called off the meeting last month, citing the brutal killings of three policemen in Jammu & Kashmir and Islamabad releasing postage stamps "glorifying" Kashmiri militant Burhan Wani.

Asked if there was any message or signal from the Pakistani side for talks, he said, "I am not aware of any

proposal for a track 1 or track 1.5 dialogue or a meeting between India and Pakistan."

"The onus is on Pakistan to take credible steps, to create conducive conditions, for such talks which of course means taking action against terrorists, taking action against terrorist infrastructure which operates from its soil," he said.

Asked about Pakistan Army's statement warning of "10 surgical strikes" against India in response to a single such attack, Raveesh said, "You should ask this question to the Indian Army, they will give a

befitting reply to them."

India-Pakistan ties have nose-dived in view of a number of terror strikes by Pakistan-based groups. India retaliated by carrying out 'surgical strikes' in September 2016 across the Line of Control (LoC). India has been maintaining that terror and talks cannot go together.

Accepting proposal for meeting in New York, India had, however, made it clear that it was not resumption of dialogue and decision doesn't change country's position on cross-border terrorism. **PTI**

# Warmer winter predicted due to El Nino

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Winter this year could be comparatively warmer. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday predicted that El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific Ocean and it is likely to develop in the next couple of months. "Currently, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over equatorial Indian Ocean. Neutral IOD conditions are likely to prevail during next two weeks," the IMD said.

In contrast to the Southwest Monsoon which sees more rains in La Nina and lesser in El Nino, rainfall activity during the northeast monsoon season is higher during the El Nino and very less in La Nina.

quently impact winter temperatures," officials added.

In a statement, the IMD said El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific Ocean and it is likely to develop in the next couple of months. "Currently, neutral Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) conditions are prevailing over equatorial Indian Ocean. Neutral IOD conditions are likely to prevail during next two weeks," the IMD said.

The IMD said conditions are favourable for withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from the country around October

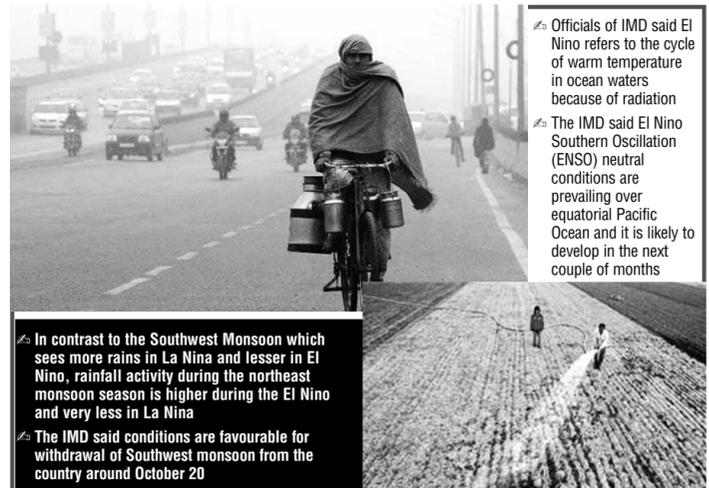
20. "The conditions are also favourable for onset of north-east monsoon thereafter," it said. The northeast monsoon season makes an appearance after southwest monsoon bids adieu to the country and southwest monsoon may retreat any time in the country. Usually, Northeast Monsoon arrives during the third week of October.

The country witnessed rain deficiency of 9 per cent this year. This is despite that IMD had predicted normal rainfall in the country. As many as 254 districts are faced with drought like situation due to rain deficiency during southwest monsoon.

In the last few years, there have been varied rain amounts in the northeast monsoon season with 2017 witnessing 86 per cent of rain, 2016 seeing

very little rains at a mere 35 per cent, 2015 recorded a whopping 132 per cent of rainfall, rains were at 88 per cent in 2014, 86 per cent in 2013, 93 per cent in 2012, 96 per cent in 2011 and a massive 154 per cent in 2010. Rainfall pattern will also undergo some changes as the rainfall that usually occurs during afternoon and late evening, would now be witnessed during night and early morning hours. However, if there is any system, we can expect rain all along the day.

The kharif planting season ended with a drop in acreage over last year's figure. According to latest numbers from the Agriculture Ministry, kharif crop planting has covered 1,052.38 lakh hectare from June up to September 28, a 1.90 per cent drop from 1,072.79 lakh hectare a year earlier.



➤ Officials of IMD said El Nino refers to the cycle of warm temperature in ocean waters because of radiation

➤ The IMD said El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) neutral conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific Ocean and it is likely to develop in the next couple of months

➤ In contrast to the Southwest Monsoon which sees more rains in La Nina and lesser in El Nino, rainfall activity during the northeast monsoon season is higher during the El Nino and very less in La Nina

➤ The IMD said conditions are favourable for withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from the country around October 20

# BJP to declare list of candidates by Oct 20

CHHATTISGARH ASSEMBLY POLLS 2018

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR



**“Tickets would be given in combination of new and old faces. The workers have stated about their choice of candidates and based on it the panel has been made.”**

like BJP national joint general secretary (Organisation) Soudhan Singh, State BJP President Dharamalal Kaushik

left for New Delhi to participate in the BJP's National Election Committee meeting.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is likely to announce the list of candidates for first phase of polling in Chhattisgarh by October 20 including even large number of candidates for second phase of polls, informed Chief Minister Raman Singh before leaving for New Delhi on Thursday. He along with key leaders

## Two candidates file nomination on third day

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

On the third day, two candidates—one each from Dantewada and Bijapur of Bastar division filed nomination papers for first phase of polling to be held in 18 Assembly constituencies in the State.

Chabindra Karma has filed his nomination papers as an Independent Candidate from Dantewada while Santosh Punem has filed his nomination papers as Samajwadi Party candidate from Bijapur.

Even though large number of nomination papers have been purchased across the state but no other nomination was filed in other state assembly constituencies

CHABINDRA KARMA HAS FILED HIS NOMINATION PAPERS AS AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE FROM DANTEWADA, WHILE SANTOSH PUNEM HAS FILED HIS NOMINATION PAPERS AS SAMAJWADI PARTY CANDIDATE FROM BIJAPUR

except the two filed on Thursday.

The first phase of polling would have 31,79,520 electors exercising their franchise. To ensure total polling 4,336 polling centres have been formed. The first phase would have 16,21,839 women, 15,57,592 men and 89 third genders as electors.

## ‘Publish widely criminal antecedents of candidates’

Election Commission issues directives to all political parties

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

The Election Commission of India and office of Chief Electoral Officer has again issued directives to all the political parties to publish the details of criminal cases pending against their poll candidates.

Chhattisgarh is going to witness two phased polling next month.

As per the directive, the criminal record has to be published in three different dates,

from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and up to two days before the date of poll. Political parties have to put the C-2 format in their websites also.

Candidates have to fill up the form as provided by the Election Commission and should be written in bold letters, with regard to the criminal cases pending against the candidates.

The candidate contesting an election on party ticket has to inform the party about the criminal cases pending against him/her.

The candidate and the concerned political party shall issue a declaration in the widely circulated newspapers in the locality about the

**Criminal record has to be published in three different dates, from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and up to two days before the date of poll**

antecedents of the candidate and also give wide publicity in the electronic media, at least thrice after filing of the nomination papers.



Colourful processions marked Navami celebrations with immersions of idols of Goddess Durga commencing in Raipur.

Santosh Sahu / Pioneer

## Over a dozen leaders of political parties get MCMC notices

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIGARH

Raigarh Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) has issued notice to former IAS O P Choudhary who has joined the BJP, sitting MLA Roshan Agrawal and former MLA Hridayam Rathia, sitting MLA Umesh Patel besides 10 others after they allegedly posted publicity material in social media without prior permission from authorities. All have been asked to submit their reply within 24 hours.

As per information received, one youth put a post related to former IAS and BJP leader O P Choudhary, on social media seeking votes for O P Choudhary, where the post even had party election symbol.

Lailunga's former MLA Hridayam Rahtira, Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (Jogi) candidate Vibash Singh Thakur, Sunil Minj, Pawan Sharma, sitting MLA Roshan Agrawal had similar posts on social media, after which the notice was issued.

The notice mentions about the norms and standard procedure to be followed as per directive of Election Commission of India and it was mentioned that before posting the content, the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee permission was not taken.

Notices were issued twice to sitting MLA Roshan Agrawal along with seven others.

As per information received, O P Choudhary (BJP), Roshan Agrawal (MLA)-BJP, Vibash Singh Thakur -JCC(J), and Pawan Sharma and BJP IT Cell were served two notices,

**Notice mentions about the norms and standard procedure to be followed as per directive of Election Commission of India and it was mentioned that before posting the content, the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee permission was not taken**

while Amar Agrawal of Aam Aadmi Party, Vijay Agrawal former MLA, Umesh Patel MLA-Kharsia, Sunil Minj, Ashish Tamrakar (BJP) and Hridayam Rathia -JCC(J) were served one notice each.

O P Choudhary did not respond to calls and reply to the SMS sent for confirmation and comments on the issue by *The Pioneer*.

## BSP declares 1st list of candidates

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

**BSP has got a quota of six seats for the first phase of polling**

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) on Thursday declared its list of six candidates for the first phase of polling to be held in Chhattisgarh on November 12.

The list includes the names of candidates for Rajnandgaon and Bastar division districts.

Notably, the BSP has got a quota of six seats for the first phase of polling among the total of 35 seats it has got in alliance with Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (JCC) (J) and Communist Party of India (CPI).

The BSP list of candidates includes Mishri Markandey

from Dongargarh, Ashok Verma from Dongargaon, Hemant Poyam from Antagarh, Brahmanand Thakur from Kanker, Jugal Kishor Bodh from Keshkal and Narendra Netam from Kondagaon.

Notably, BSP, JCC (J) and CPI had formed an alliance in the state in which the JCC (J) has got 53 seats, BSP 35 seats and CPI is going to contest on two seats.

## CEO reviews poll preparations in Bastar division

STAFF REPORTER ■ JAGDALPUR

Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Subrat Sahoo conducted a tour of Bastar division where the Assembly polls are scheduled in the first phase and reviewed the status of ground level preparations.

The CEO visited the districts of Narayanpur, Bijapur and Sukma and held extensive review meetings with the officials.

He assessed the preparation for polling, status of electoral roll, preparation for counting of votes, electoral awareness programmes, training of all officers and employees and security arrangements.

Sahoo also inspected the polling centres, strong room, control room and counting centres of three districts. Security Nodal Officer and Inspector General of Police

Dipanshu Kabra, Additional CEO S Bharatidasan, joint CEO Sameer Vishnoi and Padmini Bhoi Sahu and election expenses In-charge Sushil Kumar Singh also reviewed the status of preparation at their level.

The CEO directed the officers and employees deputed for election related work to carry out the work with total responsibility and remain alert while working to ensure Model Code of Conduct is properly enforced.

He further directed the officials to remain updated with all the directives and information regarding polls and updates to be sent to the office of CEO within the specified time-limit.

The security arrangements in remote areas of Narayanpur, Bijapur and Sukma were also evaluated.

The CEO stated that local police force and security forces coming from outside



should have better coordination to ensure tight security for safe polling.

Sukma District Electoral Officer and Collector Jaiprakash Maurya said that in remote and inaccessible

areas, 40 polling teams would be sent to the polling centres by helicopter.

He said that for 16 polling centres of Chitrakote state assembly constituency of Bastar district and four

polling centres of Jagdalpur assembly constituencies, all necessary arrangements are being made from Sukma district.

During the visit to three districts, the CEO also took

stock of vehicle arrangement for polling, duty of polling teams, internet connection, information technology related works and running of all software sent from Office of Chief Electoral Officer.

## JCC (J) declares names of 7 more candidates



STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (JCC) (J) on Thursday declared its sixth list of candidates which includes seven candidates.

Till date, the party had declared candidates for 45 seats for the polls scheduled to be held next month.

In a press conference the General Secretary of the organization, Abdul Hamid Hayat

declared the names of seven candidates of the sixth list.

The names of candidates include Rohit Sahu from Rajim, Sanjay Chelak from Arang, Tankeshwar Bhardwaj from Chitrakot, Nawal Rathia from Dharamjaigarh Munna Toppo from Sitapur, and Phool Singh Rathia from Rampur.

JCC (J) is thus well ahead of the two main political parties Congress and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) who are yet to declare the names of their candidates.

JCC (J) General Secretary asserted that declaration of candidates earlier provides sufficient time for them to contact the voters in their respective assembly segments



The preparations for Dussehra continues in Raipur on Thursday.

Santosh Sahu / Pioneer

FAKE POST BY KAMAL NATH

# BJP files case against Cong

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Madhya Pradesh filed a complaint with the police against Congress state unit chief Kamal Nath for tweeting a picture of a road from Bangladesh, claiming it to be from Madhya Pradesh to allegedly harm the image of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's government.

While filing a written complaint, the BJP leaders requested to take stern action against Nath by registering an FIR.

Kamal Nath, one of the contenders to the post of Chief Minister from the Congress

**THE TWEET, WRITTEN IN HINDI BY THE CONGRESS LEADER, ALLEGED WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION IN THE INCUMBENT MADHYA PRADESH GOVERNMENT**

had tweeted an image accusing the ruling BJP government of involving in corruption.

The tweet, written in Hindi by the Congress leader, alleged widespread corruption in the incumbent Madhya Pradesh government. The image, which

was tweeted from his official verified account - 'Office of Kamal Nath' - on October 15, shows a man rolling up a just laid road made up of tar like a carpet as some puzzled children watched.

Twitter users were quick to

notice that the picture was originally tweeted in 2016 by a Bangladeshi a Bangladeshi citizen Rifat Alam, who criticised the Bangladeshi government for the poor condition of roads.

After Nath's post went viral, Chouhan highlighted that the photograph was fake. He also cited a similar instance where another Congress leader, Digvijay Singh, was caught sharing the image of a broken bridge from Pakistan as one from Bhopal.

Notably, Madhya Pradesh will go to poll on November 28 and the results will be announced on December 11, 2018.

## DIY robots on jihadis...

From Page 1

The major concern in the security agencies is that if the DIY enters chemistry labs, the fallout on the security situation in the Valley will be significant. Till now, the DIY projects are confined to Physics labs.

The name of the project indicates that science students are getting indoctrination in radical ideology and the terror groups are out to exploit their technical knowhow for furthering their nefarious agenda. "There is a need to engage the students in more constructive work and firewall their inclination to separatist ideology," another official said.

## Chabindra defies Cong diktat, files nomination as independent candidate



STAFF REPORTER ■ DANTEWADA

Former Zila Panchayat President of Dantewada Chabindra Karma defied the

Congress party's diktat on Thursday and filed nomination papers as an independent candidate from the Dantewada Assembly constituency. Chabindra Karma would

be contesting against his mother Devati Karma who is at present sitting Congress legislator from Dantewada and is likely to get party ticket to contest again from the constituency.

## BJP plans legal action against Baghel for 'Maoist links' comment

STAFF REPORTER ■ RAIPUR

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has strongly condemned the allegations of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee (CGPCC) President Bhupesh Baghel that BJP leaders had 'links with Maoists' during his recent visit to Kanker.

BJP Member of Parliament Vikram Usendi said that BJP leaders or workers do not have any relationship with Maoists.

"Naxalism has emerged from the policy of Congress which has become an unhealed wound in Chhattisgarh", he said.

Usendi said "Bhupesh Baghel is unable to restrict himself from stooping low to save his political career due to the internal bickering in



Congress party. So he is making efforts to level baseless allegations without any evidence on BJP to save his existence," he said in a statement.

Usendi pointed out that when issue of urban Naxalites came up in the country, it was the Central leadership of Congress which came in full support, even after all of them

were kept in house arrest. Bhupesh Baghel should reply to it and does it not underline the fact that Congress leaders have relationship with Naxalites, said Usendi.

Usendi said that with series allegations being levelled by Bhupesh Baghel on the issue, it has now prompted the BJP to seek legal recourse.



Colourful processions marked Navami celebrations in Raipur.

Santosh Sahu / Pioneer

## Court will examine statements of Akbar, witnesses on Oct 31

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) on Thursday said it will examine the statements by former Union Minister MJ Akbar and other witnesses on October 31, in the defamation case filed by the journalist-turned-politician against journalist Priya Ramani.

The #MeToo controversy had jolted the political quarters and led to the ouster of Akbar, who was Minister of State for External Affairs and had to demit office on Wednesday evening.

Akbar has filed a defamation suit against Ramani, who made allegations of sexual harassment against Akbar.

Ramani has accused Akbar of sexual misconduct around 20 years ago. Ramani's claims were seconded by several other women, who took to the social media and revealed their harrowing accounts of alleged



sexual misconduct by Akbar.

Over the past 10 days, at least 20 women have come forward to narrate their experiences of alleged sexual harassment at the hands of Akbar during his days as editor of several mainstream publications.

Scores of scribes, lawyers

and onlookers thronged the small courtroom at courts complex on Thursday around 2 pm to witness the first hearing of the high-profile defamation case. However, the curiosity, subsided drastically the moment they came to know that neither Akbar nor Ramani would visit the court for their

first judicial face-off.

During the 20-minute-long hearing in the Patiala house court complex, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal heard the submissions of senior advocate Geeta Luthra, representing Akbar, who said the "controversial" tweets and similar social media posts of Ramani have cause irreparable loss to Akbar's reputation built over 40 years.

"Let the matter be fixed for examination of the complainant (Akbar) and his witnesses for October 31," said the magistrate.

Akbar has listed names of two senior woman journalists -- The Sunday Guardian's Editor Joyeeta Basu and journalist Veenu Sandal -- and four others as his witnesses to prove his defamation charges against Ramani.

The senior lawyer referred to the sequence of events and said Akbar has resigned from

the post of Minister of State for External Affairs due to these allegations and this showed the extent of damage caused to his reputation. She also referred to the reputation of Akbar as a journalist and sought judicial intervention in the matter by taking cognisance of the complaint.

Akbar's name had cropped up in the social media campaign #MeToo against alleged sexual harassment when he was in Nigeria. Hours after returning home, Akbar had termed the allegations as "false, fabricated and deeply distressing" and said he was taking appropriate legal action against them.

As per the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), the court would now record the pre-summoning evidence and statement of Akbar and other witnesses, referred to in the complaint and would issue notice to Ramani to face trial if it is satisfied that there are prima-facie substance in the

complaint.

"Ramani has tweeted defamatory tweets against the complainant. Her 2nd tweet was clearly defamatory and liked by 1,200 people," Akbar's lawyer Luthra reportedly told the court.

"Since I have decided to seek justice in a court of law in my personal capacity, I deem it appropriate to step down from office and challenge false accusations levied against me, also in a personal capacity. I have, therefore, tendered my resignation from the office of Minister of State for External Affairs. I am deeply grateful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and to the External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj for the opportunity they gave me to serve my country," Akbar had said in his plea.

The women who accused Akbar of sexual harassment, included Ghazala Wahab, Shuma Raha, Anju Bharti and Shutapa Paul.

## RSS chief...

From Page 1

Among other things, Bhagwat charged that the "urban Naxals" were carving out a psychological warfare — called "Mantrayuddh" in traditional Rajneeti Shastras - by manufacturing "vicious and hostile atmosphere that weakens and destroys the social cohesion - essentially the bedrock of internal security of a nation".

Alluding to the recent activities of "urban Naxals", Bhagwat said: "To establish a new, unfamiliar, uncontrolled, out-rightly biased Naxal leadership with blind followers solely committed to them is the 'Neo - Left' doctrine of these urban Naxals. Their cohorts already established in social and other media, intellectual circles and other institutions are associated with such activities from start to finish. They execute this by defending such activ-

ities through intellectual and other methods, through delusory public campaigns related to agitations, while keeping a safe distance and maintaining their so-called eminent positions".

"So the emerging conclusion is, this is a bigger canny conspiracy in collusion with forces from within and outside the country. It no more remains just a power politics by the Opposition, but in this process, politically ambitious individuals and groups - either knowingly or unknowingly - and weaker sections, crushed under deprivation and neglect get drawn as ammunition unknowingly or unwillingly," he said.

"To eliminate such tendencies, the Government and administration have to alertly ensure that such incidents, of which trouble mongers can take advantage of, do not take place," he said.



Colourful processions marked Navami celebrations with immersions of idols of Goddess Durga commencing in Raipur.

Santosh Sahu / Pioneer

## ND Tiwari passes away on 93rd b'day

From Page 1

There was a brief period, however, in the 1990s when he floated his own All India Indira Congress (Tiwari) with Arjun Singh also on board.

And last year, long after he had outlived his usefulness for his party, Tiwari openly announced his support for the Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of the Assembly elections in Uttarakhand. Tiwari's political career began before Independence.

As a teenager, he was jailed for 15 months in Nainital prison, according to one account for writing anti-British pamphlets, where his freedom fighter father too was lodged.

On his release, he joined Allahabad University, becoming the president of its student union in 1947. In 1976, he became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for the first time. Two more stints followed in the 1980s. They were all brief, truncated terms but he will be remembered for being the last Congress Chief

Minister of the populous, politically important State.

At the Centre, Tiwari served as Deputy Chairperson of the Planning Commission. Over the years, he also held portfolios of planning, finance, petroleum and external affairs in the Union Cabinet.

Tiwari is said to have nurtured prime ministerial aspirations at one time, and there was speculation that he was in the running in 1991 when the party eventually picked PV Narasimha Rao. That was also the year when he lost his Nainital seat by just 800 votes.

He was the third Chief Minister of the newly formed Uttarakhand State but the first one to complete a full term, from 2002 to 2007. He continues to hold the distinction of having been the only Uttarakhand CM who has done so. Tiwari is credited with helping the infant State, formed just two years before he took charge, gain a firm footing.

ANTI-MBS JAMAL KHASHOGGI'S ALLEGED KILLING

US asks Turkey for audio tape: Trump

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

America has asked Turkey for an audio recording in the suspected murder of Jamal Khashoggi, US President Donald Trump has said as he sought a full report from Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in the dissident Saudi journalist's mysterious disappearance.



In a still image from surveillance camera footage by the Turkish newspaper Sabah, a man previously seen with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's entourage during an April trip to the US walks outside the Saudi Consulate General's residence in Istanbul



In this file photo David Barrows, centre, with Code Pink, wears a mask of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during a protest outside of Saudi Arabia's Embassy about the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Washington

Khashoggi, 60, is feared to have been killed inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. The incident has resulted in a global outrage, more so in the US where he lived as a legal permanent resident and worked for 'The Washington Post'.

Khashoggi vanished on October 2 after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Turkish authorities suspect he was abducted and murdered by the Saudis.

But Riyadh insists that the journalist, a known critic of Saudi King Salman, had left the building and that murder claims are "baseless".

Trump told reporters at the White House that he had asked Turkey for the audio that gives

a clue of the alleged brutal killing of Khashoggi.

"We've asked for it, if it exists," he said.

The New York Times, citing the content of the audio made available through its Turkish sources, said the audio gave a detailed account of the alleged brutal murder of Khashoggi.

"I'm not sure yet that it exists. Probably does. Possibly does. I'll have a full report on that from Mike when he comes

back," Trump said, referring to his meeting with Mike Pompeo on Thursday on his return from Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

"That's going to be the first question I ask him," he said.

On his way back from Saudi Arabia and Turkey, Pompeo refused to comment on the existence of the audio tape.

"Have you heard or asked to hear the alleged audio on the actual murder?" he was asked.

"I don't have anything to say about that," Pompeo said, insisting Khashoggi was missing and the Saudi government has launched a probe.

"They're going to do their investigation. I know you all are going to ask questions. I'm going to be very consistent: We're going to give them the space to complete their investigations of this incident, and when they issue their reports, we'll form our judgment about thoroughness, depth, and the

decisions they make about accountability connected to that," Pompeo said.

Trump told reporters that he wanted to find out from Pompeo what had happened.

"He went to Turkey; he went all over. But he spent a lot of time with the Crown Prince, and he's going to have a full report. I'm not giving cover at all," he said, refuting allegations that he is being soft on the Saudi establishment.

"Saudi Arabia has been a very important ally of ours in the West Asia. We are stopping Iran. We're not trying to stop Iran. We went a big step when we took away that ridiculous deal that was made by the previous administration - the Iran deal - which was USD 150 billion and USD 1.8 billion in cash. What was that all about?" he asked.

"They (Saudis) are an ally. We have other very good allies in the West Asia. But if you look at Saudi Arabia, they're an ally and they're a tremendous purchaser of not only military equipment, but other things," he said.

China trying to use Tibetan Buddhism to promote Belt and Road Initiative

PTI ■ BEIJING

China is trying to use the Tibetan Buddhism as a soft power tool to further its ambitious multi-billion dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the region as it developed Tibet to become Beijing's gateway for trade to South Asia through Nepal, according to experts.

China is vigorously pursuing the BRI, a pet initiative of President Xi Jinping, which offered billions of dollars of loans for infrastructure projects to different countries as it looks to expand global influence.

The BRI, however, evoked negative reactions in India as the controversial multi-billion dollars China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) remained its flagship project. India has protested to China over the CPEC as it is being laid through the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

In a new initiative, China held a two-day symposium in northwest China's Qinghai

Province on Tuesday to discuss how Buddhism could better serve BRI and resist separatism, state-run Global Times reported.

Tibetan monks and scholars took part in the event, the report said.

Tibetan Buddhism in which the Dalai Lama plays a pivotal role has following in different countries besides India. It has strong following in countries like Nepal and Mongolia.

Elaborating on the symposium, Qin Yongzhang, a research fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), told the Global Times that Tibetan Buddhism can serve as a bridge between the BRI countries to better communicate with each other, since the religious and cultural beliefs are similar in Central and South Asia.

One immediate challenge of promoting the BRI through Tibetan Buddhism comes from India, which has been holding back for geopolitical reasons, Qin said.

GLOBE TROTTER

POPE INDICATES WISH TO VISIT NORTH KOREA

Vatican City: South Korea's president has met with Pope Francis in a private audience, and his office says that the pontiff indicated his willingness to visit North Korea.

116 PAK POLICEMEN SUSPENDED OVER FIERING LAHORE

Authorities in Pakistan's Punjab province have suspended at least 116 police officials, including top officers, in connection with the killing of demonstrators during a public protest here in 2014, according to a media report.

UKRAINE TO HAND KIEV CHURCH TO CONSTANTINOPLE

Kiev: Ukraine's parliament on Thursday voted to hand over a landmark Kiev church to the Istanbul-based Ecumenical Patriarchate after it agreed to recognise the independence of Ukraine's Orthodox Church.

US TO APPOINT QATAR ENVOY AMID GULF ROW

Washington: The US has said it would appoint an envoy to Qatar, after a 16-month gap during which Doha has been at the centre of diplomatic crisis.

Britain official pulls out of Saudi conference

AP ■ ISTANBUL

Britain's Trade Minister has pulled out of a Saudi investment conference over the kingdom's involvement in the disappearance and alleged slaying of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

International Trade Secretary Liam Fox is the latest high-level Western official to drop out of attending next week's summit in Riyadh.

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire and Dutch Finance Minister Wopke Hoekstra have also cancelled, along with several senior business executives.

Britain's Department for International Trade says Fox "has decided the time is not right for him to attend the Future Investment Initiative."

Dutch Minister ditches Saudi summit

The Hague: The Dutch Finance Minister has pulled out of a major investment conference in Saudi Arabia over the "very serious" disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, the government said Thursday.

Wopke Hoekstra's withdrawal from the October 23-25 Future Investment Initiative in Riyadh -- dubbed the "Davos in the Desert" -- follows that of French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire and IMF chief Christine Lagarde.

The Netherlands announced it was also cancelling a planned trade mission visit to Saudi Arabia in December. "The disappearance of #Khashoggi is a very serious matter. Saudi Arabia has not yet been able to provide any clarification," Dutch Foreign Minister Stef Blok said as he announced the decision on Twitter.

AP

French Min pulls out of meet over Saudi journo 'killing'

AFP ■ PARIS

French Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire said Thursday he was pulling out of a major investment conference in Saudi Arabia over the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

"I won't go to Riyadh next week," Le Maire told France's Public Senat TV channel, adding that "the current circumstances do not allow me to go to Riyadh".

The minister echoed President Emmanuel Macron's remarks last week on Khashoggi's disappearance, calling it a "very serious" matter.

"The important thing now is that the full truth of this affair be known," said Le Maire, who said he informed his Saudi counterpart on Wednesday of his decision.

MAN LINKED TO SAUDI PRINCE AT CONSULATE WHEN WRITER VANISHED

Istanbul: A man who previously travelled with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's entourage to the United States entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul just before writer Jamal Khashoggi vanished there, according to images published Thursday by a pro-Government Turkish newspaper.

The Sabah newspaper's report showed the man also later outside the Saudi consul general's home, checking out of a Turkish hotel as a large suitcase stood by his side, and leaving Turkey on October 2. The report came as Turkish crime-scene investigators finished an overnight search of both the consul general's residence and a second search of the consulate itself amid Ankara's fears that Saudi authorities had Khashoggi killed and dismembered inside the diplomatic mission in Istanbul.

AP

After embassy move, US changes status of consulate

Jerusalem: The United States says it is placing its main diplomatic mission to the Palestinians under the authority of its embassy to Israel.

The State Department said Thursday that merging the Jerusalem Consulate with the newly opened Jerusalem Embassy will achieve "significant efficiencies."

But the move also has symbolic significance, by in effect downgrading the standing of the consulate.

For years, the consulate has served as a de facto embassy to the Palestinians, reporting straight to the State Department in Washington. Placing it under the authority of the embassy could be seen as suggesting American recognition of Israeli control over east Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Maldives court frees ex-leader Abdul Gayoom

Colombo: A Maldivian court overturned the 19-month jail term of Maumoon Abdul Gayoom on Thursday, a month after the former president's estranged half-brother and jailer suffered a shock election drubbing.

Gayoom, 80, ruled the largely Muslim island nation for 30 straight years until he was defeated at the country's first multi-party elections in 2008.

He was arrested in February and accused of participating in an alleged coup during a crackdown on rivals of President Abdulla Yameen, in charges his family and observers said were politically-motivated. Gayoom was granted bail at the end of September, a week after Yameen lost national elections.

Trump threatens to close US-Mexico border over migrant 'onslaught'

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump threatened Thursday to send the military to close its southern border if Mexico fails to stem the "onslaught" of migrants from Central America, in a series of tweets that blamed opposition Democrats.

The attack comes less than three weeks before midterm elections where Trump's Republicans are fighting to retain control of Congress, and as thousands of migrants from impoverished Honduras were marching north through Guatemala toward the United States.

**Government of Maharashtra**  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Amravati Project Construction Division No.1,  
Jalsampada Parisar, Jail Road, Camp, Amravati  
Tq. Dist. Amravati Pin - 444 602.

Email: apcdamt@rediffmail.com / eapcd1.avati@maharashtra.gov.in Phone No.0721-2666545

e - Tender Notice No.6 Year 2018-19

Executive Engineer, Amravati Project Construction Division No.1, Amravati, Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra invites online tender in the form of "C" Tender. Tender Booklet can be downloaded from the Government website <http://mahatenders.gov.in>. Right to reject any or all tenders are reserved with Executive Engineer, Amravati Project Construction Division No.1, Amravati. Conditional tender will not be accepted.

- Name of Work :- Construction Of Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical work for Pressurised Pipe Distribution Network of Lower Pedhi Project, Tq. Bhatkuli, Dist. Amravati including survey, planning and design of system, HSCADA, formation and capacity building of W.U.A.'s and Operation & maintenance for five years after completion.
- Tender Cost :- Rs. 24157.23 Lakh /-
- E-Tender available Period :- Dt. 20.10.2018 to Dt. 17.01.2019.
- Tender Opening Date :- Dt. 22.01.2019.

Tender related information are available on following websites -

- <http://wrd.maharashtra.gov.in>
- <http://mahatenders.gov.in> (If any changes in e-Tender Notice it will be published on website)
- Notice Board - office of Executive Engineer, Amravati Project Construction Division No.1, Amravati

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Amravati Project Construction Division No.1  
Amravati

DGIPR/2018/2019/3736

SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned Asset will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues, in the matter of ICICI Bank Ltd vs Ajishkek Mishra in CS. No. 2212/17.

- Description of Asset: Make: TATA ACE Reg No: DL1LW1777 Manuf Yr: 2015
- Date and Time of Auction: 29.10.2018, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Venue: Car Trade Exchange (URL Link- [www.cartradeexchange.com](http://www.cartradeexchange.com))
- Contact persons: Mr. Rajeev Ranjan, Mobile No: 8584874809 from ICICI Bank and Mr. Anuj Kumar, Mobile no 9958769761 from Car Trade Exchange.

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself/ themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids. Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount within 3 days from the approval date by the way of pay order/demand draft/ RTGS/ NEFT.

The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, SD Tower, Community Center, Plot no-7, Rohini Sector- 8, New Delhi- 110085, for details and inspection of the said hypothecated vehicle.

Pakistan's revolutionary poet Habib Jalib's daughter runs taxi to earn livelihood

PTI ■ LAHORE

Pakistan's revolutionary poet Habib Jalib's daughter runs private taxi in Lahore for the livelihood of the family after her mother's stipend was stopped in 2014 by the Punjab Government.

Tahira Habib Jalib, a resident of Mustafa Town in Lahore, is serving as a captain of private taxi service in the city to earn their livelihood, Geo TV reported.

On Wednesday, the Lahore Electric Supply Company sent

an electricity bill amounting to ₹75,000 to Tahira, who lives with her sisters and their children, the channel said.

"I am the sole bread-winner of the family and I drive a car to earn money," Tahira was quoted as saying by the channel.

"The car that I am driving is brought on loan," she added. Tahira said that she does not feel any shame in running the taxi as she is the daughter of Habib Jalib, who never compromised on principles till his death.

She said the monthly

stipend of her mother was ₹25,000, which was stopped in 2014 by the then Government led by Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif. The Government of Punjab used to pay the stipend from the quota of the poets.

"The stipend was stopped days before my mother's death in 2014," she said.

Tahira urged the Government to resume the stipend and introduce poor-friendly system so that the poor earn their livelihood without difficulty.

Malaysian opp leader arrested for corruption

Kuala Lumpur: Malaysia's opposition leader was arrested Thursday on suspicion of corruption, a fresh blow to his party which was ousted at elections this year after six decades in power.

Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, a former Deputy Premier and ally of scandal-mired ex-leader Najib Razak, was detained after being questioned by anti-corruption authorities. He will be charged Friday.

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

CORRIGENDUM- III  
NIT No. 221/P&D/Zone-I/2018-19/Bid No. B- 565 for System strengthening of 11 KV lines with bifurcation/trifurcation of overloaded feeders, Augmentation of conductor of HT line and New DT, under Operation Circle UHBVN, Ambala, Kurukshetra, Kathal, Karnal & Yamunanagar (i.e. Zone-I) on turnkey basis.

- Last date of submission of EMD :- 25-10-2018 (Up to 1300 Hrs.)
- Date of closing of online e-tender for submission of Techno - Commercial Bid & Price Bid on web portal :- 25-10-2018 (Up to 1300 Hrs.)
- Opening date of part -1 of proposal on web portal :- 25-10-2018 (at 1500 Hrs)

Details can be obtained from websites <https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in> and [www.uhbvn.org.in](http://www.uhbvn.org.in). All other terms & conditions of NIT shall remain unchanged.

Chief Engineer/ PD&C UHBVN, Panchkula

RO NO. 72949 Dt. 18-10-2018

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

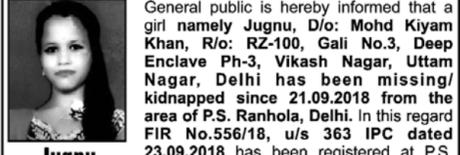
See Section 82 Cr. PC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Mohd. Zaidur Rahman, S/o Zillur Rahman, R/o: H. No. 1541, Sector-15, Part-II, Gurugram, (Haryana) has committed (or is suspected to have committed) offence case FIR No. 885/07 U/s 406/408/420/467/468/471/474/120B IPC & ADP Act, has been lodged at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi punishable and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person Mohd. Zaidur Rahman cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Mohd. Zaidur Rahman absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Mohd. Zaidur Rahman of case FIR No. 885/07 U/s 406/408/420/467/468/471/474/120B IPC, at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 19.11.2018.

By Order  
Sh. Pankaj Arora  
Metropolitan Magistrate, (Court No. 56)  
Shahdara, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



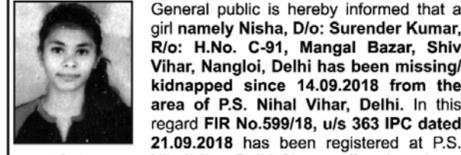
Jugnu

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Jugnu, D/o: Mohd Kiyam Khan, R/o: RZ-100, Gali No.3, Deep Enclave Ph-3, Vikash Nagar, Uttam Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 21.09.2018 from the area of P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. In this regard FIR No.556/18, u/s 363 IPC dated 23.09.2018 has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out this missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Jugnu, Age: 16 Years, Height: 5'2", Face: Long, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Blue Suit-Salwar and Brown Sandal. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Ranhola, Delhi.

Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Web: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO Police Station, Ranhola, Delhi DP/1463/0018

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



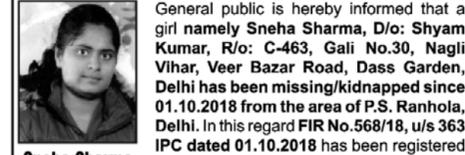
Nisha

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Nisha, D/o: Surender Kumar, R/o: H.No. C-91, Mangal Bazar, Shiv Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 14.09.2018 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard FIR No.599/18, u/s 363 IPC dated 21.09.2018 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out this missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Nisha, Age: 17 Years, Height: 5'5", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Red Colour Sult-Salwar and White Hawai Chappal. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Web: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO Police Station, Nihal Vihar, Delhi DP/1463/0018

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



Sneha Sharma

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Sneha Sharma, D/o: Shyam Kumar, R/o: C-463, Gali No.30, Nagli Vihar, Veer Bazar Road, Dass Garden, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 01.10.2018 from the area of P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. In this regard FIR No.568/18, u/s 363 IPC dated 01.10.2018 has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out this missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Sneha Sharma, Age: 12 Years, Height: 5'4", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Blue & White T-Shirt-Blue Pajama and Black Shoes. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Ranhola, Delhi.

Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Web: <http://cbi.nic.in> SHO Police Station, Ranhola, Delhi DP/1461/0018

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

PRESS NOTICE FOR e-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, 'CS' Division, CPWD, Gate No. 11, South Block, New Delhi on behalf of The President of India invites online Percentage rate tenders (PWD-7) from approved and eligible contractors of appropriate class for the following works: NIT No.: 105/EE/CSD/2018-19 Name of Work: A/R & M/O to South Block during 2018-19 (SH: Internal Finishing in MOD side at South Block). Estimated Cost: Rs.32,62,611/- Earnest Money: Rs.65,252/- Period of Completion: 12 months, Date of submission of Bid upto 3.00 PM on 29.10.2018 Time and Date of Opening of Bid 3.30 PM on 29.10.2018.

NIT No.: 110/EE/CSD/2018-19 Name of Work: A/R & M/O to Vijay Chowk during 2018-19 (SH: Cleaning and Control of Algae Fountains, Sump Wells and Water Channels at Vijay Chowk). Estimated Cost: Rs.24,64,351/- Earnest Money: Rs.49,287/- Period of Completion: 12 months, Date of submission of Bid upto 3.00 PM on 29.10.2018 Time and Date of Opening of Bid 3.30 PM on 29.10.2018.

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

He had to go Talented editor MJ Akbar's departure from public office was his own doing

Mobashar Javed Akbar is credited with coining the term "unputdownable" in the context of The Telegraph newspaper which he launched over four decades ago. All these years his persona seemed to perfectly fit his own coinage. A flamboyant, dare-devil Editor, who charted a new course in contemporary journalism, busting conventions and making his own rules, Akbar ascended the pinnacles of fame as a journalist, Editor and author. When he migrated to politics, his journey was no less spectacular. Winning his first Lok Sabha election as a Congress nominee from Kishanganj in Bihar, he soon became Rajiv Gandhi's blue-eyed boy, not just Congress party spokesman. Not one to be "put down" when his party went under, Akbar deftly changed sides, caught Prime Minister Narendra Modi's eye and was chosen as BJP's candidate for the Rajya Sabha first from Jharkhand and later Madhya Pradesh. Deep knowledge of contemporary Indian history and politics and an enviable degree of articulation combined to make his march up the ladder unstoppable even in the BJP. There were few surprises when the Prime Minister inducted him as Minister of State of External Affairs, a job he was performing with characteristic aplomb, although many felt that several talented insiders were overlooked due to Modi's fascination for him. But when his past caught up with Akbar, few came to his defence. The narratives of a succession of former employees of organisations he served as Editor caused grievous embarrassment to the Government and the BJP. Not a novice in the arena of controversy, Akbar predictably sought to breeze out the mounting charges of sexual harassment at the workplace by his ex-colleagues. The narratives were so graphic that their veracity could hardly be challenged, although it is unclear if he actually indulged in criminal intimacy (as defined by law) against a woman's will.

Considering the wide respect he commanded among a large section of journalists especially in the 1970s and 80s, Akbar may have done better to step down from his official position before these sordid tales gained currency. Arguably many big names in the entertainment industry have also been drawn into the vortex of India's latest variant of a "Me-too" movement, but Akbar was the only person holding a public office to be thus arraigned. Clearly, BJP president Amit Shah erred in his judgment when he averred that no action would be taken against Akbar without a proper inquiry, thereby ruling out his early removal from the Ministry. But with the alleged victims banding together and deciding to take up his challenge to fight out issues in court, the Government's options ran out. It would have been particularly awkward for a Minister to appear in court to face a battery of sexually explicit charges. In these circumstances, it is only proper that one of India's most celebrated contemporary editors demitted public office, something he would have been better advised to do as soon as the first whiff of the scandalous accusations became public. Given his fund of talent and aggressive temperament, he may yet live up to the unputdownable tag. But any which way, this episode will go out as a huge warning to many wannabe Akbars who still believe they can get away verbally or physically molesting vulnerable women using their superior authority. Hopefully India's workplaces will be somewhat safer for women hereafter.

50 WORD EDIT Zika attack With 80 cases being reported from Jaipur alone, India is, perhaps, witnessing the biggest Zika virus outbreak thus far. With no cure in sight yet even as the deadly virus has been reported in about 86 countries with the first one having been reported from India, authorities have their task cut out. While diagnosis at the right time is crucial, preventive and containment measures are equally important as they will determine the spread of the disease.

Faith and law Ancient religious beliefs and modern legal systems will collide head-on more often than not

Belief in a higher power, faith, as we would call it, has been an essential component of humanity since the first human being capable of cognitive thinking emerged on the planet. After all what was our purpose on this planet? Who put us here and what did the future hold in an often dangerous planet with forces of nature far beyond our comprehension and prediction let alone the ability to control them. Organised religion as we know, dates back to 2000 BCE if one considers the time when the first basic beliefs of the Zoroastrian faith were formulated. The earliest tents of Hinduism and Judaism date back to 1000 BCE. The problem is that living in this modern age of communication technology and the fact that you can cross half the planet in a single hop in under a day is something that people, who wrote those ancient scriptures, could never have imagined, no matter how powerful the hallucinogens they took. There was disease, pestilence and constant war back then, women were bartered as commodities and wars over minor slights killed thousands. Communities and possibly religions were swept away in tsunamis or buried under volcanic ash. Because people those days knew no better. We do know better today but many still believe in ancient wisdom, and make no mistakes, some of the words in all our scriptures are very powerful and hold good even today. But some beliefs should hold no place in a modern, forward-looking society.

The question however is not whether we should change those beliefs but we should change those beliefs. It is not easy and to pretend that those who believe will not fight back or refuse to change no matter how compelling the reasons to change is irrational. And that is what we see happening at Sabarimala right now. The Supreme Court feels it is upholding the constitution, but it has ignored the beliefs of millions who are, rightly, in their opinion deeply hurt and troubled. Unfortunately in Sabarimala, India's dead-end democratic dance is playing a role with opposing sides being taken and making matters worse. To pretend that such change would not have been violent is almost criminally negligent by the authorities. And for the Supreme Court justices, sitting in Delhi to believe that with the stroke of pen such change can be enforced seems bizarrely naive. Changing beliefs is, for better or for worse, a long and painful process which has been evident in the schisms and trauma that afflicted Europe in the late-middle ages. But those changes led to the remarkable scientific and artistic progress of the Renaissance and beyond and took Europe to a higher plane. In India, our beliefs should also evolve to reflect the times we live in, but the state and the judicial system should be wary of trying to hasten the process, lest things get much worse before they get better.

The global warming goal and India

Hopefully, the assessment made by some of the best scientists in the world, working under the IPCC, will bring about urgent shifts in the manner that we use fossil fuels and conventional sources of energy



The early part of October has been taken up worldwide in a debate and discussion on the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessing the scientific characteristics of climate change if the world were to limit temperature increase to 1.5 degree Celsius over pre-industrial levels. The report also assesses what needs to be done to achieve this goal. The report has generally shaken the global community which hardly needs a reminder of the serious impacts of climate change, given the destructive extreme events which are taking place all over the world. Consequently, it is hoped that this assessment by the best scientists from all over the world working under the umbrella of the IPCC brings about the urgent shifts in the manner that we use fossil fuels and conventional sources of energy. A good example of adaptation to higher SLR is the case of the Netherlands, which has 25 per cent of its land area below sea level, but it has succeeded in keeping the sea out with extensive infrastructure which does not allow the sea get in, referred to as dykes. That country is currently engaged in strengthening and increasing the height of its dykes in anticipation of higher SLR in the future. However, a large number of small island states and low-lying coastal areas are essentially part of the developing world. Consequently, these societies just do not possess the means by which they can construct their own protective infrastructure and, thus, adapt to the threat of higher sea levels. Similarly, with cyclones, hurricanes and typhoons, it can be seen that when a cyclone hits a low-lying country like Bangladesh, there is considerable loss of life and property. A similar intensity hurricane which hits Florida with as much impact, fortunately, results in very little loss of life, simply because there are effective early warning systems and houses are built far stronger than in a poor country. It is unfortunate that some leaders in the world choose to ignore the voice of science. The IPCC is an intergovernmental body that mobilises the best scientists from all over the world who devote their time and talent without any compensation in return. The reports of the IPCC are approved by all the Governments of the world. This summary for policymakers is a distillation of the extensive scientific documents produced and designed especially for decision-makers, is approved word by word by all the Governments accepting the report by consensus. It is difficult to understand how any leader today can say that scientists have an "agenda" behind these reports. The only agenda dictating the work of the IPCC is the objective assessment of all aspects of the scientific reality of human-induced climate change and credible projections of the future based on robust and plausible scenarios of future developments. In the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC it had been assessed that in order to keep within the two degree Celsius limit by the end of this century relative to pre-industrial values, the world would follow a mitigation pathway which would involve an additional cost of 0.06 per cent of global GDP annually. The new special report has elaborated on the dimensions of the energy transition that would be required for the 1.5 degree Celsius limit, and assessed that total annual average energy-related mitigation investment for the period 2015 to 2050 for moving along pathways which limit warming to 1.5 degree Celsius is estimated to be around \$900 billion in 2015 values. This would correspond to total annual average energy supply investment of \$1,600 to \$380 billion and total annual average energy demand investment of \$700 to \$1,000 billion in 2015 values. This means that energy related investments would be about 12 per cent higher for the 1.5 degree Celsius pathway as compared to the two degree Celsius pathways. Average annual investments in low carbon energy technologies and energy efficiencies would be upscaled by roughly a factor of five by 2050 compared to 2015. These figures may seem overwhelming, but it would be useful to know that there are huge subsidies on fossil fuels, estimated at 6.5 per cent of global GDP in a study, which need to be removed, and the savings thus achieved today should be directed towards the investments required for transformation of the energy sector. For a country like India there would be large co-benefits from a green energy future. There would be lower pollution at the local level and much higher energy security for the country. We are witness today to the harmful impacts of higher oil prices on the Indian economy, with a weakening of the rupee, which further adds to the import bill in dollar terms and other ill-effects. An earlier piece in this series had highlighted the need for India to come up with a concrete strategy for achieving greater energy independence, which requires a large overhaul of the current economic infrastructure and substantial increase in the use of renewable energy sources. It would not be a day too early if we embarked on such a course today.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

The number of Hindu candidates inviting me to campaign for their elections has reduced drastically in the last four years. -Senior Congress leader, GIULIANO NABI AZAD

Women who lead by example Asma Bibi is an example for those women who give up their dreams never to lose heart. Everyone has the potential to become someone great, writes SADAF ZAREEN

Sometimes it is important to dream big. It can be more exciting than just possessing bookish knowledge in order to do some work and be successful in life. Often, people remain confined to the four walls of their house because they feel that they can not do anything in life and people will mock them. This tendency is mostly seen in women. Women, especially in the rural areas, are victims of this mentality. And this mentality is because of the social environment, where due to lack of education, women are considered to be objects of sexual pleasure and reproduction. This is a major reason for women not even dreaming of moving forward. Education is very important for women and our society is not very successful in providing education to women. Education is an important factor for the advancement of any society. On one side, it explains the difference between good and wrong, on the other, it arouses curiosity in the mind. History has many examples, in which educated women have played an important role in preparing social structures with enthusiasm. But despite knowing the achievements of women over the years, the present stratum of society makes fun of them and their achievements instead of idolizing them. Nevertheless, there are many women like Asma Bibi who, despite being uneducated, have been able to make their own distinct identity in society. Asma, who lives in a small village in Rohas district of Bihar, is totally uneducated. She cannot read or write even a single alphabet in any language, but through her own initiative, she has not only created an identity for herself in the but also become an example of women's empowerment. The parents of 50-year-old Asma, living in Akbarpur village, located in Dehri in Rohas district, were illiterate. Being illiterate themselves, they kept their daughter away from acquiring any form of education. Asma was married at an early age and she had six children one after another. Her husband started spending all the household earnings on liquor and also used to beat Asma when she would refuse to give him money. Somehow life was carrying on despite all the problems when suddenly one day her eldest son went missing. Her husband also went away to the city in search of a job and never returned home. Even in this difficult situation, Asma did not give up hope. She kept on trying to find her son. After losing both husband and son, she identified the poetic talent of young Kedarnath Singh in 1953, and chose to publish his poems in his prestigious journal, Prateek when the latter was only 19-year-old, and later included him in his canonical anthology, Teera Sapta. Singh emerged as a wonderful poet. Singh almost equally wonderfully charted an impressive poetic trajectory during his five-decade-long literary journey. He published as many as eight volumes of immensely engaging poetry written with a distinctly different sensibility from what we witnessed in the preceding Chhayavadi poetry and with a more complex and remarkably consistent but independent poetic vision than we find even amongst many of his younger and elder contemporaries. It is often argued that Trilochan Shastri, an elder contemporary poet who had begun to explore the common concerns of the ordinary people much earlier along the lines suggested by the Pragatavadi thought, had generated a great deal of influence early on the way Singh began to conceptualise the idea of a poet. Many readers emphasise that the radical poet, Pablo Neruda, and the French surrealist poet, Paul Eluard, made a greater impact on the making of Singh's poetic sensibility. Some discerning voices firmly believe that Singh eventually succeeded in his efforts to develop an effective and independent artistic framework which enabled his rural experiences to sit comfortably side by side with his sophisticated urban outlook. It helped him establish a harmonious confluence between his refined poetic diction and stunningly unconventional images, and equipped him to put together in a productive way an alert, direct poet-voice with an apparently detached kind of poetic contemplation so as to strike a fine balance between the pulls of modernist tendencies and the pressures of indigenous sensitivities. But a careful, critical look at his inextricably intertwined personal and poetic journey tells us a different story altogether. Singh had an undying attachment for his village, Chalkiya, where he was born and where he is situated in the Balia district of Uttar Pradesh. His rural upbringing allowed him to indulge in swimming for hours and climbing trees as a matter of routine. Like villagers of his generation, he loved walking barefoot and speaking Bhujpuri. Moreover, he used to thoroughly enjoy the delightful stories told by his grandmother from the maternal side, and also those interesting songs that women of his village preferred to sing in the early hours in honour of the mother Ganga. In fact, the river Ganga runs just three kilometers away from his village, so does river Sarayu. The former flows to the south of the village and the latter to the north. For Singh, it is indeed the rivers that made him aware of the presence of nature whose influence remained undiminished for the entire life. When he left his village for Varanasi, where he studied first at Uday Pratap Intermediate College and then at the Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Singh discovered a new world which opened up newer opportunities for his academic and artistic development. College enabled him to hear poems from the veteran poets themselves, like Ramdhari Singh Dinkar and Harivansh Rai Bachchan, and in some way encouraged him to begin writing poetry, that he eventually did. And then he happened to meet his mentor, Trilochan Shastri, a Pragatavadi poet who had already revolutionised Hindi poetry by introducing democratic and radical contents in his very first collection of poems, Dharati (Earth). At BHU, he had the privilege of being taught by the legendary teacher, Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, who helped him shape his creative sensibility in a significant way. Academic atmosphere of the university offered him opportunities to listen to the distinguished scholars from both India and abroad. After finishing his studies at Varanasi, where he stayed for about 17 years, his job brought him to an utterly backward place called Padrauna where he worked till he moved to New Delhi when he was appointed as professor of Hindi at the Jawaharlal Nehru University. He was charmed by the creatively fertile environment of the university campus which provided him a platform to refine his poetic skills, which, however, beautifully did not embody from the very beginning those realities that kept unfolding in his immediate surroundings as well as in the distant places. Despite the fact that circumstances compelled him to physically disconnect with rustic roots, he never ever lost sight of their importance, and also that of his relationship with nature, Bhujpuri bhasha and rural people, such as carpenter, tailor and weaver and others like them. A characteristic example can be seen in the embodiment of uneasiness and enduring tension between the rural and urban mindset which is pretty much evident from the poet's persistent anxiety about the presence of a kudal (spade) in the drawing room of a metropolitan city like Delhi. In fact, his poetic endeavours can best be understood and interpreted in terms of his consistent engagement with as realistic a representation as possible of the emergent socio-political and cultural conditions in different parts of the nation where he underwent the kind of experiences that a great majority of his compatriots were simultaneously undergoing. It is precisely such a serious preoccupation with the post-colonial conditions of the country for the sake of giving them a vivid expression in his poetic compositions that primarily defines Singh as a quintessentially post-colonial poet. He chose to narrate with his multi-layered narrative techniques the inescapable predicament of the post-independent nation which encouraged and even compelled young aspirational minds to go far away from their rural, cultural backgrounds that they nonetheless could not afford to forget and indeed kept longing for the rest of their lives. This is the personal dilemma of the poet himself. But it is the collective dilemma of post-colonial India too. This historical predicament makes our chances of upward mobility in life almost entirely dependent on a definite disconnection, a sort of rupture with our nourishing roots in order to often preempt the possibilities of a genuinely satisfying existence so creatively articulated in the following lines: "My home is/Where we witness tremendous cry". We all can only aspire as the poet does in his representative poem, Haath (hands): "While holding her hands/ Into mine/ I thought / The world should be as pretty and warm/ As hers". Such aspirations for a better and beautiful world embody those realities that kept unfolding in his immediate surroundings as well as in the distant places. Despite the fact that circumstances compelled him to physically disconnect with rustic roots, he never ever lost sight of their importance, and also that of his relationship with nature, Bhujpuri bhasha and rural people, such as carpenter, tai-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONTRARY VIEWS Sir — This refers to the article, "Sir Syed Khan: The renaissance man" (October 17) by MJ Warsi. The writer has paid rich tributes to the 19th century scholar and founder of the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College (MAO) on his 201st birth anniversary. Sir Syed has been described as an "apostle of secularism and Hindu-Muslim unity". However, there are contrary views saying that Syed Ahmed Khan's emphasis on Muslim education and setting up Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College college led to "a movement for Muslim separatism gathering strength". Ashok Patnaik, in a review of BR Nanda's book, Witness to Partition — A Memoir, published by The Pioneer on August 29, 2014, noted that Sir Syed put forward "the idea of a separate Muslim nation" which MA Jinnah and other heavy weights of the Muslim League carried forward till they achieved their goal that the Muslims constitute a nation separate from the rest." The rest is history. M Ratan Via email

CELEBRATING DUSSEHRA

Sir — Dussehra is actually the festival of the Kshatriyas. But all Hindus observe this festival with great joy. Traditionally, in Indian culture, Dussehra was always full of dances, where the whole community mixed and mingled. But because of external influences and invasions over the past 200 years, we have lost that charm. Otherwise, Dussehra was always very vibrant, Vijaydashami or Dussehra is full of tremendous cultural significance for all of us, irrespective of caste, creed, colour or religion, and should be celebrated with gaiety and love. Jubeil D'Cruz Mumbai

TOUGH MEASURES

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Entitlement culture" (October 18). The shocking incident where the son of a former BSP parliamentarian was seen brandishing his pistol openly is an eye-opener on several counts. First, the incident makes it clear that the security mechanism in five-star hotels are just an eye-wash. Equally, it calls for a review of the entire process of obtaining arms licenses in the country. As directed by the Supreme Court, the Modi Government should consider framing a law that can keep criminals away from politics much before the forthcoming election. Such practical and exemplary steps are the need of the hour to not only prevent such incidents but to also give a blow to the country's VIP culture. SC Agrawal Delhi

Learn the art of tolerance if not love

The raging issue of the Supreme Court allowing women of all ages to enter the Sabarimala premises sparked a storm of protest as the temple gates were opened on Wednesday, October 17 for women devotees. The most unfortunate part was that protesters, including women, started blocking even fertile women devotees of Lord Ayappa, who had come to visit the Sabarimala after observing a 41-day Vrata (penance). Curiously, is there any scriptural backing for this unrighteous act of blocking? It is learnt that there is no specific written canon or/except traditional practice which debar women of all ages from entering the Sabarimala. So, it is well evident that this ritualistic practice is being observed as a generation has been handed down from generation. In the annals of history, a slew of ritualistic practices were revoked as the court or the Government found them undemocratic and unrighteous. In this case, too, the Supreme Court did not pronounce its verdict at the drop of a hat, but after hearing the case for 12 years. So, all those who are protesting must get down to brass tacks of the matter and then decide what should be done. Therefore, let us all be prudent and try not to indulge in violence in the name of god who never allows us to be belligerent. Let us at least be tolerant if we cannot love. TK Nandanam Chennai

Give Bt Brinjal the go-ahead

The Narendra Modi Government must put an end to the ordeal of Bt Brinjal cultivators and consumers with a decisive verdict in favour of science. NAVNEET ANAND

With news circulating that India has sought Bangladesh's opinion on Bt Brinjal, that our farmers have been growing since 2013, the debate on Genetically Modified (GM) crops has come alive. Over 50,000 Bangladeshi farmers have been growing this variety of brinjal for five years now, and apparently, all is well, unlike what was said about Bt Brinjal in India in 2010, just when it was about to be allowed for commercial cultivation. Politics and myopic vision prevailed over science and acumen of our scientists. Activists, adamant at derailing the march of scientific spirit, also had their way. In 2010, under pressure from activists and NGOs, the then Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh had ordered an indefinite moratorium on commercial cultivation of Bt Brinjal. This even after scientific communities, including Ministry of Environment & Forests' high-powered body Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) had approved of it after analysing rigorous scientific studies over a long period of time. One of India's big seed companies Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company (Mahyco) and two agriculture universities — University of Agricultural Sciences (Chandwad) and Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (Chombolore) — had signed an agreement in 2005 to develop Bt Brinjal. This was necessitated after scientists considered it appropriate to bring the benefits of advances in science to the farmers by developing a higher variety of Brinjal seeds. According to a paper by Bhagirath Choudhary and Kadambini Gaur of the International Society for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications (ISAAA), over 1.4 million small and marginal India farmers produce an estimated of one quarter or about nine million tonnes of Brinjal on 55,000 hectares of the total global production of 32 million tonnes. Brinjal is an important vegetable for vast majority of ordinary people in India and is ranked among the second most consumed vegetable after potato. Brinjal is also among the most vulnerable crops and is prone to massive attacks from pests and insects which in turn affect farmers' incomes. Fruit and shoot borer (FSB) is the most prominent disease and causes losses of upto 70 per cent in commercial plantings. This also leads to indiscriminate use of pesticides. "Farmers usually spray twice a week, applying 15 to 40 insecticide sprays, or more, in one season depending on infestation levels. The decision of farmers to spray is influenced more by subjective assessment of visual presence of FSB rather than guided by the more objective science-based methodology of economic threshold levels. This reliance on subjective assessment of visual presence leads to gross over-spraying with insecticides, higher insecticide residues, and unnecessary increase in farmers' exposure to insecticides. For example, for the more productive hybrid brinjal plantings, 54 litres of formulated insecticide per hectare is sprayed, compared with a requirement of only 16 litres when economic thresholds are used to trigger spraying," said Choudhary. This leaves the Brinjal with a large amount of pesticides residues, a serious concern for the consumers, even as they have to contend with an inferior quality of Brinjals infested with larvae of FSB. In this backdrop, it was important that science intervened to address this severe challenge. Mahyco developed Bt Brinjal which underwent a rigorous science-based regulatory approval process. Research trials confirmed that insecticide requirement for Bt Brinjal hybrids was on average 80 per cent less than for the non-Bt counterpart for the control of FSB. "As a result of the effective control of FSB, Bt Brinjal's average marketable yield increased by 100 per cent over its non-Bt counterpart hybrids, 116 per cent over popular conventional hybrids and 166 per cent over popular open-pollinated varieties (OPVs) of brinjal," reported Choudhary. This was a big boon for farmers as other than providing an effective control for FSB, Bt Brinjal ensured about 80 per cent less use of pesticides, and more than doubling the yield for farmers, thereby significantly enhancing farmers earnings. It was a win-win for farmers and consumers. The first expert committee in 2006, while concluding that Bt Brinjal was safe, suggested large-scale trials to reaffirm the findings of the scientific studies. In 2009, a second expert committee examined data from these trials and concluded that adequate safety tests had been performed, stating that "the benefits of Bt Brinjal event E-I developed by M/s Mahyco far outweigh the perceived and projected risks", and advised the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) to recommend commercialisation of the Bt Brinjal. The GEAC cleared Bt Brinjal for commercialisation on October 14, 2009. However, Ramesh chose to ignore science and in February 2010 announced, rather diplomatically, that "until we arrive at a political, scientific and societal consensus, this moratorium will remain". That consensus still eludes us, thereby ensuring that Indian consumers continue to eat inordinate amount of pesticides and our poor farmers endure the ravage of pests and diseases. Farmers remained poor and those who cried foul also remained silent. Time has come for the Narendra Modi Government to end this ordeal with a decisive verdict in favour of science. Politics and myopia be damned. (The writer is a strategic communications professional)

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

# It was a blunder to divide Lingayats: Shivakumar

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

In a major embarrassment to the Congress party's strongman and Karnataka Water Resources Minister DK Shivakumar, who cherishes the ambition to become Chief Minister, has admitted that it was a grave mistake by the Congress to have interfered in the Lingayat issue in the run-up to the State Assembly elections in 2018.

The Congress government under Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had appointed an expert committee to study proposals by Lingayat and Veerashaiva groups who were eager to dissociate themselves from Hinduism and become a minority religion. The Congress then as part of a strategy divided the Lingayat community which supports the BJP as Lingayat and Veerashaivas. The community which constitutes over 19 per cent of the State population plays a decisive role in Karnataka politics. The Congress lost because of this miscalculation and the first ever public admission by Shivakumar is an embarrassment ahead of by polls and 2019 general elections.

He said, "Our party has made a big mistake in this state. I don't deny it. I always believed, no Government should interfere in matters of religion and caste. It was a crime committed by our Government. Many ministers, leaders spoke about the issue but the verdict of the people in the election is proof that Governments should not interfere in these matters. If our Government has made a mistake, we ask you for forgiveness".

He was speaking at the Dasara Sammelan of the Rambhappuri Seer Veera Someshwara Shivacharya Swami in Gadag, in North Karnataka, on Thursday and the seer had opposed the Government (Siddaramaiah led Congress Government) move



to divide the Lingayat community.

The admission just five months after the assembly elections which led to the route of Congress and made the century old party to compromise with the regional party JDs to form a coalition Government is going to have a political repercussion in the State. It is history now that HD Kumaraswamy of the JDs with just 34 seats in the 224 assembly seats formed the Government to keep the BJP led by BS Yeddyurappa a Lingayat strongman with 104 seats away from capturing power.

The run up to the Assembly Elections in May saw several Congress leaders bring up the issue of recommending Lingayats as a separate religion. Congress President Rahul Gandhi turned to Basavanna, the 12th century philosopher who founded the Lingayat as a new religion to woo voters. He started quoting Basavanna and went to many mutts and temples to appease the lingayats. Rahul Gandhi also supported the move to divide the community which backed.

Siddaramaiah used his three senior Ministers who were part of the Lingayat movement for separate religion lost in their constituencies while CM Siddaramaiah managed to scrape through with a win in Badami constituency by 1,696 votes. Siddaramaiah lost to JD(S) candidate GT Deve Gowda in the other seat he contested from

Chamundeshwari in Mysuru district. The Lingayats had seen the Congress move as a ploy to divide the Hindu religion. The RSS and BJP strongly opposed this move and BJP president Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi used this as a weapon to fight Rahul Gandhi and the congress.

In the Congress circles run up to by polls and general elections are maintaining a stoic salience over the issue and many feel that it might be part of a course correction to find a new strategy in the ensuing elections.

Congress President Rahul Gandhi, who addressed a gathering in Bidar, one of the powerful centres of Lingayat agitation, after the elections, did not mention Basavanna in his speech. Now, Shivakumar's admission appears to be the new found strategy to take on BJP and Modi - Shah Combine. Many in the Congress say that this would now become a potent weapon in the hands of BJP which is hell bent on re capturing Karnataka as the gate way to the south.

Lingayats are followers of 12th century social reformer Basavanna who preached against the prevalent caste system in Hinduism. There are also Veerashaivas who follow the teachings of Sri Renukacharya, who believed in Vedas, puranas and the caste system. Veerashaivas and Lingayats, who both worship Shiva, have always been considered one and the same. But there are some who contend they are different. They argue that Veerashaivas are a Shiva sect of Hinduism, while the Lingayats must be deemed to belong to a different religion.

BJP had cautiously kept away from this controversy and always attacked the congress and Siddaramaiah Government of dividing the society to draw political mileage ahead of the last Assembly elections.

## Poll preparations in Mizoram satisfactory, says CEC Rawat

IAN S ■ AIZAWL

Preparations to hold free and fair elections to the Mizoram Assembly are satisfactory, Chief Election Commissioner Om Prakash Rawat said here on Wednesday.

"Mizoram has always had an excellent record of holding free and fair elections. In the upcoming Assembly election, the State would once again establish its record of free and fair polls," Rawat told reporters before leaving for New Delhi after a two-day visit to the hill State.

Mizoram will vote to constitute the 40-member Assembly on November 28. Rawat, who was accompanied by Election Commissioners Sunil Arora and Ashok Lavasa, complimented the District Magistrates, who are also the District Electoral Officers, for the poll preparations. "Their meticulous preparations would help in conducting a smooth and fair election."

"Concerns and views expressed by political parties, civil societies and officials over the Reang tribal voters sheltered in six Tripura relief camps, reliability of Electronic Voting Machines and ceiling limits on election expenditure were heard," he said.

These concerns would be addressed appropriately, Rawat added. The statutory election notification would be issued on November 2 and the last date for filing nominations is November 9. The single-phase election will be held on November 28.

As many as 768,181 people out of a total population of 10,91,014 are eligible to cast their votes.

Women once again outnumber men in Mizoram's electoral rolls. Of the total electorate, 393,685 are women and 374,496 men.

In the last Assembly elections in 2013, the Congress had won 34 out of the 40 seats.

# BJP begins search for Parrikar's alternative

IAN S ■ PANAJI

The BJP has formally started its hunt for a leadership alternative to ailing Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar, party leaders as well as an alliance partner said on Thursday.

The issue of leadership change had been a taboo subject for most of the Bharatiya Janata Party leadership, including MLAs and State BJP president Vinay Tendulkar, who until late on Wednesday had maintained that there was no question of even discussing possible alternatives to Parrikar's leadership as the Chief Minister, who is suffering from advanced pancreatic cancer, was "recovering" and "governing the state well".

The obduracy over the issue of leadership alterna-

**SARDESAI, WHO MET SHAH EARLIER ON THURSDAY, HAS ALSO MAINTAINED THAT THE BJP LEADERSHIP IS 'SERIOUSLY LOOKING' AT THE LEADERSHIP ISSUE. 'SOME NAMES HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED,' SARDESAI SAID**

tives to Parrikar appears to have given way to a sense of pragmatism in the BJP ranks, especially with their national President Amit Shah formally broaching the subject with leaders from Goa's ruling coalition parties.

"Amit Shahji spoke to leaders from our coalition parties today in Delhi. They discussed the possible leadership options for

the near future. A final decision will be taken after consultation with the party high command and State leadership," a BJP leader said on condition of anonymity.

Among the names of leaders discussed as possible Chief Minister alternatives at the meeting held between Shah, Goa Forward party President Vijai Sardesai and Maharashtra Gomantak Party leader Sudin Dhavalikar and other BJP leaders include Union Minister of State for AYUSH Shripad Naik, State BJP president Vinay Tendulkar, Speaker Pramod Sawant and Health Minister Vishwajit Rane, the party official said.

Sardesai, who met Shah earlier on Thursday, has also maintained that the BJP leadership is "seriously looking" at the leadership issue. "Some

names have been discussed," Sardesai said.

The failure of Chief Minister Parrikar to attend to day-to-day administrative and political chores due to prolonged treatment of cancer has thrown Goa into a political crisis for several weeks.

The BJP earlier this week inducted two MLAs from the Congress into its own party, in a bid to foil a Government-toppling plan being engineered by the opposition party.

Ever since Parrikar's health conditioned worsened, allies like Goa Forward as well as the MGP had been in touch with Congress leaders tinkering with a possible regime change, even as they had also been pressuring the BJP to allocate more plum portfolios to ministers from the coalition parties.

# Death of lions: Cong alleges laxity, seeks answers from Guj CM

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

Alleging that the Gujarat Government's lax attitude led to the death of 23 lions in Gir forest, Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly Paresh Dhanani on Thursday sought explanation from Chief Minister Vijay Rupani on this "man-made tragedy".

In a letter written to Rupani on the issue, Dhanani sought action against those responsible for not devising a proactive action plan to deal with Canine Distemper Virus (CDV), believed to be the main reason for the deaths.

He alleged that although the Government knew that the disease has killed a large number of lions in Africa in the past, the vaccine for CDV, which was imported at the last moment, was not brought in advance.

"The Government knew that a vaccine is available to deal with CDV. However, we imported it (from the US) only after 23 lions succumbed to the infection.

**'Lions could have been saved had the vaccine been made available well in advance. I firmly believe that action must be taken against those who were responsible for this man-made tragedy,' the Congress leader said**

Such last minute arrangement led to this man-made tragedy. Why didn't we bring the vaccine well in advance?" asked Dhanani in the letter.

"Lions could have been saved had the vaccine been made available well in advance. I firmly believe that action must be taken against those who were responsible for this man-made tragedy," the Congress leader said.

He asked Rupani to probe whether the unavailability of vaccine was a "conspiracy".

Referring to the provisions enlisted in the Gir Management Plan for conservation of lions, Dhanani alleged that senior forest officials are not carrying out

their duty properly.

He claimed that the plan mandates that officials need to walk inside the protected forests for at least 50 kms in a month.

"In reality, officials hardly follow this provision of conducting foot patrolling. They only roam around in vehicles. As a result, health status of lions living inside deep forest is not known immediately," Dhanani claimed.

Referring to a 2013 Supreme Court judgment asking the State Government to find a new home for lions, Dhanani asked Rupani what steps his Government had taken since then in that regard.

He alleged that the State Government had only given assurances to the Supreme Court, but failed to undertake any concrete step to save the lions. Earlier, the State Government had admitted that CDV and Protozoa infection is responsible for the death of at least 11 of 23 lions in Gir forest last month.

## Shutdown by separatists affects life in Kashmir

Srinagar: A shutdown called by separatists affected life across Kashmir Valley on Thursday with heavy security deployed here and other vulnerable places.

The Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL), a separatist conglomerate headed by Syed Ali Geelani, Mirwaiz Umer Farooq and Muhammad Yasin Malik, called the shutdown against the killing of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander, Mehrajuddin in Bangroo, his associate Faiz Ahmad Waza and Rayees Ahmad in a gunfight on Wednesday in Srinagar's Fateh Kadal area.

Shops, other businesses and public transport remained closed in Srinagar and other district headquarters of the Valley. Skeletal private transport moved in the uptown areas of Srinagar. Educational institutions were closed due to the Dussehra holiday. The authorities have imposed restrictions in parts of Srinagar's old city areas. Train services between Baramulla and Bannihal towns were suspended as a precautionary measure. IANS

# Rupani visits 'Statue of Unity' site ahead of unveiling

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani on Thursday took stock of ongoing preparations at the site of the 'Statue of Unity' at Kevadiya in Narmada district. Prime Minister Narendra

Modi is scheduled to unveil the world's tallest statue at 182 metres, dedicated to the country's first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, on October 31.

It is being built on Sadhu Bet island near the Sardar Sarovar Dam on Narmada river.



Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel also accompanied Rupani, stated an official release. Meanwhile, Patel refuted media reports suggesting that the Prime Minister would board a sea plane to reach the site to unveil the statue on October 31.

"The PM is not coming to Kevadiya in a sea plane," he said. After the visit, Rupani held a high-level meeting at Kevadiya with government officials on the ongoing preparations, stated the release.

During the meeting, Rupani told officials to stay prepared to handle a huge rush of visitors after unveiling the statue due to upcoming Diwali vacation, it said.

Apart from the statue, the administration is working on setting up many other "world class" attractions near it, such as the 'valley of flower', which is spread across 230 hectares, and a tent city near the statue.

Rupani instructed the officials to lit up the statue as well as other attractions, including the dam, with lighting, it said. Meanwhile, state Education Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama said in Ahmedabad that the BJP would take out "Ekta Yatra" ahead of October 31 as a tribute to Sardar Patel to spread awareness about his contribution in uniting the country.

The Yatra would be taken out in two phases during which it will cover 10,000 villages, said the minister. The Chief Minister would flag off the first 'Ekta Yatra' chariot Friday at Bardoli town in south Gujarat, he added.



Final touches being given to the Statue of Unity at Kevadiya Colony, about 200 km from Ahmedabad on Thursday

# Maharashtra BJP against simultaneous elections, say leaders

Mumbai: The Maharashtra BJP is understood to be against simultaneous polls to the Lok Sabha and the Assembly next year, according to some State party leaders.

The issue was discussed at a recent meeting between BJP chief Amit Shah and Maharashtra leaders where the view of the State party unit was put forth, said the leaders who requested anonymity. A leader claimed that Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis too is opposed to simultaneous elections and has conveyed this to Shah.

"If Lok Sabha and Assembly elections are held together, there may be a compounded backlash from unhappy voters. If Lok Sabha elections are held first, we can do some damage control before the Assembly elections (later) next year," he said.

"If Lok Sabha and Assembly elections are held separately, we can learn lessons from Lok Sabha's verdict and can plan accordingly for the Assembly polls," he added. The Lok Sabha polls are to

be held by May next year while the tenure of the Maharashtra Assembly is till October next year.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shah have been favouring simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies across the country. The state unit is also inclined to take the disgruntled ally Shiv Sena on board while contesting the two elections.

"There are 48 Lok Sabha seats in Maharashtra, of which BJP won 22 last time, followed by Sena which won 18. If we want to maintain the tally in 2019, Sena's support is valuable for consolidation of votes," said another BJP leader.

"If we insist on holding Lok Sabha and assembly polls jointly in Maharashtra, Sena will most probably contest separately and it could be a major setback, because Congress and NCP have joined hands," he said.

In that case, he said, the votes of the Congress and NCP "ours will get divided. We must avoid it." PTI

## Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one man dead body of Name: Unknown S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx 45 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Sex: Male, Wearing: Black Blue Lining White Shirt & Blue colour Lunggi, Bare

footed, was found dead on 15.10.2018. Place of Recovery: On footpath, Near Jal Board, Yamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 13 A, has been lodged at PS Kashmere Gate, Delhi, on 15.10.2018. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign. SHO DP/9275/N/18 PS Kashmere Gate, Delhi Ph.: 011- 23967889

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General Public is hereby informed that Mr. Dilshad S/o Mr. Shanshool, R/o 1434, Harola, Wakarwad, Sector-9, Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201301, is owner of property Residential Plot No. 1, area measuring 50 sq. Yds, out of Khata No. 309/7, situated at Village Khora, Parqana Loni, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad, U.P. and on date Mr. Dilshad is going to sell the said property to Mr. Binesh/Rakesh/Sukhran/Rejesh and same is financed by Agvas Financiers Limited, Branch Noida. If any person is having objection right of claim against the said property, contact to undersigned along with supporting documents within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone.  
NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA, Advocate F-211, Sector-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201019  
Contact: 09958871432

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
To be known to all that my client, Sh. Manmohan Narang S/o Sh. Tej Bhan Naray, Residents of 50-27-B, Smeelmar Bagh, DELHI-110088, is the owner/purchaser of commercial plot No.186, area measuring 15.00 sq mtrs. Transport Centre New Subz Mirzi, Azadpur, Delhi Vide DDA file No. F.18(50)75/CL has applied for Conversion of the aforesaid property from lease hold to freehold in DDA. The original documents i.e PERPETUAL LEASE DEED, ALLOTMENT LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER, SITE POSSESSION, SLP, C FORM, PAYMENT RECEIPTS, WILL AND OTHER DDA DOCUMENTS of the above said property have been lost or mislaid by my client and are not traceable despite of his/her best efforts. An F.I.R.No. to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station, Crime Branch, Delhi (I.R. No. 243278/2018 dated 17.10.2018). Any person(s) claiming any rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/ Phone: 9611471132 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (Commercial Land) or Director (Commercial Land) Vikas Sastri, New Delhi.  
Naveen Aggarwal, Ad., Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

**SUNIL HEALTHCARE LIMITED**  
Regd. Office: 38E/252-A, Vijay Tower, Shahpurjat, New Delhi-110049  
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**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given in pursuance to the Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 and other applicable regulation of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on Friday, the 02nd day of November, 2018 at 03:30 p.m. at Shri Ram Room, First Floor, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PHD House, 4/2, SIRI Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110016, to consider and approve the Un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the second quarter/first half ended 30th September, 2018 of Financial year 2018-19.

Further, the Trading Window, under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 shall remain close from October 25, 2018 to November 04, 2018 (both days inclusive).

The information contained in this notice is also available on the Company's website [www.sunilhealthcare.com](http://www.sunilhealthcare.com) and also available on the website of BSE Ltd. [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com)

For Sunil Healthcare Limited  
Sd/- Santosh Kumar Sharma  
Company Secretary  
F-6877

Place: New Delhi  
Date: October 18, 2018

## HARYANA WAQF BOARD

50, SARDAR PATEL MARG, AMBALA CANTT.-133001

**QUOTATION NOTICE**  
Sealed quotations are hereby invited from HAREDA/MNRE approved agencies for supply, installation, testing and commissioning including warranty, maintenance for five years at the following places:-

S. No.	Location	Load
1.	Mewat Engineering College, Village Palla, Tehsil and Distt. Nuh	40 KW
2.	Boys' Hostel of Mewat Engineering College at village Sonkh, Tehsil and Distt. Nuh	25 KW

(Rates should be quoted per KW). The last date for submission of Technical and financial bid will be 10 days from the date of publication of notice up to 15.00 hrs (quotation shall be in single Envelope System having two parts pattern, Technical and Financial quotation. Technical Quotation will contain the qualifying requirement and the Financial Quotation will contain the offered prices) and will be opened on same day at 16.00 hrs. Details of specification, brands can be had from the office of the Engineering and Services Division (ESD Section) of Head Office, Haryana Waqf Board, Ambala Cantt. on any working day by depositing Rs.5000/- (Non refundable) through Demand Draft in favor of "Haryana Aukaf" payable at Ambala Cantt.

**Terms and Conditions**

1. Conditional quotations will not be accepted.
2. Haryana Waqf Board reserves the right to modify, amend or supplement this document including all formats.
3. Haryana Waqf Board reserves the right to reject any quotation without any reason.

Sd/-  
Chief Executive Officer

RO NO. 72975 Dt. 18-10-2018

**HARYANA GOVERNMENT**

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sr. No.	Name of Department/Board/Cooperative/Authority	Name of Work/Notice/Tender	Opening Date	Closing Date	Amount/EM D (In Lacs)	Website of the Department	Modal Officer	Remarks/Tender ID/Ref. No.
1	Irrigation	REMODELLING OF WICOL RD 11890-L BANMANDORI DY - 3 OTHERS WORKS	22-10-2018	05-10-2018	18.17	<a href="https://tenders.hry.nic.in">https://tenders.hry.nic.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA
2	PWD(B & R)	SPECIAL REPAIR OF CIVIL HOSPITAL AT JIND IN JIND DISTT.	09-10-2018	29-10-2018	20.16	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA
3	PWD(B & R)	IMPROVEMENT OF JUNCTION ON UNDER CONSTRUCTION FARUKHABAD BYPASS AT K.M.220 IN GURUGRAM DISTRICT AGAINST THE AA OF CONSTRUCTION OF FARUKHABAD BYPASS KM.00 TO 2.20 IN GURUGRAM DISTRICT CODE NO 11330	11-10-2018	29-10-2018	73.60	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA
4	Public Health Engineering	AUGMENTATION / IMPROVEMENT OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND CONSTRUCTION OF 16.50 MLD SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT DABWALI DISTT SURAT	16-10-2018	05-11-2018	37.40	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	TENDER NO 102232
5	Forests	CONSTRUCTION WORK IN DIFFERENT BLOCKS/RANGES OF HISAR FOREST	15-10-2018	22-10-2018	0.00	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA
6	Panchayats	CONSTRUCTION OF BLOCK OFFICE BUILDING VC ELECTRIC WORKS AT MEHAM DISTRICT ROHTAK + 3 OTHER WORKS	06-11-2018	09-12-2018	285.51	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA
7	Panchayats	CONST. OF STREET +22 OTHERS WORKS	22-10-2018	04-10-2018	514.88	<a href="https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaprocurement.gov.in</a>	NA NA NA	NA

11/1819/2744000/72961 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

# Ex-Guj CM Vaghela's son resigns from BJP

PNS ■ GANDHINAGAR

In an important political development, former Gujarat Chief Minister Shankersinh Vaghela's son Mahendrasinh resigned from ruling Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday.

Vaghela had joined the saffron brigade just three months back, but was feeling neglected in the new set and ultimately decided to quit the party ahead of Lok Sabha polls. Junior Vaghela however cited the reason in his resignation to Gujarat BJP president Jitu Vaghani that he decided to quit the party due to 'personal reasons'.

Following the footsteps of his father, Mahendrasinh had left the Opposition Congress party in July 2017 before the

**His father Shankersinh initiated his political career with Jan Sangh and went on to become senior most BJP leader**

State Assembly polls. His father Shankersinh initiated his political career with Jan Sangh and went on to become senior most BJP leader. He however left BJP in 1996 following differences with then Gujarat Chief Minister Keshubhai Patel and formed his own political party and straight away became Chief Minister with the support of Congress party.

Ahead of the 1998 Gujarat assembly polls Vaghela merged his political outfit

with Congress. In UP Government he was made Union Minister and held couple of portfolios also. Later on he was given the position of Leader of Opposition in Gujarat assembly post 2012 state elections.

He however left Congress as he was denied to project Chief Ministerial candidate in the 2017 assembly polls. The Congress party had also gave ticket to Mahendrasinh from Bayad assembly constituency from where he got elected in 2012.

Interestingly both Vaghelas along with their 12 more supporters defied the Congress whip in the Rajya Sabha election held in Gujarat in August last year and had voted for the BJP against the senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel.

## INTELLIGENCE ALERT ON JMB

# Puja, Dussera security beefed up in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Bengal police have stepped up security measures in Durga Puja pandals following Intelligence reports that the banned terror outfit of Bangladesh, Jamat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh, is planning to carry out subversive activities in the State.

The inputs from the Intelligence agencies become all the more important as immersion of idols of major Durga Puja committees will take place on October 23 when the State Government will organise the Durga Carnival — a procession of idols along the historic Red Road.

According to inputs the JMB terrorists may target North Bengal cities like Jalpaiguri, Siliguri, Alipurduar and Coochbehar. "We are not taking chances on Kolkata also because the city draws crores of

**According to sources, the JMB activists have already entered Indian territories and are hiding somewhere in North Bengal. "Their target is to cause maximum damage during the Pujas" and on the Vijaya Dushmi Day**

people throughout the festive season," said a senior police officer.

With Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee fixing the day of the Carnival on October 23, the festive season gets extended four days beyond the Vijaya Dushmi Day which falls on Friday, the officer said adding the police have further tightened security measures from Mahashanti Day through the Mahanavami Day.

According to sources the

JMB activities have already entered Indian territories and are hiding somewhere in North Bengal. "Their target is to cause maximum damage during the Pujas" and on the Vijaya Dushmi Day.

JMB earned notoriety in Bengal following a bomb blast on October 2 in Khagragarh in Burdwan district when two of its militants were killed while making bombs intended to be transported to find their targets back in Bangladesh.

Subsequent investigations conducted by the NIA took the lid off a wide JMB network raised in several bordering districts of Bengal including Nadia, Birbhum, Burdwan, Murshidabad and Malda.

"This is no new situation as we receive inputs from time to time from the Centre. In any case the security has been tight throughout the Pujas and will

continue to be so this festive season," said a senior official.

A low-intensity blast near a TMC party office at Nabgerbazar off north-eastern Kolkata killing two persons and injuring at least 10 others had created flutter in the police brass. None has so far been arrested in connection with the case.

Meanwhile, in an unrelated development the Bengal Government had made special ration packages this festive season for the poorest of the poor, officials said.

Subsidised packages of flour, rice, edible oil and sugar is being given to the people coming within the Antodayaya and Special Priority Programmes — under National Food Security Act, sources informed adding the total number of beneficiaries this festive season would come to about 3 crore.

# First phase of coastal road to have three interchanges: BMC

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The first phase of the proposed coastal road project will have three interchanges, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) said on Thursday.

The first phase of this ambitious project runs between Princess Street and Bandra-Worli Sea Link Road and the three interchanges will be located at Amar Sons Garden, Haji Ali and Worli Seafac, it said.

These interchanges will have 18 alternative routes and nine entry as well as exit routes to facilitate the motorists, the civic body added.

"The total length of these interchanges will be 14 kms. They will be constructed as per the international codes of standards and using state-of-the-art tools," the BMC said.

The speed limit for vehicles on these interchanges has been fixed at 40 kmph, it said adding that crash attenuators will be installed at important points along these interchanges to minimise the impact of collision in case of possible accident.

According to a civic official, work on the first phase is expected to start by the next month, when work orders will be issued. The entire project may take almost four years to complete.

"Work on the 10-km stretch from Princess Street Flyover to south end of Bandra Worli Sea Link is likely to start by the end of the year," official said, adding that the first phase will comprise an under-sea tunnel starting from Princess Street flyover to Priyadarshini Circle.

Infrastructure major Larsen and Toubro (L&T) has been awarded the contract to construct a part of the project from Princess Street Flyover to Baroda Palace, including an underground tunnel passing below Girgaum Chowpatty, Malabar Hills and Priyadarshini Park.

The total length of the Coastal Road project is 29.2 kms. The eight-lane road project will start from Princess Street Flyover in Marine Lines and run up to Kandivli.

The standing committee of the BMC had given its nod for the construction of the ₹12,000-crore project last month.

## SHIV SENA DUSSEHRA RALLY

# 'If BJP says mandir promise a jumla, then we'll build Ram temple'

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Demanding to know as to why Prime Minister Narendra Modi had not gone even once to Ayodhya during the last four and a half years, Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday said that if the ruling BJP declared its poll promise of building a Ram Mandir was nothing but a "jumla", then his party, along with Hindus living across the country, would undertake the construction of a Ram temple at Ayodhya.

Addressing a largely attended annual Dussehra rally at the historic Shivaji Park in north-Central Mumbai, Uddhav announced that he would go to Ayodhya on November 25 to remind the ruling BJP of its failure to keep its promise of building Ram Mandir there.

Mincing no words against the Narendra Modi government for its failure to keep its promises, including the construction of the Ram temple at Ayodhya, Uddhav said: "You



Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray addresses the Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park in Mumbai on Thursday

(the ruling BJP) have so many false promises to the people that the country is on the verge of erupting like a volcano... You promised that you would deposit ₹15 lakh in the bank accounts of everyone. Later on you said that promise was a jumla. My challenge to you shameless fellows: either you fellows build Ram Mandir or declare the repeated promise to this effect was a jumla. Then we

will see what is to be done".

"Hence I have decided that I will go to Ayodhya on November 25. We have nothing against Modi. But I would like to tell him not to play with the sentiments of the people. This is not a normal promise. This concerns Lord Sri Ram. You have been touring all over the world. But, I would like to know from Modi as to why he has not found time to visit



People assemble in large numbers as Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray addresses the Dussehra rally at Shivaji Park in Mumbai on Thursday

Ayodhya during the last four and half years?", the Sena president asked.

"You (Modi) may not have gone to Ayodhya during the last four and a half years, but I — as the son of late Bal Thackeray — will go to Ayodhya with a saffron flag in hand. I will be going there for the first time to remind you about your poll promise of building Ram Mandir there. If you do not

**UDDHAV SLAMMED UNION MINISTER NITIN GADKARI FOR HIS REMARK THAT HIS PARTY LEADERS HAD MADE ALL KINDS OF PROMISES TO THE PEOPLE DURING THE 2014 ELECTIONS BECAUSE THEY KNEW THAT THE BJP WOULD NOT COME TO POWER**

Nitinji. You are also a Maharashtra like us. It is not the Maharashtra culture to mouth lies. What late Balasaheb has taught us, think a lakh times before you make a promise to the people. But once you make the promise, you will keep the promise come what may."

Hitting out at Modi and his Cabinet colleagues at the Centre for not bothering about fulfilling the promises made to the people during 2014, Uddhav said: "Instead of concentrating on developmental works, Modi, his Cabinet ministers and BJP chief ministers are now camping in five Assembly poll-bound states. I call this as a big defeat for you. Even if you win those elections, will you be able to

solve the problems of the people those states?"

Slamming Union Minister Ravi Shanker Prasad for his comment that the Government could not do much about the hikes in, Uddhav said: "What do you mean you can't do anything? How can you cannot bring down rates of petrol, diesel and cooking gas or reduce inflation? You have Lord Vishnu's 11th 'avatar' with you but you cannot stop inflation and galloping fuel prices and zooming US Dollar rates. If you can't do this, then are you sticking to power...?" Uddhav asked.

Targeting Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnis for his failure to declare drought in Maharashtra, Uddhav said: "Karnataka has already declared a drought and started relief measures, but in Maharashtra, the CM is still studying the issue... If Fadnis does not declare a drought in Maharashtra in the next few days, then the Shiv Sena will take to streets to protest against the State Government".

# Sacked Cong staff threaten to move court

Lucknow: Twenty-four hours after protesting with state Congress chief Raj Babbar against summary removal and snapping of powerlines of their homes on the party office campus, now Congress office staff have threatened to move court if the party adopts double standard in removing them from their job.

"Ashok Kumar, an employee, has attained 60 years of age but is still working with the UPCC even as a cut-off age has been set for forcible retirement," cited a letter drafted by the staff who were compulsar-

ily retired on August 31 last. The agitated ex-employees of Congress office said that Kumar, as per educational certificates submitted with the UPCC, was born on June 18, 1958, thereby he has completed 60 years in June this year. "A list was also prepared by UPCC in which Kumar's name was mentioned for retirement but since he is close to a prominent leader, while 15 staff were forcibly retired on August 31, Kumar was spared," a sacked staffer complained. The employees even claimed that the aforesaid

leader was also entrusted with more powers to Kumar than even senior ministerial staff. They threatened that if the UPCC chief did not remove

Kumar immediately, they would move court and challenge their forcible retirement on the ground of having completed 60 years of age. PNS

**SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M-III)/WZ C-BLOCK, VISHAL ENCLAVE, NEW DELHI-110 027

**PRESS NOTICE FOR TENDER**

NIT No. E.E. (M-III)/WZ/2018-19/TC/29 Date: 17.10.2018

The Executive Engineer (M-III)/West Zone, on behalf of Commissioner, South Delhi Municipal Corporation, C-Block, Vishal Enclave, New Delhi-110027 invites E-Tenders from contractors registered in appropriate class of SDMC for the following work: NOW- Providing and laying 250 mm to 500 mm dia DWC HDPE pipe internal and peripheral sewer line in Bhupendra Singh Nagar group of colonies under Keshopur WWTP catchment area in Delhi. Sub Head:- Restoration of cuts by RMC from H. No. RZ-118 to 121, 119 to 121, 108 to 104, 24 to 105, 90 to 75, 58 to 74, 57 to 40, 1 to 8, 217 to 223, 216 to 194, 216 to 235, 154 to 189, 172 to 161, 160 to 148, 218 to 10, 154 to 138, 28 to 127, 122 & 10 to 9 Ravi Nagar Extn. and RZ-88 to 113, 5D-36 to E-236, 5D-23 to 34, 16 to 15, 18 to 15, 23 to 24, 28 to 25, 34 to 36, 41 to 39, 48 to 35, 57 to 36, 64 to 60, 70 to 73, 77 to 74, 82 to 85, RZ-9 to D-54, RZ-57 to D-54, D-64 to 66, 79 to 77, 5D-56 to 50, 56 to 50C, 5D-43 to 36, 42 to 37, 29 to 35, 28 to 22, 15 to 25, 14 to 8, 1 to 7 Dharampuri and RZ-C-43 to C-18, 28 to 8, 20 to 21, 7 to 13, 7 to 12, 28 to 103, 1 to 8, 29 to 118, 23 to 29, 101 to 21, 77 to 71 Vishnu Garden Ward No. 012-S Keshopur. TA-Rs. 70,52,534/-, EM in Rs. 1,67,400/-, TOC-6 Months, VOR-5 Months, T/C-Rs. 1000/-, H.O.A/C- G-110/1076. The details of tender of NIT can be seen from SDMC website i.e. <http://mcdetenders.com>. Tender will be opened at 3:30 P.M. on 31.10.2018 in the office of E.E. (M-III)/WZ. Bidders are advised to regularly scan the SDMC website for any update with regard to the subject matter.

RO. No. 115/DP/IS/2018-2019 E.E. (M-III)/WZ

**CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

R-1 DIVISION, TILAK LANE, NEW DELHI-110001

**e-Procurement Tender Notice**

**Tender ID No. 2018\_NDMC\_160582\_1**

**Subject:** S/R of roads in NDMC Area. **SH:** Providing and Fixing ultra kerb centre verge with ultra flex post in NDMC Area

**Estimated cost: ₹14,71,652/-**

**Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution : 17.10.2018**

**Last date/time for receipt of tender through e-procurement solution : 30.10.2018 upto 4:00 PM**

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

**Note:** To participate in e-tender in NDMC registration with e-tendering system Government of NCT in Delhi is mandatory. **Executive Engineer (R-1)**

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Kamal Singh S/o Pop Singh R/o H.No. 639, Gali No. 7, Ambedkar Nagar, Haiderpur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 295/15 U/s 33 Delhi Excise Act** at P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon that the said **Kamal Singh** could not be found and where it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Kamal Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Kamal Singh** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on **20.11.2018**.

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

DP/8390/NW/18 (Court Notice)

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Harish Arora S/o V.B. Arora R/o H.No. 13A, Pocket 14A, Kalkaji Extension, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **F.I.R. No. 288/18 U/s 420/467/468/471/448/120-B IPC** at P.S. Mehrauli, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon that the said **Harish Arora** could not be found and where it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Harish Arora** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Harish Arora** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **29.11.2018**

**By Order**  
**Sh. Vaibhav Mehta**  
Metropolitan Magistrate (South)  
Room No. 210, Saket Court, New Delhi

DP/5024/SD/18 (Court Notice)

**CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS**

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

- NIT No - 60/EE(E)/PHEWD/2018-2019, Name of Work - Replacement of Emergency Security Siren System at Parliament House, New Delhi. Estimated Cost- Rs. 16,78,423/- Earnest Money - Rs. 33,568/- Period of Completion- 01 Month. Last time & date of submission of bid - 29.10.2018 upto 03.00 PM
- NIT No - 62/EE(E)/PHEWD/2018-2019, Name of Work - AM&O (2018-19) Internal EI's in Parliament House, New Delhi. (SH: SITC of SMF Batteries in UPS Control Room). Estimated Cost- Rs. 9,53,952/- Earnest Money - Rs. 19,079/- Period of Completion- 02 Months. Last time & date of submission of bid - 29.10.2018 upto 03.00 PM

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

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**

See Section 82 Cr.PC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that **Ajit Tiwari S/o Madan Tiwari R/o H. No. 460, Gali No. 12, Harphool Vihar, Baproula, Delhi** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 392/18 dated 20.05.2018 U/s 279/304-A IPC PS Rannahola, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Ajit Tiwari** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ajit Tiwari** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrants). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Ajit Tiwari** of **FIR No. 392/18 U/s 279/304-A IPC PS Rannahola, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.11.2018**.

**By Order**  
**Shri Vishal Pahuja**  
Metropolitan Magistrate (West-4)  
Room No. 271, 2nd Floor,  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/1519/OD/18

**CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS**

The Executive Engineer, Parliament Works Division-I, CPWD, New Delhi on behalf of President of India invites **Online Item Rate bids** (CPWD-8) from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD of appropriate class for the following works(s):-

**NIT No.174/EE/PaWD-I/18-19** (1<sup>st</sup> Recall) Name of Work: A/R & M/o to MP's flats/bungalows under Sub-Div-VI of PaWD-I dg.2018-19 (SH: Internal and External finishing work in bungalows of Ferozshah Road, canning lane and HCM lane). Estimated Cost **Rs.21,43,089/-** Earnest Money **Rs.42,862/-** Period of completion **Six Months** Last time and date of submission of tender is **15:00 P.M. on 25-10-2018**. The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website [www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD](http://www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD) or [www.cpwd.gov.in](http://www.cpwd.gov.in)

**FDDI**  
Footwear Design & Development Institute

**CORRIGENDUM**

Ref: **FDDI/HO/10(1)/HR/ADVT/2018** Date: **18.10.2018**

**Revised Advertisement for Recruitment for Non-Academic posts**

I. The last date for receiving the applications for various posts against advertisement no. **FDDI/HO/10(1)/HR/ADVT/2018** dated 4th October 2018 has been extended to 26th October 2018.

II. Further, may kindly refer to [www.fddindia.com](http://www.fddindia.com) for the revised criteria for the post of GM (HR) and DGM (Civil), along with the revised terms and conditions in reference to relaxation of aggregate marks and age for SC/ST/OBC candidate for the various non-academic posts.

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

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C) DR.VIII DELHI JAL BOARD, OFFICE OF N.C.T. OF DELHI S.T.P., YAMUNA VIHAR, DELHI-110094.**

**Press N.I.T. No. 04 (2018-19)**

S. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (Rs.)	Tender Processing Fee (Rs.)	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/ time for tender download through e-procurement solution
1.	Replacement of damaged rising main 600 mm dia from S.P.S. Vivek Vihar Phase-I, C-Block to Vivekanand Mahila College.	69,91,127/-	1500/-	2018_DJB_160543_1 dtd. 16.10.2018	12.11.2018 upto 3:00 PM

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V...458/2018-19

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(C) DR.VIII

**DELHI JAL BOARD**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M) WS/NW MU-BLOCK, PITAM PURA: NEW DELHI-110034.**

**Press N.I.T. No. 10/ (E&M)WS/NW/(2018-19)**

S. No.	Description	Amount put to tender	Tender Fee	Earnest Money	Date of release of tender in e-procurement solution	Last date/ time for tender download through e-procurement solution
1.	AMC Contract for 1 Year for JICA Electrical Automation Panels for DJB Pitapur, New Delhi.	Item Rate	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 95,200/-	18.10.2018 ID No 2018_DJB_1_160679_1	02.11.2018 at 12:00 Noon

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 462/2018-19

Sd/- EX. ENGINEER (E&M)WS/NW

**DELHI JAL BOARD**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E&M) WS/NW MU-BLOCK, PITAM PURA: NEW DELHI-110034.**

**Press N.I.T. No. 10/ (E&M)WS/NW/(2018-19)**

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O (WATER) Advt. No. J.S.V. 462/2018-19

Sd/- EX. ENGINEER (E&M)WS/NW



**Telecom players had a meeting with the Department of Telecom and they have been clarified that customers willing to get their Aadhaar details deleted from telecom operator data base should be allowed to do so against valid identity and address proof**  
**Rajan S Mathews, Director General, COAI**

**BUZZ FROM GOVT**

**We are organising one mega conclave on capital goods in steel sector manufacture in India. Our ultimate objective is to transform India into a world class manufacturing hub through massive collaborative efforts with best in class institutes industry around the world**



**Birender Singh, Union Minister of Steel**

**'No threat to mobiles issued using Aadhaar'**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government Thursday said there is no threat of discontinuation of mobile numbers issued using Aadhaar, following the Supreme Court ruling that barred use of the national biometric ID by private companies.

Debunking reports that over 50 crore, or half of the mobile SIMs in the country, faced deactivation, the Department of Telecommunication and the 12-digit unique identity number-issuing authority UIDAI in a joint statement said, mobile phone users at their choice can seek a change of their Aadhaar-based authentication done in the past with alternate proof of identity without any disconnection of the number.

An alternate form for buying new SIMs through a mobile app that will time capture photograph of the persons along with ID proof such as Aadhaar card, voter ID or passport is in the works.

"The Supreme Court in its judgement in Aadhaar case has nowhere directed that the mobile number which has been issued through Aadhaar e-KYC has to be disconnected," it said.

Termining the report as "completely untrue and imag-

inary", the Government said there is no reason for panic or fear at all. "People should not believe in such rumours," it said.

The Supreme Court has also not asked for deletion of the electronic-Know Your Customer (a means of establishing the identity of the person) data of telecom customers after six months, the statement said.

"What the apex court has asked that UIDAI should not keep authentication log for more than six months. The restriction of not keeping authentication log beyond six months is on the UIDAI and not on the telecom companies. Therefore, there is no need for telecom companies or AUAs/KUAs to delete authentication logs at their end," it added.

AUA is Authentication User Agency (AUA) and KUA is KYC User Agency (KUA).

DoT-UIDAI said telecom companies are required to keep authentication logs at their end as per Aadhaar regulations to resolve any consumer grievances.

The Supreme Court, it said, has prohibited the issue of new SIM cards through Aadhaar eKYC authentication process due to lack of a law.

**TELCOS TO ERASE AADHAAR DATA IF PROVIDED ALTERNATIVE KYC DOCUMENTS: COAI**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mobile service customers who want to get their Aadhaar details deleted from records of their telecom operators can do so by providing another valid documents for verification, industry body COAI said on Thursday.

"Telecom players had a meeting with the Department of Telecom and they have been clarified that customers willing to get their Aadhaar details deleted from telecom operator data base should be allowed to do so against valid identity and address proof," COAI Director General Rajan S Mathews said.

He said that telecom operators will need some time to verify documents shared by customers but his connection will continue to work as till the time documents are verified.

"Customers will need to call their operators to check about point of sales or service where they need to go with request for deletion of Aadhaar records," Mathews said.

**Oil companies cut petrol, diesel prices**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Petrol and diesel prices on Thursday were reduced for the first time in over two months because of a drop in the cost of production, according to State-owned oil firms.

Petrol price was cut by 21 paise per litre and diesel by 11 paise, a price notification issued by state retailers said. This is the first price cut arising from a drop in international oil prices.

The rates were reduced by a minimum ₹2.50 per litre across the country on October 5, when the Government cut excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹1.50 a litre and asked oil PSUs to subsidise the fuels by another ₹1 a litre. The reduction in BJP-ruled states was more as they matched this cut by an equivalent reduction in local sales tax or VAT.

Petrol in Delhi now costs ₹82.62 per litre as against ₹82.83 a litre previously. A litre of diesel now costs ₹75.58 as compared to ₹75.69 previously. In Mumbai, petrol now costs ₹88.08 per litre and diesel ₹79.24.

The price cut follows international oil prices trading near the lowest level in a month on a bigger-than-expected gain in American stockpiles. West Texas Intermediate for November delivery traded 11 cents lower at \$69.64 a barrel

**No plans to scale down steel production target: Minister**

**INDIA'S STEEL PRODUCTION GROWING AT 6.7%**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has no plans to scale down its target for steel production unlike other countries as consumption of the alloy in India is growing slower than expected, Union Minister Birender Singh said on Thursday.

"...As far as China is concerned they reduction is 112 million tonnes (MT)...We are on a different footing and that's why we (have) decided in 2017 to have a capacity of 300 MT, which is at present...Is more than the double, rather 2.5 times more than our present capacity," the steel minister said.

Excess production of steel world over is a point of discussion globally, he said, adding "but in India the Government stand is to augment it to 300 MT."

"But, we made our stand very clear in that global forum of 34 countries and they have also accepted what we argued. And the level of consumption in the last two years has been

7.9 per cent (growth) in our country.

That is one argument for having a capacity of 300 million tonnes.

"And if you see last eight months steel production figures in the current calendar year 2018 India has become the second largest steel producer in the world," Singh said.

India's steel production has been growing at the rate of 6.7 per cent, which is highest growth in output amongst the major economies of the world, he added.

The National Steel Policy (NSP)2017 that envisages ₹10 lakh crore investment, to take capacity to 300 million tonnes by 2030-31, has been reduced to 8.8 lakh crore.

"We are organising one mega conclave on capital goods in steel sector manufacture in India. When we released our national steel policy in 2017 to create a capacity of 300 million tonne (MT) and about 260 MT production. So, that required about (initial estimates) about 10 lakh crore but now it is 8.8 lakh crore and out of that we will have to have machinery from other countries to the tune of 1,60,000 crore," he said.

The Government is expecting that 20 memorandum of understanding (MoUs) worth

\$5 billion will be signed between India manufacturers, foreign technology provider and foreign capital good manufacturers during the conclave next week.

These foreign manufacturers are from eight countries, including Spain, Italy, Germany and Netherlands.

Well known world renowned steel technology companies such as Paul Wurth and Kawasaki will be involved in the signing MoUs, the minister said.

"Total MoUs till today is worth about ₹36,000 crore. Tatas may also join the signing some of the MoUs. Then...This is good beginning," Singh said, adding that "Our ultimate objective is to transform India into a world class manufacturing hub through massive collaborative efforts with best in class institutes industry around the world."

NSP 2017 envisages setting up of 300 MT steel capacity by 2030-31. This means increasing the present capacity by 2.5 times from 138 MT to 300 MT in the next 12 years.

There will be a huge investment of over ₹8,00,000 crore. Based on the current experience, about \$25 billion worth of capital goods equipment is expected to be imported by 2030-31.

**Forced cut has no impact on oil retailing plans: RIL**

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Government move to make auto fuels cheaper by asking state-run oil companies take a hit will not impact Reliance Industries' retail fuel expansion plans, a top official has said.

The official also denied notions of the company going slow on fuel retailing side.

After the fuel price deregulation, especially that of diesel in September 2014, RIL, which has licence to operate 5,000 pumps, had begun to reopen the shut pumps in a phased manner and so far it has re-commissioned only 512 of

them, much slower than the rivals like Navara Energy (formerly Essar Oil which operates over 3,500 pumps now) and Shell. Reliance was forced to shut down its retailing business following the sharp increase in under-recoveries following the spike in global crude prices since 2011.

"In a broader sense, I don't think it (the forced price reduction) is going to affect what we are planning to do in terms of our fuel retail expansion. I don't think we are going to let this alter our strategy in terms of what we are doing," V Srikanth, the joint group chief financial officer of the company, told

reporters on Wednesday evening. He, however, conceded that the company will have to cut the retail price due to competitive pressures.

It can be noted that along with a reduction in the Excise duty to the tune of ₹1.5 a liter, government had early October also asked the State-run oil marketing companies which have a dominate share of the fuel retailing market to take a hit of ₹1 on every litre of diesel and petrol.

Many BJP-ruled states followed suit with cut in VAT, to minimise the pinch of the rise in oil prices on commoners.

Srikanth said RIL's dependence on the oil retailing is very

minimal, stating that only up to 5 per cent of its refining output of over 60 million tone is consumed in the domestic market and therefore, the impact from an overall numbers perspective is "very small".

When asked if the company is going slow on retail expansion, he denied so, saying the perception may be "in the context of some" rivals but his company is moving as per its retailing plans.

He said RIL had signed an agreement with British oil major BP on the fuel retailing front, but it has not been enforced on the ground as it may be lacking in specifics.

**Switching to clean energy may save 11 million life years in India: Study**

PTI ■ BOSTON

India could save an estimated 11 million life years annually by replacing coal-fired powerplants with clean, renewable energy, according to a Harvard study.

The 2.7 billion people who live in India and China — more than a third of the world's population — regularly breathe some of the dirtiest air on the planet, said researchers from the Harvard University in the US.

Air pollution is one of the largest contributors to death in both countries, ranked 4th in China and 5th in India, and harmful emissions from coal-fire powerplants are a major contributing factor, they said.

In the study, published in the journal Environment International, researchers wanted to know how replacing coal-fired powerplants in China and India with clean, renewable energy could bene-

fit human health and save lives in the future.

They found that eliminating harmful emissions from powerplants could save an estimated annual 15 million years of life in China and 11 million years of life in India.

Previous research has explored mortality from exposure to fine particulate matter (known as PM2.5) in India and China but few studies have quantified the impact of specific sources and regions of pollution and identified efficient mitigation strategies, researchers said.

"This study shows how modelling advances and expanding monitoring networks are strengthening the scientific basis for setting environmental priorities to protect the health of ordinary Chinese and Indian citizens," said Chris Nielsen, executive director of the Harvard-China Project and a co-author of the research paper.

**MFs pump ₹11K-crore in equities last fortnight; FPIs bearish stance continues**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mutual fund houses have made investments of over ₹11,000 crore in domestic equities in the first two weeks of this month despite volatility in the stock markets, even as foreign investors pulled out a massive ₹19,000 crore.

This comes following a net infusion of ₹11,600 crore in equities by the fund managers and a net withdrawal of ₹10,825 crore from stocks by FPIs in September, latest data available with the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and depositories showed.

The sell-off by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) in the Indian equity markets has provided an opportunity to mutual fund managers, experts believe.

According to the data, fund managers lapped up shares to the tune of ₹11,091 crore during October 1-15.

On the other hand, FPIs pulled out ₹19,084 crore from equities

during the period under review.

Investment in domestic equities by fund managers could be largely attributed to retail investors who continued to invest through systematic investment plan (SIP), industry insiders said.

The 30-share Sensex declined 3.75 per cent in the first fortnight owing to sharp fall in the rupee and boiling crude oil prices, turning FPIs into net sellers.

Himanshu Srivastava, senior analyst manager research at Morningstar, said while FPIs sold shares, domestic mutual funds continued to pump assets into the equity markets and the staggering difference in their approach could be attributed to the fact that both view the markets from different lens.

"For FPIs, India is just another investment in their portfolio. They continuously evaluate India against other comparable markets and see what investment proposition it has to offer. They will not hesitate in trimming their exposure to India if it does not fare well on the risk-reward profile.

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General public is hereby informed that this boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Sagar, S/o Samunder Singh, R/o H. No. 2999/3, Gali No. 15, Ranjit Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from his house since **02.10.2018**. In this regard F.I.R. No. **239/18 U/s 363 IPC Dated 02.10.2018** has been registered at **PS Ranjit Nagar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far.

His physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Male, **Age:** 17 years, **Height:** 5'10" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** White shirt & Blue color Jeans Pant & Yellow color shoe in Feet.  
 Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped boy may kindly inform to the following:-

**SHO**  
**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi**  
**E-mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **Ph. No. - 011-25704008, 25704009**  
**Tel. No.:** 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob.:** 8750870436  
**Fax No.:** 011-24368639 **DP/5800/CD/18**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**

General Public is hereby informed that one lady namely **Raman Jeet Kaur W/o Sukhdeep Singh R/o RZ-F/316, Nihal Vihar, Delhi** has been missing / kidnapped since **13.07.2018** from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 26-A dated 14.07.2018** has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

The description of missing/kidnapped Lady is as under:

**Name:** Raman Jeet Kaur, **Husband's Name:** Sukhdeep Singh, **Age:** 26 years, **Height:** 5'7", **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Orange Suit-Salwar and Black Chappal in feet.  
 If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

**SHO**  
**Website:** <http://cbi.nic.in> **P.S., Nihal Vihar, Delhi**  
**e-mail:** [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **Ph. : 011-25946700**  
**Fax:** 011-24368639 **Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**DP/1467/OD/18** **25946710**

**PRASAR BHARATI**  
 (India's Public Service Broadcaster)

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL (ENGG) (SZ)**  
**ALL INDIA RADIO & DOORDARSHAN, CHENNAI-5.**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER e-**

Tenders are invited for the following works from the eligible reputed firms/ Contractors having related experience in two bid system.

Tender No	Name of the work	Submission Date
ADG(E)(SZ) PUR/NIT-16/Compac/2018-19/	Supply of Server - 4 Nos & tch - 4 Nos (DDK Hyderabad : Server - 2 Nos & Switch - 2 Nos) (DDK Thiruvananthapuram Server - 2Nos & Network Switch - 2Nos)	26-10-2018 before 14:30 Hrs

For any further details ,Terms & Conditions Kindly Log on to <https://www.tenderwizard.com/PB> Amendments / Corrigendum, if any, would be posted on above website only.

**DAVP/22507/11/0017/1819**

**PRASAR BHARATI**  
**INDIA'S PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTER**  
**CIVIL CONSTRUCTION WING, ALL INDIA RADIO**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

The Executive Engineer (E), Division-I, CCW, AIR, 8th Floor Sookhna Bhawan, New Delhi invites on behalf of President of India, online item rate single/ two bids for following work:-

- NIT NO. 69/2018-19/EE(E)-I/CCW-AIR/Delhi. Name of Work: Annual repair & maintenance of cultural centre at Sirifort Auditorium, New Delhi for the year 2018-19 (SH:- Strengthening of Electrical Installation, providing energy efficient fittings & service connection cable for DFF office), (i) Estimated cost Rs.818553/-, (ii) Earnest Money Rs.16371/- Period of completion: - 25 Days, Last date & Time of submission of bid 3.00 P.M on 25/10/18.
- NIT No. 70/2018-19/EE (E)-I/CCW-AIR Delhi. Name of Work:- RMO AC plant of cultural centre at Sirifort Auditorium New Delhi (SH: Operation & General Maintenance of 4 x 120 TR and 2X 120TR capacity AC plant unit, Print Units). Estimated cost Rs. 2422860/- Earnest money Rs.48457/- period of completion:-12 Months, last time and date of submission of bid 3:00 P.M. on 31/10/2018.

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

**Sd/-**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**davp/22433/11/0014/1819**

Manoj Mishra, C&MD and RK Chandok, Director (Finance) receiving an Award for Excellence in Cost Management from Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Railways and Coal in New Delhi

**UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED**

**CORRIGENDUM-I**

**NIT No. 219/P&D/2018 (Bid No. B-563)**

The due dates for submission of tender cost, EMD, closing of e-tenders and opening of Part-I bids are hereby extended as under:-

a. Date of closing of online e -tender for submission of Techno-Commercial Bid & Price Bid.	25-10-2018 upto 13:00 Hrs
The original bank guarantee (EMD) or DD shall be deposited by the bidders in the O/o CE PD&C, UHBVN, Panchkula after closure of online sub mission of Techno - Commercial Bid & Price Bid on web portal. The validity of this EG shall be 193 days from the date of opening of Part- 1 of the tender.	after 13:00 Hrs. on 25 -10-2018 before 13:00 Hrs. on 26 -10-2018
b. Date & time of opening of Part -I (i.e. Techno - Commercial Bid)	26-10-2018 at 15:00 Hrs

Detailed terms & conditions are available on the website i.e. <https://haryanaaprocurement.gov.in>

**Superintending Engineer/ P&D, UHBVN, Panchkula**

RO NO. 72945 Dt. 18-10-2018

**Govt approves proposal to set up IT SEZ in Maha**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has approved AIGP Developers (Pune) to set up IT/ITeS special economic zone in Maharashtra over an area of 6.69 hectares. The decision in this regard was taken during the meeting of the board on September 12 here, an official said.

"The board, chaired by the commerce secretary, after deliberations approved the proposal of AIGP Developers (Pune)," the official added. The board also gave more time to seven units, including Q3 Infotech, JBF Petrochemicals and temple Packaging to complete their projects.

The commerce ministry is taking steps to revive investors interest in these zones. A group set up by the commerce ministry to study SEZ policy will make suggestions for shifting from fiscal support to employment-based incentives and introducing grandfathering clause for existing provisions.

SEZs have emerged as major export hubs in the country as the Government provides several incentives, including tax benefits and single window clearance system.

# Sparkling Saina floors Yamaguchi

Nehwal beats old foe Yamaguchi first time in 4 years; Sameer stuns Asian Gold medallist Christie; Ashwini-Sikki advance



Saina Nehwal jumps to return a shot against her opponent during a match. File Picture

PTI ■ ODENSE

Indian badminton ace Saina Nehwal defeated world No 2 Akane Yamaguchi of Japan for the first time in four years to enter the quarter-finals of the Denmark Open, here on Thursday.

Nehwal, an Olympic Bronze-medallist who has dropped to World No 27, registered an easy 21-15, 21-17 win over second-seeded Yamaguchi in the pre-quarterfinal match that lasted just 36 minutes.

The 28-year-old Indian will now take on World No 3 and another Japanese Nozomi Okuhara in the quarterfinals on Friday.

This was Nehwal's second career win over Yamaguchi, who has won six times in the head-to-head encounters between the two.

Nehwal's first win against Yamaguchi came in 2014 during the China Open.

Since then, Yamaguchi has enjoyed upper hand against the Indian. The earlier two meetings this year -- Uber Cup in May and Malaysia Open in June -- also went in Yamaguchi's favour.

Nehwal trailed 0-4 initially but she made a fine comeback to level the scores at 10-10. But from there, Nehwal showed tremendous resolve and reeled off five straight points to take a 15-10 lead and then widened it to 19-12.

Yamaguchi recovered a bit but



Sameer Verma returns a shot during his game

S Nehwal vs N Okuhara  
Live from 1:30pm IST  
STAR SPORTS 1

17-17.

At that stage, Nehwal clinched four points on the trot to win the second game and clinch the match.

Sameer Verma pulled off another big win at the Denmark Open Super 750 tournament in Odense on Thursday by defeating Asian Games Gold medallist Jonatan Christie 23-21, 6-21, 22-20 in 70 minutes.

It was a day of upsets involving Indian shuttlers as Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy defeated the world No 7 pair in the women's double pre-quarterfinals and Saina Nehwal downed world No 2 Akane Yamaguchi.

After defeating world No 2 Shi Yuqi in the first round, Verma upset world No 13 Christie in a topsy-turvy encounter. It was another superb result for the Verma, who has been India's most consistent male shuttler on tour in 2018.

The opening game was a tight affair with neither player unable to establish a clear advantage. The Indian, ranked 10 places below Christie, held a three-point lead late in the game before Christie fought back. Verma had to save a game point before drawing first blood.

The second game was a completely one-sided affair with Christie taking an

early lead and not letting Verma have a chance at catching up with him. He ran away with the game 21-6.

The decider was once a tight affair, where both players had significant leads before letting the other fight back.

Christie started better, racing to a 8-3 lead before Verma fought back to take a 11-10 lead into the final change of ends. From 8-10 down, Sameer Verma won 7 straight points to take a 15-10 lead in the decider before the Indonesian fought back.

Verma, then, had three match points, which were all saved by Christie. The Indian converted the fourth time of asking to record another impressive win.

Verma will face the winner of K Srikanth and Lin Dan later on Thursday.

## ASHWINI-SIKKI PROGRESS

Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy completed an excellent comeback to defeat world No 7 pairing of So He Lee and Seung Chan Shin 18-21, 22-20, 21-18 in 61 minutes.

After losing a hard-fought first game, Ponnappa and Reddy were stretched all the way in the second game, with the scoreline reading 18-18, 19-19 and then 20-20 before the Indian pairing sneaked past 22-20.

The world No 22 pair for India led for the most part of the decider to wrap up the match and progress to the quarter-final.

**This was Nehwal's second career win over Yamaguchi, who has won six times in the head-to-head encounters between the two**

Nehwal grabbed five game points at 20-15 and then easily pocketed the first game. In the second game, it was Nehwal's turn to take the lead initially as she zoomed to 7-2 but Yamaguchi caught her up at 11-11. After that, it was a close tussle between the two as they were locked

## PLISKOVA, SVITOLINA CLINCH WTA FINAL SPOTS

AFP ■ MOSCOW

Former world number one Karolina Pliskova earned a place in the year-ending WTA Finals despite a second-round defeat by Russian veteran Vera Zvonareva at Moscow's Kremlin Cup on Wednesday.

Pliskova's 6-1, 6-2 loss to Zvonareva, the 2010 Wimbledon and US Open runner-up, also secured Elina Svitolina's spot in the eight-woman field in Singapore next week.

Czech star Pliskova's participation was confirmed after fourth seed Kiki Bertens lost 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 to Aliaksandra Sasnovich of Belarus.

"I'm delighted to be appearing at the WTA Finals for the third time," Pliskova said.

"I have such great memories from playing in Singapore in 2016 and 2017, and I can't wait to close out the year competing against the other elite players of 2018."

Pliskova and Svitolina joined Germany's Angelique Kerber, Japan's Naomi Osaka, Czech Petra Kvitova, Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark and Sloane Stephens of the USA.

They will battle for a \$7 million (6.1 million euros) prize purse in Singapore.

The 34-year-old Zvonareva, who was unranked last year after taking a two-year hiatus to have her first child, claimed her first victory over a top-10 player since beating Caroline Wozniacki at the WTA Tour Finals in 2011.

"I knew that matches against top-10 players never come easy and tried hard to capitalise on every single opportunity that I had today and it paid off," the current world number 161 said after downing Pliskova.

Third-seeded American Sloane Stephens, the French Open finalist and former US Open champion who qualified for the WTA Finals earlier this week, also slumped to a 6-3, 6-2 loss to Tunisian qualifier Ons Jabeur.

In the quarter-finals, Jabeur will face eighth seed Anett Kontaveit, who saw off Frenchwoman Kristina Mladenovic 6-2, 7-6 (7/3).

In the men's draw, left-handed Frenchman Adrian Mannarino cruised into the last eight past top-seeded Italian Marco Cecchinato, beating this year's French Open semi-finalist 6-2, 6-3 in just 50 minutes.

The 30-year-old Mannarino will next meet Belarusian qualifier Egor Gerasimov, who beat Benoit Paire 6-4, 6-4.

## SEVASTOVA BEATS ZVONAREVA

Anastasija Sevastova reached the Kremlin Cup semifinals by beating Russian veteran Vera Zvonareva 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 on Thursday.

The Latvian said she was lucky not to lose the match after Zvonareva - once ranked second in the world but in her first tour quarterfinal since 2012 - broke her serve to level the second set at 5-5.

"I started playing better and better and toward the end I was playing one of my best matches here in Moscow," said Sevastova, the highest-ranked player left in the draw at No. 11.

Australian Open semifinalist, Sevastova will next face Tunisian qualifier Ons Jabeur, who upset eighth-seeded Anett Kontaveit 7-5, 6-1.

Jabeur has won six straight matches, including qualifiers. She has reached her first WTA semifinals.

Jabeur was the 2011 French Open junior champion but has struggled to live up to her early potential.

Nick Kyrgios withdrew from the men's tournament with an elbow injury, giving Mirza Basic a walkover to the quarterfinals, where he'll play Karen Khachanov.

Kyrgios said it was a recurrence of an injury which caused him to miss several tournaments around and including the French Open.



Former World No 1 Karolina Pliskova celebrates after winning her match in Kremlin Cup. WTA

## Halep out of WTA Finals with back injury

**SINGAPORE:** World number one Simona Halep withdrew from the WTA Finals in Singapore with a back injury on Thursday, bringing her season to a premature end.

The French Open champion pulled out of last month's China Open after just 31 minutes, and withdrew from this week's Kremlin Cup because of the persistent problem.

Halep, 27, said she had hoped to compete at the season finale in Singapore, which starts on Sunday, but that she had taken the "tough" decision to put her health first.



"It's always difficult to withdraw from a big tournament," said the Romanian, who sustained the injury in Wuhan last month. "My back is not okay. I didn't practise for the last four weeks. I'm not ready to compete at this level and I'm still sore."

Her withdrawal means that Kiki Bertens from the Netherlands moves into the eighth and final qualifying spot in the WTA Finals.

It has been a disappointing end to a spectacular season for Halep, which saw her secure the year-end number one ranking in the WTA standings for the second year running.

She spent 40 weeks at number one in 2018, and won three titles from a four-leading six final appearances, amassing a 46-11 win-loss record. This year Halep has won the Shenzhen Open, the Rogers Cup and her debut Grand Slam crown at Roland Garros.

In addition, she reached the title match at the Australian Open, in Rome and Cincinnati. AFP

"I'm going to choose to wrap up my season, head home and start the recovery," the Australian said. "See you all in 2019."

Second-seeded Daniil Medvedev reached the quarterfinals with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Dusan Lajovic in just 51 minutes. He will next face last year's defeated finalist Ricardas Berankis.

## Akash claims India's maiden archery Silver

PTI ■ BUENOS AIRES

Akash Malik became India's first Silver-medallist in archery at the Youth Olympic Games, providing a fitting finale to the country's best-ever campaign at the marquee event here.

The 15-year-old son of a farmer lost a one-sided final to Trenton Cowles of the USA 0-6 as India concluded with three Gold, nine Silver, and one Bronze at the event that was launched in 2010.

Seeded fifth after qualification, the Haryana-boy was inconsistent in the summit clash against the 15th seed Cowles, who only shot in 10s and 9s to wrap it up easily on Wednesday night.

In the three-setter, both the archers shot four perfect 10s, but Akash's two wayward 6s in the first and the third set



Akash Malik (left) poses with the Silver medal with the other two winners. SAI Media

proved to be the decisive factor. The summit clash was held under windy conditions following light rains.

"I have trained in the wind, but here it was too much. I was waiting for an

opportunity but he (Cowles) was stronger and I had no chance," Akash said.

"I feel good but I lost the Gold medal," the 11th standard school-boy said after bettering Atul Verma's feat of a

Bronze at the Nanjing edition of the Games in 2014.

Making a solid start to the final, Akash started off with a 10 but then he shot a 6 in his second arrow and concluded the first set with another perfect 10.

The American, on the other hand, remained consistent with scores of 10, 9, 9 to take the first set 28-26.

Stepping up his game, Cowles shot two 10s and a 9 in the second set to win it 29-27.

Under pressure in the third set, Akash shot another six that ruined his chances of a gold medal. He finished with two 10s but Cowles remained steady and sealed the issue 28-26 in the third set.

Earlier, Akash finished in the last eight of the mixed international team event partnering Turkey's Selin Satir. The duo lost in the quarter-finals to Thailand's Aitthiwat Soithong and Argentina's Agustina Sofia Giannasio.

## MUMBAI HOST PUNE IN MAHA DERBY

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai vs FC Pune  
Live from 7:30pm IST  
STAR SPORTS 1

With a loss and a draw in the first two outings, a struggling Mumbai City FC will be eyeing to record their first win of the season when they take on state rivals FC Pune City in the Indian Super League on Friday.

Mumbai have started the season in an unimpressive fashion — with a 2-0 loss at home to Jamshedpur FC, followed by an away 1-1 draw against Kerala Blasters.

So the 'Islanders', coached by Jorge Costa, are expected to come out Friday with all guns blazing.

Mumbai will have to improve in all areas, particularly in defence, as they have conceded three goals in the two games so far.

Mumbai boast of some of the best players in the League — Paulo Machado (Portugal), Senegal's Modou Sougou, striker Rafael Bastos (Brazil) and Subhashish Bose.

If Sougou and Bastos play to their potential, they can pose a threat to any side and Pune will be no exception in the 'Maharashtra Derby' at the Mumbai Football Arena in suburban Andheri.

Mumbai have strengthened their defence with Bose, but that area still remains a concern.



Mumbai FC players during the training session. Mumbai FC

They also have Romanian Lucian Goian, Arnold Issoko (Congo), Souvik Ghosh and Anwar Ali to protect the citadel.

All of them will have to buckle up against a strong Pune attack.

The coveted ISL crown has eluded Mumbai for the past four seasons and a win will surely boost the side's confidence going deeper into the tournament.

Also, all eyes will be on Amrinder Singh, whose role in keeping a clean sheet will be crucial for Mumbai.

Conceding that the results so far have not been as what they wanted, Costa said the team will put up a

better show on Friday.

"We are working good and hoping that on Friday we do better than the first (home) game and hoping also that we can get three points," said Costa.

On the other hand, Pune, who managed to eke out a 1-1 draw against Delhi Dynamos, will also be targeting their first win of the season.

Pune's coach Miguel Angel Portugal said he was aware of Mumbai's problems.

"It's the second match for us. I know that they (Mumbai) lost their first match here against Jamshedpur but against Kerala Blasters, Mumbai played well. Against Jamshedpur they played in the first half. But I know what's the problem with Mumbai and well try to win," said Portugal.

Pune also possess a string of good strikers, along with mid-fielders and defender, and will surely pose a threat to Mumbai in their own backyard.

## NEUFC BEAT CHENNAIYIN

NorthEast United FC upstaged reigning champions Chennaiyin FC in a seven-goal spectacle at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Thursday.

A hat-trick from star striker Bartholomew Ogbeche (29th, 37th, 39th minutes), the second-fastest in the ISL, had pulled the visitors level in the first-half after a Rowlin Borges own goal (4th) and a Thoi Singh brace (15th, 32nd) had propped Chennaiyin FC up.

## Hamilton eyes fifth championship

AFP ■ TEXAS

Lewis Hamilton stands on the verge of history this week as he needs to out-score Sebastian Vettel by eight points at the United States Grand Prix to become only the third five-time Formula One world champion.

If he does, the 33-year-old Briton will join Juan Manuel Fangio, champion in 1951, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957 and Michael Schumacher, the title-winner in 1994 and 1995 who delivered five more for Ferrari from 2000 to 2004, in an exclusive hall of sporting fame.

Having won five of the previous six American races held at Austin's Circuit of the Americas, in Texas, Hamilton is a hot favourite to win again and wrap up the title fight, but he is distancing himself from that narrative.

Instead, despite luxuriating in a 67-point lead after a streak of six wins in seven outings, including the last four in succession, the Mercedes racer has done his utmost to warn against any sign of complacency.



Lewis Hamilton celebrates after win. AP/File Photo

"That part is easy for me because I'm very, very strict on not being complacent with our position and still there are 100 points available," he said.

"I know we still have to continue doing the job we're doing now right until the last flag. That's the goal -- knowing from past experience that so much can happen."

"I'll focus on amendments I'd like them to focus on making for next year's car, but also how we can also continue to extract from this car because there's still areas we can improve."

Having tasted title defeats in the past, notably in his maiden F1 season in 2007 and when former Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg beat him in 2016, Hamilton can draw on bitter experience to drive himself toward his objectives.

"It's one thing dreaming it and one thing executing it," he said. "We knew we would have a tough battle this year -- you saw the ups and downs at the beginning of the season."

## 'CLASS ACT'

"It was such an unknown. I always do plan on coming back stronger in the second half of the season and the preparations I went through in my break were spot-on — and allowed me to perform better."

Hamilton can afford to be conservative in his racing and still take the title if Vettel and Ferrari are unable to beat him or win the race.

But if he wins, the German must finish second to keep his hopes alive, albeit only mathematically. Third behind a victorious Hamilton would not be enough.

Aware that it was Kimi Raikkonen, in a Ferrari, who took the 2007 title when Hamilton lost momentum in the final races, and that the only other winner in Austin has been Vettel, with Red Bull in 2013, Hamilton himself knows he cannot relax.

"There's still 100 points available and anything can happen," he said.

That focus and tenacity are among the qualities that his Mercedes team chief Toto Wolff highlighted when he described him a "class act" and a driver who is "more complete than ever before".

Wolff also pointed out that Hamilton's level of performance was challenging the entire team to perform at higher levels.

He added that this title scrap is "far from over" and that past results in Austin will "have no impact" this weekend.

"Everyone knows that we cannot take anything for granted, so we will be as diligent as ever, keep our heads down and work hard to get a good result in Texas," said Wolff, adding that Ferrari will push until the final corner.

# Pakistan all over Australia

Babar's 99, Sarfraz's 81 help hosts stretch their lead and the Aussies to a point of no return

## Maqsood picked in Pak squad for T20 series

**KARACHI:** Pakistan's cricket selectors on Thursday named uncapped left-arm pacer Waqas Maqsood in the Twenty20 International squad for the series against Australia.

Maqsood was picked after a string of impressive performances in domestic cricket. At 30, he is a late bloomer and has appeared in 19 T20 matches in his career, taking 20 wickets.

"Waqas Maqsood has been drafted in the T20 squad after his recent performances in the domestic cricket and Pakistan 'A' team in the recent series. Similarly, Imad Wasim makes a comeback in the team after his form and fitness was monitored by the selection committee during the current domestic matches," Chief Selector Inzamam ul Haq said.

The selectors have also recalled all-rounder Imad Wasim for the three-match series in the UAE.

Imad has been out of the Pakistan limited-overs squad since last year due to a knee problem and was also overlooked for the Asia Cup last month after failing a fitness test.

The selectors have called back experienced batsman Muhammad Hafeez for the T20 series.

Hafeez was included in the Test squad for the ongoing series with Australia as the 18th player and ended up scoring a hundred in the first Test.

However, Pakistan selectors once again left out fast bowler Mohammad Amir. The 26-year-old went wicketless in three Asia Cup matches in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) last month, losing his place in the country's Test squad as well as in the ongoing series against Australia.

The Pakistan Cricket Board said the T20 squad was finalised after consultation with captain Sarfraz Ahmed and coach Mickey Arthur.

The three-match series against Australia will be played on October 24, 26 and 28, 2018 in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, respectively.

**Pakistan Squad:** Sarfraz Ahmed (c), Fakhar Zaman, Muhammad Hafeez, Saibzada Farhan, Babar Azam, Shoaib Malik, Asif Ali, Hussain Talat, Shadab Khan, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Usman Khan Shanwari, Hassan Ali, Imad Wasim, Waqas Maqsood, Faheem Ashraf.



Pakistan skipper Sarfraz Ahmed, right, takes a break after he was hit by a ball during 2nd innings AP

AFP ■ ABHU DHABI

Pakistan grabbed an early wicket after Babar Azam struck a fluent 99 to edge closer to claiming a series victory over Australia in the second Test at Abu Dhabi on Thursday.

Azam narrowly missed out on a hundred after an aggressive innings, while skipper Sarfraz Ahmed followed up his first-innings 94 with 81 as Pakistan declared their second innings at 400-9, setting a daunting 538-run target for the tourists.

By the close on the third day, Pakistan had Shaun Marsh dismissed for four -- bowled by left-arm pacer Mir Hamza for his first Test wicket -- to boost their chances of victory after Australia

clung on for a thrilling draw in the first Test in Dubai last week.

Aaron Finch (24) and Travis Head (17) were at the crease with Australia, who are 47-1 and need another 491 for an unlikely win or to bat out two full days on a weary and spinning Sheikh Zayed Stadium pitch.

No team has ever chased more than 418-7 to win a Test, made by the West Indies against Australia at Antigua in 2003.

Pakistan piled on the runs with Azam, Sarfraz and Azhar Ali -- who was the casualty of a bizarre run out -- all making half-centuries to build on the hosts' 137-run first-innings lead.

But none of them could go on to score a ton, with Azam falling agonisingly



Mir Hamza, center, celebrates after he bowled Shaun Marsh AP

## AUSTRALIA TO PLAY T20 AGAINST UAE

**SYDNEY:** Australia will play the United Arab Emirates for the first time in an official Twenty20 clash next week after the game was sanctioned, officials said on Thursday.

The touring Australians were scheduled to face the UAE as part of their tune-up for their upcoming T20 series against Pakistan.

But it has now been granted full international status after both Cricket Australia and the Pakistan Cricket Board agreed to the move, the International Cricket Council said on its website.

Emirates Cricket Board member Zayed Abbas said the match in Abu Dhabi on October 22 would give his side some

much-needed game-time against a leading international team.

"Our thanks also go to Cricket Australia for approaching this opportunity so positively, and especially to the Pakistan Cricket Board for permitting this match during their home tour in the UAE with Australia," he said.

"It has been an incredible effort from all parties to bring this match to fruition." The UAE are ranked 13th in the world, with the Australians third.

Australia are currently playing the second Test against Pakistan in the UAE ahead of a three-game T20 series starting on October 24.

PTI

close to his maiden hundred, trapped leg-before by medium pacer Mitchell Marsh.

Azam, who hit three sixes and six fours, improved on his previous best Test score of 90 not out he made in New Zealand two years ago.

He and Sarfraz added 135 runs for the sixth wicket to end any hopes Australia had of a fightback after taking the second new ball at 273-5.

Sarfraz struck five fours and a six and delayed the declaration in hope of a century, but fell leg-before to leg-spinner Marnus Labuschagne who finished with 2-74.

But the pick of the bowlers was off-spinner Nathan Lyon who followed his first-innings four wickets with 3-135 in a marathon 43-over vigil.

After a dull opening period, the

embarrassing dismissal of Azhar brought the day to life. The batsman edged a Peter Siddle delivery towards the third-man boundary and, thinking the ball had crossed the rope, halted in the middle of the pitch to talk to fellow batsman Asad Shafiq.

But Mitchell Starc picked up the ball less than a yard from the boundary and threw it back to wicketkeeper Tim Paine, who ran Azhar out, leaving the Pakistani duo -- who have combined experience of 130 Tests and over 9,000 runs -- stranded and looking bewildered.

Azhar fell for a well-played 64, including four boundaries.

Pakistan had earlier lost Haris Sohail for 17, stumped by Paine off Nathan Lyon after resuming at 144-2.

## Kuldeep will be India's No 1 spinner: Harbhajan

FIANS ■ KOLKATA

Going forward, chinaman bowler Kuldeep Yadav will become India's primary spin weapon, feels veteran bowler-turned-cricket commentator Harbhajan Singh.

"Kuldeep has shown glimpses of what he can do on a first-day wicket. He is slower in the air and gets the ball to turn both ways. Going forward, he should be India's key and deciding factor. He will be the No 1 spinner in future," Harbhajan said.

Kuldeep was the second-highest wicket-taker against the West Indies in the just-concluded two-match series, picking up 10 wickets. Earlier, Kuldeep played just the second Test in England and was wicketless, bowling nine overs and leaking 44 runs. India lost by an innings and 159 runs.

Harbhajan, a lethal and celebrated off-spinner in his time who was part of India's World Cup-winning team, did not want to read too much into that performance.

"In England, the conditions were seaming and the day he bowled, it was the coldest day in summer. So, for a wrist spinner, it is very difficult. He could not do the things he wanted. He has time and again proved his credentials and the team depends a lot on him and will in the future," said Harbhajan, who was commenting during the England tour and watched Kuldeep from close quarters.

Asked about the two-Test series sweep against the West Indies, Harbhajan said the visitors were no side to beat at the moment, adding that this Indian team has in it to win the upcoming Test series Down Under. With Steve Smith and David Warner unavailable, this is their best chance.

"The result shows that this was a one-sided affair. More than how well India played, the West Indies was not even competing," said Harbhajan, who has 417 Test wickets in 103 matches.

"They have always produced some match winners, but at the moment I doubt whether they have any. This is worrying for cricket. Sri Lanka is going down,



Kuldeep Yadav celebrates with Rishabh Pant after taking maiden 5 wicket haul PTI

so is Zimbabwe. All these teams used to be so good," said the most successful off-spinner the country has produced.

India will play four tests starting December 6 in Adelaide.

"If we bat well there, we have got the bowling to get them out. Without Smith and Warner, this is our best chance to win a series there," Harbhajan opined.

Lauding 18-year-old sensation Prithvi Shaw, who ended the series as the highest run-getter and was adjudged the Man of the Series, and young wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant, Harbhajan said while the former has played fearless cricket, the latter is ready to take over in all three formats.

"He plays a fearless brand of cricket which is great to see. His confidence is beyond his years and that is due to the number of runs he made in school cricket and Ranji Trophy. This is where credit should go to our infrastructure and the BCCI.

"As far as Pant is concerned, the way he played in the IPL, he took the game away from the opposition. He has got power, balance and everything what you need as a batsman in the modern era to score runs. He deals in fours and sixes with so much ease.

"He is someone who is ready to play in all formats. MS (Dhoni) is playing which is great as he will learn a lot from him."

## Negi, Navdeep take Delhi in decider

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Pawan Negi, batting at number nine, scored an unbeaten 39 under intense pressure, helping Delhi pull-off a thrilling two-wicket win over Jharkhand in the second semifinal of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Thursday.

Chasing 200, Delhi were down and out at 149 for eight in the 38th over before Negi and Navdeep Saini (13 not out off 38) batted for almost 12 overs, sharing a match-winning 51-run stand for the ninth wicket.

Pacer Saini was deservedly named man of the match as he gave the much needed support to Negi in the tense run chase after taking four



Pawan Negi plays a shot against Jharkhand during Vijay Hazare 2nd semifinal PTI

wickets that limited Jharkhand to 199 all out in 48.5 overs.

Delhi, who have won the tournament once, meet the mighty Mumbai in the final on Saturday.

With his stellar effort, Negi has attracted attention after a long time, having slipped off the radar after bagging a million dollar IPL deal in 2016. The southpaw, who had also played a T20 for India in the same year, collected five fours and a six in his gritty knock.

Unmukt Chand, who made 17 off 13 balls, began the chase with a flurry of boundaries before falling to pacer Varun Aaron, driving the ball straight to Anand Singh at cover-point.

In-form captain Gautam

Gambhir (27), Dhruv Shorey (15) and Nitish Rana (39), all got starts but none could convert them into a big score.

Jharkhand medium pacer Anand Singh wreaked havoc by claiming three wickets as Delhi slumped from 51 for one to 87 for four.

Left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem joined the party by bagging two wickets as Delhi collapsed to 123 for five to 149 for eight, putting Jharkhand on the verge of a famous win before Negi spoiled their party.

Sent into bat, Virat Singh's half century helped Jharkhand reach a fighting total.

He stitched 55 and 44 runs partnerships with Nadeem (29) and Rahul Shukla (11) for seventh and ninth wicket.

At one stage, Jharkhand were struggling at 85 for six, with Navdeep Saini and Kulwant Khejroliya doing the damage.

Saini bagged four wickets and Khejroliya and medium pacer Pranshu Vijayran claimed two each.

Saini took the wickets of Ishan Kishan (0), Saurabh Tiwary (6), Kumar Debraat (3), while Khejroliya removed Anand Singh (36) and Shasheem Sanjay Rathour (5).

### BRIEF SCORES

**Delhi 200/8** (Pawan Negi 39\*; Nitish Rana 39\*; Anand Singh 3/39) beat **Jharkhand 199** (Virat Singh 71, Shahbaz Nadeem 29; Navdeep Saini 4/30) by two wickets.

## Ashwin, Rahane to play in Deodhar Trophy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ravichandran Ashwin and Ajinkya Rahane have been named in squads for the Deodhar Trophy beginning here on October 23 with a slight tweak in the format.

The tournament remains a three-team affair but it will not feature Vijay Hazare Trophy champions this time. Instead, India A, B and C, captained by Dinesh Karthik, Shreyas Iyer and Rahane respectively, will fight for the title.

"It was decided during the technical committee meeting of BCCI that there will be three teams instead of one being Vijay Hazare champions," GM (Game Development) Saba Karim said on Thursday.

The presence of India Test regulars like Rahane and Ashwin is not a surprise as they both have been out of India's limited overs set-up.

Teenage sensation Prithvi Shaw, who made a successful Test debut against the West Indies, will play for India A.

India A captain Karthik too will have a part to prove after being dropped from the national team for the first two ODIs against the West Indies. The wicket-keeper batsman will lead a team comprising Tamil Nadu teammate Ashwin,



Shreyas Iyer and Ajinkya Rahane take a quick run during Hazare 1st semis PTI

Gill, Delhi pacer Navdeep Saini, Jharkhand captain Ishan Kishan, Washington Sundar and Rajneesh Gurbani.

None of the players representing nine new teams in domestic cricket have been picked.

### SQUADS

**India A:** Dinesh Karthik (C & WK), Prithvi Shaw, Anmolpreet Singh, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Ankit Bawne, Nitish Rana, Karun Nair, Krunal Pandya, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shreyas Gopal, Shams Mulani, Mohammed Siraj, Dhawal Kulkarni, Siddharth Kaul.

**India B:** Shreyas Iyer (C), Mayank Agarwal, Rituraj Gaekwad, Prashant Chopra, Hanuma Vihari, Manoj Tiwary, Ankush Bains (WK), Rohit Rayudu, K Gowtham, Mayank Markande, S Nadeem, Deepak Chahar, Varun Aaron, Jaydev Unadkat.

**India C:** Ajinkya Rahane (C), Abhinav Mukund, Shubman Gill, Ravikummar Samarth, Suresh Raina, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan (WK), Vijay Shankar, Washington Sundar, Rahul Chahar, Papu Roy, Navdeep Saini, Rajneesh Gurbani, Umar Nazir.

## I made a mistake, forgive me: Kaneria



Pak leggie Danish Kaneria File Picture

like this after basically lying for six years. I had to do it now because it was a burden on me and I just couldn't take the stigma of being called a spot-fixer any longer and denying it," Kaneria said.

Kaneria, who will turn 38 in December and who took 261 wickets in 61 Tests, said he wanted to rebuild his life and hoped the cricket authorities would accept his apology and show compassion.

"What I did was very wrong...I hope the people forgive me," he said.

"My mistake was getting close to this guy, (alleged match-fixer) Anu Bhatt who became like a family friend to us after he came to Pakistan and we went to India in 2005/06. He virtually started blackmailing me," he added.

Kaneria is serving a life ban since 2012 for indulging in spot-fixing in English county matches. The ban was imposed on him by the English Cricket Board (ECB).

Kaneria played his last Test on the tour of England in 2010 after which the PCB withdrew him from the squad when it was reported that the ECB was investigating the leg-spinner for fixing in county matches.

PTI ■ KARACHI

Banned Pakistan leg-spinner Danish Kaneria on Thursday said he finally confessed to spot-fixing after years of denial to get closure for his mistakes and sought forgiveness from the country's "shocked" cricket community.

"I just want the cricket board, my fans and the Pakistani people to understand my situation and forgive me. I made a grave mistake in associating with a bookmaker (Anu Bhatt) and not reporting it to the concerned authorities and I have paid the price for it," Kaneria said.

"I am gutted at the moment because it is not easy to come out