

**OPINION 8**  
IN THE WORST  
OF TIMES

**WORLD 12**  
BRITAIN TO SEEK FURTHER  
'SHORT' DELAY TO BREXIT

**AVENUES 13**  
A HEALTHY  
FUTURE

Published From  
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR  
RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH  
DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

\*Late City Vol. 29 Issue 91  
\*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY APRIL 3, 2019; PAGES 16 ₹3



# the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



ARSENAL BEAT  
NEWCASTLE 2-  
0 IN PL CLASH  
15 SPORT

## Hum Nibhayenge, pledges Cong

Party manifesto promises Nyay, 22 lakh Govt jobs, separate farm Budget, single GST rate

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday released its manifesto for the Lok Sabha polls, making a slew of promises, including giving ₹72,000/year each to five crore poor families under the "Nyay" scheme, filling up 22 lakh Government vacancies, bringing a separate Budget for farmers, and fixing a single moderate GST rate.

The party also promised to abolish the provision of sedition in the IPC, scrap the "opaque electoral bonds" introduced by the NDA Government, replace the Niti Aayog with a modern Planning Commission, and enact an anti-hate crime law to deal with incidents of lynching.

The party also pledged to make defamation a civil offence, change law that allows detention without trial and proposed to set up a national judicial commission to appoint judges. The 55-page document titled "Hum Nibhayenge" (we will deliver) focused on addressing the issues of joblessness, farm distress,



UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi with Congress president Rahul Gandhi at the release of party's manifesto for the upcoming general elections, in New Delhi, on Tuesday

safety of women and boosting the rural economy, with stress on building a narrative on "real issues" faced by people.

Manmohan Singh, UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi and senior leader P Chidambaram among others.

The manifesto was released by party president Rahul Gandhi, former Prime Minister

### IF VOTED TO POWER CONGRESS PLEDGES

<p><b>Nyuntam Aay Yojana (NYAY)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under the scheme ₹72,000 per year will be transferred to the poorest 20 per cent households</li> <li>As far as possible women in the household will be primary beneficiary</li> </ul> <p><b>Jobs for youth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fill 22 lakh job vacancies within the government public sector</li> <li>Increase guaranteed employment under MGNREGA from 100 days to 150 days</li> </ul> <p><b>Farmers and farm labour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate "Kisan Budget" every year and National Commission on Agricultural Development and Planning</li> <li>Remunerative prices, lower input costs and assured access to institutional credit</li> </ul> <p><b>Universal Healthcare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right to Healthcare Act - guarantee free diagnostics, free medicines and hospitalisation to every citizen</li> <li>Double expenditure on healthcare to 3 per cent of GDP by 2023-24</li> </ul>	<p><b>GST 2.0</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simplified GST regime single moderate rate of tax, exemption for essential goods and services</li> <li>Give share of GST revenue to panchayats and municipalities</li> </ul> <p><b>Armed and paramilitary forces</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase defence spending and expedite all modernisation programmes in transparent manner</li> <li>Improve social security, education and health facilities for paramilitary forces and families</li> </ul> <p><b>Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will make school education from Class I to Class XII in public schools compulsory and free</li> <li>Double the allocation for education to 6 per cent of GDP by 2023-24</li> </ul> <p><b>Women empowerment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women's Reservation Bill providing 33 per cent of seats for women in Lok Sabha and state assemblies</li> <li>33 per cent quota for women in all central government jobs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Celebrate freedom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review all laws and repeal outdated laws that unreasonably restrict the freedom of the people</li> <li>Enact a law on privacy; restrict the use of Aadhaar to the original purposes of the Aadhaar Act</li> </ul> <p><b>Adivasi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the Forest Rights Act, 2006 - ensure no forest dweller is unjustly evicted</li> </ul> <p><b>Right to Homestead</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass Right to Homestead Act - land for every rural household that does not own a home or own land</li> </ul>
--	--	--

waiver), to "Karz Mukti" (freedom from loans). This will be done through remunerative prices, lower input costs, and assured access to institutional credit, said the party, adding it will present a separate "Kisan Budget" every year if voted to power.

The party also promised to "revitalise" institutions like Reserve Bank of India, Election Commission, CBI, CIC, saying the Congress will restore their dignity, authority and autonomy while making them accountable to Parliament.

Speaking on the occasion at the Congress headquarters, Rahul said the Congress will allocate 6 per cent of GDP to education, strengthen Government hospitals and give high-quality healthcare access to poor if voted to power.

The Congress president

alleged that the BJP Government had spread hate and divisiveness in its five-year rule and his party will work towards uniting India by bringing people together. "Our manifesto process reflects our commitment to a higher vision, that of listening to the 'jan awaaz'."

Continued on Page 4  
Related reports on P5, 6

## Manifesto drafted by 'tukde-tukde' gang, jeers Jaitley

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Tuesday alleged that the part of the Congress manifesto was drafted by "tukde-tukde gang" particularly those related to Jammu & Kashmir and claimed that some of its ideas are unimplementable, dangerous and a recipe for "balkanisation of India."

Maintaining that some of the promises made in the manifesto are out of "ignorance", the senior BJP leader affirmed that the country would not oblige the Congress party.

Hitting out at the Congress promise of removing sedition clause if returned to power, the senior BJP leader said, "A party that says so does not deserve a single vote."

In a similar vein, he condemned the Opposition party's other promises, including removal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) and changes in the CrPc saying these are aimed at "protecting Maoists and jehadis".

Jaitley said during the UPA regime when then Home Minister P Chidambaram proposed dilution of the AFSPA

### Congress promises unimplementable and dangerous: FM



even Congressmen had opposed the move. "If Congress had his way, all Army officers would be facing criminal charges" in Jammu & Kashmir, he said. The Union Minister said part of the manifesto is drafted by "tukde-tukde gang", a euphemism for those intending to divide the country. "To protect terrorists, they want AFSPA to be removed from J&K," he said.

Jaitley sought to challenge the Congress to make national security an issue in the Lok Sabha elections. He described former J&K Chief Minister Omer Abdullah's comment on bringing the State at pre-1953 status as "frightening". "This is an agenda of Balkanisation of India," he alleged.

Continued on Page 4

## Sheila calls on Rahul, revives AAP tie-up speculation

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Triggering fresh speculation about a possible alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for the Lok Sabha elections in the national Capital, Delhi Congress president Sheila Dikshit called on party

president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday. All India Congress Committee incharge for Delhi PC Chacko too attended the meeting.

Sources in the party said the final decision by Rahul on the Congress-AAP alliance is

expected "anytime" soon. Delhi Chief Minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal had on Monday scotched speculation about the possible alliance with the Congress, saying that Rahul had refused to forge a pre-poll tie-up with the AAP.

## Able-bodied CRPF to rid of dead wood

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has decided to sack all the personnel put under the lowest medical category of Shape-5.

In an internal circular sent across all formations on March 25 titled Disposal of Shape-5 Low Medical Category (LMC) cases, the CRPF headquarters has directed them to identify the Shape 5 (lowest health fitness) medical category personnel and sack them within a week by March 31.

According to the order circulated to all formations of the CRPF across the country, "The Director General has desired that all Shape-5 LMC cases to be boarded out from service based on instructions already existing and this exercise to be completed by 31.03.2019."

"Intimate number of Shape-5 cases of your sectors boarded out from service so far... Request (to) submit compliance by March 31, 2019 for perusal of the Director General," the order said.

When contacted, DIG (Intelligence) Moses Dhinakaran at the CRPF Directorate here could not immediately give a number of such cases identified



The CRPF marching order comes in the wake of The Pioneer report last month that out of a strength of 2,43,000 staff, 22,120 are placed in the low medical category

across the country and whether they have been given sufficient opportunity for rehabilitation before being shipped out from the force.

The decision to sack such personnel was taken by CRPF DG Rajiv Bhatnagar in meeting held on January 14 and a subsequent message by the Medical Directorate February 19.

Dhinakaran said generally personnel suffering from alcoholic dependence syndrome and psychiatric problems are dubbed Shape-5 LMC.

Continued on Page 4

## ₹320 cr flyway to unclog roads to Signature Bridge on anvil

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

In order to decongest roads leading to Signature Bridge, the Delhi Government is planning to construct an elevated road from Wazirabad to Kashmere Gate.

In a recent meeting, the Public Works Department (PWD) said the traffic volume has increased considerably on the Outer Ring Road after the completion of projects such as; signal free corridor between Vikaspuri to Wazirabad to Signature Bridge.

Observing the traffic chaos, the PWD has come out with a corridor improvement plan between Wazirabad and Inter State Bus Terminal (ISBT) Kashmere Gate to ease traffic on the entire stretch of Outer Ring Road. The estimated cost of the plan is ₹320.22 crore.

As per the PWD official and the documents accessed by The Pioneer, the Department proposed two flyovers (dual carriage way) at Majnu ka Tilla and Metcalf House and widening of existing carriageway to de-congest the corridor. The provisions of the corridor improvement further said the foot overbridge (FOB) at Majnu ka Tilla will be re-



assembled and other road infrastructure development such as drain, proper footpath for the pedestrians, electrical and horticulture works on the stretch will take place. However, PWD Minister Satyendar Jain advised the

Department to re-visit the proposal as mere improvement of the corridor is not the complete solution and the dispersal point at ISBT Kashmere Gate is not properly designed. Thus elevated road should be planned.

Continued on Page 4

## Army pays Pak back for ceasefire breach, razes 7 enemy posts

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Indian Army on Tuesday destroyed seven Pakistani military posts across the Line of Control in retaliation for the continued ceasefire violations by Pakistani troops for the fifth day, said officials. There have been several casualties among Pakistani troops, they added.

The Pakistani posts were in Rakhchakri and Rawalkot forward areas of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK), they said.

Meanwhile, cross LoC trade remained suspended from Chakan-da-bagh transit point in Poonch amid fresh flare up of tension.

In a strong retaliatory action on Monday, Indian Army had destroyed over half a dozen posts of the Pakistan Army opposite Poonch sector.

Confirming the reports of fatal injuries inflicted by the Indian Army, Pakistani Military spokesman Major Gen Asif Ghafoor on Tuesday issued a statement in which he said, "Indian troops resorted to 'unprovoked' firing in Rakhchakri area of Rawalakot



Sector along the LoC in which three Pakistani soldiers were killed". Ghafoor said that the Pakistan Army responded effectively.

One BSF inspector, a five-year-old minor girl and a middle-aged woman were killed on the Indian side during "unprovoked" ceasefire violation by the Pakistan Army on Monday.

Twenty-four others had received injuries as virtual warlike situation prevailed in the border belt. According to ground reports, the Pakistan Army shelled civilian areas with 120 mm artillery shells.

Shattering peace in the region for the second consecutive day, armies from both the neighbouring countries traded fresh fire in Nowshera and Poonch sector.

Continued on Page 4

## Aviral Ganga! 2 hydro projects dead in water for threat

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) has dropped NTPC's two hydro-power projects - 520 MW (4x130) Tapovan Vishnugad dam and 171 MW Lata Tapovan dam - proposed on the Ganga river, citing gazette notification issued last October that barred projects that obstruct minimum ecological flow (e-flow) in the river.

Ecological flows are the acceptable flow regimes that are required to maintain a river in the desired environmental state or predetermined state.

The proposed sites for the two dams fall outside Nanda Devi National Park at the distance between 7.5km and 10 km from the biosphere.

Sources in the Union Environment Ministry said the Standing Committee of the NBWL had earlier discussed the proposals at a meeting in August 2016 and decided to seek comments from the Union Ministry of Water Resources.

After making it wait for more than two years in view of opposition from river experts against a string of dams proposed on the river, the NBWL's Standing Committee was told about the notification dated August 9, 2018 on the minimum ecological flow for the Ganga at various locations on along its course. After discussions, the Standing Committee returned the proposal to Uttarakhand.

The notification came following uproar from the environmentalists and activists who

had pointed out that the dams affected the natural flow of the river due to water storage.

The implementation of the notification is expected to ensure that the river has the minimum required ecological flow even after water diversion by the projects.

"This is an important step taken towards maintaining the uninterrupted or 'aviral' flow of the river," said the sources.

The e-flow of the Ganga has been categorised for Upper Ganga River Basin for the stretch between Gaumukh, its origin, and the confluence at Devprayag up to Haridwar and the main stem of the Ganga up to Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh.

During the dry season (November-March) 20 per cent monthly average flow has to be maintained, 25 per cent during

the lean season (October-May) and 30 per cent of the monthly flow of high season flow has to be maintained during the monsoon season.

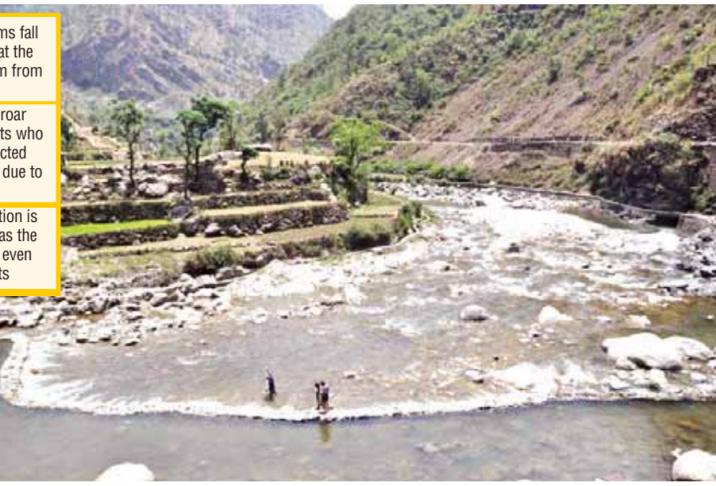
The compliance of minimum ecological flow is applicable to all existing, under-construction and future projects. The existing projects which currently do not meet the norms will have to ensure that the desired environmental flow norms are complied with within a period of three years.

The mini and micro projects which do not alter the flow characteristics of the river or stream significantly are exempted from these environmental flows.

The notification also stipulates that the Central and State authorities concerned shall implement demand side

- The proposed sites for the two dams fall outside Nanda Devi National Park at the distance between 7.5km and 10 km from the biosphere
- The notification came following uproar from environmentalists and activists who had pointed out that the dams affected the natural flow of the river Ganga due to water storage
- The implementation of the notification is expected to ensure that the river has the minimum required ecological flow even after water diversion by the projects

management plans to reduce water withdrawal from the river by adopting good and scientific practices such as efficient method of irrigation, reuse and recycle of water including monitoring and regulation of groundwater withdrawals for various purposes.



# NMC property tax haul up 19%

COLLECTION ROSE DUE TO LAUNCH OF AMNESTY SCHEME, SAYS ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Cash-strapped North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NMC) has registered 19.99 per cent growth in property tax collection. The civic body has collected ₹666.18 crore in property tax collection this year, ₹111 crore more than that of the amount collected last year. Last year, the civic body had collected ₹555.18 Cr. Similarly, the transfer duty of ₹508.70 Crore (up to December 2018) has been col-



lected this year which is ₹117.02 Cr more than the last year's figure of ₹391.68 Crore. Additional Commissioner Dr BM Mishra said the collection was increased due to launch of amnesty scheme that was extended to the taxpayers who were not able to pay their property tax from years by waiving 100 per cent interest and penalty on their due tax since 1st April, 2004. North DMC recovered ₹156.85 Crore

through amnesty scheme in which ₹107.59 Crore have been received from Government properties alone this year, he said. Under the amnesty scheme announced by the corporation, property owners in the city will not have to pay interest and penalty if they clear pending dues of the tax. "The date to deposit taxes was later also extended the facility of online calculating of their due

property tax as per the amnesty scheme so that they need not to come to the office for paying their property tax. They could deposit the property tax through online mode, he said, adding that ₹2, 70, 58,305 tax recovery has been made through online portal. Mishra informed that 900 camps were set up in different wards to facilitate taxpayers. "Further, weekly review meetings were held to know the status and formulate strategy accordingly. Public facilitation through extensive interactions, awareness and grievance redressed resulted in the more recovery of property tax," he said. He said that the efforts will be continued to bring more properties under the tax net and provide the services to the citizens in more simpler and transparent manner.

# Inter-State gang of autolifters busted, 2 held

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of two autolifters, the Delhi Police on Tuesday claimed to have busted an inter-State gang of auto-lifters who allegedly used to rob cars from Delhi and its peripherals. Police said after forging documents of the stolen vehicles in Haryana transport department the accused used to sell these cars in the market. The accused have been identified as Kuldeep Singh Rai alias Lucky (37), a resident of Jhargola in Delhi and Mohit (23), a resident of Delhi's Jakhore area. According to Vijayanta Arya, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), North-West district, specific inputs was received following which a trap was laid and Kuldeep Singh was apprehended from GT road Subzi



Mandi opposite Delhi's Shilma Gate with a vehicle Hyundai Creta car. "During enquiry the car he was driving was found to be stolen following which a case under section 379 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at Shabbad Diary police station and accused was arrested. "During interrogation, the accused revealed that he along with his associate Mohit

Langda and others are involved in stealing luxurious cars from Delhi and NCR areas. The co-accused Mohit Langda was arrested by police earlier on March 2," said the DCP. Explaining their modus operandi the DCP said that the prime accused Kuldeep used to get his e-mail id registered with Car Trade.com and other similar websites to get alert regarding the auctions con-

ducted by the insurance companies. "He participated in these auctions and then purchased the total loss vehicles to get the documents of such auctioned vehicles. Thereafter, accused persons targeted such vehicles having same make and colour of the purchased auctioned vehicles for stealing. After stealing targeted vehicles, they obliterated the original engine numbers and chassis number of the stolen vehicle to give it an identity of a new vehicle," the DCP added. "Police have recovered four stolen vehicles and several tools with bunch of keys from the possession of the accused. With their arrest police have solved three cases of MV theft in the area. The roles of other co-accused persons are being verified. Investigation of this case is in progress," said the DCP.

# ₹1-cr robbery cases solved, 2 Khan Gang members arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of two members of Babloo Khan Gang, the Delhi Police has solved two cases of robbery in the national Capital. The robbers had allegedly robbed more than ₹1 crore in two separate robberies held in February and March.

The accused have been identified as Aalam Ali (22) a resident of Shahzada Bagh in Delhi's Inderlok and Mustkeem Khan (19) a resident of Zakhira, Delhi. While police have launched manhunt to nab the remaining two gang members. Police have also recovered 40 lakhs from the possession of the accused.

According to Joy Tirkey, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, on February 15 at 4.30 pm, while one Munoo Singhal, resident of Barari was travelling on his scooter, four persons on scooters stopped him and robbed him of ₹8 lakh at gunpoint near Zakhira.

However, another robbery took place at Rani Bagh on March 22 at 7 pm in which the four accused persons robbed one Varun Garg, resident of Saraswati Vihar, of ₹1.4 crore at gun near Pitampura while he



was returning from Naya Bazaar with his father in his car," said the DCP. "During investigation, police noticed that in both the robbery incidents, four persons were involved with two scooters. Later, police collected the CCTV footage of the criminals near the scene of crime and the route taken by the complainant to reach the spot," said the DCP. "Thereafter, it was revealed that a gang led by Bablu Khan of Zakira was behind the incidents. Subsequently, police got a tip-off on Monday and laid a trap near Inderlok Metro Parking and arrested Aalam Ali and Mustkeem," said the DCP. "During interrogation, Ali and Mustkeem accepted their

involvement in both the robberies, police said, adding the gang has four members Aalam Ali, Mustkeem, Baba and Babloo. They disclosed that Babloo was the one who used to develop the information about the cash. Once they got the information about the money, they started chasing the victim on their scooters and strike at an isolated place," the DCP said. "One scooter would block the target vehicle, while the other scooter covered the rear side. The gang would threaten the victims at gunpoint and rob them of their cash. Efforts are being made to recover the remaining amount of robbed money and to arrest Baba and Babloo both residents of Trans-Yamuna area," said the DCP.

# Station master uses FB to return passengers' belongings

CHANDAN PRAKASH ■ NEW DELHI

The station master of New Delhi railways station Rakesh Sharma has earned a name for himself as he has successfully tracked down more than 60 people including foreigners on social media mostly on Facebook and returned their belongings that passengers had misplaced or mistakenly left either inside the train or on the platform premises. Most of the passengers usually forget their valuables inside the train and even on platform. These valuable items are submitted to station master office by railway staffs. Adopting an innovative way to track down passengers and return their valuables, Sharma first tries to get infor-

mation about the passengers by their PNR details, most of the times the phone numbers written in the passenger's details is either switched off or not in service, making it difficult to trace the passenger. Undeterred by the non-availability of the passengers, Sharma then starts searching passengers on social media networks by their names and locations based on PNR details. He has succeeded on most of the occasions in reaching out to them and informing about their belongings. "Most of the lost goods include laptops, bags, mobile phones and other personal belongings and in many cases gold ornaments. "Luggage and other valuables including ornaments do form a large part of the goods that commuters leave



behind mistakenly' he said. In one such case, one Neeraj Kumar was travelling from Ludhiana to Delhi last year. He forgot his bag inside the train and left for the airport. After Neeraj's bag was found abandoned, Sharma tried to track him down on the basis of PNR details but his number was not reachable so he searched his bag to find any clue. He found a photo with

address and number of studio written on back. "I called on the number and sent the photograph on Whatsapp. The owner of the studio identified the man and informed his family. The family members in turn called Neeraj who was on his way to airport to catch the flight. He then called me and collected the bag. "The way I was approached by railway authorities, has completely changed my perception about Indian Railways. I will never forget the incident and the gesture shown by station manager Rakesh Sharma," he added. Similarly, Mitali Gupta left her bag at New Delhi railway station and left for Mumbai. She after noticing it searched number on Google and found

Sharma's number. She called him and informed about the incident. "He asked me about the colour and other details and sent it back to Mumbai the next day," she said. In another incident, Nitish Kumar who was travelling from Surat to Delhi had forgot his laptop on the train seat. After leaving from railway station he realized that his bag was missing. "I kept searching for relevant contact numbers of railway officials. I dialed 139 and got a contact number of station master Rakesh Sharma. I called him and he asked me to come at his office at New Delhi station," he said, adding that he returned his laptop. There are scores of others whose belongings were returned by the station master, said another official.

# Man gets 10 yrs in jail for attempting to rape daughter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi court sent a man to 10 years in jail for attempting to rape his nine-year-old daughter as it refused to show any leniency saying when the protector tries to ravish his offspring, the suffering shatters her entire persona permanently.

Additional Sessions Judge Seema Maini said the offence committed by the convict was so heinous and grave that he does not deserve any leniency and added that the child suffering is a perpetual one and no medication can heal it. "Fathers were looked upon by daughters as protectors. It is under one's father's protective umbrella that a daughter feels safe and secure, able to withstand any hardship or obstacle coming her way," the court said. "However, when the protector himself turned an aggressor, making an attempt to ravish his own daughter, the suffering that comes to her way, is not just physical but emotional too, which shattered the entire persona of the daughter

permanently. The suffering is a perpetual one and no medication is able to heal the same," it said. The 38-year-old man was convicted under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. However, the offence of rape was not proved. "The offence committed by the convict is so heinous and grave in nature of having made an attempt to rape his own minor daughter, aged about nine years, that he does not deserve any leniency but rather deserved maximum punishment..." the court said. "Keeping in view the circumstances of the convict as well as the victim in mind, the convict is sentenced under rigorous imprisonment for a period of 10 years," it added. The court also slapped a fine of Rs 60,000 on the man, out of which Rs 5,000 would be given to the survivor's family for her rehabilitation. The court also granted her Rs 50,000 compensation and asked the legal aid authority to disburse the amount.

permanently. The suffering is a perpetual one and no medication is able to heal the same," it said. The 38-year-old man was convicted under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. However, the offence of rape was not proved. "The offence committed by the convict is so heinous and grave in nature of having made an attempt to rape his own minor daughter, aged about nine years, that he does not deserve any leniency but rather deserved maximum punishment..." the court said. "Keeping in view the circumstances of the convict as well as the victim in mind, the convict is sentenced under rigorous imprisonment for a period of 10 years," it added. The court also slapped a fine of Rs 60,000 on the man, out of which Rs 5,000 would be given to the survivor's family for her rehabilitation. The court also granted her Rs 50,000 compensation and asked the legal aid authority to disburse the amount.

# Man gets 10 yrs in jail for attempting to rape daughter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi court sent a man to 10 years in jail for attempting to rape his nine-year-old daughter as it refused to show any leniency saying when the protector tries to ravish his offspring, the suffering shatters her entire persona permanently.

Additional Sessions Judge Seema Maini said the offence committed by the convict was so heinous and grave that he does not deserve any leniency and added that the child suffering is a perpetual one and no medication can heal it. "Fathers were looked upon by daughters as protectors. It is under one's father's protective umbrella that a daughter feels safe and secure, able to withstand any hardship or obstacle coming her way," the court said. "However, when the protector himself turned an aggressor, making an attempt to ravish his own daughter, the suffering that comes to her way, is not just physical but emotional too, which shattered the entire persona of the daughter

# Man gets 10 yrs in jail for attempting to rape daughter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi court sent a man to 10 years in jail for attempting to rape his nine-year-old daughter as it refused to show any leniency saying when the protector tries to ravish his offspring, the suffering shatters her entire persona permanently.

Additional Sessions Judge Seema Maini said the offence committed by the convict was so heinous and grave that he does not deserve any leniency and added that the child suffering is a perpetual one and no medication can heal it. "Fathers were looked upon by daughters as protectors. It is under one's father's protective umbrella that a daughter feels safe and secure, able to withstand any hardship or obstacle coming her way," the court said. "However, when the protector himself turned an aggressor, making an attempt to ravish his own daughter, the suffering that comes to her way, is not just physical but emotional too, which shattered the entire persona of the daughter

# Gurugram Municipal body to digitalise record

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

Tracking the path of files and documents related to civic work would soon be available at the click of a button for residents of the district' as the Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG) is in process of digitising its records. The MCG plans to go paperless within the next few months and Gurugram citizens will soon receive their house tax, water bills, property tax via e-mails. However, Gurugram residents will have to register themselves with the MCG in order to avail of the facility. The corporation will also communicate with other Government departments and their councillors through e-mails. More than 3 lakh mobile numbers have been registered with the MCG and these registered customers are getting alerts regarding their bills from the MCG. As per plans, five to six per cent of the work will be digitised in the first phase. "We will work in phases as it is not possible for all work to go paperless. We have prepared a plan that all corpora-

tion work will be digitised so that we can save our time and that of our users. MCG in processing that people can register online and get bill related queries just a click," MCG Commissioner Yashpal Yadav, said. "A major advantage of digitisation is that approvals or observations from the officials for any work can be done at any time and files won't remain pending even if the concerned official is on leave," he added. "In the second phase we will digitise the service delivery work and in the third phase the other works will also be made paperless." When the plans are implemented, the MCG will be the first digitised municipal corporation in the state. "We will also be able to access information about the files at any given time. In addition, residents who want to know the status of a file or his complaint would be able to track it digitally," an MCG official said. "Most of the civic work is done manually in the municipal corporation and it takes around two to three hours for a single work." Many times I

have spent more than three hours to submit my house tax," said Ramesh Saini, a pensioner in Gurugram.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank**  
ICICI Bank Limited

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Amardeep Singh, Baljeet Kaur, 113B, DDA Mig Flats, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi A/C No:-LBDEL00002357155	Flat No. A1-203, 2nd Floor, Victory Ace, Plot No. Gh-02, Sector 143, Noida, Distt Gautam Budh Nagar	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 6100109/-	31/12/2018
2.	Gaurav Singh, Florence Peter, 437, Block-E, 5th Avenue, Gaur City-1, Noida A/C No:-LBDEL00003132390	B3-2206, 22nd Floor, Rudra Palace Heights, Gh-02 B, Sector 1, Greater Noida West, UP	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 5291854/-	30/04/2018
3.	Jai Bhagwan Sharma, Jyoteshna Sharma, 2/6, 23, January House, Sec-2, Rajender Nagar, Ghaziabad A/C No:-LBNOD00001899200	Plot No. 4/66, Block 4, Sector II And III, Rajendra Nagar, New Delhi	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 7668280/-	31/12/2018
4.	Neeraj Malhotra, Sonia Malhotra, House No-4 SF Pocket-21 Sector- 24 Rohini, Delhi A/C No:-LBDEL00002098030	Flat No E-203, 2nd Floor Tower-Capital Gateway Sector-111, Gurgaon Haryana.	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 7692870/-	30/11/2018
5.	Rakesh Kumar Mishra, Bindu Mishra, 90 Gali No 10 Block-g Sangam Vihar, Delhi A/C No:-LBDEL00002357759	Flat No- E-002, Ground Floor Tower-E, Capital Gateway, Sector - 111, Gurgaon Haryana.	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 8288268/-	30/11/2018
6.	Rohit Gupta, Richa Aggarwal, B-5, Pocket House No -92, 1st Floor, Sec 4, Rohini, New Delhi A/C No:-LBDEL00001938096	Plot No A-116, 2nd Floor, Residential Colony, Kaushambi Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad	05-Mar-2019, Rs. 6301100.32/-	31/10/2018
7.	Sanjay Gupta, Simmi Gupta, 1511/2, Wazir Nagar, Delhi A/C No:-LBGHN00002865935	Flat No. D1-1502, 14th Floor, Victory Ace, Plot No. Gh-02, Sector 143, Noida, Distt Gautam Budh Nagar	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 8210371/-	31/12/2018
8.	Tarun Malik, Shashi Malik, Kd 262 Pitam Pura, Saraswati, Delhi A/C No:-LBGUR00002903450	Appartment No. D-1402, 13th Floor, Tower D, Godrej Summit, Sector 104, Gurgaon, Haryana	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 8607107/-	31/12/2018
9.	Vikas Kumar Sharma, Babita, H No-267 Near Shiv Mandir, Kidwai Nagar Sonda Road, Modi Nagar, Ghaziabad A/C No:-LBGUR00002379344	A1-2705, 26th Floor, Victory Ace, Plot No. Gh-02, Sector 143, Noida, Distt Gautam Budh Nagar	08-Mar-2019, Rs. 5526983/-	31/12/2018
10.	Vishank Chaudhary, Veer Singh, h No TF 69 Vardan Appt, Abhay Khnad 3, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad A/C No:-LBGUR00002411226	Flat No 402, 4th Floor Tower C2 Victory Ace Sec 143, Noida	05-Mar-2019, Rs. 6146902/-	30/11/2018

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

Date: 03-04-2019  
Place: Delhi/Ncr

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

# MHA declares Kashmir Gate Police Station best in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has declared Delhi Police Kashmir Gate Police Station as the best police station of Delhi in the annual ranking of police stations for 2018. Devendra Kumar, Station House Officer (SHO), Kashmiri gate police station, which lies in North district of Delhi Police, was awarded 'Certificate of Excellence' by the Commissioner of Delhi Police, Amulya Patnaik on Tuesday. According to Anil Mittal, Additional Public Relation Officer (APRO), Delhi Police, the parameters, inter-alia, Maintenance and cleanliness of the building, workout of heinous cases, data uploading on CCTNS, workout percent-



Delhi Police Commissioner awarded SHO Devendra Kumar of Kashmir Gate Police Station after it was adjudged the best in the city. Pioneer Photo

received from watchdogs, feedback on police conduct, maintenance of records and case property, and facilities available for the visitors at police station, were weighed for awarding the Certificate of Excellence. "The MHA team appreciated the special drive conducted in connection with the rehabilitation and de-addiction of children indulged in substance abuse near Hanuman Mandir area," said APRO. Sandeep Goyal, Special CP/Law & Order (North), Rajesh Khurana, Joint CP (Central Range) and Nupur Prasad, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), North district, were present on the occasion. CP congratulated the team of North District for achieving this milestone. quality and disposal of enquiry report of various complaints-2018,

**एन एस आई सी NSIC**  
ISO 9001:2015

**TENDER NOTICE**  
Dated:03.04.2019

Sealed offers are invited on behalf of CMD, The National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi-20 from Delhi & NCR based Central Govt. PSU Insurance Companies for Renewal of Group Floater Mediclaim Policy for retired employees. The last date of receiving of sealed offers is 12.04.2019 at 4.00 p.m. For detailed information please log on to Website www.nsic.co.in or contact: Manager (Admn.) The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. NSIC Bhawan, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-20, Tel. No. 26926275 Ext.522/523 & 26926571(D)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Anand Singh who is purchasing the Flat No. 5 & 6, on Second Floor, built on Property Area measuring 80 sq. yds., part of Kharsa No. 272, Situated at extended Abadi Lal Dora, Village Devli, New Delhi-110062 from Mr. Vikram Singh and further will be mortgaging against the Financial assistance from Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. To comply the requirements of bank/ NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person/s having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 08 days from the date of this notice at below address:  
Lucem Legal LLP  
26/9, Rama House, Ground Floor, Majid Mith, Opp. Uday Park, South Exll, New Delhi -49 # 011-40046316

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Anjuman Co-operative Society Ltd., Plot No. 20, Sec-12, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078 through its Managing Committee has submitted a list of joint member (One) with the complete proposal for clearance of membership as given below for allotment of flat by draw of lots to the office of the Registrar co-operative societies, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Court Building, Sansad Marg, New Delhi -110001 within 7 days from the issue of this Notice, failing which the proposal of the society shall be accepted.  
1. List/Detail of Proposed Member: Smt. Samta Sharma & Smt. Renu Sharma (M.No. 254) (Laxmi Nath) (Vishwa Nath) President Secretary  
**THE ANJUMAN CO-OPERATIVE GROUP HOUSING SOCIETY LTD.**

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION, RENEWABLE INTEGRATION, SMART GRID AND COMMUNICATION**

Organised by



POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

Supported by



MINISTRY OF POWER Government of India

In Association With



CENTRAL BOARD OF IRRIGATION & POWER



INDIAN ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

APRIL 3-5, 2019

10 AM - 6 PM

HALL NO. 8, 9, 10 & 11

PRAGATI MAIDAN, NEW DELHI



April 3-5, 2019, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India

EMERGING GRID - 2030

Come Visit...

ENTRY FREE (FOR EXHIBITION ONLY) FROM GATE NO. 1 & 10

# 101 FIRs filed, 10 each against AAP, BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

## POLL CODE VIOLATION

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have topped the list of violations model code of conduct laid for the Lok Sabha Elections 2019, as the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Delhi has lodged a total number of 101 First Information Report (FIRs), out of which, 10 are against the AAP and BJP. While, three against the Congress (all DD entries), one against the Bahujan Samaj Party (one DD entry), and 77 against others the heads of the political and non political parties.

To keep an eye on the expenses of political parties, has seized ₹1.21 crore in cash.

The office of the Delhi CEO said more than 2.55 lakh posters, banners and hoardings have been removed since the poll code came into force. As many as 30,533 posters, banners and hoardings were removed from areas under the New Delhi Municipal Council, 43,075 from East Delhi Municipal Corporation areas, 2,411 from Delhi Cantonment Board, 90,033 from South Delhi Municipal Corporation, and 89,162 from North Delhi Municipal

Corporation areas.

According to data shared by the CEO, Delhi Police have registered 581 FIRs and arrested 574 people under the Excise Act, it said, adding, 197 FIRs have been registered under the Arms Act in which 236 people were arrested.

"A total number of 309 unlicensed arms and weapons, and 2,330 cartridges and explosives and bombs have been seized till date. As many as 42,637 people have been booked till date under various sections of the CrPC and the Delhi Police Act," said an official.

Further, the commission has seized 738 bottles, 67 half-sized bottles, 84,559 quarter-sized ones of Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and 619 bottles, 762 half-sized and 1,62,094 quarter-sized ones of country liquor and 4,957 bottles till date.

The Lok Sabha Election in the National Capital will held on May 12 and the overall results will be declared on May 23. There are over 1.4 crore voters on Delhi's electoral roll, out of which 2,04,420 are in the age group of 18-19. Out of the total electorate size of 1,40,80,442, as many as 77,51,908 are male and 63,27,866 female, while 668 belong to third gender.

## 61 proposals sent to CEO for clearance, 47 rejected

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A total of 61 proposals have been sent to Delhi CEO Office for clearance for carrying out work under various projects by various agencies, 47 were not approved by the Screening Committee of the office of Delhi Chief Electoral Officer. Screening Committee constituted by the Election commission consists of chief secretary, secretary of the GAD (General Administration Department) and secretary of

**'In spite of such clear instructions repeatedly circulated, out of the 61 proposals received by the CEO Office till date, 47 were received without the approval of the Screening Committee'**

the administrative department for which proposal for clearance is submitted, the CEO office said in a statement issued on Tuesday.

"It is categorically stated

that all new projects or works will require prior permission of the Election Commission as per instructions under the Model Code of Conduct... Shall be submitted to the EC through the CEO Office, duly approved by the Screening Committee, with a separate note of urgency as to why the proposal cannot wait till election process is over," it said.

"In spite of such clear instructions repeatedly circulated, out of the 61 proposals received by the CEO Office till

date, 47 were received without the approval of the Screening Committee," read the circular further.

In case of a proposal on desilting by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation, the proposal was received by the CEO Office on March 20 and was sent back to the SDMC with an instruction to send it through the Screening Committee, it added. The proposal has yet not been received with the committee's approval, the letter said.

## DUSU writes to EC, DU V-C to ensure exam dates don't clash with voting days

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU), has written to university Vice-Chancellor Dr Yogesh Tyagi and the Election Commission to ensure that the April-May semester exams do not clash with the dates for voting in the Lok Sabha elections.

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) which controls DUSU has appealed to students to con-

sciously exercise their fundamental right to vote in the polls beginning April 11.

In the letter submitted to DU V-C, the students' union president Shakti Singh demanded that no practical or semester examinations be conducted anytime during the Lok Sabha elections.

"The exams neither be held a day prior nor a day later than the date of casting votes so that students from other states can conveniently exercise their right to vote," said

Singh.

In a separate letter to Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora, the DUSU urged him to issue a directive in the form of an advisory to all the educational institutions in the country to not conduct semester examination during the general elections.

A request was also made to the officer to make special to and fro rail arrangements across major Indian cities for the convenience of students.

## Tiwari terms Cong manifesto attack on country's security

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP unit president Manoj Tiwari on Tuesday said election manifesto of the Indian National Congress (INC) party is a cruel attack on the security of the country. Tiwari termed it — 'Congress ka hath Deshdrohiyon k Sath'.

Notably, the INC on Tuesday released its manifesto ahead of Lok Sabha elections. The Congress in its manifesto stated (page 35), 'Amend the Armed Force Special Power Act (AFSPA) 1958, to strike

balance between powers of security forces and human rights of citizens.'

Reacting on the issues pertaining to the national security in manifesto, the BJP leader said, 'What is the reason that the terrorists, separatists, Pakistan's Prime Minister and Congress Party in its Manifesto use the same language.'

Interpreting Congress' manifesto, Tiwari said the party promised that it will abolish AFSPA and decrease the powers of the Armed forces.

## Hum Nibhayenge will fulfil aspirations of people: Cong

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Congress described the election manifesto released by its national president Rahul Gandhi of as "fantastic" and said it will fulfil the aspirations of the people.

Delhi Congress working presidents Haroon Yusuf and Rajesh Liloithia said that the Congress manifesto "Hum Nibhayenge" released today have clearly spelt out the demands and aspirations of the people of the

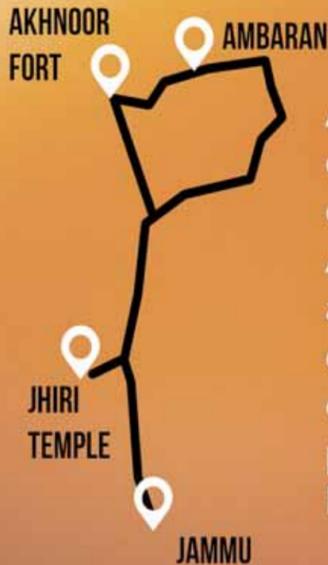
country and how to fulfil them.

"The manifesto has given full attention to the needs of all sections, category, caste, religion and believes of the people, as well as that of the common people, poor, labour, farmers, women, youth, students and the unemployed," They said.

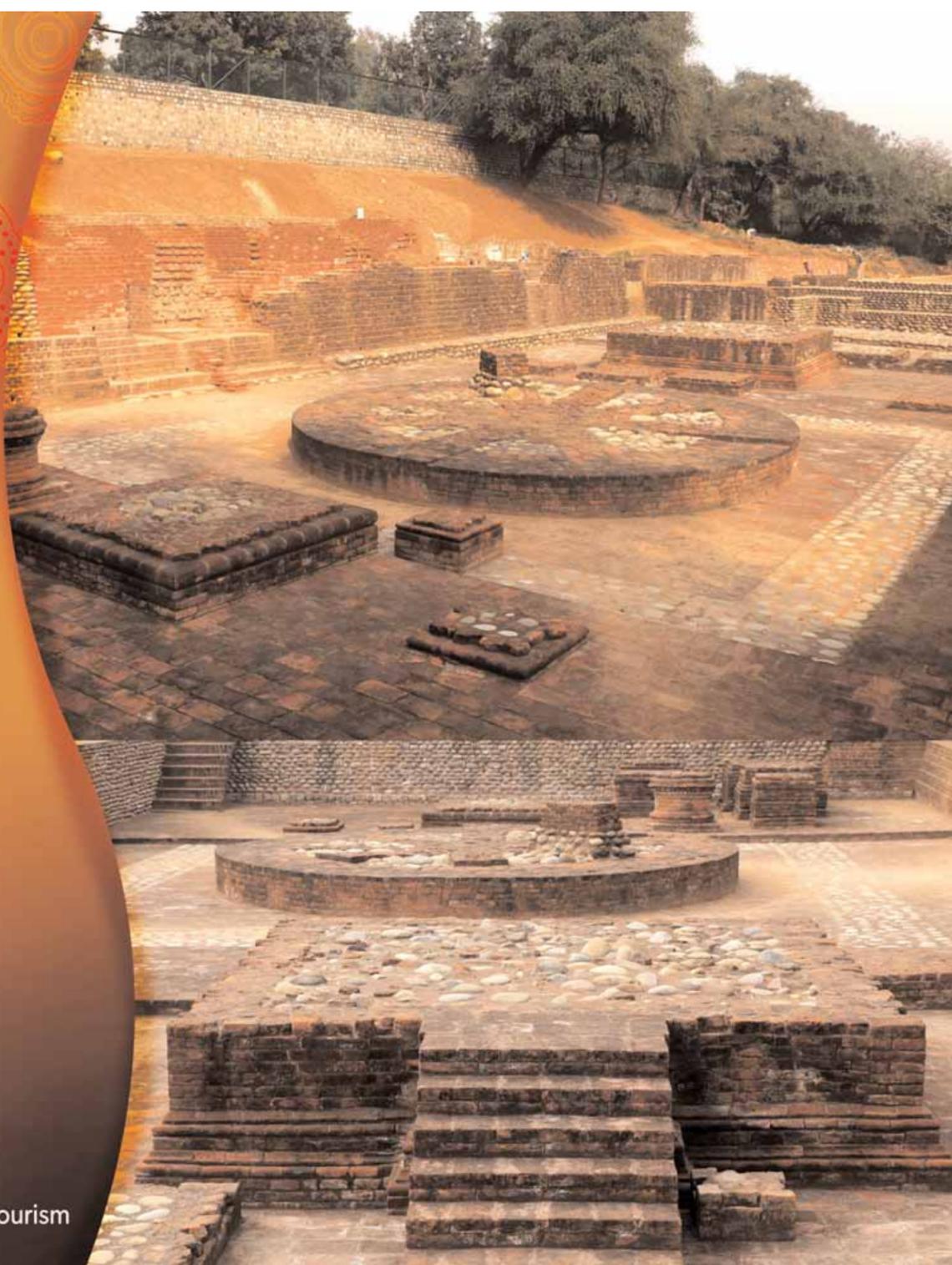
Liloithia said that the manifesto clearly shows that the Congress party works for the interest and welfare of the people, and nothing has been left out for the fully integrated develop-

ments and progress of the country. "The manifesto will also be provisioned to give relief to the traders as Goods and Services Act (GST) would be simplified, 33 per cent quota would be reserved for women in parliament and state assemblies to protect their interest, and under the "Garibi Par War-72 Hazar" five crore poorest families will be given ₹72,000 each annually which will benefit 25 crore people across the country to uplift from poverty," he said.

# AMAZING Jammu



A Buddhist monastic complex on the right bank of river Chenab, at Ambaran, near Akhnoor and dates back from 1st century BCE to 4th-5th century CE, gives a strong physical proof of a vibrant Buddhist phase in Jammu.



www.jammutourism.gov.in

@jammutourismofficial @jammutourism



ISRO'S A-SAT TEST

# Indian experts rubbish NASA's debris claim

AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

Indian space and missile experts have rubbished National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) claim that 400 pieces of orbital debris created due to recent India's anti-satellite missile (A-Sat) test are posing dangers to astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS).

NASA head Jim Bridenstine, while addressing his employees in the US after India's A-Sat missile test, said, "India destroyed a satellite at a relatively low altitude of 300 km, well below the ISS and most satellites in orbit. But 24 of the pieces "are going above the apogee of the ISS."

"That is a terrible, terrible thing to create an event that sends debris at an apogee that goes above the ISS. It's unacceptable and NASA needs to be very clear about what its impact to us is," he said.

Rubbishing such charge against India, former DRDO chief VK Saraswat said, "It is a mere speculative statement. This is a typical American way

**'US is blaming us but it itself had conducted a lot of A-Sat tests in the past which generated thousands and thousands of big size space debris, which already pose danger to all space assets of every country, including ours'**

of dealing with the progress India made. As far as our A-Sat missile test is concerned, all these objects do not have enough velocity to survive in space for too long. With no energy or momentum, these debris generated at the 300 km altitude after the A-Sat test will ultimately fall and burn out in the earth's atmosphere."

On existing space debris, Saraswat said, "Lakhs and lakhs of space debris are already roaming in space, what about the danger from them to ISS. Every year, 190 satellites of

varying sizes are launched in the low-earth orbit and this number is going to grow. Each satellite launch creates a lot of debris. So talking about some space debris from India's A-Sat test is meaningless."

Former DRDO scientist Ravi Gupta said, "Such comments by the NASA head are discriminatory and irresponsible. It's more of a propaganda. India's test was conducted at 300km altitude and the ISS is at much higher altitude. There is a remote possibility of debris moving upwards and even if some pieces are moving upwards, they will ultimately fall down as they will lose energy or momentum they gained during the missile-satellite collision. Second, the US is blaming us but it itself had conducted a lot of A-Sat tests in the past which generated thousands and thousands of big size space debris, which already pose danger to all space assets of every country, including ours. Likewise, a lot of space debris was created during the similar tests conducted by Russia and China."

## South India feels hostility from Modi, standing from Wayanad to express support: Rahul

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday claimed people in South India "feel hostility" from Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said he decided to contest from Wayanad in Kerala to send out the message that he stands with them.

The Congress announced on Sunday that party chief Gandhi will contest from Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency in Kerala, besides his traditional stronghold of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.

"There is a feeling in South India, a very strong feeling in South India, that they are not being carried (along) by the current government. South India feels hostility from Mr Narendra Modi, they feel that they are not being included in the decisions of the country," Gandhi said.

"So, I wanted to send a message to South India that we are with you and I am standing with you. That is why I am standing from Kerala," he said in response to a question after the launch of the party's manifesto.

The Congress' announcement that the party chief will

contest from Wayanad evoked sharp reactions from the Left and Right of the political spectrum.

The CPI(M) and CPI said the move signalled the Congress wanted to take on the Left which would work towards defeating him in the elections from Wayanad.

BJP chief Amit Shah reacted to the development saying Gandhi has "fled to Kerala as he fears that Amethi voters will seek an account from him".

Addressing a rally in Wardha, Maharashtra, on Monday, the prime minister said the Congress is scared to field its leaders from constituencies where the majority dominates in terms of voter-base. He, however, did not name Gandhi.

The Congress is hoping to further consolidate its position this time in Kerala.

Top Congress leaders have contested from the South earlier as well.

Former Congress president Sonia Gandhi has in the past contested from the Bellary Lok Sabha seat in Karnataka, while Rahul Gandhi's grandmother, former prime minister Indira Gandhi, contested from Chikamangalur in Karnataka.

## Kovind holds bilateral talks with Chilean Prez

PTI ■ SANTIAGO

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday discussed wide ranging issues of mutual interest with his Chilean counterpart Sebastian Pinera as the two sides signed three MoUs in the fields of mining, culture and disability.

Kovind, who arrived here on Sunday after visiting Bolivia and Croatia, is on the last leg of his three-nation visit.

"President Pinera and I had a wide ranging discussion on all issues of mutual interest. We exchanged views and assessments of our respective neighbourhoods and regions," he said.

Thanking Pinera for his strong condemnation of the Pulwama terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir, the President said the two countries have agreed to work together to strengthen global response to defeat and destroy terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and hold those responsible, accountable for their brutality against humanity.

India offered training slots to Chilean armed forces in the premier defence institutions including for courses in mountain warfare and peacekeeping.



In this handout photo released by Chile's presidential press office, President Ram Nath Kovind and Chilean President Sebastian Pinera walk into a meeting room at La Moneda presidential palace in Santiago, Chile on Monday

The two countries also agreed to explore opportunities for other cooperation in the defence sector.

"The two countries should also seize the opportunity to jointly manufacture defence equipment," Kovind said.

Noting that the bilateral relations between India and Chile are on an "upward curve", Kovind said, "Today we have signed three MoUs in the fields of mining, culture and disability. These would further enhance our engagement in economic, social and cultural fields."

Chile is the sixth largest trading partner of India in the

Latin American region. The bilateral trade between the two nations registered an impressive increase of 50 per cent in 2017-18, to reach USD 2.8 billion.

Kovind said he is hopeful that the India-Chile Preferential Trade Agreement with increased tariff lines would further contribute towards enhancement of bilateral trade.

The President invited Chilean companies to invest in Indian mining, infrastructure, defence and food processing sectors under 'Make in India', 'Smart Cities' and 'Digital India' programmes.

## Pawar flays Modi's 'low level' jibe at Nehru-Gandhi family

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Tuesday not only hit back at Narendra Modi for his comments against him, his family and his party, he also castigated the latter for his "low level" comments against Nehru-Gandhi family.

Addressing a joint campaign for his party's candidate Dhananjay Mahadik and Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghatana (SSS) founder-president Raju Shetti at Kolhapur in Western Maharashtra, Pawar

alluded Modi's remarks against him and his family at an election rally and said: "Don't worry about my family. There are not just one or two individuals in the NCP. There are lakhs of party workers across the country to take care of the interests of the NCP."

Reminding Modi that "the PM's office is like an institution" and he must be extremely careful while speaking about other people, Pawar strongly disapproved the Prime Minister's personal attacks against the Nehru-Gandhi family.

## Book 'Affected Admiration' released at IHC

New Delhi: Writer Sakshi Singh's book "Affected Admiration" was launched at the India Habitat Centre on Wednesday this week. During the launch, Singh presented her book in front of the viewers and shared her experience. Blue Rose Publication is the Publisher of the book. After unveiling the book, Singh also discussed some interesting aspects of her book.

# Army pays Pak back for ceasefire breach...

**From Page 1**  
At least five civilians received splinter injuries in Shahpur sector of Poonch and were evacuated safely to the nearby hospital.

Opposition leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, who kick-started his election campaign in the region, could not land in Lam area of Nowshera due to continuous border shelling. Later, he addressed the public rally on telephone as large number of local residents had assembled at the venue braving cross LoC shelling.

Meanwhile, keeping in view the prevailing security situation in the border belt the educational institutions remained closed on Tuesday. Deputy Commissioner, Poonch also announced closure of schools on April 3, 2019 in the wake of prevailing security situation.

The trade across the Line of Control (LoC) between India and Pakistan remained suspended on Tuesday in view of ongoing border skirmishes.

According to local authorities, thirty-five trucks were lined up for trade from trade facilitation centre Poonch but they were not allowed to move ahead in view of ceasefire violations.

Custodian cross LoC trade Poonch, Fareed Kohli said that trade has been suspended for security reasons in wake of

fresh ceasefire violation.

Ministry of Defence spokesman in Jammu, Lt Col Devender Anand said, Pakistan Army resorted to unprovoked ceasefire violation in Nowshera and Poonch sector on Tuesday. He said, Pakistan army resorted to heavy mortar shelling in Nowshera from 11.30 am while firing in the Poonch sector started around 5 pm on Tuesday. He said, Indian Army was giving befitting reply effectively and strongly.

In Jammu, Director General, BSF, Rajni Kant Mishra said border guards are fully prepared to meet any challenge posed by ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said the Indian forces are giving a befitting response to the "unprovoked" mortar shelling and firing by the Pakistan Army, while maintaining that there was no ceasefire violation along the International Border (IB) in the State.

Talking to reporters after the wreath-laying ceremony of Inspector T Alex Lalminlun at the BSF frontier headquarters here, Mishra said all the 365 days of the year pose a challenge for the border guards.

"We have accepted the challenge and are prepared for it," the Director General said when asked about the preparations of the BSF along the IB

and the LoC in view of the upcoming five-phased Lok Sabha polls, scheduled to begin in the State on April 11.

The BSF DG, who arrived on a two-day visit to Jammu on Monday to review security situation, especially along the forward posts, said Pakistan is targeting civilian areas which is very unfortunate.

However, he said the Border Security Force (BSF) is giving befitting replies to Pakistan. In Srinagar, Army Commander, Northern Command, Lt Gen Ranbir Singh chaired a joint key security meeting of various security agencies to review the current situation in Kashmir and to evolve a strategy for the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls.

The Northern Army Commander, who is on a two-day visit to the Valley, chaired a joint key security meeting at Badami Bagh headquarters of Chinar Corps, an Army official said.

He said the meeting was attended by senior officials of various security agencies, including Army, J&K Police, CRPF and BSF.

The meeting reviewed the current situation in the Valley and evolved a strategy for the summer months, including security-related strategy for the forthcoming Parliamentary elections, the official said.

# ₹320 cr flyway to unclog roads to Signature...

**From Page 1**

The alignment plan from Wazirabad and ISBT Kashmir Gate need to be reviewed after assessing site conditions, availability of land and taking into consideration the possibility of soft interventions for smooth traffic movements.

The Finance Expenditure Committee of Delhi Government has asked the PWD to re-visit the proposal afresh and re-submit the proposal accordingly, said the official.

As per the Delhi Traffic Police, after the construction of Rani Jhansi flyover, Signature Bridge and signal free corridor from Vikaspuri, the traffic volume has increased by 35 per cent.

"This section between Wazirabad to ISBT Kashmir Gate is of three lanes and the signal free corridor between Vikaspuri and Wazirabad is six

lanes. Thus, the traffic movements become slow when vehicles from six lanes enter three lanes road. The sheer flow of the vehicular movement has been causing traffic snarls after merging with narrow road length. After the completion these projects, vehicles coming from Shahstari Nagar, Ghaziabad and Bhajanpura now take this route to reach their destination. If the Government is planning to construct an elevated road and flyovers, it will relax and ease the traffic movement," said a Traffic Police official.

"Earlier, a vehicle took 1.5 minutes to cross the Majnu ka Tilla Red light but now it increased to 3:00 to 3:50 minutes. Around two to three lakh vehicles ply on this corridor daily in the morning and evening peak hours," the official added.

## PAKISTAN BANS IPL BROADCAST, SAYS INDIA 'HARMING' CRICKET IN COUNTRY

Islamabad: Pakistan on Tuesday banned the telecast of Indian Premier League (IPL) cricket matches in the country, citing an "organised effort" by India to "harm" the game in Pakistan. Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry told a press conference that the decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting chaired by PM Imran Khan, a former captain of Pakistani cricket team. He said the move was taken by the Cabinet because India left no opportunity to harm Pakistan's cricket. "India made an organised effort to harm cricket in Pakistan and it doesn't make sense for us to allow an Indian domestic tournament to be promoted here," he said, pointing out that the official Indian broadcaster pulled out of the fourth edition of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) in the middle of the tournament after the Pulwama attack "to harm the league and cricket" in Pakistan. PTI

# Manifesto drafted by 'tukde-tukde'...

**From Page 1**  
Asserting that law in J&K is being implemented transparently, he said out of 1,791 complaints received against security forces 1,741 were probed and 68 officers prosecuted.

He said the manifesto has no mention of Kashmiri Pandit who were driven out of the valley.

Making light of the Congress announcement of giving Rs 72,000 yearly amount to 20 per cent of country's population, Jaitley wondered where from the funds would come from to finance such a scheme. At, first they said as the country's economy grows the money would also come but now they sing a different tune saying money would come from States also as it is a "joint-scheme."

He said as economic draft

of the manifesto is prepared by Chidambaram "the devil is in the detail." Jaitley said Congress promises on farm loan waivers also has not firm grounding as is evident in the five Congress-ruled States where it has not reached at the level of "tokenism".

He took a swipe at Congress promise that they would have one rate for the Goods and Services Tax saying how can you have same rates for "a chappal and a car" in a poor country like India which is not Singapore.

On removing poverty, he said Congress bluff continues.

Asked about Congress promise to have probe in the Rafale deal, Jaitley quipped saying they would have probe against Supreme Court and Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) reports too.

# Hum Nibhayenge, pledges Cong

**From Page 1**  
It is not the 'Mann ki Baat' of one individual but the collective voice of lakhs of people," he said in a preface of the manifesto.

While Singh said the purpose of Congress manifesto is to spell out vision of moving towards forward-looking and inclusive economy and polity, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra urged the young people and first time voters to read the grand old party's manifesto and make this election about real issues.

Priyanka described her party's manifesto as "fantastic" and appealed to the people to make the Lok Sabha election about real issues. With this manifesto, Rahul said the Congress has offered to people "the only national alternative — a distinct alternative that is unwavering in its commitment to truth, freedom, dignity, self-respect and prosperity for our people." He promised to make India "strong and united, and a just and prosperous society."

On the party's showpiece minimum income guarantee scheme or Nyuntam Aay Yojana (NYAY), the party's manifesto promised to give Rs 72,000 per year to the poorest 20 per cent households in India.

To the youth of India, the Congress pledged to make jobs its top priority, saying it will ensure 34 lakh jobs in the public sector by filling all 4 lakh Central Government vacancies before March 2020, persuading the State Governments to fill 20 lakh vacancies and creating an estimated 10 lakh new Seva Mitra positions in every gram panchayat and urban local bodies.

The party said it will also provide a flipside to private sector by incentivising businesses for jobs creation and employing more women. On GST tax, the Congress said it will radically simplify the GST regime with a single moderate rate of tax, zero rating of exports, and exemption for essential goods and services. It also promised panchayats and municipalities a share of GST revenues.

The Congress, it said, will reverse the trend of declining defence spending under the NDA Government, and increase it to meet the requirements of the Armed Forces. On education, the Congress promised that school education from Class I to Class XII in public schools shall be compulsory and free. Referring to Jammu and Kashmir, the Congress promised to review the Armed

Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) as well as deployment of the Armed forces, asserting that nothing will be done or allowed to change the constitutional position relating to the border State. "Congress promises the people of J&K talks without pre-conditions. We will appoint the interlocutors drawn from civil society to facilitate such talks," according to the manifesto.

Alleging that the BJP Government had spread hate and divisiveness in its five year rule, Rahul said,"Their (the BJP) record in J&K is in front of you. Terror casualties are mounting. There will be a major focus on national and internal security." He also promised that his party will work towards uniting India by bringing people together.

Affirming that the whole of J&K is part of India, the party said it also acknowledges the unique history of the State and the unique circumstances under which the state acceded to India that led to the inclusion of Article 370 in the Constitution of India. "Nothing will be done or allowed to change the constitutional position," the party said.

Abrogating Article 370 has long been one of the core promises of the BJP. It grants special status to the State and limits Parliament's power to make laws concerning the State. The Congress said it has long held the view that dialogue is the only way to understand the aspirations of the people of the three regions of J-K, and find an honourable solution to their issues.

# Able-bodied CRPF to rid of dead wood

**From Page 1**

A CRPF source said only medical conditions like advanced stages of cancer which cannot be treated or similar disability lead a person to be categorised as Shape 5 LMC.

However, the CRPF Standing Order No 04/2011 has classified disabilities under three categories ---disability due to injuries sustained in action against terrorists/insurgents/Naxalites etc, those who are disabled due to sickness/accident and those who are disabled due to psychiatric diseases.

"Department should make all efforts to take care of its disabled personnel without compromising with overall efficiency of the Combatant Force. Therefore, a sick/injured person should be given full medical treatment....After the sick/injured person has received full medical treatment and the Medical Officer incharge is of the opinion that there are no signs/indication of improvement and that the individual is not fit for normal active duty, the case should be referred to the Department Rehabilitation Board," says the Standing Instruction.

The rehabilitation board headed by an Inspector General rank officer subjects the individual to critical examination to determine his physical/mental capability, aptitude, job requirement and after assessing his or her capability and health condition recommends that whether the person can be rehabilitated within the Force.

"Those declared unfit on ground of psychiatric disease will be invalidated out immediately, irrespective of their fitness at the time of recruitment," according to the standing instruction. CRPF Director (Medical) Navin Ram could not be reached out.

The latest CRPF order to board out Shape-5 LMC cases came days after The Pioneer reported last month that out of a strength of 2,43,000 men in CRPF under the command of Force's chief Director General RR Bhatnagar, as many as 22,120 personnel are placed in the low medical category, which is over nine per cent of the effective strength. The figure of CRPF strength of 2.43 lakh excludes about 5,789 personnel on deputation NSG/SPG/NDRF and 32,896 young personnel have been provided to CoBRA, RAF, SDG and PDG.

Of the 22,120 LMC cases, 85 per cent of the figure constitutes pure medical cases implying diseases such as hypertension, obesity and diabetes. The remaining 15 per cent are mostly accident/incident related LMC cases.

The figures of the LMC cases were furnished by the CRPF itself to the Union Home Ministry during meetings held to enhance the retirement age from 57 years to 60 years for ranks up to Commandant in compliance with a Delhi High Court order.

The CRPF cited LMC cases as a reason not to enhance the retirement age from 57 to 60 years. Barring CRPF, all the other paramilitary forces including BSF, ITBP and SSB are in favour of enhancing the retirement age to 60 years.

**THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS**

CHANGE OF NAME

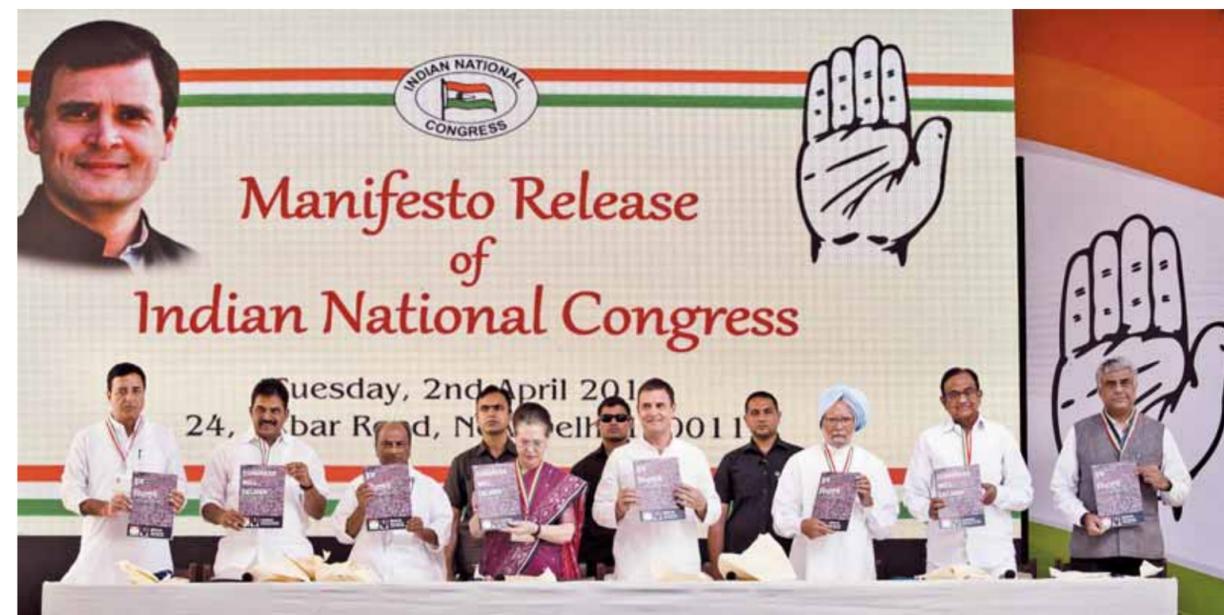
I, Gaurav Sharma S/o R.P. Sharma, R/o 1421, Sector-3, Vasundhra, Ghaziabad, U.P., 201012, hereby clear that I have change my daughter's name from Aarnaa Sharma to Ojasvi Sharma for all future purposes henceforth she shall be known as Ojasvi Sharma. PD(8441)C

Supplying, fabrication and erection of structural steel

Open tender through e-Tendering system is invited from experienced and reputed contractor(s)/firm(s) for the following works: **Tender No.: CE/CON/N-G/MB/2019/08. Name of work:** Supplying, fabrication and erection of structural steel of bridge no. 59 (Jalhdhaka) 7 x 45.7m OWG at km 52/9-10 in between station Betgara-Altagram in connection with New Maynaguri - Gumanihat doubling project. Approx. Value: ₹18,50,38,758.79, Earnest money: ₹10,75,200.00, Completion period: 12 Months. Tender submission: from 26-04-2019 to upto 14:30 hrs. of 26-04-2019. Opening date & time: 26-04-2019, 15:30 Hrs. For Details Please visit [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in)

For CE/Con-3, Maligaon NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY (Construction Organisation) "Serving Customers with a smile"

# Cong manifesto implementable: PC



UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Congress party president Rahul Gandhi and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, with other leaders, release the party's manifesto for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in New Delhi on Tuesday

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Former Finance Minister P Chidambaram on Tuesday said the Congress manifesto is completely implementable by a "competent and wise", and the promise of amending the AFSPA was about striking a balance between rights of Armed forces and human rights.

Addressing a Press conference later, Chidambaram, who

served as Home Minister in Manmohan Singh Government, said, "We will amend the law (AFSPA). We will balance the rights of security forces and human rights and would remove immunity only in three cases namely enforced disappearance, sexual violence, and torcher. I have been a Home Minister and we recognise that Armed forces require a certain amount of immunity but we also realise that human rights have to be

respected. We will need to balance that."

Chidambaram also responded to BJP's claims of Congress manifesto being impossible to implement and said it may be impossible for the BJP to implement but not for the Congress. "I concede that it's unimplementable by a BJP Government but what do you assume that a future government can't implement it. The BJP won't answer and the Prime Minister won't touch

upon the subject of jobs, farmer's distress, women and children security, the neglect of public education and health-care institutions so why would they concede that it is implementable. It's implementable by a competent and wise government and Congress will provide it," he said joined by former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh.

Chidambaram also asserted that 54 pages of Congress manifesto have been com-

pletely made according to the feedback given by citizens of India. "These are the things that people want to be addressed by a future government. We think our economy will be stronger and poverty will be considerably reduced at the end of five years," he said.

He reaffirmed promise of implementing a single-slab GST and that if voted to power it will also repeal the sedition law because it has become redundant with time.

# EC raps 2 Ministries for poll code violation

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday flayed Ministries of Civil Aviation and Railways for non-compliance of its instructions and lackadaisical approach towards enforcing the model code of conduct.

In a letter to the two Ministries, the EC has asked them why have the pictures of PM Modi not been removed from RAIL TICKETS AND AIR INDIA BOARDING PASSES EVEN AFTER MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT HAD COME INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 27

The EC called the Railways approach towards enforcing the model code of conduct "lackadaisical" after allegations that poll norms were violated with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's picture on tickets and the slogan "Main Bhi Chowkidar" on tea cups.

The Commission has issued a notice to the railways, asking it to submit a report by last Thursday on the slogan on tea cups, so that it can take a call on whether it was a poll code violation. The issue came to the fore after a passenger on the Kathgodam Shatabdi tweeted a picture of tea cups with the slogan, the post went viral. The railways said its withdrawn the cup and penalised the contractor.

"The Commission expresses its considered displeasure over the non-compliance of the commission's instructions especially when the model code of

**IN A LETTER TO THE TWO MINISTRIES, THE EC HAS ASKED THEM WHY HAVE THE PICTURES OF PM MODI NOT BEEN REMOVED FROM RAIL TICKETS AND AIR INDIA BOARDING PASSES EVEN AFTER MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT HAD COME INTO EFFECT ON MARCH 27**

conduct is in force and the lackadaisical approach towards enforcing the Code. "The commission has also decided that disciplinary action be taken against the officer incharge and a report be submitted to the Election Commission within a week," it said. Sources in the railways, however, said the reply to the notice on the ticket issue had been sent to the EC on April 1 and it has complied with everything. "It was an inadvertent mistake," a source said.

In another letter to Civil Aviation Secretary PS Kharola, the EC said that Air India has failed to respond to its notice

despite lapse of deadline two days ago. "The Commission expresses its serious displeasure over the non-compliance of the Commission's lawful instructions and lackadaisical approach towards enforcing the Model Code of Conduct," the EC said in its letter dated April 2.

The EC said that its displeasure should also be conveyed to Chairman and Managing Director of Air India for "the lapse of the organization". The strongly worded letter said, "The Commission has further directed that action taken against the officer incharge be reported to the Commission within a week."

The Commission had on March 26 issued a show cause notice to the Civil Aviation Ministry over the use of Prime Minister's pictures on Air India boarding pass as prima facie it violated the model code of conduct. The poll panel had said prima facie Air India has violated the model code of conduct, and referred to clause VII of the code which states that "issue of advertisement at the cost of public exchequer ... Regarding achievements with a view to furthering the prospects of the party in power shall be scrupulously avoided". Former Punjab DGP Shashi Kant had on March 25 tweeted a photograph of his boarding pass issued at the New Delhi airport, questioning how pictures of the two leaders could be on it.

# Elephant statues will of people: Maya to SC

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

BSP supremo Mayawati told the Supreme Court on Tuesday that construction of her life-size statues and the party's symbol, elephant, at various places in Uttar Pradesh during her tenure as State's Chief Minister represents the "will of the people".

She drew the attention of the apex court that even the Congress Party in the past has installed statues of its leaders, including Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and PV Narasimha Rao across the country.

She also referred to recent instances of installation of statues by State Governments, including the statue of Sardar Vallabhai Patel which is known as 'statue of unity' in Gujarat.

Besides, she said present BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh Government has initiated construction of a 221 metre high Lord Rama statues in Ayodhya at the cost of State exchequer.

Thus, construction of memorials and installation of statues was not a "new phe-



nomenon" in India, she said. "Similarly, other political parties in power at both the Centre as well as state governments have also installed statues of various other leaders at public places at the cost of public exchequer from time to time but neither the media nor the petitioners have raised any questions with respect to them," she said in an affidavit filed in the top court.

The Supreme Court is hearing a petition filed in 2009 by an advocate who had alleged that about ₹2,000 crore was used from the state budget for

**She also referred to recent instances of installation of statues by state governments, including the statue of Sardar Vallabhai Patel which is known as 'statue of unity' in Gujarat**

2008-09 and 2009-10, when Mayawati was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, for stalling her statues and BSP's symbol at different places.

Mayawati said in her affidavit that construction of memorials and installation of statues in the state are intended to promote the values and ideals of social reformers and not to glorify herself or to promote her party's symbol.

The BSP chief said she has dedicated her entire life for upliftment of downtrodden society and for achieving this, "I also took a decision to

remain unmarried".

Mayawati said that issues related to utilisation of funds for a particular public purpose by the State Government are "not justifiable" and funds for construction of these memorials and installation of statues were sanctioned through budgetary allocation after approval of budget by the state legislature.

The Dalit leader was responding to the notice and the oral observation of the apex court which had on February 8 observed that Mayawati should deposit public money used for erecting statues of herself and the party's symbol to the state exchequer.

Mayawati sought dismissal of the plea, which has alleged that public fund was misused, saying it was "politically motivated" and is in gross abuse of the process of the court.

The BSP supremo said "some disgruntled elements could not digest" such an amount of respect for a Dalit woman leader and resorted to filing pleas in the apex court as well as high court.

# EC issues notification for 4th phase

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday issued notification for phase four of Lok Sabha elections to be held on April 29 in which 71 seats across nine states will go to polls. Five seats in Bihar, three in Jharkhand, six in Madhya Pradesh, 17 in Maharashtra, six in Odisha, 13 each in Rajasthan and UP and eight in West Bengal will go for polling. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal will head for voting in all the seven phases of the general elections.

The seats going for election in Bihar are: Darbhanga, Ujjainpur, Samastipur, Begusarai and Munger. The constituencies in Rajasthan are: Tonk-Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Pali, Jodhpur, Barmer, Jalore, Udaipur, Banswara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, Bhilwara, Kota and Jhalawar-Baran.

In key state of Uttar Pradesh, the seats are: Shahjahanpur, Kheri, Hardoi, Misriki, Unnao, Farrukhabad, Etawah, Kannauj, Kanpur, Akbarpur, Jalaun, Jhansi and Hamirpur. Some assembly



segments in Anantnag in Jammu and Kashmir will also go for polls in the fourth phase.

The election will pit the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance against mostly different opposition groupings in various states, including of Congress, the Left and region-

al forces which are continuing to work out a grand alliance to minimise a division of votes against the saffron party.

The BJP has worked out a seat-sharing formula with some new allies and several old partners. However, opposition parties are yet to do so in several

states. While the process of filing nominations began Tuesday, the last date of filing papers is April 9. The scrutiny of papers will take place on April 10 and the last date of withdrawing from the electoral battle is April 12, the notification said.

# India, Australia 15-day joint naval exercise begins

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

With the objective to enhance defence and strategic ties, India and Australia commenced 15-day long joint naval exercise off Visakhapatnam beginning Tuesday and ending April 16. It is third edition of AUSIN-DEX, an acronym for Australia-India exercise.

The complexity of the biennial maritime exercise over the past four years has steadily increased. The third edition will involve exercises in all three dimensions with focus on anti submarine warfare. The number of units being fielded by both navies in the bilateral exercise is the highest till date. The increased scale of participation signifies the importance attached to the exercise by both countries while the enhanced complexity is indicative of the interoperability between the two navies, officials said here on Tuesday.

Explaining the significance of the exercise, they also said the exercise underscores India's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) and shared objectives of the two countries towards ensuring good order in the maritime domain and solidarity with friendly and harmonious countries.

**Explaining the significance of the exercise, they also said the exercise underscores India's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) and shared objectives of the two countries towards ensuring good order in the maritime domain and solidarity with friendly and harmonious countries**

The Australian Navy has sent HMAS Canberra, a Landing Helicopter Dock, HMAS New Castle and HMAS Paramatta, both frigates, HMAS Collins, a conventional submarine and HMAS Success, a Durand-class multi-product replenishment oiler for the exercise. Nearly 1,000 Australian personnel from the navy, air force and army will take part in the exercise.

The aim of the exercise is to strengthen and enhance mutual co-operation and interoperability between the two

navies, providing opportunities for interaction and exchange of professional views between the personnel of the two navies, officials said.

A sign of strengthening of bilateral and defence cooperation between the two countries as envisaged in the Framework for Security Cooperation (FSC) was announced by the Australian and Indian Prime Ministers in 2014. The maiden edition of the exercise was held in September 2015 at Visakhapatnam. Australia hosted the second edition of the exercise off Fremantle in June 2017, wherein ships of the Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy exercised with Royal Australian Navy ships and submarines.

Building on a long history of cooperation - including the shared experiences in the trenches of World War I in Gallipoli and along the Western Front - Australia and India have a positive defence relationship, underpinned by the 2006 Memorandum of Defence Cooperation and 2009 Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation. However, post the 2014 bilateral FSC the cooperation on defence and security matters between the two countries has gained significant momentum thus, witnessing conscious and focused enhancements, they added.

# EC examining whether Yogi's remark 'Modiji ki Sena' violates code

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

The Election Commission on Tuesday received a factual report on Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's reported remarks referring to the Indian Army as 'Modiji ki Sena' and has started examining it to ascertain whether it violated the model code of conduct.

The District Magistrate of Ghaziabad has furnished a report in this regard. "It is under examination," official sources said.

"Congress ke log aatankwadiyon ko biryani khilate aur Modiji ki sena aatankwadiyon ko goli aur gola deti hai. (Congress leaders would feed biryani to terrorists, while Modi's army gives them bullets and bombs). This is the difference. The Congress people use 'ji' to refer to Masood Azhar to encourage terrorism," Adityanath said at an election rally in Ghaziabad on Sunday.

The BJP leader was campaigning for sitting MP and Union minister V K Singh. The Election Commission had on March 19 asked political parties to "desist" from indulging in any propaganda involving actions taken by defence forces during their

**Former Navy Chief Admiral L Ramdas had said he would approach the Election Commission against Adityanath for his remarks**

Lok Sabha poll campaigns.

The advisory came days after the poll panel asked parties and their candidates against using pictures of defence force personnel in their campaign material.

"...Parties/candidates are advised that their campaigners/candidates should desist, as part of their election campaigning, from indulging in any political propaganda involving activities of defence forces," it had said.

Former Navy Chief Admiral L Ramdas had said on Monday he would approach the Election Commission against Adityanath for his remarks and claimed that many veterans and those in service were upset over it.

# Enough evidence of Hurriyat, terror groups links: Apex court

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Tuesday cancelled the bail of Zahooh Ahmad Shah Watali, a Kashmiri businessman, in a terror funding case saying NIA has collected ample evidence to show linkages between the Hurriyat leaders of Jammu and Kashmir and terror organisations as also their activities to wage war against India.

The bail was granted by the Delhi High Court to Watali arrested by NIA for his alleged role in a terror-funding case involving Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) chief Hafiz Muhammad Saeed.

"Ample material has been collected to show the linkages between the Hurriyat leaders of the Jammu and Kashmir and terrorist/terrorist organisations and their continuous activities to wage war against Government of India," said a bench of Justices AM Khanwilkar and Ajay Rastogi.

The judgement assumes significance in the light of the government's recent crackdown on separatist outfits based in the state.

The apex court's verdict came on an appeal filed by the NIA against the high court's September 13, 2018 judgement granting bail to Watali.

cancelling the relief granted to Watali, the bench said the



high court "adopted an inappropriate approach" while considering his bail plea by disregarding all the material and evidence placed on record before it by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

The apex court said the high court ought to have taken into account the entire material on record as it is and form an opinion on the basis of it, instead of weighing the evidence.

"The elaborate examination or dissection of the evidence is not required to be done at this stage (of grant of bail). The court is merely expected to record a finding on the basis of broad probabilities regarding the involvement of the accused in the commission of the stated offence or otherwise."

"From the analysis of the impugned judgment (of the high court), it appears to us that the high court has ventured into an area of examining the

merits and demerits of the evidence," the bench said.

It said that after analysing documents and statements which form part of the charge sheet and other redacted statements on record, it disagreed with the conclusion of the high court that there was no prima facie material to show that Watali was involved in the conspiracy to raise funds for terrorist activities.

"In our opinion, taking into account the totality of the report made under section 173 of the Criminal Procedure Code and the accompanying documents and the evidence / material already presented to the court, including the redacted statements of the protected witnesses recorded under section 164 of the Code, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the accusations made against the respondent (Watali) are prima facie true," the apex court said.

# EC halts Rafale book release

## Hours later, event takes place at same book store

**Chennai:** Five hours after a scheduled release of a book, titled, 'Rafale — A Scam That Rocked The Nation', being cancelled in Chennai, the event took place and the authorities denied any involvement in the matter.

Earlier in the day, officers from the flying squad of the Election Commission (EC) said the book launch was in violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

A letter given by the returning officer to the publisher asked the latter not to go ahead with the event that was scheduled to be held at a city school.

When the school authorities denied permission for the function citing objection from the Election Commission, the publisher decided to hold the event at his office. However, he said officers on election duty had seized all the books (about 150 of them) from his book store. Five hours later, the event took place at the same book store.

The book was released in the presence of journalist and



PK Rajan, the editor of the Bharathi publication

AGENCY

chairman of The Hindu Publishing Group N Ram and a retired lieutenant colonel.

The Election Commission denied reports of having tried to stall the event. Tamil Nadu Chief Electoral Officer Satyabrata Saboo said, "Neither the EC nor the chief election officer (CEO) had given any instruction regarding the seizure of books. I have directed the district election officer, Chennai, to look into this and submit a report immediately."

The publisher and editor of Bharti Publications, PK Rajan, told News 18: "This is a book

on the Rafale deal which we are publishing in Tamil. There is nothing new in it and we have not done any investigative journalism. We have only put out facts that are already there in the public domain. The book was supposed to be released on Tuesday evening. However, there was a lot of cat-and-mouse game between the EC and us during the last two-three days. I don't know who all were involved in this. The venue of the event was fixed, but today we received a call stating the venue was not available. When we announced that

the book release will take place at our own small book store, in less than half an hour, the authorities issued us a memo that we can't conduct any function as election rules are in force. I don't know whether there is really a rule to seek permission for a book release function."

Rajan said when a biopic on a politician could hit the screens, why wouldn't a book on Rafale be allowed to launch. "How does a book release alone violate the poll code? Obviously, everybody is asking the same question. A full-fledged feature film on an individual involved in the election, but a book release is being denied permission," Rajan said.

"The book has already been sent to markets. It was only a formal launch. I think as it was supposed to be released by N Ram, the EC tried to stop the event," Rajan added. He said the publishing house had been releasing books ahead of elections since 2000, but this was the first time that such a drama had unfolded. **AGENCIES**

# India emerging strong force in BJP regime: Rajnath Singh

PNs ■ NIZAMABAD

**U**nion Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday asserted that the country was forging ahead under the regime of BJP and it would continue to emerge stronger if the BJP is given the chance at the Centre again.

Addressing a massive public rally, in Nizamabad as part of his election campaign, supporting the BJP nominee D Aravind, the Home Minister said the BJP is the only party which has capacities as well as ability to teach the terrorist forces a telling lesson. "Pakistan should stop supporting cross-border terrorism. India will continue to teach terrorists a lesson," he affirmed.

Laying emphasis on the positive achievements of the Government related to internal and external security, the Home Minister said the recent Launching of anti satellite missiles of indigenous technology has brought the country laurels in international community. Only three countries in the world have got such capacity to



counter the enemies' satellite technology and India joined that coveted list with the aid of Shakti Missile, he asserted. On the economy of the country, the BJP leader said the country has emerged stronger by inching towards attaining the sixth position. Earlier, India had nine position globally.

Detailing the development achieved in the regime of Narendra Modi led BJP Government, the Home Minister assured more welfare measures for the needy in the coming days. He felt that a vote to the regional parties at the hustings would not bring about the desired goal and if the goal of around development needed is to be achieved, then BJP is the only alternative for the

voter of the country, he said. On the issue of establishing of turmeric board, the Minister said the Centre would certainly meet the demand soon after the end of the imminent Lok Sabha elections. The Home Minister was vehement towards the TRS leadership and added that the propaganda bound Government of the TRS had never helped the needy in the State.

Though the party has assured the opening of Nizam sugar factory, the demand of sugarcane farmers of the region was not fulfilled, he alleged.

The BJP State president Dr K Lakshman, present in the rally, made a scathing attack on the Chief Minister KCR and added that the surgical strike related remarks by him were trying to undermine the valiant efforts of our Army. The integrity of the nation and the Army's valour are belittled through these remarks, he added. He exhorted the people not to fall prey to the false statements and propaganda of the TRS regime and called upon them to inflict a telling blow.

# 400 supporters, activists of IPFT join Cong in Tripura

**Agartala:** In a blow to Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura (IPFT) ahead of the general election, 400 hundred supporters and activists of the ruling alliance junior partner led by its senior vice-chairperson Kiritimohan Tripura joined Opposition Congress on Tuesday.

The defectors also opposed the tribal party's demand for a separate State.

"The people of the State are confused with the demand for Tripaland and our leaders had cheated us. Now we understand that this demand is not practical. So we have decided to join Congress as it has assured us of development of the indigenous people", Tripura told reporters after joining Congress party here today. The Lok Sabha polls in the two Low Sabha seats in the state will be held on April 11 and April 18. IPFT has been demanding a separate tribal State since it came into being in 2009 by carving out the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC). **PTI**

# If Art 370, 35A are temporary, so is J&K's accession to India, says Farooq Abdullah

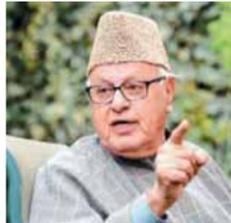
**Srinagar:** NC chief Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday said those saying Article 370 and 35A of the Constitution were supposed to be temporary are "wittingly or unwittingly affirming" that J&K's accession to India too was "temporary".

The former Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Chief Minister asserted that people were unfazed by the threats of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) combine on scrapping the articles which provide special status to the state.

The National Conference (NC) chief also backed his son and party vice-president Omar Abdullah's comments on Monday that the NC would seek restoration of terms of accession of the state, including the provision for 'Sadr-e-Riyasat' and prime minister posts.

The senior Abdullah said those who created a ruckus about assertions of his son were "unqualified and untaught" about historical facts.

"It was our party who after Maharaja Hari Singh executed accession with the Union of India, sought unimpeachable



constitutional safe guards for our state under the Delhi agreement," he said at a public gathering at Madar-e-Maharab stadium in Ganderbal district in central Kashmir.

"Our party has always sought restoration of the relation of our state with the Union of India on the original terms of accession, which only gave three subjects of communication, defense and foreign affairs to the union, rest the Maharaja gave everything to the people of the state," Abdullah added.

The former Union minister said the people of Kashmir "will not be fazed or frightened by the threats of BJP-RSS".

"We will continue to seek our rights that were infringed upon... Those who are saying article 370 and article 35A are

temporary are wittingly or unwittingly affirming that the accession was also temporary," he said.

Former Prime Minister P V Narsimha Rao in a televised address in Burkina Faso, in Africa, had approved of having 'Sadr-e-Riyasat' and prime minister for the state, claimed the NC president.

"He (Rao) has on record said that as far as giving autonomy to the state of J-K is concerned, sky is the limit'. When he came back, I asked him that much of special status has been eroded since 1953, to which he answered that once in government, the forum of assembly should be used to undo the erosions," Abdullah said.

He said after coming to power in 1996, the Government got the autonomy resolution passed with a huge majority in the State legislature.

"Those who say that the resolution was cast out are wrong, the documents are still with the Union Government and one day the Centre has to implement it. There is no other way peace can return to the state until autonomy of the state is restored," he said. **PTI**

# Shah 'daydreaming' about abrogating Article 370: Mehbooba

**Srinagar:** PDP chief and former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said BJP president Amit Shah was "daydreaming" about abrogating Article 370 of the Constitution that provides special status to the State.

Mufti said the Constitutional provision is a bridge between the people of the State and India.

"I want to tell Amit Shah that you are daydreaming if you think you will abrogate Article 370," Mufti said while addressing a workers' meet in Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

The former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister said if the constitutional provision was removed, then mainstream politicians, including her, will have to reconsider their future course of action.

"If you break this bridge, then mainstream politicians like Mehbooba Mufti, who swear by the Constitution of India and the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir, will also have to reconsider our future



course of action because we have upheld the Indian flag and if you touch (Article) 370, then this flag will not remain in our hands or on our shoulders," she said. Article 370 grants special status to Jammu & Kashmir and limits Parliament's power to make laws concerning the State.

Mufti was reacting to the reported remarks of Shah underscoring the BJP's commitment to abrogate Articles 370 and 35-A.

Asked about what the Narendra Modi Government had done to meet the BJP's promise to repeal Articles 370 and 35-A, Shah had told a news channel on Sunday that his party remains firm on its commitment, but cited lack of majority in the Rajya Sabha as the reason behind not fulfilling it so far. **PTI**

# Kanhaiya welcomes promise of scrapping sedition law in Congress manifesto

**Patna:** Former JNU students union president Kanhaiya Kumar, who shot to fame after being booked for treason following his participation in a gathering where anti-national slogans were allegedly raised, on Tuesday welcomed the promise of scrapping the draconian sedition law made in the Congress manifesto released by its president Rahul Gandhi.

The draconian law, which was introduced by the British imperialists, has always been misused. It was misused against Bhagat Singh and Mahatma Gandhi. After Independence, it has been misused to throttle any number of writers, artists filmmakers and thinkers.

"The latest instance of its misuse we saw in BJP-ruled Assam, where peasant leader Akhil Gogoi was booked under this law just because he raised a voice against the Citizenship Bill", Kumar said in Begusarai, where he is in the fray as CPI candidate. **PTI**

# CPI(ML) LIBERATION MANIFESTO Advocates inclusion of food, health, housing in fundamental rights list

**Patna:** The CPI(ML) Liberation manifesto on Tuesday advocated amending the Constitution for recognising the Right to Work, Right to Health, Right to Housing and Right to Education as fundamental rights.

The party's general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya also came down heavily on Narendra Modi Government's "anti-poor" policies while releasing the party manifesto.

Demanding an allocation of 10 per cent of GDP for education, the ultra-Left party also made a strong pitch for "scrapping" the Defamation Act and Official Secrets Act.

He, however, had a word of appreciation for the Minimum Income Guarantee Scheme saying, "we are in favour of the scheme if the ongoing welfare schemes meant especially for the poor are not withdrawn."

Pointing out that money will not be a problem for running the scheme, he suggested an increase in corporate tax

and imposition of one per cent of wealth and inheritance tax on the super rich.

The CPI (ML) Liberation, he said, would try to ensure that the NDA is not able to form a Government at the Centre through "manipulations" after the general elections.

Talking to reporters here while releasing the party manifesto, Bhattacharya said his party would rather strive for exploring possibilities of forming a non-NDA Government at the Centre.

"I would appeal to each and every voter to ensure the crushing defeat of the BJP and NDA in the Lok Sabha elections. I would especially appeal to the people of Bihar to ensure that the NDA is not able to open its account in any of the 40 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

"In doing so, we will succeed in defeating the 'fascist' BJP and putting an end to 'Hitler shahi', Bhattacharya said. **PTI**

# Cong claims poll code violation in Shah roadshow

**Ahmedabad:** The Gujarat Congress on Tuesday lodged a complaint of model code violation during BJP chief and party's Gandhinagar nominee Amit Shah's March 30 rally cum road show here alleging that loudspeakers were used near hospitals.

In its complaint sent to Gujarat Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) S. Murali Krishna through fax, the Opposition party demanded necessary action against Shah for "violating" the poll code.

On March 30, Shah

addressed a gathering near Sardar Patel's statue in Naranpura area of Ahmedabad before participating in a 4 km-long road show from Naranpura to Ghatlodia. He then left for Gandhinagar to file his nomination papers.

In its complaint, the Congress alleged that despite knowing that three big hospitals with emergency and trauma care are situated close to the Sardar Patel statue, loud speakers were used during Shah's rally at the venue. **PTI**

# Ghulam Nabi Azad targets Modi on deteriorating security situation in J&K

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

**G**hulam Nabi Azad, the Congress General Secretary, on Tuesday kicked started election campaign in support of party candidate from Jammu-Poonch Lok Sabha seat.

During his different election speeches and media interactions in Rajouri and Poonch, Azad targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for deteriorating security situation in the State.

He also defended Omar Abdullah's statement on restoration of pre-1953 status and once again blamed Prime Minister for creating such cir-

cumstances in the State due to which National Conference leaders were seeking restoration of pre-1953 status.

Directly targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his election speeches, Azad said, "he has never seen such a Government or Prime Minister in office who uses filthy language and has no control over his oratory. He said, I feel sorry for such State of affairs.

Comparing Modi with veteran BJP stalwart and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Azad said, "Vajpayeeji was a true leader of the masses and in contrast Modi can be labelled as

"Television leader".

Azad said, "Modi government is directly responsible for the current situation in the state".

Interacting with the reporters on the sidelines of an election rally in Kotranka Azad said, "highest number of security personnel were killed during Modi's time in the last five years, highest number of 5,500 ceasefire violations and civilian killings were reported during the same period. He said due to mishandling of the situation by the BJP led Govt at the centre terrorism, which was on the decline, is once again raising its head in the State. **PTI**



Thengal Kochari tribal women perform their traditional dance during an election campaign rally of Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of general elections in Borhola village in Assam on Tuesday **PTI**

# Nostalgic tribals of T remember Indira's contribution

**Medak:** From marigold flowers, brass matka 'gift' to the six-point development policy, tribals in Medak parliamentary constituency in Telangana fondly remember all they received from former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who had won from here in 1980.

Thirty nine years after her win, elders in this constituency recount Gandhi's election rallies with awe, while some believe 'Indiramma' is still "blessing people here from heaven".

"Abhi bhi apna dil Indira ko. Khitna sona de, phir bhi dil aur vote Indira ko (Now also, my heart is for Indira. You may give gold, but my heart and vote is for Indira)," says 90-year old Rupla Pathloth, a Lambani tribal farmer from Fareedpur



Representational image

village, when asked about the current elections.

Pathloth, who owns two acres of farm land, received a

brass water matka (pitcher) from Gandhi in the 1980 parliamentary elections when she defeated S Jaipal Reddy of the

Janata Party with over two lakh votes.

"Each Lambani tanda had got 10 brass water matka. I too

had received one and kept it safely," he said.

Recalling Gandhi's election speech, Pathloth said, "She had promised to give us better life and she delivered that promise. Maximum benefits were received during her time."

"She had said if voted to power she will give houses to the poor. She kept her promise and gave funds to build my house," said 65-year old Bugrot Ambriya from Mandapur in Jinnaram Mandal.

Bhuli Jambala, an 85-year-old Lambani tribal woman, hardly remembers what Gandhi had spoken during an election rally then. But she adds, "I admired her (Gandhi). She gave life to our community. I remember, she threw marigold flowers from the

stage, I had got one."

Recalling how his father benefited after nationalisation of banks during Indira Gandhi's rule, farmer Banoth Madhu said, "Tribals were not getting bank loans then and faced problems. When banks were nationalised, my father was able to get a loan amount of Rs 5,000."

The bank loans helped tribals to boost farming and provide better education to the children and avail jobs reserved under the six-point formula, he added.

Former prime minister had for the first time in Medak implemented the Six-Point agreement, under which reservation in class-IV government posts and gazetted and non-gazetted posts was given to

local people.

The agreement with the leaders of Andhra Pradesh was reached by the then Congress government in order to quell 1973's violent Andhra movement for a separate state.

Many people in Medak also remember Gandhi visiting famous church 'Diocese of Medak of the Church of South India' in 1984. In the visitors' book she had written, "Prime Minister of India visited the cathedral and took blessings on July 19, 1984 at 2pm."

Amidst the nostalgia, the tribals also voice concerns over lack of development in the area.

Farmers are suffering due to lack of irrigation facilities, education institutions are inadequate and there is unemployment

due to closure of Nizam Sugars factory, they said.

This constituency has its own identity in Indian politics as voters of Medak have given a prime minister, a chief minister of Telangana, a Union minister and a Speaker in the undivided Andhra Pradesh assembly.

Though the Congress has won this constituency nine times since 1957, it failed to win during the last 20 years. Though the BJP won it in 1999, it has been TRS all the way since 2004.

Former speaker Baga Reddy of the Congress, ex-Union Minister A Narendra, Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, Congress star campaigner M Vijaysanthi, all have won from Medak. **PTI**

# PM blasts Cong over failure on 'terror'

**Jamui/Gaya (Bihar):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday tore into the Congress-led UPA, blaming its "appeasement politics" for the failure of law enforcement agencies to rein in terror activities when it was in power and claiming it raised the "bogey of Hindu terror" to "misdirect" investigation.

He also blasted the Opposition parties for seeking proof of military operations against terror camps in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack, saying they appeared more like spokespersons for Pakistan than political parties representing India.

Kicking off his Lok Sabha poll campaign in Bihar with two back-to-back rallies in Jamui and Gaya, where candidates of his alliance partners—LJP and JD(U)—are in the fray, the Prime Minister assailed the Congress over a host of issues, including its failure to quell terrorism and lack of development.

He also hit out at National Conference leader Omar Abdullah for advocating restoration of the post of prime minister in Jammu & Kashmir, wondering can any country have more than one PM. "I would like the Congress and the



RJD, which are part of the same mahamilavat gang, to come clean on the issue," he said.

"They appear more like spokespersons for Pakistan than political parties representing India," Modi said launching his campaign at a rally in Jamui where LJP leader Chirag Paswan, son of party president Ram Vilas Paswan, is in the fray.

In Jamui, the seat reserved for Scheduled Castes, Modi accused the Congress of having neglected B R Ambedkar like no other party did.

He also claimed that his rivals were spreading the canard that the BJP, if voted to power again, will do away with reservations for the backward classes.

"Governance goes into

Hyderabad, Varanasi. There was a sudden drop in such incidents after May, 2014. The change was not brought about by me. You effected this change through your vote," he told the rally.

The government machinery, he said, was the same but what had changed was "style, policy and will" of the government.

"Our agencies were not lacking in ability even before we came to power. But they were not allowed to work on account of the appeasement politics of the previous government. And to misdirect the probe (bhatkaane ke liye), the bogey of Hindu terror was raised. In a case like Samjhauta Express blast, the role of Pakistan was completely brushed under the carpet," he alleged.

Modi's comments came in the backdrop of all accused, including Hindu monk Swami Aseemanand, being acquitted in the Samjhauta Express blast case by an NIA court last month.

"Much has been accomplished and much more remains to be done. I assure you that all incomplete works will be completed by this chowkidar of yours. With whom members of the Mahamilavat gang

(mahamilavati aur unke pairokar) and sympathizers of terrorists (aatankwadi aur unke madadgar), have a problem," Modi said.

Taking on Congress president Rahul Gandhi for his "chowkidar chor hai" barb, the prime minister alleged the opposition party had a disdain for "all those who earn their livelihood through hard work".

"These people have only disdain for those who earn livelihood through hard work. Be it a chowkidar, a tea seller or a sanitary worker, when they see that I am wearing the epithet of chowkidar as a badge of honour, they demonstrate their snobbish mindset by calling me a watchman of toilets.

"When I wipe the feet of safai karmis at the Kumbh, abuse is heaped on me. Is it not an insult to you?" Modi said in Gaya, also a reserved constituency.

Addressing the rally where Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan were also present, Modi lauded the progress made by the state under the NDA, saying "had you not voted out the previous Government, Gaya would have needed many more Dashrath Manjhis".

## VELLORE

# I-T, EC raids on DMK treasurer yield ₹12 cr seizure

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI**

The raids, carried out by the team of Income Tax Department and the Election Commission of India at the Vellore residence and business premises of Durai Murugan, treasurer of the DMK, turned murky by Tuesday with the local media reporting that ₹11.53 crore was seized in the two day long raid.

The entire operation was carried out under the leadership of Madhu Mahajan, the Election Commission appointed Special Expenditure Observer. Though the IT Department is yet to come out any official statement about the raids, local media known for their favourable disposition towards the DMK has quoted the department officials as saying that unaccounted cash worth Rs 11.53 crore was seized in the raids which got only by Tuesday noon.

The team of officials went to the residence of Murugan in the intervening nights of March 29 and 30 based on inputs from their sources that large

amount of cash has been stored at the palatial house of the DMK strongman at Katpadi in Vellore district. "But they were prevented and obstructed by DMK functionaries and the cash was shifted to other places," an official has been quoted as saying.

The IT officials kept the residence and Kingston Engineering College owned by Durai Murugan's family under the surveillance for the entire night and they picked up the details of the locations to which the cash was shifted.

A portion of the cash was shifted to a cement godown owned by a close associate of Murugan. The cash was packed in bundles and was meant for distribution among the voters. Interestingly, political commentators who had questioned the propriety behind the raids at the time of election retracted their statement on Tuesday. "Was critical of the IT raid on Durai Murugan and believed that it was politically motivated coming just before the elections. Looks like I was wrong and they were really on to some-

thing big. The videos look damning," Dr Sumant Raman, political commentator tweeted by Tuesday.

He said this could be the tip of the iceberg as Kathir Anand, son of Durai Murugan is the DMK candidate from the Vellore Lok Sabha constituency. AIADMK leaders said that there was nothing new in the raid. "Stalin, the DMK president who is condemning the raid on Durai Murugan's residence and business establishment was the same person who welcomed the raid held at the residence of Tamil Nadu minister Vijaya Bhaskar just before the 2017 December by-election at R K Nagar," pointed out the leader who did not want his name to be quoted.

Kathir Anand has that he would approach the Madras High Court against the IT raids stating that the raids were carried out with mal fide intentions. Events that took place during the last two days has cast a shadow on the prospects of the DMK-led front which was leading in the electoral race in Tamil Nadu.

# Feverish poll in the offing in TN

**KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI**

With just a fortnight remaining for the crucial election for the 39 Lok Sabha constituencies and 18 Assembly constituencies in Tamil Nadu, campaigning has reached a feverish pitch 'aided' by the scorching heat of the summer. Tamil Nadu goes to poll on April 18.

Amit Shah, president of the DMK dynasty could not find out untainted candidates to contest the election. "See the candidates fielded by the DMK and the Congress from Tamil Nadu. All are enmeshed in corruption. Kanimozhi, A Raja, Karti Chidambaram, Dayanidhi Maran all are accused in cases of corruption and scams. Most of them are out on bail. But the AIADMK led front has fielded the best candidates and you should elect them with massive mandate for the speedy development of Tamil Nadu," said Shah.

He pointed out that the DMK dynasty could not find out untainted candidates to contest the election. "See the candidates fielded by the DMK and the Congress from Tamil Nadu. All are enmeshed in corruption. Kanimozhi, A Raja, Karti Chidambaram, Dayanidhi Maran all are accused in cases of corruption and scams. Most of them are out on bail. But the AIADMK led front has fielded the best candidates and you should elect them with massive mandate for the speedy development of Tamil Nadu," said Shah.

Prime Minister of the country. "The people of India want Narendra Modi to become the Prime Minister again and I am sure Tamil Nadu also think in the same line. Together with Edappadi Palaniswamy, the chief minister of the State, the BJP would play a major role in elevating the lifestyle of the people of Tamil Nadu," said the BJP chief.

He pointed out that the DMK dynasty could not find out untainted candidates to contest the election. "See the candidates fielded by the DMK and the Congress from Tamil Nadu. All are enmeshed in corruption. Kanimozhi, A Raja, Karti Chidambaram, Dayanidhi Maran all are accused in cases of corruption and scams. Most of them are out on bail. But the AIADMK led front has fielded the best candidates and you should elect them with massive mandate for the speedy development of Tamil Nadu," said Shah.

# No differences with BJP: Sena

**TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI**

Declaring that "there are no and will be no differences" between his party and the BJP, Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray said here on Tuesday that notwithstanding the electoral tie-up between the two saffron alliance partners, the Sena would not hesitate to expand its base in seats which have gone to its ally under the seat-sharing arrangement between them.

Defending the Sena's decision to enter into electoral pact with the Sena, Uddhav said in an interview published in the Sena's official mouth-piece "Saamana": "We have never been desperate for power. The Sena and BJP have come together once for the sake of Hindutva and the alliance between the two saffron parties is in interest of the country. We have come together to keep the Congress and corruption at bay."

"BJP's national president Amit Shah came to my house twice. When it became clear that we would be entering into an electoral tie-up, then we broached the issues of people at that time. Maharashtra chief



minister Devendra Fadnis was also present at that time. It was during that the state government accepted one of major demands — that doing away property tax for flats less than 500 sq ft area in Mumbai and Thane," the Sena president said.

Admitting that the Sena changed its earlier stand of going it alone in the polls, Uddhav said: "We had earlier taken a different stand for the sake of people. For the past four and half years, we were raising the issue of people with the state and central governments and that too at the time the entire Opposition were failed to raise such issues. I am proud that at no point in time, the Sena was desperate for power"

Maintaining that after the electoral tie-up the Sena had not surrendered its right to expand its base in the country, Uddhav said: "Independent of its tie-up with the BJP, the Sena believes in its individual strength. We will not hesitate to expand our base in seats which have gone into the BJP's quota in the seat-sharing arrangement between us".

Under the seat-sharing arrangement between the two saffron alliance partners, the BJP and Sena are contesting 25 and 23 Lok Sabha seats respectively.

When his attention was drawn to his 2016 statement that the Sena had "decayed" after

remaining in alliance with the BJP for 25-long years, Uddhav said that his father extensively travelled across Maharashtra to spread his party.

"However, we did not pay attention towards expanding the party, after we entered into an alliance with BJP. It was carelessness on our part that we took things easy spreading of one's ideology is not a crime...Should I keep the Sena limited to the seats which we received as part of the alliance formula? Should we not take our party to other places as well? Because Sena is not a party but an ideology," Uddhav said.

# I am a common man: Uddhav

**PNS ■ MUMBAI**

Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray said here on Tuesday that he was a Shiv Sainik and there was no need for him to become a chowkidar.

When his attention drawn to the BJP's "Main Bhi Chowkidar" campaign and queried if he considered him-

self as a chowkidar, Uddhav said: "I am a common man. I am a Shiv Sainik. After being a Shiv Sainik, there is no need for anyone to become chowkidar. Sainik is a soldier. He protects the common man. He fights to provide justice to the common man. That being the case, there is no need for me to become a chowkidar"

# Mining ban issue to hit BJP's poll chances, say local outfits

**Panaji:** Organisations fighting for the resumption of mining in Goa have claimed that suspension of iron ore extraction activities in the state will impact the ruling BJP's chances in the Lok Sabha polls.

The coastal state has two Lok Sabha seats, North Goa and South Goa, both of which have several talukas where distraught mining dependents are in sizable numbers, these outfits have pointed out.

Both the seats are currently held by the BJP.

The mining operations, a key source of revenue to the government, came to a standstill in March last year following a Supreme Court order which quashed 88 mining leases.

Some outfits, like the Goa Mining People's Front, are miffed with the BJP-led Goa and central governments over the mining operations still lying suspended in the state.

GMPPF representatives earlier met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP chief Amit Shah and Union Mines Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, seeking their help to amend the existing mining laws so that leases could get extended.

GMPPF chief Puti Gaonkar said, "We will not tell people whom to vote for but we have made it clear that we will ask people to vote against the BJP."

"During the 2017 Assembly polls, we asked people to vote

for the BJP, but not this time," GMPPF core committee member Laxmikant Sawant Desai said.

There are around 10 Assembly constituencies spread over both the Lok Sabha seats which are affected by mining suspension. The voters from these constituencies could make a sizable impact in elections, said Kishor Karbotkar, president of the Sesa Workers Association.

The association is part of the union representing employees of Vedanta, one of the biggest mining firms in Goa.

Meanwhile, BJP state chief and Rajya Sabha MP Vinay Tendulkar said his party has made efforts for the resumption of mining in the State. **PTI**



Border Security Force (BSF) soldiers pay tribute to their killed colleague T. Alex Lalminlin during a wreath-laying ceremony at the BSF headquarters in Jammu on Tuesday **PTI**

# Gorkhaland not a poll issue in Darjeeling for first time in over 3 decades

**Darjeeling (WB):** For the first time in about three decades, the demand for separate Gorkhaland State is not a poll issue in the Darjeeling Hills as parties, including the indigenous GJM and GNLF, are stressing on development and restoration of democracy in the region.

The statehood demand and implementation of the sixth schedule of the Constitution had been major poll planks in the Hills at various times since the beginning of the protracted Gorkhaland movement in 1986.

This time, the statehood issue has not found favour with the main opponents, the TMC and the BJP, and also the GJM and the GNLF, who are not in the fray but are nevertheless deciding factors in the Darjeeling Lok Sabha seat. "The statehood is not an



issue for us this time. We are stressing on overall development of the Hills, which it has been deprived of for so many years,"

said Amar Singh Rai, a former Gorkha Janamukti Morcha (GJM) MLA and TMC candidate from the seat.

"Our agenda is development. For the last 10 years, the BJP MPs have done nothing for the people of the Hills," said Rai,

who was a staunch Gorkhaland supporter during the 104-day long strike in the Hills in 2017.

He is pitted against Raju Singh Bista of the BJP, formerly of the Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF), in the poll fight.

Rai's view was echoed by leaders of the Binay Tamang faction of the GJM. They feel it would be unrealistic to fight for a separate statehood by ignoring the basic needs.

Senior TMC leader and minister Gautam Deb feels that the statehood demand has caused a lot of bloodshed in the Hills, while development has taken a backseat.

"It's time we keep aside this (statehood) issue and fight for the development of the people of hills," Deb, who represents Dabgram-Phulbari in neigh-

bouring Jalpaiguri district, said.

"For us statehood is not an issue. We are fighting for restoring democracy in the Hills as it is necessary to fight for a political solution to the Hill problem ... The reign of terror of the police and the Binay Tamang group has to end," BJP Darjeeling district president Manoj Dewan told **PTI**.

Loksang Lama, the working president of Bimal Gurung faction of the GJM, shared similar views. "We want a political solution to the problems in the Hills," he asserted

Kalyan Dewan, a former vice-president of the GJM and a veteran of Hill politics, said this was the first time in over three decades that both the political parties and the people in the Hills have moved away from the issue of Gorkhaland. **PTI**

**Central University of Haryana**  
NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade University  
(Established vide Act No. 25 (2009) of Parliament)  
MAHENDERGARH - 123031 (Haryana)

**Admissions Notice 2019-20**  
The Central University of Haryana (established vide Central Universities Act 2009) is the only University in the state of Haryana to be funded and regulated by University Grants Commission and Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India. Central University of Haryana is located at Mahendergarh district in South Haryana, which is extended National Capital Region (NCR) and is well connected to Delhi & Jaipur.

Online applications are invited for admissions to the following Programmes for the Academic Year 2019-20 through the Central Universities Common Entrance Test (CUCET) scheduled on 25th & 26th May, 2019.

<b>Under Graduate (UG) Programmes (07)</b>	B.Tech. in Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Printing & Packaging Technology B.Voc. in Biomedical Sciences, Industrial Waste Management, Retail & Logistics Management
<b>Post Graduate Programmes (29)</b>	Economics, Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, History & Archeology, English, Hindi, Environmental Studies, Geography, M.Ed., B.Ed., Sanskrit, Yoga, Hotel Management & Catering Technology, Tourism & Travel Management, Management Studies, Law, Commerce, Computer Applications, Library & Information Science, Journalism & Mass Communication, Chemistry, Physics, Statistics, Mathematics, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Nutrition Biology
<b>M.Phil. Programmes (07)</b>	Economics, English, Hindi, Political Science, Education, Sociology, History & Archaeology
<b>Ph.D. Programmes (17)</b>	Economics, Statistics, English, Hindi, Political Science, Education, Archeology, Sociology, Law, Mathematics, Management Studies, Physics, Chemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Nutrition Biology, Biochemistry

**HIGHLIGHTS**  
Experienced & well qualified faculty, Well Campus, Hostel Facilities for Boys and Girls, Virtual Class Rooms, ICT Enabled Class Rooms, State of the Art Infrastructure, Well equipped Labs, Rich Library Transport facility, Green Campus, Large number of students qualified CSIR, UGC NET/JRF, Choice Based Credit System (CBCS)

Last Date of online Application - 13th April, 2019  
For more detail visit [www.cuh.ac.in](http://www.cuh.ac.in) / [www.cucetexam.in](http://www.cucetexam.in) or contact 8222876763. Registrar

PAPER WITH PASSION

## Anti-toxic treatment

Facebook has removed hundreds of accounts as they were found to be spreading misinformation and poisonous content



Allegations and counter-allegations form the gist of Indian politics on any given day. Primarily, this occurs between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress as well as between regional parties across the country. It also takes place in the pages of newspapers and on television screens. But over the past few years, things have changed dramatically. Newsprint and satellite television are not the main means of information dissemination used by political parties. It has all moved online. This is because of the mistrust that has been fostered in what is called the “mainstream media” by years of institutional bias. While the “mainstream media” denies this charge, it is hard to argue that there was no favouritism at all in play. Online, however, one can hear news that confirms his/her own personal choices — whether it is for or against a particular leader. But say what you will about the mainstream media, and that includes this newspaper, there was some level of editorial control, particularly in the print versions. The Press Council of India may be toothless as a watchdog but its censure on transgressions is still internalised seriously. This means that while some misinformation and deliberate news “massaging” continues to take place, out and out fakery rarely occurs; let alone mischievous attempts at misinformation, calls to violence and abuse. Online media though is a different kettle of fish. With little or no editorial control, vile abuse and outright fake news rule the roost, much of which is spread on platforms such as Facebook. So the social media major recently shut down hundreds of sites controlled directly and indirectly by the two main political parties, the BJP and Congress, as well as those fuelled by the Pakistani intelligence community to manipulate our verdict. Occasionally, messages of hate and vile personal insinuations are made on politically driven communities on the virtual plane, the following of which runs into tens of thousands, sometimes millions of people, many of whom believe the utter tripe thrown up. Numbers suggest that 2,06,000 accounts followed one or more of these pages. These also spent about \$39,000 on ads to get greater visibility for their posts between August 2014 and March 2019. Experienced political operatives have figured out that by making something appear funny or in a meme, they can spread misinformation far and wide, without making so much as an effort.

Facebook’s actions though may be too little, too late. Many of these pages have been operating for years with impunity and are expected to re-appear in a new format on the site very quickly. This is similar to what happened with the video of the shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand. Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and to an extent even YouTube have kept the barriers to entry and posting content so low in order to gain more users and have them spend hours on their sites, that this is bound to happen. Removing pages or users’ post-facto means the damage has been done but censoring content is another dangerous path. Maybe, a few more effective barriers to content posting, such as clearly identifying who is uploading what, might be a better way forward but what happens to internet anonymity then? These are issues that need to be debated. And debated quickly by social platforms.

## Leave the Army alone

Adityanath’s description of our forces as Modi’s *Sena* is a crass attempt at politicising an apolitical and honourable institution



Just as we appreciate the valour displayed by our armed forces in protecting this nation from external threats and internal emergencies, so must we respect their restraint and apolitical stature as they have not attempted to appropriate political space despite provocations and temptations. Yet the very democracy that they safeguard has yielded politicians who use them at their own sweet will for propaganda when they do least in terms of defence policies. So it is utterly irresponsible of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister and the BJP’s poster boy Yogi Adityanath, who is known for his rather aggressive style of campaigning, to throw all semblance of propriety to the winds by calling the Indian Army “Modi’s *senā*” and by extension implying that national security was the preserve of the muscular government of the day and the Army just did its bidding. Or that brilliance came from the political leadership and not the Army, which has an almost impeccable record of operations regardless of who is in the government. While the Election Commission (EC) is processing the complaint, there can be no negotiation on it. The Indian Army cannot be politicised; it is for the country and its people as a whole. It should embody the ideals that the country stands for and should not be circumscribed by anybody’s narrow considerations. Besides, political parties across the spectrum have come together whenever there has been a national crisis and spoken in one voice. There should not be political one-upmanship over the success of any military operation or escalation of bravado for the sake of it, without thinking of the consequences in global polity.

The BJP, which is clearly playing up national security as its poll adhesive and justifying its ability as the true protector of the nation citing the surgical strikes in Uri and now Balakot, has gone too far in appropriating credit and ended up tarnishing the Army instead. Just a month ago, the EC had to issue a directive proscribing the use of the pictures of IAF’s hero pilot, Capt Abhinandan Varthaman, on banners. Many Army veterans have been consistently writing or appealing to the government that the Army should not be brought to the limelight for the wrong reasons. Just because the serving Army men are bound by the “rules of silence” does not mean our political parties will speak on their behalf or extract mileage out of their good deeds. True, the Modi government did understand the value of Army veterans as a constituency, engaged with our soldiers on the battlefield — Modi himself spent Diwali with jawans — and pushed the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme, though a much diluted variant of the one demanded. The chest-thumping pride in our Army, however, doesn’t match the low priority accorded to it compared to the all-India civil and police services. Defence budgets continue to be inadequate, there is an urgent need for operational reforms as well as critical infrastructure and equipment. Still the forces do their best with what they have as evidenced by Capt Abhinandan’s takedown of F-16 with a MIG 21 Bison, which was well past its expiry date but was coopted in an important mission with home-grown upgrades. Yet the Indian armed forces — though its officers today are more aware of the political environment and their utility in it — accept civilian control. The political class or any elected government should remember this before they use them for self-aggrandisement.

The BNP, which is clearly playing up national security as its poll adhesive and justifying its ability as the true protector of the nation citing the surgical strikes in Uri and now Balakot, has gone too far in appropriating credit and ended up tarnishing the Army instead. Just a month ago, the EC had to issue a directive proscribing the use of the pictures of IAF’s hero pilot, Capt Abhinandan Varthaman, on banners. Many Army veterans have been consistently writing or appealing to the government that the Army should not be brought to the limelight for the wrong reasons. Just because the serving Army men are bound by the “rules of silence” does not mean our political parties will speak on their behalf or extract mileage out of their good deeds. True, the Modi government did understand the value of Army veterans as a constituency, engaged with our soldiers on the battlefield — Modi himself spent Diwali with jawans — and pushed the One Rank One Pension (OROP) scheme, though a much diluted variant of the one demanded. The chest-thumping pride in our Army, however, doesn’t match the low priority accorded to it compared to the all-India civil and police services. Defence budgets continue to be inadequate, there is an urgent need for operational reforms as well as critical infrastructure and equipment. Still the forces do their best with what they have as evidenced by Capt Abhinandan’s takedown of F-16 with a MIG 21 Bison, which was well past its expiry date but was coopted in an important mission with home-grown upgrades. Yet the Indian armed forces — though its officers today are more aware of the political environment and their utility in it — accept civilian control. The political class or any elected government should remember this before they use them for self-aggrandisement.

# In the worst of times

It is necessary for national governments to put in place safety measures so that vulnerable sections can be protected from the ill-effects of a downturn in economic activity



RK PACHAURI

When Charles Dickens wrote the following lines for his epic creation, *A Tale of Two Cities*, he obviously gave expression to the state of society as it existed in that period: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity...”. If the same author were to write similar lines today, it is likely that he would drop the words “best of times”, given the extent of uncertainty and the lack of “feel good” that we see before us.

Perhaps every generation feels some helplessness at what they perceive as the decline in standards, opportunities — and most importantly, hope — in comparison with yesterday. Yet, today, the confusion that defines global affairs and the state of the world seems more compelling in mapping the human condition as, say, in comparison with what existed just a few years ago. The global economy has reached unprecedented levels, which should normally have resulted in the elimination of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and a reduction in inequalities but the growing difference between the richest members of society and those at the bottom rung has never been sharper than it is today.

Oxfam International highlights five shocking facts about extreme global inequality and mentions means by which it could even up this growing distortion, even though these appear largely impractical in today’s world. The first recommendation provided by Oxfam is to have world leaders tax the rich fairly and invest in vital public services that lift people out of poverty. It also states the fact that the wealth of the world’s billionaires increased \$900 billion in the last year, which is \$2.5 billion a day. As a result, 26 people own the same wealth as the 3.8 billion people, who make up the poorest half of humanity.

According to Oxfam, in some countries, the poorest 10 per cent are paying a higher proportion of their income in tax than the richest 10 per cent. Even in some of the most prosperous cities in the world, there are alarming disparities across societies. For instance, the richest parts of São Paulo, Brazil, have a life expectancy of 79 years; while in the poorest areas of the city, it is only 54 years.

Overall, disparities are growing in almost every part of the world, and this leaves a large number of poor people extremely vulnerable to the adverse effects of economic recession, natural calamities and growing impacts of climate change, against which, it appears, the poor have neither the means, the infrastructure nor the skills to be able to adapt to the risks associated with these impacts. The effects of economic recession always fall disproportionately on the poor of the world and the most vulnerable sections of society, including the elderly and the most dispossessed.

There is globally every reason to consider the possibility of recession occurring in 2019 or possibly by 2020 and, hence,



efforts need to be made in advance for policies to protect these vulnerable sections of people everywhere. A recession is generally not easy to predict but several analysts and observers of current economic trends are expressing doubts on whether the growth achieved in the past seven or eight years would actually continue. If we look at the overall global and regional developments, the on-going trade wars between the US and China are clearly introducing a major area of uncertainty between the two countries, which would have profound effects on other economies across the globe. While the US economy appears to be doing well, there are signs of a slight downturn, which can become stronger with adverse monetary policies, which may be put in place in the next few months.

China’s economic growth has been phenomenal and has added a substantial amount of goods and services not only for domestic consumption but for export to other nations as well. However, there are signs of a clear decline in China’s economic growth, which could have adverse effects on the economies of other countries as well.

In the case of Europe, the

confusion about Brexit leaves that continent in a state of uncertainty, which is in fact compounded by efforts on the part of some national Governments trying to defy overall EU policies, which were accepted by the members of the Union.

At the same time, there are, of course, hotspots across the world, which continue to see conflict that not only has direct local relevance but global implications as well. There is little that the world has been able to do to end conflicts such as in Syria, Eastern Ukraine and even Yemen, which continue to defy any rational basis for prolonging them. In our own neighbourhood, unacceptability and threats of terrorist violence remain alive, despite efforts by the international community to curb the universal dangers of providing sanctuary and encouragement to terrorists.

If on top of these troubled conditions, the world is to see another recession in the next nine to 18 months, it would leave several societies much worse off. Dealing with the situation would require a dialogue to be pursued among the major powers, who can influence overall global economic policy, but there is in evidence today much greater

emphasis on bilateral negotiations and agreements, which could be counterproductive and harmful to the global economy.

At the same time, it is necessary for national Governments to put in place proper safety measures by which the most vulnerable sections of society could be protected from the serious ill effects of a downturn in economic activity. It is important for national Governments and those responsible for global policies to ensure that the lives of the underprivileged are protected and kept secure against the possibility of a recession which would add a further burden to their lives, who are impacted already by climate change and natural disasters of various forms.

Unfortunately, the most influential leaders in the world today lack the ability to assert moral leadership and qualify as global leaders with vision. The vacuum needs to be filled with leaders at the grassroots level, who are able to articulate the priorities that underline a safe and secure future for the most vulnerable people on planet Earth. The world today can create conditions for the best of times to follow.

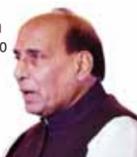
(The writer is former chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2002-15)

“ IF ON TOP OF THESE TROUBLED CONDITIONS, THE WORLD IS TO SEE ANOTHER RECESSION IN THE NEXT NINE TO 18 MONTHS, IT WOULD LEAVE SEVERAL SOCIETIES MUCH WORSE OFF ”

## SOUNDBITE

India is ready to offer assistance to Pakistan if it alone is not able to stop terror activities from its soil.

Union Minister —Rajnath Singh



There is no obligation and there should never be an obligation in art. It should come from within you.

Filmmaker-choreographer —Farah Khan



The debris created by the anti-satellite test carried out by India last week had increased the risk to the International Space Station.

NASA administrator —Jim Bridenstine



Congress uses you only for vote bank and does not give you ticket. We will not give Muslims tickets because you did not believe in us.

BJP MLA —KS Eshwarappa



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Gameplan for seats

Sir — This refers to the editorial, “The Wayanad gamble” (April 2). The candidature of Congress president Rahul Gandhi for the Wayanad constituency in Kerala is a clear indication of the Congress’ gameplan to increase its tally. There can be no comparison with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s move to contest from two seats in 2014. He was a first-timer with no traditional Lok Sabha seat. Only time will tell whether the Left in Kerala will play a friendly match. The move does also raise interest about the electoral fortunes of the dynasty.

Jai Prakash Gupta  
Ambala Cantt

### Bouquet of choices

Sir — This refers to the editorial, “The Wayanad gamble” (April 2). Congress chief Rahul Gandhi’s decision to contest from Wayanad in Kerala has two angles. First, as mentioned in the editorial, the grand old party wants to expand and revive in

### Much ado about nothing

Post independence, the ballot paper system heralded the democratic process in our country. The Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) technology gradually replaced this system and it has been two decades since. It is also a fact that whenever an election result is announced, political parties resort to finding faults with EVMs instead of introspecting and analysing their loss. Crucially, it is not the winner but the loser who suspects their efficacy. Voices are growing louder to go back to paper ballots. But the very magnitude of arranging EVMs or ballot papers is an uphill task that may even lead to postponing the elections. The Election Commission should, therefore, by past experience, come up with a new mechanism to outsmart such voices. If needed, there should be a change in the Act. The electoral body must dissuade political parties from playing dirty politics.

Further, the counting of VVPAT slips is another challenge which is now under the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction. Counting these smooth glossy slips will be slow



and cumbersome. This will throw up new logistical problems if the apex court agrees to 50 per cent counting as mandatory. Practical problems would be different and can be gauged only after work begins. The prudent way would be to make a start on a pilot basis. With experience gained, it can be operated in full swing in the future.

D Nagarjuna  
Hyderabad

the South and increase its seats.

The second reason could be that with the feisty Smriti Irani taking on the Congress in Amethi, the fear of getting cornered in this bastion must have made it jittery. However, chances are that Rahul Gandhi may still win Amethi but the fact remains that the Congress’ cadre base is weak. Further, the party and the leadership have done little to

change this scenario since the 2014 Lok Sabha poll. For the Left, Kerala is the last citadel as West Bengal has convincingly been won by Mamata’s Trinamool Congress. Surely, they would not like to concede even an inch to the Congress. Their anger post the Wayanad announcement is justified.

Bal Govind  
Noida

### The twin theory

Sir — This refers to the editorial, “The Wayanad gamble” (April 2). Congress chief Rahul Gandhi’s decision to contest from Wayanad in Kerala is bizarre to say the least. It does not give out the right signal when a leader like him, a scion of the Gandhi family, chooses to

opt for an additional constituency, leaving his beloved Amethi in the lurch.

Or is Rahul Gandhi actually contesting from Wayanad in response to “popular demand” from the southern States or is it because he and his party do smell the chances of a slide in Amethi? Or would Rahul Gandhi vacate one of the seats post elections supposing he manages to win both?

In present times, any national leader would want to have his feet firmly grounded in Uttar Pradesh, considering the road to the topmost chair in Delhi passes through this State, which sends 80 Lok Sabha members to the Parliament.

Frankly, when two political heavyweights contest from two seats simultaneously, it becomes an unhealthy trend. If this logic is taken to its conclusion and if every leader decides to pick up two constituencies to contest instead of one, there will simply be no constituencies left for others.

J Akshobhya  
Mysuru

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## FIRST COLUMN

## Master moves to buy stocks

Chart patterns are a valuable part of technical analysis but they alone may not be sufficient to identify trading signals



HIMA BINDU KOTA

A clever investor is one who can predict the changing tide and take positions in the stock market accordingly. It is here that chart patterns can come handy in giving an investor the big picture and help him/her identify trends of price movements, either continuation or reversal of the existing pattern of stock price movement. The theory behind chart patterns is that history repeats itself and certain patterns consistently reappear and tend to produce the same outcomes. For example, as market sentiment shifts from optimism to fear, a certain pattern may emerge before traders and investors start selling and send the stock price lower.

The two most popular chart patterns are reversals and continuations that can be found across any time-frame. A continuation pattern signals that the trend will continue once the formation is complete; whereas a reversal pattern signals that a prior trend will reverse upon completion of the formation. However, reversal patterns are not usually sudden and dramatic. When an 'up' trend changes to a 'down' trend or when a 'down' trend changes to an 'up' trend, it slows down, pulls back, goes in the direction of the trend and comes back till the trend is reversed slowly. A change in perception of the price of a given stock results in a change in the trend, which in turn alters either demand or supply of these stocks and this eventually moves the stock prices either up or down.

In an 'up' trend, demand for a stock slowly increases the price of the stock; whereas in a 'down' trend, low demand and high supply of the stock brings the price down. This sort of tug-of-war between buyers and sellers swings prices between optimistic and pessimistic perception levels and invariably creates reversal patterns on stock charts before the trend changes to the opposite side.

Having good knowledge about reversal patterns allows us to speculate positively about the end of a trend. We can square off our position at a right time to book maximum profits. It also allows us to take position in the opposite direction at the right time. On the whole, good knowledge of reversal patterns allows us to have smaller losses and larger profits. Here are some of the common reversal patterns about which an investor must remain vigilant:

**Head and Shoulders:** This is a pattern that indicates a likely reversal of the trend once it's completed. A Head and Shoulder top is characterized by three peaks with the middle peak being the highest peak (head) and the other two being lower and roughly equal (shoulders). The lows between these peaks are connected with a trend line (neckline) that represents the key support level to watch for a breakdown and trend reversal.

**Double Tops and Bottoms:** This formation is easy to recognize and is also one of the most reliable chart patterns. This aspect makes it a favourite for many technically-oriented traders. The pattern is formed after a sustained trend when a price tests the same support or resistance level twice without a breakthrough. It signals the start of a trend reversal over the intermediate or long-term.

**Wedges:** This pattern is a reversal or, less commonly, continuation formation that's similar to the symmetrical triangle except that it slants upward or downward. Rising wedges are bearish chart patterns that occur when trend is moving higher, prices are converging and prevailing trend is losing momentum. Falling wedges are bullish chart patterns that occur when the trend is moving lower and prices are converging, which signify that the bearish trend is losing momentum and a reversal is likely. The wedge pattern can be very difficult to identify and trade. This means that it is important to look for confirmations in other technical indicators. For example, most traders watch for a diverging relative strength index or moving average convergence-divergence trend line that confirms a reversal is likely to occur.

**Triple Tops & Bottoms:** These are reversal patterns that aren't as prevalent as Head and Shoulders or Double Tops or Double Bottoms. However, they act in a similar fashion and can be a powerful trading signal for a trend reversal. Patterns are formed when a price tests the same support or resistance level three times and is unable to break through.

**Rounding Bottom:** This is a long-term reversal pattern that signals a shift from a downtrend to an uptrend and lasts anywhere from several months to several years.

Although chart patterns are an integral part of technical analysis, they alone may not be sufficient. Traders should combine these techniques with technical indicators and other forms of technical analysis to maximise their odds of success.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

MORE THAN A SEPARATE PRIME MINISTER, ABDULLAH NEEDS SLEEP. IF HE STILL DOESN'T UNDERSTAND, HE NEEDS A PAKISTAN PASSPORT.

—FORMER CRICKETER  
GAUTAM GAMBHIR

## POINT COUNTERPOINT



THE FORMER OPENING BATSMAN OF THE INDIAN TEAM SHOULD ONLY TALK ABOUT CRICKET, WHICH IS THE THING HE KNOWS.

—NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEADER  
OMAR ABDULLAH

## Totalitarian leaders

Neither do rulers understand their people nor do they care to know. But it cannot be hunky dory forever. Sooner or later, nemesis must come and do what it must



PRAFULL GORADIA

Evidently, in a 20th century democracy, Muslims were uncomfortable with a Hindu majority — a more educated community where many people owned big industries and business. Whereas the Muslim elite had only land, chances of them being taken were high as zamindari was expected to come into force if the Congress came to power after independence. The Indian *umamah* went wild after Partition without giving a thought as to which side of the border it would be located. Meanwhile, a few commentators called MA Jinnah as the super advocate of Indian Muslims as he delivered their plea in Pakistan. After thirteen months, he died. As fee, he got a place in history as the "literal founder" of a large country. He was no less and no more committed to his cause, or rather his brief.

In some ways, Jinnah can be compared to say, Napoleon Bonaparte, an Italian from Genoa, who became a French soldier of fortune to rise to be the Emperor. He crowned himself with more glory than most but ended leading France to near destruction. Adolf Hitler, an Austrian, happened to join the Wehrmacht or the German Army to rise in World War I, only to be a mere corporal. Thereafter, in the course of time, his adopted country went wild with inflation and economic ailments to rise to unthinkable heights of power. He committed suicide because he had led Deutschland to near ruin. Joseph Stalin, a Georgian who rose to supreme power in Russia, won World War II for the Soviet Union. He led it to the path of denouement. In a comparable sense, Jinnah did not belong to Islam nor to the cause of Pakistan. He was their advocate, came and did his duty with immaculate competence. As we have said, he was for Pakistan, an alien leader. Little wonder, he left behind a country with more faults than strengths.

The first thing that struck some experts in Calcutta in the early days of Partition was how could East Bengal co-exist with West Punjab as provinces. Temperamentally, people of both sides are so different. Therefore, a loose federation of two or three common subjects should have been contemplated between the West and the East. A common religion became adequate to induce both to separate from original India of 1946, but not binding enough to hold them together in a marriage indefinitely. Inevitably, there was concentration of authority in the Western wing, which gradually led to what happened through 1971. For the Western provinces, too, a federation — not so loose, say, seven subjects — was necessary. Instead, there was no Constitutional arrangement until 1954. The muscle of each province was allowed to play until then. No wonder, the biggest and the strongest Punjab had its way. Even after 1954, people were not given sovereignty. Therefore, unlike the people of neighbouring India, Pakistanis were not responsible for governance. From the British, it was transferred to God; in 1954 it was written in the national document.

Jinnah had no exposure to administration — whether in his career as a Barrister or as a politician. Even as a leader, his forte was 'debate'

JINNAH'S SPEECH ON AUGUST 11, 1947, TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY IN KARACHI PROVED THAT HE WAS CONFUSED. IF EVERY CITIZEN COULD WORSHIP HIS OWN WAY FREELY, ONLY BEING LOYAL PAKISTANIS, WHY HAVE THE PARTITION AT ALL? BEING A SOLDIER, PRESIDENT AYUB KHAN COULD BE FORGIVEN BUT WHAT ABOUT THE MEN AROUND HIM? THEY COMBINED ALL PROVINCES OF THE WEST INTO A JUMBO PROVINCE TO OFFSET THE WEIGHT OF THE EASTERN WING. INSTEAD, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH WISER TO SUB-DIVIDE THE EAST INTO THREE OR FOUR PROVINCES. THEY WERE LESS LIKELY TO UNITE BEHIND SHEIKH MUJIBUR



and not the 'pulse of people's feeling'. For his success at the end, it is the Muslim people who had the pulse of their leader, that he could deliver Pakistan. Had it been the other way around, the Qaid would not have landed in Dacca (now Dhaka) in February 1948 and brusquely told the university students that Urdu would be the national language and that Bengali would have no comparable place. The fire of secession was lit that day. In due course, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman left the League to form his Awami League.

Jinnah's speech on August 11, 1947 to the Constituent Assembly in Karachi proved that he was confused. If every citizen could worship his own way freely, only being loyal Pakistanis, why have the Partition at all? Being a soldier, President Ayub Khan could be forgiven but what about the men around him? They combined all provinces of the west into a jumbo province of West Pakistan with Khan Sahib as the premier to offset the weight of the eastern wing. Instead, it would have been much wiser to sub-divide the East into three or four provinces. They were less likely to unite behind Sheikh Mujibur then as they did in 1971.

Instead of regretting the loss of the eastern wing, the impression President Yahya Khan conveyed was that it was good riddance. In fact, there were whispers that Bhutto liked the secession without which he could not have commanded a western wing majority and, thus, not been able to become the Prime Minister. This conveyed the feeling to the other or

non-Punjab provinces that they are dispensable, if not also redundant. To make matters worse, the Centre built the Tarbela Dam on the great Indus, which lets very little of its water to cross Punjab. Down the great river, the Kotri Dam was built to supply water to farms in Sindh. The net result is also that from the Karachi delta, up 150 km of the river, the water is salty because it is from the Arabian Sea, having flown up into riverine space. Imagine the reaction of the citizen of Karachi who tastes the salty water!

The moral of the story is that neither do rulers understand their people of various regions nor do they care to know. It cannot be hunky dory forever. Sooner or later, nemesis must come and do what it must. Dark clouds are already gathering over Pakistani skies. The darkest is the alienation of the US, which in the name of military aid, enabled Pakistan to import everything, including beef. In Ayub Khan's era, he had prohibited the consumption of beef one day a week. The shortage was gathering then. What now? The Chinese terms of aid are much more stringent with the risk of handing over some territory for failing to return the money. Be led by alien leaders, enjoy a picnic of prosperity and eventually come a full circle to meet disaster or destruction.

Napoleon, clever and capable as he was, did not fully understand the French people. They like a balanced life. Do not expect them to go on fighting and getting killed continually as Napoleon made them do. For example, 1812 and the French rout in

Russia was fresh in everyone's memory when the Emperor began planning a major engagement at Leipzig. Meanwhile, he had already won two victories at Lutzen on May 2 and Bautzen on May 21. In June 1813 came the big battle of Leipzig. The timetable was relentless and the Grande Armée and its French soldiers could not just cope with it.

Again, Hitler did not grasp the overall quality of the people he was leading. Nor did he recognise that he was himself not the blonde Nordic Aryan he claimed to be but a character of the ideal German. Moreover, Germany was the centre of Europe and its civilisation with its intellect, its sensitive ear for creating music, art and painting, not to overlook literature and philosophy. One wonders if the Chancellor mistook his people for the ancient Teutonic barbarians. Any wonder where he landed them?

So, did Joseph Stalin misread the Russian people? The way he translocated communities has to be known to be believed. They were uprooted and resettled hundreds of miles away. They were treated worse than cattle because with animals, one is conscious of protecting lives. But Stalin's men let as many die as the transfer dictated.

The cruelties his regime heaped upon the Kulaks, the Army officers and the petit bourgeoisie were incredible. Stalin, thus, set the pace and his successors delivered the great country to disintegration. These are the prices that alien rulers make their countries pay.

(This is the final in a two-part series on MA Jinnah by this columnist)

## Multi-cornered fight in Andhra Pradesh

With 25 seats in the Lok Sabha, Andhra Pradesh is an important State that can swing the narrative in case of a hung House. Definitely it isn't a cakewalk for parties as they have been trying hard to grab the voter's attention



KALYANI SHANKAR

With 25 Lok Sabha seats, Andhra Pradesh can become an important player in the event of a hung Parliament after the Lok Sabha polls. The State will also hold simultaneous Assembly elections for the first time ever since its bifurcation in 2014.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu is fighting the elections with his back to the wall. In 2014, the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP) got 15 seats, YSR Congress Party eight and the BJP two; while the Congress drew a nil. Back then, the TDP and the BJP were allies but this time, both parties will contest elections separately after Naidu severed ties with the NDA last March on the issue of the

Centre not giving special status to the State. After 2004, this will be the first time the TDP will fight without any pre-poll alliance.

Though the contest will be and large be triangular — between TDP, the Congress and YSR Congress Party of YS Jaganmohan Reddy — the BJP and movie star Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena are also trying to make their presence felt. All parties are contesting without an ally and are contesting all seats. While the Jana Sena is strong in the coastal Godavari region and Guntur, YSR Congress has performed exceedingly well in the Rayalaseema region. The TDP is strong in coastal Andhra. The Congress and the BJP are just minor players.

Naidu is fighting hard to defend his throne while challenger Jaganmohan Reddy is inching towards power. Reddy has money, workers and age on his side. He has undertaken a Praja Sankalpa Yatra since 2017, covering the entire State to woo the voters. He has the backing of the influential Reddy community, which is pitted against Naidu's powerful Kamma community.



In 2014, Naidu gained from the Modi wave, which helped him beat Jaganmohan Reddy to the chief ministerial chair. Kalyan also supported him. As against a vote share of 32.5 per cent of TDP, YSR Congress Party got 32.1 per cent vote that resulted in the former bagging 103 seats in the Assembly election as against 70 of the latter. The TDP got 15 Lok Sabha seats and the YSR Congress Party, eight seats.

Clearly, Naidu is facing the toughest challenge in his four-decade long political career. Fighting anti-incum-

bency and also charges from his critics that he could not get Andhra special status from the Centre, he continues to believe that Modi-bashing will help him get votes. A major worry for the TDP is which side the 17 per cent Kapu community will vote this time. In 2014, they favoured the TDP due to Kalyan's influence. However this time, Kalyan's party may end up splitting the votes. This will potentially harm the TDP.

For optics, Naidu has mobilised support of other regional satraps like Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal,

former Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and former Prime Minister Deve Gowda to campaign for him. He believes that his raised national profile will impress the voters.

On the other hand, Jagan has promised to implement the 'Navaratnalu' or nine welfare schemes. The scheme includes ₹50,000 per annum to farmers, fee reimbursement to all students, ₹15,000 to women to encourage them to send their children to school, waiver of all loans taken by women from cooperative societies, ban on alcohol, construction of 25 lakhs houses and reduction of pension age from 65 to 60 among others. Jagan thinks that these liberal doles might help him capture the throne.

However, Kalyan is the 'X' factor in these elections. A Kapu by caste, his party has influence in the coastal districts in over 50 Assembly seats. While chances are less for a win, he can damage Naidu's prospects. Kalyan has tied up with the BSP and Left parties, who have a vote share of about two per cent. He has promised clean

politics and also to bring the Chief Minister under the Lokayukta.

While the ruling TDP is depending on welfare schemes, Opposition parties are depending on anti-incumbency factor. The TDP will bank on a split in the Opposition vote. While Naidu is seen as a capable administrator, the Opposition plays up on his failure to keep promises of 2014. The world-class capital Naidu promised to build at Amravati has barely taken off.

The BJP is depending on Jagan to come to its rescue in a post-poll scenario, if required. Reddy can hardly afford to have a pre-poll pact with the BJP, given his strong support base among Christians and Muslims. However, there is some tacit understanding between the two parties to support each other secretly wherever possible. Andhra Pradesh continues to remain relevant in the national scenario. Ultimately, even Naidu can go back to the NDA as he has been doing in the past.

(The writer is a senior political commentator and syndicated columnist)



## FOREIGN EYE



## ADDRESS SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS

It has taken a few years, but awareness of the rising number of pupils being excluded from English schools has grown to the point where the problem cannot be ignored. What is required is a new emphasis on values of supportiveness and cooperation between the two parties to support each other secretly wherever possible. Andhra Pradesh continues to remain relevant in the national scenario. Ultimately, even Naidu can go back to the NDA as he has been doing in the past.

(The Guardian editorial)

# SC order on RBI circular succour for power cos

## Will delay bankruptcy proceedings

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court order quashing a Reserve Bank of India circular on resolving bad debt will provide relief to power companies and lenders as well as flexibility to restructure debts but will slowdown bankruptcy proceedings, experts said on Tuesday.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday quashed RBI's February 12 circular, which prescribed rules for recognising one-day defaults by large corporates and initiating insolvency action as a remedy.

Vishrov Mukerjee, Partner, J Sagar Associates said after the Supreme Court judgment, the RBI may have to issue revised guidelines/circulars for the restructuring of stressed assets.

"There is also a question mark over existing processes which may have been completed/nearing completion," he said. "However, with the threat of IBC proceedings mitigated, it will give some breathing space to power companies and lenders as well as flexibility to restructure debts in a manner which ensures continuity and value maximization for lenders

as well as power companies."

Cyril Shroff, Managing Partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas, termed the ruling as a major development that shows how "proactive" the judiciary has been.

"Whilst it's too early to say but if banks voluntarily still invoke IBC — the practical impact will be minimal," he said.

ICRA senior vice president Subhasachi Majumdar said the Supreme Court decision is likely to result in a further slowdown in the already tardy pace of resolution of stressed assets in the power sector.

"This apart, the resolution process is in any case subjected to regulatory risks as exemplified in the case of the Prayagraj Power asset, where the regulator has given a recent directive for a discount in PPA tariff while allowing the shareholding change approval for the same," he said.

Srikanth Vadlamani, Vice President, Financial Institutions Group, Moody's Investors Service, said voiding of the February 12 circular is credit negative for Indian banks.

"The circular had significantly tightened stressed loan recognition and resolution for large borrowers. But, with the voiding, this may now have to be watered down," he said. "The resolution of stressed loans impacted by the circular will be further delayed as the process may have to be started afresh."

# ₹ jumps 40 paise to 68.74 against USD

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee on Tuesday recovered from the day's low to finally settle at 68.74 against the US dollar with gains of 40 paise amid sustained foreign fund inflows and heavy buying in domestic equities.

Forex dealers said foreign fund inflows in the debt and equity markets helped the rupee recover.

Besides, the local currency gained strength after the RBI announced second dollar-rupee swap, they added.

At the Interbank Foreign Exchange (forex), the domestic currency opened lower at 69.32 a dollar but recovered the losses during the day and touched the day's high of 68.70. It finally settled at 68.74 per dollar, up 40 paise over its previous close.

The Indian unit had appreciated by 16 paise on Friday to close at 69.14.

The forex market was closed on Monday.

According to V K Sharma, Head PCG & Capital Markets Strategy, HDFC Securities, rupee and bonds rose after the RBI announced second USD-INR swap.

"Sovereign bonds gain as RBI's currency swap will add to liquidity in the banking system," Sharma said, adding "the swap auction comes ahead of the important RBI policy statement that is scheduled this week. The central bank is expected to cut rates and a dovish statement could put

pressure on the rupee".

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday said it will inject long-term liquidity worth USD 5 billion into the banking system through dollar-rupee buy-sell swap for a tenure of three years on April 23, the second such auction within a month.

Forex dealers said foreign fund inflows and heavy buying in domestic equities supported the rupee, however, strengthening of the US dollar and rising crude prices restricted the upmove.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net buyers in the capital markets, putting in ₹543.36 crore Tuesday, as per the provisional data.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.10 per cent to trade at USD 69.08 per barrel.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, surged 0.17 per cent to 97.39.

Rising for the fourth session in a row, the BSE benchmark Sensex Tuesday added another 185 points to hit an all-time closing high of 39,056 and the NSE Nifty closed above the key 11,700-level on intense buying mainly in auto, IT and banking stocks amid hopes of RBI rate cut.

Meanwhile, Financial Benchmark India Private Ltd (FBIL) set the reference rate for the rupee/dollar at 69.1198 and for rupee/euro at 77.4478. The reference rate for rupee/British pound was fixed at 90.2119 and for rupee/100 Japanese yen at 62.09.

# Global tensions to force trade slowdown in 2019: WTO

AFP ■ GENEVA

Global trade growth is expected to be lower in 2019 than it was last year, the World Trade Organization forecast on Tuesday, citing widespread "tensions" and economic uncertainty.

The WTO had in its preliminary estimates predicted a 3.7 per cent expansion of trade for this year, but has revised that down to 2.6 per cent, marking a decline on the three-per cent growth recorded in 2018.

"The fact that we don't have great news today should surprise no one who has been reading the papers over the last 12 months," WTO director-general Roberto Azevedo told reporters in Geneva.

In its main annual forecast, the 164-member WTO renewed its concerns about systemic threats that could continue to disrupt the world's economy, notably retaliatory tariffs between China and the United States.

There are indications that ongoing talks between Washington and Beijing could resolve the bruising tariff battle, but timelines for a possible deal are not clear.

Asked if he saw either side emerging victorious in the trade spat between the world's two largest economies, Azevedo said "there will be many losers".

# Business Corner



Airports Authority of India (AAI), the mainstay of Civil Aviation in the Country organised a cultural Programme — 'Nayi Dishayain' — to mark the 24th annual day on April, 1, 2019 at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi with full grandeur. The celebration kick-started with Ganesh Vandana by Zenith Dance Group followed by many other wonderful performances by the group



On the occasion of Silver Jubilee celebration of the 'Action India' Media House, Rakesh Bhardwaj & the Team Action India, honoured Kular Singh, PRO Northern Railway at Kedar Nath Sahni Auditorium, Civic Centre, New Delhi for his outstanding services



Northern Railway Honours Eleven Employees through Safety Award (March -2019) was held keeping with the practice of honouring employees, whose alertness and prompt action have resulted in averting a possible accident. The award ceremony was held at Northern Railway Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi



BSES Rajdhani Power Limited has bagged the coveted Gold award for CSR under the 'public utility services organisation sector' at the recently organised '17 Annual Greentech Awards 2018'



A 16-member Indian Junior Archery Team made the nation proud at the recently concluded Asia Cup World Ranking Archery Stage-1 in Bangkok. The team triumphed at the event with an overall haul of 7 medals including 3 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze medals. The archery team was ably supported by NTPC Limited ensuring a shining result at the archery meet which concluded on Tuesday

# 'Precarious' global rebound expected in late 2019: IMF's Lagarde

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

Global growth in 2019 should be even slower than previously expected but a "precarious" rebound later this year is likely, the head of the International Monetary Fund said Tuesday.

In a speech ahead of next week's spring meetings with the World Bank, IMF chief Christine Lagarde said the world economy was vulnerable to shocks from Brexit, high debt levels and trade tensions, as well as unease on financial markets.

"The expected rebound in global growth this year is precarious," she said in prepared remarks at the US Chamber of Commerce. "This is a delicate moment that requires us to handle with care."

Lagarde said the IMF next week was due to cut its global growth forecasts even further than it had in January, with more than two thirds of the world economy likely to see

slowing growth.

At the start of the year, the fund had already lowered its expectations several notches from a prior outlook, calling for global GDP to expand by 3.5 percent this year and next.

Next week's meetings — a semi-annual Washington conclave of central bankers and finance ministers — comes with the backdrop of fraught negotiations between Beijing and Washington to resolve their eight-month trade war.

Gloom about slowing growth in Asia, Europe and the United States, as well as the protected US-China trade war, have sparked periodic jitters on markets since last year.

But Lagarde pointed to some grounds for optimism, saying major central banks, including the US Federal Reserve, were showing patience about the speed of interest rate increases while China had moved to stimulate its economy.

# India's cloud market to cross \$7 bn by 2022: Nasscom

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Growing adoption of Big Data, analytics, artificial intelligence and Internet of Things is expected to push cloud market in India to grow 3-fold to \$7.1 billion by 2022, a report by Nasscom said Tuesday.

The report titled 'Cloud — Next Wave of Growth in India', prepared with Google Cloud and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP, said cloud spending in 2018 was estimated to be about six per cent of the total IT spending.

Indian infrastructure as a service (IaaS) spending was estimated to be about \$1 billion in 2018, and is forecast to grow at 25 per cent per annum to reach \$2.3-2.4 billion in 2022.

Factors that can drive the IaaS uptake in India are improved infrastructure, economic benefits, increased innovation, vibrant startup and connected ecosystem, the

report said.

The Indian software as a service (SaaS) market, on the other hand, is expected to grow at 36 per cent per annum and touch USD 3.3-3.4 billion by 2022. This boost is expected on the back of lower cost of workforce, abundant talent availability, mature sales eco-system, adoption of newer technologies like AI and machine learning to build products.

Globally, the cloud spending on IT is growing at 16.5 per cent (CAGR) and is expected to touch \$345 billion by 2022.

To accelerate the cloud growth momentum in India in the right strategic direction, the report recommended that the Indian government set out tangible time-bound targets for cloud and a sharper focus on the multitude of other infrastructural and operational factors (reliable power, sustainable land regulations, and high-speed connectivity).

# Jet pilots write to DGCA, mgmt, seek interest on salary dues

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The National Aviators Guild (NAG), the domestic pilots union of the crippled Jet Airways, on Tuesday demanded interest on their delayed salaries along with timely payment, saying the prevailing situation is not "ideal" for them to be in the cockpits.

In two separate communications to director-general of civil aviation BS Bhullar and Jet Airways chief executive Vinay Dube, the guild also said they are facing problems in paying their EMIs and other financial commitments.

The pilots along with engineers and have salary arrears for three months, starting January.

The letters from guild president Karan Chopra Tuesday comes two after they deferred their strike call to April 15, which was earlier to begin on April 1.

"Non-payment of salaries is leading to extreme tension and frustration among us, which is hardly an ideal situation for pilots in the cockpits. EMIs, school and college fees to be paid along with medical bills of our ageing parents," Chopra said.

The guild, which claims to represent around 1,100 of the

1,600 Jet pilots, had announced earlier warned to go on strike from April 1, unless their salary dues were cleared and clarity was provided on future payments by March 31.

Jet, which is now under the ownership of the SBI-led consortium of lenders, has been delaying salaries to its pilots along with engineers and senior staff since last August. On December 6, 2018, the management had revised its earlier payment schedule, according to which it was to clear all dues by March 31.

"All please to the management in this regard have fallen on the deaf ears. The management must pay arrears along with allowance from the due date and pay interest as well as per market rates," Chopra said in the letter.

On March 21, the guild had sought Government intervention in Jet, after which SBI had stated that the banks would infuse Rs 1,500 crore to sustain its operations for the next two months.

On March 25, the airline board approved a resolution plan formulated by SBI-led lenders, Uder WHICH lenders took control of the airline with 50 percent holding.

### SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Pushpa D/o Prabhu Ram, R/o K-85, Sector-5, DSIIDC, Bawana, Delhi, Age : 16 yrs., Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Fair, Face : Oval, Wearing : Pink Colour Suit-Salwar, Cream Colour Sweater and Hawai Chappal in Feet,** has been missing / kidnapped since **13.01.2019** from the area of PS. Narela Industrial Area. In this regard a case **FIR No. 15/19 dated 14.01.2019** u/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in), Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO  
PS. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-27787592, 27787593

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male **Age: about 55 years, Height: 5'8", Face: Long, Build: Medium, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: White coloured Kurta Pajama,** was found unconscious on footpath, Near LNJP Hospital, Delhi on **28.03.2019**. He was admitted in LNJP Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. Dead body has been preserved for 72 hours in the mortuary of LNJP Hospital. In this regard a **DD No. 93-A, dated 29.03.2019** has been lodged at PS I.P. Estate, Delhi. If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO  
I.P. Estate, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23232294, 23370928  
Mob.: 8750870426

DP/6169/CD/19

### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Manjura @ Sahiba, D/o Zakir Maik, R/o D-1/158, JJ Colony, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since **11.03.2019** from the area of PS. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 117/19 u/s 363 IPC, dated 12.03.2019,** has been registered at PS. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

**Name:** Manjura @ Sahiba, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 15 years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Build:** Medium, **Ornaments:** Two Tabeez in Neck, **Wearing:** Black colour Suit-Salwar and Slippers in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped girl, kindly inform SHO Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.

E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641  
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO  
PS. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi  
Ph. No.: 011-27811933, 27811934

DP/161/ON/19

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that this person **Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 30 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Build: Medium, Wearing: Grey Colour Jacket, Underwear and Bare footed** has been found dead in front LNJP Hospital, Darya Ganj, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 42A, dated 26.03.2019 has been lodged at PS. Jama Masjid, Delhi. Dead body has been preserved in the mortuary of MAMC for 72 hours for identification purpose.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO  
PS. Jama Masjid, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-23261625, 8750870422

DP/6166/CD/19

# India records 14 IPOs raising \$940 mn in first quarter of 2019: Report

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian companies raised \$940 million (about ₹6,482.48 crore) through 14 initial public offerings in the first quarter of 2019 and the IPO activity is expected to gather more steam post elections, an EY report said Tuesday.

The report also noted that during January-March 2019, Indian stock exchanges (BSE and NSE, including SMEs) ranked fourth globally in terms of number of IPOs.

As per the 'EY India IPO Trends Report: Q1 2019', capital markets were energised in the reported quarter on hopes of a stable outcome of Lok Sabha elections.

In the latest quarter, the main markets (BSE and NSE) witnessed five IPOs, while SME market saw nine IPOs spread across different sectors, such as transportation, infrastructure, IT consultancy, etc.

"Investors and other stakeholders are waiting for the outcome of national elections...Till then, IPO activities are expected to remain at low levels," Sandip Khetan, Partner and National Leader, Financial

Accounting Advisory Services (FAAS), EY India said.

Khetan further noted that if a stable government is formed, IPO activities are likely to gather momentum and there could be flood of IPOs and fundraising activities in the second half of 2019.

Around 70 companies have received clearance from markets regulator Sebi, but are waiting for election results. About 19 firms are awaiting clearance from the regulator, which indicates a strong pipeline of IPOs, the report said.

Going forward, the factors that could affect markets and IPO activities in 2019 include RBI's measures to ease tight liquidity, increased election-related government spending and consequent rise in corporate earnings for the coming quarters.

In global context, Europe Middle East, India and Africa (EMEA) region's two largest IPOs in the quarter came from NSE, accounting for 94 per cent of India's IPO proceeds and 66 per cent of EMEA's proceeds for the reported quarter.

# Sensex scales record closing high, surges 185 points

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rising for the fourth session in a row, the BSE benchmark Sensex on Tuesday added another 185 points to hit an all-time closing high of 39,056 and the NSE Nifty closed above the key 11,700-level on intense buying mainly in auto, IT and banking stocks amid hopes of RBI rate cut.

Tata Motors drove the Sensex rally for the second session in a row, surging over 8 per cent. Other top gainers were Bharti Airtel, TCS, Bajaj Finance, PowerGrid, IndusInd Bank and State Bank of India

— rising as much as 5 per cent.

Bucking the overall trend, Bajaj Auto, Sun Pharma, Vedanta, Tata Steel, HCL Tech and HDFC Bank stocks saw intense selling on account of profit-booking.

The 30-share Sensex started on a positive note at 38,988.57 and swung between a high of 39,121.69 and a low of 38,846.96. During the course, it also set its new intraday record by touching 39,121.69. The gauge finally settled the day at 39,056.65, 184.78 points or 0.48 per cent higher.

Similarly, the NSE Nifty

opened higher at 11,711.55 and rose to a record intraday high of 11,729.35. It, however, closed at 11,713.20, up 44.05 points or 0.38 per cent.

Sectorally, realty, telecom, auto and IT emerged as prominent gainers. On the other hand, indices of oil and gas, FMCG and basic materials were in the red. The RBI's rate setting panel Tuesday started its 3-day deliberations for the first bi-monthly monetary policy of 2019-20 amid expectations of a cut in key lending rate by another 25 basis points to boost economic activities. Investors are keenly awaiting the outcome of

the RBI's first bi-monthly monetary policy review meeting. Experts believe that hopes of interest rate cut by the Reserve Bank have also aided the recent rally in domestic equities. Besides, domestic markets have a spillover effect of robust global sentiment as investors were encouraged by signs of strengthening economic indicators that showed manufacturing activities in China and the United States improving.

Asian bourses followed Wall Street gains on Tuesday amid strong indications of improving global macro-economic picture.

# India's manufacturing growth at 6-month low in March: PMI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Reflecting a loss of "growth momentum", manufacturing activities in the country slowed down to a six-month low in March amid softer increases in new orders, production and employment, according to a survey.

The Nikkei India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) declined to 52.6 in March from 54.3 in February, a report said Tuesday.

A reading above 50 indicates expansion while a print below that level points to contraction.

"Falling from 54.3 in February to a six-month low, the latest figure highlighted a loss of growth momentum," the report said, adding that although operating conditions in the Indian manufacturing industry continued to improve, there was a widespread slowdown in growth.

As per the report, factory orders and production expanded at the slowest pace since last September while job creation eased to an eight-month low in March.

"Softer increases were registered for new orders, production, input buying and employment. The deceleration was accompanied by subdued inflationary pressures, with rates of increase in input costs and output charges below their respective long-run averages," it noted. However, business sentiment strengthened to a seven-month high.

Pollyanna De Lima, Principal Economist at IHS Markit and the author of the report on the PMI, said manufacturing sector expansion in India took a step back in March, with metrics for factory orders, production, exports, input buying and employment all moving lower.

# BUSINESS TAKES

## JLR TO DRIVE IN MULTIPLE ELECTRIFIED VEHICLES IN INDIA STARTING THIS YEAR

New Delhi: Tata Motors owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) Tuesday said it plans to launch multiple electrified models, including hybrid and battery operated vehicles in India, starting this year. Towards the end of 2019, JLR India will introduce its first hybrid vehicle from the Land Rover portfolio, the company said in a statement. In the second half of 2020, the company plans to launch its first battery electric vehicle, the Jaguar I-PACE, it added. The company plans to launch the products in India over the next few years in line with JLR's global commitment to introduce electrified options on its entire product portfolio by 2020, it said. "JLR's focus is to commit itself to a more sustainable future and our engineers have developed just the right products to lead us on this path," JLR India president and managing director Rohit Suri said. The introduction of electrified vehicles in JLR's India portfolio is in line with the government's thrust towards electric vehicles, he added. The company is encouraged by the introduction of FAME-II by the government and its focus on expansion of the charging infrastructure in the country, Suri said. "This is bound to help with faster adoption of all kinds of electric vehicles in due course," he added.

## REALTORS HAVE TIME TILL MAY 10 TO OPT FOR OLD GST RATES

New Delhi: Real estate firms have time till May 10 to communicate to their respective jurisdictional officers whether they want to continue with the old GST rates with input tax credit, failing which they will be deemed to have migrated to new tax rates. The GST Council had given the option to real estate companies to either opt for old rates of 12 per cent (for residential) and 8 per cent (affordable housing) with input tax credit (ITC) benefits or the new tax rates of 5 per cent for residential units and 1 per cent for affordable housing without the benefit of adjusting the credit on inputs used during construction. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has issued a notification giving real estate companies a one-time option to choose either of the tax rates. "Provided that in case of ongoing project, the registered person shall exercise one time option ... to pay central tax on construction of apartments in a project at the rates as specified .... by the 10th of May, 2019," the CBIC said. In case, realtors do not exercise the option, they will be covered under the lower tax rate of 5 per cent and 1 per cent with effect from April 1, 2019, and will not be entitled to avail tax credit on inputs. Meanwhile, in a separate notification, the CBIC has asked the real estate companies that will be migrating to the new rates to prepare their books of accounts with regard to ITC and repay the over-used credit, if any, to the government in 24 instalments. Explaining the provision, AMRG & Associates Partner Rajat Mohan said builders opting for lower rate of taxes with effect from April 1 would have to recalculate eligible tax credit since the inception of GST based on the proportion of residential to commercial carpet area, sold to unsubsidized units and invoiced to un-invoiced amount.

# RBI begins 3-day meet on monetary policy

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The RBI's rate setting panel on Tuesday started its 3-day deliberations for the first bi-monthly monetary policy of 2019-20 amid expectations of a cut in key lending rate by another 25 basis points to boost economic activities.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had reduced the repo rate by 25 basis points in February, after a gap of 18 months. A back-to-back cut in interest

rate would provide relief to borrowers in the election season.

The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das will announce the resolution of the meeting at around noon on Thursday.

It would be the first bi-monthly monetary policy of 2019-20. Das has already held meetings with stakeholders including industry bodies, depositors association, MSME representatives and bankers.

Industry and experts are expecting the banking sector regulator to cut the key lending rate — at which it lends to commercial banks — by 0.25 per cent so as to boost the economic activities as fears loom large about global economic slowdown impacting India's growth prospects.

According to industry estimates, inflation is well below the RBI's mandate of 4 per cent and hence it should cut the repo rate (rate at which RBI lends to

banks) to boost economic growth. A back-to-back cut in interest rate would provide relief to borrowers in the election season, experts say.

According to ratings firm ICRA, the RBI could go for a 25 bps rate cut in the upcoming meeting of monetary policy committee. Director General of CII Chandrajit Banerjee said the inflation trajectory has remained benign which further warrants a reduction in interest rates.

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11711.55	11729.35	11655.85	11713.20	44.05
TATAMOTORS	188.05	204.40	185.30	203.50	16.15
BHARTIARTL	343.00	359.00	343.00	356.00	15.20
EICHERMOT	2031.00	2119.05	2031.00	2061.00	561.60
SBIN	323.65	331.00	322.10	330.90	8.15
BAJFINANCE	3024.80	3077.00	2998.35	3073.00	71.55
TCS	2037.10	2086.00	2037.00	2079.00	47.35
POWERGRID	196.00	200.80	196.00	199.50	4.40
YESBANK	278.20	282.05	274.80	282.00	6.10
GAIL	356.80	364.85	354.00	362.50	7.80
HPDC	196.10	200.10	195.00	199.85	3.90
INDUSINDBK	1754.65	1780.00	1730.80	1778.00	34.95
ASIANPNT	1493.00	1523.45	1484.55	1522.75	30.00
BAJAJFINSV	7197.40	7311.00	7159.90	7298.00	139.20
M&M	665.00	670.90	661.45	670.50	9.60
TECHM	790.95	794.00	785.05	791.50	6.60
HEROMOTOCO	2550.40	2599.00	2545.00	2577.95	99.45
MARUTI	6859.45	6900.70	6785.50	6890.00	49.30
ONGC	159.20	159.70	156.40	158.30	1.05
AXISBANK	769.15	774.95	761.00	769.60	4.00
HINDALCO	216.25	218.30	213.20	217.00	1.10
ITC	297.40	300.00	294.65	298.10	0.85
KOTACBANK	1344.00	1348.85	1328.00	1343.00	3.60
ICICIBANK	400.00	400.00	393.45	398.55	0.30
INFY	759.00	765.80	754.60	755.00	-0.10
NTPC	314.45	318.10	312.15	314.05	-0.20
IRFATL	136.05	136.70	134.00	135.00	-0.10
IOC	158.00	159.90	157.05	158.55	-0.15
DREDDY	2804.00	2820.00	2780.00	2792.00	-2.80
COALINDIA	238.95	239.50	235.55	236.00	-0.40
LT	1415.10	1426.95	1403.50	1409.25	-2.95
WIPRO	263.40	263.90	259.20	261.05	-0.60
RELIANCE	1398.00	1403.10	1380.10	1388.20	-3.65
VEDL	196.00	198.00	186.35	188.10	-0.80
TATASTEEL	538.00	538.00	526.05	532.75	-2.40
HINDUNILVR	1693.15	1697.00	1680.10	1682.00	-2.80
HPDCBANK	232.00	232.00	228.45	229.90	-1.20
TTAN	1125.00	1131.15	1108.40	1114.00	-6.35
ADANIPORTS	383.00	386.00	377.50	380.80	-2.25
IBULHSGFIN	851.40	857.75	831.80	842.10	-5.10
CIPLA	529.95	529.95	521.15	522.35	-3.40
HCLTECH	1110.00	1120.00	1102.50	1102.05	-8.70
UPL	940.00	940.00	915.50	926.85	-7.45
ULTRACEMCO	4062.00	4083.50	3985.60	4020.00	-33.50
GRASIM	857.35	859.60	837.90	847.95	-9.40
JSWSTEEL	285.75	295.75	285.50	287.35	-4.95
SUNPHARMA	492.00	483.90	467.10	470.45	-4.80
BRITANNIA	305.60	305.60	298.40	299.85	-5.40
BAJAJ-AUTO	2918.00	2938.35	2840.20	2848.00	-67.65
BPCL	387.90	391.35	378.05	382.40	-9.50
ZEELE	419.80	435.00	402.95	419.55	-12.15

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	28398.85	28409.25	28078.60	28137.20	-197.00
GICRE	247.75	256.90	246.25	255.50	9.25
SAIL	55.40	56.65	54.45	56.55	1.50
ICIPIPRUL	363.90	371.50	363.55	371.10	8.55
BAJAJHLDNG	3375.00	3450.00	3353.95	3419.95	67.80
NHPC	25.20	25.60	25.10	25.55	0.50
DLF	195.60	200.80	194.20	199.10	3.55
LUPIN	767.00	783.65	759.05	776.50	10.30
HPDCAMC	1559.00	1579.60	1559.00	1574.00	18.00
BANKBARODA	133.70	135.40	130.80	133.75	1.05
NIACL	190.00	191.95	186.00	190.40	1.50
PETRONET	240.20	250.65	244.50	249.20	1.70
OFSS	382.25	347.00	338.50	341.00	22.80
BANDHANBNK	532.80	536.00	520.30	533.00	2.90
MOTHERSUMI	154.00	155.60	152.75	154.50	0.85
PIDILITIND	1259.95	1265.00	1242.00	1258.15	5.50
CONCOR	531.10	543.40	529.60	533.45	2.35
ABB	1318.00	1346.20	1308.00	1322.00	4.20
SBILIFE	60.00	603.90	591.05	600.05	1.85
DABUR	402.10	408.00	399.60	401.70	0.75
MRF	6023.00	6168.00	6020.00	6020.00	36.15
HINDZINC	28.10	28.90	27.95	28.40	0.10
DIEMTS	1139.00	1139.00	1118.15	1130.50	-0.80
DMART	1498.30	1505.30	1482.50	1490.00	-2.95
CADILAC	346.30	349.70	342.30	343.15	-1.10
PGHH	1080.05	1091.95	1065.25	1075.00	-41.20
NMDC	105.50	108.45	104.30	104.95	-0.40
UBL	1414.90	1422.80	1393.05	1406.10	-6.80
BIOCON	621.00	625.50	612.65	615.65	-3.85
MARICO	349.00	349.00	344.45	345.75	-2.25
BHEL	76.25	77.15	73.70	75.45	-0.50
AUROPHARMA	795.00	801.90	781.25	785.00	-5.35
ASHOKLEY	90.80	91.23	88.60	89.70	-0.65
L&T	151.70	153.00	149.40	151.00	-1.15
BOSCHLTD	1860.50	1878.45	1801.20	1840.00	-165.85
COPAL	1255.00	1265.05	1240.00	1246.00	-12.20
HPCLIFE	384.45	394.50	379.10	380.00	-3.85
PAGEIND	2569.50	2584.20	2539.60	2520.00	-331.80
HAVELLS	776.70	779.55	761.20	764.00	-11.65
ACC	1648.90	1669.00	1609.00	1621.80	-25.10
MCDOWELL-N	549.00	555.50	538.45	540.60	-8.80
ICICI	1016.00	1039.60	989.00	999.00	-162.70
AMBUJACEM	18796.00	18796.00	1845.00	1848.00	-313.00
AMTRAC	225.50	236.50	228.80	230.60	-3.95
DIVISLAB	1735.00	1734.40	1693.70	1694.00	-29.30
PEL	2709.00	2709.00	2679.00	2637.00	-56.55
INDIGO	1419.00	1419.00	1317.00	1382.50	-34.30
SRTRANSFIN	1238.00	1252.20	1200.45	1200.10	-35.95
HINDPNT	280.50	284.90	272.70	275.40	-4.80
GODREJCP	681.45	681.45	651.20	656.75	-20.25
IDEA	17.90	17.90	16.60	16.65	-1.10

# BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	BAJAJFINSV	7176.80	7310.00	7163.10	7278.35	EXIDEIND	216.20	217.30	214.25	215.30
SUZLON	6.21	6.98	6.12	6.82	PFPC	120.05	123.75	116.50	121.75	TAKE	151.05	152.35	145.00	145.60
JPASSOCIAT	5.74	5.83	5.48	5.57	SYNDIBANK	44.80	46.60	43.60	45.15	RAIN	104.10	104.40	101.50	101.80
TATAMOTORS	188.75	204.00	185.25	202.80	WOCKPHARMA	455.15	458.10	442.40	445.80	SHANKARA	450.50	450.50	422.85	435.55
ZEELE	425.00	434.90	403.20	418.10	SOUTHBANK	17.20	17.30	16.70	17.05	RAYMOND	826.60	831.65	813.50	816.40
RELIINFRA	138.25	146.25	137.00	140.10	ASIANPAINT	1490.20	1520.00	148						

# Britain to seek further 'short' delay to Brexit

## Chaotic Brexit becomes ever more likely: Barnier

AP ■ BRUSSELS

EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier warned on Tuesday that Britain's disorderly exit from the European Union is becoming more likely by the day unless the UK drastically changes its spiraling course toward a no-deal Brexit.

"As things stand now, the no-deal option looks likely, I have to tell you the truth," Barnier told European legislators. Despite the downbeat assessment, Barnier said "we can still hope to avoid it" through intensive work in London ahead of an April 10 EU summit. A no-deal Brexit could come as soon as two days after that.

"We still have a little bit of patience," Barnier said, but urged British legislators and the government to take a more realistic approach as soon as possible. Exiting without a deal in place would jeopardise trade and travel overnight, with new

checks on borders and new regulations on dealings between Britain and the 27 remaining EU nations.

He warned that though the EU is prepared for a chaotic exit, challenges remain. "Being prepared for no deal does not mean that there will be no disruption," he said.

"Not everything will be smooth, there will be problems. Being prepared means that all unforeseen problems should be manageable on the EU side," Barnier said.

The EU had negotiated a long transition period with British Prime Minister Theresa May, but it was linked to the overall agreement that the UK parliament has rejected up to now. "There is no transition if there is no deal," Barnier warned.

Barnier insisted the EU would not renegotiate the 585-page withdrawal agreement but said he was willing to open up the political declaration that came with the legal text.



"If the UK so wishes, we are ready to rework the political declaration as long as the fundamental principles of the EU are respected," he said.

In Britain, political chaos continued to reign.

With just 11 days until the UK must come up with a new plan or crash out of the bloc in chaos, the House of Commons on Monday threw out four options designed to replace May's thrice-rejected Brexit deal — though in some cases it was close.

That vote result left May's

Conservative government facing difficult and risky choices. It can gamble on a fourth attempt to push the deal through Parliament, let Britain tumble out of the bloc without a deal, or roll the dice by seeking a snap election to shake up Parliament.

May has summoned her Cabinet for a marathon session as the government tries to find a way out of the crisis. The Cabinet is scheduled to meet for five hours Tuesday amid calls for compromise to prevent a potentially devastating no-deal exit.



Anti-Brexit demonstrators with an effigy of British Prime Minister Theresa May near College Green at the Houses of Parliament in London

AFP ■ LONDON

British Prime Minister Theresa May said on Tuesday she will seek another "short" extension of Brexit in order to pass the deal she agreed with the European Union. May came out of seven hours of crunch talks with her ministers and also offered to meet opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn for negotiation on a joint approach that could break the current impasse in parliament.

"Leaving with a deal is the best solution," May said from her Downing Street office in nationally-televised remarks. "We will need a further extension to Article 50, one that is as short as possible, and which ends when we pass a deal," she said.

Article 50 is the withdrawal notice May sent to Brussels in March 2017.

EU leaders have agreed to extend the original March 29 Brexit deadline until April 12 to avoid a chaotic "no-deal"

ending to the 46-year EU-UK partnership.

May stressed that the 27 EU leaders would need to know why Brexit should be pushed back again before approving her request, which needs unanimous support.

"We need to be clear what such an extension is for to ensure we leave in a timely and orderly way," she said.

"This debate, this division, cannot drag on much longer," May said she wanted to meet Corbyn "to try to agree a plan — that we would both stick to — to ensure that we leave the European Union and that we do so with a deal."

There was no immediate response to her comments from the Labour leader.

The House of Commons has rejected May's divorce deal with Brussels three times and is currently trying to come up with an alternative way forward. Its two initial attempts to reach a consensus on a Plan B have failed.



Anti-Brexit protesters look at placards showing pictures of British politicians as she demonstrates outside the Houses of Parliament in London on Tuesday

## EU can't be 'held hostage' to Brexit crisis: Macron

Paris: French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday warned the European Union could not "be held hostage" to the Brexit crisis and said that a lengthy extension of the deadline for Britain to leave the bloc was "not a certainty".

Speaking during a visit to Paris by Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar, the French leader said, "The EU cannot be held hostage to the resolution of a political crisis in the United Kingdom on a long-term basis."

# Islamabad HC to probe Hindu girls 'forced' conversion

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The Islamabad High Court on Tuesday formed an independent five-member commission to probe the alleged abduction, forced conversion and marriage of two teenage Hindu girls in Sindh province that led to massive protests by the minority community in the country.

A high court bench led by Chief Justice of IHC Athar Minallah heard the petition filed by the two sisters — Reena, Raveena — and their alleged spouses, Safdar Ali and Barkat Ali, to seek protection.

In their plea, the girls claimed that they belong to a Hindu family of Ghotki, Sindh but converted willingly as they were impressed by Islamic teaching. The counsel for the girls' parents, however, asserted that the case pertained to forced conversion.

Their father on Monday also filed a petition in the IHC for a medical board to determine the exact ages of the two sisters as well as to test the girls for Stockholm Syndrome, a state of mind when a victim develops trust or affection for kidnappers.

Justice Minallah said the matter requires transparent inquiry and it is the government's job to conduct probes not the judiciary's. The chief justice said the court had to ensure that there was no forced conversion. The bench formed a five-member commission to probe the matter.

The commission includes Human Rights Minister Shireen Mazari, Human Rights Commission of Pakistan Chairperson Mehdi Hasan, National Commission on the Status of Women Chairperson Khawar Mumtaz, veteran human rights activist IA Rehman and renowned Islamic scholar Mufti Taqi Usmani.

The federal government has been tasked to organise meeting of the commission. The incident came to light when a video surfaced online showing the teenagers' father and brother claiming the girls were abducted and forcefully converted. It was followed by another video snippet in which the two girls claimed that they had converted to Islam.

Amid the uproar, Prime Minister Imran Khan directed Sindh and Punjab to investigate the matter and recover the girls if the forceful conversion allegation was correct.

Chief Justice Minallah also ordered that a medical board be constituted to determine the age of the girls. The court ordered the medical board to submit its report at the next hearing on April 11.

Earlier, a medical report by Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences stated that the girls were not minors at the time of their marriages. The report was dismissed by the family of the girls as well as opposition lawmaker from Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, Darshan Punshi, who belongs to the Hindu community.



## US suspends participation of Turkey in F-35 fighter jet programme

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US has suspend the participation of its ally Turkey in the F-35 stealth fighter jet programme after Ankara decided to buy Russian S-400 air defence system.

The US has expressed its concern as Turkey is an ally of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the alliance formed to counter the Soviet Union. Turkey's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu met his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov last week, giving a go ahead to the S-400 purchase.

"The United States has been clear that Turkey's acquisition of the S-400 is unacceptable," said Acting Chief Pentagon Spokesperson Charles Summers Jr. "Should Turkey procure the S-400, their continued participation in the F-35 program is at risk," Summers said.

Summers said secondary sources of supply for Turkish-produced parts are now in development.

# Nirav Modi intends to appeal for bail in UK High Court

London: Fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi, undergoing extradition proceedings in the UK, intends to appeal for bail in the UK High Court after a second bail application was rejected by a lower court in London last week in the \$1-billion PNB fraud and money laundering case.

Crown Prosecution Service, which represents Indian authorities through extradition process in UK courts, said Nirav intends to appeal against Judge Emma Arbuthnot's decision to turn down his bail plea at the end of a hearing at Westminster Magistrates' Court last Friday on the grounds that there was a "substantial risk he would fail to surrender".

"Nirav intends to appeal his bail decision, but he has not yet submitted the appeal," a CPS spokesperson said. He, who has been behind bars at HMP Wandsworth in south-west

London ever since his first bail application was rejected on March 20, can apply for a HC bail appeal at any time until his next remand hearing on April 26.

However, his legal team must give the CPS 48 hours' notice and the bail hearing must be listed within 48 hours of the appeal being lodged in the higher court.

"We are not making any comment at this time," Modi's solicitor Anand Doobay said, in reference to plans for a bail appeal application. It remains to be seen how Modi's legal team is able to further bolster the bail application after Chief Magistrate Arbuthnot ruled that 1 million pounds offered as security for bail as well as the offer to meet stringent electronic tag restrictions on their client's movements, "akin to house arrest", were not sufficient to convince her that he did not pose a flight risk.

PTI

## NASA calls India's A-SAT test 'terrible thing'

Washington: NASA has slammed India's anti-satellite missile (A-SAT) test last week saying it has increased risk to the International Space Station (ISS) and may launch a race of sort among countries to repeat the feat.

NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine on Monday said the A-SAT missile's successful targeting of a live satellite on a low earth orbit (LEO) within three minutes, that created at least 400 pieces of orbital debris, has increased risk to the ISS.

"That is a terrible, terrible thing to create an event that sends debris at an apogee that goes above the ISS," CNN quoted Bridenstine as saying at a live-streamed NASA town hall on Monday.

Of the 60 pieces of debris that could be tracked, 24 went above the apogee of the ISS — the point of the space station's orbit farthest from the Earth, the CNN reported on Tuesday. "That kind of activity is not compatible with the future of human spaceflight," he said.

IANS



A Nepalese boy stands on the roof of a house damaged in a rain storm in Bara District, 125 kilometres South of Kathmandu, Nepal, on Tuesday. Government workers and private volunteers provided food, tents and clothing to thousands of people in southern Nepal who lost their homes and belongings in a weekend storm

# Sources: Trump considers adding 'immigration czar'

AP ■ WASHINGTON

As he threatens to shut down the southern border, President Donald Trump is considering bringing on a "border" or "immigration czar" to coordinate immigration policy across various federal agencies, according to four people familiar with the discussions.

Trump is weighing at least two potential candidates for the post: former Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach and former Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, according to the people, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they

were not authorised to discuss the conversations publicly.

Kobach and Cuccinelli are far-right conservatives with strong views on immigration. Cuccinelli was seen at the White House on Monday. The planning comes as Trump is threatening anew to close the US-Mexico border as soon as this week if Mexico does not completely halt illegal immigration into the US. And it serves as the latest sign that the president plans to continue to hammer his hardline immigration rhetoric and policies as he moves past the special counsel's Russia investigation and works to rally his base heading into his 2020

re-election campaign.

Aides hope the potential appointment, which they caution is still in the planning stages, would serve as the "face" of the administration on immigration issues and would placate both the president and his supporters, showing he is serious and taking action.

White House press aides, Kobach and Cuccinelli did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Kobach previously served as vice chair of the president's short-lived election fraud commission, which was disbanded after finding little evidence of widespread abuse.



The polar bear cub Hertha plays with a ball of soccer club Hertha BSC, after the announcing of her name, at the Tierpark zoo in Berlin, on Tuesday. The Berlin soccer club is the sponsor of the bear and decide for the name of the animal, who was born December 1, 2018, at the Tierpark

## 99-year-old dubbed Prince Harry's 'biggest fan' dies

Sydney: A 99-year-old Australian war widow known as Prince Harry's "biggest fan" has died after a bout of pneumonia, her family said on Tuesday. In a statement posted on Instagram, Daphne Dunne's family said she had passed away peacefully at a hospital in Sydney on Monday, just days after turning 99.

Over the years, Dunne had been photographed multiple times greeting the Duke of Sussex on rope lines, including

last October on the steps of the Sydney Opera House.

"The simple act of stopping Daphne in the street and holding her hand meant more... Than anyone could ever imagine," they said. "We, her family, would like to thank everyone for the love and support they showed Daphne." She had received a message from Prince Harry and his wife Meghan for her birthday just last week, which she said had "really made my day".

PTI

# Air is so dirty in northern Thailand, leader flies to see it

AP ■ CHIANG MAI (THAILAND)

The air hanging over Thailand's far north has become so polluted, the prime minister went on Tuesday to see in person what is being called a severe health crisis.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha arrived by helicopter at an army base in Chiang Mai, a popular tourist destination where seasonal haze has been unusually bad and prolonged this year.

The thick gray smoky air has largely hidden the forested mountains that surround the city, and many schools have closed. Pollution levels have soared into the hazardous zone and remained there for many weeks, putting the city at the top of the list of the world's most polluted cities on many days, although readings often fluctuate by time of day.

Much of the current pollution has been caused by the burning of forest undergrowth

by villagers to make it easier to gather mushrooms and other products for sale.

The burning often occurs at night, lighting the sky but making it hard to catch the perpetrators.

The city is especially vulnerable because the mountains that surround it trap the pollution.

The problem has been worse this year because of a drier-than-usual dry season. In several weeks, farmers are

expected to start burning corn fields to clear them for planting, prolonging the pollution.

Prayuth handed out fire fighting supplies such as hoses and told local military personnel and fire fighters that he travelled to Chiang Mai to show his support.

He met with representatives from eight northern provinces at an ad-hoc regional air pollution monitoring centre and said the fires must be controlled within seven days.

# Cutting air pollution may save millions of lives annually: Study

Berlin: Reducing global air pollution may prevent over three million premature deaths annually worldwide, particularly in India, Africa and China, according to a study.

The most significant contribution would be the rapid phasing out of fossil fuels, which is currently being discussed mainly to abate climate change, said researchers led by

the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry in Germany.

Study, published in journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, used a global atmospheric chemistry and climate model, linked to the latest estimates of health effects in order to study the combined impact of decarbonisation on public health, precipitation and climate.

PTI

## GLOBE TROTTER

**PANAMA PREZ CHEERS CHINA'S 'B&R' INITIATIVE**  
Hong Kong: Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela says his country sees a "big opportunity" in China's massive "Belt and Road" infrastructure initiative. Speaking on Tuesday in Hong Kong, Varela said the initiative, which aims to weave a network of ports, bridges and power plants linking China with Africa, Europe and beyond, is a chance to "connect Asia and America to Panama."

**BLAST AT RUSSIAN MILITARY ACADEMY, 3 HURT**  
Saint Petersburg: A blast caused by an unidentified explosive device wounded three on Tuesday at a military academy in Russia's northwestern city of Saint Petersburg, the RIA Novosti state news agency reported, citing the defence ministry. It described the device as lacking casing, meaning that it was not a military device such as a mortar shell.

**INDIAN AMERICAN EDUCATOR PASSES AWAY**  
Washington: Indian American educator Pramod Vyas has died in Los Angeles, his family announced. He was 88. His son Rohit Vyas, renowned Indian American TV journalist, confirmed the news of his death on Monday.

**ISRAELI PM TO MEET PUTIN IN MOSCOW**  
Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will travel to Moscow on Thursday to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin, his office said in a statement on Tuesday.

**NZ'S NEW GUN LAW PASSES 1ST HURDLE**  
Wellington: A new legislation on gun restrictions following the Christchurch shootings passed its first hurdle in New Zealand's Parliament on Tuesday.

# A HEALTHY FUTURE

**DIGITISING THE SYSTEM OF APPOINTMENTS, ONLINE DELIVERY OF DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES AND CREATION OF DIGITALLY ENABLED SERVICES LIKE ICUs ARE EMERGING AS TOP PRIORITIES FOR HOSPITALS TODAY**

## CARDIO TECHNOLOGISTS

Cardiovascular diseases have today become the leading cause of mortality in India, with the age-standardised CVD death rate of 272 per 100,000 population. Understandably, the role of doctors, cardiologists as well as technological experts who help diagnose and treat these diseases is emerging as a prominent one. Cardiovascular technicians are allied health professionals who work closely with cardiologists to help diagnose and treat heart diseases. They help to conduct ECGs, prepare patients for angioplasties and cardiac catheterisations while closely monitoring their vital statistics such as heart rate and blood pressure during the procedures. In a nutshell, they work as technical assistants to cardiologists and cardiac surgeons and play a very crucial role in the healthcare cog. With an increasing usage of advanced diagnostic

technology in the field of cardiology, the demand for cardiovascular technologists is increasing by the day.

## MEDICAL IMAGING TECHS

The world of medical diagnostics is today a parallel field in medicine that plays a vital role in ensuring successful treatment. The use of medical imaging technology such as X Rays, ultrasounds, CT scans, MRI etc has increased significantly in recent years with greater emphasis on evidence based medicine even as improvement in digital imaging technology is allowing diagnosis with greater precision. Understandably, the field of radiology and medical imaging is witnessing a rapid surge with increasing demand for proficient and well qualified technicians. Radiographers and imaging technicians are equipped with the technological skills to handle imaging equipment and the interpersonal skills necessary for patient care. They work in hospitals as well as private diagnostic facilities which have mushroomed across the urban landscape.

## NUTRITIONISTS

Rising incidence of lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity and cardiovascular diseases has in recent years put special focus on the need to adopt healthy lifestyles and eating habits. Making healthy lifestyle choices includes consuming a healthy balance of nutrition rich foods and increasing physical activity is critical to preventing and managing chronic diseases and lifestyle disorders. Doctors are increasingly referring patients to nutrition experts who can help make the right food choices and prevent chronic diseases while managing existing conditions. Nutritionists help patients with diabetes, heart diseases

or obesity and help them achieve their health goals by charting out the right diets and nutrition aids for them. They help plan and oversee nutrition programs and educate people on how to prevent and treat disease through good nutrition and dietary alterations. Nutritionists also help athletes and fitness enthusiasts to achieve healthy and toned bodies. With rising awareness about fitness and the need to eat healthy, the demand for services of nutritionists is expected to increase.

## HEALTH DATA SCIENTISTS

Data scientists or data analysts are professionals whose demand has surged in recent years; thanks to the rise of digital footprint based industries such as e-commerce. Data analysts are essentially tasked with the objective of pulling out meaningful information from a sea of random data. In the field of healthcare, data scientists are increasingly becoming relevant. With an increasing number of hospitals working to maintain at least some form of electronic health records and wearable devices that collect health data from thousands of users becoming common, we will soon find ourselves sitting on piles of random meaningless figures. Using programming and coding skills to analyse this data and derive valuable insights from it can be very useful for improving health outcomes. Insights collected from healthcare data analytics can help increase accuracy and efficiency of diagnostics as well as help improve epidemiological understanding of diseases.

In the near future, health data scientists and deep learning experts will play a significant role in leveraging data and making sense of it for larger public good

The writer is HR, Paras Healthcare

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow**  
— Anthony J D'Angelo

## Windows 2019

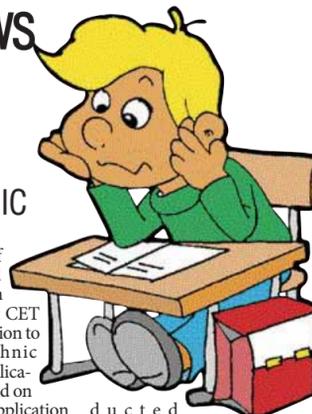
### CET DELHI POLYTECHNIC

Department of Training and Technical Education (DTTE) will conduct CET Delhi 2019 for admission to Delhi Polytechnic Institutions. The application procedure will end on April 20, 2019. The application form will be available on DTTE official website.

DTTE conducts five different tests under CET for different courses. Eligibility condition for each course is different. The examination will be conducted in June 2019. Delhi CET exam pattern consists of 150 objective type questions and will be conducted online.

Result for Delhi Polytechnic CET will be declared in the third week of June.

DTTE CET is conducted every year for admission to various diploma courses in polytechnics (engineering & non-engineering) offered by several institutes/colleges across Delhi.



## LIBERAL ARTS

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies invites applications for its BA/BSc — Liberal Arts programme for the session 2019-20.

**Duration:** Three years  
**Eligibility:** Pass in Class XII or equivalent examination with at least 50 per cent marks in aggregate.

**How to apply:** Log on to [manavrachna.edu.in](http://manavrachna.edu.in).

**Last date to apply:** April 17, 2019.

## BSC INTERIOR DESIGN

Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies invites applications for its BSc Interior Design programme for the session 2019-20.

**Duration:** Three years  
**Eligibility:** Pass in Class XII or equivalent examination with at least 50 per cent marks in aggregate in five subjects including English as compulsory subject along with four subjects with the highest score out of the remaining subjects.

**How to apply:** Log on to

[manavrachna.edu.in](http://manavrachna.edu.in).

**Last date to apply:** April 17, 2019.

## MSC PROGRAMME

The University of Sheffield, UK is inviting applications for the MSc Advanced Control & Systems Engineering programme.

**Duration:** One year  
**Eligibility:** First or upper second class honours degree (or international equivalent) in Engineering, mathematics or science. Overall IELTS grade of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.

**Fee:** The annual fees for overseas students is £22,600.

**How to apply:** Log on to [pgtacsc@sheffield.ac.uk](http://pgtacsc@sheffield.ac.uk).

The healthcare sector is growing at a fast pace and hence a career in this field is lucrative, says PRATIMA JAIN

Increasing use of digital technology and changing dynamics of disease incidence have initiated path-breaking changes in the field of healthcare. From use of robotic computing in surgeries to prevalence of data analytics in healthcare to digital diagnostic tools, widespread usage of ICT has contributed to improving outcomes and reducing time and cost of healthcare delivery.

On the other hand, increasing incidence of lifestyle diseases has put spotlight on the need for prevention mechanisms to improve health and wellness. Rising life expectancy is also resulting in an increasingly aging population. These changing dynamics in the healthcare space are spawning new opportunities of work. There has been a surge in demand for IT executives in healthcare in recent years as more and more hospitals adopt digital technologies to improve services and patient experience.

A large number of Science graduates are today making careers for themselves in allied healthcare by taking up courses in radiology, nutrition, physiotherapy and others.

Here are some emerging career options in the field of healthcare.

## IT EXPERTS

With digital technology becoming the backbone of most fields, no industry can do without the support of IT professionals. Digitising the system of appointments, online delivery of diagnostic services and creation of digitally enabled services such as ICUs are emerging as top priorities for hospitals today as they work to improve health outcomes and patient experience. Digital systems to monitor and report vital health statistics of people with diabetes and other

chronic conditions and creation of apps and wearable devices for the same are another area where healthcare organisations are investing big time. As hospitals and other healthcare organisations incorporate digital technology into their systems, there will continue to be a surge in demand for IT experts. With greater integration of technology in every domain of healthcare, new specialised career options such as 3D printing specialists are also likely to emerge in the near future.

## PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Physical therapists are healthcare professionals who work with patients suffering from pain or restricted movement on account of injury, stroke, paralysis or surgery. These experts are critical to the rehabilitation process of patients with injuries, fractures or bone and joint related surgeries. Physical therapists work in different settings, including hospitals, clinics, in occupational environments as well as homes. They also work closely with athletes to help prevent injuries or restore proper movement in case of an injury.

Today, with increasing emphasis on holistic care the role of physical therapists is closely intertwined with that of physicians. With increasing life expectancy, cases of stroke induced paralysis have been on the rise. At the same time, increasingly sedentary lifestyles are making people vulnerable to orthopaedic problems such as backaches. All these factors are resulting in a surging demand for physiotherapists in India. And this demand will continue to peak in the near future as more and more hospitals and wellness centres come up around the country.

# Proactive mind is necessary

With increasing use of automation and related technology in IT, PRADIPTO CHAKRABARTY says why interested candidates should opt for it



The real sense of development has taken place, with earlier business practices fading out in favor of emerging technologies and processes. This is slowly creating a new dimension to conduct business in, where organisations are increasing their dependence on the new wave of technologies such as artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things, with positive results. With the addition of such technology, the data that businesses gather is more goal-oriented, while operations are more streamlined.

With increasing use of automation and related technology, there remains a possibility that some job roles will go through the path of either extinction or shape up in a different avatar requiring radically different skillsets. Especially for professionals in the Information Technology — where automation

looks to become the of business function functioning, AI, machine learning and other disruptive technologies are creating a bracing impact. So, should aspiring individuals and IT professionals bow down and whittle away? No, they can secure relevance through the following ways:

■ **Interpretation of data:** It is completely fair to state that today data that rules the world. Hyper-personalisation is taking customer experience to a whole new dimension and all this is possible because of data driven analytics. Digital interactions and transactions that users are doing every second leaves its trail for big corporations to harness and create experiences, unique for all. Yet, processing the mountain of data into something useful (and profitable) isn't easy, hence the requirement of individuals who hold proficiency over data interpretation

will be extremely valuable.

■ **Create value:** Stagnancy is what kills progress, be it in jobs or personal life. To expect that your job will remain circumstances-proof, without you putting in efforts to develop new skills, is impossible. It is natural that with technology, the interaction between the target audience and the organisation will evolve. You need to figure out new ways to display the drive to create progressive impact. You can be the person who acquires new skills, or provides new methods to implement automation, this guarantees your space as an orchestration genius who knows his/her way around newer additions, in order to contribute to the future goals of the organisation.

■ **Develop the insight muscle:** Here is a simple yet critical fact that one needs to reckon with — all this automation is taking place at a steady

pace. This isn't an overnight development and one doesn't face a loss of relevance immediately, it is taking its time to synthesise and synchronise things. Therefore, a proactive presence of mind, with a critical eye towards insight, is necessary to develop value. The message is clear — mesh yourself into higher value areas, to prove grit and merit.

■ **Embrace the opportunity to transform:** It is often seen that with extended tenure over a particular position, one loses his/her ability to transform to changing times. Yet, in the field of IT, an aversion to change brings nothing but dismay. IT professionals have long experienced the disruptive forces of automation and technology transformation and it is noted that those who are willing to embrace and incorporate, provide the most value to the whole industry. With the change in business practices, it is important to keep the onus to transform alive, in order to fuel in change while maintain progress throughout.

■ **Fill the skill gap, through IT certifications:** The requirement to learn should never witness a stalemate — it should empower your decisions and create a conduit of valuable knowledge within you-via certifications. They are a fail-proof medium to get new skill sets while adding the possibility of a new position to their already robust role.

The writer is Regional Director, CompTIA India

# TIPTOP 'Always follow the syllabus'

AK MISHRA shares tips on how students can ace UPSC exams

All young and dynamic minds are heading for UPSC Civil services examination 2019. Some will have their first attempt and some will make another try but there are certain guidelines to be followed every time one plan to appear.

■ **Following the curriculum:** One of the biggest mistakes the aspirants commit is not to follow the syllabus given by the UPSC. Most of the students start their preparation without referring to the syllabus and within no time find themselves in 'no progress zone'. Though the topics may be vast, but not completely unlimited. CSE aspirants need to break this myth as this may prove fatal in the long run costing you with time, money, energy and resource. In their course of preparation, consider the UPSC syllabus as your roadmap to start with and continue referring it at all points of preparation.

■ **Don't miss to go through previous years question papers:** Aspirants do not realise that the previous year papers can help them prepare in accordance with the latest trend followed by the UPSC. While preparing, refer to previous years after each step in order to co-relate with the topics finished, as this is a good indicator of whether you are moving in the right direction or not.

■ **Choosing up relevant books:** Flooding the room completely with UPSC preparation books does not



always land you in success. For effective preparation, choose hand-picked books that are genuinely relevant. The NCERT books up to Class XII are a good source of knowledge to initiate steadily.

■ **Master writing skills:** The mains exams is the criteria for the selection process that includes writing essays. One lacking in writing skills may not be well efficient in clearing the selection process. The aspirants should be well equipped with facts and wisdom, fluent flow of knowledge in a very precise and skillful manner. Being one of the toughest task, if not rectified on time, failure is guaranteed.

■ **Way of choosing optional paper:** Aspirants opt for the optional paper based on the subject scores and marking trends, length and extent of the curriculum and subject that covers almost the GS paper. Optional paper should be chosen smartly in such a way that it should also suit the aspirant's interest and inclination

towards it.

■ **Not perceiving the bottomline of the newspapers:** If the newspapers and the magazines are not understood about 'what and how to read', the results will yield low in the long run. A newspaper has three segments from preparation point of view — events (that gives facts and figures), issues (provides views and reviews that helps in developing an individual understanding and opinion on contemporary subjects), and gossips. So, a thorough reading and understanding of concept is important.

■ **Circumventing regular reviewing:** To retain the information stored during the preparation it is necessary to revise consistently. There has to be a very well maintained cohesion between what you read and revise. Video lectures, subject audios and group discussions can prove to be a blessing for an aspirant of UPSC CSE. The writer is Founder & Director, Chanakya IAS Academy

# New programme launched

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Xebia Academy Global, the education business unit of Xebia that provides certification and training courses on emerging technologies, has recently signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Quantum University, Roorkee to offer BTech in Computer Science & Engineering with specialisation in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Xebia will support Quantum University in designing the academic curriculum, faculty training, and will help in internship and placement facilitation to those who successfully complete the course and qualify the criterion. The BTech programme with specialisation in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning will be high-impact coursework entailing fundamental to advanced techniques

of computing, machine learning algorithms, and deep learning. The programme will be offered this academic session, that is, 2019-20.

Dr Vivek Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Quantum University and Anand Sahay, CEO, Xebia signed the agreement in the presence of Ajay Goel, Chairman, Quantum University, Brijesh Kohli, Director, Xebia Academy Global and other senior functionaries.

The specialised BTech programme is aimed at equipping the students with technical knowledge and skills and driving innovation in the industry. On this, Dr Vivek Kumar, VC, Quantum University said: "AI is the future. That's why it is important for our generation to learn the applicable tools and technologies. This program will play a fundamental role in bridging the gap between industry and academia and guide our people in the right direction."

# India designated as the guest of honour at Paris Livre

India has been designated as the Guest of Honour at Paris Livre (Paris Book Fair) in 2020 (20-23 March). National Book Trust, India (Ministry of HRD) is the nodal agency coordinating the Guest Country Presentation at the Book Fair.

The designation was declared in the joint statement signed between the Prime Minister of India and the President of France during the latter's visit to India in February 2018. The joint statement also mentions that France will be the guest country at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2022.

As a follow-up to the next year's guest of honour presentation at Paris

book fair, the National Book Trust participated in the recently concluded Paris Book Fair 2019 (March 15-18), held at Paris Expo, Porte de Versailles. From the National Book Trust a two-member delegation were present at the book fair — Dr Rita Chowdhury, Director and Kumar Vikram, editor and project in-charge.

The National Book Trust delegates also called on the Ambassador of India to France, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, at the Embassy in Paris, to brief him about the project at Livre Paris 2020. The ambassador was presented a copy of the NBT publication *Gandhi: The Writer* authored by Bhabhani



NBT delegations with the Indian ambassador

Bhattacharya. On the final day of the fair, in a formal ceremony, Vincent Montagne, President of French Publishers Association, the organisers of the Livre Paris, announced the participation of India as guest country in the next edition of Livre Paris. Dr Rita Chowdhury thanked Montagne and expressed NBT's commitment to showcase a grand presentation of India in 2020. Kumar Vikram and Naman Upadhyay, Press and Culture Attaché, Embassy of India to France were also present on the occasion. Upadhyay spoke on behalf of the Embassy of India at the event.

# B-SCHOOLS HAVE TO BE MILLENIA READY

Emerging technologies are changing how industries are functioning. Therefore educational institutes have to improve teaching methodology, says PROF KIRTI SHARMA



As we are going through a metamorphosis into industrial revolution 4.0, we are entering the phase of multiple disruptions because of the sheer pace of change across every industry around the world. This revolution is poles apart from the previous three in terms of the speed, scope and influence. Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR 4.0) is not just a digital revolution which is affecting every aspect of how we live and how we conduct business. It spreads across the psychological boundaries of physical, biological and digital spheres because of multiple emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Nanotechnology, Biotechnology, Virtual Reality (VR), 3D printing, Cognitive Science, Quantum Computing, Psycho Technology and Robotics.

These emerging technologies are changing the way industries function. The disruptive changes across the world are impacting the skills needed in human resources. There are new business models emerging which demand a radical change in the way we impart

business education. The advent of Industrial Revolution 4.0 is likely to make talent more important than capital in future and hence trivialising the other factors of production.

We all have started to come to terms with the fact that millennials are a different breed. They think differently, behave differently and have their own way of charting a career. While corporates have started transforming themselves to be able to manage millennials' work-force by bringing in necessary change in processes and policies, they have realised that they have to keep millennials engaged and motivated in a way that their energy is harnessed positively. The question is — what are the B Schools doing to change the way they impart education to this new age child?

We need to understand that while the student may be between 24-29 years of age, like they have been over decades, the millennials of today are different from a decade back.

Technology and globalisation

## B-SCHOOLS NEED FOCUS AREAS LIKE AI, DESIGN THINKING AND INNOVATION TO BE IN SYNC WITH THE EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDUSTRY

are braided intimately. Businesses are driven to accelerated speeds by ideas and communication. Hence, this momentum has given many opportunities and newer markets, which certainly require a newer set of skills for workforce to advance into IR 4.0. This brings B-Schools to a crossroad where they have to ponder on a few questions: Are Indian B-Schools ready to cope with the challenges posed by the speed, complexity

and change brought by IR 4.0?

Are we conscious about the pace and direction of this change? Are we using digital technology as a mode to just assist classroom teaching? Are we committed to look at the depth and breadth of IR 4.0 and incorporate methods to change the ways we impart education and stimulate learning in B-schools?

Skills that were taught traditionally in B-schools are becoming redundant. With the advent of technology, there is a desperate need of transformation in addition to the traditional core-curriculum. B-schools need to put their focus on education in areas like Big Data, AI, Design Thinking and Innovation to be in sync with the expectations and requirements of industry.

According to the World Economic Forum (WEF), the IR 4.0 will have major impact on employment landscape, business models and business education. It is also predicted by WEF that IR 4.0 will have four major influences — changing customer expectations, product enhancement, innovation

and organisational structure and forms.

B Schools are not in existence to churn out managers. But their purpose of existence is to churn out thought leaders. Off late, we have seen various taglines of companies using keywords like ideate, innovate, lead, aspirations, inspiration etc. All these point towards the fact that the leader of today is expected to think in a new battlefield where there are no boxes or walls, outside which he/she is expected to think. It's a radical shift from "think outside the box" to "think as if there is no box". This is driven by IR 4.0. How are the B-Schools gearing up to equip students to cope with this change and overcome it? Further Emotional Leadership is the need of the hour to deal with the IR 4.0. Are B schools adapting this approach?

These schools need to revisit their content, style of teaching/pedagogy. They should foster in-class participative and experiential learning. We also need to deploy methods to encourage millennials to share their ideas freely in a constructive environment. Business education today needs to develop the skills to amalgamate the best of past with newer innovative ideas.

Last but not the least a healthy balance of the left brain and the right brain is necessary for having a more creative, meaningful and diverse discussion on any issue to find an effective solution. Most B-schools in India still rely on CAT for their intake. Does this type of exam make sure that we have a good mix of left-right brain participants in the classroom to foster necessary learning? What are B Schools doing to ensure that the intake comprises of a healthy mix of this?

As a B-school it becomes mandatory for us to develop a shared view of how technology is reshaping the socio-cultural, economic and human environments and prepare the students for this inevitable change.

The writer is Assistant Professor, Marketing, MDI Gurgaon

# 'Enter the business world fearlessly'

Reimagining the consumer need is the key to set the path for a better future and solving the challenges at hand, says DR NARENDRA SHYAMSUKHA

Of late, we have been seen the rise in businesses being launched from the blood, sweat and toil of young energies, coming together to create a change. Gone are the days when well-defined career would be ideal among the young. The fascination towards the regular, dictated by the elders wish and societal conformation, is gone. The hunger to create a positive disruption, plus the onus to work on their own accord has led to new rise of smart entrepreneurs, breaking older rules, to inject fresh blood into the stream.

The fact the youths have the zeal to learn, create newer things and grit to bounce back, makes them perfect entities to follow the entrepreneurial drive, especially for a nation like India, which is booming in youth population. Reports say more than 19,000 startups are currently operating in India, with cities like Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai contributing greatly to this. Yet, the entrepreneurial dream is not simply restricted to the bigger cities, as contribution from the rural and semi-urban regions are significantly changing the way the business winds blow.

The main factor to this can be the lack of positions available for these youth — urging them to depend upon their own faculties and start something unique. Also, the success story of home-grown bigwigs like Flipkart, Paytm, Ola have lured the youth into dreaming big for their own. Exposure towards digitisation and an increased mobile penetration have brought clarity into fuddled young minds. Finally, what can be said as a celebration towards this positive growth — the onset of angel investors and fund mediums have provided a much impetus for youths to leave their desk jobs and embark on their entrepreneurial journey. With the number of accelerators and incubators increasing by 40 per cent every year, startups are starting at a bright future.

Things to keep in mind All these positives will, no doubt, urge you to actualise your journey at the soonest. However, before jumping into the vast world of entrepreneurship, always remember to



Dr Narendra Shyamsukha Founder-Chairman, ICA Edu Skills

**Simplify your concept:** It is the simple things that keeps you in relevance. Does this not only save your budget, but also help you develop and perfect upon the apt solution.

**Find out a growing problem and provide a unique solution to it:** This will help gain traction while creating value.

**Keep on perfecting your ideas:** This is especially important when you go forth and pitch to an angel investor—your idea should be convincing enough to win their patronage.

**Always overestimate your costs:** Not on an exaggerated level, but significant enough to cover up for extra addition/changes you might want to make.

**Be prepared for stiff competition and acknowledge their strengths:** The goodwill, which you generate, will empower your business to create ripples.

**Build a great team and instill the zeal to grow, in them:** Success is a collective effort that comes through team effort towards a common goal.

**Prime yourself for failure and learn from it:** Work upon your mistakes and rectify them to come back with a better plan.

India, one of the fastest growing nations in the world, has touched the mark of 1 billion smartphone users as per a research by Gartner, and the graph is growing exponentially. With the advent of new age communication technology and the expansion of IoT and mobile networks, the uses of Smartphones and electronic devices have also increased multi folds.

The festivals, especially Diwali show the maximum sales for all Smartphones, mobile devices and electronics. The wheels of development are churning at its fastest speed and that is a sign of the dawn of digital age. But question still stands — where do the discarded mobiles, Smartphones, and electronics go? How do people dispose the used electronics after

replacing them with the new ones? What happens to the discarded mobiles or the mobile e-waste?

Although there is no sense of personifying Smartphones & electronics yet the story of e-waste that majorly contains mobiles is a real pain for the present and future of men and nature both. As per a report by Statista, Nearly 49.8 metric ton of e-waste has been produced till date and it is growing at a rate of four to five per cent per year. Most of the e-waste comprises mobiles, smartphones, laptops, and computers.

The discarded electronic devices or e-waste that sizes nearly 50 million MT is tossed into landfills globally, and hardly 10 to 18 per cent enters the recycling chain. India alone produces nearly 3 metric ton of e-

## MINDIT

waste in a year out of which only five per cent goes through the process of recycling or dismantling. The remaining 95 per cent of the e-waste that majorly has mobiles and electronic devices, which will grow this year in the account of this season again, is a real Gorgon for the country's health.

Since India has become the fastest growing major economy in the world with a current GDP of need to check this value 7.3 per cent and people with a higher disposable income, the inflow of new mobile devices and smartphones has also increased. E-Waste (Amendment) Rules, 2018 have

increased producers' responsibility to manage the e-waste and further advises manufacturers to create a deposit-refund system (DRS). These rules haven't been materialized yet and the grave danger that used mobiles and electronic devices pose is going to be extremely hazardous if not addressed in time.

The e-waste disposed into the water bodies and oceans or tossed into the landfills are one of the biggest sources of health hazards for both society and the environment. The situation is even worse for people who are working in the informal

sector of e-waste management. Those people get into direct contact with the hazardous e-waste and become the first victims at the hand of technology's negative form.

Today, when India is thriving to become the IT leader of the world, the unorganized e-waste management sector, is the biggest hindrance in its path. Diseases like cancer, endocrine disruptions, birth deformities, lungs, and kidney damage, nervous system damage, skin diseases reproductive issues, CBD and many more immunity damaging disorders become certain for people through the contact of e-waste. Not just this but the environmental damage done by toxins and fumes of the e-waste is also irreparable and irreversible.

A research by ASSOCHAM in 2016 has already ranked India as the fifth largest producer of e-waste. Responsible citizens should step ahead to create a circular economy model where the production, consumption, recycling, and reuse make a closed loop. This is the only way to save the humans and the world and create a better future for the coming generation. The dream of creating a safe environment where one can breathe freely, walk freely and live without the fear of diseases and hazard is in the hands of consumers.

Next time, you buy an electronic device don't forget to put forth the discarded ones for recycling.

The writer is Raj Kumar, CEO, Deshwal Waste Management Pvt Ltd

fees for each year of our undergraduate and postgraduate law courses. This is applicable to the full-time programmes beginning in September 2019.

**Value:** £3000 or £4,000

**Eligibility:** Applicants must: Be a resident in India. Be available to commence their academic studies by the start of the academic year in September 2019. Be applying for a full-time undergraduate or postgraduate programme

For more information contact: [hass-pg-enquiries@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-pg-enquiries@strath.ac.uk) or [hass-selector@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-selector@strath.ac.uk)

**Application deadline:** August 30, 2019

**The Strathclyde Business School, Glasgow is pleased to offer scholarship** for international students applying to the undergraduate BBA Honours Business Administration course. A number of £2,000 per year awards are on offer and the award will be deducted from the tuition fees.

The course offers general business study over 3 years and the opportunity to specialise in the following business disciplines: Business Analysis and Enterprise; Economics; Human Resource Management; Hospitality and Tourism Management; and Marketing.

**Value:** £2,000 per year

**Duration:** Three years in total

**Eligibility:** This award is only available to international fee paying students who have applied to the BBA course for entry in 2019 and hold a conditional or unconditional offer to study.

For further information contact: [sbs-adviser@strath.ac.uk](mailto:sbs-adviser@strath.ac.uk)

**Application deadline:** May 3, 2019

**The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences** at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow is offering Indian students the opportunity of a scholarship award up to £4,000 towards the cost of their tuition

fees for each year of our undergraduate and postgraduate law courses. This is applicable to the full-time programmes beginning in September 2019.

**Value:** £3000 or £4,000

**Eligibility:** Applicants must: Be a resident in India. Be available to commence their academic studies by the start of the academic year in September 2019. Be applying for a full-time undergraduate or postgraduate programme

For more information contact: [hass-pg-enquiries@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-pg-enquiries@strath.ac.uk) or [hass-selector@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-selector@strath.ac.uk)

**Application deadline:** August 30, 2019

**The University of Houston-Victoria in Victoria, Texas** invites students to apply and compete for the international student merit scholarships.

**Eligibility:** Students who have a demonstrated record of academic achievement and admitted to UHV are eligible to apply. The student must be registered for a minimum of 12 credits at UHV for UG students, 9 credits for graduate students.

**Freshmen students must submit:** SAT or ACT and TSI Assessment, Home-school transcript. Student must meet at least two out of three of the following requirements: Be ranked in the top 50 per cent of their graduating class, Have a minimum 2.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale), Meet or exceed scores of 940 (SAT) or 18 (ACT).

**Application deadline:** June 15 and November 15, 2019.

## STUDY CENTRES

Textile industry involves manufacturing of various fabrics — natural and synthetic, production of machinery and planning and development of new technology. The industry is divided into three parts — research and development, manufacturing and merchandising. The scope and importance is far beyond the textile industry itself, it impacts every sphere of human activity. The field is creative and offers several career opportunities. Colleges to study are:

- Pearl Academy, New Delhi & Jaipur.
- Course: BA Textile Design (Hons)
- Banasthali University: Faculty of Design, Banasthali, Rajasthan.
- Course: BA Textile Design (Hons)
- Maharaja Sayajirao, University of Baroda: Faculty of Technology and Engineering, Vadodara. Course: BE Textile Technology
- LD College of Engineering, Ahmedabad. Course: BE Textile Technology
- Sarvajanik College of Engineering and Technology, Surat. Course: BE Textile Technology
- Shri Vaishnav Institute of Technology and Science, Indore. Course: BE Textile Technology
- Bapuji Institute of Engineering and Technology, Davanagere, Karnataka. Course: BE Textile Technology
- Panipat Institute of Engineering and Technology, Panipat. Course: BTech Textile Engineering



## MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT AT APPROPRIATE

Location: Delhi  
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹9,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/380207](http://internshala.com/i/380207)  
Application deadline: April 12, 2019

## PHP DEVELOPMENT AT EUPHEUS LEARNING

Location: Delhi  
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/380208](http://internshala.com/i/380208)  
Application deadline: April 12, 2019

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT BUSIBUD

Location: Panchkula, Chandigarh  
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹12,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/380209](http://internshala.com/i/380209)  
Application deadline: April 11, 2019

## BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING AT JETIC HEALTHCARE PRIVATE LIMITED (PEPODEAL)

Location: Ahmedabad, Chennai, Delhi, Pune, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane, Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹2,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/380210](http://internshala.com/i/380210)  
Application deadline: April 12, 2019

## EVENT MANAGEMENT AT TEAM CORE

Location: Delhi, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Greater Noida, Noida  
Stipend: ₹8,000-₹15,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/380211](http://internshala.com/i/380211)  
Application deadline: April 12, 2019

## HUMAN RESOURCES AT HIGH MOUNTAINS

Location - Chandigarh  
Stipend - Rs. 3,000-5,000/Month  
Link - [internshala.com/i/380212](http://internshala.com/i/380212)  
Application deadline - 12th April, 2019

## IN BRIEF

### 5-WEEK AI PROGRAMME AT IIT-H

The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IIT-H) has announced a professional programme in Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies. Conceived as a first-of-a-kind, five-week residential programme in AI and emerging tech for recent graduates and senior college students, it will be offered in partnership with TalentSprint starting May 27, 2019.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr UB Desai, Director of IIT-H, said: "The new centre will

impact industry and society manifold. Other executive programmes focus on upskilling senior professionals, we will develop smart young talent with strong AI and emerging tech capabilities to fuel the future of India's tech sector. This summer programme with TalentSprint is a significant initiative."

The programme is priced at ₹2.65 lakh plus taxes and starts on May 27, 2019. Apply for early selection at: <https://iithyderabad.talentsprint.com/aiet> or <http://ai.iith.ac.in/profprog/>.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD CONCLAVE

Underlining its commitment to promoting high-quality early childhood education, Chennai-based Flinto Learning Solutions conducted an early childhood conclave in Chennai.

The event brought together key stakeholders in the preschool space — parents, edupreneurs, and educational organisations — to discuss several critical issues concerning

child care and early childhood education. The conclave saw experts share their insights about the need for research-driven best practices and technological solutions.

### SUMMER INTERNSHIP FAIRS

Internshala is organising summer internship fairs in five tier-II cities across India. The fairs will bring internship opportunities exclusively for the students pursuing BA, BCom, BSc, BBA, and other similar degrees. The first internship fair will be held in Jaipur on April 7, 2019, followed by Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, and Kochi in the coming months.

Through this initiative, Internshala aims to help improve the employability of students and spread awareness on the power of

internships in building a successful career among the student communities.

The fairs would offer in-office, part-time, and virtual internships across various profiles. To attend the offline internship fairs, students from non-technical backgrounds from each of the five cities have to register for each fair online. The top 200 applicants will be interviewed during the offline internship fair in each city. Additionally, various seminars and workshops will be held for the students.

### NEW DESIGN CENTRE

A new state-of-the-art design centre has been inaugurated at JKLU Lakshmiptat University (JKLU) in Jaipur. The new centre, MP Ranjan-JKLU Design Resource Centre, is a part of institute of design. Minister of Industry and State Enterprise, Prasad Lal Meena inaugurated the centre. "With the opening of the new centre, I believe that Rajasthan will be the one-stop hub for the designers at global level," the Minister said.

The aim's to bring a new approach to design education, one that is collaborative in nature and integrative in process. From working in labs and studios to tackling the grey matter for ideas, the institution looks forward to create a progressive landscape in the field of design and create bridges between design schools and professionals.

### ORIENTATION AT KIIT

The KIIT World School conducted the orientation day for kindergarten students at their school premises. The purpose of the event was to create a successful communication between teachers and parents and to familiarise the parents with the curriculum, rules and regulation of school and teaching methodology.

Curriculum advisor Charu Bajaj said that guardian is the first teacher of the child, one should not pressure the children but should teach discipline to them. She also added that the school will also test the teachers time to time to check how much children understand. Through the app parents can take children's activity report.

# GUNNERS IGNITE TOP 4 RACE

Ramsey and Lacazette score in either half to help Arsenal beat Newcastle 2-0 and move to 3rd spot

AFP ■ LONDON

U nai Emery challenged revitalised Arsenal to write their own history after they climbed to third place in the Premier League with a 2-0 win against Newcastle.

Aaron Ramsey's first half strike was followed by Alexandre Lacazette's killer second in the closing stages at the Emirates Stadium, maintaining Arsenal's impressive progress under Emery.

Emery's side climbed two points above fourth placed Tottenham and fifth placed Manchester United to bolster their chance of qualifying for the Champions League via a top-four finish with seven games to go.

It is the first time Arsenal have been as high as third place since April 2017, highlighting their improvement since former Paris Saint Germain boss Emery replaced Arsene Wenger at the end of last season.

Ramsey's fifth goal of the season was only the Wales midfielder's second since he signed a lucrative pre-contract agreement to join Juventus at the end of the current campaign.

But, while Ramsey won't be part of Emery's long-term plans, the future still looks bright for Arsenal, who recorded a 10th consecutive home league victory for the first time since December 1997 to May 1998.

Arsenal finished with 63 points in Wenger's final season, but Emery has matched that tally with seven games to spare.

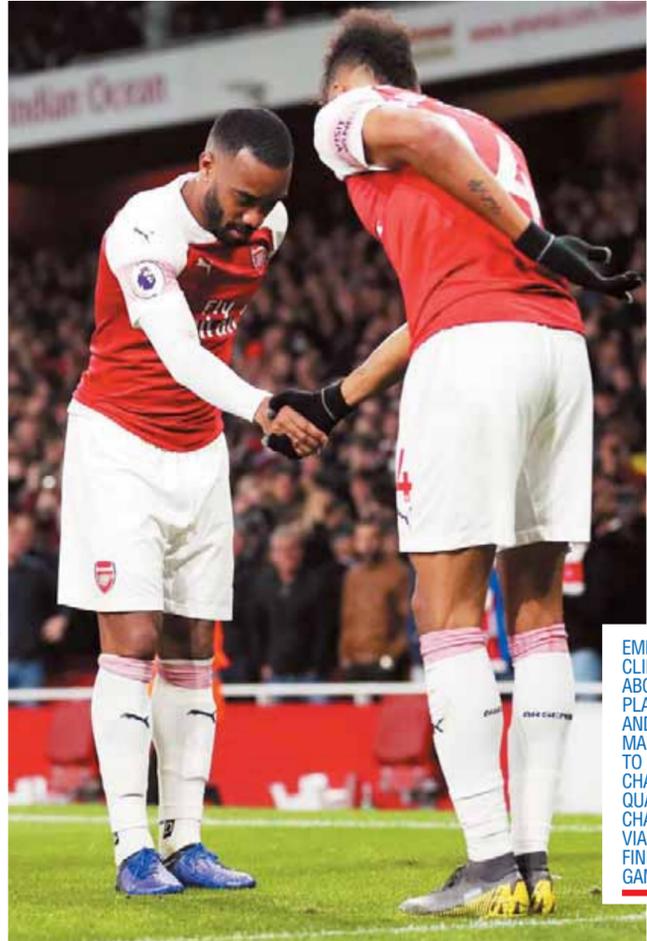
No wonder Arsenal fans celebrated an important win by taunting their spluttering north London rivals with chants of "are you watching Tottenham".

"It's a new history. We are creating our own way. Our target is very clear," Emery said.

"We have created a big atmosphere here. We are in a good moment, a good mentality with the players.

"We are improving and making progress, but we know it is difficult. Tottenham, Chelsea and Manchester United are going to win a lot of games."

Newcastle remain seven points above the relegation zone after a 12th defeat in their last 13 meetings with Arsenal.



Alexandre Lacazette Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang celebrates after Frenchman scores Arsenal's second goal against Newcastle United at Emirates stadium on Monday via an assist from Aubameyang Arsenal/Twitter

Ramsey thought he'd given Arsenal the lead when he swept home at the far post from Sead Kolasinac's flick.

But his celebrations were curtailed as the goal was controversially ruled out by referee Anthony Taylor for Sokratis's shirt tug on Florian Lejeune. If Arsenal felt

aggrieved by that debatable decision, they poured their frustration into breaking down Newcastle's five-man defence.

### DOMINANT ARSENAL

Emery had surprisingly left Gabon forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang



"If you don't take the chances and aren't precise against a good team, you know it is a matter of time until you make a mistake." —RAFAEL BENITEZ (Newcastle manager)

on the bench as Mesut Ozil started behind Lacazette. Aubameyang has 22 goals in all competitions this season, but his absence wasn't a problem for Arsenal as they unhinged Newcastle's massed rearguard in the 30th minute.

Matteo Guendouzi passed to Ramsey and his clever flick picked out Lacazette in the Newcastle area.

Lacazette was surrounded by three defenders and as he twisted to find space, the ball cannoned off DeAndre Yedlin into Ramsey's path and he guided a low shot past Newcastle keeper Martin Dubravka via the far post.

Arsenal remained by far the dominant force and Lacazette almost doubled their lead on the stroke of half-time when his shot was brilliantly headed off the line by Matt Ritchie.

Looking for the decisive second goal, Emery sent on Aubameyang with half an hour left.

Ramsey departed to a rousing ovation after taking a knock that forced his substitution, then Aubameyang went close when he found space for a low shot that Dubravka turned away.

And it was Aubameyang who was the catalyst for Arsenal's second in the 83rd minute.

Guendouzi clipped a pass to Lacazette and he redirected it to Aubameyang, who cleverly headed the ball over the statuesque Jamaal Lascelles.

With Lascelles too slow to react, Lacazette nipped ahead of the Newcastle captain and chipped over Dubravka for his 15th goal in all competitions this term.

EMERY'S SIDE CLIMBED TWO POINTS ABOVE FOURTH PLACED TOTTENHAM AND FIFTH PLACED MANCHESTER UNITED TO BOLSTER THEIR CHANCE OF QUALIFYING FOR THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE VIA A TOP-FOUR FINISH WITH SEVEN GAMES TO GO



## Spurs bank on new stadium to deliver bright future

AFP ■ LONDON

Tottenham throw open the doors of their new 62,000-capacity stadium on Wednesday, hoping it will give them the financial firepower to compete with the Premier League and European elite.

Mauricio Pochettino's men will also banking on a short-term boost, with a dire run of results threatening to leave Spurs without Champions League football next season.

Tottenham played their final game at their old White Hart Lane stadium in May 2017 but the address is the only thing that has remained the same, with a gleaming new ground rising out of the rubble of their creaking old home in north London.

The new stadium, with a capacity of 62,062, is the biggest club ground in London and second only to Manchester United's Old Trafford in the Premier League.

Tellingly the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, built at a reported cost of £1 billion (\$1.3 billion), is marginally bigger than the home of Tottenham's great north London rivals Arsenal.

Crystal Palace are the first Premier League team to visit on Wednesday.

Spurs boss Pochettino is bowled over by the club's new home and will hope it can give his faltering team the lift they need for a late-season push to secure a Champions League spot.

### 'WORLD'S BEST STADIUM'

"The stadium is the best in the world, we can confirm that now," he said. "Every space is the best I have seen in my life, you can't compare that with anything."



"The stadium is the best in the world. It's an amazing project, it is going to be fantastic for the future of the club. It is going to be a massive boost for our fans and it must be for our players too." —MAURICIO POCHETTINO (Tottenham Hotspur manager)

"It's an amazing project, it is going to be fantastic for the future of the club. It is going to be a massive boost for our fans and it must be for our players too."

Spurs will feel a sense of relief when they kick off against Crystal Palace in the Premier League on Wednesday after months of frustrating delays that forced them to play almost a second full season at Wembley.

There were some memorable nights at the national stadium as Spurs beat Real Madrid, Manchester United and Borussia Dortmund twice. But it was never truly home.

Tottenham will not have the luxury of time to settle into their new stadium but it could play a pivotal role for the rest of the season, with five of their remaining seven Premier League games at home as they attempt to fend off United, Arsenal and Chelsea, with four teams chasing the final two Champions League spots.

They will also take on Manchester City there in the quarter-finals of this year's Champions League, with the first chapter of the story of their new home waiting to be written.

## 'Pogba wants to stay at Utd'

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

O le Gunnar Solskjaer says he has been assured by star midfielder Paul Pogba that the Frenchman does not want to leave Manchester United despite mounting speculation over a switch to Real Madrid.

United midfielder Pogba last week described Madrid, managed by France great Zinedine Zidane, as a "dream club for every player" while on international duty.

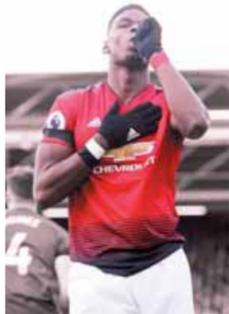
Fuel was then poured on the fire ahead of Madrid's game at the weekend when the Real boss admitted that Pogba would be welcome at the Bernabeu if and when he decides to call time on his United career.

Zidane is expected to have a big transfer budget this summer to shake things up. Solskjaer was only appointed permanent manager at Old Trafford last week but the future of United's most high-profile player is once again in the spotlight.

Madrid have a track record of taking some of United's star names, with both David Beckham and Cristiano Ronaldo swapping Old Trafford for the Bernabeu, but Solskjaer said he is not worried by the Pogba situation.

"It doesn't really concern me because my thought of action was to sit down and speak to Paul," he said on Monday.

"I have had my chat with Paul and we're fine. He is going



Paul Pogba celebrates after scoring AP

to do his utmost here because he knows I am very fond of him as a player and as a person. He is important for us here, so there are no issues. He is happy here."

### WOLVES TEST

Solskjaer's immediate priority is United's trip to Wolves on Tuesday for their rearranged Premier League game.

They have a big chance to put pressure on their rivals for a top-four spot by picking up a win at Molineux but know it will not be easy after Wolves knocked them out of the FA Cup last month.

Saturday's 2-1 win at home to Watford moved United level on points with Tottenham and they would go third, at least temporarily, with another victory.

United languished 11 points off the top-four spots when Solskjaer replaced Jose Mourinho in December and the Norwegian is delighted that his team are now in control of their own destiny.

He has set a target of five wins from their remaining seven games and does not feel his players are going to ease up, despite a sub-par performance against Watford.

"I don't think I need to remind the players about their standards dropping," he said.

"They know themselves. They want to be in the Champions League and they want to perform as well as they possibly can.

"Everyone knows that if we do our jobs and get 15 points over the last seven games, we will be in the Champions League next year.

AFP ■ MADRID

R eal Madrid could sell Thibaut Courtois or Kelyor Navas this summer after head coach Zinedine Zidane said on Tuesday the club will have a clear first-choice goalkeeper next season.

Zidane also defended his choice to play neither keeper against Huesca on Saturday, instead handing his 20-year-old son Luca only his second competitive start for the Spanish giants.

Courtois was signed from Chelsea last summer, despite Navas winning UEFA's best goalkeeper award after helping Madrid win the Champions League.

Santiago Solari then put faith in Courtois during his four months in charge but Navas, a favourite of Zidane's, came back in for the Frenchman's opening game against Celta Vigo last month.

"At the moment there are three good keepers and we are going to finish the season with them," Zidane said at a press

# No debate between Courtois and Navas next season: Zidane

conference on Tuesday.

"But I assure you that next season there will be no debate about the goalkeeper, I'll tell you that now. It's going to be very clear."

Luca Zidane's surprise promotion came after Courtois picked up a knock on international duty with Belgium while Navas had trained only once after returning from Costa Rica.

But it suggests Zidane feels his son, who joined Madrid's academy aged six when his father was playing for the club, is ready to compete for a place.

"Luca is here on his own merit," Zidane said. "He's been here for 16 years. If people who want to go on about the personal thing, I don't care."

Madrid face Valencia on Wednesday in La Liga, after needing an 89th-minute winner



from Karim Benzema to beat Huesca 3-2 on Saturday and make it two wins from two since Zidane's return.

But Barcelona remain 12 points clear of them at the top of the table, with focus contin-

uing on potential changes to Zidane's squad in the summer.

"I have spoken to the club and I have told them what we want to do," said Zidane.

"This is an institution, a club with important people. We do



"I assure you that next season there will be no debate about the goalkeeper, I'll tell you that now. It's going to be very clear." —ZINEDINE ZIDANE (Real Madrid coach)

things together, as always," he added.

Gareth Bale is among those whose future is in doubt. The Welshman was again whistled by some of the home fans on Saturday.

"I know whistles are never good, I've been whistled at, you have to accept it. You have to have the character for it," Zidane said.

"About Gareth's future, we'll talk about that at the end of the season then we'll see."

Zidane was more emphatic about the future of his World Cup winning defender, Raphael Varane. "I want him to stay," Zidane said.

"We don't want a Madrid without Varane. He's a young player and he seems fine to me, he has not told me otherwise."

## Sameer suffers heart-breaking loss



Sameer Verma prepares to return a shot BWF

PTI ■ KUALA LUMPUR

I ndia's Sameer Verma put up a daunting effort before going down in three games in a pulsating opening round clash against World no 2 Chinese Shi Yuqi in the \$750,000 Malaysia Open here on Tuesday.

The 24-year-old from Madhya Pradesh, who had lost to Shi Yuqi in the semifinals of the World Tour Finals in December last

year, suffered a heart-breaking 20-22, 23-21, 12-21 loss in a 65-minute men's singles.

Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N Sikki Reddy, however, made a good start to their campaign, eking out a 22-20, 24-22 win over Ireland's Sam Magee and Chloe Magee in mixed doubles.

Unfortunately, Sikki Reddy could not replicate the success in the women's doubles as she, along with her partner Ashwini Ponappa, went down fighting 20-22, 21-17, 20-22 to the Korean duo of Baek Ha Na and Kim Hye Rin.

The men's singles match was a close battle till 8-8 before Sameer fell back to 11-16. But he fought back to make it 20-20 before being edged out by Shi Yuqi in the opening game.

The second game was no different as the Indian was lagging 11-16 again but this time he not only clawed back at 20-20 but also managed to win it despite the Chinese grabbing one match point.

Sameer reeled off three points to take the match to the decider.

In the third game, Shi Yuqi jumped to a 9-0 lead and didn't allow the Indian to fight back.

## SRFI opts for event-based coaching

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

T he national squash federation, which has not been able to find a foreign coach in almost a year, has decided against a full-time appointment and will hire names like former world number one David Palmer in a shift to 'event-based' coaching.

The Indian players have been training without a full-time foreign coach ever since Egyptian Achraf Karargui left on a bitter note ahead of the 2018 Commonwealth Games in April.

However, the squad comprising veterans Joshna Chinappa, Saurav Ghosal and Dipika Pallikal still returned with two Silver medals. On their own, even at the Asian Games in August-September, the Indian contingent bagged five medals including a women's team Silver.

"Instead of hiring full-time coaches, we have decided to hire experts on short-term basis. For example, the players will get to train with David Palmer for a month ahead of the men's World Championship in Washington in December," national coach Cyrus Poncha said on Tuesday.

"We believe the event-based hiring of coaches will be more beneficial for our players. We have also approached renowned coach Amir Wagih for a camp ahead of the Asian Championships next month," said



Indian squash team members pose for a photo with medal during 2018 Asian Games File Photo

Poncha.

Ghosal, who on Monday became the first Indian male to break into the top-10 of world rankings, is already working with US-based Palmer and Chinappa too has worked with the two-time world champion. Pallikal, on the other hand, has worked closely with US-based Wagih.

"Instead of hiring full-time coaches, we have decided to hire experts on short-term basis. We believe the event-based hiring of coaches will be more beneficial for our players." —CYRUS PONCHA (National coach)

World No15 Chinappa said she is looking forward to working with the likes of Palmer, who won a Gold at the Commonwealth Games last year.

"Though I have my own coaching team in England, it will be great to work with a coach of Palmer's calibre during events. I have worked with him in the past and I am sure we all can learn something from him," she said.

While all the three players — Ghosal, Chinappa and Pallikal — have been least affected by the absence of a full-time coach as they have their own support staff, it is the junior crop which has suffered more due to the lack of a full-time professional help.

Ghosal has said in the past that a full-time coach will be more beneficial to the players who train in India rather someone like him who mostly trains outside the country when he is not competing on the PSA tour.



"I have had my chat with Paul and we're fine. He is going to do his utmost here because he knows I am very fond of him as a player and as a person. He is important for us here, so there are no issues. He is happy here." —OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER (Manchester United boss)

LEADERBOARD

RUNS	254	David Warner (SRH)
WICKETS	8	Y Chahal (RCB)
6S	183	CREDIT TO SHAMI AND CURRAN FOR THE WIN. WE WERE PROBABLY 25 RUNS SHORT.
4S	437	— R ASHWIN

# IPL 2019



## Gopal's googly leaves RCB spinning

Shreyas picks 3/11 in 4 overs before Buttler leads batting unit to help Rajasthan beat RCB by 7 wickets to register first win of this year's campaign



Jos Buttler acknowledges crowd after competing fifty; (right) Shreyas Gopal celebrates after dismissing RCB skipper Virat Kohli

PTI ■ MOHALI

The youngest to notch up an IPL hat-trick, England and Kings XI Punjab all-rounder Sam Curran said he had "absolutely no idea" that he had taken one during the game against Delhi Capitals.

Leg-spinner Shreyas Gopal bamboozled the batsmen with his googlies before Jos Buttler struck 59 as Rajasthan Royals finally won their first game of this IPL season with a seven-wicket defeat of Royal Challengers Bangalore, here on Tuesday.

Gopal claimed three wickets, including that of Virat Kohli (23) and AB de Villiers (13), conceding just 12 runs in his four-quota over to unsettle

RCB.

It was opener Parthiv who resisted the Royals attack with aplomb, hitting a belligerent 67 off 41 balls with nine boundaries and six to help his side put 158 for four after being sent in to bat.

Marcus Stoinis (31 not out) too played a key part in shoring up team's total, adding 32 quick runs in partnership with Moeen Ali (18).

Buttler led the chase with his confident knock as Royals overhauled the target with one ball to spare, handing RCB their fourth defeat in a row.

RCB, who dropped plenty of catches in this match, are placed at bottom of eight-team table without any points.

Buttler packed a lot of power in his second

fifty of the season. He hit eight fours and a six on a wicket which got slower as the game wore on.

Royals were off to a steady if not fiery start with Ajinkya Rahane (22) and Buttler adding 60 runs for the first wicket. Rahane was dropped on 1 by Kohli off Mandeep Saini but the skipper did not utilise on the reprieve as much as he would have liked, getting trapped by Yuzvendra Chahal (2/17).

Buttler and Steve Smith (38) added 44 for the second wicket but Chahal struck again, dismissing the British batsman.

Chahal could have got the Australian as well but Umesh Yadav dropped a sitter near boundary line when Smith on 23.

Smith went on to add 50 runs for the third wicket with Rahul Tripathi (34 not out), who finished the match with a six in the penultimate ball of the match.

Earlier, Playing with a cautious approach, Kohli was happy working the ball around. Parthiv was aggressor of the two. Parthiv hit three boundaries in Jofra Archer's first over as RCB finished the Powerplay overs with 48 runs on the board.

Immediately after that, Gopal was introduced into the attack and he began to trouble the Indian captain with his googlies. Gopal deceived Kohli with one, which went through the gates.

The leg-spinner returned and this time got rid of de Villiers with another wrong one which stopped a bit as the South African hit it straight back to Gopal, who bowled a rare wicket- maiden.

Left-handed Shimron Hetmyer became his third victim when he edged one away-going delivery and Jos Buttler took a sharp catch behind the wicket.

Parthiv was still there but boundaries had dried up. The diminutive left-hander finally lofted one from Ben Stokes for a six over mid-wicket and followed it up with a crushing drive on the off side.

He completed his fifty with a single off Archer, who was smacked for a six by Stoinis soon after. The West Indian dismissed Patel later.

wicket but the hosts chased it down with one ball to spare.

Kohli said they need a few more runs on the board.

"Today, we were more competitive. But we were 15-20 short with the bat. I thought 160 was competitive, but with the dew factor, 15 runs more would've been more challenging," said Kohli.

The RCB fielders dropped a number of catches and Kohli acknowledged that such mistakes won't win them games.

Ajinkya Rahane and Steve Smith were dropped and their contributions with the bat helped the hosts win.

"It was not easy to get the boundaries in the second innings but if we make that many mistakes (dropped catches), then we will fall on the losing side. In a tournament like IPL, when you have no momentum, then these things can happen," said Kohli.

"The team hasn't gone off to a good start, and these things look really bad. But we have to keep believing that we can turn things around. We played well in Mumbai and tonight, but we need to improve. We need to take some confidence from tonight's game though."

Kohli said the team may make more changes in the side.

"The tournament isn't so long, so you need to think on your feet on what the best XIs are. We will sit down and talk to see how we can balance our team and allow our players to create some match-winning performances."

Gopal, adjudged man-of-the-match, was modest when asked about his super show.

"I am fortunate and lucky to have gotten those big wickets. As a youngster getting such big names out doesn't come everyday. I was just fortunate, and the plans worked," said the leg-spinner.



## Clash of the Titans

PTI ■ MUMBAI

With skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni in red-hot form, Chennai Super Kings will start favourites against the slightly off-colour Mumbai Indians when the IPL's two most successful teams have their first showdown of the season here on Wednesday.

The Super Kings, three-time winners of the T20 League like the hosts, have been on a roll with three wins on the trot that have boosted them to the top of the table.

Mumbai Indians, on the other hand, had a familiar stuttering start with a victory sandwiched between two defeats.

Recent history in head-to-head clashes is in MI's favour, as the Rohit Sharma-led home team has beaten their rivals in four out of the last five contests.

Overall too Mumbai holds a 14-12 advantage over CSK, including once in the defunct Champions T20 League.

However, CSK seem to hold the edge this time around, especially with Dhoni rolling back the years with a typically robust 75 off 46 balls that lifted his team from 27 for three to 175 for five against Rajasthan Royals at home in their last match.

And with Dwayne Bravo holding off Rajasthan's charge at the end with the ball, CSK maintained their 100 per cent record.

The Super Kings have the edge in batting depth and in spin bowling variety, while Mumbai have the better pace attack on a pitch that is bound to offer bounce and carry.

Mumbai are over-dependent on openers Rohit and South African Quinton de Kock. The rest need to step up.

The hosts will have the option of fielding new recruit, West Indian fast bowler Alzarri Joseph, or all rounder Ben Cutting in place of the off-boil Lasith Malinga.

In the spin department, Mumbai are behind their opponents who have Harbhajan Singh, Imran Tahir and Ravindra Jadeja to bank on after the power play.

## Fleming wants freedom for Rayudu, Ponting wants Pant to just score



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Coaching in the Indian Premier League is more about man management but in a World Cup year where a young mind can get cluttered with selection thoughts, the role that the teams' coaches play becomes even more important.

Ask Chennai Super Kings coach Stephen Fleming and Delhi Capitals' Ricky Ponting, who have two such India players in their ranks, who are in the scheme of things as far as ODI World Cup is concerned.

While the players maintain that the World Cup is not on their minds but those like Rayudu or Pant, who are still not certainties, it becomes a bigger battle where they know that their IPL performances are being watched more keenly than a certainty like Kedar Jadhav.

"He (Rayudu) can get it out of his mind and that's the part of the coaching aspect that we would like to apply to some of the players, just to free them up," CSK coach Fleming admitted that it is indeed an aspect the coaches need to deal with.

While Fleming wants to deal with the issue head-on, Ponting feels that his primary duty is to ensure that his wards maintain a tunnel vision for the IPL.

"I have not had to tell my players anything apart from winning games in the IPL. Winning games for DC and that's what I am here to do, to make sure that players are well prepared to win games," Ponting said when asked how he is dealing with Pant's insecurities.

Asked how he is dealing with Rayudu, Fleming says that the batsman's role in the CSK set-up is very different compared to what Indian team management wants from him in the 50-over format.

"He doesn't have to play a conservative role with us. We just want him to be free and not batting balls (holding one end). I loved how he ran down the wicket the other day (first game vs RCB) and that's freedom with which I want to see (him play)."

"That's certainly the player we had last season and all our words are to encourage him to not fear failure," said Fleming.

Ponting on the other hand firmly believes that Pant will be on that flight to UK but the easiest way to get there is to forget everything and score runs in the IPL.

"If you are talking about Rishabh, I will still keep him in that World Cup squad. All he can do is score runs in the IPL. First score runs in the IPL and then give yourself a chance to get picked in that squad," said the Australian great.

CSK's team culture is always talked about and Fleming believes that it can keep Rayudu in a good headspace.

"I don't think the World Cup selection is hanging over his head. He is as relaxed as I have ever seen him. Whether that transforms to another stellar year is yet to be seen but we will give him a best chance to get into that mind set," the former New Zealand captain said.

Ponting concluded by saying that his boys are focussed on the tournament and he need not talk about the other peripheral aspects.

## BCCI wants Pandya-Rahul chapter to end

PIANS ■ NEW DELHI

With the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) ombudsman DK Jain sending out notices to India all-rounder Hardik Pandya and opening batsman KL Rahul to depose before him in a pending enquiry following their inappropriate comments in a TV chat show, the board is looking forward to end the row keeping the World Cup in mind.

Speaking about the issue, a senior BCCI executive said that everyone in the board is on the same page and feels that it is time that the issue was put to rest. They feel that the punishment cannot be bigger than the crime and the players have already paid for their mistake.

"Everyone in the board feels that this issue needs to come to an end. The players committed a mistake and there is no two-way about it. But the players were sent home from the tour of Australia, they did apologise for their mistake and are also set to depose before the ombudsman."

"With the World Cup round the corner, the general sentiment is that the matter should be put to an end," the executive said.

Another BCCI functionary said that the ombudsman has been given the matter as priority and Jain will in all likelihood submit his report within



in a week of meeting the players.

"There is no timeline as such, but everybody understands that substantial match loss has already happened and the punishment cannot be bigger than the crime. The ombudsman will in all likelihood submit his report within a week of meeting the players and getting their side of the story," the functionary said.

The two players will meet Jain around the Mumbai Indians (MI) and Kings XI Punjab (KKIP) match in the ongoing IPL at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on April 10.

## Arothe held for IPL betting, given bail

PTI ■ VADODARA

Former coach of Indian women's cricket team Tushar Arothe was arrested for allegedly betting on an IPL match, police said on Tuesday.

He was arrested on Monday but was given bail by the police because he had been booked for a bailable offence, Vadodara Police Commissioner Anup Singh Gehlot said.

Arothe and 18 others were arrested by the city Crime Branch on Monday night for betting on the IPL match between Delhi Capitals and Kings XI Punjab played at Mohali, said Deputy Commissioner of Police Jaydeepsinh Jadeja of Vadodara Crime Branch.

Arothe, 52 and 18 others were arrested from a cafe where they were putting bets on the match, said the DCP.

Investigations revealed the cafe, located in the posh Alkapuri area of the city, is owned by Arothe and two others, Hemang Patel and Nishchal Shah, who too were arrested from the spot, he said.

"Arothe is a former coach of the Indian women's cricket team. He was among the 19 persons held by our team last night for placing bets during the live telecast of an IPL match between Kings XI Punjab and Delhi Capitals," said Jadeja.

All the accused, including



Former Indian Women's cricket coach Tushar Arothe with Indian skipper Mithali Raj in a file picture. Arothe was arrested by Vadodara Police on Monday for IPL betting

Arothe, Patel and Shah, were booked under sections 4 and 5 of the Gambling Act, the police officer said.

"Arothe and the two other cafe co-owners had installed a large screen in their cafe for live streaming of IPL matches.

"Others had come to the cafe to place bets using three different mobile applications. The cafe owners gave them user names and passwords to bet on the live IPL match," said Jadeja.

Arothe, Patel and Shah were in contact with a person named Baba, who used to take bet money from the trio, he said.

Baba is still out of the police's reach, Jadeja added.

The police have seized cash and other articles, including vehi-

## Don't fix batting slots, play according to situation: Kapil

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Former India captain Kapil Dev does not like the debate about who should bat at number four in India's World Cup team and said that the batting slots should be decided according to match situation.

"There is a lot of talk about that No 4 slot. When we were playing, we fixed numbers, but now a days, there are no numbers. All the players play at any number, and they are all good. Players should play like a team. Don't fix numbers. Play according to the situation," Kapil said on Tuesday.

Kapil also said that Rishabh Pant has very long way to go, though he has the ability.

"(MS) Dhoni has set the standard very high. Yes, Pant has the ability but he has a long way to go," the 1983 World Cup winning captain said at the unveiling of 'Britannia Khao World Cup Jao' advertising campaign.



Kapil Dev, K Srikanth, Roger Binny and Syed Kirmani pose for photo during the unveiling of 'Britannia Khao World Cup Jao' advertising campaign in Mumbai on Tuesday

He also picked Mahendra Singh Dhoni as his favourite all-rounder among current cricketers.

"Are only bowling all-rounders, and fast bowling all-rounders considered all-rounders? I would consider wicket-keepers also. For me, Dhoni comes in very high," he said.

Kapil further said he considers Ravichandran Ashwin as a good all-rounder in Test cricket. He said Ravindra Jadeja can also become a

good all-rounder, considering he had scored two triple tons in first class cricket.

"If Jadeja puts his head to it, he can become a very good all-rounder," Kapil said, adding that Ben Stokes is cut above the rest as an all-rounder.

Former India opener and national selector Kris Srikanth said he would select a match-winner like Rishabh Pant for the World Cup.

"If I am the captain or chairman of selectors, I would go for a match-winner. A guy who can win matches from no-win situations. Dhoni will be the wicket-keeper, Rishabh Pant is the guy who almost won a Test match for us in England from an amazing no-win situation," he said.

On revisiting the 1992 World Cup format, where every team plays all the other teams, Srikanth said, "By nine matches, every team has a fair opportunity to qualify. This is

definitely a good format because you are playing each other once at least.

"From India's point of view, all the more better for us. You get used to the conditions as the English conditions are going to be different and it's good time for the team to become set," he said.

Asked about the bowling combination, Roger Binny said he would drop a spinner and go in with an extra pace bowler like Bhuvaneswar Kumar or Umesh Yadav in English conditions.

"I would drop a spinner and go in with an extra pace bowler, who can win matches for you. It's not the spinners who will win matches for you in England. I would go for a person who can seam the ball," he said.

"I think it's very important in England to be have someone who can seam the ball early. Bhuvani is one who can do that. Umesh Yadav could be a good pick because he seams the ball and he's got pace."