

OPINION 8
REMOVE
THE CHILL

WORLD 12
US TESTS CRUISE MISSILE
AFTER INF TREATY EXIT

AVENUES 13
TAKE A SPECIALISED
ROUTE

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

Late City Vol. 15 Issue 225
* Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

BHUBANESWAR, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21, 2019; PAGES 16 ₹3

the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

MAN UTD HELD
FOR 1-1 DRAW
BY WOLVES
15 SPORT



PC on run as CBI-ED give chase

Ex-FM evades arrest after HC dismisses bail plea, SC refuses instant relief in INX Media case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Former Finance and Home Minister P Chidambaram is on the run from the law after the Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to come to his rescue following the Delhi High Court's dismissal of his bail plea in the INX Media bribery case. Soon after the apex court's denial of relief, sleuths of Enforcement Directorate and CBI landed at Chidambaram's home in Jor Bagh, but the senior Congress leader could not be traced. Chidambaram, who enjoying interim protection from arrest from March 2018 onward, suffered a major setback on Tuesday afternoon after the Delhi High Court dismissed his anticipatory bail plea, paving way for CBI and ED to arrest him. The former Minister was on the Supreme Court complex throughout the day, awaiting the HC order, to approach the SC. The High Court held that he was "prima facie the kingpin" in the INX Media bribery and money laundering cases and "simply because he is a Member of Parliament it would



ED officials inside residence of Congress leader P Chidambaram during a raid in Jorbagh, New Delhi, on Tuesday. PTI

not justify grant of pre-arrest bail to him". Holding that the former Union Minister's custodial interrogation was required for an effective investigation, the High Court said, "granting bail in cases like the instant one will send a wrong message to society". Justice Sunil Gaur, who is due to retire on Thursday, said this court cannot permit the prosecution in this "sensitive case to end up in smoke like it

CHRONOLOGY
MAY 15, 2017 CBI registers FIR in INX Media bribery case alleging irregularities in FIPB clearance to the group for receiving overseas funds of ₹305 crore in 2007
2018 ED lodges the money laundering case in this regard. CBI summons Chidambaram for questioning
MAY 30 Chidambaram moves the Delhi High Court seeking anticipatory bail plea in the corruption case of CBI
JULY 23 He moves Delhi HC for anticipatory bail in the money laundering case of ED
JULY 25 High Court grants him interim protection from arrest in both cases
JANUARY 25, 2019 HC reserves its judgment on his anticipatory bail in both cases

senior most judge. The High Court said, "It cannot be forgotten that the petitioner (Chidambaram) was the Finance Minister at the relevant time and he had given FDI clearances to INX Media Group for receiving overseas funds to the tune of ₹305 crore." The 24-page judgment said the gravity of offence committed in this case amply justifies denial of pre-arrest bail and it was of the prima facie opinion that it was not a fit case for granting the relief to him. It said, "Economic offences constitute a class apart and need to be visited with a different approach in the matters of bail. Nath's nephew Ratul Puri held for bank fraud

PMO puts road projects on hold over finances

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
Due to fiscal implications, the PMO has put on hold all new projects as well as "in-principle approvals" already given to several State roads and national highways projects. A high-level inter-ministerial panel headed by Cabinet Secretary PK Sinha will now prepare a new set of comprehensive guidelines for approving and announcing projects. Sources said the PMO has acted to enforce fiscal discipline to avoid any burden on the exchequer at a time when the Ministry is facing fund constraints. The fund constraint has prevented private developers from bidding for projects. Bids have not been invited for at least seven projects in last one month, sources said. The Road Transport and Highways Ministry recently expressed its desire to become the primary agency to manage the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF or the erstwhile Central Road Fund). In the past, the funds were disbursed by the Finance Minister. In an effort to strengthen the finances of Road Ministry, Gadkari went for raising resources through borrowings, including bringing in up to ₹60,000 crore from the National Infrastructure Investment Fund for Delhi-Mumbai Expressway, ₹25,000 crore from SBI, ₹7,000 crore from ADB, and a similar amount from World Bank, LIC, pension fund and Labour Ministry. Road and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has

New panel to prepare norms for approval

taken steps to declare State Highways as National Highways, which means roads being maintained or developed by States will directly fall under the jurisdiction of the Centre. The PMO has asked the Road Ministry to review the whole process and seek approval from the PMO before making any further decisions. There are no guidelines for declaring a State road as NH and it happens after the States request the Centre for taking over their roads as NH. Following a meeting in March, Nripendra Misra, Principal Secretary to the PM, had also directed the expenditure secretary to conduct an inquiry into the role played by the road transport Ministry's financial advisers in deviating from the existing system of declaring national highways. Earlier in March this year, sources said, Principal Secretary in the PMO, Nripendra Misra, had asked the expenditure secretary to order a probe as to how the existing system of declaring NHs was violated. The probe is still on.

Metro's Aerocity to Tuglakabad stretch to run above flyover

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI
The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation on Tuesday issued tender for the construction of double viaduct corridor for the elevated sections of the Aerocity to Tuglakabad in Phase IV. For the first time Delhi will have an elevated 4.2km long metro section and 2.4 km six-lane flyover on the second deck and a surface road below that. The four stations that will be constructed are Sangam Vihar, Khanpur, Ambedkar Nagar and Saket G Block. Besides, a 430-metre six lane underpass will be constructed at Saket-G at Mandir marg crossing. On this section, the Metro viaduct shall be on the upper deck at an elevation of 18 metres, while the road flyover will be on lower deck at height of 9.3 metres.

Sonia persuades Hooda to close ranks

PNS ■ NEW DELHI
A week after taking over as Congress' interim chief, UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi swung into action on Tuesday reaching out to veteran Bhopinder Singh Hooda, who seemed determined to break away from the grand old party in the run-up to the forthcoming Haryana Assembly polls. Sources in AICC said Sonia rang up Hooda in the afternoon and discussed the prevailing political turmoil in the poll bound State. After their telephonic conversation, sources said senior leaders of the party requested Hooda to postpone his scheduled Press conference in Chandigarh on Thursday. AICC sources said Hooda wants to have a free hand in managing the Assembly polls and was fed up with State Congress leaders like Ashok Tanwar, who were not letting him have his way. "It was a routine call from

Ex-CM wants free hand in poll affairs, wants Haryana Cong chief's removal

Soniaji to Hooda to talk about State Assembly elections. Nothing should be read in between as Hooda was present at the AICC headquarters for the flag-hoisting by Sonia Gandhi on Independence Day," said the party sources. Hooda and his son Deepender Hooda, along with a dozen MLAs, have been reportedly planning to leave the Congress to form a new party and tie up with NCP, AAP, and Dushyant Chautala's Jannayak Janata Party (JJP) for Haryana and Delhi Assembly polls. In Haryana, elections are scheduled to be held before November 2019, while in Delhi, it is due in February 2020. On Sunday while appreciating the Modi Government's stand on abrogation of Article 370, Hooda indicated that he was getting ready to break free from the mother organisation. With Hooda forming a committee and clarifying that he would do whatever the committee conveyed to him, the ball was in Sonia's court. Hooda's main contention is that State Congress president Ashok Tanwar should be replaced immediately with a new one ahead of elections. He has been demanding this for more than a year.



INDECENT POSTER ROW Notice issued to producer of movie 'Mr. Kanheiya' Dutee slams Papu, threatens to file defamation case

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
The city Mahila police issued the notice to Agarwal regarding the controversial poster. Earlier, reacting to the controversy, comedian Papu Pom Pom claimed that the picture was fabricated. Giving clarification regarding the poster which triggered controversy for disrespecting women, the comedian in a video claimed that the pictures in the poster were morphed. He claimed that the movie was shot at a college and someone might have clicked a photograph of a scene. The production house has also issued a statement over the controversy and stated that the poster was not published by them on my personal life. I had just opposed the concept of the poster which depicts that women are slaves to men. I did not take anyone's name and urged the production house to remove it. But the actor took it personally and got vindictive. She further alleged that some people are calling her up on behalf of the actor for the last four to five days and threatening her of dire consequences. She warned that she would file a defamation suit against the comedian. Dutee said, "I am deeply hurt by Papu Bhai's comments

Abhinandan's captor killed while trying to push in infiltrators

IANS ■ NEW DELHI
A Pakistani commando who was behind the capture of Commander Abhinandan Varthaman when his IAF jet crashed in Pakistani territory in February this year, and had reportedly tortured the IAF pilot, has been killed in firing by Indian forces along the Line of Control (LoC). According to reports, Ahmed Khan, a subedar with the Pakistan Army's Special Service Group, was killed by the Indian Army in Nakyal sector of the LoC on August 17 when he was trying to facilitate infiltration into India. In photos released by Pakistan after Abhinandan's capture on February 27, the bearded Khan can be seen behind the IAF officer. Abhinandan was captured after his MiG 21 was shot down by Pakistani forces when he went chasing after a Pakistani jet in the aftermath of the Balakot airstrike. It is reported that Ahmed Khan used to facilitate infiltration in the Nowshera, Sundarbani and Pallan Wala sectors. He was specially roped in by the Pakistan Army to facilitate infiltration. Sources said that Khan used to mobilise well-trained militants of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) outfit at a forward post as part of Pakistan's plan to keep terrorism alive in Kashmir. On August 17, India retaliated fiercely to Pakistan launching a mortar fire attack on Indian forces in the Krishna Ghati sector in Poonch. Pakistan was firing mortar shells to allow infiltrators to enter India. Khan was killed in the return fire by India.

State creates 'directorates for minor minerals'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
The State Government has created a separate directorate under the administrative control of the Revenue & Disaster Management Department for management of minor minerals. Named as 'Directorate of Minor Minerals', it would work for scientific and sustainable management of minor mineral sources to augment the State's revenue. The functions of the directorate include identification of the minor mineral and sairat sources in a scientific manner; preparation of mining plan and environmental management plans of the identified sources as per the applicable laws; lease/settlement of the identified sources in a transparent manner; implementation of various technology-enabled applications for regulating quarrying and transportation of minor minerals from the leasehold areas. It would also work for prevention of illegal quarrying and lifting of minor minerals and sairats and augmentation of collection of revenue from minor mineral and sairat sources.

Police plaint lodged against Haladhar Nag

For 'ridiculing' Odia words
PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
A group of writers and journalists on Tuesday lodged a complaint at the Capital police station here seeking action against western Odisha poet Padma Shri Haladhar Nag for allegedly making derogatory remarks on different Odia words. Nag's remarks have gone viral in social media and published in sections of media. The video shows some miscreants disparaging Chhabila Madhu Barnabodha, by dashing it to the gourd. One Achyuta Sipun Khamari has put the video in the Facebook on August 17. Achyuta has also made a violence-instigating statement and challenged law in the video. The complainants alleged that Nag has been ridiculing different Odia words and hurting sentiments of Odia people in the public regularly. By doing so, Nag has violated Section 153 (A) of the IPC and Odisha Language Act, alleged they. Scribe Shubhranshu Panda, Prof Ramakanta Mishra, Subas Sarangi Pramitap Satpathy, Kishan Barai, Lingaraj Sahoo, Laxmikant Das, Girish Ranjan Sahoo and Sharada Prasad Mohapatra lodged the police complaint.



State Cong leaders to meet Sonia on Aug 22

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR
A delegation of more than a hundred Congress leaders and workers led by Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Niranjan Patnaik is scheduled to visit New Delhi on August 22 for attending a meeting of the AICC. Notably, this will be the first meeting between the AICC and PCC leaders after Sonia Gandhi took charge as the interim president of AICC recently. "Sonia Gandhi has called for a meeting of the party workers to discuss strategies for strengthening the party's position. We will also chalk out a plan for the 2024 elections" said party MLA Suresh Kumar Routray here on Tuesday. MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati said, "We have to strengthen the party's base at the grassroots level. Changing the PCC leadership will not solve the problem. We will request the AICC not to change the State leadership ahead of the civic body polls. Niranjan Patnaik has worked hard to unite the party workers." MLA Mohammed Moquim said, "The meeting will be held on the sidelines of the Rajiv Gandhi birth anniversary celebration. Various issues like strengthening of the party's base for the upcoming elections will be discussed."

Eviction around Jagannath temple continues

Many structures demolished on 2nd day
PNS ■ PURI
The district administration on Tuesday continued to carry out demolition of structures around the Meghanad Pacheri and other areas surrounding the Shree Jagannath temple. Twenty-four platoons of police force, along with magistrates, were deployed to prevent any untoward incident during the drive, which passed off peacefully for the second day. Establishments and buildings barring the statue of Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das from the Lions Gate were removed on the day. Structures including shoe-stands, shops, toilets, a police outpost and a Government information centre were razed. The administration assured that an alternative area would be identified for the evicted establishments. The eviction drive had begun on Monday in the presence of the district collector. The State Government had proposed to implement certain recommendations of the justice BP Das Commission of Inquiry from the first interim report which relate to the safety and improvement of the temple in the first phase. As per the order, all structures within 75 metre of the Jagannath temple would be removed to ensure the safety and security of the 12th-century shrine, which is on the radar of terror groups.

Odisha emerges as 'nutrition champion' in India: Int'l study

Child stunting reduced from 46.5% to 35.3%

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Odisha, considered as one of the backward States in India, has made significant progress in reducing the child under-nutrition, according to a study by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

The study sheds light on nutrition success stories on the ground in countries like Bangladesh, Brazil, Nepal, Peru, Thailand, Vietnam and Ethiopia and the State of Odisha in India.

Odisha has emerged as "nutrition champion" among the country's 28 States.

As per the findings of the Washington-based institute, stunting reduced from 46.5 per cent of children below five years in 2005-06 to 35.3 per cent in 2015-16 in Odisha. Similarly, the proportion of underweight children decreased from 42.3 per cent kids below five years to 35.8 per cent, and the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) reached 34 per cent more people in 2017 as compared to those in 2014.

It's noteworthy that Odisha has performed better than developed States such as Gujarat in delivering ICDS.

From September 1, the Union Government is all set to launch "Poshan Abhiyan", a scheme which aims to

improve nutrition among children, lactating mothers and pregnant women on the occasion of National Nutrition Week and make India malnutrition-free by 2022.

Besides, in Odisha, the child and maternal health improved faster in compared to less developed States.

In Odisha, coverage of antenatal care went up from 48.3 per cent of beneficiaries in 2005 to 64 per cent in 2015 compared to Bihar, where it increased from 16.9 per cent in 2005-06 to 18.7 per cent in 2014-15. In Maharashtra, this proportion increased from 62.1 per cent to 67.6 per cent, the study found.

Similarly, in Odisha, institutional births increased from 35.6 per cent of all births to 85.3 per cent in 10 years to 2015. In Bihar, it rose up from 19.9 per cent in 2005 to 63.8 per cent in 2015.

One Nation, One Ration Card' in State

From Sep 1 in first phase in BBSR

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

In a move that would benefit people belonging to the BPL category, the State Government has decided to implement the Centre's 'One Nation One Ration Card' programme from September 1.

While informing this on Tuesday, Food and Civil Supplies Minister Ranendra Pratap Swain said the initiative would be implemented on a pilot basis for ration card holders under the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) from September 1 and would

later be extended across the State.

With this, Swain said, the beneficiaries under both the National Food Security Act (NFSA) as well as the State Food Security Scheme (SFSS) can get their ration items from any Public Distribution System (PDS) centre across the country.

"We are going to introduce ration card portability on a pilot basis from Bhubaneswar. It will be replicated in other parts of the State in next phases. The way you withdraw cash from ATMs irrespective of any location, ration card holders will now be able to get their subsidised items from any PDS centre across the country," said the Minister.

10 gates of Hirakud Dam closed

Sigh of relief for people in low-lying areas

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

Keeping in view the receding water level at the Hirakud Dam, the authorities on Tuesday closed 10 gates of the reservoir. Currently, the floodwater was being discharged through only four sluice gates of the dam.

The decision was taken following a stable inflow of water into the dam.

At present, the water outflow from the dam is higher than the inflow.

The water level at the reservoir recorded 619.37ft against storage capacity of 630 ft by 7.00 am on the day.

The closure of the gates has also brought a sigh of relief the-

The water level at the reservoir recorded 619.37ft against storage capacity of 630 ft by 7.00 am on the day

idents of low-lying areas, who were living in constant fear of flooding.

Earlier on Monday, seven sluice gates were opened to release excess floodwater from the reservoir.

FANI ASSISTANCE FOR STATE Centre sanctions ₹3,338 crore more

Naveen, Dharmendra thank PM

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A high-level committee meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi has approved an additional Central assistance of ₹3,338.22 crore for Cyclone Fani-affected Odisha.

Official sources on Tuesday said that besides the aid to Odisha, a sum of ₹1,029.39 crore to Karnataka for drought and ₹64.49 crore to Himachal Pradesh for avalanches and hailstorm have also been sanctioned.

This additional assistance to the States is over and above the funds released by the Centre to them in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at the disposal of the States.

Notably, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had visited Odisha on May 6, three days after the cyclone hit the State,

and announced an immediate assistance of ₹1,000 crore. In addition, an ex-gratia sum of ₹2 lakh were provided to next of the family of each deceased person and ₹50,000 to seriously injured in the cyclone from the PM's Relief Fund.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the assistance of ₹3,338.22 crore, saying that the assistance would strengthen the State exchequer for restoration of infrastructure and livelihoods of millions affected in the Cyclone Fani.

"The Central assistance of ₹3,338.22 crore will strengthen exchequer for restoration of infra and livelihoods of millions affected in the State," Patnaik Tweeted.

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel Minister Dharmendra Pradhan also thanked Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for the assistance. The assistance would expedite relief and restoration works, he said.

Barik Samity honours UPSC qualifier Somalin

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Nikhila Utkal Barik Samity felicitated Somalin Subhadarshini, who cracked the UPSC examination recently, and B Madhusmita, gold medalist in Commerce of Rama Devi Women's University, at a programme held here on Tuesday.

Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board Chairman Subash Singh, Biju Patnaik State Police Academy Registrar Dhirej Kumar Barik and Special Relief Commissioner OSD Rabinarayan Barik attended as guests in the pro-



gramme presided over by Samity president Hemant Kumar Barik.

Among others, Samity

Bhubaneswar branch president Radha Raman Barik, State VP Bijay Ketan Barik, secretary

Barik, treasurer Surjyakant Mahapatra and members of other districts were present.

'Let 'Utkal Janani' file move at rocket speed'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Utkal Sammilani on Tuesday greeted new Chief Secretary Asit Tripathy and appreciated his assurance that all Government works would move at "rocket speed" for development of the State.

In the wake of his assurance, Sammilani Mancheswar Industrial Estate

Branch president Dillip Dashsharma hoped that Tripathy would move the file, which is lying in the Home Department with a proposal to give State anthem status to 'Bande Utkal Janani' song since 2013, at a rocket speed.

Dashsharma informed that while the Sammilani has been demanding State anthem status to the 'Bande Utkal Janani' song since 1994, discussions were held on

the demand at Government level in 2002, 2003, 2006 and 2012 after which the Culture Department sent a file numbering 125 to the Home Department on January 22, 2013. But no action has been taken yet.

"If all files move at a high speed, it is expected that the 'Bande Utkal Janani' will get State anthem status soon," hoped Dashsharma.

RD School to shift to new campus

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Rama Devi Higher Secondary School, currently running in the premises of the Rama Devi Women's University here, would move to its new campus, said university Vice-Chancellor Padmaja Mishra on Tuesday.

A new building of the higher secondary school would be established in the premises of the Unit-9 Girls' High School here, which is situated near the university, she said.

For this purpose, three acres of land has been identified. While the construction work is yet to commence, a survey for the purpose has been completed. The construction work would take two to three years for completion, said Prof Mishra.

Rare ornate flying snake rescued at city rly station



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

An ornate flying snake, which is one of the rare species of serpents, was rescued from the Bhubaneswar railway station on Tuesday.

The reptile was reportedly being trafficked in a train from Asansol in West Bengal.

Passengers spotted the snake and informed the Snake Helpline about it.

Later, Forest Department officials reached the station and rescued the snake.

Two persons were detained for their alleged involvement in the trafficking of the reptile. The

snake was released into the Chandaka forest. Notably, this species of the snake is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act. Ornate flying snakes can glide in a very short range through a parachute-like effect by extending their ribs and pulling in underside.

Australia invites investors from Odisha

The country is to invest \$100 bn in India by 2035

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

India emerged as a preferred destination for investment in Australia. By 2017, Australia invested 14 billion dollar in India, said Consulate General of Australia, Kolkata, Andrew Ford here on Tuesday.

Ford said Australia plans to increase its investment in India to 100 billion US dollar by 2035.

Attending an interaction session organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Ford urged the businessmen of Odisha to come forward and invest in sunrise sector of Australia for better return.

He told, "In Ease of doing



business ranking we are among the Top 20 countries. If somebody wants to invest in any project in our soil, I assure you here, we will provide all kind of handholding that is required for successful implementation of projects."

Australia Trade

Commission's Business Development Manager Partha Sen said, "We want now to strengthen our relationship with India not only in trade side but also in economic, culture and diplomacy side.

On trade side our focus now is on new sectors apart

from the metal and mining sector where both countries are enjoying a robust relationship. Education, infrastructure, ports, fintech, renewable energy, industrial park and health-care are new areas we want to strengthen our relationship in."

Other dignitaries present at the interaction session include Co-chairman of ICC Odisha State Council JB Pany, unit head of AMRI Hospitals, Bhubaneswar, Dr Anuj Tiwari, Chairman of Swosti Group JK Mohanty and other eminent business leaders of Odisha.

'Use of low grade minerals must for reaching steel target'

Symposium also suggests recovering metal values from industrial, municipal wastes

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A national symposium on "Environment-friendly Mining, Mineral Processing, Energy and Metal Extraction" (EMMEME - 2019)" was organised here by the Institute of Advance Technology and Environmental Studies (IATES) here on Monday.

Technical papers relating to the symposium were released and following discussions recommendations were made for

necessary action by the Central Government and other concerned organisations.

The symposium recommended the Government to mine and use both the high and low-grade and complex ores as mineral resources are non-renewable in nature. While reserves of low grade ores are much larger in quantities than the high grade ores, beneficiation is to be taken up for all low-grade ores, especially those which have not been practiced at present.

To reach the 2030 target of producing 300 million tonnes of steel in the country, use of low grade iron ores should be mandatory either through beneficiation or through alternate/new process technology applied to iron and steel mak-



Research and development (R and D) efforts need to be

augmented to develop technologically-viable processes to recover metal values from

industrial and municipal wastes like slag, tailings, leached residues, dross, slimes, spent

catalysts, electric and electronic wastes etc.

It also recommended slurry transportation, as used by a few industries recently, should be adopted for long distance for economical and environmental point of view.

As the energy cost contributes to a sizeable fraction about 20-40 per cent of the total operational cost of mines, it is essential to use the renewable energy such as solar, wind, biomass as is increasingly being used in mines and mineral-based industries in many advance countries.

It said modernisation of mining technique with proper geo-technical instrumentation must be practiced to avoid disasters in the mines. Illegal mining of minerals in the country has to be stopped

Warden arrested for beating students



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

A day after a video of a hostel warden thrashing two students of the Gandhi Science College here surfaced on social media, police arrested the accused warden on Tuesday.

The Khandagiri police arrested warden Biswaranjan Rana for his alleged involvement in incident.

The warden was arrested by the police after the college authorities lodged a complaint against him.

The incident had occurred on August 11 when Rana was caught on camera beating two Plus Two students, who were from Keonjhar and Jajpur districts, respectively, with a stick in the premises of the hostel for performing poorly in the examinations.

Disputed WB border village seeks to be in Odisha

Villagers want to pay revenue to Odisha as well

UBACHAK MOHANTY ■ BALESWAR

The residents of Sankhamedi, a village having a border dispute with West Bengal, have demanded that their village be declared as a revenue village under Bhograi block of Odisha and the Odisha Government collect revenue from them.

They alleged that even after seven decades of independence they couldn't earn their identities although they identify themselves as Odias.

They observed that they were not getting benefits under Odisha Government's welfare

schemes and policies as their village, Sankhamedi, which comes under the jurisdiction of Analia panchayat of the block is yet to be declared by the State Government as a revenue village.

Venting their grievances, they said owing to the lack of status of revenue village they are deprived of certificates such as residential, caste, income and other testimonials. They said that they are willing to pay revenue and want to be part of Odisha.

On the occasion of observation of the Independence Day, several villagers took out a rally with placards around their village demanding status of revenue village reiterating that they wish to be part of Odisha.

According to local sources, as many 82 villages in Bhograi

and Jaleswar in the border of Bengal are more or less disputed due to lack of proper identification and demarcations.

They further said at least 6 villages among 82 are acutely affected due to the non-resolve of border dispute. They further said the residents of those villages so far couldn't earn identity either of Odisha or West Bengal although in some patches the residents have dual voter identity cards and ration cards.

The issue is long standing and needs to be resolved after having talks with Bengal counter parts. The village Sankhamedi having a population of 556 was paying revenue up 1975 to Odisha.

However, the practice was stopped ever since owing to the controversy over nativity.

IN JAJPUR ROAD SBI ideation on \$5-tn economy



PNS ■ JAJPUR ROAD

The Regional Business Office (RBO) of State Bank of India (SBI), Jajpur Road organised a two-day workshop on multi-level consultation and ideation of \$ 5-trillion economy in five years here on Saturday and Sunday.

SBI Bhubaneswar DGM Krishan Sharma inaugurated the workshop in presence of 48 SBI Branch Managers of Jajpur and Kendrapada districts.

On closing ceremony, Sharma and SBI, Jajpur Road RM Prabir Chandra Sahu felicitated journalists Dushmanta Kumar Rout, Biswa

SBI Bhubaneswar DGM Krishan Sharma inaugurated the workshop in presence of 48 SBI Branch Managers of Jajpur and Kendrapada districts

Ranjan Pattanayak, Chintamani Parhi, Umakanta Rout, Kailash Rout, Debendra Nayak, Udaynath Khandai, Priya Ranjan Kar, Abhimanyu Mishra and Pradyumna Boitai.

Among others, RBO Chief Manager Jayadrath Bal, Manager (HR) Sanjay Kumar Majhi, Purnendu Kamila, Ganga Sahoo and Manoj Kumar were present.

IN BRIEF

BOUDH GP SECY GETS 3-YR JAIL FOR RICE THEFT
Phulbani: Vigilance Judge Bhagaban Pradhan has awarded a three-year jail term to Boudh district's Ambajhari gram panchayat Secretary Krutibas Pallia after convicting him in a misappropriation cases. The judge also imposed a fine of Rs 3 lakh on him. Failing payment, Pallia would undergo imprisonment for six more months. He had misappropriated 401.575 quintal of SGRY and GR rice worth Rs 2,52,026 and a cash of Rs 50,000 meant for electrification in Nandan village. Vigilance inspector Dolagobinda Parida was the informant and Ananta Majhi investigated the case.

BOY FOUND DEAD IN FRONT OF TALCHER COLLEGE
Talcher: An unidentified boy was found dead in front of the Talcher Autonomous College here on Monday. On being informed, Talcher PS IIC Soubhagya Kumar Swain went to the spot and took the boy to the Talcher Sub-Divisional Hospital where the doctors declared him brought dead. Sources said that the boy might have died in an accident.

JAGATSIINGHPUR SCRIBE REMEMBERED
Jagatsinghpur: Pravakar Das, a social activist, Gandhian and scribe, was remembered in his 10 death anniversary in a function held in Khankarpur village near Balikuda. The Balikuda Pujya Puja Sansad organised a remembrance meeting in late scribe's village. Kailash Chandra Biswal, Aruna Kumar Mohanty, Birabar Dalei, Nirmal Kaunongo, Niranjan Panda, Bidhan Raula and Paresh Das recalled late Das' contributions to the society.

TENSION POST DEATH OF MINOR

Stir withdrawn, normalcy restored in Jaleswar hosp

After new in-charge, docs posted

PNS ■ BALESWAR

The health services, which were paralysed following unrest among the locals after death of a minor on August 15, resumed from Monday after the Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) assured to address the issues of the locals after intervention of the local MLA.

The controversial in-charge doctor of the Government-run hospital, GK Bhattar hospital, (CHC) Jaleswar, Dr Ganesh Chandra Pal was shifted and Dr Dillip Patra was posted in his place.

Further ENT specialist Dr Girija Shankar Mahanta, while was posted in the hospital, Dr Sasmitha Singh and Vinod Kumar Pradhan would continue to work as earlier, the order of the CDMO mentioned.

Notably, the locals under the leadership of block vice chairman Brajamohan Pradhan sat on dharna and picketed the NH near Nadika, triggering road traffic disruption for around 3 hours, on Monday demanding transfer of Dr Pal, the in-charge medical officer and posting of more doctors for smooth and effective management of the health services in the CHC.

The situation was brought under con-

trol after the CDMO made orders following intervention of district Collector K Sudarshan Chakraverty.

It may be recalled on August 15, a minor admitted in the hospital died during treatment.

The death sparked tension. The irate locals alleging negligence in treatment resulting death had ransacked the hospital.

Since then they had been demanding transfer of in-charge Dr Pal and posting of more doctors for some key departments. In the stand-off, the health services of the centre was disrupted since then.

Sources alleged that Dr Pal had been posted to Nabarangpur on promotion yet he didn't opt promotion and continued in the hospital.

Pal became more controversial when he made the local mediapersons responsible for the ransacking incident.

Despite pursuance of Sub-Collector Nilu Mohapatra and SDPO Jaleswar Sudharsan Dash the agitators remained unmoved insisting they would desist from the agitation when the new doctor would arrive physically.

The newly-posted in-charge medical officer Dr Patra while arrived he was welcomed to the CHC with garlands.

B'ngir clerk held taking bribe from teacher

PNS ■ BALANGIR

A clerk of the Gudbhela BEO office in Balangir district was arrested by Vigilance officials on Tuesday for allegedly taking bribe from a retired teacher for approval of his revised pension.

Accused Damana Mishra had demanded ₹5,000 from Hadu Bhoi, the retired teacher and a resident of Salepali village under Gudbhela block in the district, for sanctioning of his revised pension.

Bhoi reported the matter to the Vigilance, following which a trap was laid by sleuths of the anti-corruption agency. The clerk was caught red-handed by the Vigilance officials while he was receiving the bribe from the complainant.

The accused was later forwarded to court. Vigilance officials also raided his house at Patharatreka village in Subarnapur district.

IN MAYURBHANJ

Three boys run away from residential school

Police form separate teams to trace them

PNS ■ BARIAPADA

Three male students of the Swami Vivekananda Shikshashram at Sirisbani in Mayurbhanj district have escaped from their hostel on August 15.

Though a case has been registered with the Sadar police here, the kids' whereabouts are yet to be ascertained.

Reports said three Class-IX students fled from the school hostel late on August 15 night. The students were identified as Subhankar Mishra of Baleswar district, Abhinash Mohakud of Rourkela in Sundargarh district and Hemant Kumar Sahu of Bahalda in Mayurbhanj district, all in the age group of 14 years.

Police have formed separate teams to trace the students.

Father of one of the students said CCTV footage from the hostel campus at around 3.30 am by climbing the boundary wall of the hostel and went to the Baripada Railway Station.

"The three kids had hatched a plan to escape from the school hostel. We have searched everywhere but there is no clue about where did the three go from the Baripada station," he added.

When asked, school authorities said police are investigating into the matter. A team including the SDPO, Sadar PS IIC and a few officials of the school left for Kharagpur on Monday for investigations.

3-day Annanda Utsav ends at Brahmapur

Hundreds gather to listen to Sri Sri



PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

A three-day-long "Annanda Utsav", a pan-India happiness programme with Pt Sri Sri Ravi Shankar (live from Bengaluru Ashram) organised by the Art of Living, concluded here on Sunday.

The special programme was held at "Sai Chandan" Seva Sadan at Baikuntha Nagar near New Bus Stand Road where hundreds of young men and women and elders flocked to listen to their guru to whom they trust to bring happiness to them.

The programme aims to empower individuals, more particularly those who are physically weak and remain under mental stress, to remain mentally and physically fit and excel in life, said disciple Ratnamani Cotton.

The most significant aspect is the 'Sudarshan Kriya' that teaches the individuals to lead a happy, healthy and stress-free life, she added.

This online programme was jointly conducted and coordinated by Krushna Mahapatra, Dr Prafulla Pattnaik, M Pattnaik, Er Amar Sahu, B Shyama Sundar, R Vijaya Kumar and Ankan Kolley-all well trained teachers of Guru Ravi Shankar's art of living.

The programme was patronized for the first time at Brahmapur under the initiatives of Vyakti Vikas Kendra.

Double murder over 'witchcraft' in Keonjhar

Man, nephew killed by fellow villagers

PNS ■ KEONJHAR

A youth and an elderly man accused of practising witchcraft were beaten to death in Nenkadapalli village under the Bamebari police station in the district late on Monday night.

The deceased were identified a Subash Munda (60) and his nephew Chetan Munda (27).

Sources said one Rama Munda of the same village along with some other locals allegedly barged into their house and strangled Subash to death. Later, they thrashed Chetan to death.

Rama was suspecting Chetan and Subash of performing black magic on his



daughter who was repeatedly falling sick.

Later, when the condition of his daughter didn't improve, he along with some other villagers hatched a plan to eliminate the uncle-nephew duo.

On receiving information, the Bamebari police rushed to the spot and detained the prime accused and one of his associate in the connection. But some of the other accused are still at large. Police refused to divulge any details regarding the incident.

IN NABARANGPUR

Home Guard held for nexus with accused

PNS ■ NABARANGPUR

The Nabarangpur police arrested a Home Guard, Simanchal Jani, on the charge of colluding with a fraud accused, Basudev Rao, in the local sub-jail.

According to reports, Tapan Garada and Sirajuddin contacted the accused Basudev Rao and demanded that he pay two lakh rupees to them.

The Home Guard plotted a plan to collect the money. The family members of the accused intimidated the matter to Jail Superintendent Sontosh Patnaik, who after an inquiry, filed a case at the Nabarangpur police station.

Police registered a case and forwarded the Home Guard to court and later remanded him to judicial custody on Monday.

Bargarh PHD road in tatters

Low standard of construction work alleged

PNS ■ BARGARH

The road from Bargarh town to Sahajbahal village under Bargaon panchayat is in a very poor condition. It is full of craters and potholes.

In the year 2016, the PHD Department, Bargarh had constructed the road at a cost of ₹4.46 crore. But now the road is in complete tatters.

It has been badly affected in rains, with water puddles dotting on it everywhere.

While over a thousand of people use the road daily, they have alleged poor road works.

Accidents are common in the road. The villages dependent on the road are Katapali, Kamgaon, Patikarpalli, Zada, Khamrundi, Antapali and Karlazuri, etc.



According to sources, some corrupt officers of the PHD department have earned huge amount of illegal money in the construction of the road.

The local people have demanded a probe by the Vigilance in the matter and action against the officials involved in corruption.

ELEPHANT MENACE, NO GOVT SCHEMES BENEFITS

I-Day doesn't fill these Keonjhar villagers with pride

RAJENDRA K SAHU ■ CHAMPUPA

On Thursday last when the whole country was rejoicing in celebrating the 73rd Independence Day and leaders and babus were delivering speech highlighting different achievements and schemes of the Government, for the adivasi forest dwellers of two villages such as KanardamundaSahi and Kuhlapanuli under Bolanigram panchayat in Joda block, the day carried no meaning.

They are deprived of many of the schemes and programmes of both the State and Central Governments.

Some months ago, a herd of around of 17 jumbos had come to Kanardamunda village at night and left the place after devastating the ancestral mud houses of fouradivasis people and destroying the pulses and cereals available there.

After the news came in the local media, local forest offi-



cials visited the village to take stock of the situation. Then, it was the turn of the revenue officials to assess the damage and send a report to the DFO, Keonjhar so that the poor adivasi dwellers could get compensation to repair their damaged houses, but it is alleged that the revenue officials are silent till now for which the affected people are taking shelters in their relatives' houses and sometimes under the shades of the trees nearby.

Near Kanardamunda, the Kuhlapanuli village is situated at an altitude of 2,777 feet from the sea level in the midst of three forests, such as Karrow reserve forest, Sidhamatha forest and Lenkdaghat forest under the range of the same Bolani GP. When villagers came to know that a group of journalists had come on the Independence Day to see the conditions of the forest dwellers whose houses have been damaged by jumbos, they immediately reached and invited the scribes to see how they are living in pitiable conditions for lack of a permanent road to

their village. They alleged Independence has no meaning for them. After reaching there with much difficulties, it dawned upon the journalists that the villagers have to walk daily 4 km on a forest road to reach Haramatha, a village situated by the side of main road connecting two public sector mines Bolani iron mines (Odisha) on the one hand and Kiribur Meghatpur iron mines (Jharkhand) on the other side, from where they go to Barbil and other places in search of jobs. The village being situated

ed in the zone of an elephant corridor, parents hesitate to send their kids to a school situated outside the village as there is always fear of jumbos passing through. They don't take the risk of sending their kids in the middle of the forest to reach the school. Their plea is that if a permanent pucca road can be built there, then they can send their children in groups by arranging some vehicles.

The area being Maoist-infested, Rs 50 lakh had been sanctioned under the IAP (Integrated Action Plan) by the Forest Department in the year 2015 to build a road passing through the village; but due to mysterious reasons, around Rs 15 lakh was diverted for construction of a road in the Harichandanpur forest range, another Maoist-infested area in Keonjhar district.

The forest dwellers are waiting for the day when any project for construction of a road to solve their day to day problem will come up.

Woman killed by jumbo in Angul

PNS ■ ANGUL

In yet another instance of Iman-animal conflict, a woman was trampled to death by an elephant at Panaposi village in Machokuda panchayat of Angul district on Monday night. The 40-year-old victim was identified as Nalini Majhi of the village. According to reports, when the woman was returning from Bagdia to her house at around 8 pm, the elephant attacked her and crushed her to death.

Tension prevailed in the area following the incident as angry locals staged a road blockade holding forest officials responsible for the tragedy. Later, police reached the spot and took control of the situation.

Timings for B'ngir-BBSR Intercity changed

With effect from September 1

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

In view of operational reasons, it has been decided to run the 12894 Balangir-Bhubaneswar Intercity Express with revised timings from September 1.

12894 Balangir-Bhubaneswar Intercity Express will now leave Balangir at 1445hrs (02.45p.m.) instead of 1430hrs (02.30p.m.) and will reach Bhubaneswar at 2155hrs (09.55p.m.) instead of 2140hrs (09.40p.m.).

The departure timings for this train at different nominated Stations between Balangir and Bhubaneswar have also been changed.

This train will leave from Loisingha at 1503hrs, Bargarh at 1549hrs, Sambalpur at 1650hrs, Rairakhol at 1757hrs, Angul at 1929hrs, Talcher Road at 1941hrs, Dhenkanal at 2031hrs and Naraj Marthapur at 2117hrs towards Bhubaneswar with effect from September 1.

The timings of 12893 Bhubaneswar-Balangir Intercity Express starting from Bhubaneswar in the morning will remain unchanged.

Timings of 12893 Bhubaneswar-Balangir Intercity Express starting from Bhubaneswar in the morning will remain unchanged

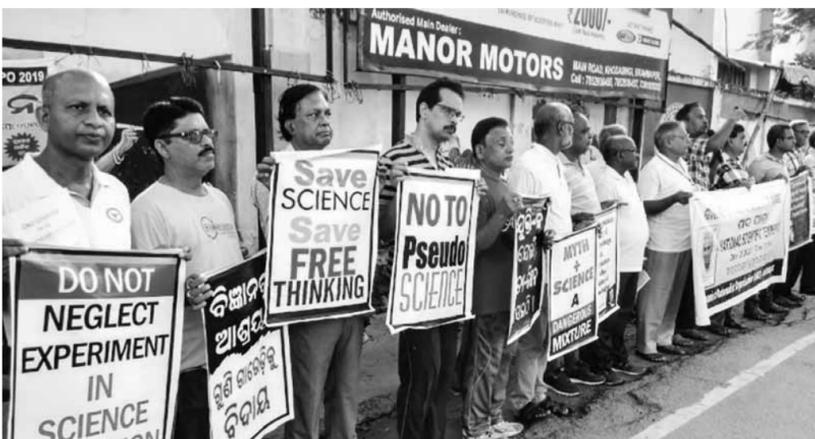
RESTRUCTURED BAMBOO MISSION ₹2,733L annual plan of State approved

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

For the restructured Bamboo Mission in the State, an annual action plan envisaging investment of around ₹2,733 lakh was approved. In the State Level Executive Committee Meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Asit Tripathy on Tuesday, Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment, Dr Mona Sharma outlined the issues and PCCF Sandeep Tripathy placed the proposals for discussion. Giving nod to action plan Chief Secretary Tripathy directed the Odisha Bamboo Development Agency (OBDA) to intensify field level operations involving Van Surakshya Samitis (VSSs), Joint Forest Management Committees (JMFC), Eco Development Committees and Farmers' Clubs. Tripathy also directed to undertake independent third party evaluation of the project

after one year. Outlining the modus operandi of the restructured bamboo mission, State Mission Director OBDA AK Pathak said, "The main objective is to increase the area under bamboo plantation in non-forest Government and private land for supplementing farm income, contributing towards climate change resilience and making available the quality raw material for industries. It will be promoted predominantly in private land, community land, arable wasteland, along irrigation canals and water bodies." It was decided in the meeting that only commercially viable species like Tulda, Vulgaries and Nutons would be planted. Farmers and artisans would be motivated to take up bamboo plantation. Financial assistance of ₹50,000 per hectare would be provided for bamboo plantation and growing over a period of three years. Around 417 seedlings would be planted in one hectare of land. The financial support would be calculated at the rate of ₹120 per plant to be disbursed in instalments as per cultivation, survival and growth of the plants over a period of three years. PCCF Tripathy apprised that because of the operations in last year, the bamboo cultivation increased from 11.2 lakh hectare in 2017-18 to 14 lakh hectare in the year 2018-19. It was further decided that quality planting materials would be developed in OBDA and other forest nurseries for supply to the farmers. The operation would include the entire gamut of works like developing the nursery, actual plantation, treatment and seasoning of the plants, establishment of business clusters, establishment of processing units for value addition and marketing linkage.

Scientific Temper Day held in Brahmapur 'Society should get rid of superstition, astrology, witchcraft'



PNS ■ BRAHMAMAPUR

The Humanist and Rationalist Organisation (HRO), Ganjam observed the National Scientific Temper Day here on Tuesday to mark the death anniversary of humanist and rationalist Dr Narendra Dabholkar. Noted persons participating in the programme opined that superstitious, sorcery and black magic practices should be stopped for building a better human society.

People should be made aware with scientific reasons that there no ghosts, spirits, witches, rebirth, heaven, hell, horoscopy and black magic on the earth. "Scientific temper is a lifestyle. This can be adopted by both science learners and non-learners. Scientific temper can be achieved through one's inquisitiveness to know reality before everything that happens or comes along his or her life. Thorough scientific thoughts and researches, fire, cultivation methods,

agriculture equipments, industrial development and travel to moon were invented. Scientific temper brings development in society," viewed speakers. Among others, ET Rao, K Nandesh Senapati, Kishore Chandra Mishra, E Raja Suresh, K Basab Raju, B Balakrushna, Pratap Chandra Pradhan, Pratap Chandra Nayak, A Malaleshawar Rao, Abani Gaya, Shyam Sundar Khadanga, J Suresh and Rajabala Tripathy were present.

IN UMARKOTE No ambulance available; pregnant woman taken to hospital on cot



PNS ■ UMARKOTE

In a sad reflection of the poor healthcare facilities and road communication in Nabarangpur district, a pregnant woman had to be taken to the hospital on a cot by her family members on Monday. Gupta Santa, a resident of village Kursitahara under Umargote police limits, said he called for an 108 ambulance, but it did not reach him and stopped 2 kilometer away from the village due to bad road condition. "I waited for more than an hour and then decided to use a charpoi to carry my wife Budanti Santa to the ambulance amid dark night and rain." On reaching to the CHC, Umargote, Budanti delivered a baby girl. The Government is spending crores of rupees on the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, but till now many residents of this sub-division are facing tragic situations due to muddy roads, said Nagesh Patnaik, a human rights activities.

MISSION TO REACH 5-TRILLION ECONOMY UCO Bank holds 2-day meet in S'pur

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

As per direction issued by the Union Ministry of Finance, the UCO Bank organised a two-day bankers' meet here for generation of ideas to reach five trillion economy by end of 2023. It also discussed on eight other themes including increasing digital payment, agriculture credit, export credit etc. "This is a three phase programme and here is the beginning. The suggestions will be forwarded to the State Level Banking Committee (SLBC) and finally to the Director of Finance Services," informed DGM from Kolkata head office Surya Narayan Samal. "Eight themes apart, the other objective of the meet was

to align banking with national priorities, stimulating ideas and inculcating a sense of involvement among bankers down to the branch level," said Zonal Manager of the Sambalpur zonal office Sanjay Kumar Patil. Officials of 78 branches of UCO bank and two lead banks of 12 revenue districts participated in the programme and shared their views for the purpose. Chief Manager A Rammohan, Deputy Zonal head Chandrama Giri and other seniors officers also took active part in the two-day programme. The final stage meeting will be held in the national level to meet the goal of the most desired five trillion economy, the organisers informed.

KIIT Polytechnic holds foundation day

Seven qualities to achieve institutional excellence: Bagchi

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The KIIT Polytechnic here celebrated its 25th foundation on Tuesday. Inaugurating the celebrations, Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority, focused on seven vital qualities to achieve institutional excellence. These are: Domain, Tools, Methodology, Quality, Innovation, Branding and Governance. The KIIT has become an institution of excellence as it has adopted, practised and executed these seven things in letter and spirit, Bagchi remarked. "As far as KIIT Polytechnic is concerned, you have to contemplate up to what extent it will reach in the coming 50 years. KIIT Polytechnic can elevate its level at par with the world's best if it practises these seven qualities for which it should be totally committed and determined," he added. Chief guest State Water Resources, I & PR Minister Raganandan Das said, "We are witnessing today the magnificent institution in form of KIIT that has become an Institution of Eminence. It was established by dint of immense



contribution and sacrifice by a small team of dedicated personnel during the nascent period of the institute. In his welcome address, KIIT & KISS founder Dr Achyuta Samanta said, "One should never forget his past. Even if it is a small help, it should not be forgotten. Pain, adver-

sities and struggle we faced and help and support by our friends in past carry priceless relevance and significance." As many as 17 veteran staff members were felicitated. They have been working since the inception of KIIT Polytechnic.

contribution and sacrifice by a small team of dedicated personnel during the nascent period of the institute. In his welcome address, KIIT & KISS founder Dr Achyuta Samanta said, "One should never forget his past. Even if it is a small help, it should not be forgotten. Pain, adver-

One dies, another hurt in road mishap in Nayagarh

PNS ■ BHAPUR

A youth was killed and another sustained critical injury after their motorcycle crashed into a roadside tree near Basantpur village under the Fatehgarh police station in Nayagarh district on Tuesday. The deceased was identified as Prasant Nayak of Baliapata village and the injured was Raja Nayak of the same village. Sources said that the incident took place when the duo was returning to their village from Bodasa village. After Raja lost control over the bike, they crashed into a roadside tree where Prasant died on the spot. Basantpur villagers rushed them to the Khandapada Hospital but doctors declared Prasant brought dead. Later, Raja was shifted to the Capital Hospital in Bhubaneswar. Police sent Prasant's body for post-mortem after registering a UD case.

Fashion Villa holds Khadi Fiesta

BHUBANESWAR: Models of the Odisha Fashion Villa celebrated the Independence Day as Khadi Fiesta. As Khadi is the National Fibre of India, the models on the theme "How Fashion can be made of Khadi" walked on the ramp wearing national flag coloured Khadi cloths. Bhubaneswar Central MLA Ananta Narayan Jena

attended as guest and felicitated veteran photographer Biren Pattanaik, fashion designer Jeet Jagjit, Photoshop editor K Stinibas Rao, videographer S Tudu, fashion model Madhu Shine, beauty expert Baishali Mohapatra, fashion photographer Badri Panda and choreographer Bidyut Kumar with the Utkal Pratibha Samman for their contribution in fashion.



Lad from Maniabandh labourer family now scientist of repute Lone from country to bag IAGA Young Scientist Award



DINESH DAS ■ ATHAGARH

Deepak Kumar Karan, a very poor lad of Maniabandha village under Badamba block who hails from a poor labourer family, has bagged the rare International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) Young Scientist Award from the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. This year such award was given to four persons, two from Russia, one from the UK and Deepak Karan from India. He is the first Indian to bag such a prestigious award which was conferred to him at Montreal, Canada recently. To get this award, he was nominated by the International Symposium on Equatorial Aeronomy for his Best Young Scientist Paper Award in the 15th International Symposium

on Equatorial Aeronomy held at the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad during October 2018. At present Deepak is working as a Research Associate in the NASA's GOLD (Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk) Mission to investigate Earth's upper atmosphere. Now he is working at "Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP), University of Colorado, Boulder in USA. Deepak has completed his PhD at Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad under the supervision of Professor Duggirala Pallamraju. The title of his thesis was "Investigation of Daytime Thermospheric Wave Dynamics over Low-latitudes Using Ground-Based Optical Techniques" which was declared as best thesis for the year 2017 by Gujarat Science Academy. Deepak who was born in a poor labourer class family to father Nilamani and mother Susama, after his completion of matriculation even in first division, was not able to take admission in college due to poverty. However, a lecturer in Botany Pradip Kumar Sahoo of CS College of Science and Arts extended his helping hand to him and adopted him as a regular student in his college providing all sorts of study materials. When he passed his Plus Two in first division, he studied Science Three in Gopabandhu Science College of Athagarh with Physics Honours who scored top in Utkal University. He studied his PG in Ravenshaw University and completed MPhil from Sambalpur University with specialisation in Electronics.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
"e" Procurement Notice for Building Works
Identification No Online Tender / 01 / RWD, Kuchinda / 2019-20

1. Name of the work	:: Building works
2. Total Number of Works	:: 12 Nos.
3. Estimated Cost	:: (A) Rs. 7.77 Lakhs, Rs. 8.74 Lakhs, Rs. 6.19 Lakhs, Rs. 5.30 Lakhs, Rs. 13.21 Lakhs, Rs. 5.87 Lakhs, Rs. 8.72 Lakhs, Rs. 13.26 Lakhs, Rs. 22.21 Lakhs, Rs. 21.21 Lakhs, Rs. 15.91 Lakhs & Rs.13.26 Lakhs
4. Class of Contractor	:: (A) Building Work (D & C Class of Contractor)
5. Period of Completion	:: (A) 02 (Two Calendar Months)
6. Availability of Tender online for bidding	:: 28.08.2019 at 11.00 A.M. to 12.09.2019 upto 5.00 P.M.
7. Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	:: 11.09.2019 upto 5.00 P.M.
8. Date & time of opening of tender	:: 16.09.2019 (11.00 A.M.)

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Rural Works Division,
Kuchinda

25151/11/0001/1920

e - Procurement Notice
Bid identification No. 19 of 2019-20

The Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Jagatsinghpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage bids in Single cover system in online mode for repair and relaying of pipe line work from eligible class of contractors except electrical.

1. Name of work	:: Extension & Relaying of pipe line for PWS Scheme to Tanara under Raghunathpur block.
2. No. of work	:: '1 no
3. Estimated Cost	:: Rs.10,52,764/-
4. Cost of Tender paper	:: Rs. 6000/-
5. Class of contractor	:: 'D' & 'C'
6. Availability of Tender in website	:: From 10 hours of 24.08.2019 to 06.09.2019 up to 17.00 hours
7. Submission of Bid in online	:: From 10 hours of 24.08.2019 to 06.09.2019 up to 17.00 hours
8. Date of seeking clarification	:: 24.08.2019 to 29.08.2019
9. Date of opening of bids	:: 07.09.2019 (11.00 A.M)
10. Name and address of O.I.T.	:: Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Jagatsinghpur
11. All other details can be seen from the web site	:: www.tendersorissa.gov.in
12. Bid cost and Bid security should be submitted in online mode.	::
13. Subsequent corrigendum/addendum if required shall only be appeared in above website.	::

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
RWS&S Divn. Jagatsinghpur

25204/11/0006/1920

VLW attacked in K'pada over IAY scheme



PNS ■ KENDRAPADA

The Village Level Worker (VLW) of Golarhat gram panchayat in the district was attacked by unidentified miscreants at Chhata Chhak on Monday. The injured VLW Nihar Ranjan Thatoi was admitted to the District Headquarters Hospital here. Sources said a resident of Golarhat was forcing Thatoi to pass two bills for construction

of houses under the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). As Thatoi refused saying that it was illegal, the man along with five other associates attacked the VLW while he was returning home in the evening. Later, Derabish BDO Gopabandhu Bhosagar lodged a complaint with the Sadar police in this connection. Police are investigating into the incident and are on the lookout for the accused.

Rajnath calls US Def Secy, raises Pak terrorism

ABROGATION OF ARTICLE 370 FOR J&K INTERNAL MATTER: ESPER

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged the issue of Pakistan's rhetoric over Jammu and Kashmir during his telephonic conversation with US President Donald Trump, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday held talks with his US counterpart Mark T Esper on the phone and raised the issue of cross-border terrorism. The US Defence Secretary termed abrogation of special status under Article 370 for Jammu and Kashmir as internal matter of India.

Congratulating Esper over his appointment as the new Defence Secretary, Singh raised the issue of cross-border terrorism directed against India, officials said. Singh also conveyed to Esper that issues relat-

ing to abrogation of provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution are internal matters of India.

He also said the steps to remove Article 370 are aimed at improving growth and economic development, democracy and prosperity for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The US secretary of defence appreciated India's position that the recent developments in Jammu and Kashmir are internal matter of India. He hoped that any issue between India and Pakistan will be resolved bilaterally," defence ministry officials said later.

Both the Ministers expressed happiness at the significant progress in bilateral defence cooperation and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen and deepen the relations further. They exchanged views on a range of issues related to military-to-military cooperation, defence policy, R&D cooperation, defence trade, technology and industrial cooperation.

Earlier in the day, in an apparent reference to the Balakot air strikes to destroy



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, along with IAF chief Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, visits stalls showcasing indigenous equipments at a seminar on 'Modernisation and Indigenisation plans of the Indian Air Force', in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

terrorist infrastructure there, Singh said here the offensive action by the IAF spoke volumes about the "reach and lethality" of the armed forces. The IAF had carried out the strikes in February in retaliation after 40 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were killed in a suicide attack in Pulwama.

"We are all aware that the Indian (Air) Force is a techno-

logically advanced and extremely potent force. The recent offensive strikes against terrorist outfits in our neighbourhood speak volumes about the reach and lethality of the formidable arm of the Indian armed forces," Singh said in his address at an IAF seminar here on indigenisation and modernisation.

The minister also announced that test facilities of the government and services

IAF chief stresses on modernisation, says force still flying 44-yr-old MiG

New Delhi: Stressing the need for faster modernisation of the IAF, Air Chief BS Dhanoa on Tuesday said the force is still flying the 44-year-old MiG-21 fighter jets when "nobody is driving cars of that vintage". He said this in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a seminar on modernisation and indigenisation. The Air Chief said the basic version of the fighter jet will be phased out this year. "Hopefully, I will fly the last sortie in September, subject to visibility," he said. The aircraft was in service for decades because of the overhauling using Indian-made components. "Over 95 per cent of components required in overhauling is made in India. The Russians are not flying the MiG but we are because we have overhaul facilities," he said. The MiG-21s were inducted into the IAF in the early 70s and several aviation experts besides services personnel were for last many years stressing the need for phasing out the jet. More than 100 MiG-21s were upgraded in 2006 to MiG-21 Bison with powerful multi-mode radar, better avionics and communications systems. Dhanoa has flown the MiG-21. In May 2017, he led a four-aircraft 'Missing Man' formation in honour of the servicemen killed during the Kargil conflict. **PNS**

will be opened for the private sector. It was a long pending demand of the industry to provide level playing field in defence manufacturing. Singh

said a formal government order will be issued shortly to various bottlenecks in the way of using testing facilities by private entities.

'Housing for All' target under PMAY-Urban will be achieved in 2020: Hardeep Singh Puri



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri on Tuesday said the target of 'Housing for All' under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-Urban) will be achieved in 2020, two years before the deadline. The Minister said that under the PMAY-Urban, 24 lakh houses have so far been handed over to beneficiaries and the number will soon reach 50 lakh.

There are 48 lakh houses which are currently grounded,

but this number will also rise to 75 lakh, Puri told reporters on the sidelines of an event.

"We had decided to build one crore houses by 2022. We have already sanctioned around 84 lakh houses and I am fully confident that by the end of this year, the entire one crore houses will be sanctioned," the minister said.

"We have also received additional assessment demand of constructing 12 lakh more houses...The target of 2022 will be achieved in early 2020," he added.

The minister exuded confidence that government will be able to fast track completion work of houses under the PMAY (Urban). Addressing the 15th National Convention of NAREDCO, Puri said the enactment of real estate law -- RERA, "builder-politician nexus" has been broken, and that home-buyers will no longer be at the mercy of anyone.

REMEMBERING FATHER...



Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi views a photograph at the exhibition 'Memories & Archives of Rajiv Gandhi' organised to mark the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, at Jawahar Bhawan, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Linking profile with Aadhaar: SC to hear FB's plea for transfer of cases

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to hear a plea of Facebook Inc for transfer of cases related to demands for linking of social media profiles of users with Aadhaar number, pending before the high courts of Madras, Bombay and Madhya Pradesh to the apex court.

The top court issued notice to the Centre, Google, Twitter, YouTube and others and sought their response by September 13.

A bench of justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose said the notices to unserved parties should be sent through e-mail.

The bench said the hearing in cases related to linkage of social media user profiles with 12-digit Aadhaar number, the Biometric Unique Identity, pending before the Madras

High Court will continue but no final order will be passed.

Attorney General KK Venugopal, appearing for the Tamil Nadu government told the bench that the Madras High Court has conducted 18 hearings so far and it should be allowed to conclude the argument and deliver the verdict in the cases.

Senior advocates Mukul Mohatgi and Kapil Sibal, appearing for Facebook and instant messaging app WhatsApp, respectively, said whether service providers can be asked to share data with probe agencies to help them in criminal investigation needs to be decided by the apex court as it will have a global effect.

They said that both in Facebook and WhatsApp are international companies having their operation in over 150 countries and any findings by the Madras High Court would

have a bearing on their global operations.

Venugopal referred to the Blue Whale game and said several young lives were lost due to directions given by the curator.

He said governments did not get any clue about the curator in the Blue Whale game and therefore it is necessary to find out who is the originator of such messages on social media which are defamatory, terror-oriented or fake news.

Both Facebook and WhatsApp told the bench that Blue Whale game has nothing to do with their platforms and if data is shared with third parties, it will be a breach of privacy.

To this, the bench said it seems to be a conflict between right to privacy and right to govern the country and the court has to maintain a balance between the two.

Non-inclusion does not mean declared foreigner: Home Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seeking to allay apprehensions, the Union Home Ministry on Tuesday said non-inclusion of a person's name in the final list of NRC does not by itself amount to him or her being declared a foreigner. It assured that adequate arrangements have been made for appeal against it.

The ministry also said it will amend the rules to increase the time limit of filing of appeals in foreigners tribunals (FTs) from 60 to 120 days for those who would be excluded from the final National Register of Citizens, a list of Assam's residents to be published on August 31.

The decisions were taken at a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and attended by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and others here on Monday. In a statement, the ministry said under the provisions of Foreigners Act 1946 and Foreigners (Tribunals) Order 1964, only foreigners tribunals are empowered to declare a person for-

eigner. "Thus, non-inclusion of a person's name in NRC does not by itself amount to him/her being declared as a foreigner," it said.

In order to facilitate the persons excluded from NRC, adequate number of such tribunals is being established at convenient locations. "It has been decided that state government would also make arrangements to provide legal aid to the needy people amongst those excluded from NRC. As it may not be possible for all those excluded from final NRC to file the appeal within the prescribed time, the MHA will amend the rules to increase the present time limit of filing of appeals in FTs from 60 days to 120 days regarding exclusion from final NRC," the statement said.

At the meeting, it was also decided that adequate arrangements will be made by the state government to provide full opportunity to people excluded from the NRC list to appeal. "Every individual, whose name does not figure in the final NRC, can represent his/her

case in front of the appellate authority i.e. Foreigner tribunals," it said. The Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003 are also being amended accordingly.

When the draft NRC was published on July 30, 2018, there was a huge controversy over the exclusion of 40.7 lakh people from it. The draft NRC included the names of 2.9 crore people out of the total 3.29 crore applications. In the list published in June 2019, over a lakh more people were excluded. The final list of the NRC will be published on August 31.

The Supreme Court-monitored NRC exercise, aimed at identifying illegal immigrants in the state that borders Bangladesh, was carried out only in Assam, which faced influx of people from Bangladesh since the early 20th century. When the NRC was first prepared in Assam in 1951, the state had 80 lakh citizens. According to the 2011 census, Assam's total population is over 3.11 crore.

Amit Shah holds meet with senior BJP leaders ahead of Assembly polls

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

BJP president Amit Shah held a meeting on Tuesday with senior party leaders, including Union Ministers, who have been assigned key responsibilities for assembly polls in four States of Maharashtra, Haryana, Jharkhand and Delhi as they reviewed election preparedness in these states and discussed campaign strategy.

The election are expected to be slated later this year in Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand and in Delhi early next year.

Union ministers Prakash Javadekar and Narendra Singh Tomar, who are the BJP's election in-charge for Delhi and Haryana respectively, and party general secretary Bhupender Yadav and vice president Om Mather were among those who attended the meeting. Yadav and Mather are poll in-charges for Maharashtra and Jharkhand respectively.

BJP working president J P Nadda and its newly appointed general secretary (organization) B L Santosh also attended the deliberations.

BJP general secretary Anil Jain, also the organisational in-charge for Haryana, said the leaders reviewed strategy and programme for the elections.

Amend discriminatory laws against leprosy patients, urges Min

Harsh Vardhan writes letter to Law & Social Justice Mins respectively

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

While on the one hand the Centre is taking all efforts to ensure early detection of leprosy cases given that the disease is 100% curable, on the other, there still exists at least 108 discriminatory laws-three Union Laws and 105 State Laws--against persons affected by the disease. Though the number of leprosy cases have steadily declined worldwide, an estimated 2,00,00,000 cases continue to be reported every year, with India accounting for more than

a half mainly because of the prevalent stigma associated with the disease.

Taking the matter with the Union Ministers of Law and Justice and Social Justice and Empowerment, Ravi Shankar Prasad and Thaawarchand Gehlot respectively, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare on Tuesday wrote a letter to the two Union Ministers as well as to the States urging them to amend the existing discriminatory laws against persons affected with leprosy.

"A leprosy affected person after treatment does not hence transmit the disease agent. Hence, there exists no justification for the continued stigmatisation of the persons affected by leprosy," Dr Harsh Vardhan pointed out.

"It will be a befitting tribute to the Father of the Nation

on his 150th Birth Anniversary if we can expedite the process and introduce in Parliament the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy (EDPAL) Bill, which was drafted by the Law Commission of India," the Minister said as he recalled that the Global Leprosy Strategy, 2016 - 2020 target is to reduce the number of countries with laws allowing discrimination on the ground of leprosy to zero.

The Minister's letter comes months after the Lok Sabha passed a Bill doing away with leprosy as grounds for divorce. Gandhi Peace Prize winner and the World Health Organization Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination Yohei Sasakawa too had recently stressed that discriminatory laws against people with leprosy that still

exists in India need to go immediately.

Dr Harsh Vardhan has also shot off a letter to the Chief Ministers of 23 States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh/Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Goa/Daman & Diu, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Haryana, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Assam, Maharashtra, Bihar, Puducherry, Delhi, Rajasthan and North Eastern Region and Governor of J&K to work for the amendments of the existing discriminatory laws against the sector.

On its part, the Union Health Ministry has initiated various measures under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) to control leprosy such as Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) (specific for high endemic dis-

tricts), Focused Leprosy Campaign (for hot spots i.e., rural and urban areas), special plan for case detection in hard to reach areas, ASHA based Surveillance for Leprosy Suspects (ABSULS) that have contributed to early case detection.

"Moreover, leprosy has become fully curable by Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT), being available free of cost at all the government health care facilities," said Dr Harsh Vardhan.

Welcoming the Ministry's initiative, Sasakawa - India Leprosy Foundation (S-ILF) Executive Director, Dr Vineeta Shanker said that the passage of the Edpal bill will be a huge step forward in removing any legal basis for discrimination and will also help to change mindsets and social perception about the disease which is fully curable.

Allegations of Extortion During Terror Funding Case Probe

NIA begins enquiry against agency's three officials

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The NIA has initiated an enquiry into allegations of attempted extortion by three officials of the agency during a probe into the terror funding by Pakistan-based Falah-e-Insaniyat Foundation, a front run by Lashkar-e-Tayyaba chief Hafiz Sayeed of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack infamy.

"In this matter, a complaint of misconduct was received by NIA. An enquiry into the allegations is being conducted by a DIG rank officer. In the meantime three concerned officials have been transferred out to ensure a fair probe," NIA spokesperson said in a statement.

The three officials under the scanner include an SP rank officer, one Assistant Sub-Inspector of BSF on deputation to the NIA and a finger print expert National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) also on deputation to the counter-terrorism probe agency.

The allegation against them is that they had demanded Rs two crore bribe from a Delhi-based businessman under the NIA scanner in the FIF terror funding case for not naming him as a conspirator in the case, sources said.

The complaint against the trio was received by the NIA about a month back and they were transferred out on August

14, the sources said.

The complaint originated from an agency official who was contacted by a friend of the businessman who was allegedly being sought to be blackmailed, they added.

This is the first instance wherein such an instance of alleged blackmailing by the premier counter-terrorism probe agency has come to the fore.

The Parliament recently empowered the NIA by enacting amendments to the Act strengthening the powers of the agency. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act was also amended recently wherein the NIA is empowered to declare individuals as terrorists.

RSS CHIEF'S RESERVATION REMARK

Athawle, Paswan dismiss Bhagwat's comment, say quota constitutional right

There is no need to discuss it: RPI, LJP leaders

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the backdrop of RSS head Mohan Bhagwat again stirring the reservation debate, the chiefs of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) constituents, Republican Party of India (RPI)'s Ramdas Athawale and Lok Janshakti Paty (LJP)'s Ram Vilas Paswan, on Tuesday, dismissed any discussion on the issue saying "there is no need for it".

Both the Dalit leaders, who are also Union Ministers, asserted that reservation was a "Constitutional right" and there was no case for re-revisiting the subject.

Dalit group Bhim Army leader Chandrashekar Azad also joined issue challenging the RSS chief to an open debate on the issue of reservation even as he sought a discussion on the abolition of caste system which, he said, has "hollowed out" the country.

Catering to the exclusive Dalit constituency, Paswan said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reiterated it many times that it cannot be tampered with. "There is no need for any debate on reservation. This is now available even to the upper castes poor so it is impossible that it will be ended," he told reporters. Paswan, however, did not react directly to Bhagwat's comments, saying he had not got details of his remarks.

"Opposition parties are trying to fuel a controversy. But I believe their lies are not going to cut ice with the people," Paswan claimed.

Union minister and RPI leader Ramdas Athawale also rejected the need for a debate on reservation in the country and said the Modi government should not be perceived as anti-Dalit.

Addressing a press conference in Kolkata, Athawale also said reservation has been pro-

RSS has dangerous intentions, says Priyanka Gandhi

New Delhi: The RSS' clarification notwithstanding, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Tuesday accused the Sangh of having "dangerous intentions", and said its chief Mohan Bhagwat pitching for a debate on reservation was just an excuse but the real target of the RSS-BJP is social justice. "The confidence of the RSS is high and intentions are dangerous. At a time when the BJP government is throttling pro-people laws, the RSS has also raised the issue of debate on reservation," she said in a tweet in Hindi. **PNS**

vided by the Constitution and no one can take it away from the backward section of the society. "Whatever Mohan Bhagwatji had said the RSS has clarified it. I want to assure the Dalits of this country that there is no question of debate or rethinking on the issue of reservation.

The RSS on Monday dismissed as "needless" the row over Bhagwat's remarks, asserting that he merely stressed on the need for mutual talks in harmony within society to address any issue.

Azad claimed that 54 per cent of the people belonging to Scheduled Castes do not own any land in the country, while a particular caste dominates and enjoys all privileges. "He (Bhagwat) wants the issue to be discussed among those who are against reservation. I challenge him to hold a debate in front of the media and all concerned. We want to tell people about all that we (Dalits) have suffered because of the caste system. He should come armed with all statistics," Chandrashekar said.

Bhagwat on Sunday said there should be conversation on reservation between those who are in its favour and those who are against it. The RSS head hit a similar controversy when BJP was in the thick of Bihar electoral contest in 2015.

Azad stopped at Jammu airport again, sent back

Jammu/New Delhi: Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad was stopped at the Jammu airport on Tuesday and sent back to Delhi, a party leader said, the second time in a month the former Chief Minister was not allowed to visit Jammu & Kashmir.



Azad is not allowed into his home state in the past two weeks, Sharma said. He is the former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, member of Rajya Sabha from the state and leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha.

"Azad sahib had arrived from Delhi at around 2.45 pm and was not allowed to move out from the airport and forcibly sent back in a return flight to Delhi at 4.10 pm," state Congress chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma told PTI. The leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha was not allowed to go home or attend the party meeting at state Congress headquarters either, Azad's close aides said. The Congress leader will return back to Delhi in the evening through a GoAir flight. Earlier on August 8, Azad was briefly detained and sent back from the Srinagar airport after the administration imposed restrictions following the Centre's move to scrap the state's special status and bifur-

cate it into Union territories. "It is unfortunate that he (Azad) is not allowed into his home state in the past two weeks," Sharma said. "He is the former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, member of Rajya Sabha from the state and leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha." The Congress spokesperson said Azad just wanted to come and meet some people to know about the prevailing situation. "Denying him permission shows that how the mainstream national party is not being allowed to interact and discuss the current situation," he said, adding that the Congress and its leaders were not "trouble-makers" that the State was behaving like this. **PTI**

BSY expands Cabinet, 17 MLAs join as Ministers

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

After 25 days of uncertainty, Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Tuesday expanded his Cabinet by inducting 17 members with a major share to his Lingayat community, a BJP voter base in Karnataka. Apart from Chief Minister Yediyurappa, there were seven MLAs from the Lingayat community who took oath as Cabinet Ministers in the hour-long ceremony held at Rajbhavan with Governor Vajubhai Vala administering the oath of secrecy to the new Cabinet Ministers. In this, Lakshman Savadi is not a member of any house.

In his Cabinet, Yediyurappa has kept the caste matrix in mind with seven out of 17 belonging to Lingayats and 3 to Vokkaligas. There are 4 Ministers from the SC/ST community, 2 OBCs and 1 Brahmin Minister. 4 MLAs from Bengaluru have also been allotted ministerial berths.

Staunch RSS worker Suresh Kumar, a Brahmin from Bengaluru, made it to the Cabinet. Three Vokkaligas, R Ashok, CN Ashwathnarayanan and CT Ravi have also been inducted into the new Cabinet. Govind



Karnataka Governor Vajubhai Vala, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa along with the newly inducted Ministers pose for a photograph during the swearing-in ceremony at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru on Tuesday **PTI**

M Karjol, Prabhu Chavan and Independent legislator H Nagesh are from the Dalit community in the Ministry and account for nearly 25 per cent of the State's 6.5 crore population. B Sreeramulu, from the Valmiki community, is also part of the Ministry. MLA Shashikala Jolle is the lone woman Minister in the Cabinet.

Now 16 seats out of 34 are vacant as the BJP had assured the disqualified MLAs from the Congress and JD(S) that they would be rewarded for their help in forming the Government. However, it was not a smooth affair for Yediyurappa who had to face the wrath of some senior MLAs in the party who have abstained and openly

expressed their dissatisfaction.

BJP MLAs, including ministerial aspirants Balachandra Jarkhiholi, Murugesh Nirani, MP Renukacharya, Basangouda Patil Yatnal, Umesh Katti, GH Thippareddy, and Goolihatti Shekhar have missed the swearing-in ceremony and openly expressed their displeasure. The coastal region of the state where the BJP has a big following has one representative in the cabinet with MLC Kota Srinivas Poojary a member of the large backward caste Billava community.

In a clear sign of the BJP rewarding legislators who helped the party pull down the coalition Government last

month, Bangalore MLA Dr C N Ashwathnarayan, a Vokkaliga, who played a key role in moving rebel Congress and JD(S) MLAs to Mumbai for defection has been given a Cabinet berth. The Independent MLA from Mulbagal in Kolar H Nagesh, a Dalit, who has also defected to the BJP by quitting his Cabinet position in the coalition Government is being inducted.

The BJP veterans in the Cabinet are Basavaraj Bommai, Jagadish Shettar (former chief Minister), V Somanna, CC Patil, Laxman Savadi. The former JDU leader JC Madhuswamy, a Lingayat, who played a crucial role in the legislature to guide the BJP to a trust vote victo-

ry, is also in the cabinet. The Dalit leader Govind Karjol, KS Eshwarappa a backward caste Kuruba leader, R Ashoka and C T Ravi both Vokkaligas, Suresh Kumar a Brahmin, and Bellary's B Sreeramulu from a Scheduled Tribe are the other BJP veterans in the Yediyurappa Ministry. Prabhu Chavan, a Dalit MLA is a new inductee along with the lone woman Minister Shashikala Jolle.

Supporters of Hosadurga BJP MLA Goolihatti Shekhar staged protest at Hosadurga in Chitradurga district over denial of the ministerial berth to their leader. Meanwhile, another senior BJP MLA Umesh Katti expressed displeasure over missing out on Cabinet berth. He said he was ignored even though he was a senior party leader. BJP MLA S Angara from Sullia (Dakshina Kannada) is one among several sulking leaders upset over not considered for ministerial berth.

Expressing his displeasure he said that the people of his constituency had hopes of him becoming a Minister. "I have worked hard for the party and followed all set principles but if those would not turn meritorious, then I don't know what to do," he said. The six-time MLA was speculated to become

Minister, filling in the slot for a Dalit Minister.

Yediyurappa, who took oath as Chief Minister on July 26 and proved his Government's majority on the floor of the Assembly on July 29. Narayan, Swamy, Chauhan and Jolle have become Ministers for the first time.

Yediyurappa became the BJP's first Chief Minister in south India after the party came to power for the first time on its own with a simple majority in May 2008. He, however, was forced to resign on July 31, 2011 after being indicted by the Lokayuktha, the State anti-corruption body, for his alleged role in the multi-crore mining scam that rocked the southern state for a decade between 2001-11. Jagdish Shettar was the BJP's third Chief Minister from September 2012 to May 2013, when the party was in power for the first time between 2008 and 2013. He has also been inducted as a Cabinet Minister.

Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers DV Sadananda Gowda was the second BJP Chief Minister in the State from August 2011 to September 2012. Gowda is a two-time Lok Sabha member from Bangalore North constituency.

Kerala nun accuses catholic priest of 'humiliating' her on social media

Kochi: A Kerala nun, who supported a protest against a Bishop accused of rape, Tuesday accused a Catholic priest of Mananthavady diocese of using social media platform to "humiliate" her.

Sister Lucy Kalappura alleged that the priest, who is part of PRO team of the Mananthavady diocese of the Catholic Church, posted the CCTV visual of media persons visiting her in the convent in the social media platforms to "humiliate" her. The nun was expelled by the Aluva-base Franciscan Clarist Congregation (FCC) early this month for her lifestyle 'in violation' of the proper law of the FCC. Following her expulsion, the congregation had asked the nun to leave the nunnery. The nun had on Tuesday alleged that the priest collected the CCTV visuals of media

persons visiting her at the convent and made a video aiming to humiliate her in public.

She alleged the CCTV visuals were collected with the help of her fellow nuns in the FCC convent at Karackamala in Wayanad.

"In the video, he (the priest) used vulgar language to humiliate me. He did so to disgrace me, to humiliate me," Sister Kalappura told reporters outside her convent.

The nun said she would lodge a police complaint against the priest.

The Mananthavady diocese disowned the views expressed by the priest in the video, saying it was his personal views.

"Whatever the priest said in the video are his personal views. We were not consulted before posting such a video in the social media," PRO of the Diocese, Fr Jose Kocharackal, told PTI.

He said the priest, who

often reacts through social media platform on issues happening in his surroundings, is a member of the PRO team of the diocese.

The issue came to light a day after the Vellamunda police registered a case against the FCC convent authorities at Karackamala following a complaint of illegal confinement by the nun.

Sister Kalappura had alleged that she was locked up in the Karackamala convent by the convent authorities to prevent her from attending the mass at the church in the neighbourhood.

The Church authorities have rejected the allegations by the nun.

The nuns who went for the holy mass had locked the doors of the convent to ensure that the safety of one of their fellow nuns who had stayed back due to her illness. **PTI**

Time to free Bengal from TMC: Former Didi aide

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Former Kolkata Mayor and close Mamata Banerjee aide Sovan Chatterjee who last week left the Trinamool Congress to join the BJP on Tuesday said that an opportune time had come to liberate Bengal from the yoke of Mamata Banerjee Government which was even worse than the oppressive Left Front.

The former senior Trinamool leader said, "I worked with Mamata Banerjee since the inception of the TMC and did whatever she said without a question because we all had a dream of making a new Bengal but our dreams have shattered."

Banerjee's regime is "worse than of Left Front," he said adding "during the CPI(M) we did not see such organised violence being perpetrated on the opposition. All the Opposition parties and even those within the Trinamool Congress feel threat-

ened and suffocated."

Chatterjee was so close to the Chief Minister at one point in time that he was given to handle three important Cabinet port-folios along with the Mayoral post apart from being entrusted with heading the South 24 Parganas district party unit.

"This is not the same Mamata Banerjee we started our journey with and this is not the same Trinamool Congress which it used to be," he said adding the party and the Government was perpetrating organised violence in the regions and "a time has come when the people should work together to liberate Bengal for the second time just as they did to free it from the Left rule in 2011."

The former Mayor had earlier said that he had raised questions "at the appropriate level" regarding rampant rigging in the rural elections where the TMC won 35 per cent of the seats unopposed.

VIOLENCE IN BENGAL

Bengal's personalities write open letter to Mamata

Kolkata: Ten personalities of West Bengal, including filmmaker Aparna Sen have written an open letter to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressing anxiety over the recent violent incidents in the State.

It also noted with concern that the administration has been resorting to undemocratic means of quashing protests by the use of police brutality.

The signatories of the letter were among the 49 who had written an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 24 in which they had voiced their concerns over alleged rise in incidents of mob lynching across the country triggering questions on their silence during incidents of violence in West Bengal. Actor Kaushik Sen, who is

one of the signatories to the letter, told PTI on Tuesday, "We condemn the incidents of violence in West Bengal."

The letter, which was sent to Banerjee on Monday, said, "We would like to draw your attention to some extremely violent incidents that have recently taken place in West Bengal."

It referred to the police lathicharge on the demonstration by para-teachers at Kalyani in Nadia district on August 17 to press for increase in their salaries and urged her to resolve their agitation.

Some of the demonstrators had also been arrested by the police.

The letter written by 'Citizens Speak India' said, "We strongly condemn this attack by the police on educa-

tionists and earnestly request you to resolve the issue in a democratic manner at the earliest.

"We have been noticing with a great deal of anxiety that instead of trying to resolve the peaceful democratic protests of teachers of this state through sane dialogue and debate, the administration has been resorting to undemocratic means of quashing these protests by the use of police brutality," the letter read.

The other signatories of the letter to Banerjee were actors Parambrata Chatterjee, Riddhi Sen, the youngest to have won the national award for the best actor, activist Bolan Gangopadhyay, commentator and social worker Mudar Patherya and theatre personality Sohag Sen. **PTI**

DMK lands in soup after leader's remark on J&K

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The DMK, Tamil Nadu's principal Opposition party finds itself in an unenviable situation following the remarks made by the party spokesman in a channel debate. S Saravanan, the DMK's national spokesman said during a channel discussion that Jammu & Kashmir was not an integral part of India. The party spokesman found himself at the receiving end during the debate as DMK president MK Stalin has already declared his Opposition to the BJP-led Government's decision to revoke Art 370 of the Constitution which had granted special status to Jammu & Kashmir.

The BJP saw red in the statements made by Stalin as well as

Saravanan and has demanded legal action against the Dravidian party for its "anti-national" stance. Interestingly, the DMK leader Stalin has made it clear many times that his party was for a separate Dravidian nation incorporating Tamil Nadu. "It is there in the DMK constitution and it is a live issue," Stalin had said many times since 2018.

The DMK's stance on a separate Tamil nation and the party's sustained campaign for the immediate release of the assassins of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has put the Congress in a spot. While the Congress party has been attacking the BJP over the abrogation of the Article 370, it is silent on the DMK's demand for the release of the seven assassins.

Schools in Muzaffarpur buying dry fruits for ₹1 per kg, eggs for ₹16 apiece

Muzaffarpur (Bihar): Cashew nuts and raisins are being procured at a dirt cheap rate of ₹1 per kg, in sharp contrast to the prevailing market cost, for more than a dozen girls residential schools in this north Bihar district.

The prevailing market price of the two is about ₹750 per kg and ₹450 a kg respectively.

These expensive dry fruits, however, seldom find their way into the kitchens of the 16-odd Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya units in Muzaffarpur where items consumed in bulk come overpriced.

On the other hand, Chana (Bengal gram) is purchased at an exorbitant rate of

₹199 per kg and so is chana dal while eggs come at ₹16 apiece.

Chana and chana dal are available at a price of ₹80-90 per kg in the open market, while an egg could be procured for ₹6.

This is a huge scam and, if properly investigated, may turn out to be bigger and more bizarre than the infamous fodder scam, says local resident Rajesh Kumar Singh whose RTI query on the expenses incurred by these schools blew the lid off the irregularities.

Officials have been left red-faced and ordered a probe.

We have taken a serious note of the anomalies. An inquiry committee has been

set up and based on its report, action will be taken against those found at fault, Amarendra Kumar Pandey, district program officer, Muzaffarpur, told reporters Tuesday.

He added only those who were part of the purchase committee which approved the agency for supply of the items can shed more light on the matter.

Singh, meanwhile, is livid and has threatened if action is not taken within two days I will refer the matter to the vigilance department.

This is organised loot and I believe similar irregularities must be taking place in all the districts across Bihar. **PTI**

Raj Thackeray urges party supporters to maintain calm

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Having taken in stride the notice served on him by the Enforcement Directorate in a loan default probe case, MNS chief Raj Thackeray said here on Tuesday that he would "honour" the summons issued to him and advised his party supporters to maintain calm and restraint.

A day after MNS workers threatened to storm the ED office on August 22 when he would have to remain present for questioning in connection with a probe into an alleged IL&FS loan default case, the MNS chief said that he would honour the summons and asked his supporters not to come anywhere near the inves-

tigation agency's office on Thursday.

In a statement put out in Marathi and English through his official Twitter handle, Raj said: "Right since the time of inception of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, there have been numerous cases registered against you all and me. Each time, we have honoured the notices sent by the investigating agencies and courts of law. This time too we must honour the summons sent by the Enforcement Directorate."

"The past years have made us accustomed to cases and notices coming our way. Keeping that in mind, I earnestly request that peace and harmony is maintained on

August 22," he wrote.

"No harm or damage should come upon any public property and common man should not suffer in any way. Kindly ensure that this is followed diligently. Also, do maintain calm and peace even if provoked," the MNS chief stated.

Expressing his deep gratitude towards his party workers for their "constant love and care", Raj noted: "I would like to firmly state that no party worker or Maharashtra sainik should come or assemble near the ED office" on August 22.

Through a notice, ED has summoned the MNS chief for inquiries on August 22 in connection with a probe into an alleged IL&FS-related case.

Groom fails to provide NRC credentials, wedding called off

Guwahati: A family in Silchar in Assam has called off the wedding of their daughter when the groom failed to provide his citizenship credentials.



A member of the girl's family.

Dilwar Hussain Laskar, of Nayagram village near Silchar was in love with a local girl and the two families had agreed to their marriage. But trouble arose when the girl's family wanted to know from his family on August 15 whether his name was in the citizens register.

"We wanted to check whether the person seeking to marry the daughter of the family is a genuine Indian citizen or an illegal foreigner staying in the country as the matter would impact her future", said

But Dilwar's name was not in the draft NRC. He was among the 40 lakh people whose name was omitted from the draft citizens register which was published in July last year.

Dilwar's family claimed that the names of all his family members are in the NRC and were hopeful that his name would be included in the final NRC to

be published on August 31. The girl's family was not convinced and called off the wedding.

The final NRC is set to be published on August 31 and little is known about what happens to those whose name do not figure in it.

They can appeal at the foreigners tribunal, move the Gauhati High Court and the Supreme Court but what happens to them in the interim period is again unknown.

According to villagers the couple has eloped and the police said the woman's family has filed an FIR at Silchar police station alleging Dilwar has kidnapped her.

Investigations are on, the police added. **PTI**

DOCUMENT NAMING SCRIBES, OTHERS AS 'ANTI-NRC' PROPAGANDISTS

NRC authority denies any involvement

Guwahati: The NRC State Coordinator's office in Assam clarified on Tuesday that it has nothing to do with the creation or circulation of a document on social media which names journalists and human rights activists who are allegedly involved in "anti-NRC propaganda".

"It has come to the notice of the NRC authority that a document naming some journalists as being involved in anti-NRC propaganda is being circulated in social media since August 17," the National Register of Citizens (NRC) Coordinator Prateek Hajela's office tweeted. It said the clarification was issued in public interest. "It is clarified that NRC authority has nothing to do with its creation or circulation".



A document titled 'NRC: The Other Story- Truth, Reality and Conspiracy' contained several chapters on people allegedly involved in such propaganda. A chapter had the names of journalists and news organisations, while social and human rights activists and some organ-

The NRC logo on the document led to the confusion that it was issued by the NRC authority.

The final NRC is to be published on August 31. It is being updated for the first time in Assam after 1951. The Supreme Court is monitoring the exercise aimed at identifying genuine citizens of the state, which has seen influx of illegal migrants from Bangladesh over decades.

In July last year, 40,07,707 people were excluded from the complete draft of the NRC, which contained 2,89,83,677 eligible persons out of a total 3,29,91,384 applicants.

An additional 1,02,462 people were added to the list of excluded people in June.

In an effort to allay fears,

the Union Home Ministry on Tuesday said non-inclusion of a person's name in the final NRC does not by itself amount to him or her being declared a foreigner, and assured that adequate arrangements have been made for appeal against it.

The ministry also said it will amend the rules to increase the time limit for filing appeals in foreigners tribunals (FTs) from 60 to 120 days for those who would be excluded from the final National Register of Citizens to be published on August 31.

The decisions were taken at a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and attended by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and others in New Delhi on Monday. **PTI**

Chandrayaan-2 enters Moon orbit

Focus now on soft-landing

Bengaluru: India's Chandrayaan-2 mission, aimed at soft landing a rover in the unexplored south pole of the Moon, achieved a major milestone as the ISRO successfully injected the spacecraft into the lunar orbit on Tuesday.

"Today, the Chandrayaan-2 mission has achieved a major milestone. The precise lunar orbiter insertion manoeuvre was carried out at 9 am for about 30 minutes, precisely... injected the Chandrayaan-2 in the designated orbit," Indian Space Research Organisation chief K Sivan said here.

The insertion manoeuvre reduced the velocity of the Chandrayaan-2 from 2.4 km per second to 2.1 km per sec-

ond, he added.

"For 30 minutes, our heart almost stopped," he told a press conference where he briefed about the crucial operation.

Chandrayaan-2, launched on July 22 by India's most powerful rocket GSLV MkIII-M1, had entered the Lunar Transfer Trajectory on August 14, leaving the Earth orbit. It comprises an Orbiter, Lander (Vikram) and Rover (Pragyaan).

The rover is set to make the soft landing on the Moon on September 7 and if successful the mission would make India the fourth country after Russia, the US and China to achieve the feat.

After Tuesday's exercise, the ISRO chief said the Chandrayaan-2 will go around the moon with an orbit of 140 km perigee (closest point) by 18,000 km apogee (farthest). He added that four more



manoeuvres will be carried out to achieve the perigee and apogee of 100 km X 100 km on September 1.

Giving an insight into the complexity involved, Sivan said there was a unique requirement for soft landing near the south pole of moon with an inclination of 90 degree, which no other missions in the past had ever achieved.

He said 'Vikram', the lander,

will be separated from moon orbiter on September two.

From there onwards, the focus of ISRO will be towards the lander as all major operations will revolve around the moon lander.

A small retro orbit manoeuvre of about three seconds will be carried out on September 3 and on the next day another similar exercise of 6.5 degree will be taken up to put the lander in an orbit of 35 km perigee and 97 km of apogee.

From September 4 onwards, various parameters would be checked to ensure that all the systems were perfectly alright, Sivan added.

"Next three days, we will be taking the various parameters of the lander to ensure that everything is right and to check and verify again and again, the system is perfectly alright", he said.

"On September 7 at 1.15

am the lander will be landing at a site 71 degree of moon's equator with 22.8 degree East", the ISRO chief said.

Underlining the significance of moon lander, Sivan said the landing will be a terrifying moment for him as well as the entire ISRO team given the challenges involved.

"Looking at what happened to the soft landing around the world, we are saying that the soft landing success rate is only about 27 per cent. But we have the confidence about our mission," Sivan said.

This is the second time that the ISRO has successfully carried out Lunar orbiter insertion.

Earlier in 2008, the Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft, India's first moon mission, was injected into the lunar orbit and it scripted history by making more than 3,400 orbits around the Moon.

10 districts of Valley yet to attain normalcy

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

On the 17th day of continuous lockdown in most parts of Kashmir Valley, the Jammu & Kashmir Government on Tuesday admitted life is yet to return to normalcy in at least 10 districts, mostly in Kashmir valley.

At the same time, the administration is struggling to reopen the schools as majority of parents have declined to send their wards to join class rooms under the prevailing security situation in different parts of Srinagar.

The situation on ground zero is showing no signs of improvement in South Kashmir districts as well.

Compared to Monday, the

Government authorities claimed the attendance in primary schools showed signs of improvement on Tuesday but ground reports suggested several schools remained locked down as they reported zero or thin attendance in parts of Srinagar.

The network services also remained suspended across Kashmir valley while strict security restrictions remain in place in vulnerable pockets of downtown Srinagar.

Addressing a routine press conference late Tuesday evening in Srinagar, Principal Secretary, Planning & Development, Rohit Kansal, who is also Government's spokesperson, said normal functioning of large parts of the State was reported today with 12 out of 22 districts

functioning normally".

He also maintained that out of 197 police stations across J&K, 136 police stations have no day time restrictions. Referring to Kashmir alone he said 50 out of 111 police stations have no day time restrictions.

Commenting on the situation of Kashmir valley, Kansal said that middle level schools would start functioning from Wednesday in the areas where primary schools resumed functioning from Monday.

He said public transport has also started plying in areas where relaxations have been provided and inter-district transport has also started functioning, adding that National Highway and Airports are functioning normally.

Pak violates ceasefire along LoC, 1 jawan martyred

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Situation along the Line of Control in frontier Rajouri and Poonch remained grim with fresh exchange of heavy firing in Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch on Tuesday. One Indian soldier attained martyrdom when Pakistan Army violated ceasefire agreement in Mendhar. Hitting back, Indian Army caused heavy damage to Pakistan Army posts and casualties to Pakistan soldiers.

Defence PRO in Jammu, Lt-Col Devender Anand said, "Pakistan Army initiated ceasefire violation in the Krishna Ghati sector around 11.00 a.m using small arms fire and shelling with mortars".

He said, in the exchange of fire in Mendhar sector, Naik Ravi Ranjan Kumar Singh attained martyrdom.

He said Indian Army gave befitting reply and retaliated strongly and effectively.

Naik Ravi Ranjan Kumar Singh, aged 36 years belonged to Village Gope Bigha, Tehsil Dehri, District Rotasa, Bihar and is survived by his wife, Rita Devi.

Death sentence for one, life for seven in Bihar court blast case

Ara (Bihar): A court in Bihar's Bhojpur district on Tuesday gave death sentence to a man and life imprisonment to seven others in connection with the 2015 Ara civil court bomb blast case.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Tribhuvan Yadav gave capital sentence to Lambu Sharma after holding him guilty under various sections of IPC including 302 (murder), 307 (Attempt to murder), 326 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt), 353 (Assault public servant from discharge of his duty) and under some sections of Explosive Substance Act.

The court also imposed a fine of ₹22,000 on Sharma.

The seven sentenced to life imprisonment were Chand Miyan, Naem Miyan, Akhilesh Upadhyaya, Rinku Yadav, Pramod Singh, Shyam Vinay Sharma and Anshu Kumar.

The judge held them guilty under IPC section 302 (murder). The court imposed a fine of ₹42,000 on Akhilesh Upadhyaya and ₹40,000 on the other six convicted persons.

The court on August 17 had convicted the eight persons in the civil court bomb blast and

acquitted former JD(U) MLA Narendra Kumar Pandey alias Sunil Pandey along with two others — Sanjay Sonar and Vijay Sharma — for lack of evidence.

Pandey is currently in the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP). Chand Miyan surrendered in the court on Tuesday as he did not appear in the court on August 17. The court had issued warrant against him and had also ordered attachment of his properties for not appearing before it on August 17.

On January 23, 2015, a woman, identified as Nagina Devi, had come to the court premises as a suicide bomber with a design to set notorious criminal, Lambu Sharma, free from custody.

As the prison van reached the court premises, the woman triggered a blast. Taking advantage of the blast, Sharma, along with two others had fled.

The woman died on the spot, while a police constable, Amit Kumar, succumbed to his injuries.

The police had filed a charge sheet against 11 persons, including Pandey and had produced 39 witnesses in the case. **PTI**

Woman given 'triple talaq' for refusing chewing gum from husband: Police

Lucknow: A man allegedly gave 'triple talaq' to his wife right inside the civil court premises here in presence of her advocate after she refused to accept a chewing gum from him, police said on Tuesday.

Thirty-year-old Simmi of Amrai village was divorced by her husband Syed Rashid on Monday inside the Lucknow civil court premises where she had gone for the hearing of her case of dowry harassment she had lodged earlier against her in-laws, said the Indira Nagar police station SHO S B Pandey.

The woman was talking to her advocate when her husband offered her a chewing gum which she refused, said the SHO, citing the woman's complaint.

This threw Rashid in a fit of rage and he divorced his wife, uttering talaq-talaq-talaq, said the SHO. Simmi, married to Rashid in 2004, had lodged a case of dowry harassment against her husband and in-laws earlier, said SHO Pandey.

There have been several instances of men divorcing their wives with this outlawed oral diktat on queer pretexts. **PTI**

POST ABROGATION OF ARTICLE 370 First encounter in Baramullah under way

Srinagar: The gun battle between security forces and militants in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir continued till late in the night on Tuesday.

Army authorities said there was heavy exchange of gunfire between both sides even as they refrained from divulging the exact number of terrorists that were involved in the encounter.

Security agencies, including

the Jammu & Kashmir police, were fighting the militants in the encounter.

"Firing began at 5 p.m. with the terrorists in Old Baramulla. The operation is under way," said a Army official.

The area was cordoned off for the public as soon as the gunfight began.

Ever since the Union Government abrogated special

category status to Jammu & Kashmir on August 5 by abrogating Article 370 of the Constitution, this is the first encounter between security forces and terrorists in the Valley.

As per sources around 2-3 terrorists were engaged in a gunfight as the joint operation between the Army, Jammu & Kashmir police and other secu-

city agencies was launched. Baramullah is located around 54 km from Srinagar.

Kashmir Valley has been and large peaceful barring stray incidents of stone-pelting and protests since August 5. The number of ceasefire violations by Pakistan across the LoC have increased, however, over the past week after a lull in the first fortnight of August. **IANS**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name:** Unknown **S/o** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 38 years, **Height:** 5' 7", **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Dark, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Red check shirt, and black pant without slipper in foot., who was found in Accidental Condition in front of DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, Delhi. During treatment he was expired. In this regard a case **FIR No. 389/19 U/s-279/337 IPC, dated 10.08.2019 has been registered at P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO
P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi
Tel. No. 011-28125719
Mobile : 8750871128

DP/8375/W/D/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one lady namely **Neelam Devi W/o Varun R/o H.N. 121 B, Choudhary Charan Singh Marg Pupali Enclave Karala Delhi.** has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi since 22.07.2019. In this regard, a case **DD No. 07A dated 23.07.2019 has been registered at P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi.** The description of the missing/kidnapped lady is as under.

Age: 22 Years , **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Height:** 5'1", **Face:** Oval, **Wearing:** pink colour suit black pajami white colour hawal chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing lady then please inform P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: **cic@cbi.gov.in** and Website: **http://cbi.nic.in**

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi
Ph. 011-25952485

DP/3157/RD/19

Khayyam laid to rest with full State honours

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Renowned music composer and director Mohammed Zahir Hashmi, popularly known as Khayyam, was laid to rest with full State honours at a Muslim cemetery here on Tuesday evening, even as several prominent Bollywood personalities paid their last respects to him.

Khayyam passed away at a private hospital late on Monday night, following a brief illness. He was 92 and is survived by his singer-wife Jagjit Kaur.

Khayyam's mortal remains were kept at his Juhu residence — Daskshina Park Society — in north-west Mumbai on Tuesday to enable people pay their last respects to him.

A large number of film personalities and his admirers joined Khayyam's funeral procession which left his Juhu residence for the cemetery at 3.30 pm. A team of Mumbai police escorted the procession.

After the procession reached the Four Bungalow Kabrastan, the police accorded him with a 21-gun salute. Muslim priests performed the last rites and his body was laid

to rest.

Khayyam's ailing wife Jagjit Kaur also attended the funeral on a wheel-chair. She broke down a few times as the funeral ceremonies were being performed.

Prominent among the Bollywood personalities who paid their last respects to Khayyam included Javed Akhtar, Gulzar, Raza Murad, Talat Aziz, Sonu Nigam, Alka Yagnik, Sanjay Khan, Poonam Dhillon, Vishal Bhardwaj, Suresh Wadkar, Ashok Pandit, Tabassum Shabbir Kumar, Nitin Mukesh, Jatin Pandit and Lalit Pandit.

President R. N. Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation in paying tributes to Khayyam. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar, veteran actor Amitabh Bachchan and other personalities have also mourned the demise of Khayyam.

Khayyam leaves behind a rich legacy of some of the most memorable songs, classical and modern, films and private albums, spanning various genres of music during his career spanning over six decades.

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Cord.), Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites sealed e-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

No.	Name of work	Approx. cost of the work/ Advertised Value	Earnest Money to be deposited	Date & Time of submission of Tender & Opening of Tender	Website particulars, Notice Board Location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.
1.	Hiring of Vehicle/Truck (Carrying capacity-4.5T Approx.) for Transportation of line and equipment from Delhi Division and SSB store for Two years.	₹ 15,51,171.80 (With provision of GST)	₹ 31,000/- through net banking or gateway only.	Submission up to 12.00 hrs. on 12.09.2019 and opening after that.	Website: www.ireps.gov.in Mechanical Branch, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055 on any working day up to 17:00 Hrs.

Note: The complete particulars of the tender may be found in website www.ireps.gov.in
No. 116-S/Linen/Trans/19/MC-V Date : 19.08.2019 2670/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

नीलामी नोटिस

सर्व सामान्य को सूचित किया जाता है कि लघु सचिवालय होटल के उपमहल/ तहसील परिसर में केटीएम व साहिकल स्टैज के ठेके की नीलामी वर्ष 2019-20 के लिए निम्नक 28.08.2019 को प्रातः 11-00 इस कार्यालय में की जाएगी।

कोई भी इच्छुक व्यक्ति निश्चित समय व स्थिति व पूर्व कर के की बोली लगा सकता है। नीलामी आरम्भ होने से पूर्व प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को रु 40000/- रु 40000/- रु 40000/- का जमा कर देना होगा। जिस व्यक्ति द्वारा सबसे अधिक राशि की बोली लगाई जाएगी ठेका उसी व्यक्ति के नाम खेद दिया जाएगा। उस व्यक्ति को ठेके की कुल राशि की 50 प्रतिशत राशि जमा कर देनी होगी। यदि वह व्यक्ति ठेके पर उक्त राशि जमा करने में असमर्थ है तो उसके द्वारा जमा की गई जमानत राशि सरकारी सजाने में जमा करा दी जाएगी। किसी भी विवाद के लिए उपमहल अधिकारी (नाम) से संपर्क कर लिया जाएगा। अधिकृतन बोली देने वाले व्यक्ति को अपने रिहायशी सम्बन्धित सभी दस्तावेज अयोहस्ताक्षरी को उसी समय दे दे होंगे। अयोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा अधिकृतन बोलीदाता के दस्तावेजों के बाद ही ठेके का कार्य आरम्भ करने का अधिकार होगा। ठेके की बाकी शर्तों को पर ही सुना दी जाएगी।

उपमहल अधिकारी (नाम) होटल।

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Manjeet, S/o: Vjagar Singh, R/o: Village Chandrua P.S. Soro, Kasgarg U.P** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 33200/17 U/s 379 IPC** has been registered at P.S. North-Rohini, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Manjeet** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Manjeet** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Manjeet** accused of **FIR No. 33200/17 U/s 379 IPC** has been registered at P.S. North-Rohini, Delhi is required to appear before this Court or to me to answer the said complaint on or before **31.10.2019**.

By Order
Sh. Sushil Kumar
Metropolitan Magistrate,
DP/2951/RD/19 Room No. 107, 1st Floor, Rohini Court, Delhi

नारको NALCO

National Aluminium Company Limited (A Government of India Enterprise)

Nalco Bhawan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751013, Odisha, India
CIN : L27203OR1981GO000920
A NAVRATNA COMPANY

GLOBAL TENDER NOTICE

(1) **NO.REF/MMP/LIME-02/2019**
Date: 07.08.2019

Digitally signed online bids for two part Open tender cum reverse auction through Central Public Procurement e-procure portal are invited for supply of quick burnt lime for Alumina Refinery Damanjodi, Odisha.

DGM (Materials)

(2) **NO.NBC/MM/PR800000443/PAH FREE TRM/2019/PT** Date : 07/08/2019

Online digitally signed tenders, in two parts, are invited from bonafide indigenous as well as overseas manufacturers or their accredited Agents for development of vendors for supply of PAH free Tepid Ramming Mix (TRM) for our Smelter Plant at Angul, Odisha, India.

DGM (Materials)

For further details and downloading Tender Documents please log on to www.nalcoindia.com & www.eprocure.gov.in. Bidders are requested to visit the above websites regularly for any modification/ addition/ bid due date extension for this tender as these information shall not be published in print media.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)

S.N.: 1. Name of work with its location: Signalling work in connection with replacement of turnout and trap points for CTR(P), TRR (FS+CS+CMSC), TTR (CMSC), TPR (P), TRR (P), CTR(P/S) on 'B' route of Delhi Division. **App. Cost of the work:** Rs. 2,60,06,920/- only. **Tender Inviting Officer Address:** Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055. **Tender Document Fee:** Rs. 11,800 only. **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 2,80,100.00 only. **Date & Time for Closed of tender:** Tender uploaded date & time- 11.09.2019 up to 15:00 hrs. **Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.:** See the N.Rly. website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055. No.: 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/1297 Dated: 20.08.2019. 2665/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that one unknown male, Age 35 years, Height 5'8", Complexion Wheatish, Identification Mark Tattoo "MO" on right hand, Wearing Yellow & white Checkdar shirt and mitti colour pant was found dead at Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Mangolpuri, Delhi on 03.08.19. In this regard a DD No. 41-A dated 03.08.19 has been lodged at PS Mangolpuri, Delhi.

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

SHO
PS: Mangolpuri, Delhi
Ph.: 27922186, 27921168

DP/2581/OD/19

WESTERN RAILWAY MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Notice for Discontinuation of Tender Invitation through Print Media

"All the Stores Tenders issued from the office of Principal Chief Material Manager, Western Railway, Churchgate, Mumbai and from all the offices of Deposits/Divisional Stores Officers under PCMM Western Railway are being published on Indian Railways E-Procurement system (IREPS) website www.ireps.gov.in only. Therefore, henceforth Notice of Tender invitation will not be published in News paper. The website address on which the tenders are published and documents are available for participating in E-tender is www.ireps.gov.in, which is also linked with Western Railway website".

Follow us on [Twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE

Date: 21.08.2019

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/19-20/SV/AR/812	AWARD OF WORK FOR CARRYING OUT DTHVDS-HT FEEDER-LT FEEDER METER READING, MAINTENANCE & INSTALLATION IN BRPL	242.31 Lacs	2.43 Lacs	11.09.2019 1530 HRS	11.09.2019 1545 HRS
CMC/BR/19-20/SV/AR/813	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR EHV GRID SUB - STATIONS/TR.LINE/ PROTECTION IN BRPL	1998 Lacs	4.00 Lacs	11.09.2019 1530 HRS	11.09.2019 1545 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document : ₹ 1180/-

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com

Head (Contracts & Materials)
Regd. Off: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC11527
Telephone No. : +91 11 3999 9444 | E-mail : brpl.eauction@reliaancsda.com | Website : www.bsesdelhi.com

PAPER WITH PASSION

French eye

India to launch 8-10 satellites with France as part of a 'constellation' for maritime surveillance



Whatever be the domestic apprehensions about the many controversial moves of Modi 2.0, particularly over the revocation of Article 370 and reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir, diplomatically it has managed to keep the opinion of the big power players on its side. Considering 14 of the 15 members at the UN Security Council were largely dismissive of Kashmir as a matter to be settled bilaterally and with China having no *locus standi* in the matter as it has been reorganising its own territories and legitimising PoK, India is moving to now matters maritime. And in a direct challenge to China's "string of pearls" approach in the Indian Ocean Rim (IOR), one that has its military and commercial facilities dotting our littoral states, from the Chinese mainland to the Horn of Africa, India is looking to France to narrow down its hawk's eyes. India's new space endeavour with France, where the two countries will launch 8-10 satellites as part of a "constellation" for maritime surveillance, will help safeguard strategic interests at sea. This new venture, to be finalised during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Paris, will provide an inside-out information about developments over, on and under the sea surface and coastal areas. This has become almost a necessity considering China is known to have built artificial islands over the last decade or so. Besides, its interest in the Scarborough Shoal near the Philippines and its military fortification of islands in the South China Sea have complicated the security environment. Considering that France has been supportive of India's position and has even spearheaded resolutions to protect it from Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in the UN, there could be no better ally in this project of a larger national security.

The Chinese belligerence on our waters is worrisome simply because sea lines run through several major maritime choke points such as the Strait of Mandeb, the Strait of Malacca, the Strait of Hormuz and the Lombok Strait as well as other strategic maritime centres in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Maldives and Somalia. Right now, China has effectively encircled India and reinforced its superiority by setting up outposts and ports in countries which are beholden to it courtesy the economic projects under the Belt and Road Initiative. Apart from military muscularity, such control also bodes ill for the ease of trade in these waters. India itself conducts nearly 40 per cent of its trade with littoral nations along IOR and has been consistently working with some of them to preserve the integrity, inviolability and freedom of oceanic channels. While we have been conducting joint naval exercises, fact is our Navy is not as cutting edge as China's, hence the need for pre-emptive surveillance. The new age of conflicts means that we are as prone to the dangers of maritime terrorism, smuggling, transnational crime, drug trafficking, illegal immigration besides climate change issues. This satellite cluster will, therefore, monitor sea traffic management. While the IOR is of concern to India, France, too, has its territories spread across the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and is seeking cooperation on its vigil campaign. India was a natural choice as a partner because France has had space cooperation with us for about six decades and is now involved even in ISRO's human mission programme, Gaganyaan. This alliance is expected to continue in our future interplanetary endeavours. Of late, India has found a strategic and technological sounding board in France as its relations with others have their own set boxes — Russia remains our oldest defence partner and despite leaning towards China for practical reasons, still honours the legacy of a shared past. China, despite everything that is disputed, remains our key trading partner and the US is a new-found ally. Over the decades, India and France have emerged as true democratic partners, who honour the spirit of international law, and have been developing cooperation in counter-terrorism, intelligence-sharing and cooperation on investigations and judicial processes. Despite global outcry over the nuclear tests in 1998, France was the first to resume nuclear talks with India and among the first to push nuclear trade in later years. One area that remains unexplored is that of bilateral trade between the two. On the basis of this trust, India may even become a middle power with its own bargaining chips.

Squatters have no rights

The poor often get unfairly tarnished for squatting on public property whereas the worst culprits are entitled politicians



At the memorial of the late great Sushma Swaraj, many mourners noted how the former Foreign Minister had vacated her official accommodation soon after leaving the Government. Her actions are in direct contrast to the shameful and thuggish behaviour of Jat leader Ajit Singh, who tried to hold on to his official quarters even after being trashed at the hustings. He further tried to hire goons to threaten the Government back in 2014. Thankfully, Singh realised that he could not muster any public sympathy for his squatting, which he tried to rationalise calling it a "matter of Jat pride" and left his house in a huff. But others like Adhir Ranjan Choudhury of the Congress, who refused to give up his ministerial quarters after his party's defeat in 2014, had to be physically evicted. Now in 2019, the Modi Government is taking it upon itself to ensure that Members of Parliament (MPs) do not overstay their welcome in Government housing. It has given errant MPs and former Ministers, several of them members of the BJP, a week to vacate their houses.

Frankly, this move was long overdue and there should be no quarter given. Several MPs have used all sorts of excuses to overstay their welcome. Some have moved the courts to get stay orders but after the Supreme Court ordered a cleanup in 2013, that avenue was closed. However, some high-security individuals, who are in the 'Z+' security category, such as LK Advani and Priyanka Gandhi, might be allowed to remain in exclusive housing because they are easier to protect. Government housing is a privilege that parliamentarians enjoy only for their term and this rule has to be enforced. If previous occupants do not leave, how will new MPs and Ministers function? Just because a person wants to retain a fancy New Delhi address, he/she should pay the same market rentals in private colonies that ordinary citizens do. Nobody should have an extremely inflated sense of self like Ajit Singh, a man now reduced to being a political nobody, ignored by the community for whom he said he wanted to keep his house. At the same time, the shortage of housing in central Delhi is also evidence of the need to build new and better housing facilities for Government servants, defence personnel and parliamentarians in the centre of the city. Several older Government colonies and many bungalows built in 'Lutyens Delhi' are showing signs of age. They are in desperate need of repair if not outright reconstruction. Old rules do not apply to housing anymore and old structures must be removed.

Remove the chill

The time has come to provide new orientation to India-China relations. The two nations must come together and work towards the establishment of global peace and security



RK PACHAURI

The outcome of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's visit to China has been positive, not only in terms of India explaining its stand but also clearing the air for future exchanges. The External Affairs Minister is not only a distinguished diplomat but having been India's Ambassador to China, he knows the system and personalities whom he has to deal with. One major point made by him to China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi was to emphasise that the future of the India-China relationship will depend on "mutual sensitivity" to each other's "core concerns." In return, Minister Wang Yi emphasised "the five principles of peaceful co-existence", which have "fundamental interest and long-term interest of our two peoples and also contribute to world peace and human progress." As an immediate measure, India and China signed four agreements covering cultural exchanges, healthcare, sports and cooperation in museum management. In particular, both Jaishankar and Yi emphasised the importance of cooperation in the field of traditional medicine, wherein both China and India, the two most ancient civilisations in the modern world, have cumulative knowledge.

The time has come now to provide a new orientation in China-India relations. In the economic field, bilateral trade between the two countries touched almost \$90 billion in 2017-18 but trade deficit increased to \$62.9 billion in China's favour. China must follow Lao Tzu: "If you do not change direction, you may end up where you are heading." It clearly has interests which are long term, given its ancient history and traditions and it is unlikely that it would think in terms of mere short-term benefits that could lead to friction and disputes. Our External Affairs Minister clearly mentioned that any bilateral differences should not become disputes.

China has major ambitions to emerge as the largest and most influential global power in the world. Its growth rate has been phenomenal and poverty, which was widely prevalent, has more or less been completely eliminated. This writer first visited China in 1981 and today, the country represents progress which most other nations have achieved in almost a century. Yet, China cannot ignore the fact that it shares a large border with India and the latter is a rising power in a complex world. There is every need for the two nations to come together and work towards the establishment of global peace and security.

One major area where the two countries must cooperate is in respect of promoting a pattern of sustainable development which deviates substantially from the Western model. Unfortunately, both nations have been following this model. China in particular has adopted it much too rapidly with major economic success but with some adverse consequences both at the global and national levels. Gandhiji was not in any way exaggerat-



ing when he predicted that for the civilised West "a time is coming when those who are in the mad rush today of multiplying their wants, will retrace their steps and say; what have we done.... Modern civilisation is such that one has only to be patient and it will be self-destructed." What we find across the entire world, which is mindlessly aping the Western model, is human-induced climate change resulting from the burning of fossil fuels, a loss of biodiversity and destruction of the earth's ecosystems.

China and India are large countries, which are also suffering from the consequences of these disastrous trends. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has projected and as is becoming increasingly evident today, the frequency and intensity of extreme events is rapidly on the increase. These take place in the form of heat waves, extreme precipitation events and several sea level related disasters. There are areas which are suffering from prolonged drought, which at the same time, witness floods during certain seasons.

China already has a major problem of water scarcity, particularly in its western region. India, too, is suffering from the consequences of global climate change,

“ TOGETHER, CHINA AND INDIA ARE CLOSE TO THREE BILLION PEOPLE IN A WORLD WHICH TODAY HOLDS AN ESTIMATED 7.7 BILLION. CLEARLY, THEREFORE, WHATEVER PATH IS SET BY THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL HAVE A MAJOR INFLUENCE ON THE WORLD AS A WHOLE ”

which clearly makes this a "core concern" for both societies. It is also important for the population of China and India to set a new path of development which is relevant not only for the two countries but also for the rest of the world. Together, China and India are close to three billion people in a world which holds today an estimated 7.7 billion. Clearly, therefore, whatever path is set by the two countries will have a major influence on the world as a whole.

An area in which cooperation is needed would be to develop and use renewable sources of energy. The IPCC has clearly assessed the reasons for the world to keep within the 1.5°C limit by the end of the century. It has also defined the implications of land use, including massive consumption of meat, which is totally unsustainable. Today, China has increased its consumption of all forms of meat to a huge level. However, fortunately, it is one of the leaders in the use of renewable energy where in both countries would derive mutual benefits from working together.

In Prime Minister Modi's Independence Day speech, he emphasised the need for water conservation, including precision agriculture, rainwater harvesting

and waste water treatment. He also highlighted the indiscriminate use of plastic. Additionally, he addressed the need for cutting down on the use of chemical fertilisers in agriculture by up to 25 per cent. He stated: "This would be a great service to the nation. This would be a great step in saving our Mother Earth."

China and India can work towards the use of bio-fertilisers, which would enable us to do away with chemical fertilisers. "Saving our Mother Earth" is clearly a core concern for both societies. This writer has interacted with those responsible for conceptualising a facility called "Science City", which is to be established outside Beijing over an area of 100 square kilometres.

The ambition behind this initiative is to see that China addresses global problems of a long-term nature. Perhaps India could also join hands with China, with delineation of principles governing intellectual property and clear areas of common endeavour to cooperate in "Science City" so that we work towards developing global solutions for a sustainable future.

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

SOUNDBITE

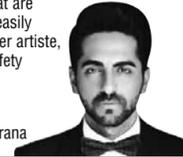
The tension and anxiety kept on building as the clock ticked. It was a great relief and joy when the Chandrayaan-2 was put into the lunar orbit successfully.

ISRO Chairman —K Sivan



Choosing scripts that are radical and are not easily acceptable by another artiste, I think that is my safety bracket, my zone.

Actor —Ayushmann Khurrana



I cut back \$1.3 billion a year to Pakistan. When I cut it back, I have a better relationship with — as you know, we have a great relationship.

US President —Donald Trump



At a time when the BJP Government is throttling pro-people laws, the RSS has raised the issue of debate on reservation.

Congress leader —Priyanka Gandhi



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Strengthen data law

Sir — Agro-chemical products take a long time to grow. In addition, new molecules at present take about six to seven years to be registered. The bureaucratic process delays the delivery of the products to farmers, leaving them with no option but to buy cheaper, low-quality products. It is recommended that the Government look into this issue at the earliest.

Also, while Indian formulations are mostly generic products as research and development (R&D) is expensive, overseas companies frequently spread their assortment and are eager to invest in India on product R&D and marketing. Data selectiveness in the agrochemicals sector will not only delay the entry of generics by creating an additional period of legal monopoly but will also make agrochemicals or pesticides unaffordable to Indian farmers. Data protection or selectiveness will obstruct growth of indigenous manufacturers and will work against the Government's vision of "Make in India."

Vijaykumar HK Raichur

Schools cannot foster divisiveness

It was a crying shame that in some schools in Tamil Nadu, students were made to wear colour-coded wrist bands as "caste markers" as distinct from religious threads. The wrist bands — which came in hues of red, yellow, green and saffron — were giveaways of the wearers' caste identity. How students were looked at and treated (with respect or contempt) depended on the wrist bands they wore. To be branded like this is the ultimate humiliation. There can be nothing more dehumanising and degrading than designating pupils as lower castes and higher castes. The practice underlines that there is no hope of escape from caste even for school kids. It widens the rifts between castes. It is a stain on the so-called proud culture of Tamil Nadu.

We are at loss to understand how it became possible for the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), a party with roots in the Dravidian movement, to validate the naked display of caste discrimination. The humiliation of lower caste people is accepted as a social

Nurture ties with Bhutan

Sir — In the backdrop of China's propensity to open diplomatic ties, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's second visit to Bhutan not only weighed heavily on the bilateral front but was also an opportunity to woo the youth over there. The Prime Minister's grand welcome on the streets from

Paro to Thimpu spoke volumes about his popularity among the Bhutanese people.

India's long-term commitment to foster economic and cultural ties with Bhutan has been vital in developing a strong bond with the neighbouring country. This visit marked a new chapter in relations between the two countries. A total of 10 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were

signed and the Prime Minister did not miss the opportunity to narrate the Indian story to the youth over there. However, it is also a fact that with the world growing, and more strategic powers courting Bhutan, much remains to be done to retain ties. Both India and Bhutan must address each other's concerns.

Janga Bahadur Sunuwar Bagrakote

Challenging times

Sir — Internet services have again been suspended in the Jammu and Kashmir region. Post the abrogation of Article 370, the Government was bound to face challenges in restoring normalcy in the Valley. We will also need to continue engaging with the world community over current and past issues over Jammu & Kashmir with alacrity and less reservation. This, too, will be a challenge. So, the need for the Government is to remain transparent across the aisle. More so when this historical step is bound to entail far-reaching socio-political connotations.

The Government must also realise that a strong Opposition is needed to sustain our democratic ethos. And, hence, it needs to be nurtured. Tide and times will constantly impact and test our mettle — the J&K issue is but one of them. The strife to add incremental value and strength to our polity will never cease.

R Narayanan Navi Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Reunification of India a necessity

The idea of Indian reunification is one whose time has come though there's no doubt that it will take a long time to achieve. However, it must be under a strong, liberal leadership



MARKANDEY **KATJU**

For a long time, I have been propagating the idea that India, Pakistan and Bangladesh should reunite under a secular government for their mutual good (see the Mission Statement and articles on indianreunificationassociation.co.in). I have long said that India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are really one country, with a common culture, and were one for centuries.

Many people have criticised this idea, more so in light of the recent developments in the subcontinent. Many Pakistanis, including Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, say that recent developments in the region prove that the founder of Pakistan, MA Jinnah, was right in insisting that Muslims get their own homeland otherwise atrocities (e.g. lynching, attacks and incarceration of Muslims for long periods on trumped-up charges) would be committed on them in a united India. So these developments prove that Partition was good for Muslims, and the idea of Indian reunification is only a pipe dream, they point out.

My reply is as follows: Our aim must be to create a highly industrialised country, because only then can we generate the wealth needed for the welfare of our people and give them decent lives. Only a high level of industrialisation can create millions of jobs to wipe out unemployment.

The Partition of India in 1947, and creation of an Islamic state, which was a historical British swindle on the basis of the bogus two-nation theory, was aimed at preventing this growth. If India emerges as another China, then, with its cheap labour, our industries will undercut their rivals from developed countries. Who will buy their costly goods then and won't their industries shut down? One China has become a headache for the West. Will they permit another?

So the secret understanding among developed countries is that India must not be allowed to emerge as a modern industrial giant like China. To prevent that, Indians must remain divided on the basis of religion, caste, region etc.

All this talk of improving relations between India and Pakistan (such as that touted by the campaign *Aman ki Asha*) is unrealistic and nonsense. The very purpose of creating Pakistan as an Islamic state was that there shouldn't be peace but hostility between the two neighbors and Hindus and Muslims. If there are good relations then the very purpose of creating Pakistan will be defeated.

Our common enemy is massive poverty, record unemployment, appalling child malnourishment, farmers in distress, spiralling prices, ignorance, lack of healthcare, unabated corruption, atrocities on minorities, etc. We waste our scant and precious resources fighting each other instead of joining hands and fighting against these problems that are our real enemies.

To say that Partition was necessary to safeguard Muslims is puerile. First, there are as many Muslims in India as in Pakistan (about 200 million in each). Second, Muslims in Pakistan may be safe from Hindu bigots, but are they safe from Muslim bigots? Are Ahmadis, Shias safe? Are Bareilvis safe from Deobandis? They often bomb mosques, *dargahs*, etc. And are the Muslims there free from the evils of unemployment, price rise, malnourishment, ignorance, lack of healthcare, corruption, etc? It was a stupid idea that creation of Pakistan will keep Muslims safe. In fact Partition has increased the problems of Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians there.

So, unless we reunite, we will keep wasting our scant resources fighting each other, and will never become a highly industrialised country, and thus remain poor with many social evils. As mentioned earlier, we are really one nation with a common culture, and were befooled by the British into thinking we are each other's enemies. But how are we to reunite?

This can only be done peacefully and voluntarily, and will take a long time, maybe 10-20 years. The communal venom which was injected into our body politic by vested interests for over a century, will take a long time to be expelled. During this period, we must patiently explain to the masses the truth that we are really one nation, were one for centuries, and spread the idea of Indian reunification among them.

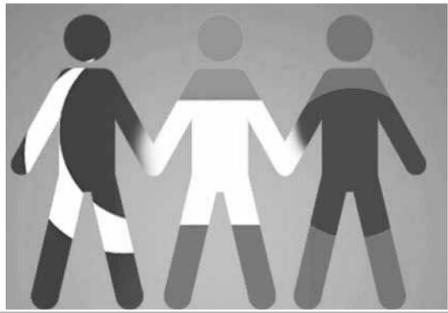
As Victor Hugo said, "There is one thing more powerful than all the armies in the world, and that is an idea whose time has come." The idea of Indian reunification is one whose time has come though it will no doubt take a long time to achieve.

We will be called daydreamers by many. But when Giuseppe Mazzini spoke of Italian unification, he too was called a daydreamer, though the dream became a reality thanks to the efforts of Count Cavour and Giuseppe Garibaldi. West and East Germany reunited in 1990 after partition in 1945. North and South Vietnam reunited in 1975 after a partition of over 21 years.

At present, all that needs to be done is to spread the idea of reunification, as is being done by the Indian Reunification Association. Later, when the idea has gripped the imagination and minds of the masses, then people will use their creativity and find ways to make a peaceful reunification a reality.

However, it's vital that such a reunification is under a liberal leadership, which while ensuring religious freedom does not tolerate religious bigotry from any quarter and crushes it with an iron hand. Such progressive leaders will rapidly ensure industrialization of the nation, provide for the welfare of the people and catapult India into the front ranks of the world community. How and when such a historic transformation will take place, who these leaders would be, is impossible to predict. But it is a necessity.

(The writer is a former judge of the Supreme Court of India)



POINT COUNTERPOINT

I HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH THEIR (PURI'S) BUSINESS. BUT, I THINK THE ARREST APPEARS TO BE AN ACTION TAKEN WITH MALICIOUS INTENTION.

—MADHYA PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER
KAMAL NATH



ED TOOK ACTION ON BASIS OF ITS PROBE. PEOPLE INVOLVED IN PLUNDERING COUNTRY'S MONEY WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO SCOT-FREE.

—MADHYA PRADESH BJP SPOKESMAN
RAJNEESH AGRAWAL

The overleverage fix

More research must be done as to why firms become hooked to high debt. As they say about addiction, admitting you have a problem is the first step towards solving it



HIMA BINDU **KOTA**

The recent suicide by Café Coffee Day owner jolted every coffee lover in the country and brought to the fore the grim reality that high debt can be dangerous for a company. A business is said to be overleveraged when it carries too much debt and is unable to make interest payments on loans and meet other expenses.

Overleveraged companies are often unable to pay operating expenses because of the burden brought on by debt in the form of interest payments and principal repayments. Overleveraging can sometimes lead to a downward financial spiral where the company cannot generate enough revenue to make the debt payments and pay its usual operating expenses. This leads to the company having to borrow more to stay in operation, and the problem gets worse. This spiral usually ends when the company closes its doors or files for bankruptcy protection.

A less leveraged company can be better positioned to sustain drops in revenue because they do not have the same expensive debt-related burden on their cash flow. Businesses that borrow money to add to a product line, expand internationally, or upgrade their facilities are often better able to offset the risk they take on when borrowing.

Leverage can be measured by financial leverage ratios, sometimes called equity or debt ratios, which measure the value of equity in a company by analyzing its overall debt picture. These ratios either compare debt or equity to assets as well as shares outstanding to measure the true value of the equity in a business.

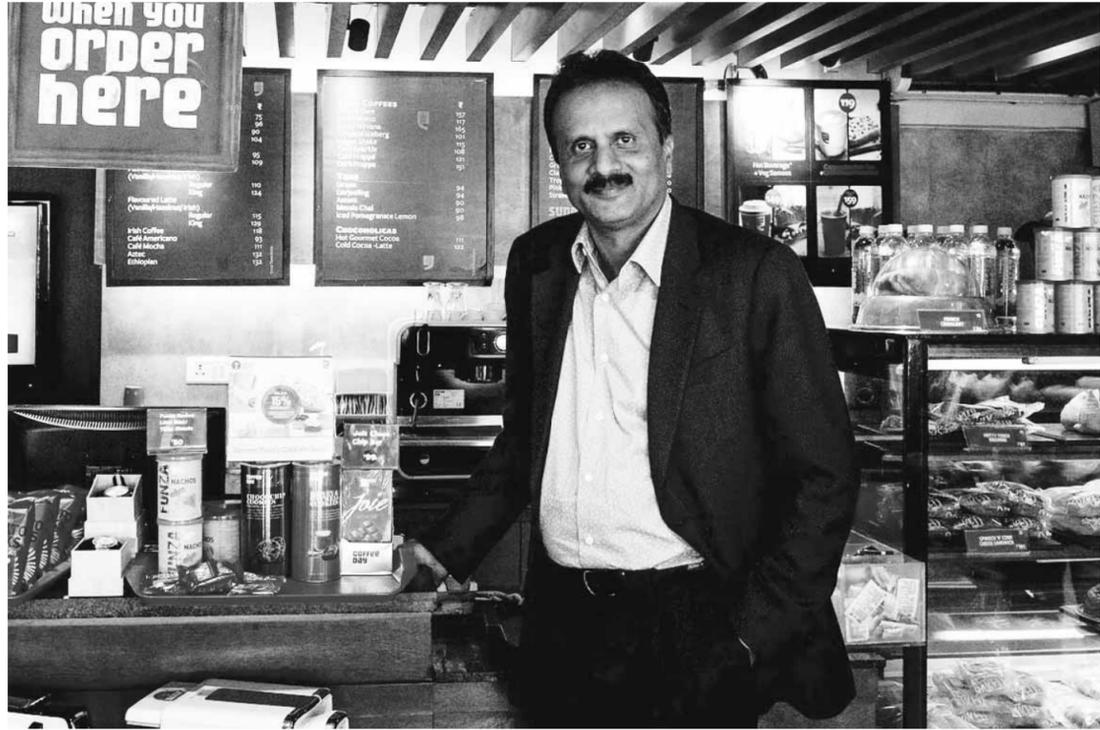
This shows how much of the company assets belong to the shareholders rather than creditors. When shareholders own a majority of the assets, the company is said to be less leveraged. When creditors own a majority of the assets, the company is considered highly leveraged. All of these measurements are important for investors to understand how risky the capital structure of a company is and if it is worth investing in.

The most common financial leverage ratios are debt ratios, debt-equity ratios and equity ratios. Debt ratio is a solvency ratio that measures a firm's total liabilities as a percentage of its total assets. In a sense, the debt ratio shows a company's ability to pay off its liabilities with its assets. In other words, this shows how many assets the company must sell in order to pay off all its liabilities.

The debt to equity ratio is a financial, liquidity ratio that compares a company's total debt to total equity. The debt to equity ratio shows the percentage of company financing that comes from creditors and investors. A higher debt to equity ratio indicates that more creditor financing, i.e., bank loans, is being used than investor financing, i.e., shareholders.

The equity ratio is an investment leverage or solvency ratio that measures the amount of assets that are financed by the owner's investments by comparing the total equity in the company to the total assets.

In fact, some years ago, a team of financial scholars at Stanford Graduate School of Business and at Germany's Max Planck Institute studied banks and found that they have become "addict-



ed" to increasing their debt levels steadily. According to them, "leverage begets leverage". However, it was further analysed that other corporations have become addicted to debt, even when it reduces the total value of the enterprise. Once a company begins to take on debt, they say, the leverage becomes almost "irreversible." Shareholders will generally oppose measures that reduce debt and support moves to increase it whenever the opportunity arises.

According to Paul Pfeleiderer, a professor of finance at Stanford, taking leverage is like eating potato chips. One cannot stick to the commitment of eating just a few chips. So, if one cannot stop after eating just one chip, one might be better off not eating them at all.

The authors argue that since reducing debt entails a transfer of risk - and wealth - from shareholders to creditors, there is a clear disincentive for shareholders to cut back on borrowing. If a company buys back its bonds, for example, bondholders will demand a premium above the current market price for those bonds. That's because bondholders will insist that the buyback price reflect the fact that the remaining debt will be at less risk of default.

In other words, bondholders get all the benefits of debt reduction and shareholders have to foot the cost upfront. Government tax policy makes companies even more biased toward higher debt, because it allows companies to deduct interest payments from their taxable income.

In theory, creditors can protect themselves by insisting on contracts or "covenants" that restrict a company's ability to increase its leverage in the future. Among other things, covenants can restrict a company from selling additional bonds or making big payouts to shareholders, which reduce the company's equity.

In practice, the authors argue, covenants are difficult to enforce. Most covenants give companies at least some discretion to take on more debt,

because companies need flexibility in dealing with new opportunities and problems. On top of that, the creditors are often dispersed and unable to take a unified position.

The most obvious risk of high debt is the increased danger of falling into financial distress or even bankruptcy. But on the other hand, rising leverage can also make companies reluctant to invest in promising new projects.

That's because part of the increase in value generated by an investment would flow not to the shareholders but to the creditors, because their bonds and loans would become more secure. Corporate boards take a hard new look at how much they compensate management through stock options and other grants of equity in the company. The more money managers earn from grants of stock and options, rather than from their salaries, the more they will align their self-interest with shareholders rather than creditors.

As bad as it may seem, at some point, almost all businesses must take out loans. Debt financing can be attractive to business owners because banks won't dictate how they should spend the money and they don't have to split up company ownership. Highly leveraged companies are very sensitive to economic declines and at higher risk for bankruptcy.

There are several problems of a highly leveraged company. First, the lenders require borrowers to pay back their loan in a timely manner. This becomes a problem for fledgling companies that borrow money for projects with long-term returns. If payments come due before the company starts seeing returns, loan repayments can be a crippling expense.

Paying back the loan on a regular basis means less money to finance operations and invest in growth opportunities.

Second, substantial loan payments can easily cripple a highly leveraged company. A company doesn't have an obligation to repay capi-

tal from equity sources.

However, banks and lenders have top seniority when it comes to repayment in the event of a bankruptcy. This means that lenders will get paid out before anyone else, including the company owner. If the company has a secured loan, the bank can repossess company assets. Depending on the business structure and the terms of the loan, the owner of the company may also be personally liable for the loan repayment.

Third, just like with individual lending, banks scrutinize corporate credit reports before doling out more loans. Banks are unlikely to provide further funding to highly leveraged organizations. Not only are these companies at high risk for bankruptcy, the new lender might not get paid back if the company goes under.

Older loans typically carry higher seniority compared to newer loans, so lenders are hesitant to put themselves at the bottom of the list for recouping their investment. In the event a bank does issue a loan, the interest rate will be high enough to account for that increased risk.

Fourth, one of the options a company has to reduce its financial leverage is to increase the amount of equity capital.

However, investors rarely give money to highly leveraged businesses. Investors avoid highly leveraged companies for all the same reasons lenders do, plus they're the last in line to get repaid.

If an investor is willing to invest in a highly leveraged company they'll expect to receive an especially large percentage of ownership in exchange for their money.

It's important that further research should be done to shed light on why companies can become hooked to high debt. As they say about other forms of addiction, admitting you have a problem is the first step towards solving it.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

Time to defuse population bomb

While Modi talked about India's demographic dividend in his first term, in his second term he has realised that though a large population may not be a bad thing, it has to contribute to the country's growth



KALYANI **SHANKAR**

Eyebrows were raised when Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed concern about the population explosion in the country in his recent Independence Day speech. There was a feeling of surprise that the Prime Minister chose to bring up an issue that has been a 'No-No' for many politicians from the days of Emergency when the Indira Gandhi government used coercive population control measures. Her Family Planning programme received widespread condemnation and effectively never realized its purpose. Later the ministry's name was changed to Family Welfare.

India's population is 1.34 billion, which is nearly a four-fold increase since Independence. Modi has reasons for concern as according to the World Population Prospects 2019 of the United Nations, India is expected to add

nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050. Inevitably, with these figures, "India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country around 2027," the report said. The biggest challenge for India is its unpreparedness to accommodate such a huge population. Looking at these figures, "The time has now come that we should take such challenges ahead," Modi said.

Interestingly, while Modi talked about India's demographic dividend in his first term, in his second term he has realised that though a large population by itself may not be a bad thing, it has to contribute to the growth of the country. This needs to be supported by capital, technology and infrastructure, as well as skills. That is why the Prime Minister is now talking of education as a means of both moderating the rising population and making it productive.

The country is already facing an acute drinking water crisis, garbage disposal and sewage treatment problems, inadequate rainfall, climate change, increased levels of pollution, high infant and child mortality rate and poor standard of living in the economically weaker sections.

The Prime Minister's speech was

mainly targeted towards these poorer sections of society and his appeal to them for keeping the family small was aimed at improving their standard of living.

He is aware that the poor are missing out on opportunities to climb up the economic and social ladder because they have too many mouths to feed. Making it a nationalistic issue, he said, "Those who follow the policy of a small family also contribute to the development of the nation; it is also a form of patriotism."

Why did Modi talk of population explosion now? It obviously stems from the fact that his hands are strengthened after the massive mandate he received in the 2019 polls.

Politically, Modi is much stronger today, while the Opposition is weak like never before. Add to that the Prime Minister's recent success in Parliament in getting controversial Bills like Triple Talaq and abrogation of Article 370 pertaining to the special status of Jammu and Kashmir passed, despite being in a minority in the Rajya Sabha.

Second, the Indian Right-wing, including the BJP, has always expressed concerns about the increasing minority population. They feel that the Muslims are trying to overtake Hindus in the country by multiplying fast. The

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat, during his annual Dussehra address some time ago, noted, "We need to rise above vote bank politics to formulate a holistic approach, equally applicable to all citizens, towards the population policy."

In Parliament too, BJP members have raised this issue. Recently Rakesh Sinha, a BJP Member of Parliament, introduced a Private Member's Bill to regulate population. Earlier, another BJP member Sanjeev Balyan, who is now a minister, had also introduced another Bill with the backing of 124 members.

The late BJP stalwart Atal Bihari Vajpayee too had made such an attempt in 2000 by bringing a forward-looking National Population Policy. However, it made the two-child norm a voluntary commitment for individuals. The Modi Government has also followed the same approach that the family planning programme in India is target-free and voluntary in nature.

Modi's speech has triggered speculation that a mild interventionist population policy is not far off. It is a very sensitive issue both at the state level as well as the religious level.

The North-South divide and the Hindu-Muslim divide are the two

issues that raise their heads whenever the spotlight is on population control. While the southern states feel that their great success in bringing down the population is costing them in terms of resources devolved from the Centre, the Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has claimed this week that it is a social reform.

The Prime Minister is not one to waste words and he has used the Independence Day speech to prepare the country for population regulation, going forward. There is an urgent need to aggressively push concepts like the two-child policy, child spacing, increased use of contraceptives and voluntary sterilisation. The two-child norm should be made a uniform criterion for government jobs, getting aid and subsidies and other benefits. Perhaps incentives and disincentives might work better in containing the size of the family. The health ministry is already implementing many of these schemes, but much more will be needed to create awareness and to make an impact in the long run.

As India aspires to become a major economic power, it's time to define whether a growing population is an opportunity or a danger.

(The writer is a senior journalist)

No interim relief to Deloitte, BSR Associates in IL&FS case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Tuesday declined to give any interim relief to auditing firms Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP and B S R Associates LLP with regard to a ban imposed on them in the IL&FS case.

The NCLT Mumbai will continue its scheduled hearing in the case of their alleged role in the IL&FS fraud matter, a three-member bench headed by Chairperson Justice S J Mukhopadhyaya said.

The NCLAT, however, said that the NCLT will not pass any final order till its next hearing on September 20.

Listing the matter for September 20, the NCLAT also issued a notice to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to file its reply within two weeks.

The NCLAT was hearing appeals filed by Deloitte and BSR against the order of the Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), which on August 9, rejected their pleas of challenging its jurisdiction to ban them from the business for five years for their omissions and commissions in the IL&FS Group scam.

The NCLT will hear the matter on September 5. The court had allowed the corporate affairs ministry to pro-



cuture them along with 21 others in the same case, though the implementation of the same has been stayed after they sought time to challenge the order at the appellate tribunal NCLAT.

The ministry in June moved NCLT seeking a five-year ban on these auditors in the IL&FS fraud case.

The auditors — the local arm of the England-based Deloitte Haskins & Sells, which is one of the big four accounting firms, and BSR & Associates, which is the local affiliate of another big four, the US-based KPMG — had challenged the jurisdiction of the NCLT to ban them under Sec 140(5) of Company's Act.

They had challenged the jurisdiction of the NCLT to ban them, saying section 140(5) of the Companies Act pertains to

auditors who are still auditing the company in question while they have already resigned from the service and thus cannot be banned under the given provisions.

While Deloitte had stopped auditing IL&FS Group, which owes over Rs 95,000 crore to lenders and other financial institutions, by the end of FY2017-18, BSR was the statutory auditor of IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN) and resigned only in June this year-nine months after the company was sent to the bankruptcy court.

The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) in its investigation found them guilty of painting a rosy picture of IFIN despite being aware of the poor financial health of the company, triggering the ministry to seek ban on the auditors.

Hyundai launches i10 NIOS

Third-Generation of popular i10 hatchback, company still feels market sentiments weak

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Korean auto-major and India's second-largest car manufacturer Hyundai Motors on Tuesday took the wraps off their new hatchback the i10 NIOS, the third-generation of their compact vehicle. The carmaker which has also seen a decline in sales along with the rest of the industry, believes that new launches ahead of the festive season alongside attractive new offers will entice customers.

The i10 NIOS is the first launch of several new cars in the coming few days including Hyundai's sister company Kia's entry into India with the Seltos, Maruti-Suzuki's new XL6, Renault's Tribber and BMW launching the latest iteration of its iconic 3-series. The i10 NIOS has been priced between ₹4,99,990 to ₹7,13,950 for the petrol model and between ₹6,70,090 to ₹7,99,450 for the diesel model, ex-showroom,

all-India. Hyundai India managing Director, SS Kim said that 2019 has been a 'big year' for Hyundai with the launches of the second-generation Santro, the Venue SUV, the first electric SUV in the Kona and now the new i10. "We have become India's leader in the SUV segment after the Venue and have the most comprehensive SUV range," Kim told *The Pioneer*, "and we expect that our hatchback customers will also be excited with this fascinating

patible and the diesel engine will be made BS6 compatible in early 2020.

Speaking to *The Pioneer*, Je-Ruk Chun, Head of Engine Performance Test Group, Hyundai Motor Company said that this is because of pricing reasons, as meeting BS6 emission norms requires significant modifications to engines. To keep costs down, the new NIOS will also feature a new Automated Manual Transmission (AMT) option instead of a traditional auto-



matic transmission (AT). Hyundai executives admitted that an AT is better than an AMT, but the AMT is significantly cheaper and their experience with the AMT on the Santro has been generally positive and the company expects that reaction to the AMT on the NIOS will be positive as well.

Business Corner



A High Level Meeting (HLM) between the Indian Coast Guard and Sri Lanka Coast Guard was held at Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi on Tuesday under the provisions of the MoU signed between the two sides for the establishment of a collaborative relationship to combat transnational illegal activities at sea and develop regional cooperation



Balraj Joshi, Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC administering 'Swachhta Pledge' to employees during 'Swachhta Pakhwada 2019' in the presence of Ratish Kumar, Director (Projects), MK Mittal, Director (Finance), Janardan Choudhary, Director (Technical) and Sunita Singh, Chief Vigilance Officer



20th August is observed as Sadbhavana Diwas throughout the country. Northern Railway organized a function on "Sadbhavana Diwas" at Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi today. On this occasion, Additional General Manager, Northern Railway, Archana Joshi administered the 'Sadbhavana Pledge' to the railway officers and employees

₹ hits fresh 6-mth low of 71.71; dives 28 paise

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Indian rupee on Tuesday furthered its loss by another 28 paise to close at a new six-month low of 71.71 against the US dollar as economic uncertainties continued to weigh.

Investors remained risk averse considering a host of factors including fast-spreading economic slowdown, outlook on foreign fund outflows and weakness in most emerging market currencies, according to forex traders.

However, there are expectations that the government will soon come out with stimulus measures to arrest slowdown in consumer demand in various sectors.

Meanwhile, higher crude oil prices also had its impact on rupee's trading pattern.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.07 per cent to trade at \$59.78 per barrel.

Starting off on a weaker note, the rupee fell to a day's low of 71.80 against the US dollar before settling at 71.71 against the US dollar, down 28 paise over the previous close.

This is the lowest level for the local unit since February 4, when it closed at 71.80 a dollar.

On Monday, the Indian rupee had settled at 71.43 against the US dollar.

Meanwhile, the dollar index — which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies — rose 0.06 per cent to 98.40.

The 10-year Indian government bond yield was steady at 6.58 per cent on Tuesday.

"Indian rupee declines for a second day as importers and foreign banks rush for the dollar amid recovery in crude oil prices. Market is also expecting fund outflows of around ₹102 million on the back of Shell selling stake in Mahanagar gas," said V K Sharma, Head PCG & Capital Markets Strategy, HDFC Securities.

The dollar Index hovered near a three-week high as expectations of fresh stimulus drove an improvement appetite for riskier assets and lifted US government bond yields, he said, adding that the next support for the rupee is seen at 72.5 odd levels.

Govt allows airlines to use Jet slots till end Dec

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The civil aviation ministry has allowed domestic airlines to operate the slots vacated by the now-defunct Jet Airways at various airports till December 31, said an industry source Tuesday.

Jet Airways, which is under insolvency proceedings, stopped flying from April 17, leaving hundreds of slots vacant at both domestic and international airports.

The government had allocated some of these slots to local carriers and allowed them to operate up to September 30 to overcome the capacity deficit.

It can be noted that a day after submitting the EoI, Vulcan Investments, an investment company funded Vedanta chairman Anil Agarwal's family trust, withdrew the same.

Resolve stressed assets on time in your interest: RBI to banks

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Reserve Bank deputy governor NS Vishwanathan Tuesday exhorted bankers to ensure timely resolution of stressed assets under the new framework to extract the best value and underlined the need for dealing only in "genuine" cases.

The central bank will be coming out with the final guidelines for private and foreign bankers' compensation soon, he said, speaking at the annual industry event Fibac.

Vishwanathan said the RBI's revised framework on resolution of stressed assets introduced on June 7 is "less intrusive" as it gives banks the leeway to draft their own resolution plans for a particular case.

"Timely resolution is very important. I'd request you to ensure that the resolutions are done in time, not just for the regulatory requirement but also because it will result in better valuation going for-

ward," he said. "We've given a lot of freedom to banks to determine various contours. We are making less intrusive regulations and hope that banks will use this to deal with genuine stress in their balance sheets to address the problem," he added.

The RBI issued the new NPA recognition and resolution guidelines on June 7 after the Supreme Court had in April declared the earlier one issued on February 12, 2018 as ultra vires.

The new framework lays focus on better coordination between banks while dealing with a stressed assets by mandating them to sign inter-creditor agreements and decide on a resolution strategy in 30 days, which will have to be implemented in 180 days.

Meanwhile, Vishwanathan also said the RBI will soon be coming up with the final guidelines for top management compensation.

Media & entertainment set for slowdown, may grow 12% in FY20

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rapid growth in digital users, combined with growing regional demand and better monetisation, the media and entertainment industry grew 13 percent to reach ₹1,63,100 crore in FY19, and is likely to clip at a slower rate of 12 percent in FY20, says a report.

The report by KPMG, however, noted had it not been for the uncertainties created by Trai's new tariff order and the signs of economic slowdown, the industry would have grown by 1-2 percent more. In FY20, the industry is likely to grow at a slower 12 percent to ₹1.88 trillion, as it expects another round of regulatory changes.

"The growth would have even lower than 12 percent had not been for the gains from the higher ad spends during the April-May general elections and the cricket World Cup.

"TV faced major headwinds in FY19 and in fact grew at a lower rate than projected last year primarily on account of the delay in implementation of the new tariff order.

Bajaj Finserv announces Fixed Deposits for NRIs

New Delhi: Bajaj Finance Ltd, a deposit accepting Non-Banking Financial Institution (NBFC) and a lending arm of Bajaj Finserv group, has announced its new offering of Fixed Deposit upto 8.95% to NRIs. Bajaj Finance Fixed Deposit for NRIs offers flexible tenor options between 12 months and 36 months, along with multi-deposit and easy renewal facilities. Now NRIs can invest in a Bajaj Finance Fixed Deposit by making a deposit from their NRO account.

PNS

NORTHERN RAILWAY MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Publication in Newspapers of e-Tender Notices for procurement of goods has been stopped by the office of Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway and all Stores Offices of Northern Railway. Firms desirous to participate in tenders of Northern Railway are requested to visit the website www.ireps.gov.in regularly after registering themselves on this portal and submit their e-bids on this portal only. 2668/19
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Gayatri Devi D/o Agya Ram R/o RZT-52, Dayal Park, west Sagarpur, New Delhi Aged-17 Years has been reported missing since 22.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Sagarpur, New Delhi vide FIR No.333/19 Dated 23.07.2019 registered at Police Station Sagarpur, New Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-



Gayatri Devi

Complexion: Wheatish, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Hair:** Black, **Clothing:** Chocolate coloured sari & yellow coloured Blazer, **Identification:** A cut mark on forehead.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female, may inform SHO, Sagarpur, New Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Sd/-
Tel. No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, Sagarpur, New Delhi
FAX No. : 011-24368639 Tel. : 011-28522653-54-55
DP/7004/SW/19 Mob.: 7065036228

गेल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड
35^{वां} वार्षिक आम बैठक
35th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
20 अगस्त, 2019 (नई दिल्ली) | 20 August, 2019 (New Delhi)

GAIL Chairman & Managing Director Dr Ashutosh Kamatak (centre) and GAIL Directors at the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Company on Tuesday

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Home Finance
Registered office : ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051
Corporate Office : RPG Towers, Andheri Kurla Road, J.B. Nagar, Andheri (East), Mumbai-40005
Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi- 110055

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Sanjay Kumar / NHDELO0000743795	Unit No. 1204 A, M-2 (Menka) 12th Floor 2B, Vaibhav Khand Amrapali Royal, Indirapuram Ghaziabad. Pin- 121001/ 17-Aug-2019	27-Sep-2014/ Rs. 34,96,483/-	Delhi/ NCR

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

Date : 21.08.2019
Place : Delhi/ NCR
Sd/-
(Authorized Officer)
ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.

Govt initiates process to make gold hallmarking mandatory

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The centre has revived its intention to make hallmarking mandatory for gold jewellery and plans to notify the regulation in WTO in a week time, a top official said.

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Director General Surina Rajan, however, assured the jewellery traders that the process would be done in consultation with all stakeholders.

"The Government once again intends to make hallmarking of gold jewellery mandatory in the country. A notification to WTO is expected in a week time to seek comments," she told PTI.

Govt cancels coal block jointly allocated to NTPC, JKSPDC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The central Government has cancelled the joint allocation of a coal block in Odisha to state-owned NTPC and Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation.

NTPC and Power Development Department, Jammu and Kashmir, had earlier requested the coal ministry for cancellation of the coal block.

"It has been decided, with the approval of competent authority in the Ministry of Coal, to cancel the allocation of Kudanali-Luburi coal block jointly allocated to NTPC Ltd and Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation Ltd (JKSPDC)," the coal ministry said in a letter to both the companies.

The ministry further said there is no provision under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, and the rules made thereunder to allocate fresh coal block in lieu of a cancelled coal block.

Oriental Bank of Commerce launches Repo Rate linked Home Loan & Vehicle Loan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Oriental Bank of Commerce has launched new variant of Home Loan and Vehicle Loan products linked to Reserve Bank of India's repo rate.

The new Home Loan and Vehicle Loan product will directly link interest rate to an external benchmark, which in this case is the Repo Rate and thereby build a direct link to ensure fair and transparent transmission of the monetary policy rate immediately to the customers.

Customers will have the option to select between MCLR linked rate, which is indexed to the bank's cost of funds or a Repo Rate linked to the external benchmark. With the new variant, Home Loans and Vehicle Loans will also be available at repo rate linked interest rate starting 8.35% and 8.70% respectively, thus passing on further benefit of 20 basis points and 25 basis points respectively to the current MCLR rated pricing.

Hasina, Sania to co-chair WEF's India Eco Summit

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and tennis star Sania Mirza will be among co-chairs for India Economic Summit to be held here in October by the World Economic Forum, where hundreds of Indian and global leaders would discuss India's role in South Asia and on the world stage. Hasina and Mirza will be joined by Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise's Executive Vice-Chairperson Shobana Kamineni and Sequoia Capital India's Managing Director Shaileendra Singh as other co-chairs.

Mirza will co-chair the summit as a sportsperson and the UN Women Goodwill Ambassador for South Asia. The two-day summit, scheduled for October 3-4, will be held by Geneva-based WEF in collaboration with industry body CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) under the theme of 'Innovating for South Asia: Strengthening South Asia, Impacting the World'.

According to the World Economic Forum (WEF), the meeting will address strategic issues of regional significance under four thematic pillars - the new geopolitical reality



and new social, ecological and technological systems. The WEF said India as the fastest-growing large economy in the world has demonstrated remarkable strength and resilience amid global slowdown. The country's and the region's role is critical to the sustainability of global economic growth and if this is to be Asia's century, the role of South Asia will be indispensable, it added.

Besides, the rise of advanced technologies has the potential to create economic and social value, and bolster India's goal of maintaining its growth momentum while attaining greater social inclusion and regional cooperation. The WEF, which hosts its annual summit in Swiss Alps resort town of Davos every year, said the

India meeting will convene key leaders from government, private sector, academia and civil society to facilitate dialogue on policy tools, business models, industry standards, norms and guidelines for boosting the dynamism of India to attain its growth potential. The meeting will also focus on accelerating the adoption of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies and optimally governing them to assist India to leapfrog to an advanced stage of development and provide the world with replicable proof of a successful model, affecting billions of people globally. Top leaders expected to attend the meeting include senior ministers Nitin Gadkari, Piyush Goyal, Smriti Irani, Dharmendra Pradhan, and Hardeep Singh Puri.

SBI announces home, auto loans at cheaper rates during festival season

New Delhi (PTI): State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest lender, on Tuesday announced a number of offers including cheaper rates for home and auto loan borrowers, to cash in on festival fervour. Customers can avail the cheaper loans with added benefits such as waiver in processing fees, pre-approved digital loans and loans with no escalation in interest rates spread across various categories, SBI said in a statement.

The bank has not specified the time period for which this festival offer would be valid. However, the move would be followed by the other lenders as well. "SBI has waived processing fees on car loans during festival season. The bank is offering lowest interest rate starting from 8.70 per cent to customers opting for car loan, with no

escalation in interest," it said. No escalation will ensure that the customer will not have to face fluctuation in the interest rate. For customers applying for a car loan online through the bank's digital platform like YONO or website, a 25-basis point concession on interest rate can be availed, it said.

The salaried customers can also avail the loan up to 90 per cent of the car's on-road price, it said. Recently, SBI reduced marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) by 15 bps due to which overall home loan interest rate is now reduced by 35 bps since April 2019. Currently, the bank offers cheapest home loan with an interest rate of 8.05 per cent as repo rate-linked home loan and this rate will be applicable to all existing and new loan from September 1, it said.

Central Bank to raise upto ₹3,000cr core capital from mkts

PTI ■ MUMBAI

State-run Central Bank of India is planning to mop up around Rs 3,000 crore in core capital from markets in the next two months, a top official said.

This capital is excluding the fund infusion that is likely to come from the government, Pallav Mohapatra, managing director and chief executive, told reporters on the sidelines of the annual industry conference Fibac here Tuesday.

"We want to raise Rs 2,000-3,000 crore from markets apart from what we get from the government," he said, adding the money will be raised in the next two months either through a follow-on offer or a qualified institutional placement.

The bank has also made a funding request to the government from the Rs 70,000-crore it has budgeted, Mohapatra



said, refusing to disclose how much they have asked for.

He said the bank expects the money from the government to flow in by September and added that its capital raising plan from the market does not hinge on it. The money will be raised in tranches from the market.

The city-based bank is targeting a credit growth of 10 per cent during the fiscal, he

said, adding the demand is expected to pick up in the second half. It is expecting a credit growth of up to 15 per cent in the retail, agriculture and small businesses, while corporate will be slower, he said.

"As of now, credit growth coming from retail. There is demand in MSMEs, roads, renewables. In a few months from now, manufacturing also will be there," he said.

Mohapatra said the bank will be coming out with repo-linked loans by September end in the retail segment for new loans and existing borrowers can also switch to the new lending benchmark for a fee.

On the government commitment of state-run banks buying out Rs 1 trillion worth of loan portfolios from the troubled NBFCs, Mohapatra said he will move the board with a request towards this next month.

Samsung unveils Note 10, Note 10+

New Delhi (PTI): Tech giant Samsung on Tuesday said it is confident of cornering 65 per cent market share in the premium smartphone segment (Rs 30,000 and above) with the launch of its flagship Galaxy Note 10 and 10+ in India.

The company, which competes with the likes of OnePlus and Apple, in this segment, said

in the first half of 2019 (January-June), its market share was at 63 per cent in value terms in the premium category (as per GfK data). "We had 52 per cent value market share in the premium segment in 2018. This rose to 63 per cent in H1 2019",

Samsung India Senior Vice President and Head of Marketing, Mobile Business Ranjivjit Singh

told PTI. He added that by the year-end, the company is confident of expanding

its share further to 65 per cent and above. "The premium category, esti-

mated to be about Rs 15,000-20,000 crore, is growing at about 9-10 per cent. We are growing at strong double digits and expect to grow at over 20 per cent," he said. Apart from the Note series, the company's lineup in the premium category includes Samsung Galaxy S series and A80. He said the Note 10 series has powerful flag-

ship devices that will take the productivity and creativity of millennial users to the next level. "For the first time ever, Galaxy Note10 comes in two sizes, so consumers can find the Note that's best for them. It has an enhanced S Pen that converts handwriting to digital text, and enhanced Samsung DeX for PC and link to Windows for all meeting productivity needs of the customers," Singh added.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11063.90	11076.30	10985.30	11017.00	-36.90
MARUTI	6003.00	6233.00	5959.00	6223.00	204.45
TATAMOTORS	120.00	124.80	119.00	123.80	3.00
HCLTECH	1067.90	1090.80	1065.10	1085.05	21.00
INFY	785.20	798.00	783.50	792.50	14.85
DREDDY	2524.75	2564.45	2515.50	2553.00	43.90
M&M	522.90	535.00	517.50	527.85	7.30
HINDUNILVR	1822.00	1849.70	1813.00	1845.95	25.05
TCS	2120.00	2205.00	2166.50	2190.00	27.00
HDFCOTOC	2655.00	2677.80	2631.60	2663.55	32.05
RELIANCE	2209.25	2227.00	2206.85	2224.00	17.15
KOTAKBANK	1490.55	1511.25	1482.65	1507.60	11.25
WIPRO	253.30	259.10	252.20	253.95	1.85
BAJAJ-AUTO	2730.00	2768.70	2718.55	2742.25	18.75
CIPLA	478.85	481.70	470.55	478.20	2.85
ZEE	349.50	354.85	346.55	350.00	1.95
ASIANPAINT	1585.00	1599.50	1582.70	1590.30	3.85
INFRAEL	253.05	258.50	252.40	255.75	0.45
TITAN	1090.90	1095.75	1075.55	1089.90	0.95
GAIL	127.50	128.60	125.90	127.40	0.10
UPL	540.00	545.00	535.00	542.45	-0.40
TECHM	674.00	680.00	664.65	669.15	1.20
TATASTEEL	359.70	361.85	353.15	358.20	-1.35
POWERGRID	207.00	210.90	205.65	205.95	-1.10
SUNPHARMA	426.00	426.50	417.30	420.80	-2.15
GRASIM	738.00	738.25	719.85	727.00	-5.35
JSWSTEEL	225.05	226.10	221.65	224.55	-1.65
LT	1352.95	1355.55	1334.00	1341.55	-10.65
ADANIPOWERS	357.40	359.75	352.00	354.35	-3.05
NTPC	119.00	120.25	117.35	118.70	-1.10
BHARTIARTL	360.50	362.35	357.40	357.50	-3.50
ONGC	126.60	126.85	124.35	125.05	-1.25
HINDALCO	182.00	182.35	177.80	179.25	-1.90
SBIN	287.30	287.40	280.65	283.85	-3.00
RELIANCE	1289.80	1292.60	1272.60	1278.55	-1.25
HDFC	2112.35	2121.90	2075.00	2090.80	-24.25
BAJFINANCE	348.90	348.90	339.10	347.25	-4.35
BPCL	3327.00	3334.40	3325.25	3328.00	-42.05
IOC	126.00	126.10	123.40	124.15	-1.65
VEDL	143.80	144.85	141.60	142.10	-2.20
ICICIBANK	420.80	423.20	412.50	416.65	-6.75
AXISBANK	685.15	685.20	669.50	674.00	-11.00
EICHERMOT	16437.70	16570.00	15830.00	16060.00	-277.70
ITC	251.60	251.95	245.45	246.85	-4.70
COALINDIA	199.40	199.50	194.40	195.15	-3.80
BAJAJFINSV	7420.00	7450.00	7207.00	7232.55	-144.10
INDUSINDBK	1451.00	1451.95	1388.10	1404.10	-38.40
ULTRACEMCO	4176.00	4177.40	4023.00	4023.70	-134.45
BRITANNIA	2470.00	2470.00	2371.00	2398.00	-80.40
IBULHGFIN	539.00	540.20	505.25	519.00	-17.85
YESBANK	76.95	76.95	70.50	71.55	-5.10

BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP	Change
SAIL	36.35	36.35	34.35	34.60	-2583.45
YESBANK	76.80	77.00	70.55	71.25	6223.00
IDEA	5.91	6.16	5.46	5.84	10985.30
IBULHGFIN	539.00	540.80	505.05	521.45	5190.00
MGL	84.00	87.35	83.00	84.45	2553.00
INFY*	781.05	797.90	781.05	792.90	792.50
MARUTI	5990.00	6230.30	5960.30	6198.75	204.45
TATAMOTORS	119.95	124.80	119.10	123.80	3.00
RELIANCE	1294.00	1294.00	1272.85	1276.00	17.15
ICICIBANK	1398.60	1524.90	1397.90	1486.25	11.25
VENKYS	421.60	423.00	412.70	417.15	1507.60
ITC	252.00	252.15	245.55	246.55	253.95
SPICEJET	146.25	146.55	139.25	141.00	253.95
DHFL	45.65	47.85	45.20	46.50	274.25
RELCAPITAL	45.25	45.75	41.45	42.50	478.20
HDFCCLIFE	525.60	532.95	516.60	527.45	350.00
SBIN	286.55	287.55	280.85	283.65	350.00
RELIANCE	43.85	44.30	41.70	42.50	255.75
TATASTEEL	360.00	361.80	353.15	358.30	255.75
NMDC	101.15	102.00	99.60	99.15	127.40
TCS	2168.50	2205.70	2168.00	2187.15	1089.90
L&TFH	105.00	105.00	97.30	98.15	669.15
SZLON	4.40	4.48	4.34	4.44	127.40
LT	1351.10	1355.25	1334.20	1342.60	1089.90
RBLBANK	400.00	405.35	385.35	389.90	253.95
BAJFINANCE	3331.00	3333.00	3237.55	3294.70	2090.80
INDUSINDBK	1449.00	1451.00	1388.70	1404.75	38.40
BIOCON	215.00	220.40	211.30	218.25	76.80
BANKBARODA	102.50	102.50	99.90	98.75	80.15
POWER	3.42	3.48	3.32	3.34	76.80
SUNPHARMA	426.00	427.00	417.45	420.80	1613.00
BRITANNIA	2484.00	2484.00	2372.00	2394.65	1629.00
FORCEMOT	1303.00	1336.65	1253.00	1259.10	1596.75
HDFCBANK	2212.00	2228.10	2207.00	2222.00	1596.75
JINDALSTEEL	104.85	104.95	101.00	104.00	1613.00
KOTAKBANK	1497.80	1510.50	1483.20	1506.10	1596.75
M&M	524.05	534.75	517.80	527.90	397.50
SBILIFE	849.75	862.40	831.80	854.55	397.50
WIPRO	253.15	259.00	252.35	253.35	397.50
ICICIRPLI	400.00	400.00	382.40	387.25	397.50
REL	96.90	97.05	92.05	93.40	397.50
AXISBANK	686.60	686.60	669.25	672.20	397.50
HDFC	2110.00	2110.00	2075.40	2090.80	397.50
TECHM	676.00	680.00	664.80	668.50	397.50
ULTRACEMCO	4125.00	4162.75	4025.00	4033.45	397.50
EDLWEISS	132.00	132.00	116.90	119.25	397.50
HEROMOTOCO	2660.00	2678.10	2633.30	2669.30	397.50
MOTHERSUMI	97.90	100.45	97.40	98.10	397.50
MANAPPURAM	122.50	123.35	117.65	121.85	397.50
IBREALEST	76.90	77.90	73.30	74.45	397.50
ASHOKLEY	64.90	64.90	63.00	63.90	397.50
CHOLAFIN	265.85	265.85	255.20	259.10	397.50
HINDUNILVR	1820.00	1849.25	1813.50	1841.05	397.50
PNB	67.40	67.80	64.65	65.60	397.50
HINDPETRO	244.70	244.75	239.40	241.65	397.50
ZEE	348.05	354.85	346.80	350.55	397.50
COALINDIA	199.00	199.70	194.55	195.25	397.50
NTPC	119.30	120.20	117.40	118.00	397.50
INDIGO	1618.10	1641.65	1605.10	1632.55	397.50
M&MFIN	318.30	320.20	308.40	314.65	397.50
DREDDY	2536.90	2563.05	2519.55	2554.90	397.50
DLF	178.05	178.45	173.45	177.25	397.50
TITAN	1095.00	1095.50	1075.45	1092.95	397.50
JIJIVAN	276.00	276.75	267.00	270.65	397.50
NCC	61.00	61.20	57.60	58.10	397.50
HAVELLS	668.85	686.50	668.50	677.50	397.5

US tests cruise missile after INF treaty exit

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

The US Defence Department announced on Monday the test of a medium-range ground-launched cruise missile, just weeks after tearing up the Cold War-era pact with Russia that eliminated such nuclear-capable weapons.

The missile was launched on Sunday from the US Navy-controlled San Nicolas Island off the coast of Los Angeles, California.

"The test missile exited its ground mobile launcher and accurately impacted its target after more than 500 kilometers of flight," the Pentagon said in a statement.

"Data collected and lessons learned from this test will inform the Department of Defense's development of future intermediate-range capabilities."

While the missile was described as "conventionally configured," meaning not nuclear-equipped, the launch was a sign of Washington beefing up its nuclear war-fighting



capabilities in the wake of the collapse of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty on August 2.

The INF had banned all land-based missiles, conventional and nuclear, that could travel between 500 and 5,500 kilometers (310 and 3,400 miles), in an effort to abolish a class of nuclear arms deployed across Europe by the United States and the then-Soviet Union.

Many fear the end of the INF, which Washington accused Moscow of having

violated in recent years, will lead to a new and dangerous nuclear arms race.

On August 2, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said the US, no longer bound by the INF, had already begun work to develop "mobile, conventional, ground-launched cruise and ballistic missile systems."

"Now that we have withdrawn, the Department of Defense will fully pursue the development of these ground-launched conventional missiles as a prudent response to Russia's actions," Esper said.

Cameroon anglophone separatist leader gets life sentence

AFP ■ YAOUNDE

A military court in Cameroon on Tuesday handed a life sentence to the head of the country's anglophone separatist movement, Julius Sisiku Ayuk Tabe, in a move that analysts said could inflame the 22-month-old revolt.

Ayuk Tabe, a charismatic leader widely deemed as a moderate in the separatist movement, was convicted with nine others of charges including "terrorism and secession", the state's lawyer, Martin Luther Achet, told AFP.

They were given life terms.

The sentences were confirmed by a lawyer for the separatists, Joseph Fru, who added the 10 had also been fined 250 billion CFA francs (USD 422 million, 381 million euros).

Fru condemned what he called a "parody of justice" and said the defendants refused to recognise the right of the military tribunal in Yaounde to try them. Their lawyers have yet to say whether they will file an appeal.

Johnson issues backstop Brexit ultimatum, EU rebuffs

London: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has issued an ultimatum to the European Union (EU) over what he has branded an "anti-democratic" Irish border backstop, which must be scrapped to negotiate a new deal before the October 31 Brexit deadline.

But the ultimatum was rejected by the EU as it restated its stand on the backstop being non-negotiable.

In a letter to European Council President Donald Tusk on Monday night, Johnson reiterated his "highest priority" was to achieve an agreement to avert a chaotic no-deal exit from the 28-nation economic bloc, but not with any kind of

backstop - designed to avert a post-Brexit hard border between EU member-country Ireland and British region Northern Ireland.

"The changes we seek relate primarily to the backstop. The problems with the backstop run much deeper than the simple political reality that it has three times been rejected by the House of Commons," writes the prime minister in his letter.

"The truth is that it is simply unviable... it is anti-democratic and inconsistent with the sovereignty of the UK as a state," he notes.

Tusk took to Twitter on Tuesday to rebuff the claims, accusing the British prime min-

ister of not proposing realistic alternatives to the backstop.

He said: "The backstop is an insurance to avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland unless and until an alternative is found."

"Those against the backstop and not proposing realistic alternatives in fact support reestablishing a border. Even if they do not admit it."

Johnson, who has been a vehement critic of the clause in the withdrawal agreement negotiated by his predecessor Theresa May, told Tusk that it locks the UK, potentially indefinitely, into an international treaty which will bind Britain into a customs union. **PTI**

Gunman in Brazil holds 16 bus passengers hostage

Rio de Janeiro: A gunman is holding at least 16 bus passengers hostage in Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday, officials said, as police negotiate with the hijacker to try to end the standoff.

At least six people -- four women and two men -- have been freed so far from the vehicle that is stopped on heavily transited bridge connecting Rio with neighboring city Niteroi.

Heavily armed police including military and snipers have surrounded the bus as they negotiate with the gunman, who G1 news reported is

armed with a gun, a tazer and gasoline.

A live broadcast of the scene shows five ambulances parked near the bus, receiving hostages as they are released.

A series of gunshots have been heard, Globo TV reported. The gunman reportedly boarded the Rio-bound bus at 5:30 am (0830 GMT) and began threatening passengers.

Several lanes of traffic on the busy Rio-Niteroi bridge spanning Guanabara Bay have been paralysed during the ongoing hostage situation. **AFP**

GLOBE TROTTLING

PEOPLE WHO POST SELFIES SEEN AS INSECURE

New York: Even though selfies are popular, researchers say that those who post selfies are viewed as less likeable, less successful and more insecure.

NIGERIA: 5 KILLED AFTER BUILDINGS COLLAPSE

Abuja: Five persons were confirmed killed after two residential buildings collapsed in two different locations in Nigeria's Jigawa on Monday, said a local official.

PUTIN, MACRON SPAR OVER 'YELLOW VEST'

Bornes-les-mimosas: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday vowed to prevent the emergence of any mass demonstrations in Moscow like the "yellow vest" anti-government protests that erupted in France late last year. "We would not want such a thing to happen in the Russian capital," Putin said after talks with French counterpart Emmanuel Macron at the Bregancon fortress on France's Mediterranean coast.

REBELS WITHDRAW FROM KEY BASTION IN SYRIA

Damascus: Rebel groups were on Tuesday forced to withdraw from their key bastion of Khan Shaykhun town in Syria's Idlib province as a result of a military offensive in the region, a war monitor reported.

IMRAN ORDERS TO EXPEDITE CPCEC WORK

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has directed authorities to expedite work on half a dozen projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that have been facing significant delays. On Monday, Khan took a detailed briefing on the delayed energy and infrastructure projects of the multi-billion dollar CPEC, reports The Express Tribune.

Russia, China blast US missile test

Moscow: Russia and China warned Tuesday that a new US missile test had heightened military tensions and risked sparking an arms race, weeks after Washington ripped up a Cold War-era weapons pact with Moscow.

The US and Russia ditched the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty this month after accusing each other of vio-

lating the accord.

Washington said the agreement also tied its hands in dealing with other powers such as China. The US Department of Defense announced on Monday it had tested a type of ground-launched missile that was banned under the 1987 INF agreement, which limited the use of nuclear and conventional medium-range weapons. **AFP**

Trump seeks to sue Google for 'manipulating votes' in 2016 polls

Washington: US President Donald Trump on Monday sought to sue multinational technology company Google for allegedly manipulating up to "16 million votes" in favour of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton in the 2016 elections.

The election results had surprised many as Clinton was tipped to win by the media and pollsters.

"Wow, Report Just Out! Google manipulated from 2.6 million to 16 million votes for Hillary Clinton in 2016 Election! This was put out by a Clinton supporter, not a

Trump Supporter! Google should be sued," Trump tweeted.

"My victory was even bigger than thought!" he said.

Trump was apparently referring to the work of Robert Epstein, a researcher with the California-based American Institute for Behavioral Research and Technology.

Epstein had testified in a Senate hearing in June that his research shows Google's search results pushed at least 2.6 million people to vote for Clinton in 2016.

Google CEO Sundar Pichai was asked about Epstein's work

last year when he testified before a House panel and said the company had investigated it and pointed to issues with the study's methodology.

In a statement on Monday, a Google spokesperson called Epstein's claim "debunked", pointing out it has been circulating for three years.

PTI

Seoul to fine Volkswagen over 'illicit' emissions devices

Seoul: South Korea said Tuesday it would issue fines and file criminal complaints against Volkswagen and its luxury arm, Porsche, for installing "illicit" devices that helped multiple diesel vehicles cheat pollution standards.

The environment ministry said over 10,000 vehicles sold in South Korea by Volkswagen and Porsche from May 2015 to January 2018 were fitted with the devices, resulting in 10 times

more nitrogen oxide emissions than standard levels.

The certifications for eight models -- including Audi A6, Volkswagen Touareg and Porsche Cayenne -- will be revoked and the carmakers will face an estimated fine of 11.5 billion won (US\$9.5 million), the ministry said.

"We plan to continue responding firmly to manipulation of gas emissions in future," a ministry official said. **AFP**

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

Name of work	Replacement of damaged steel channel sleepers on Bridge no. 27 DUK UP & DN, Bridge no. 4 DKZ-SSB UP Line with steel channels sleepers in the section of SSE/P-Way/DLI under ADEN/DLI.
Approximate cost of work	Rs. 58,86,586.12 (Rupees Fifty Eight Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Six & Twelve Paise only)
Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 1,17,700/- (Rupees One Lakh Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred Only)
Cost of tender document	Rs. 5900/-
Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	13.09.2019 @15:00 Hrs.
Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

* The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. * For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. * No manual offers are acceptable. * Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. 128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/NIT/22/2019-20/W-3 Dated: 19.08.2019 2666/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Toll from attack on Burkina military base rises to 24

AFP ■ OUAGADOUGOU

The death toll from an attack Monday on a military base in northern Burkina Faso rose to 24, the military said, in an unprecedented blow to the army in its campaign against jihadist insurgents.

Seven people were wounded and five others missing, armed forces headquarters said in a statement Tuesday.

The previous toll from the attack, at Koutougou in Soum province near the border with Mali, had been given late Monday as "more than a dozen".

An "extraordinary meeting of the defence council" was underway at the presidential palace in the capital Ouagadougou, a security source told AFP.

The country's main opposition party, the Union for Progress and Change (UPC), said the government appointed by President Roch Marc Christian Kabore had "completely failed".

It called for a "new team, whose prime task will be to defend territorial integrity and protect the public."

Monday's attack came four days after suspected jihadists raided a village in the restive north, killing 15 people, plundering and burning shops.

A former French colony that ranks among one of the poorest countries in the world, Burkina Faso has been struggling with an Islamist revolt since 2015, which began in the north but has since spread to the east, near the border with Togo and Benin.

Bihar Swasthya Suraksha Samiti (BSSS)
CORRIGENDUM - 1
(Advertisement No. - BSSS PMJAY-04/2019)

In connection with the above Advertisement No. (PR.No. 06416(Ni Ni) 2019-20) regarding notification of vacancies issued by Bihar Swasthya Suraksha Samiti and with reference to 'Category wise Vacancy Details' of the said advertisement, due to a clerical error, the number of vacancies under UR (Un-Reserved) and ST (Schedule Tribe) categories were wrongly published. The category wise vacancy details should be read as follows:

Category wise Vacancy Details

Sl. No.	Position Name	No. of Post	Category wise Vacancy Details												
			UR	(W)	EWS	(W)	EBC	(W)	BC	(W)	SC	(W)	ST	(W)	WBC
1	District Programme Coordinator	38	9	5	3	1	5	2	3	2	4	2	1	0	1
2	District Manager - IT	38	9	5	3	1	5	2	3	2	4	2	1	0	1
3	Executive Assistant (District)	38	9	5	3	1	5	2	3	2	4	2	1	0	1
4	Executive Assistant (State)	12	3	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0

(UR - Un Reserved, EBC - Extremely Backward Class, EWS - Economically Weaker Section, BC - Backward Class, SC - Scheduled Caste, ST - Scheduled Tribe, W - Women)

For detailed information about the vacancies candidates are advised to visit <http://statehealthsocietybihar.org> or <http://health.bih.nic.in>.

Administrative Officer

PR. No. 06558 (Ni.Ni) 2019-20
अवेद्य शराब एवं मादक द्रव्य के सम्बंध में शिकायत टॉल फ्री नं. 18003456268 या 15545 पर करें।

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that one male person was found dead in the Jurisdiction of P.S. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi on Dated 07.08.2019 Time 09:35 A.M In this regard a **DD No. 09-A Dated 07.08.2019** has been lodged at **P.S. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi**. The description of the dead body is given as under **Name: Guru Raj Singh, S/o: Uttam Singh, R/o : Shop No. 12/13, GTB Nagar Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi, Age : 25 years, Face: Long, Height : 5'6", Complexion: Sallow, Built: Thin, Wearing: Check Shirt and Lower.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead person please inform the undersigned.

SHO
P.S. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27654675
8750870234

DP/9296/NW/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
(SECTION 82 Cr.Pc.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused, **Deepak S/o Rakesh, R/o A-265, Mangolpuri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 1095/14 u/s 392/34 IPC, P.S. K.N.K Marg, Delhi**, and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused person **Deepak**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Deepak**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Deepak**, Under the **FIR No. 1095/14 u/s 392/34 IPC, P.S. K.N.K Marg, Delhi**, is required to appear before the court on or before **04.10.2019**.

By order
Ms. Richa Sharma,
MM (08), Room No.-306,
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/3169/RD/19

UJVN Limited
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Tele/Fax: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax- 0135-2763507
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 | www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of UJVN Ltd., Executive Engineer (Civil), Pashulok Barrage Rishikesh, invites sealed & separate tender from interested contractors for following work:

1. Tender Notice Reference: NIT No.-10/2019-20/EE(C)/P.B.: Annual Sweeping and Cleaning Works of Maneri Bhai-II Colony, Rishikesh.

2. Estimated Value of Tender: Rs.6,77,039.34

3. Tender Cost: Rs.590.00 (Including GST).

4. Earnest Money: Rs. 17,000.00

5. Period of Completion: 12 Months.

6. Last Date of Downloading of Tender: 09.09.2019 upto 17:00 hrs. (IST)

7. Last Date of Submission of Tender: 11.09.2019 upto 14:00 hrs. (IST)

8. Date of Opening Tender: 12.09.2019 at 11:00 hrs. (IST)

For eligibility criteria and full and further details kindly visit our web site. The tenders can be downloaded from our web site i.e. www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com and tender cost shall be paid at the time of submission of the tender. **Letter No. 452 Dated 20.08.2019**

"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank
ICICI Bank Limited

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodra 390007
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051
Branch Office: ICICI Bank 2nd Floor, Videcon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi-110055

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Manoj Kumar/ Pratihba Pradyumna/ LBNOD00002079647 LBNOD00002182365	Ajnara Le Garden, Q-1101, Tower Q, Plot No. GH-02, Sector-16, Greater Noida/ August 14, 2019	April 30, 2019 Rs. 23,82,798/-	Del/Ncr
2.	Chand Sharma/ Davinder Kaur Sharma/ LBDEL00001493262	Flat No. 480, Pocket GH-02, Sector 28, Rohini, Delhi/ August 14, 2019	March 16, 2019 Rs. 5,50,882/-	Del/Ncr
3.	Jaya Garg/ Harish Garg/ LBDEL00002033664	Flat No. H 102, 1st Floor, Avj Heights, Plot No. GH-12/2, Sector Zeta 1, Greater Noida, Up./ August 14, 2019	August 10, 2018 Rs.24,50,524/-	Del/Ncr
4.	Manul Agarwal/ Samta Gupta/ LBDEL00002391703	Flat No. T1/304, 3rd Floor, Tower-1, Sunworld Arista, GH-1C, Sec-168, Noida Expressway, Noida./ August 14, 2019	April 30, 2019 Rs. 1,09,14,079/-	Del/Ncr

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

Date : 21-08-2019
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Epstein signed will 2 days before jailhouse suicide

AP ■ NEW YORK

Jeffrey Epstein signed a will just two days before he killed himself in jail, new court records show, opening a new legal front in what could be a long battle over the financier's fortune.

Court papers filed last week in the US Virgin Islands list no details of beneficiaries but valued the estate at more than \$577 million, including more than \$56 million in cash.

The existence of the will, first reported by the New York Post, raised new questions about Epstein's final days inside the Metropolitan Correctional Center, where he was awaiting trial on federal sex trafficking and conspiracy charges.

Epstein signed the document Aug. 8. Less than 48 hours later, he was found dead in his cell, prompting an investigation that has cast a harsh light on staffing shortages at the Manhattan detention center.

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name : Unknown S/o : Unknown, R/o : Unknown, Age : 45 Years, Sex : Male, Height : 5 Ft. 7 Inch, Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, Built : Normal, Wearing : White Vest and Blue Colour Underwear**, has been found on 13.08.2019 in injured condition at Lok Nayak Jai Parkash Hospital, Delhi and during treatment Dr. declared him dead and dead body preserved in LNJP Hospital's Mortuary House for 72 hours. In this regard a **DD No. 04-A Dated 13.08.2019** has been lodged at **P.S. I.P. Estate, Delhi**. 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. I.P. Estate, Delhi
DP/6515/CD/19.
Ph.: 011-23370928, 23370999

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Sher Singh S/o Prem Singh R/o C-Block, Shahbad Dairy, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 373/18 u/s 379/411 IPC, PS K.N.K. Marg, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Sher Singh** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sher Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person **Sher Singh** of **FIR No. 373/18 u/s 379/411 IPC, PS K.N.K. Marg, Delhi** is required to appear in the court to answer the said complaint on or before **03.10.2019**.

By order
Ms. Richa Sharma
Metropolitan Magistrate (08),
Room No. 306, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/3170/RD/19

Technology and digitisation are redefining traditional job roles in MBA. The future will be automated but at the same time it will create new job roles, says DR PRATIMA SHEOREY



QUOTE OF THE DAY
You have to go through the falling down in order to learn to walk. It helps to know that you can survive it. That's an education in itself
— Carol Burnett

BANKING & FINANCE

TKW's Institute of Banking & Finance, New Delhi invites applications for admissions to its PG diploma in banking & Finance programme.

This programme aims at providing students, a strong academic foundation in accounting together. PG Diploma course in Banking & Finance that prepares the candidates simultaneously for public sector & private sector banks. With certificate in International Trade and Finance (CITF), a student can easily seek job in trade department of a bank.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Minimum qualification for securing admission to degree programme is Class XII pass in commerce stream with minimum 55 per cent marks from any recognised board
How to apply: Log on to www.tkwsibf.edu.in
Last date to apply: August 30, 2019.

MBA PROGRAMME

IIM Udaipur invites applications for admissions to its MBA in Global Supply Chain Management programme. The programme gives students two options wherein one option offers dual degrees — MBA from IIMU and MS from Purdue University and the second option offers MBA from IIMU with two weeks of international experience.

This programme is designed for experienced professionals aiming at developing the potential of future leaders intending to work in top-level roles in large corporates.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Candidates should have passed Class XII and should have a minimum of four years (for applying for the dual degree option) or three years (for applying for the IIMU exclusive option) of university education with a bachelor's degree or equivalent in any discipline.
How to apply: Log on to www.cmi-hm.com or the application forms and brochure may be obtained from admission office of Cradle Institute of Paramedical Sciences, 988, Near Oberoi Farm, Kapashera, New Delhi — 37.



mbasmadmission@iimu.ac.in or contact the admission office at 0294-2477106.
Last date to apply: October 15, 2019.

CONTENT WRITING

Education and Career Times invites applications for admissions to its content writing courses.

Eligibility: Anyone who has appeared for or passed Class XII exam can enroll for content writing courses. You should be able to read and understand English language to be eligible to attend the class.

How to apply: Log on to lect.co.in
Last date to apply: August 30, 2019.

GENERAL DUTY ASST

Cradle Institute of Paramedical Sciences invites applications for admissions to its Diploma in General Duty Assistant programme.

The programme aims to provide efficient and balanced training in medical science. This course offers challenging career in a hospital, minor emergency centers, private laboratory, blood donor centers, doctor's office or clinics.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: Minimum qualification is Class XII passed and from any recognised board.
How to apply: Log on to www.cmi-hm.com or the application forms and brochure may be obtained from admission office of Cradle Institute of Paramedical Sciences, 988, Near Oberoi Farm, Kapashera, New Delhi — 37.
Last date to apply: August 22, 2019.

TAKE A SPECIALISED ROUTE

MBA is one of the most popular postgraduate programmes among students because it offers a broad range of rewarding career opportunities. The choice of career usually depends on your professional interest and type of specialisation you have taken up during MBA. Technology and digitisation are also redefining the traditional job roles in MBA. The future jobs will be automated and machine-powered but at the same time create new job roles such as digital evangelist, experience and engagement managers and many others.

While the salary package and growth prospects differ from one industry to another, the following jobs are known to offer an excellent pay scale after MBA:

Marketing Manager
Marketing managers are expected to formulate and execute a marketing strategy to promote a company's products and services. They monitor and analyse market trends, identify target markets, understand customers' expectations, study com-

petitors' marketing tactics and develop sales/marketing campaigns. You can also choose niche marketing management careers such as consumer behaviour, digital marketing, rural marketing, retail marketing, brand management or media planning, all of which pay very well.

Financial Manager
Every organisation needs a dedicated financial manager to handle its financial activities, decisions and portfolio. Financial managers keep track of financial transactions, manage assets and investments, prepare financial reports, forecast budgets, maintain relationships with financial institutions, assist in mergers and acquisitions and ensure that the finance department meets regulatory compliances. You can earn even more handsomely by opting for more specialised roles such as risk managers, insurance managers, treasurers, investment banker, project finance managers, etc. in the financial management field.

Fintech is another booming sector in the financial management industry. Technologies such as arti-



ficial intelligence and blockchain are disrupting financial services for better and adding a new dimension to financial jobs. Some of the career opportunities created by fintech are blockchain developer, data specialist, financial analyst and quantitative analyst among many others.

Business Analyst
Business analysts bridge the gap between an organisation's business objectives and information technology capabilities. They gather customer requirements and identify both functional and technical requirements of a company/project/program to outline problems, opportunities and solutions. They also interact with various other departments of the organisation to develop efficient business process models and workflow analysis.

Basically, business analysts are a vital communication link between customers, organisation and all other stakeholders for running operations smoothly.

Human Resources Manager
Human resource managers have the accountability to manage employees of the company and look after their welfare. This job comprises several duties such as recruitment, onboarding, training, payroll, labour relations, employee policies, performance appraisals and employee exits. You can choose to become a human resource generalist or specialist. As a generalist, you are responsible for end-to-end human resource functions. As a specialist, you can focus on pursuing a specific area such as employee training and development, human

resource information systems (HRIS), human resource analytics, compensation and benefits, change management, labour compliance manager and others. Both generalists and specialists get competitive salary packages.

Operations Manager
Operations managers play a vital role in e-commerce, telecommunication, logistics, financial services, construction and manufacturing companies. They oversee end-to-end processes right from the procurement of raw materials from suppliers to last-mile delivery to customers and even reverse logistics. They ensure that all processes work in an integrated manner to optimise resource allocation, improve efficiency and increase profitability.

Management Consultant
Management consultants can work independently or get hired by top management consulting firms. They provide a broad spectrum of services ranging from finance and marketing to human resources and legal advisory. They work closely with top management to solve a specific problem by analysing the root cause, finding long-term sustainable solutions and improving the overall performance of the company. The consultancy usually lasts from a few weeks to a few months, depending on the complexity of the issue.

The above-listed job roles can put you on a fast-track career path and earn you even more money as you gain more experience.

The writer is Director, Symbiosis Centre for Management and Human Resource Development, Pune

Explore the artist in you

A career in Visual Arts makes for an interesting choice. DR SANJAY GUPTA tells you the list of courses to look out for

Art has been one of the key unifying factors for the Indian society. Visual art is an art form that focuses on creating pieces of work by the means of visual environment, in order to convey messages of emotion, ideas or information. It can also integrate skills such as creativity, communication, cooperation and critical thinking and prepare youth for the future.

A course in Visual Arts appeals to the aesthetic sense of students and makes their imaginative senses grow.

Realising the potential of Visual Arts, the World University of Design (WUD) is offering eight specially curated courses in Visual Arts discipline for young students in India.

If you have creative instinct and love analysing how people make meaning out of symbols and art then under mentioned are the courses you can't miss to watch out for.

Digital Drawing & Illustration
This is the only undergraduate course in India that looks at drawings in a holistic and futuristic way specially designed to keep pace with changing technology and its role in art and culture. Digital Drawing and Illustration students will develop skills with a variety software-based skill, while constantly being exposed



to traditional media methods and conceptual drawing skills. The opportunities one can explore post doing the course medical or Legal Animator, Comic book artist and Architectural 3D Modeler.

Fashion Arts
This course focuses on creating a bridge between fashion & visual arts to create professionals who will be able to meet the requirements of the rising demands of the fashion and entertainment industries. One can explore various career options after opting this course like advertising, product design, apparel design event management, trend forecasters and

in publishing industry.

Curatorial Practices in Arts
The programme offers a hands-on curriculum that balances collaboration and socially engaged practices with academic research in history and theory. Students work in diverse experimental contexts & formats, with alternative models of exhibition planning. The scope of this course involves curating art exhibitions and exhibitions programmes for museums and galleries, initiating creative ventures in the arts and cultural sector and project development.
Contemporary Art
Contemporary Indian art fuses

multiple concepts and forms of media to express both traditional Indian and non-traditional themes. As contemporary art continues to evolve and challenge, it finds new ways to engage the viewer. Course in Contemporary art focuses on art in the broader context of Indian history, sociology, politics, gender and cultural studies. After completing the course, the student can work as a Professional Artist, Art Director, Art Advisor, Art Critic & Curator.

Visual Communication art and strategic branding
Visual Communications is a general studies programme that explores principles in drawing, computer graphic design, visual communication techniques and interaction design. It teaches students to become proficient in the use of digital tools, such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, and school them in all forms of visual communication, such as web, packaging, book, and magazine design. Gone are the days when Designers function in isolation. One can work in Graphic Design Studios, publishing houses, advertising firm or even freelancing after opting courses in visual communications.
The writer is Vice Chancellor, World University of Design

'Good revision strategy is key'

With less than one month left for the JE CBT-2, students often start panicking. AKHAND SWAROOP PANDIT shares tips that will help them ace the exam

After the result declaration of RRB CBT — 1, the students are left with a very short period of time around twenty days to prepare for CBT — 2. Smart preparation and incorporating few techniques the students can ace the CBT — 2 exam as well. Here are seven tips and techniques to crack the RRB JE CBT — 2 exam.

Analyse the syllabus: First things first, it is advised that the students should first analyse the syllabus which is classified and concise. The preparation of RRB JE CBT-2 differs from SSC/GATE OR IES preparation. So, the students should stick to the syllabus and prepare smartly.

Practice direct questions: Students should focus on practicing direct questions rather than giving too much time to theory. Compared to reading theory, it will be beneficial for the students if they do solve direct questions as it may increase their efficiency also. Level of questions are expected to be moderate so high level questions should not be considered.

Prepare a proper time table: Student should make a proper time table including two-three subjects daily. It's always advised to study two-three subjects daily in loop than going for only one subject to maintain the efficiency. And, direct question should be practiced on a daily basis at least hundred to two hundred



questions.
Don't ignore the non-technical part: Nontechnical part covers 50 marks and it needs to be practiced daily. Students to dedicatedly devote at least an hour daily to practice it, students who ace this section will definitely score well and get at the edge.
Revision strategy: A good revision strategy is also important because without revision whatever the students study will be futile. So at least every third day student should revise whatever they have studied in past two days. This cycle of revision must continue till the exam.
Formulas are very important: For RRB JE CBT-2, the numericals will be mostly based on direct formulas and thus students must remember them. A simple hack to

remember all the formulas are that they can write all the formulas on a chart paper and paste them in front of their study table which will help them in daily revisions. This is an important step as in CBT-2 exam virtual calculator is allowed and mostly all the numericals will be formula-based and those formulas must be on your tips.
Short notes and flash cards: Students should revise from the short notes and flash cards to save time. The exam is all about smart preparation thus short notes & flash cards are always a better option.
Since the gap between CBT-1 and CNT-2 is very short the exam is expected to be easy. So, it is all about right preparation at the right time and you can score well.
The writer is Founder & CEO, Catalyst Group

ICSI result date announced

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The result of Company Secretaries Professional Programme and Executive Programme examinations held in June, 2019 is scheduled to be declared at 11 am and 2 pm respectively on Sunday, August 25, 2019. This will be hosted on the website of the institute — www.icsi.edu.

The result along with individual candidates subject-wise break-up of marks will also be made available on the website immediately

after declaration of the result.

Candidates of Executive Programme examination can download their e-Result cum-Marks Statement immediately after the declaration of result from the institute's website for their reference and records and no physical/hardcopy of the marks statement will be sent in this regard. However, hard copy of the result cum-marks statement shall be issued to the candidates of Professional Programme examination.

Medals for doctors at AIIMS Rishikesh

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The United States of America (USA) based NRI — Hersh Kumar has offered to award Gold medals to graduating doctors at AIIMS Rishikesh in Uttarakhand. A former IIT-Roorkee product and a Gold medalist himself, Hersh has also created a corpus fund for such awards and scholarships and vows to extend this program to other medical institutes across the country in near future.

The students with highest commitment to the ethics of profession and compassion in patient

care will be awarded the Gold medal christened as Hersh and Rita Kumar Golden Heart Award to be instituted from current academic session only. This was announced by Hersh and his wife — Rita during his visit to the AIIMS campus in Rishikesh last week to conduct a mentoring session for MBBS students in the presence of institute Director — Dr Ravi Kant.

"While giving scholarships, financial aids and awards, something focus remains on academic excellence and financial condition of recipients. However there is a serious decline in the passion for



NRI Hersh Kumar with AIIMS Rishikesh Director Dr Ravi Kant

profession, compassion, desire to serve with ethics. The focus remains on mind but not on heart. The Gold medal program consists of mentoring sessions to emphasise on ultimate wisdom of involv-

ing heart along with mind in the profession," said Hersh Kumar.

While mentoring the students at AIIMS, Hersh said there should be a 'four wheel drive system' which means that if we involve mind as the front wheel and heart as real wheel or vice versa, it will make a four wheel drive system that is genuinely more powerful.

"It will allow professionals to tap to their true hidden potential and enable them to be high achievers professionally with more job satisfaction. It will also help them in their holistic development as a human being," Kumar adds.

New high for SRM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Holding out hope for people suffering from Achalasia, a rare disorder of Esophagus causing difficulty in swallowing food, a Per-Oral Endoscopic Myotomy, an advanced Endoscopic procedure has been performed for the first time at SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Kattankulathur, COO Dr Ram Natesan has said.

The operation was performed by SRM Medical College Hospital and Research

Centre's interventional endoscopic gastro enterologist Dr N A Rajesh under the overall supervision of chief surgical gastro enterologist Dr A Rathnaswami.

The procedure was first introduced in 2008 in Japan and is currently done only in a few advanced endoscopic centres in India.

This procedure requires, apart from specialised endoscopic equipment, a skilled endoscopist with adequate training in therapeutic Endoscopic procedures.

People are looking for comfort today, increasing their dependence on technology. This has opened doors for plenty of opportunities in IoT, says MUBEEN JUKAKU

Be Smart

Everyone wants a comfortable lifestyle. Wouldn't you love it if you could switch on the air conditioner before reaching home or turn off the lights even after leaving your home? Everyone is busy catching up with the work that they might miss out on a few things at home in a hurry. Here the Internet of Things (IoT) helps us wonderfully in connecting us with the devices and notifying us about everything at home even when we are at work or anywhere else. We can say that IoT makes our lives simpler and more convenient. It helps you to manage your home more smartly. You can water your garden by sitting in an office with just one tap in your mobile application.

change more in the coming years. IoT will connect 4 billion people on the planet through multiple devices and applications.

By connecting "things", IoT will make our lives easier. The new wave of connectivity is going beyond smartphones and laptops by thriving towards connected cars, smart homes, wearables, health care, smart cities, and many more. IoT helps these devices to bridge the gap between physical and digital worlds to improve the quality and productivity of industries, society, and life.

Overview of IoT

With the potential to increase the connectivity of everything, the Internet of Things is changing the way we do things nowadays. The increased pace of IoT adoption in the country will make many sectors like industrial manufacturing, energy, agriculture, utilities, transport, and logistics lead the market.

The Indian market potential of the Internet of Things is likely to reach \$ 9 billion by 2020. The IoT units in India can see rapid growth of 31 times to reach \$1.9 billion by 2020.

As per the GlobalData, the data and analytics company, the global market potential of the

Internet of Things is expected to reach \$318 billion at compound annual growth rate of 20 per cent by 2023.

Opportunities

The rise in the number of IoT devices in use has led to a significant increase in the number of IoT jobs as well. The candidates require a combination of skills to ensure a promising career in IoT.

Train in IoT

Knowing the growing need of IoT based skills in the market, the Electronics Sector Skills Council of India (ESSCI), which is set up under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), skill the youth of the country specifically in the electronics domain. The council has been working with the subject matter experts across India to create Qualification Packs (QPs) in accordance with the rising demand of IoT based skills in the market. Therefore, if you are looking forward to making your career in this domain, you can simply take training from the registered training partners of ESSCI that are available pan India.

Understanding the perspective of both Electronics Hardware and Embedded

Software, the council has prepared two job-oriented courses (QPs) in which the candidates can take training and get the job easily in the IoT domain. They are:

IoT Hardware Analyst: This QP primarily takes a complete hardware perspective. For Engineers coming from Electronics and Electrical background, this is an ideal QP if you want to have your career in the hardware aspect of IoT. The QP is designed as a pack of skills that includes Circuit design, Hardware realisation in terms of PCB, Optimisation, Verification and Validation, and System thinking aspects.

The National Skill Qualification Framework level for this job role is five and the minimum educational qualification required to enroll in this job role is Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Technology, Statistics, Maths and Computer Science.

Embedded Full-Stack IoT Analyst: This QP primarily takes the software perspective. With a primary focus on Embedded Software design, this QP focuses on skill-building in areas like Embedded programming, Operating Systems, UI development, Debugging, Testing and release of quality software.

This QP also gives very good focus to inculcate engineering best practices. For engineers who are willing to have a career as Design Engineers, this QP would serve as an ideal skill pack.

This job role is covered under the NSQF Level 5 and the minimum educational qualification required is a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering/Technology/Statistics/Mathematics/Computer Science.

The future of IoT is virtually unlimited due to advances in technology and consumers desire to integrate devices such as smartphones with household machines. Networking and connectivity protocols have made it possible to connect people and machines on all platforms. Also, there is so much data travelling from device to device, so security is another key concern that needs to be addressed to keep up with demands.

From an individual's perspective, IoT will offer excellent career opportunities which need to be harnessed. Only it requires to have the necessary skills that are going to be the key differentiator.

The writer is Technology Head, Emertex Information Technologies, Training Partner of Electronics Sector Skills Council of India

'Aim's to facilitate knowledge transfer'

PROFESSOR ANURAG S RATHORE tells DEEPAK KUMAR JHA how they have created an industry-academia partnership

How do you look at IIT-Delhi's contribution towards furthering India's competitiveness among global economy evolution?

The Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi is one of the 15 IITs created to be centers of excellence for training, research and development in science, engineering and technology. Since its inception, over 35,000 have graduated from IIT-Delhi in various disciplines including Engineering, Physical Sciences, Management and Humanities and Social Sciences.

Of these, nearly 11,970 have graduated with BTech degrees, 3,541 received PhD degrees, and the remaining obtained Master's Degree in Engineering, Sciences and Business Administration. These alumni today work as scientists, technologists, business managers and entrepreneurs. They have contributed significantly to building of this nation, and to industrialization around the world. In fact, of the top twenty Indian Unicorn founders, eleven have been founded by IIT Delhi alumni. Besides, IIT-Delhi has 12 centers of excellence and three dedicated Research Parks which act as power house for technology and engineering research in partnership with Industries.

How are you fostering culture of collaboration among stakeholders?

We have been actively working with its corporate partners since decades. In 2017-18 alone we worked on more than 450 consultancy and research sponsored collaboration projects worth over ₹175 crore. In the last 5 years, we have partnered with more than 200 industry partners with the goal of providing scalable solutions. The modality of the relationships is in the form of multi-faceted transactional, operational and strategic collaborations like sponsored projects, technical consultancies, philanthropic activities, skill development programs and more.

What is the aim?

To break the silos and support strategic, catalytic and capacity-building programmes, and research across all academic domains. Our team actively engages in fostering industry engagements to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and emerging technologies from academia to industry. We strive to build bridges through these collaborative activities to provide a platform for our faculty and research scholars to transform academic research that commences from classrooms and laboratories into technologies and products that can make a difference to the society. There has been a sea-change in Corporate interac-



Professor Anurag S Rathore Associate Dean, Corporate Relations, IIT-Delhi

tions at the Institute which goes beyond the traditional model of funding discreet research projects, to more interactive and equal partnerships, a model better suited for today's technological landscape.

How are you mobilising resources for the research community? What kind of enabling environment you have created for industry-academia partnership?

The resources can be in form of funding, complementary technology expertise and infrastructure. Our efforts are directed to create awareness about the conducive environment at IIT-Delhi for industry-academia partnership. Based on the 'need' or 'aspiration' of every potential partner, a customised proposal is worked upon by us in conjunction with the interested faculty. We proactively reach out to the industry and are instrumental to facilitate a seamless experience right from the beginning of the relationship till the MoU (memorandum of understanding) is signed off. Thereafter we have a robust mechanism in place to monitor progress.

What are the focus areas for industry-academia partnerships in next few years?

Some of the focus areas of our industry partners include Healthcare, AI, ML and Cognitive, Smart materials, Electric mobility, Clean and Green energy, and Sustainability. The third edition of Industry Day at IIT-Delhi today (September 21, 2019) will showcase our collaborative research work in these fields.

The large numbers of young Indians can be a demographic dividend if they are educated well and have the skills to work in jobs likely to arise in the 21st century. Conversely, they may become a demographic nightmare if they don't have such skills. But what kinds of skills will students need to be successful in the 21st century?

Understanding three kinds of skills

As an answer to this question first consider that there are three kinds of skills people have, namely internal skills, interpersonal skills, and effectiveness related skills. Internal skills include analytical skills, self-management skills, and planning and organization skills. Interpersonal skills are used to interact with

internal teams and external customers. Collaboration, networking, teamwork, and negotiation are components of interpersonal skills. Effectiveness skills make people effective at their job.

People with good effectiveness skills are good at their work. Effectiveness skills include virtual productivity. Because so much work is done online, people productive in the virtual world are more effective at their jobs. Critical thinking, problem-solving, and the ability to research and analyse data are also components of effectiveness skills. The ability to research and analyse data is important because there is a plethora of data, yet using data to gain insights and derive intelligence requires considerable skill. Finally, presentation skills and

MINDIT

communication skills are important skills as well because they help people produce better results crucial for success.

Other crucial skills

All the above-mentioned skills to some extent are essential for young people to be employable yet young people need other skills as well. To see why consider that today large and small companies are impacted by global events. Every large company has a global footprint while smaller companies are also impacted by events on the other side of the globe. Hence the employees of tomorrow

need to be attuned to a worldview that they are global citizens. A feeling of global citizenship needs to be inculcated within them. Young people also need to be inculcated with environmental skills. The environment is in a precarious state, yet too many even now remain unaware of the harm they are causing the environment and of steps they can take to eliminate such harm.

Ethics and compassion will play an increasingly important role in the future. Leaders need to be instilled with a sense of ethics and compassion so they can lead effectively. Being compassionate and having

a solid ethical framework makes for sound leadership and allows leaders to make ethical decisions when faced with moral conundrums.

Why these skills are necessary

Today the journey of many professionals is one paved largely with chance. There is little or no structure in place to ensure that a good education leads to commensurate life outcomes. Rather usually even highly educated professionals fail to reach their fullest potential.

Career progression is in effect a roll of the dice in which winners and losers are decided not by merit but mere happenstance. Because career progression depends on the roll of the dice, meritorious individuals often

don't reach upper echelons of organizations and don't make decisions that could produce benign and wide-reaching results that benefit more people.

Each of the skills mentioned should be taught at appropriate ages before students turn 16. When internal skills, interpersonal skills, effectiveness related skills, and awareness of global citizenship, the environment, and ethics and compassion are coded into individuals at a young age, their life outcomes will happen not by chance but design. This is why the mentioned skills are so essential to the success of young people today and for society to prosper in the future.

The writer is Sidharth Tripathy founder of Skillizen and Chief Convener of Skillizen Olympiad Foundation



STUDY CENTRES

Instrumentation Engineering is specialised branch of Electrical and Electronic engineering which focuses on the principle and operation of measuring instruments. These are used in design and configuration of automated systems.

The engineers work in industries with automated processes like chemical or manufacturing plants. The engineers can find jobs in find jobs in R&D units of public and private sectors, heavy industries like thermal power stations, steel plants, refineries, cement and fertiliser plants. Working experience, qualifications, ability are important factors in determining the pay scale. A few more colleges to study are:

- **Jorhat Engineering College**, Jorhat. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **Vishwakarma Institute of Information Technology**, Pune. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **BMS College of Engineering**, Bangalore. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **AC Patil College of Engineering and Management Studies**, Navi Mumbai. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **Assam Engineering College**, Guwahati. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **Dayanand Sagar College of Engineering**, Bengaluru. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **Deccan College of Engineering and Technology**, Hyderabad. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering
- **DY Patil Institute of Engineering and Technology**, Pune. Course: BE Instrumentation Engineering



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT LEARNPLAY TIME

Location: Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382386
Application deadline: August 26, 2019

ON-FIELD OPERATIONS AT MACHADALO

Location: Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹6,000-₹8,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382387
Application deadline: August 28, 2019

DIGITAL MARKETING AT EXCEL RANGE MEDIA

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382389
Application deadline: August 30, 2019

MACHINE LEARNING AT SUNFUND INDIA

Location: Delhi, Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382391
Application deadline: August 27, 2019

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT AMHAR PUBLISHINGS

Location: Chennai, Delhi, Gurugram, Pune, Mumbai, Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹12,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382394
Application deadline: August 24, 2019

CONTENT WRITING AT AMHAR PUBLISHINGS

Location: Delhi, Gurugram, Pune, Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382397
Application deadline: August 24, 2019

SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING AT TRIPRETHINK

Location: Work From Home
Stipend: ₹3,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/1382398
Application deadline: August 31 2019

IN BRIEF

QUEENSLAND VARSITY PARTNERS WITH INDIA

The University of Queensland (UQ) has identified India as an integral market for research collaboration, corporate partnership and student mobility. The UQ shares a valued relationship with India, strengthened by decades of academic and industry partnerships and student mobility opportunities.

Dr Jessica Gallagher, Director of Global Engagement and Entrepreneurship at UQ, said: "We have identified India as a priority country to strategically engage with under the University's Global Strategy (2018-2021). For sustainable growth and success, we aim to operate with an overarching, holistic and long-term strategy that aligns the university with the Indian Government, academia and industry, and supports PhD and collaborative research with strategic partners."

CONVERSION OF HEAT INTO ELECTRICITY

The Indian Institute of Technology Mandi researchers are developing thermoelectric materials that can convert heat into electricity. While solar power has received a lot of attention, other alternative sources

are equally promising, even if less known. A research team led by Dr Ajay Soni, Associate Professor (Physics), School of Basic Sciences, IIT Mandi, is studying materials that can convert heat into electricity. About 70 per cent

of energy in the world is wasted as heat, one of the key players of global warming. The conversion of waste heat into electricity can serve the dual purpose of energy-self-sufficiency and environmental preservation.

CYBERSECURITY PROGRAMMES BY AISECT

AISECT, a social enterprise working in the area of skill development in semi urban and rural India, has launched Cybersecurity programmes in collaboration with iZen, a Silicon Valley-based talent empowerment and education technology company. Under this partnership, certificate courses in Cybersecurity Basics and Network Attack Detection will be offered on AISECTOnline.com.

These courses are well-suited for anyone interested in enhancing cybersecurity awareness — students seeking employment in the field, teachers who want to become cybersecurity trainers, executives and public/private sector employees seeking a career in cybersecurity through re-skilling. Each course offers a training of 45-75 hours, which can be completed in 8 weeks or more based on his understanding.

INCLUSIVE SCHOOLING

Teacher education experts at the International Conference titled "Journey of Teacher Education: Local to Global" organized by National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) made a strong pitch for creation of a more inclusive school education system in India, focussed on the needs of children belonging to minorities and disadvantaged groups and students with special needs.

Speaking at the valedictory session, R Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, said: "While problems today are interlinked and global in scale, the solutions have to be local and rooted in one's own ethos and realities on the ground." Around 40 experts from India and abroad deliberated for two days upon key areas related to teacher education in India.

RECORD FOR CI

The popularity of Cambridge International (CI) qualifications continues to grow this year, with a record number of entries in India and many other countries. It released the results of its June 2019 exam series globally, revealing that entries have risen by 5% internationally and by 6% in India.

The number of students taking Cambridge exams in June 2019 in India has increased by 8%, and there has also been a rise in the number of Cambridge IGCSE entries, with an increase of 3% on last year. The popular IGCSEs in India are English, Physics and Chemistry. The popular Cambridge International AS & A Level subjects are Maths, Physics and Business.

India's selection dilemma

Team management to decide between Rahane, Rohit or a fifth bowler for 1st Test



Ravindra Jadeja and Rohit Sharma rest during India's practice session in Antigua ahead of 1st Test

PTI ■ ANTIGUA

The Indian team management will be fretting on possible team combinations for the first Test against the West Indies with a difficult choice between senior pros Rohit Sharma and Ajinkya Rahane if it opts for a fifth specialist bowler.

Unless India go with a safety-first four bowler strategy which allows both Test and ODI vice-captain to figure in the scheme of things, one among the two would be cooling heels and it could be Rahane going by his wretched form in red-ball cricket.

India will be returning to the longest format after a good seven and

INDIA WILL BE RETURNING TO THE LONGEST FORMAT AFTER A GOOD SEVEN AND HALF MONTHS AND THE MOOT POINT OF THE PLAYING XI WILL BE WHETHER TEAM GOES FOR AN ADDITIONAL SIXTH BATSMAN OR AN EXTRA BOWLER FOR THE FIRST TEST STARTING ON THURSDAY

half months and the moot point of the playing XI will be whether Kohli-Ravi Shastri duo goes for an additional sixth batsman or an extra bowler for the first Test starting on Thursday. If the Indian team's think tank employs conservative strategy, KL Rahul and Mayank Agarwal should be opening the innings but Rahul it may be recalled was dropped for the last two Test matches in Australia with Hanuma Vihari opening the innings.

While Vihari didn't score too many runs, he blunted the new ball attack which helped Agarwal and Cheteshwar Pujara to consolidate without much trouble.

If one looks at the pattern of play-

ing XI selections, Vihari, who batted No 3 and scored a fifty in the warm-up game against West Indies A, could once again open in the first Test if Rahul's poor Test record during past one year is taken into account.

Cheteshwar Pujara and Virat Kohli are the two pillars at No 3 and 4 respectively but the problem starts after that.

With Rishabh Pant expected to come in at No 6 and Ravindra Jadeja with his all-round skills bringing in the necessary balance at No 7 in the absence of an injured Hardik Pandya, Kohli may be left with an unenviable task of putting either Rahane or Rohit on the chopping block.

Rohit's last Test knock was an unbeaten half-century and he also scored a first-innings half-ton in the practice game.

While Rahane got a few runs in the second innings, his form has been on the downhill and even a county stint with Hampshire has not done anything to bolster his confidence.

The only option to include both is to go for a four-bowler strategy with three pacers in Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Ishant Sharma along with Ravichandran Ashwin or Kuldeep Yadav as the lone spinner.

The extra batsman then will take Jadeja out of equation but there will always be a chance of fatigue in sultry conditions and the case of maintaining proper over-rates with three out and fast bowlers in operation.

Skipper Kohli has always been a big advocate of playing five bowlers as the key to winning Test matches is 20 wickets.

If the track is lively, Kohli perhaps wouldn't even mind playing a fourth pacer in Umesh Yadav (along with lone spinner), who had a good game against the Windies A.

However a lot will depend on the kind of track that the local curators provide at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium here.

There is a perception that this Indian team can take 20 wickets with four bowlers but will Kohli take that risk in their World Test Championship opener?



Jason Holder receives Windies Test Player of the Year award

Holder, Hope bags top WI honours

IANS ■ ST JOHNS

Jason Holder, West Indies skipper in Test and ODIs, has bagged the West Indies Test Player of the Year award at the seventh CWI/WIPA Awards 2019.

Under Holder's captaincy in 2018, West Indies drew the three-match home Test series against Sri Lanka 1-1 and later defeated Bangladesh in the two-match Test series 2-0. During the said period, the star all-rounder also scored 405 runs and picked up 21 wickets in ODIs. He will now be leading the side in the two-match Test series against India beginning on Thursday.

At the annual CWI Award ceremony which took place on Monday, Shai Hope was named West Indies' ODI Player of the Year. The right-handed batsman scored 875 runs at 67.30 in 2018, including three centuries and three half-centuries.

Keemo Paul won West Indies' T20I Player of the Year award. Paul, who made his debut last year, picked up 17 wickets and scored 124 runs in 13 matches for the West Indies.

Oshane Thomas was named as the West Indies Emerging Player of the Year while Rahkeem Cornwall, who is in line to make his Test debut against India this week, was adjudged West Indies Championship Player of the Year. Andre Russell bagged the Caribbean T20 player award.

In women's cricket, big-hitting all-rounder Deandra Dottin swept the top three awards — West Indies Women Player of the Year, West Indies Women's ODI Player of the Year and the T20 Player of the Year.

SINGLES

DULEEP TROPHY OPENER ENDS IN DRAW

BENGALURU: The rain-marred Duleep Trophy opener here between India Blue and India Green ended in a draw on Tuesday after three days were washed out. The match ended without even the first innings being completed, and both teams got a point each. After the opening day's proceedings started late on Saturday owing to overnight rain and saw 49 overs being bowled, play on the other days were called off without a ball being bowled. Only 49 overs were bowled in the entire match. On a truncated opening day, India Green had reduced India Blue to 112 for six. India Red play India Blue in the next match beginning on August 23 at Alur.

PRIYAM NAMED INDIA U-23 CAPTAIN

NEW DELHI: Priyam Garg will captain the India U-23 team in the home series beginning against Bangladesh U-23 beginning September 19 in Raipur. All the five games of the series will be played in Raipur. Garg had captained the India U-19 squad in the recently held youth ODI series in the UK. Yashasvi Jaiswal too was part of the U-19 squad. The squad also includes Arshdeep Singh and Harpreet Brar who were part of the Kings XI Punjab squad in IPL 2019. Bengal's U-23 captain Ritwik Roy Choudhary, considered a handy all-rounder, has also been included for leading the team to National U-23 final. The selectors picked the squad after considering the performances of the U-19 series in the UK and CK Nayudu Trophy.

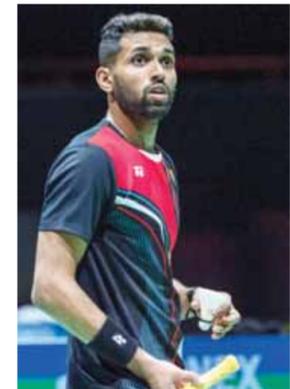
DEMBELE ADDS TO BARCA'S WOES

BARCELONA: Barcelona forward Ousmane Dembele will miss five weeks after suffering a hamstring injury, the club said. The club said in a statement that tests showed a "fibrillary lesion in the left thigh femoral biceps." If Dembele is out for that long, he could miss five matches in La Liga as well as France's Euro 2020 qualifiers against Albania on September 7 and Andorra on September 20. He suffered a similar problem in May at the end of an injury-ravaged first season in Barcelona. He is the latest casualty in a depleted Barcelona strike force. Lionel Messi missed the Liga opener with a calf problem. Luis Suarez limped off after 37 minutes in Bilbao, also with a calf problem, and is expected to be absent for a month.

KANE, AKILA REPORTED FOR ACTION

DUBAI: New Zealand captain Kane Williamson and Sri Lanka's Akila Dananjaya have been reported for suspect bowling action after the first Test between the two sides in Galle, the International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Tuesday. Both the players are right-arm off-break spinners and their bowling actions came under scrutiny during the opening Test which ended on Sunday. Williamson and Dananjaya will now undergo testing within 14 days from the reporting date (August 18), and, during this period both will be permitted to continue bowling in international cricket until the results of the testing are known. Williamson bowled just three overs during the second innings of the game while Dananjaya claimed six scalps in the Galle, including a five-wicket haul in the first innings.

AGENCIES



HS Prannoy looks on during his match

Prannoy stuns Lin Dan

PTI ■ BASEL

Indian shuttler HS Prannoy stunned multiple-time Olympic and world champion Lin Dan in a hard-fought match while Sai Praneeth outplayed Lee Dong Keun to enter the pre-quarterfinals of the World Championships here on Tuesday.

Prannoy, unseeded in the tournament, beat the highly-decorated Chinese 21-11, 13-21, 21-7 in a second round match that lasted one hour and two minutes.

In the pre-quarterfinals, Prannoy faces an uphill task against top seed Kento Momota of Japan, who downed Luis Enrique Penalver of Spain 21-10, 21-7.

In five meetings between the two, Prannoy has emerged victorious thrice. The Chinese won in the last meeting, at the Australian Open in June.

"I started and ended well but the strategy in the second game went completely opposite for me. Thanks to coaches I could make a few changes in crucial moments. I am happy I was patient and was ready for a long match. Shuttles were not very fast but I am happy with my game," Prannoy said.

Later on Tuesday, 16th seed Sai Praneeth completed a comprehensive 21-16, 21-15 win over Dong Keun of South Korea in the second round.

In the women's doubles, the Indian pair of Ashwini Ponappa N Sikki Reddy got a walkover from Chinese Taipei's Chang Ching Hui and Yang Ching Tun in their opening match. They will face seventh seeded Chinese pair of Du Yue and Li Yin Hui in the second round.

The men's doubles pairing of Manu Attri and Sumeeth Reddy beat the French duo of Thom Gicquel and Ronan Labar 21-13, 21-13 in a first round match.

Pogba fails in Wolves draw

AFP ■ WOLVERHAMPTON

Manchester United were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw against Wolves after Paul Pogba's penalty was saved by Rui Patrício at Molineux on Monday.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side took the lead through Anthony Martial's second Premier League goal of the season in the first half. Ruben Neves hit a brilliant equaliser for Wolves after the interval before France star Pogba was denied by Patrício.

It was a curious decision for Pogba to take the spot-kick as Marcus Rashford had scored a penalty in last weekend's 4-0 victory over Chelsea and also memorably netted the Champions League last-16 winner from the spot against Paris Saint Germain last term.

Pogba has now missed four Premier League penalties since the start of last season.

United would have gone top of the table with a win, but instead they were left to reflect on an inconsistent performance that



Manchester United's Paul Pogba, front, fails to score penalty shot against Wolves

underlined why Solskjaer still has a lot of work to do to turn his team into title contenders.

While there were moments of promise in attack and defence, United didn't take their chances and crumbled too easily when they came under pressure in their second game of the season.

At an average of 24 years and

173 days, Solskjaer had picked United's youngest Premier League starting line-up since the final day of the 2016-17 campaign.

Daniel James made his maiden start for United after the close-season signing from Swansea.

There was no place in the matchday squad for Chile forward Alexis Sanchez, who has been linked with Inter Milan.

Smith out of Headingley Test

AFP ■ LEEDS

Australia's star batsman Steve Smith has been ruled out of the third Ashes Test beginning on Thursday after suffering concussion, Cricket Australia announced on Tuesday.

The 30-year-old — who has scored two centuries and 92 in his three innings in the first two Tests — was felled by a Jofra Archer bouncer on Saturday in the first innings of the second Test at Lord's.

Smith's absence will be a huge blow to Australia who hold a 1-0 lead in the five Test series and victory at Headingley would ensure they retained the Ashes.

Their other batsmen have not looked convincing — experienced opener David Warner has totalled just 18 in his four innings — with Smith being the lynch-pin.

"Steve Smith has been ruled out of the third Ashes Test at Headingley, with coach Justin Langer confirming the news after the batsman sat out Australia's training session on Tuesday," Cricket Australia announced on their website.

The team doctor Richard Saw had the final say on whether Smith played or not and he was seen speaking with him during team training on Tuesday.

According to the website vice-captain Pat Cummins patted Smith on the shoulder and coach Justin Langer wrapped his arm round the former captain as the rest of the squad trained without him.

Smith — who has risen to number two in the world batting rankings — was pictured with his head in his hands and Langer looking glumly at the ground.



Australia coach Justin Langer, right, and Steve Smith during a nets session at Headingley in Leeds ahead of third Ashes Test

Smith now has two weeks to be ready for the fourth Test in Manchester, which starts on September 4, with a three-day tour match in Derby from August 29-31.

Sushil earns world c'ship ticket

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Struggling star Sushil Kumar sealed a berth in India's squad for the World Championship, pipping a spirited Jitender Kumar 4-2 in a bitterly-fought 74kg final of the selection trials here on Tuesday.

Consistent attacks from both the wrestlers in the fast-paced final bout had the fans on the edge of their seats. Close to 1500 gathered at the IGI stadium to watch their favourite star in action.

Sushil opened up a 4-0 lead in the first period and ended up inflicting an eye injury on Jitender early in the second period.

Sushil, whose return to the mat after a year at an event in Belarus met with a disappointing end, apologised immediately.

Later, another attacking move from Sushil had Jitender wincing in pain as he suffered an elbow injury.

Nevertheless, Jitender did not give up and thrice he had got hold of Sushil's right leg but lack of proper grip meant he could not convert them into points.

The two-time Olympic medallist was feeling the heat and to the dis-



Sushil Kumar is declared winner after a bout during the wrestling trials in the 74kg for the World Championships at IGI stadium

cerning, it seemed the two medical breaks he took was a ploy to catch some breath.

With two push-out points, Jitender reduced the margin of defeat.

It still is not over for Jitender as the federation has given him the option to book a World Championship berth in 79kg by challenging Tuesday's winner Virdev Gulia.

Mandeep's hat-trick take India to final

PTI ■ TOKYO

Striker Mandeep Singh struck a fine hat-trick to help the Indian men's hockey team beat hosts Japan 6-3 and book a summit clash berth in the Olympic Test Event here on Tuesday.

The Indian team bounced back from their 1-2 loss against New Zealand with an impressive display in their third match at the Oi Hockey Stadium here. India again face New Zealand in the summit clash today.

Mandeep found the target in the 9th, 29th and 30th minutes while Nilakanta Sharma (3rd), Nilam Sanjeep Xess (7th) and Gurjant Singh (41st) were the other scorers for India.

Kentaro Fukuda (25th), Kenta Tanaka (36th) and Kazuma Murata (52nd) scored the goals for Japan.

Nilakanta gave India an excellent start through a field goal in the third minute. Buoyed by the early lead, the Indian team put tremendous pressure on the Japan defence as Gurjant Singh took a shot on goal, but saw his effort going wide of the post.

However, a penalty corner



Indian players return to dugout after beating Japan 6-3 in the final league game

was awarded to India in the seventh minute which was converted brilliantly by Nilam Sanjeep to help the team take a 2-0 lead.

India continued to take the aggressive approach and Mandeep found the back of the net with an excellent field goal in the ninth minute.

Japan managed to open their account through a field goal through Kentaro Fukuda in the 25th minute, but Mandeep scored

two field goals in quick succession to help India take a big 5-1 lead. The Indian vice-captain scored just before the half-time whistle in the 29th and 30th minutes.

Japan started the third quarter on an aggressive note and kept putting pressure on the Indian defence and found a field goal through Kenta Tanaka in the 36th minute.

India did not let the momentum shift towards the Japanese

side as forward Gurjant found the back of the net in the 41st minute to make it 6-2 which put the world number 5 side in a dominant position at the end of the third quarter.

Japan attacked the Indian defence in the fourth quarter and scored their third goal through Kazuma Murata in the 52nd minute.

The win put India in the second spot in the points table and they face toppers New Zealand in the summit clash.

EVES TOP THE TABLE

Following an impressive performance against Australia, the Indian women's hockey team also secured its place in the final by playing out a 0-0 draw against China.

China needed the victory to make sure that they progress to the final but India's defense was up to the task, and seemed determined to consolidate their position at the top of the points table.

With a tally of five points from their three matches, India topped the points table, and will now face hosts and World No 14 Japan in the final today.

'Frightening' Archer won't let-up: Stokes

Healthy rivalry augurs well for team's pace attack, says Umesh



AFP ■ LEEDS

England's Ben Stokes has told Australia to expect more bouncers from Jofra Archer in the remainder of the Ashes.

"It's part of the game and a big part of Jofra's game, being aggressive, not letting batsmen settle," said Stokes.

Archer produced a hostile and compelling display on debut as the rain-affected second Test ended in a draw at Lord's on Sunday.

Not only did he take five wickets, he repeatedly unsettled Australia with a short-pitched ball. The 92mph bouncer that hit Steve Smith on the neck forced the star batsman to miss the last day with concussion.

"When someone takes a nasty blow no bowler is going to say 'I'm not going to bowl that again because I don't want to hit them again,'" Stokes, a lively seam bowler, added.

"The concern is always there when someone takes it, but next ball, when you get back to the mark, it's 'I'm going to keep doing it.'" Smith, who could be ruled out of the third Test at Headingley starting on Thursday as well, had earlier been hit a painful blow by Archer on his left forearm.

Marnus Labuschagne, Smith's replacement at Lord's as cricket's first concussion substitute, was then hit flush on the grille of his helmet second ball by another Archer thunderbolt.

All the deliveries are considered a legitimate part of a fast bowler's armoury and Stokes said Archer had no reason to change his approach in Leeds.

Stokes believes Archer's extra pace can help England overturn a 1-0 deficit in the five-match Ashes series following their 251-run loss in the first Test at Edgbaston.

"Everything is so rhythmical with Jofra it is tough to see when that bouncer is coming," said Stokes.

"There's no 'tell'. He bowled a lot of them, but they don't seem to pick it up.

"He gives another dimension to our bowling attack. The first innings he bowled 29 overs but his last spell of eight was one of the best out-and-out fast bowling spells I have seen since I started playing," he added.

"We've seen (Australia's) Mitchell Johnson do it to us,

especially in 2013, but Jofra just makes it look so easy. I'd rather have him on my team than have to face him. He's a frightening talent.

"The sky is the limit for him and he's a great addition to our Test team."

England's top order remains a concern but after all-rounder Stokes's elevation to number five in the second innings at Lord's, he scored an impressive 115 not out.

"It just depends on what happens in the game," he said.

"I went to six because my bowling workloads have gone up in the last few years. I'm sure it will change.

"We're a very versatile batting line-up, some days it might be Jonny Bairstow at five, some days Jos Buttler, some days me. We're all capable, it just depends on workloads."

Eng need to preserve Archer: Akhtar

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Former Pakistan speedster Shoaib Akhtar believes England have got a great weapon in Jofra Archer but they need to preserve him and manage his workload in a way that the 24-year-old doesn't get injured very often.

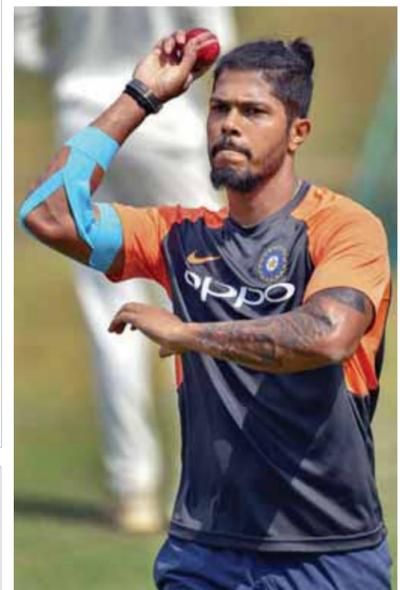
"Archer is an exciting talent. He is strong but I believe he is the perfect candidate for being injury prone. With his action and speed, I believe he can have back injuries, so he needs to be preserved," Akhtar said in a

video posted on his Youtube channel.

"My suggestion will be to play him in fewer matches, he should not bowl 27 overs in an innings. What he cannot do in 14 overs, he won't be able to do it 27 overs," he further said.

Akhtar also feels that Ashes, which is currently 1-0 in favour of Australia, would now take a turn with Archer's inclusion into the England lineup.

"I think Ashes will now take a turn. I believe fast bowlers should bowl with more intensity now.



Umesh Yadav bowls during India's nets session PTI/File Picture

PTI ■ COOLIDGE

Pacer Umesh Yadav says he has regained confidence after working on his erratic line and length in the time away from the Indian team and is confident of making the playing eleven in the Test series against the West Indies starting on Thursday.

Umesh, who took three wickets for 19 runs in the West Indies A first innings in the warm-up game which concluded on Monday here, said he worked on getting his rhythm back at the Vidarbha Cricket Academy with coach Subroto Banerjee in the last few months.

"As a fast bowler you have to practice and you need to set your rhythm, to know at what line and length you have to bowl. I have also tried the same, to get my rhythm right. I was preparing myself to do what I will be doing in a match situation," Umesh said after the drawn warm-up game.

"I went to Vidarbha Cricket Academy and worked with coach Subroto Banerjee there and asked him for his opinion. There were these issues of length of deliveries. It happens to a lot of fast bowlers, when you are playing a lot continuously, you're unable to settle into a specific line and length. I worked on that," he added.

He said he was able to bowl into the right areas during the warm-up game against the West Indies A team.

"I am playing a practice match after a long time. I had earlier come here to play for India A and I played one game. The wicket is not too different and it has swung.

"(In the warm-up game) I was focussing on the areas I have to put the ball. My mindset was to put the balls in those areas and bowl dot balls. I was being able to do that," he added.

The 31-year-old played his last Test in Australia in December 2018. He then played for Vidarbha in the domestic competitions and followed it up with a stint with Royal Challengers Bangalore in the IPL.

"After the Australia tour, I played in Ranji trophy and we (Vidarbha) won and then IPL came. In the two and half months after that, I gave myself some time to work on my errors and get my rhythm back. Accordingly, I prepared my mindset.

"I worked on bowling drills and trained a lot on whatever bowling problems which I thought I had. You need off-time because it is only during your off-time that you can re-shape your mindset on what needs to be done," he added, when asked about the drills at the Vidarbha academy.

Asked about the competition in the current Indian team in the fast-bowling department, he said, "When you know you're going to play back-to-back Test matches, you need that kind of benchmark strength.

"All the fast bowlers know there is a good competition and that everyone is going to get an opportunity. Whoever does well, will get to play more. If we think in that manner, it's good for us because we will try to improve ourselves.

"It is a healthy competition and it is good for the team. It makes us more exciting and challenging and will improve our performance."

McGrath loves what he sees in Jofra

FIANS ■ LONDON

The legendary Glenn McGrath is a big supporter of Jofra Archer and feels the England pace sensation is going to play Test cricket for a long time.

"I've been a big supporter of Archer for a long time and I love what I see there," McGrath was quoted as saying by BBC where he will be part of the Test Match Special commentary team and contribute a regular column to the BBC Sport website.

"It's quite rare to be able to bowl with pace and accuracy for such a long time. To have pace is so unique and with Archer, it is all natural. His action doesn't look too stressful, he has a nice, smooth run-up and goes through the crease really well.

It's a fairly stress-free action and he's young and fit. He keeps it simple: "He just comes in, bowls good areas and with good pace."

Archer took the cricketing fraternity by storm on his Test debut, bowling hostile spells which put even the likes of Steve Smith in all sorts of discomfort during the course of the game, reminding fans of the famous bodyline series.

"At Lord's he bowled some quite lengthy spells, but he main-



Jofra Archer bowls as he takes part in a training session at Lord's AP/File Picture

tained his pace throughout his overs. That is a brilliant sign that he can bowl long spells at top pace then come back and bowl second and third spells no problem at all," McGrath pointed out.

"With a guy with his action

and technique, I don't see any reason why he can't play plenty of Tests. It's just experience that he needs and he will be fine," said the former Australian fast bowler regarded as one of the finest the game has produced.

Murray falls in first hurdle

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

Andy Murray on Monday fell in the first round of the ATP Winston-Salem Open, where the three-time Grand Slam champion was giving his surgically repaired hip just its second test in singles.

Britain's Murray, who feared in January that his hip trouble would end his career, accepted a wild card into this week's tournament in North Carolina after falling in his singles comeback in Cincinnati last week.

He again showed glimpses of his once-dominant self, but was inconsistent in a 7-6 (10-8), 7-5 loss to 73rd-ranked American Tennyis Sandgren in a match lasting 2 hours and 10 minutes.

"Some things were a bit better today I think," Murray said. "I was hitting the ball a bit cleaner than I did maybe in Cincinnati... I feel like I moved fairly well to some drop shots, which maybe last week I wasn't running to.

"So there's some good things in there but also some stuff I would like to do better."

LANDMARK FOR LEE

Having said in Cincinnati he would discontinue doubles to focus on returning to peak singles form, Murray said he might consider playing an ATP Challenger Tour event before heading to Asia, where he is entered in September's Zhuhai Championships and the China Open.

"Maybe I need to play a level down to get some matches and build my

game up a little bit before I start playing on the tour again," he said.

In other action on a day when rain wreaked havoc on the schedule, South Korean Lee Duck-hee became the first deaf player to win an ATP Tour match, beating Switzerland's Henri Laaksonen 7-6 (7/4), 6-1.

"My message for people who are hearing impaired is to not be discouraged.

If you try hard, you can do anything," said Lee, who will next face third-seeded Hubert Hurkacz of Poland.

Lee was two points from victory when thunderstorms swept through.

When he and Laaksonen returned some five hours later, Lee quickly polished off a win he admitted he hadn't been expecting.

"I thought that I was just going to do my best and try to stay focused," Lee said. "But I came out a winner."



Rashid to captain Afghans in B'desh

PTI ■ KABUL

Off-spinner Rashid Khan will lead Afghanistan in their one-off Test against Bangladesh and the triangular series featuring Zimbabwe. The Test will begin on September 5 while the tri-series will kick-off from September 13.

Along with Mohammad Shahzad, who is serving a suspension, middle-order batsman Nasir Jamal, left-arm spinner Sharafuddin Ashraf, paceman Wafadar Momand, and left-arm wristspinner Waqar Salamkheil have not been included in the squad.

On the other hand, experienced left-arm paceman Shapoor Zadran, who is yet to feature in the longest format of the game, and Afsar Zazai, the wicketkeeper-batsman who played Afghanistan's maiden Test — against India in June 2018 have been included in the side.



Rashid Khan celebrates after taking wicket AP/File Picture

Announcing the squad, chief selector Andy Moles said: "We have selected a 17-member squad for the T20I matches as per the advice of the captain as we have two important tournaments — T20I Asia Cup and ICC T20 World Cup 2020 — ahead of us. We will seek to prepare good sides for these tournaments and those players who perform well, will be considered for selection.

"We will also consider the performance of players in the upcoming Shpageeza Cricket League and Afghanistan Premier League T20 for future selection."

Squad for Test against Bangladesh: Rashid Khan (C), Ihsanullah Janat, Javid Ahmadi, Ibrahim Zadran, Rahmat Shah, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Asghar Afghan, Ikram Alikhil, Mohammad Nabi, Qais Ahmad, Sayed Ahmad Shirzad, Yamin Ahmadzai, Zahir Khan Pakteen, Afsar Zazai and Shapoor Zadran.

Serena to play in Auckland

AFP ■ WELLINGTON

Serena Williams announced on Tuesday she will warm-up for January's Australian Open at the Auckland Classic, a tournament that has mixed memories for the American superstar.

Williams slumped to a shock second-round loss in her only previous appearance in New Zealand in 2017, lashing out at windy conditions she described as some of the "least favourite" she had ever experienced.

But she went on to win the Australian Open later that month, claiming the most recent of her 23 majors to pass Steffi Graf's Open-era benchmark of 22. She also announced her engagement to Alexis Ohanian while in New Zealand and it later emerged she was pregnant with her first child while competing at the tournament. Currently ranked eighth in the world, the 37-year-old said she wanted to show New Zealanders what she could do on the court.

"Oh man, I want to win that title so bad," she said in a statement.



Serena Williams AP/File Picture



Ankita Raina prepares to return a shot Ankita/Twitter

Ankita progresses to 2nd round

PTI ■ NEW YORK

India's Ankita Raina knocked out ninth seed Belgian Ysaline Bonaventure to progress to the second round of the US Open Qualifiers but Ramkumar Ramanathan bit the dust in the men's singles here.

The 194th ranked Ankita was up against a higher-ranked player but prevailed 6-1, 1-6, 6-2 for her second win against the Belgian on the Pro Tour.

She had beaten the 111th ranked Bonaventure in her own country in 2014 on clay. Ankita has not gone beyond the second round at the Grand Slam qualifiers and she has a good chance to better that stat as she is up against Czech Republic's Denia Allertova, who is placed 85 places below her at 279.

In the men's singles, Ramkumar Ramanathan bowed out with a 5-7, 6-7(9) defeat against Italy's Filippo Baldi.

Southee to lead NZ in SL T20s

FIANS ■ WELLINGTON

Right-arm pacer Tim Southee will captain New Zealand in a three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka starting September 1 in Kandy.

Regular skipper Kane Williamson and paceman Trent Boult will be returning home for a pre-planned rest following the current Test series, which Sri Lanka are currently leading 1-0.

The 14-man squad features three specialist spinners in Ish Sodhi, Mitchell Santner and Todd Astle. "Kane and Trent played an enormous role in our recent World Cup campaign and with a big summer ahead, we see it as a good opportunity to give them a rest," said selector Gavin Larsen.

"The series in Sri Lanka will be a challenging one against a team who are tough to beat in their own conditions."

He also said the series represented the start of a new T20 cycle, with nine T20Is series scheduled for the side ahead of next October's World T20 in Australia.

"Following that amazing ride in the ODI World Cup, it's exciting to



Tim Southee bowls during practice match AP

begin setting our sights on another world event," Larsen said.

"Our T20 team has been pretty consistent over the past couple of years and we're really happy with the power and versatility we have in this squad."

Squad: Tim Southee (c), Todd Astle, Tom Bruce, Colin de Grandhomme, Lockie Ferguson, Martin Guptill, Scott Kuggeleijn, Daryl Mitchell, Colin Munro, Seth Rance, Mitchell Santner, Tim Seifert (wk), Ish Sodhi, Ross Taylor.