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PC in CBI custody till Aug 26

Considering facts, Chidambaram's police remand justified, says court

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Former Finance and Home Minister P Chidambaram will spend at least four days in the CBI custody. A Delhi court on Thursday allowed the CBI plea for custodial interrogation of Chidambaram in the INX Media corruption case till August 26. The agency had sought a five-day remand to unearth the larger conspiracy in the case.

Special Judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar asked the CBI to conduct medical examination on Chidambaram as per the rules. The court also allowed the family members and lawyers of Chidambaram to meet him for half an hour every day during his CBI custody.

"Considering the facts and circumstances, I am of the view that police custody is justified," said the judge and remanded him in CBI's custody till August 26.

Even if Chidambaram's CBI custody ends on August 26, it will not be the end of his woes. The court could either deny him regular bail and send him to judicial custody, or the Enforcement Directorate could



Senior Congress leader and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram after he was produced in a Delhi court in the INX Media case in New Delhi on Thursday

seek his custodial interrogation. In both the cases, it will be a while before Chidambaram could earn his freedom.

The CBI sources said custodial interrogation was required as the agency gathered inputs indicating prima facie involvement of Chidambaram in other approvals by Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) in which the former

Finance Minister had allegedly received bribes through his son Karti's firms. A number of Letters Rogatory (judicial requests) is pending in certain countries, CBI sources said.

Chidambaram's advocates opposed the CBI plea on the ground that all the other accused, including his son Karti, have already been granted bail in the case.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Chidambaram, argued that the first arrest in the case was of Bhaskar Raman, chartered accountant of Karti, who is presently out on bail. Besides that, Peter and Indrani Mukherjea, also accused in the case, are out on default bail as they are in jail in connection with another matter, Sibal said.

Contending that grant of bail was a rule, he asserted that the issue before the court was of personal liberty. He also contested the demand for five-day custodial interrogation of Chidambaram.

Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, representing the CBI, told the court that the agency was not extorting confession but it has the right to reach the root of the case.

Besides Sibal, senior advocate Abhishek M Singhvi appeared for Chidambaram and opposed CBI's plea saying that the former Union Minister was not a flight risk. Singhvi said that the entire CBI case was based on the statement of Indrani Mukherjea, who has turned approver in the case.

Chidambaram cannot answer what the CBI wants to hear and added that the agency cannot seek remand on the ground of evasive replies. There was no allegation of tampering of evidence by the CBI, Singhvi asserted.

Singhvi contended that police remand can only be granted in special circumstances and this was a case where there was no new development.

Pak recruits Af ultras to spill blood in J&K

100 battle-hardened Afghan, Pashtun fighters waiting in wings to infiltrate

RAHUL DUTTA ■ NEW DELHI

In a desperate move to stoke violence in Jammu & Kashmir after the abrogation of its special status under Article 370 and to internationalise the issue, Pakistan has started recruiting battle-hardened Afghan and Pashtun fighters to create trouble in the State.

Nearly 100 of these fighters are now perched at launch pads to infiltrate into the State. At the same time, there is fear that terrorists might plan "spectacular strikes" within Kashmir and other major Indian cities.

Besides this hard intelligence input, reports also indicate that Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) has deployed a team of at least 12 terrorists to undertake cross-border raids and target security forces on the Line of Control (LoC).

Pakistan's Border Action



A boy jumps off a boat in Dal Lake, covered with weeds for being unattended for days due to restrictions, in Srinagar on Thursday

Team (BAT), Afghan militants and highly trained Special Services Group (SSG) of the Pakistan Army may specially target Lipa Valley in North Kashmir.

Giving details of these latest developments across the border after the revocation of Article 370 nearly three weeks back, officials in the security establishment said on Thursday the JeM also held a meeting presided over by Rauf Asghar, brother of JeM chief Masood Azhar, in Bahawalpur on

August 19 to draw the strategy to engineer terrorist attacks. The meeting was also attended by launch commanders of JeM.

They oversee infiltration of terrorists after the Pakistan Army gives them cover fire.

As regards to using Afghan fighters hailing from North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), officials said the ISI and the Pakistan Army resorted to it due to depleting strength of local Kashmiri terrorists.

Sensex sinks 587 pts as stimulus hopes fade, ₹ crashes to 8-month low

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Equity markets saw a blood-bath on Thursday sinking by 587 points as the Government dashed any hope of a stimulus — something being talked about for a fortnight — to revive the sagging economy. The bears latched on to the news to go for aggressive selling, pushing the index to six-month low. The rupee also continued with its freefall, and ended at 71.81 to a dollar, hitting eight-month low.

The market has been consolidating in the range of 11900-11100 (Nifty) for the past fortnight in the hope that stimulus package was on the way. It is bizarre that all these days No Government official cared to deny media reports about possible stimulus such as withdrawal of surcharge on



FIP investment and removal of minimum alternate tax (MAT) as well as a package for revival of the auto sector.

Soon after Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian on Thursday said using taxpayers' money to bail out companies going through a "sunset" phase will create moral hazards and such a step is an anathema to the market economy, the market tanked, triggering another round of selling in banking, auto and metal stocks.

3 elephants die in road accident in Keonjhar

Bus seized from Barbil, says DFO Wildlife Society demands probe, measures for safe passing of jumbos

PNS ■ KEONJHAR/ BHUBANESWAR

In what can be termed as very worrisome for wildlife lovers and protection planners, as many as three elephants were killed after being mowed down by a large vehicle on National Highway-20 at Balijodi under Keonjhar district's Ghatagaon Forest Range late on Wednesday night.

Even as police seized a truck on the charge of hitting the jumbos, the Keonjhar Divisional Forest Officer on Thursday stated that a speeding private bus named "Airabata" hit the pachyderms, killing three and injuring one. He said the bus has been seized on the basis of CCTV footage from Barbil.

According to reports, a herd of ten elephants were crossing the NH sometime between 9 pm on Wednesday and 6 am on

Thursday when the speeding vehicle hit three of them, all females. While two elephants were dead, another was injured. Though veterinary doctors treated the injured elephant, it finally succumbed to its injuries.

NH-20 passes through the Brahmani-Baitarani elephant corridor. Thus, elephants are often seen crossing roads and nearby areas. While the corridor project is yet to be implemented, the NH has been made four-lane. As most of the vehicles move at high speed, the elephant paths have created a threat for the animals.

While deaths of jumbo due to train accidents, electrocution and pit-falling in mines were reported earlier, the Wednesday night incident has worried wildlife lovers, who have demanded more protection measures for elephants.

Continued on Page 4



7,258 students to get KALIA scholarship

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As many as 7,258 children of farmers in the State would receive scholarship under the KALIA Chhatra Brutti scheme this year.

This was informed by Agriculture and Higher Education Minister Arun Sahoo after a review meeting on the matter held here on Thursday.

Sahoo told reporters that out of the 19,247 applications received for the scheme, 7,258 have been shortlisted for the scheme. They would get scholarship for pursuing different professional courses in Government-run colleges across the State, he said.

Notably, earlier this year, State Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik during a farmers' congregation had announced that his Government would bear education expenses of children of the KALIA scheme beneficiaries.

Under the scheme, children of farmers who have taken admission in Government-run professional colleges are eligible to receive the scholarship.

2.66 lakh ineligible KALIA beneficiaries identified so far



72% of scrutiny completed: Minister

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

As many as 2.66 lakh ineligible beneficiaries have so far been identified under the State's flagship KALIA scheme, said Agriculture Minister Arun Sahoo here on Thursday. He told reporters that while 72 per cent of the scrutiny about the KALIA beneficiaries has been completed, 2.66 lakh enlisted beneficiaries have so far been found ineligible.

"Nodal officers are engaged at the panchayat, block and district levels for verification of the

KALIA beneficiary list. Till date, 72 per cent of the verification has been completed; and out of the 36.88 lakh verified farmers, 2.66 lakh were found ineligible. We will let you know the exact figure once the verification is completed by August 31," the Minister said.

Besides, the panchayat-level nodal officers have been strictly instructed to ensure inclusion of the left-out genuine beneficiaries and strictly check the fake ones.

Notably, taking cognizance of the allegations about inclusion of ineligible beneficiaries under the scheme, the Government had on August 6 announced to exclude the fake ones.

DGP reprimands traffic cop

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Director General of Police-in-Charge Bijay Kumar Sharma means business.

The top cop on Thursday reprimanded a traffic constable in the middle of the busy AG Square here as the latter, though in his white uniform, was discharging his duty without the mandatory cap.

While returning from a meeting on the Maoist issue in

the State at the Lok Seva Bhawan (State Secretariat), Sharma spotted the traffic cop sans the cap.

Upset over the constable's conduct, he got down from his car and reprimanded the constable for lack of discipline.



VSSUT students' ragging videos go viral

In a first, second year students are victims Minister orders probe

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

Several students of the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) at Burla were allegedly subjected to ragging by their seniors, videos of which have surfaced.

A senior university staff said, "This year, students adopted an innovating idea of ragging the second year students which was beyond our imagination. We always keep alert for the first year students and we did also. We took every precaution in the hostel of the first year students. But with change in the game plan, such unfortunate incident took place."

In the videos, the senior students are seen slapping their juniors and making them do pole dance with the latter posing as poles. The ragging horror didn't stop there as the vic-



tims were also made to dance in their undergarments.

The incidents took place at a hostel welcome ceremony and inside the hostel. While the videos have gone viral on social media platforms, Skill Development & Technical Education Minister Premananda Nayak took cognizance of the matter on Thursday and ordered a probe into it.

The Minister told reporters that requisite action would be

taken based on the findings of the investigation.

VSSUT Vice-Chancellor Dr Atal Choudhury said, "Not a single student involved in the nasty game will be spared. No indiscipline will be tolerated."

The university authorities made a series of meetings with the staffs to chalk out action plans for the future. However, no formal complaint was lodged by the victim students till the last reports received.

Trump wants India to fight terrorism in Afghanistan

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Countries like India, Iran, Russia and Turkey would have to fight against terrorists in Afghanistan at some point of time, President Donald Trump has said, ruing that the job against the extremists is being done only by the United States some 7,000 miles away. "Look, India is right there. They are not fighting it. We are fighting it. Pakistan is right next door. They are fighting it very little. Very, very little. It's not fair. The United States is 7,000 miles away," Trump said.

The US President said on Wednesday that other nations currently are making very less efforts against the terrorists in Afghanistan. "At a certain point

Russia, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Turkey they are going to have to fight their battles too. We wiped out the caliphate 100 per cent. I did it in record time but at a certain point all of these other countries where ISIS is around they have been decimated by the way, badly decimated," Trump told reporters at the White House while responding to a question on the reemergence of ISIS in Afghanistan.

"All of these countries are going to have to fight them because do we want to stay there for another 19 years? I don't think so. So, at a certain point other countries and that includes Russia and it includes Iran and Turkey and Iraq and Afghanistan and Pakistan and India," he said.



CAPSULE

GOVT RELAXES LEASE RENT ON WIND POWER
New Delhi: The Environment Ministry on Thursday decided to relax the lease rent of ₹30,000 per mega watt charged mandatorily from wind power companies.

PAK RELEASES WATER, FEROWZPUR INUNDED
Chandigarh: As many as 17 villages of Punjab's border district Ferowzpur were flooded after Pakistan opened headworks gates in its area on the Sutlej river.

No Students' Union polls this year

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Students' Union elections in degree colleges and universities will not be held in the State this year. A decision in this regard has been taken by the Higher Education Department.

Department Secretary Saswat Mishra has apprised Vice-Chancellors of universities and Principals of degree colleges about the decision in a letter.

"In the larger interest of the students' community, it has been decided by the State Government that Student Union elections shall not be conducted in State universities and degree colleges coming under the administrative control of the Higher Education Department in 2019," Mishra

mentioned in the letter. Instead of elections, a decision has been taken for nomination of students' representatives to various bodies of universities and colleges.

"An alternative procedure for nominating students' representatives to various bodies of universities/colleges, where students' representation is required, shall be prescribed subsequently," Mishra wrote in the letter.

Four more dists included in OMBADC

To get livelihood-based development projects CIPET, CTTC urged to open skill training centres in S'garh, K'jhar

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The State Government has decided to include Angul, Dhenkanal, Jharsuguda and Deogarh districts in the Odisha Mineral Bearing Areas Development Corporation (OMBADC) for undertaking developmental and livelihood programmes.

Under the OMBADC, livelihood-based developmental programmes will be undertaken in these districts out of its compensation money. Programmes like housing, drinking water supply, skill development and farm forestry will be taken up in the areas

affected by mining operations. Out of targeted 29,800 houses, more than 27,000 houses have been completed with utilization of Rs 350 crore against total allocation of Rs 400 crore. So far drinking water projects are concerned, 212 small pipe water projects have been planned to cover 286 villages. By now, 154 villages have been covered and the rest are in pipeline.

development training is also being imparted to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe youths. As skill development in hotel management is in high demand, the Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) has given a proposal for imparting such training in State Institute of Hotel Management (SIHM), Balangir. Around Rs 18 crore would

be spent in providing skill training, said sources. Latest information has revealed that 195 trainees are now getting ITI training. Youths from only mining areas are being provided this facility. It has been decided to request the Central Institute of Plastic Engineering and Technology (CIPET) and the Central Tool Room and Training Centre (CTTC) to

open centres in Sundargarh and Keonjhar districts so that youths of mineral bearing district have access to skill trainings provided by them. Farm forestry projects have also been undertaken in these districts for which Rs 56 crore has been allocated. Green cover activities have been given focus as mining operations are affecting environment and living condition of the people.

BP Das new OHRC Chairman

Post was vacant for seven years

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Justice BP Das, a former judge of the Orissa High Court, has been appointed as Chairman of the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC), official sources said on Thursday.



November 23, 2012. Justice Raghuraj Dash had been officiating as the commission's Acting Chairman with effect from May 16, 2019.

Besides, advocate Asim Amitabh Dash has been appointed as a new Member of the OHRC. The appointments of both have received the approval of Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal. The post of Chairman of the OHRC was vacant since

Delinking of junior, degree colleges to take 3-4 years

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

After separation of junior and degree colleges, the State Government is now planning to take more time to delink the colleges for their smooth bifurcation.

Sahoo here on Thursday.

After attending a joint meeting of the School & Mass Education and Higher Education Department on the issue of separation of the +2 and +3 colleges, Sahoo said that there would be separate infrastructures for both +2 and +3 colleges.

Even as there are composite colleges, the classes are being held separately, the Minister said.

Notably, the State Government has separated +2 courses from the Higher Education Department.

The bifurcation process was implemented in the 2016-17 academic session. While +2 came under the School and Mass Education Department, +3 continued to remain with the Higher Education Department.

- The teaching and nonteaching staffs would remain in the +3 colleges in phases and fresh recruitment would be made in the +2 colleges
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Staffs oppose directorates' merger



PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Members of the Odisha Secretariat Service Association (OSSA) on Thursday opposed the State Government's decision of integrating its different directorates with their respective administrative departments to function as composite departments.

They staged a dharna at the Secretariat premises demanding rollback of the decision. An emergency meeting of the association was underway to take its further course of action till filing of the report. Association

sources said that nearly 500 employees of the Government attended the meeting. The decision of the Government met with stiff opposition a day after its announcement made by the General Administration Department on Wednesday.

IN KHORDHA DISTRICT Ostracised family appeals for euthanasia

PNS ■ KHORDHA

Distressed over months-long ostracism from village, a poor family of Khordha district has sought euthanasia.

This is reported from Masania village under Begunia block where Jay Krushna Sahoo and his family have appealed to the district Collector seeking euthanasia, also called 'mercy killing'.

Reports said Jay Krushna along with his family roamed on village streets after forcible possession of his homestead land by neighbours. He moved the tehsil office and district Collectorate to claim ownership of the land. However, his efforts went in vain. Later, he staged a hunger strike in front of the tehsil office seeking justice. Even as the tehsildar assured him to solve



the matter, Jay Krushna waited for long days to take into his possession of the homestead land. Finally, the villagers ostracised him and his family from the village. "We are banned to avail basic facilities at the village. Even restriction has been imposed on us to enter into the village temple. Our daughter is

denied education after we fought for justice," Jay Krushna said. "The tehsildar promised us to look into our grievance but failed to take steps against the encroachers. As we are harassed and disappointed after approaching the authorities for justice, we seek permission from the Collector to end our lives," he said.

OSDMA to have special PwDs' cell

To evacuate persons with disabilities

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) MD Bishnupada Sethi has informed that help smooth evacuation of persons having physical difficulties during calamities, it has been decided to set up a special cell for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in the OSDMA.

disabilities and mainstreaming their needs into disaster management," Sethi said.

He said the cell would look into special needs of persons with disability during evacuation, search, rescue operations, rehabilitation and resettlement during natural calamities like flood and cyclone.

The cell will make networking with both the Government and private organisations and prepare a database of persons with disabilities and organisations in the State working with such persons and prepare plans accordingly, Sethi said.

It was also decided that all the multipurpose cyclone and flood shelters would be made disable friendly by the cell.

The meeting also resolved that the evacuation and search and rescue response forces like ODRAF, NDRF, Red Cross, civil defence and community level task force volunteers would be given training on special care to handle such persons.

The decision was taken at a meeting attended by civil society organisations and officials of the Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disability on August 20. "The cell will operate at the OSDMA taking into consideration the special needs and vulnerability of the persons with

Centurion acquires 2 supercomputers Students to have access for quality research

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM) has acquired two PARAM-Shavak super computers from the Center of Development Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to enhance its quality researches.



The supercomputers provide computational resource with advanced technologies to perform high-end computations for scientific, engineering and academic programmes that address and catalyze the research using modelling, simulation and data analysis.

The CUTM and C-DAC have also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to conduct joint action research, create learning resources for high performance computing and undertake product development in

emerging domains such as Augmented/Virtual Reality (AR/VR), digital learning platforms, digital design/manufacturing, mobility solutions, computational biology, smart & climate resilient agriculture and smart infrastructure among others.

"PARAM will ensure that our students not only acquire hands-on experience in latest

digital technologies but have also experienced a full product development lifecycle before they graduate," said vice-chancellor Dr Supriya Pattanayak.

The supercomputer would be accessible to all students and faculty of CUTM at its campuses in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, informed a release.

IN GANJAM Boy slits classmate's neck with blade

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

A Class-X student of the Adadhibaman High School in the Kabisuryanagar area of Ganjam district allegedly slit his classmate's neck with a

blade on Thursday.

The two boys had a heated argument over some matter while a class was underway. It took an ugly turn as the accused became furious and slit his classmate's neck.

Teachers rushed the victim to the Kabisuryanagar hospital. He was later shifted to the MKCG Medical College Hospital here as his condition deteriorated.

HONESTY, HARD WORK LAUDED Malkangiri SP given grand farewell

MALKANGIRI: Honesty and hard work pay off. And the outgoing SP of Maoist-infested Malkangiri district Jagmohan Meena has proved it. The IPS officer, who has been transferred to Angul during the recent IPS reshuffle, received a grand farewell from Jawans as well as locals on his last day in office as the Malkangiri SP on Wednesday. A video of the farewell event which shows love and admiration of people towards the cop has gone viral on social media.



A meeting was held to bid adieu to the IPS officer. Over a hundred Jawans garlanded the outgoing SP and brought him in a grand procession.

With the song Jay Jaykara from blockbuster movie Bahubali playing on the background, hundreds of Jawans and locals were seen dancing, bursting crackers and playing drums during the procession. Moreover, the Jawans were also seen carrying the outgoing SP on their shoulders before reaching the farewell meeting venue. The crowd

also greeted the cop's wife and son to the venue.

Police personnel present at the meeting opined that they would never forget the pro-people attitude and strong administrative skills of Meena, who served as Malkangiri SP for two and a half years. They also admired the cop for his efforts in maintaining law and order and curbing Naxal activities in the district. Notably, Khilari Rishikesh Dnyandeo has been appointed as the new SP of Malkangiri. **PNS**

Govt mulls disaster-resilient housing, infra

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

In order to minimise damage during calamities like cyclone, the State Government is harping on resilient housing and infrastructure projects.

which is equivalent to 5.7 billion US Dollar.

The financial loss of Odisha during last cyclone Fani amounts to Rs 29,315 crore alone.

Against the backdrop, the State Government is stressing upon establishing strong framework of disaster risk governance and integration of the principle of resilience in every

sector in order to achieve substantial reduction in economic loss.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Odisha Government has received international acclaim for significantly reducing the loss of lives from nearly 10,000 in the year 1999 Super Cyclone to less than 100 in the recent cyclones Phailin and Fani.

In the meantime, technical teams of UN, ADB and World Bank visited the cyclone affected pockets of the State and discussed with State officials regarding strategy for building resilient projects.

As per the latest official report nearly 3.62 lakh units of houses across the 14 affected districts of Odisha were damaged during Fani. All the

kutchra houses were fully destroyed and the semi pucca houses along the coastline sustained significant damage.

The total recovery in the housing sector leads to an amount of Rs 8,996 crore which includes resilient houses. The assessment team consisting of experts has proposed establishment of 99 housing facilitation centers at the block level

with technical engineers and assistants.

This technical team will have to work over a period of 18 months alongside house owners, masons and carpenters to oversee training and construction. It is proposed to make available the quality construction materials at the doorsteps.

The team assessed that

AS CYCLONE-RELATED DAMAGE HAS BEEN HEAVY

infrastructure sector needs at least Rs 21,000 crore for recovery due to damage in Fani.

In the affected districts, at least 6,441 public buildings, comprising 590 under the urban local bodies, 914 under rural works department, 2,016 under the Public Works department and 2,721 under the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, suffered dam-

aged worth about Rs 544 crore.

As severe calamities like cyclone and flood are visiting the State frequently, it is proposed to develop resilient infrastructure in order to minimise damage in future.

Apart from building resilient housing and infrastructure, it is also planned to develop resilient livelihoods in the State.

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IN KEONJHAR

ZP members miffed over BDO's misbehaviour

Pacified by DM

RAJENDRA K SAHU ■ CHAMPUA

An awkward situation was observed in Keonjhar Zilla Parishad meeting when all the Zilla Parishad members left the Dubar Hall - the meeting place in protest against inaction of district Collector Ashish Thakre against errant Banspal BDO Jogesh Naik who allegedly misbehaved with a local elected public representative.

Sources close to Ajit Kumar Dehury, Zilla Parishad member, Zone-24 under whose limit

Banspal block is comes, said that some days back Kamalini Patra, President, Zilla Parishad who had gone to Banspal block to review rural housing expressed her dissatisfaction for slow pace of work. Moreover, Dehury who had also accompanied Kamalini to discuss the matter had asked the BDO saying why he was trying to misguide the President instead of revealing the truth of slow work.

At this, the BDO got infuriated and started shouting at Dehury and asked who he was to ask such questions.

At this, Kamalini immediately brought to the notice of the district administration about the unruly behaviour of the BDO and sought immediate action.



Dehury also made a written complaint to the Collector but of no result.

As per rule, after receiving the complaint, it was the duty of Collector to order for an inquiry into the issue and ask the complainant to wait till inquiry is complete.

But the Collector remained silent and rather supported the BDO saying that an OAS officer can't make such mistake

which infuriated all the 28 Zilla Parishad members irrespective of party affiliation.

Then they boycotted the meeting and stood in front of the Collectorate gate shouting slogan against the Collector and BDO.

Later, Thakre came out of his chamber to beg excuse on behalf of the BDO which couldn't calm down the angry members.

At last, the Collector called them to his chamber where the BDO beg excuse for his wrong behaviour to the public representative.

INBRIEF

2 HELD FOR SELLING LOTTERY TICKETS IN B'SWAR

Baleswar: The Baleswar Town police on Thursday arrested three persons on the charges of selling lottery tickets illegally. The police took action on the complaints lodged by some residents of the Golapkhari residents.

DOWRY DEATH ALLEGED IN JALESWAR

Baleswar: Relatives of one Rumita Behera have filed an FIR at the Jaleswar police station alleging that Ruminta was killed by her in-laws for dowry. Rumita had married to Ratikanta Behera of Bartana village 14 years ago. She was a mother of two children. She allegedly committed suicide by hanging. However, the complaints have alleged that she was murdered owing to want of dowry and hanged by in-laws.

GANGADHAR MEHER JAYANTI OBSERVED IN BARGARH



Bargarh: More than 2.5 lakh students of different schools and colleges of the district observed the Gangadhar Meher Jayanti here on Wednesday. The Bargarh district administration also observed the day at the Saukhin Ranga Manch, Bargarh under the chairmanship of Collector Indramani Tripathy. Among others, MLA Debesh Acharya, DEO Prakash Joshi and Saukhin Artists Association president Ashwini Panda were present.

6.2 KG GANJA SEIZED, 2 HELD IN BRAHMAPUR

Brahmapur: The Goshani Nuagaon police on Wednesday seized 6.2 kg of ganja and arrested two persons in this connection. The arrestees were identified as Jinu Adhikari and John Bisoyi of Gajapati district. The police while patrolling intercepted them and seized the ganja from their possession.



BHAPUR BLOCK OFFICIALS, ELECTED MEMBERS HOLD MEET

Bhapur: A meeting of Bhapur block officers and elected representatives was held here recently under the chairmanship of BDO-in-Charge Antaryami Das. Bhapur block Vice-Chairman Gayadhar Parida attended the meeting wherein discussions were held on matters including the beneficiaries in various developmental schemes of the Central and State Governments. As many as 20 Sarpanches and Samiti Members were present.

JSPAL DONATES STUDY MATERIALS FOR JAIL INMATES' KIDS

Angul: The JSPAL Foundation, in association with the John Augusts Prison and Social Welfare Services (JAPASWS) distributed study materials for the children of inmates of the Angul jail on Wednesday. Angul ADM TK Satapathy and JSPAL Odisha COO Pankaj Gautam as guests distributed the study kits in the presence of Jail Superintendent RK Sahu, JSPAL CSR and R VP SK Sharma, CSR GM Puspapala Satapathy and JAPASWS secretary PK Choudhury.

PARADIP REFINERY HOLDS PLANTATION DRIVE



Paradip: The Paradip Refinery held a plantation drive in Chakulia village under Potani GP on Wednesday. Thousands of saplings were planted in the Swaminarayan Vidyamandir premises by school students and local villagers. The refinery is observing the Swachhta Pakhwada from August 16 to 31 and holding cleaning activities at Paradip railway station, cleanliness drive at Sani Mandir, Nimidhi and Gada Kujang Jagannath Temple, an awareness drive, Nukad Natak for public awareness with a Swachhta message.

Leprosy drive in B'swar dist from Sept 10

'Samba Rath' to roll on for awareness

PNS ■ BALESWAR

The district would undertake a leprosy identification programme from September 10 to 23 for door-to-door survey mailly through Anganwadis and health workers and ASHAs.

During the period while an awareness campaign would be undertaken, a 'Samba Rath' would be rolled around the district. This was informed in a

district level coordination committee meeting chaired by district Collector K Sudarshan Chakraverty.

In the meeting, the officials informed that the Prevalence Rate (PR) of the district in 2018-19 is 7.05 as against 23.2 in the State. Among all the blocks and patches, the PR is highest in Nilgiri block and its NAC. Hence, more thrust would laid on these pockets.

More and more IEC programmes would not only generate awareness but also help in eradicating the diseases which

was considered incurable once upon a time.

As a part of awareness programme while leaflets would be distributed among the students in schools and Anganwadi centres, after prayers in the schools the students would be educated. Further, for more propagations, the messages would be publicised through mass media.

While the training programme for the field workers to be deployed in survey works would be held on September

5 in different blocks, the consolidated report would be submitted to the State by September 30, informed Chakraverty. The CDPOs would be given special training on the issue.

CDMO Kamalakanta Nayak, PD DRDA Ramchandra Jena, ADMO (Public health) Dr Girish Chandra Pati, Dr SS Chaudhary, Dr Anataryami Mishra, DIPRO Subash Chandra Nihal, the District Education Officer and the District Social Welfare Officer were present.

Naba Naik Pallahara PS Chairman

PNS ■ PALLAHARA

According to the Government guidelines, the Pallahara Panchayat Samiti by-election for the post of Chairman was held at the Panchayat Samiti House here on Wednesday.

The post was vacant since April 2019 after the resignation of former Chairman Mukesh Pal and Vice-Chairman Lili Pradhan was in-charge of the post since two months.

As many as 24 Samiti members voted for Naba Naik, Samiti

member of Saida GP, as Chairman of Pallahara block. After the results, Naik with the members met Pallahara MLA Mukesh Pal. Pal welcomed him and advised him to work according to Government rules and regulations and suggested him to stay far away from corruption.



Job racket busted in Jharsuguda; 4 held

Aspirants duped on plea of providing jobs in Vedanta

PNS ■ JHARSUGUDA

The Badmal police on Wednesday night busted a fake job racket and arrested four persons from outside the Vedanta Limited in the district.

The arrestees were identified as Jayant Rajak (30) of East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand, Ranjan Mahanand (24) of Brajrajnagar in Jharsuguda, Pralaya Nanda (52) of Kesinga area in Kalahandi district and Maheswar Pattnaik of Rampur in Kalahandi district.

Police seized Rs 54,000 in cash, a car and CVs of around 50 job aspirants from their possession.

During investigation, it was revealed that the accused have duped over a hundred job aspirants of lakhs of rupees on the guise of providing them employment at the Vedanta company here. They had taken Rs 40,000 to Rs 50,000 from each candidate. A company official said, "We appeal to job aspirants not to fall in the trap of fraudsters. A counter FIR will be filed by us soon."

Fire at JSpur DHH; panic among patients

PNS ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

Patients at the Jagatsinghpur District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) here had a narrow escape after a fire broke out in the hospital late on Wednesday night. Fortunately, no casualty or injury was reported in the mishap.

According to reports, the fire erupted in the gynaecology department at around 2 am. Soon after, patients and their attendants vacated the hospital and waited outside for hours till Fire Services officials reached the spot and doused the flames.

Receiving information, the Additional District Medical Officer (ADMO) came to the hospital on Thursday morning to take stock of the situation. Though the exact



cause behind the fire was yet to be ascertained, an electric short

circuit was believed to have led to the mishap.

Spurned lover sets girl on fire in Bhadrak

VICTIM BATTLING FOR LIFE; ACCUSED DETAINED

BHADRAK: A jilted lover on Wednesday set a girl on fire at Basudevpur in the district after she turned down his proposal for marriage.

The victim is now battling with life at the District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) here.

Sources said Siddharth Mallick was in love with the girl of his locality. But he she repeatedly spurned his advances.

On Wednesday afternoon when the girl was going to farmland taking lunch for her family members, the youth came and approached her to marry him. But she refused the offer yet again.

PNS

1,748 PMAY houses to be built in Balikuda

PNS ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

Water Resources and Public Relations Minister Raghunandan Das distributed Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) work orders to beneficiaries in Balikuda block on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Das said development can be achieved through direct participation of people with Government. The PMAY beneficiaries are being encouraged to complete their houses within four months, the Minister said.



The successful executants would be rewarded with Rs 20,000 pecuniary benefits, he added.

Balikuda Block Development Officer (BDO) Kalyani Patnaik informed that 10 PMAY beneficiaries in each Panchayat were given work

order. As many as 1,748 PMAY houses would be built in Balikuda block in current fiscal, the BDO informed.

Among others, the block Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Additional BDO, junior engineers and Panchayat Executive Officers were present.

IN JAGATSINGHPUR Meet on dairy entrepreneurship dev held

PNS ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

A district-level dairy entrepreneurship development scheme workshop was organised by the Nabard in association with the administration and bankers here on Tuesday.

Collector SK Mohapatra inaugurating the workshop highlighted the dairy farm project supported by Central Government for starting self-employment among people. He also asked the bankers to take priority for giving dairy farm loans to beneficiaries.

For launching the project commercial banks are supplied loans for any individual or



through milk cooperative society or SHGs women, subsidy is being provided by Central Government at the tune of 25% to general category people and 33% to downtrodden Dalit folks, informed Nabard District

Manager Biswabhusan Mohanty. CDVO Dr Ramesh Chandra Behera said as many as 146 dairy farmers have been given loans for dairy projects in the district in the financial year 2018-19.

2 days on, lawyer's attackers not nabbed

Ganjam Bar members, notaries decry inaction



PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Lawyers on Thursday expressed strong resentment as police have not arrested the miscreants who attacked and injured senior lawyer Prafulla Jagannath Padhy two days back.

Two motorbike riders had beaten Padhy severely as he opposed their rash driving at Prem Nagar on Tuesday evening. After being attacked by them, Padhy was hospitalised. The Big Bazaar police reached the spot and started investigation.

In protest, members of the

Ganjam Bar Association and the Ganjam-Gajapati Notary Association resorted to a cease-work agitation on Wednesday and met SP Pinak Mishra, demanding immediate arrest of the culprits.

Bar Association President Rabi Panigrahi, secretary Kailash Panigrahi, members Deepak Patnaik, Pradeep Behera, Kiran Mandal, Ashok Sukla and Chiranjit Rajaguru and Notary Association president Prasad Rao and secretary Prakash Chandra Dash met the SP.

On Thursday, lawyers expressed strong resentments over police inaction.

ITians' 'scrap guitar' enters Asia Book of Records

CM congratulates Brahmapur students

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Students of the Government-Srun Industrial Training Institute (ITI) here have achieved a big success for their magnificent creation out of wastes.

The ITIans have scripted history after a 70-feet-high scrap guitar registered a place

in the Asia Book of Records.

With guidance by Principal Rajat Kumar Panigrahi and other teachers, about 150 students of five trades such as fitter, electrician, welder, turner and painter built the huge guitar from scraps, including various recyclable materials in just three months and 22 days.

Their unique sculpture was approved for the registration under the Grand Master Category of the Asia Book of



Records.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has congratulated the students for their achievement.

"Congratulations to students of ITI Berhampur for their artistic creation, 70ft guitar from waste materials, entering into Asia Book Records. Happy to see our youth embrace such worthy causes to show their skills and shine on global platforms," Patnaik wrote on Twitter.

Ex-BeMC Corporator's son hurt in brutal attack

Over dispute at liquor shop

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Gourav Sethi, son of former Brahmapur Municipal Corporation (BeMC) Corporator Krushna Chandra Sethi, was critically injured in a lethal attack by a group at Sita Dhemiri Street under the Big Bazaar police station here on Wednesday.

Later, he was rescued and admitted to the MKCG Medical College Hospital here. It is alleged that the assailants attempted to kill Gourav by bludgeon his head with stones.



In a complaint lodged with police it is alleged that Gourav was called for compromising a dispute related to having drinks at a liquor shop. But he was brutally attacked and has suffered severe

injuries on his head.

Brahmapur Town SDPO Bishnu Prasad Sethi said some minors are involved in the incident.

Notably, Krushna has a licenced liquor shop in Sana Bazaar area. Some youths consumed liquor in the shop but did not pay for it and resorted to hooliganism. Getting information, Gourav rushed to the spot and inquired about the incident.

Later, a youth called him to Sita Dhemiri Street to amicably settle the dispute. But when he went there along with a friend, nearly eight to 10 persons brutally attacked him with stones and sharp weapons and fled from the spot.

Later, Gourav was rescued and rushed to hospital.

Hosp super held taking bribe in Ganjam

Panchayat Extension Officer also nabbed for graft



PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

Superintendent of Bhanjanagar Sub-Divisional Hospital (SDH) in Ganjam district Dr Pitambar Dash was caught red-handed by Vigilance officials while he was accepting bribe from relatives of a patient on Thursday morning.

Dr Dash had reportedly demanded Rs 5000 from one Bhanumati Barik for conducting a hernia operation of her husband at the hospital. With no option left, the woman brought the matter to the notice of the Vigilance authorities.

Acting on the complaint, the Vigilance police laid a trap and nabbed Dash while he was accepting the bribe and

seized the money from his possession.

In a separate incident, Panchayat Extension Officer (PEO) of Khariput under Belaguntha block in Ganjam district Panchanan Pradhan was also held for taking bribe on Thursday.

Pradhan had reportedly demanded Rs 5,000 from one Prabhat Bhuyan for submitting a verification report to release instalment money in favour of his mother, who has been allotted a house under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

The Vigilance police laid a trap and caught the PEO red-handed while he was accepting the bribe.

KALIA fund use: Nodal Officer meets S'pur farmers

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

Under a programme of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Department Gobardhan Debta cum the nodal officer visited Sambalpur and neighbouring districts to have direct interaction with farmers and also the officials of the department.

The main aim of his visit was to discuss with the farmers as to the way they have utilized the KALIA fund received from State Government and how far it had been helpful for their financial upliftment.

He met farmers at Sersuantal on Sindurpank-Parmanpur road and had a long discussion with them to collect direct information from them from KALIA. He made a video recording of the statements of the farmers as documentation.

Since there was scanty rainfall at the beginning of the rainy season, he asked the farmers as to the preliminary crop loss and the problems they faced thereafter due to the drought like situation.

He also made a review meeting in the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture where all the senior officials of

departments like Horticulture, Watershed management, Soil conservation, MARKFED, Cooperative and Fisheries etc were present.

The Deputy Secretary wanted to know about the stock position of fertilisers and pesticides for the current season and asked officials to ensure that the farmers do not face any scarcity during the peak period. He also discussed with the officers of the Cooperative Department as to the agricultural loan disbursed to the farmers and any problem they faced for this particular purpose.

The Deputy Secretary asked the progress of all departments on the works assigned to them for increasing the income of the farmers to a satisfactory extent so that they could depend more on agriculture. He asked the watershed management officials to meet the target.

The concerned officials informed the nodal officer as to the activities done after the visit of the Agriculture Minister to the district. Notably, Debta has been appointed as the nodal officer for Sambalpur, Bargarh and Boudh districts to look after the progress in agricultural development activities and increasing farmers' income.

B'pur RPF returns mobile to passenger

PNS ■ BRAHMAPUR

One might believe it or not, but one Sanjay Prusty of Bania Sahi, Cuttack, who had left his mobile on charging point at the Brahmapur railway station platform near the parcel office on August 20, got it back after efforts of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), Brahmapur.

After getting information from SCNL/KUR regarding left behind of a mobile phone

of a passenger of train number 12842 (Coromandel Express) near parcel office in Brahmapur railway station, on duty platform RPF staff BR Mishra searched the said location and could able to retrieve the mobile with charger.

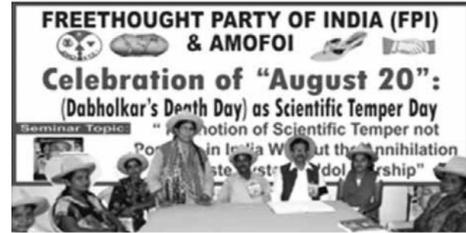
Later Prusty was informed and observing all necessary formalities the said mobile phone with charger was handed over to Prusty with proper acknowledgement.

FPI holds reformist Dabholkar death anniversary

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

The Freethought Party of India (FPI) in collaboration with the "AMOFIO" observed here the 6th Death Anniversary of eminent reformist and social reformer Dr Narendra Dabholkar with social workers Benudhar Maharana in the chair.

Dr Dabholkar, president of MANS (Maharashtra Andhashradha Nirmulan Samiti) was gunned down on August 20 because he was working against all sorts of blind beliefs in different parts of Maharashtra and Goa. His Death



Anniversary was observed as "Scientific Temper Day".

A seminar too was held on the occasion.

Party general secretary B

Ramchandra CST Voltaire while paying rich tribute to the memory of Dr Dabholkar said that there should be attempts to liberate people from the clutches

of Tantriks (Miracle Healers) and the self-claimed godmen like Asaram Bapu and Baba Ramrahim now imprisoned because of their misdeeds.

Speaking on the occasion Madam Swapna Bijayini, cofounder of AMOFIO, said we cannot have "Swachha and Sustha Bharat" unless and until we get committed to the promotion of scientific temper and humanism as provided under Art. 51(A)h of the Constitution.

Two casteless, dowry-less and priest-less love marriages were held on the occasion.

CDMOs' CONFERENCE - Min asks officers to collect patients' opinions

'Ensure successful execution of Niramaya, Nirmala, Sunetra schemes'

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Health and Family Welfare Minister Naba Kishore Das on Thursday asked officials of his department to talk to patients over telephone and enquire about the health services they are availing in various Government hospitals.

Inaugurating a Chief District Medical Officers' (CDMOs) conference here, the Minister directed the CDMOs to start working in this regard.

"As per announcement made by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Mo Sararak programme will be implemented from the coming Gandhi Jayanti. Accordingly, patients' opinions on health services will be collected from different Government hospitals. This will be done under the direct guidance of the



department Secretary Dr Pramod Kumar Meherda," said the Minister.

He told the CDMOs that a team of officers has been formed to oversee the Mo Sarkar programme in the department. He said necessary steps would be taken basing on the opinion and complaints of patients. The CDMOs should take responsibility for conducting the programme, he said.

The CDMOs discussed different programmes like Niramaya for free distribution of medicines, Nirmala for undertaking sanitation in hospitals, Sunetra for free eye treatment and Digital Dispensary in detail.

The Minister asked CDMOs

to ensure that patients get free medicines under the Niramaya scheme. In case unavailability of medicines in the Government store, medical authorities will purchase those medicines from open market and provide them to patients. Budgetary provision has been made and all Government medical colleges and hospitals have provided funds for the purpose, he said.

The CDMOs were also asked to take steps for distribution of monetary supports to patients under the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

Among others, National Health Mission Director Shalini Pandit, State Medical Corporation MD Yamini Sarangi and Joint Secretary Guba Punam Kumar were present.

Maoist Panda acquitted in another case

PNS ■ PARALAKHEMUNDI

Gajapati Additional District and Sessions Judge Arun Kumar Sahu on Thursday acquitted Maoist leader Sabyasachi Panda in a case due to absence of evidence.

Panda's lawyer Deepak Patnaik and Swarup Pal said Panda had been accused of being provided guns, ammos and explosives by two persons at Petaram Square in Luhagarh village in district on December 5, 2012. Hearing the case, the court pronounced its judgement



and acquitted the top Maoist leader. As many as 42 cases were pending against Panda at various

courts in the district. Out of these cases, he has been acquitted in 22 cases so far.

4-day M'ghanj art show begins at Baripada

PNS ■ BARIPADA

A four-day Mayurbhanj Art Exhibition organised by the Mayurbhanj Foundation, in patronage of the Mayurbhanj royal dynasty, in collaboration with the Mayurbhanj district administration began here on Thursday.

Cultural extravaganzas, being held in the premises of the Belgadia Palace, is meant for promotion of art and culture with a special emphasis on the history, heritage, art, culture, traditions, sports and handicrafts of Mayurbhanj. The festival aims at according national fame to the artists and artisans, sportspersons and other talents of Mayurbhanj, said Mayurbhanj Foundation president Maharani Rashmi Rajyalaxmi Bhanja Deo.

A variety of programmes like Chhow, Jhumar and other art forms of the soil are to be



performed during the fest, said programme patron and former Minister Maharaja Praveen Chandra Bhanja Deo and exhibition convener Bibhudutta Das. The extravaganza will conclude on August 25.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that due to certain unavoidable circumstances, the public auction (of pledged ornaments-NPA accounts) by our client M/s. Muthoot Finance Ltd. scheduled for 23rd, 24th & 26th August, 2019 stands postponed and re-scheduled for 23rd, 24th & 25th October, 2019 respectively. The place and time of public auction shall remain the same, as already notified to the concerned borrowers. In case of any clarification, the interested persons may contact the concerned branch office of our client.

Kohli & Sobti Advocates,
A 59A, First Floor, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi - 110024

Note: Customers can release their pledged ornaments before the scheduled auction date, against payment of dues of our client. Customer can also contact Email ID: auctiondelhi@muthootgroup.com or Call at 7834886464, 7994452461.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Identification No. SEPHC-BHPT- 2 of 2019-20/ Dt. 17.08.2019
e-Procurement Notice

Name of the Work: Supply, Installation & Testing of House Service Connection to the Consumers of Different ULBs under PH Division, Bhawanipatna 2 (Two)

Total No. of works: 2 (Two)
Estimated Cost: Approx. Rs 90.00 lakhs to 106.00 lakhs
Class of Contactor: B & A Class
Period of Completion: 3 Calendar Months

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification	No. of works	Availability of Tender Online for Bidding		Date & time of opening of Bid
			From	To	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Superintending Engineer, P.H. Circle, Bhawanipatna	SEPHCBHPT-02 of 2019.20	02 (Two)	26.08.2019	12.09.2019	17.09.2019

For details can be seen from the Government website www.tendersorissa.gov.in

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
P.H. Circle, Bhawanipatna

13055/11/0002/1920

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF DISTRICT MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER, SUNDARGARH
Notice No. 4388/CDM&PHO/SNG/Dt.21.08.19/
TENDER CALL NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from willing Supplier/Wholesaler/Manufacturer's for Supply, installation and commissioning of Electrolyte Analyzer for DHH, Sundargarh. The bidder(s) are requested to submit their tender in separate sealed covered envelopes for technical bid and commercial bid by superscribing Cover "A" (Technical Bid) & Cover "B" (Price Bid) and both the covers should be put into a third Cover, which should be super-scribed as "Electrolyte Analyzer for DHH, Sundargarh". The tender documents should reach the office of the undersigned on or before dt. 16.09.2019 up to 5.00 P.M. The sealed tenders will be opened in the Office Chamber of the undersigned on dt. 17.09.2019 at 11.00 A.M. The tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to be present during the opening of the tenders, if they so like. No tender documents can be accepted after the expiry of scheduled date and time. The undersigned reserves the right to accept/cancel any/all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Interested supplier/wholesaler/manufacturers can visit the district website www.sundargarh.nic.in to obtain detail information related to the tender.

Sd/-
Chief District Medical & Public Health Officer,
Sundargarh

10100/11/0013/1920

"e" Procurement Notice
Identification No. 11 / RWSS/2019-20
Executive Engineer RWS&S Division Nayagarh invites tender for the following works on line for "e" procurement as per details given below

Name of the work: Construction of pump house, compound wall, 0.50 lakh ltr ESR, dosing chlorinator, laying of pipe line & its ancillary work and site development with 5 years Operation and Maintenance for PWS to BRUNDABANPUR under NAYAGARH Block and Shifting of pipe line due to improvement to KHALISAIHI-KOSKA-ADAKATA (CH.18.00 TO 24.151) under KHANADAPADA Block under Nayagarh Division.

No. of works: 2 (Two) Nos.
Estimated cost: 9.00 to 42.00 Lakhs
Period of completion: 3 to 4 months
PERIOD OF SALE OF BIDDING DOCUMENT: FROM 5.00 P.M. OF 27.08.2019 to 5.00 P.M. OF 06.09.2019
ONLINE DATE AND TIME OF SEEKING TENDER: FROM 11.00 A.M. OF 27.08.2019 to 5.00 P.M. OF 05.09.2019
CLARIFICATION: "On line" on or before 5.00 P.M. of 06.09.2019
DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS: DATE 07.09.2019 TIME 3.00 P.M.
"TIME AND DATE OF OPENING BIDS: O/O of the Executive Engineer RWS&S Division, Nayagarh
PLACE OF OPENING OF BID: Executive Engineer RWS&S Division, Nayagarh
OFFICER INVITING BIDS: Executive Engineer RWS&S Division, Nayagarh
Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the website "http://tendersodisha.gov.in".

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
RWS&S DIVISION, NAYAGARH

25042/11/0006/1920

'Odisha has curbed LWE activities significantly' CS stresses on road connectivity, dev, teledensity

PNS ■ BHUBANESWAR

Odisha has made significant achievements in curbing Leftwing extremism (LWE) activities, said Chief Secretary Asit Tripathy after a meeting on the Maoist issue at the Lok Seva Bhawan here on Thursday.

"The Maoist-affected districts have been reduced from 15 to five. This has been possible due to continuous anti-Maoist drives and strengthening of the intelligence machinery," he said.

Now the focus is on expeditious implementation of developmental programmes in the areas made free of Maoist effect, he added.

"A strategy of weeding out Maoists from Odisha would be framed in a national-level meeting to be held on August 26 at New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah," he added.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and his counterparts from other Maoist-hit States are scheduled to attend the meeting.

The Chief Secretary emphasised on development of road connectivity, telecommunication and banking services

to curb the Maoist menace. He said after construction of the Gurupriya Bridge developmental activities have been expedited in the Swabhiman area. The Government is constantly making efforts to ensure that such development also takes place in the southern districts, he said.

Among others, Home Secretary Sanjeev Chopra, DGP-in-Charge Bijay Kumar Sharma were present in the meeting.

AAP vows mandir wahi banayengey

Delhi Assembly resolution pledges to rebuild Ravidas temple at the same spot

GAYATHRI MANI/SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

A day after Dalits organised a rally to protest the demolition of Sant Ravidas temple in Tughlakabad by the Delhi Development Authority on the Supreme Court order, the Delhi Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution to reconstruct the temple at the "same spot" and demanded that the Central Government to bring an ordinance to transfer the land right for Sant Ravidas temple.

The Assembly demanded that the Centre should file a review petition before the Supreme Court.

The resolution moved by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal stated, "The site was donated by the Afghan monarch Sikander Lodhi to Sant Ravidas, who is widely worshipped by the Dalit and other communities. This is a historically significant site which Sant Ravidas visited and lived for some time and forms a part of Dalit struggle for identity and rights. Demolishing this temple not only crushes the religious sentiments but also the history of Dalit struggle."



"Thus, the House resolves that the Central Government has badly mishandled this issue by not supporting their cause in the court of law which finally led to its unjustified and unfortunate demolition," it said.

Addressing the House after the resolution was moved, Kejriwal said Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government will reconstruct the temple irrespective of the cost.

"I am ready to give 100 acre in exchange of the four acre where the temple was located, respecting the sentiments of people, we want the temple should be constructed on the same location," said Kejriwal.

"Guru Ravidas lived there and his vibrations are still alive. There is a significance of the land where the temple was exist," Kejriwal added.

5 workers suffocate in Gzb sewer

STAFF REPORTER ■ GHAZIABAD

In yet another case of criminal Lopathy, five sanitation workers who had entered into a sewer died after inhaling toxic gas in Nandgram locality on Thursday. The police have registered a case of negligence causing death and launched an investigation to fix responsibility. Authorities have been asked to submit a report within 15 days.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, while expressing condolence over the death of the workers, announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of the deceased who were identified as Damodar (40), Horil (35), Sandip (30), Shiv Kumar (32) and Vijay Kumar (40), all residents of Samastipur in Bihar.

They were working at a project, sanctioned by the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation, to connect domestic sewer lines with main drainage system of city, District Magistrate Ajay Shankar Pandey said. They were employed by private contractor, which was carrying out project under Amrit Yojna of civic body's water department in Krishna Colony under Sihani Gate police station limits, he said.

3 elephants die in road accident in Keonjhar

Wildlife Society of Orissa Secretary Biswajit Mohanty urged the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden to conduct an inquiry into the ghastly incident.

"The Balijodi part of the NH is a frequently used elephant passing zone. While designated elephant trackers have been assigned duties to track the elephants and prevent any harm to them, we are surprised that they didn't detect the elephants and stop the vehicles for safely passing of the elephants," mentioned Mohanty.

He also sought that night movement of minerals-laden trucks be banned from 9 pm to 6 am so that elephants can easily cross roads.

Release leaders detained in J&K: Opp

Cong, TMC, DMK RJD hold protest in national Capital

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Opposition parties, including the Congress, the TMC, the DMK, the RJD, the Samajwadi Party and the National Conference staged a protest in the national Capital on Thursday seeking immediate release of political leaders put under detention in Jammu & Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370.

Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, CPI general secretary D Raja, SP leader Ramgopal Yadav, Loktantrik Janata Dal's Sharad Yadav, RJD's Manoj Jha and

democrat. "If Vajpayee was at the helm of affairs, this would not have happened," he added.

Yechury alleged that the Centre had manipulated the Constitution and the process had started months ago when the ruling BJP withdrew from the coalition Government, headed by Mehbooba Mufti, in Jammu & Kashmir. "All this is a part of a larger conspiracy. They want to make India a 'Hindu Rashtra' (Hindu nation) by abrogating the Constitution itself," he said.

In a resolution passed during the protest, the Opposition parties said as a consequence of abrogation of Article 370 without holding consultations with the people of Jammu & Kashmir or their representatives, an undeclared state of

Emergency had come to force in the Valley. "We stand by the people of Jammu & Kashmir in their difficult hour. The decisions taken by the Union Government to impose a complete communication blackout and the continued detention of former Chief Ministers and political leaders...Members of civil society and even innocent citizens running into thousands are matters of serious concern. There has been a chilling crackdown on free speech and the right of Assembly. Such actions go against the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India and need to be immediately reversed. We demand immediate release of all public representatives of mainstream political parties and innocent citizens," the resolution said.

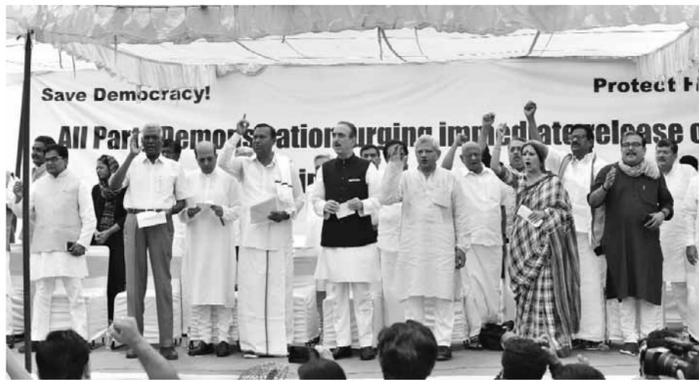
Demonising PM not going to help: Jairam

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

At a time when the Congress is speaking with a forked tongue on the Government's move to abrogate the special status to Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370, there came a new one on Thursday as senior leader and former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh sought his party to introspect and see reason why Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governance model was not a "complete negative story".

Not recognising his work and demonising him all the time is not going to help, said Ramesh adding it is time we recognise Modi's work and what he did between 2014 and 2019 due to which he was voted back to power by over "30 per cent of the electorate".

Crisis-hit Congress, which remained headless for two and a half months following its president Rahul Gandhi's resignation owing up for the party's Lok Sabha debacle, has been speaking in different voices on the issue of Article 370 with its young turks backing the Modi Government's move. In the Lok Sabha elections, the Congress had run a very personalized campaign against Modi and sought to demolish his model of administration and governance.



Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury, Polit Bureau member Brinda Karat, CPI leader D Raja, RJD MP Manoj Jha and others during Opposition parties protest, demanding the release of leaders detained in J&K, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Thursday

"We talked about farmers' distress throughout our entire campaign, people realise there was farmers' distress but they did not hold Modi responsible for it. You saw what happened in the elections result thereafter. We have to understand what made him respectable," he said.

The BJP got 37.4 per cent of votes in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and the NDA, as a whole, secured nearly 45 per cent of votes.

"Let me tell you it is not a

completely negative story when it comes to economics of the governance, the politics of the governance is completely different," he said, adding "the social relations that have been created out of his governance model is also completely different".

To prove his point, Ramesh gave the example of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUJ) and how successful it turned out for Modi. "In 2019, all of us in the political discourse made fun of one or two of his pro-

grammes, but it has turned out in all electoral studies that the PMUJ is one single program which has been able to connect him with crores and crores of women and given him the political traction which he didn't have in 2014," he pointed out.

"Now if we are going to run this down and say this is all hocus pocus and say these are wrong numbers, we are not going to confront this guy," he cautioned.

Ramesh made the remarks while launching a book,

"Malevolent Republic: A Short History of the New India" written by Kapil Satish Komireddi, a political analyst.

"He (Modi) talks in a language that connects him with the people. Unless we recognize that he is doing things which people recognise and which have not been done in the past, we are not going to be able to confront this guy," said the Congress leader.

"Also, if you are going to demonize him all the time, you are not going to be able to confront him," warned the former Union Minister, who held the portfolios of Rural Development, and Drinking Water and Sanitation in the Manmohan Singh government.

Ramesh, however, sought to clarify that he is not asking anyone to praise or applaud the prime minister, but only wants the political class to at least recognise the traits he has brought to the governance -- particularly the "economics of governance".

Stating that something happened in the last decade, which catapulted Modi from a "non-entity in national politics" in the 2009 general elections to someone who won elections back to back, Ramesh said people of the country -- right or wrong -- are not relating "current distress to his presence".

Sonia: Unity can be maintained by celebrating India's diversity

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday said that former Prime Minister late Rajiv Gandhi also got a massive poll mandate in 1984 but he did not use it to create an atmosphere of fear or to threaten people, in an indirect attack on the Modi Government.

Addressing an event marking Rajiv Gandhi's 75th birth anniversary, Sonia said that her husband gave the message that unity can be maintained by celebrating India's diversity.

Sonia said the former Prime Minister's 75th birth anniversary is not a ritual being marked by the Congress, but an occasion to reaffirm its resolve to uphold the values that inspired him. Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary is an occasion to resolve to stand up and confront forces determined to destroy the values that inspired him, she said in the presence of former PM Manmohan Singh, senior party leaders including Rahul Gandhi.

"Rajiv Gandhi never posed a threat to democracy, he never suppressed public opinion. His ethics and honesty always inspired him. The work done



Congress president Sonia Gandhi speaks during the 75th birth anniversary celebrations of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi on Thursday

by the late PM is something that cannot be merely with slogans and pride rather it needs hard work and strong will," Sonia said.

Without naming any particular party or name, she said today there are those who are busy inventing a new past for us, Rajiv was engaged in inventing in preparing for a new future. "To him, the past has to be understood in all its complexities to build pride, not to stoke prejudice, to strengthen social harmony, not fuel antagonism and polarize our society, a society whose heritage has been enriched by multiple streams of faiths, beliefs and culture. He was proud of our past, but, at the same time he

held a firm conviction that India has to be a modern Nation," said Sonia.

She recalled how a section accused him of being elitist but it was he who crafted the new education policy in 1986 through which he looked upon rural India especially children and got a chain of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in every single district.

"His political adversaries accused him of being out of touch with reality with his fixation for computers. Yet it is this magnificent obsession with technology and modernity that has made millions of youth in our country ready to tackle the challenges of the digital era. I believe that his strategic reasons laid the foundations for prosperity of our country in the coming century," Sonia said.

On the occasion she also asserted that electoral ups and downs are inevitable and challenges facing the Congress are formidable, but it must continue with its ideological struggle against divisive forces. Sonia recently took over as the party's interim President following her son Rahul Gandhi stepping down as party chief owing the dismal performance in Lok Sabha this year.

United to protect corruption, Naqvi takes jibe at Cong

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Thursday attacked the Congress for supporting P Chidambaram, arrested in the INX Media case, saying it has "united to protect corruption" and that a court's decision to send him to four-day CBI custody shows a "prima facie case of corruption".

Senior BJP leader and Union Minister Prakash Javadekar also rejected the Congress accusation that the action against the former finance minister is "political

vendetta". "In fact, justice is happening," he said.

"The CBI court's decision to send him in remand makes it clear that it is a corruption case. There is a prima facie case and that is why the court has remanded him to the probe agency's custody. Therefore, the Congress accusation that it is political vendetta is wrong. In fact, justice is happening," Javadekar told PTI.

With top Congress leaders, including Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi, strongly defending Chidambaram and accusing

the Union government of political vendetta, Javadekar hit back at the opposition party.

The Congress has united to protect corruption. It is synonymous with corruption. When in power, it looted the country left right and centre," he said, and described the INX Media case as a "scam of massive corruption".

He referred to several alleged scams, including those involving coal block allocations, 2G spectrum and the Commonwealth Games, to say the Congress' rule during 2004-14 was "synonymous" with corruption. He also

spoke of "Jeeja ji scam", an apparent reference to controversial land deals involving Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's brother-in-law Robert Vadra.

Rejecting the Congress' allegation that the government was behind the action of investigation agencies, he said the matter should be left to investigation agencies and courts.

Another BJP leader and Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said on Thursday that the opposition party was trying to convert corruption into revolution.

Govt to relax lease rent of wind power projects

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Environment Ministry has decided to do away with the mandatory charging of lease rent of ₹30,000 per MW from wind power projects, a move aimed to boost the sector as well as bring it at par with the solar and hydroelectric power projects to attract investments.

In a review meeting held here on Thursday, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said the move will boost the investment in wind power projects and will help in

providing wind power at cheaper rate.

Currently, to establish wind power project over forest land, the existing procedure requires payment of mandatory charges for compensatory afforestation and Net Present value (NPV). In addition to mandatory charges, the wind power companies had to pay additional lease rent of 30,000 per MW.

"The Government envisages to meet maximum energy requirement by tapping renewable energy resources and, to achieve the target of clean

energy in a time bound manner, various policies and regulations are being constantly updated," the Minister added.

This additional cost is not mandatory for other renewable energy projects such as solar power and hydel-electric projects. Additional cost for generation of clean energy through wind power, in turn escalate the per unit cost of power at consumer level, added a senior official from the Ministry.

The government has set an ambitious target of having 175 GW of clean energy capacity by

2022, including 100 GW solar and 60 GW of wind energy.

Also, "promotions of such projects also strengthen government's commitments towards international agreements, and one of the national commitments pledged in Paris in 2015 was to have 40 per cent of the power from renewable resources by 2030.

"It is noteworthy that currently India has over achieved the target and is well on track to ensure that more than 50 per cent of our installed capacity will come from renewable by 2030," said the official.

Hindus kept worshipping at disputed site in Ayodhya: Litigant to apex court

HE ALSO SAID THAT BABRI MASJID WAS BUILT AFTER DEMOLISHING RAM TEMPLE

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Babri Masjid was built after demolishing a Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya and Hindus kept worshipping there without giving up its possession, a Hindu litigant Thursday told the Supreme Court, while seeking enforcement of right to worship there.

Devotee Gopal Singh Visharad, who filed the lawsuit in the lower court in 1950 seeking right to pray, died in 1986 and is now represented by his son Rajendra Singh.

The five judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi heard the arguments on the 10th day in the

decades-old politically sensitive land dispute.

"The mosque was built after demolishing the Ram temple, and despite that Hindus continued worshipping there and did not give up possession...Moreover, Muslims were never in possession of the site," senior advocate Ranjit Kumar told the bench which also comprised Justices SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and SA Nazeer.

"I am making my submissions with reference to Parasaran's and Vaidyanathan's submissions (both lawyers represented the deity) that the place is itself a divine site and that I being the worshipper, my right to worship, which is a civil right, should not be curtailed," he said.

Referring to records, the senior lawyer said magistrate Markandey Singh on December 29, 1949 had initiated proceedings to attach the disputed structure under the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) following communal disturbances.

The magistrate had sought responses from Hindu and Muslim parties in support of their claim and counter claim over the property.

Twenty affidavits were filed in 1950 by persons from both sides before the magistrate and they are also part of the judicial records of the Allahabad High Court.

"Filing affidavits, per se, is not enough to prove them. The deponents will have to appear to prove them... No court can say that the facts of these affidavits are proved," the bench said.

These affidavits were filed in 1950 and the trial on lawsuits took place "much much later", the lawyer said. The high court did not accept the affidavits saying that the deponents were not available for cross examination, he said, adding that they are part of the judicial records and be accepted by the apex court as the magistrate had verified the statements and identity of the deponents (makers of the affidavits).

Salem-Chennai road project is of national importance: NHAI to SC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) told the Supreme Court Thursday that the Rs 10,000 crore Salem-Chennai 8-lane green corridor road project is of "national importance" and the Madras High Court had erred in quashing the land acquisition process.

The ambitious 277.3-km greenfield project connecting Salem and Chennai under the central government's 'Bharatmala Pariyojana' scheme aims to cut travel time between the two cities by half, to about two hours and 15 minutes.

The NHAI told a bench headed by Justice N V Ramana that the high court had held that environmental clearance (EC) was mandatory for the project.

"The reasons given by the high court (in the judgement) are factually incorrect" Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the NHAI, told the bench which also comprised

Justices M M Shantanagoudar and Ajay Rastogi.

Mehta said the high court erred in saying that grant of prior environmental clearance was necessary for the project.

"If we have to take environmental clearance first and then go for land acquisition then it will be like putting the cart before the horse," Mehta told the bench.

He said there was no dispute on the fact that EC is required before commencement of construction work for the project.

One of the advocates, appearing for the farmers who had moved the high court challenging land acquisition proceedings, told the bench that initially the project was for connecting Chennai and Madurai but later it was changed to Salem-Chennai.

The bench told Mehta that he should give a flow chart referring to legal questions as well as the factual matrix of the case.

MoEF's empowered group grants approval to road widening project

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Regional Empowered Committee (REC), formed by the Environment Ministry, has granted approval to a road widening project from Pathankot to Kullu on the condition that it will involve minimum felling of trees. As per the project proponent, the road widening work involves felling of 1,537 trees.

The REC granted the Stage-I approval to the project, asking the State Public Works Department (PWD), the proposer, to deposit with it the Net Present Value of the forest land being diverted for non-forestry purpose. The project requires diversion of 7.67 hectare of protected forest land, the panel noted.

"Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged. Efforts should be made to fell minimum number of trees. The trees should be felled under strict supervision of the state forest department," the REC said, adding that no damage should be done to the



adjointing forest land. Clearance under the Forest Conservation (FC) Act, is granted in two stages.

While in Stage-I, the proposal is agreed to in-principle in which usually compensatory afforestation, funds for raising compensatory afforestation thereof, realisation of Net Present Value (NPV) of forest are stipulated and after receipt of compliance report from the state government in respect of the stipulated conditions, formal approval under the FC Act is issued.

The in-principle agreement and formal approval under the FC Act are com-

monly referred to as stage-I and stage-II approval under the FC Act respectively.

"The User Agency (PWD) shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road at the project cost with maintenance of seven to ten years," the panel directed while approving the project.

The PWD, in its proposal, had submitted that the proposed alignment does not pass through any national park or wildlife sanctuary and involves felling of 1,537 trees. It said that compensatory afforestation has been proposed at 15.34 ha in Pathankot.

Plea filed in SC challenging constitutional validity of UAPA



Argues that it infringed upon the fundamental rights of citizens

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A plea was filed in the Supreme Court on Thursday challenging the constitutional validity of the amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on the ground that these infringed upon the fundamental rights of citizens.

The bill for amendments to the UAPA was passed by Parliament on August 2 and it received the President's ascent

on August 9. The amended Act allows the Centre to designate individuals as terrorists and seize their properties.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019 also provides for putting a travel ban on such individuals once they are declared as terrorists. The petition has been filed by the Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR), an NGO, which said the amendments infringed upon the fundamental right to reputation and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution, without substantive and procedural due process.

ED attaches properties of fraudster booked under anti-money laundering law

PNS/AGENCIES ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has attached properties worth over ₹19 lakh of a man booked under the anti-money laundering law for allegedly duping people by promising them secure admission in an Uttarakhand medical college.

Rohit Singh Chauhan is being probed for cheating people to the tune of ₹1.29 crore by dishonestly inducing them in getting admission in post-graduation courses under the management quota in HIHT Medical College, Dehradun, an official said.

The properties attached under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) are a 0.138-hectare plot valued at ₹4.83 lakh and a flat in New Delhi worth ₹14.69 lakh.

The plot is in the name of Chauhan and his father and the plot, in addition to the two, is in the name of his mother, the official said.

The ED had initiated the probe on the basis of an FIR and chargesheet filed by Uttarakhand police against Chauhan and other accused in the case.

Chauhan played an active role in duping the complainants and collected funds from them. He transferred the money to his and his family members' account and utilised it for personal use, the official said.

Chauhan and his associates fraudulently collected ₹1.29 crore from the complainants in cash and through banking channels and credited them into the account of a company he was a director of, he said.

WTI conservationist felicitated at Geneva

New Delhi : Conservationist Vivek Menon, head of Delhi-based Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) has been awarded the prestigious Clark R Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award-2019 recently by Ivonne Higuero, secretary general of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) at Geneva where the eighteenth meeting of Conference of Parties to CITES is currently being held. PNS

FOUNDER CEO OF C-5 FOUNDATION AMONG 100 'GREEN TICKET' RECIPIENTS

New Delhi: Trivandrum-based climate activist and founder CEO of the C-5 Foundation (Change Can Change Climate Change) PR Vishnu is among the 100 'green ticket' recipients chosen by the United Nations from around the world who will present the discussions in the UN Youth Climate Summit to be held on September 21 at the UN Headquarters in New York. PNS

RAGGING INCIDENT AT SAIFAI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

MCI raps varsity administration

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Medical Council of India (MCI) has taken exception to the alleged mass ragging at Saifai Medical University in Etawah asking it why it should not be fined and declared ineligible for new admissions for a minimum period of one year.

"Why exemplary fine of Rs 1 Lakh for each incident of ragging, that of 150X1 Lakh, that is equal to Rs 150 Lakhs be not imposed upon the institute," asked the Board of Governors in Supersession of Medical Council of India (MCI BoG).

Stating that the incident brings out the "complete failure of the College authorities in addressing the menace of ragging," the MCI has given the university 24 hours to reply in the matter. It also asked why the senior

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking revocation of an order suspending Uttar Pradesh-based pediatrician Kafeel Khan, an alleged accused in the death of infants at the BRD Medical College in Gorakhpur in 2017.

batches admitted to MBBS course be not suspended from attending classes for a minimum period of one month.

According to reports, several first-year students of the university were made to parade on the campus with their heads tonsured. A purported video clip on social media showed the students in white coats walking in a single file, bowing their tonsured heads and also making 'salaam' gestures. Another clip showed them in rows.

Apex court refers decision on Oxytocin to larger bench

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday referred to its larger bench the question whether it would be in public interest to restrict manufacture of life-saving drug, Oxytocin, for domestic use to a single public sector undertaking. PTI

Book on PM Modi released

New Delhi: A book on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 'The Modi Dynamic', written by Sanju Verma, has been released by Blue Rose Publishers. The first part of the book contains many interesting topic like how demonetization unearthed black money and how it was a game changer. The second part of the book exposes the weaknesses of 'Gathbandhan politics and failure of 'Raebareli-Amethi' model. PNS

Democracy in bad shape, Mamata on PC's arrest

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee broke her silence on Thursday linking the arrest of senior Congress leader P Chidambaram to the "sagging democratic culture" and the "suffocating the political climate" in the country.

Speaking to reporters, the Chief Minister said, "I will not say much about the legality of the matter as I am not the right person to do that but I am certainly concerned about the process of arresting such a senior politician ... the way he was arrested," reminding, "he was the former Finance Minister and Home Minister of India and a senior parliamentarian" who deserved a dignified treatment.

The high drama around Chidambaram's arrest was not worth it, the Chief Minister said, adding, "the way his matter was handled was sad and bad. It was really very bad and made me extremely sad."

All the pillars of Indian democracy were under attack under the present Government, Banerjee said reminding how the "Indian democracy is in a bad shape. It is literally crying in the wilderness."



Incidentally, a number of Trinamool Congress leaders, including Ministers and MPs, were facing corruption charges and were being investigated by the central investigating agencies like the CBI and ED.

Condemning the way the former Union Minister was arrested, another Trinamool leader and Minister Firdah Hakim said "this Government will not allow the Opposition to thrive in India. They have decided to put all the dissenting voices behind the bars."

Attacking the Narendra Modi Government for taking the entire Opposition hostage, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said "there is a deep-rooted conspiracy behind Chidambaram's

arrest. He is the person who has been challenging the Government's policies at various forums including parliament. He was exposing the Government through his columns in various Indian and foreign journals which they are finding difficult to counter, and so they have silenced him by putting him behind the bar."

Chowdhury also said that "the country is heading towards political insolvency and big economic slowdown against which this Government has no answer. In order to turn the people's attention from these burning issues they are creating new political drama ... but the Congress will take the issue to the people of India and fight it tooth and nail."

CBI scaling walls of Chidambaram's home an insult to India: Stalin

Chennai: DMK president MK Stalin on Thursday lashed out at CBI officials for scaling the walls of Congress leader P Chidambaram's bungalow at Delhi on Wednesday to gain entry, saying he considered it as an "insult to India".

Stalin, whose DMK is an ally of the Congress, backed Chidambaram, reiterating his charge of "political vendetta" behind the former Union Minister's arrest.

"I saw on TV, the CBI officers scaling the walls (at Chidambaram's Delhi residence). I consider it as an insult to India. It is condemnable," he told reporters here.

On Wednesday, a CBI team had first knocked at the gates of Chidambaram's Jor Bagh residence to gain entry, but finding no response, had scaled the nearly five-ft high walls to get inside. Once three officers reached inside, they opened the gates to allow entry to other team members waiting outside.

Responding to a query on CBI's handling of the entire Chidambaram episode, Stalin recalled that he had already

dubbed it as "political vendetta" on Wednesday.

He said Chidambaram had appeared before the agencies concerned earlier when summoned by them in connection with the case.

Stalin also pointed out that the Supreme Court has decided to hear on Friday the Congress leader's petition, seeking a stay of the Delhi High Court order that had dismissed his anticipatory bail plea. "His arrest which has happened in the meantime has an intention of political vendetta," Stalin added.

Referring to the protest in Delhi over the Kashmir issue on Thursday, he said the struggle "led by the DMK" and attended by various political parties, including Congress, TMC, CPI(M) and NC, was a "success."

Restoration of normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir post abrogation of Art 370 of the Constitution, resumption of telecommunication services in the Valley and immediate release of all political leaders detained were the key demands made at the protest in the national capital, Stalin said. **PTI**

Yediyurappa to meet BJP top leadership on portfolio allocation

Bengaluru: Having a tightrope to walk by pacifying disgruntled MLAs who missed out on Cabinet berth, coupled with allocation of portfolios to new Ministers, Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Thursday decided to consult BJP central leadership to deal with the situation.

Some disqualified former legislators of the Congress and JD(S) who helped bring down the coalition Government headed by HD Kumaraswamy reportedly are piling pressure on Yediyurappa, seeking their pound of flesh and plum portfolios.

"Today evening I will go to Delhi and meet our national President Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi and will come back tomorrow evening or the day after morning," Yediyurappa said.

Asked whether the allocation of portfolios would take place after his return from Delhi, Yediyurappa said: "Today we will discuss and take a decision."

More than three weeks after he was sworn in as the Chief Minister, Yediyurappa expanded his cabinet last Tuesday, inducting 17 Ministers.

Though the expansion brought an end to the nearly month long wait for the cabinet

to take shape, it led to some heartburn in a section of the party as several MLAs continued to make no secret of their displeasure after missing the bus.

With several MLAs openly expressing displeasure over being left out, Yediyurappa has been making attempts to douse the embers, by reaching out to them.

The Chief Minister on Thursday too tried to pacify miffed legislators including Sullia MLA Angara S, even as the Bunt community threatened protest citing lack of representation in the ministry, and Bovi community members staged protest in front of his residence seeking induction of a minister from their community.

Even as attempts are on to pacify sulking MLAs, a phone conversation between eight time Hukkeri MLA Umesh Katti, around whom several disgruntled MLAs are reportedly rallying, with Congress legislator party leader Siddaramaiah led to speculation about the former's next political move.

Speaking to a news channel Katti confirmed his talk with Siddaramaiah last night, but ruled out joining the Congress and clarified that he was with BJP.

"He (Siddaramaiah) called

me last night and addressed me as minister, I told him I'm not minister to which he said he was aware of it and hence called."

He is my good friend... I may meet whenever we are both are in Bengaluru. But, I'm not joining Congress leaving BJP, I'm 100 per cent in BJP," he added.

Yediyurappa has kept 16 ministerial posts vacant to accommodate some more BJP members and from among those 17 disqualified former legislators who helped him come to power.

However, the disqualified MLAs seeking plum portfolios is said to be causing delay in the allocation of portfolios for the new ministers, despite rooms being allotted to them at Vidhana Soudha, the state secretariat.

Reflecting the situation by stating that this government too was a coalition government in a way, Minister V Somanan in response to a question about S A Ramdas not being made minister, in Mysuru said, "Now 17 of us have become ministers, still 16 berths are remaining."

When filling those 16 positions who all have to be considered that our state and national leaders will decide," he added. **PTI**

Disbelief grips Chidambaram supporters in Sivaganga

Sivaganga (TN): A sense of disbelief and outrage was palpable among supporters of Congress leader P Chidambaram in and around his native village of Karaikudi in Sivaganga district over his arrest, even as a section of people expressed indifference and some outrightly opposed him.

The former Finance Minister was arrested by the CBI on Wednesday night from his residence in Delhi in connection with INX media corruption case.

In the sleepy hamlet of Kandamur, about 10 km from Karaikudi, though life appeared to go on as usual, the arrest of Chidambaram set tongues wagging.

Expressing disbelief, V Nelliyan told PTI "this is nothing but an act of political vendetta." Condemning the arrest, the young man, before proceeding to a protest demonstration held by Congress against the Centre, said the only hope was the judiciary. "The vindictive action has incensed the common man," he claimed, adding that the courts would render justice and the BJP-led government would be

exposed for targeting "an honest gentleman."

Similar was the response from a couple of others, including Rajaratnam and Avudayappan, who also lauded the senior leader for maintaining "poise and cool" despite the government "perusing vindictive politics."

Congress functionary E M S Abhimanyu of nearby Tirupattur said this is a "brutal murder of democracy," adding the arrest was shocking.

"Iakiya" Natarajan, a long-time associate of Chidambaram here expressed disbelief and shock over the former minister's arrest. "He is a respected Parliamentarian and a former Minister. What is the tearing urgency to arrest him by scaling the walls of his house? I just cannot believe that this can happen to him. I am shocked and outraged," he said.

G Vimal, who runs a construction material retail outlet in downtown Karaikudi said "Chidambaram is not a resident of our place. He is usually either in Chennai or Delhi. Only some party workers are agitated here and not the general public."

The trader alleged that the former Minister visited Karaikudi or Sivaganga only during elections.

A couple of men in the periphery of the very quiet Managiri, where the stately bungalow of Chidambaram is located though eager to know about the INX case declined to offer comments.

Sivaganga is the native constituency which Chidambaram represented for decades. His son Karti emerged victorious in the same segment in the recent Lok Sabha elections. **PTI**



Indian Air Force personnel who were involved in humanitarian and relief missions stand for a photograph at the headquarters of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) in Gandhinagar on Thursday

Assam man held for threatening to kill Indian cricket players

Mumbai: The Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Maharashtra Police has arrested a man from Assam for allegedly threatening to kill Indian cricket players, an official said on Thursday.

Braja Mohan Das (19), resident of Shantipur in Morigaon district, was arrested by a team of ATS with the help of Assam police on Tuesday, the official said.

Das allegedly sent an e-mail to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on August 16, threatening to kill Indian cricket players, he said.

The Mumbai ATS started probe as the cricket body has its headquarters in the city. The ATS registered a case under IPC section 506 (criminal intimidation).

The investigating agency traced the IP address from which the email had been sent to Das, and arrested him.

The ATS obtained his transit remand after producing him before a local court in Assam and brought him here.

Probe revealed that he had sent the same threatening mail to cricket boards of some other countries too.

The Mazgaon court here sent him in ATS custody till Monday, the official said, adding that further probe was on. **PTI**

BJP clocks 77 lakh membership in WB

Surpasses its 60L members target

Kolkata: Buoyed by its stupendous performance in the last Lok Sabha polls, the West Bengal BJP has clocked a record membership of 77 lakhs in the State, party leaders claimed on Thursday.

The Bengal BJP has surpassed the target set by the central leadership to enroll 60 lakhs members when the countrywide membership drive began on July 6, according to the party sources. "As per the latest data, the membership drive has been immensely successful in Bengal."

The central leadership initially had set a target of 50 lakhs for Bengal, later it was increased to 60 lakhs.

"But we have surpassed that target too and with the membership drive closing on August 20, we have now 77 lakhs members across the State. It is indeed an achievement," BJP national secretary Rahul Sinha told reporters.

It is a massive jump from the membership campaign that was done a few years back when the party had managed to enroll 42 lakh members in its fold, he said.

Sinha said although the membership drive has closed in other parts of the country, but in a few states such as West Bengal, which are priority states for BJP, the exercise will continue till December this year. **PTI**

MNS chief grilled by ED in money laundering case

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

MNS chief Raj Thackeray was grilled for more than eight hours by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials about his financial involvement in M/s Kohinoor CTNL which is being investigated for alleged irregularities in the IL&FS's loans-cum-investments case.

Raj, whose questioning by the ED officials began around 12 noon and continued till well past 8 pm, emerged out of the ED office at around 8.15 pm.

Raj, who looked a bit tired, waved once at the crowd gathered there and stepped inside his car without interacting with anybody and drove to his "Krishna Kunj" residence located near Shivaji Park at Dadar in north-central Mumbai. When

Raj returned to his residence at around 9 pm, a huge crowd had gathered there to greet him.

Given that he had also only co-operated but also spent quite some time with the investigating officials, official sources said that he would not be returning to ED office for further questioning on Friday.

The MNS chief, who had left from his Shivaji Park residence at 10.30 am along with his wife Sharmila, daughter Urvasi and son Amit, appeared before the ED officials an hour later.

Raj was responding to summons issued to him last week in connection with the investments that he had made in M/s Kohinoor CTNL, a company funded by former Maharashtra CM Manohar Joshi's son Unmesh Joshi. The ED is inves-

tigating the alleged irregularities in the IL&FS's loans and investments worth over ₹860 crore in M/s Kohinoor CTNL.

M/s Kohinoor CTNL has been under ED scanner for being a prominent defaulter of IL&FS, amounting to an estimated ₹135 crore.

Unmesh along with son along with IL&FS and Raj Thackeray-owned Matoshree Construction had in 2005 jointly made a bid and bought for the NTPC's Kohinoor Mill's 4.8-acre property for ₹421 crore.

In 2008, the IL&FS reneged from the deal and surrendered its shares for only ₹90 crore, as against an investment of ₹225 crore made in M/s Kohinoor CTNL. Following the IL & FS's exit, Raj also exited from the venture after selling his shares.

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Name of the work : "Dry Docking/ Repairs of Pilot Launch ML Biju Pattnaik, Survey Launch ML Laxmi, Pollution Control Vessel ML Kali, Mooring Launches ML Chand & ML Charchika and Repairs to slipway Cradle of Paradip Port Trust".
Estimated cost put to tender : Rs.1,01,67,430/- Last date & time of submission of tender through online bidding is 1500 hours on Dt.12.09.2019. For details, please log on to the Website : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/ByConservator
PPT/PR/288/19-20 Dt.23.08.2019

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar, (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

Sl. No.	Job No.	Name of work	Amount in Lac
A 1	03/GM(R)/SM (WC-4/2019-20)	M/O Road (Beautification of Vilopit Kudagharin W.C.-4 Area), Noida	₹ 52.95

Which can be uploaded by Date: 02-09-2019 upto 5.00 PM.
Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date: 03-09-2019 at 11.00 AM.
Office: Sector-06, Noida General Manager (R), Noida
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	OLD REFERENCE/ NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRI GENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1	UHBVN	NIT-239 /XEN/R/11/2019 (B-583)	CORRI GENDUM-VIII DATE OF CLOSING OF E-TENDER: 04.09.2019 UPTO 13:00 HRS	www.uhbvn.org.in	30131300 xenjgds@uhbvn.org.in
2	UHBVN	NIT-238 /XEN/R/11/2019 (B-582)	CORRI GENDUM-VIII DATE OF CLOSING OF E-TENDER: 04.09.2019 UPTO 13:00 HRS	www.uhbvn.org.in	30191440 xenjgds@uhbvn.org.in
3	UHBVN	22/1PDSH/11/RT-DAS 2019	DATE EXTENDED	www.uhbvn.org.in	8912559827 seprojects@uhbvn.org.in
4	UHBVN	NIT NO. 04/CE/COMM/RV/CS/2019-20 DATED 08.09.2019/TENDER LD NO. 2019_HRC_92224_1	THE DATE OF ONLINE TENDER SUBMISSION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS FOR NIT NO. 04/CE/COMM/RV/CS/2019-20 AT 01:00 PM FOR NIT NO. 04/CE/COMM/RV/CS/2019-20 AT 01:00 PM	www.uhbvn.org.in	sera@uhbvn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO NO. 79032

BSP distances itself from Dalit protest over Ravidas temple

Lucknow: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) on Thursday distanced itself from the violent Dalit protest in New Delhi's Tughlakabad area over the demolition of a Ravidas temple, stressing that all its struggles are carried out well within the ambit of law.

Taking to Twitter, BSP pres-

ident Mayawati said, "The incidents of vandalism that have taken place in Delhi, especially in Tughlakabad, are unfair and the BSP has nothing to do with it. The BSP always respects the Constitution and the law. The struggles of the party are carried out well within the ambit of law."

In another related tweet,

Mayawati said, "The tradition of BSP and its people not to take the law in their hands is completely intact even today, whereas it is common for other parties and organisations. We should not harm innocent people in the honour of our saints, gurus and great men."

She advised party workers not to violate Section 144 of the CrPC after any "unfortunate incident". "Do not try to forcibly go to the incident site so as not to give the government an opportunity to take an autocratic and vindictive action," she tweeted. Tension prevailed in the Tughlakabad area of South Delhi on Wednesday following a protest by Dalits against the demolition of the Ravidas temple by the authorities on an apex court order recently. **PTI**

CO-OP BANK SCAM HC orders FIR against Ajit Pawar, 70 others

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court directed police to register FIR against NCP leader Ajit Pawar and over 70 others in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank scam on Thursday, observing that they seemed to have "complete knowledge" that their actions would cause a huge loss to the bank.

The court asked Mumbai police's Economic Offences Wing to register an FIR against the accused within five days. Prima facie there was "credible evidence" against the accused, it added. Pawar, PWP leader Jayant Patil and several former directors of the bank are accused of violating banking and RBI regulations while disbursing loans to sugar mills at very low rates and selling off

assets of defaulter businesses at throw-away prices. Such sale of assets, disbursement of cheap loans and a failure to ensure repayment resulted in losses of over Rs 1,000 crore to the bank between 2007 and 2011, it is alleged.

The accused also forged records and fudged figures to show the bank was making profits, it is alleged.

Pawar was a director of the bank during the relevant period. Inquiries by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and a charge sheet filed by a quasi-judicial inquiry commission under the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act had blamed Pawar and other accused for the bank's losses. **PTI**

Restrictions eased in most Kashmir areas

Market still shut and mobile services suspended

Srinagar: Restrictions were eased in most areas of Kashmir with barricades being lifted and the movement of people and traffic increasing gradually, but markets remained shut and mobile and internet services suspended for the 18th day on Thursday.

Officials said the situation was peaceful and no untoward incident was reported from anywhere in the Kashmir Valley on Wednesday.

In view of the improving situation, the movement of people and traffic was slowly increasing in the city and other district headquarters of the Valley, they said.

Public transport stayed off the roads, but a few inter-district cabs and auto-rickshaws were seen plying in some areas.

The attendance of teachers in schools up to middle class level and employees in government offices was also improving. However, most students



A boy jumps from a boat in the waters of Dal Lake, covered with weeds for being unattended for days due to restrictions, in Srinagar on Thursday

stayed away due to the prevailing situation, they added. The Government ordered the reopening of primary schools across the Valley from Monday and middle schools from Wednesday.

The officials said restrictions have been eased in several areas of Kashmir, including in most parts of Srinagar. Barricades have been removed from uptown and civil lines areas of the city as

well as from most areas in other districts. However, the deployment of security forces continues to avoid any law and order problems, they said.

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700 eminent Kashmiri Pandits support Centre's decision on Article 370: Panun Kashmir

Jammu: Convener of Panun Kashmir, an organisation advocating the cause of displaced Kashmiri Pandits, Agnishekhar released a memorandum on Thursday in support of the abrogation of provisions of Article 370 and said that over 700 eminent Kashmiri Pandits have endorsed it.

He claimed that all Kashmiri Pandits are on one page in support of the Centre scrapping provisions of Article 370 "to pave the way for a new dawn of free environment in Jammu & Kashmir".

"Over 700 top Kashmiri Pandits, including Padma Shri awardees, vice-chancellors, academicians and doctors, across the world have signed a memorandum in support of the abrogation of provisions of

Article 370 and reorganisation of Jammu & Kashmir," Agnishekhar told reporters here.

He said that Panun Kashmir was batting strongly for a Union Territory for the Kashmiri Pandits... And the demand has been finally met.

"It was an outcome of the struggle of Panun Kashmir for last 30 years. We welcome the decision of the Central government," Agnishekhar said.

Panun Kashmir Chairman Ajay Churungoo said that some Kashmiri Pandits, giving statements opposing the decision of the government of India do not represent Kashmiri Pandits at all.

"We condemn them... They do not represent any of Kashmiri Pandit organisation," he said.

AMU student arrested over Modi poster on Facebook

Aligarh (UP): An Aligarh Muslim University student was arrested after his Facebook page showed an objectionable poster on Prime Minister Narendra Modi carried recently by anti-India protesters in London, police said.

Mohammad Zaid Rashid (20), admitted at the university's off-campus centre in Bihar's Kishanganj this year, was when he downloaded a picture from the protests over the scrapping of the special status for Jammu & Kashmir.

Some former AMU students complained online to the police after Rashid's post surfaced on social media.

In their complaint on Tuesday they alleged that the poster had been put up on the AMU campus here, but the local police and the AMU authorities found that this was not correct.

They traced the local address of the youth, a resident of the city's Hamdard Nagar.

AMU spokesman Shafay Kidwai said the incident was wrongly linked to the campus in Aligarh.

"We found that the youth had just been admitted to the off-campus centre in Bihar. We promptly traced him to his residence and filed an FIR," he told reporters.

"We will take further appropriate action in this matter after the investigation is complete," he said. Senior Superintendent of Police Akash Kulhari said a case under the IT Act and for promoting social discord has been filed against Rashid.

Opposition parties mock Nitish Govt over gunshot fiasco at ex-CMs funeral

Patna: Opposition parties in Bihar on Thursday took a dig at the Nitish Kumar Government over the embarrassing incident during former Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra's funeral when guns carried by police personnel for salute failed to fire a single shot.

The spectacle took place on Wednesday at Mishra's ancestral village Balua Bazar in Supaul district, where the Chief Minister was himself present.

Video clips beamed by news channels showed a senior official frantically testing guns of a couple of personnel before giving up helplessly.

The police headquarters here has, meanwhile, taken a strong note of the incident

and sought an explanation from the Supaul police.

However, the occasion provided the opposition with fresh ammunition to train its guns at the ruling dispensation, which takes pride in its claim of having brought rule of law to a state after over a decade of alleged lawlessness.

When the guns of the police fail at a ceremonial function where the Chief Minister is in attendance, can these be expected to be of any use while chasing criminals. It is a testimony to the fact that Nitish Kumar has no control of law and order, Rashtriya Lok Samata Party chief Upendra Kushwaha said in a statement.

Congress MLC- Prem Chandra Mishra- echoed similar sentiments on twitter, saying when the Bihar police lacks the capability to fire gunshots during a guard of honour, would it not boost the morale of criminals. Not a single gunshot was fired when there should have been 21. What type of honour did you accord to the late Jagannath Mishra @NitishKumar.

RJD Rajya Sabha member and Lalu Prasad's daughter Misa Bharti also sought to have some fun as she shared a news clipping of the fiasco that has left the government headed by her fathers arch rival red-faced on her twitter handle without adding any comment.

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ISRO releases first Moon image captured by Chandrayaan-2

Bengaluru: The first picture of Moon captured by India's Chandrayaan-2 satellite, currently in the lunar orbit, was released by space agency ISRO on Thursday.

The picture of Moon was taken by Chandrayaan-2's LI4 Camera from an altitude of about 2,650 km from the lunar surface on August 21, the city-headquarters Indian Space Research Organisation said.

"Take a look at the first Moon image captured by #Chandrayaan2 #VikramLander taken at a height of about 2,650 km from Lunar surface on August 21, 2019. Mare Orientale basin and Apollo craters are

identified in the picture," ISRO tweeted along with the picture.

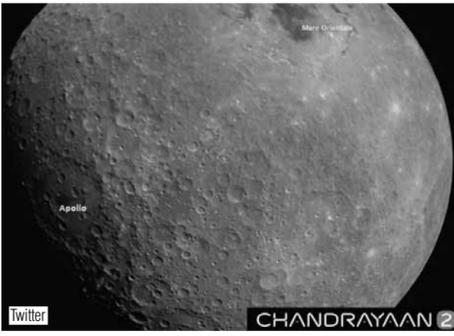
The space agency had on August 4 released a first set of images of the earth captured by Chandrayaan-2 satellite.

ISRO had on Wednesday performed second lunar bound orbit maneuver for Chandrayaan-2 and said all spacecraft parameters are normal. There will be three more orbit manoeuvres before the lander's separation from the Orbiter on September 2 and eventual soft landing in the south polar region of the Moon, planned on September 7.

India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle, GSLV

MkIII-M1, had successfully launched the 3,840-kg

Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft into the earth's orbit on July 22. PTI



Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft into the earth's orbit on July 22. PTI

ACTIVIST BLAMES MAHA GOVT

Flood lines of Panchganga river 'redefined' to provide benefits to construction sector

Pune: An activist from Pune has blamed the Maharashtra Government for the recent deluge in Kolhapur, alleging that flood lines of the Panchganga river there were "redefined" to provide benefits to the construction sector.

Hundreds of villages in Kolhapur and neighbouring Sangli were flooded after heavy rains earlier this month. While 55 people died in flood and rain-related incidents, lakhs were evacuated in these western Maharashtra districts.

Environmentalist Sarang Yadwadkar, who claimed to have accessed some documents of the irrigation department through RTI, said around 500 hectares land along the Panchganga river, which should have been in the flood-affected area (prohibited zone), was marked as residential zone in Kolhapur's development plan (DP) by "redefining" the flood lines.

There are two types of flood lines - blue for the flood level that occurs once in 25 years and the red for that happens once in 100 years, he said.

"The irrigation department issued a circular in 1989 to mark the flood lines for all rivers in Maharashtra, but it was ignored. Instead of the flood lines, flood levels (general level of a particular flood)

were marked and these levels were later superimposed on the DP maps of Kolhapur," he claimed.

In one of the cases in 2015, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) issued directives to the irrigation department to mark both the flood lines over rivers across the state, the activist claimed.

"The irrigation department started the survey work in 2017 and by 2018 it identified the flood lines (considering water flow at 2.14 lakh cusec for blue line and 3.22 lakh cusec for red line) for the Panchganga river and submitted it to the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay," he said.

He said the IIT Bombay also verified the report and stated that the flood lines were correct.

But, when the Kolhapur chapter of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers Association of India (CREDAI) came to know about it, it found around 500 hectares land going below the blue line and by default becoming a 'no development' zone, Yadwadkar said.

The CREDAI, Kolhapur, in October 2018 wrote a letter to the chief minister, stating that the work of demarcation of flood lines is done by a private agency, Yadwadkar

said. "It also stated that the 1989 flood-level is marked on the DP and as the flood that year was the largest, it was pointless to mark new flood lines. It stated that new flood lines will create confusion and unrest among people," he said.

He said the CREDAI also stated in its letter that colonies and apartments were developed on most of the portion falling under the new flood lines.

"The chief minister, in his remarks on the same letter, addressing the irrigation department's secretary, wrote - 'the flood line marked with DP should be maintained'," Yadwadkar said.

On Wednesday, Pakistan troops fired mortars and small arms on villages and forward

Pak Army shells forward posts, villages along LoC in Poonch for 3rd day

Jammu: Pakistani troops violated ceasefire for the third consecutive day on Thursday and resorted to firing mortars and small arms on forward posts and villages along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, inviting a befitting reply from the Indian Army.

"Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing of small arms and shelling with mortars in the Sunderbani sector of Rajouri district at about 2045 hours Thursday," a defence spokesman said.

He said the Indian Army is retaliating befittingly and the exchange of fire between the two sides was continuing when last reports were received.

On Wednesday, Pakistan troops fired mortars and small arms on villages and forward

posts along LoC in the Sunderbani sector.

Mohammad Addul Karim was critically injured when a mortar shell, fired by Pakistan Army, hit his house at village Dabraj in Mendhar sector late Tuesday night, officials said, adding he was immediately shifted to a nearby hospital where he was declared dead.

Mendhar and Krishna Ghati sectors witnessed heavy mortar shelling and firing from across the LoC on Tuesday, resulting in the death of Army soldier Naik Ravi Ranjan Kumar and injuries to four other personnel.

Nearly half a dozen houses were also damaged in the Pakistani firing, which had forced closure of schools with-in the firing range in the two sectors.

First case under triple talaq law registered in Guj

Surat: A case under the new law which bans instant triple talaq was registered in Surat on Thursday against a Muslim man for allegedly divorcing his wife on phone.

This was first case under The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019 filed in Gujarat after the law was passed by Parliament, said Deputy Commissioner of Police Panna Momaya.

As per the complainant woman, her husband Mohammad alias Vasim Pathan and his mother were ill-treating her for the last one and half years.

In June, following a quarrel, Pathan took her to her parents' house and left her there, she said.

On the same night he called her on phone and uttered talaq thrice, she alleged. She filed the complaint on Thursday. PTI

19 killed in rain-related incidents in UP

Lucknow: As many as 19 people lost their lives in rain-related incidents in Uttar Pradesh where raging waters of major rivers have disrupted normal life, officials said on Thursday.

"As many as 15 persons have died due to rain related incidents in different districts of the state.

"The figure included three deaths in Amethi, two each in Raebareilly, Sonbhadra and Mirzapur and one death each in Saharanpur, Hamirpur, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Basti and Ayodhya," the Relief Commissioner's office said.

Besides the 15, four more persons have died in Ballia and Bhadohi, according to reports.

PTI

PTI

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

No. C-12/Sanitation/Vetting/Group E/2019 Dated : 21 August 2019

The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work:-

1. Name of work	Mechanized Cleaning and housekeeping work of Group E stations (Delhi Cantt. Palam, Delhi Khasan Garh, Delhi Sadar Bazar Delhi Safdarjung, Delhi Shahdara, Noli, Nangli, Shivaji Bridge, Tiak Bridge, Tughlakabad, Shakurbasti & Narela) of Delhi Division for a period of four years.
2. E-tender notice number on IREPS	Sanitation 9-2019
3. Date of Tender Opening	16.09.2019 upto 11:00 hrs.
4. Approximate cost of work	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
5. Cost of Tender document including 18% GST	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
6. Earnest Money Deposit	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
7. Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

2709/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Security Commissioner/RPF/Co-ordination, Northern Railway, New Delhi invites E-Tender for the following work.

1. Name of work with its location	Hiring of 08 nos. road vehicle Non AC Tata Sumo/ Bolero for movement of RPF Personnel day & night in jurisdiction of RPF Post, Panipat, Jakhai, Jind, Rohtak, Kurukshetra, Gurugram (Haryana), Sakurbasti & Adarsh Nagar Delhi, Delhi west Division on monthly basis for two year. Approx cost of work Rs. 1,08,28,800/-with GST.
2. Tender Number	17 RPF/MT/Vehicle-Hiring Tender/DL-West/2018-19
3. Office Address	Sr. DSC (Co-ordination)/RPF, P.K. Road, New Delhi 110001
4. Period of works	For Two years
5. Approx. cost of work	Rs. 1,08,28,800/-with GST as applicable
6. Earnest Money	Rs. 2,04,200/-
7. Tender uploading date	27.08.2019
8. Date and Time of closing tender bid	30.09.2019 & 15:00 hrs.
9. Tender open date & time	30.09.2019 & 15:00 hrs.
10. Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in
11. Cost of tender documents	Rs. 10000/- + 1800/(GST 18%) total Rs. 11800/- Payment of Tender Document Fee in respect of e-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only.

No. 17 RPF/MT/Vehicle-Hiring Tender/DL-West/2018-19 Date: 22.08.2019 2713/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE

RE-ENGAGEMENT OF RETIRED CATERING STAFF IN EXIGENCIES OF SERVICES IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE CANTEEN, NEW DELHI

1. Application in the prescribed proforma only with requisite enclosure are invited from Retired Catering Staff of Northern Railway to work in Parliament House Canteen on re-engagement basis for filling up the vacancies as detailed below:

Department	Category	No of Vacancies to be filled up thereof for re-engagement
Parliament house Canteen	Catering Supervisor	04
Parliament house Canteen	Waiter/Khalasi	10

2. Application proforma is available online on <https://nr.indianrailways.gov.in>.

3. The prescribed proforma as per Annexure 'A' should be submitted duly filled in with requisite enclosure at:

(B) Single Window Cell/Commercial Branch Northern Railway 41 (G), Baroda House, New Delhi.

4. The last date for obtaining/submitting the application is 12.09.2019.

5. Only Retired Railway employee of Northern Railway catering are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to employees retired from Parliament House canteen.

6. Essential eligibility criteria for submitting application-

- Maximum Age as on 31.08.2019 should be 64 years 6 months.
- Should be willing to work in overall jurisdiction of Parliament House, New Delhi.
- Should be: Medically fit in the category for which applying for.
- Such retired employee i.e. Applicant should not have undergone any major punishment (as per SF-5) in last 5 years.
- Should not have been terminated/removed/compulsory retired from Railway service.

7. Monthly remuneration of re-engaged retired employee will be equal to his last pay drawn + DA minus Pension.

8. The re-engagement of Retired Railway employee shall be purely on temporary arrangement basis and will be terminated as and when regular employees are available.

9. The re-engagement can be terminated without any notice or by giving 15 days' notice without any explanation.

No.86-AC/O/DC/PH/Re-engagement/Staff/2019 Date : 2715/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar, (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

S.No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Amount
1	01/Manager System/AMC-Server/HP/2019-20	A.M.C. of server for different departments of HP make	Rs. 28,95,720/-

Which can be uploaded by Date: 29.08.2019 upto 05:00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date: 30.08.2019 at 11:00 AM.

Manager System

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN TENDER NOTICE (E-TENDER)

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers. 1. Tender No.: 197-5/187/CAMC of O.H. Crane/TKD/18/MC-IV. 2. Name of work : Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Over Head Cranes at Wagon Care Centre, Tughlakabad for Two years. 3. Advertised Tender Value : Rs. 69,80,870.56/- (including GST) 4. Earnest money in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi : Rs. 1,39,600/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS) 5. Date & time of submission of tender bid : Up to 20.09.2019 at 12.00 hrs. 6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in No. 197-5/187/CAMC of O.H.Crane/TKD/18/MC-IV Date: 21.08.2019 2712/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.

(A Government of India Enterprise - Mini Ratna)
CIN:U74899DL1999GO101707

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

1. Open E-Tender Tender for Operation & Maintenance of Packaged Drinking Water Bottling Plant under brand name of Rail Neer at Nangli for a period of 05 years

Pre-bid meeting: 26.08.2019 at 15:00 hrs at IRCTC Corporate Office, New Delhi. Last Date & Time of online Submission: 11.09.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.

2. Open E-Tender Tender for Operation & Maintenance of Packaged Drinking Water Bottling Plant including preforms manufacturing unit under brand name of Rail Neer at Ambernath for a period of 05 years

Pre-bid meeting: 26.08.2019 at 16:00 hrs at IRCTC Corporate Office, New Delhi. Last Date & Time of online Submission: 12.09.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.

Tender document downloading & participation can be done only on website: www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC

Note: "Any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, will be published on IRCTC website: www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC only."

Group General Manager (Procurement), IRCTC Ltd.
11th Floor, Statesman House, B-148, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Palace, New Delhi-110 001, Fax: 011-23311259

PARADIP PORT TRUST

PARADIP PORT - 754 142, ODISHA (INDIA) SAGARMALA

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

No.AD/RSC-1/21/2019(Pt.)/2725 Dated 19.08.2019

ADVERTISEMENT

Engagement of Advisor (Legal) at Paradip Port Trust on Contractual Basis

The details of qualification, age, experience, other conditions etc. are available at Paradip Port Trust website : www.paradipport.gov.in. Interested and willing persons may forward their Curriculum vitae, indicating their qualifications, experience, etc. at Office of the Chairman, Paradip Port Trust, Po-Paradip Port, Dist-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754142, on 31.08.2019 by 05:00 PM.

PPT/PR/290/19-20 Dt.23.08.2019 Sr. Dy. Secretary

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायपुर (स.ग.)

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur (C.G.)
Tatibandh, G.E. Road, Raipur-492 099 (CG) (www.aiimsraipur.edu.in)

No. AIIMS-PPR/Rect. & Advt. Cell/2019/1815. Date: 21-08-2019

E-TENDER CALL NOTICE

Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Raipur Chhattisgarh, G.O., invites e-tender for following:

Tender Title	EMD Cost	Published on CPPP/Website	Pre-bid Meeting date	Closing date
One Year Rate Contract for Alcohol Based Hand Rub for IPD/OPD Services at AIIMS Raipur	₹ 2,51,000.00	19-08-2019	26-08-2019 at 3:30 PM	11-09-2019 at 06:00 PM

The details terms & conditions are available on the website- www.aiimsraipur.edu.in and CPP Portal on www.eprocure.gov.in

Stores Officer, AIIMS Raipur

Trumping logic

The US President's attempt to buy Greenland and call off his Danish visit for being rebuffed is outrageous



US President Donald Trump has got away with making bewildering, puzzling and impossible statements by virtue of the high office he holds, giving his administration officials heartburn whether to treat them as an American sitcom joke or interpret them as layered diplomacy. For they simply cannot leave the words hanging there, especially when they impact relations between nations. Now that the world's most important man has escalated an international spat, by calling off his trip to Denmark

because its Prime Minister rejected his idea to buy Greenland as an absurdity, eggs are splattered all over their faces. One, Denmark is well within its rights to decide on Greenland, its semi-autonomous Arctic island with a 50,000 plus population, and air views on its territorial sovereignty whenever anybody tries to belittle it. And Trump is trying to grab it by standards of a defunct barter economy, proposing an outright land deal. But to be told off by the US President, who impetuously threatens a hitback with comments like "nasty" and "You don't talk to the United States that way, at least under me," can assume serious proportions, considering that Trump has not only upended conventions but has also followed through with his absurd statements with a fair bit of doggedness and whimsy. This has surprised Denmark all the more because it is a key partner in the North Atlantic alliance, and was among the first countries to pledge military support in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than 40 Danish troops died in Helmand province, fighting alongside American and British soldiers. So it certainly doesn't deserve this blow-off.

Of course, the world's largest island comes with its strategic value in the Arctic region. Global warming and melting ice caps are making Greenland more accessible for harnessing potential oil and mineral resources. All the big powers — Russia, China, the US, Canada — are in a tussle to stake their claim on Arctic lands, hoping to own and leverage future riches. But would the US go so far with its Nordic conquest as to sink its perennial allies like the Titanic? Of course, the *Washington Post* reported that Trump had been peddling the idea for weeks and had "even discussed taking over Denmark's annual \$600 million subsidy to Greenland in perpetuity, and possibly tossing in an additional large payment to sweeten the deal." Considering that the US already has a military base in Denmark, one fails to understand the urgency of land acquisition. For by cancelling his trip, he has upset the royal household, which had formally invited Trump. He has also upset climatologists and scientists who say Greenland's massive ice sheet has seen one of its biggest melts on record this summer and economic exploitation would only worsen the scenario. Though this may not break down the cordial relations with the US yet, its Prime Minister assuring continuity despite the cancellation of Trump's visit, Danes have been put off by what they call a "farfical" and "grotesque" behaviour. Some observers have also speculated that Trump was looking for a pretext to call off his visit considering his predecessor Barack Obama was also scheduled to visit the country and enjoys more popularity and the former didn't want to appear dwarfed by comparison. But to go so far out, no matter what the strategic or personal intent, only makes the US fall from grace globally and its allies question the price of loyalty. For long, the US has been perceived as a global bully, can it afford to be more obnoxious now? Most importantly, nobody thought that Greenlanders should be asked what they want considering many wonder if Trump indeed remembered the location of Greenland from his geography lessons.

Saving the economy

Scapegoats for the economic contagion will be found, but that there is a problem remains a fact



To be fair to Indian policy-makers, it is true that the economic slowdown is impacting countries across the world, and they could potentially use that as a crutch to explain away India's current problems. That would be wrong, because while global issues do impact India, particularly Indian exports, the fact is that the Indian economy is more self-contained than most people imagine. Besides many of our problems have been created by a combination of poor policy, poor implementation

and poor management. It is also true that a lot of the current trouble with reduced credit offtake can be traced back to the profligacy of banks during the UPA era, with politically connected people getting loans at extremely favourable terms. However, the task of fixing the mess has meant that the banks are now at the other extreme and routinely turn down loan requests even to viable corporations and entrepreneurs as well as private individuals. Yes, the fiasco of demonetisation and the chaotic implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) have a role to play in the situation that India finds herself in, but it is the extreme reticence of banks to lend money that is causing the contagion to worsen. Banks are rightly scared, and they will need assurance from the Government and the bureaucracy that they will not be punished for business failures. Now the RBI Governor's statement that our service sector is sluggish and the trough is a combination of multiple factors only deepens the sense of foreboding.

A lot of reassurance will need to come from smart policy makers, and there is seemingly a lack of smartness when it comes to economic and industrial policy. Half-baked ideas, such as the talk of abolishing income tax, a wet dream of certain 'economists' are being talked about. On the other hand, half-baked ideas such as additional surcharges on income tax for high income earners became a reality in the budget but papers lack details on having sums unaccounted for. The Economic Survey in parts reads like a theological text rather than what it was meant to be. The Government really needs to bring in some proper experts, even if those people might be opposed to some of the policies followed by the Government in other areas. There is no doubt that the Indian economy is a challenge, we have a lot of poor people and they have to be taken care of. However, the best way to do that is to ensure employment and grow the economy so that incomes rise across the board and social sector spending can also improve. It is a challenge that requires the cumulative brainpower of thousands of economists, statisticians and social scientists. The alacrity with which this government is dealing with national security issues is welcome but frankly it needs to show that concern for a sputtering economy and the fallout of lower growth, or perish the thought, a recession, could be more severe than any of us can imagine.

Culling corruption

While this issue is huge, it is not insurmountable. We can at least start adopting a different approach to tackle it by bringing about behavioural change



AJOY KUMAR

India's reputation as one of the world's most corrupt bureaucracies is well-documented. On the Corruption Perceptions Index, India ranks 78th and this outlook is with merit and cause. What is surprising, however, is that the civil services examination and the post of a civil servant are still one that attracts great attention and fanfare. Any aspirant, who "cracks" the examination, is treated with great respect. This is, perhaps, why lakhs of young aspirants spend days together, working towards the goal of being part of the Indian bureaucracy.

A large number of these students are from prestigious institutes like the Indian Institute of Technology and various National Law Schools, among others. As a former civil servant, I find that this desire to join the civil services, surprisingly, has not dwindled. A few pessimists would say that these young aspirants join the bureaucracy to extract their pound of flesh. As Theodore Roosevelt said, "A man who has never gone to school may steal a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad." But levity aside, I think this is unduly harsh and frankly not true. In fact, as is true in most avenues of life, corruption in the Indian bureaucracy, too, follows the Pareto principle (also known as the 80/20 rule) that is 80 per cent of all corruption in the bureaucracy is carried out by 20 per cent of the people. The problem is to identify and punish this 20 per cent, which is bringing the entire country and the service immense shame and disrepute.

Corruption has no rigid definition, but the most common academic connotation, which defines it as "the misuse of public office for private gain", seems to be the most appropriate. While most times the media appears to cover the "headline" scandals and/or instances of corruption — ie, the kind of scams that attract most eyeballs — rarely do we realise just what the magnitude of everyday corruption is in our country. Transparency International estimates that Indians end up paying bribes of over ₹21,000 crore (approx \$3.5 billion) every year to access Government services. Therefore, there are different types of corruption, which differ from service to service. MR Venkatesh, a Chartered Accountant-turned lawyer, said it best in these lines, "IAS officers are after the rich people, IRS officers are after the middle class and IPS officers are after the poor. This is the new *varnashrama* created by the bureaucracy." While this looks like oversimplifying a complex issue, the crux of the problem does ring true.

So what are the causes of corruption? There are a number of people who have endlessly theorised on the reasons why the Indian bureaucracy suffers from corruption. One such reason is the country's complex legal and regulatory framework. India remains an extremely difficult place to do business. To set up or operate any business here, an entrepreneur or businessman has to jump through various



hoops and then hope to gain favour from the relevant bureaucrat even before starting his/her business. It is, therefore, no coincidence that India's low ranking on the Corruption Perceptions Index corresponds with its low position in the World Bank's indicators for doing business.

Just to give an idea about the ease of doing business in India, according to a World Bank survey, the act of obtaining a single construction permit in India involves 27 discrete procedures, takes 162 days and costs 46 per cent of the total outlay to a construction firm building a warehouse. The keyword here is "discretion." The minute it is brought in, the corrupt official gets an opportunity to make a quick buck.

Another reason as to why corruption persists in our country is the lack of respect towards entrepreneurs and businessmen. While we often get to hear praises about a Narayana Murthy or an Azim Premji, these examples are an exception rather than the norm. This because we, as Indians, have been encouraged to treat a business as an entity that makes money by stealing someone else's buck. This is why any new business is looked at with suspicion first and then with admiration. While the conduct of some Indian promoters does

indicate that there is some truth to this perception, our lack of openness and admiration towards entrepreneurs does the country more harm than good.

So what can be done? We need to change our attitudes towards businesses. There is no denying the fact that there should be a strict framework within which all businesses flourish. However, a strict framework does not necessarily mean that any new business ought to be treated with contempt. For example, it is important that every business operates within the realm of the law and obtains all relevant approvals. However, bureaucrats must not be given any reason to place more hurdles in helping them establish a business than those that are already present. It is evident that this Government needs cash and, therefore, is on a tax collection spree. However, in the long-run, it is impossible for any Government to collect taxes if it continues to act in a targeted and adversarial manner. It is, therefore, crucial for the Government to intimate and drive home the point to bureaucrats that their role is to facilitate the lives of honest citizens rather than acting as impediments.

Another way to mitigate the effects of corruption is to improve information dissemination

and use technology. While the former is crucial and must be encouraged with zeal, the latter must be approached with greater care in a country like India where technology is really only to the benefit of a few rather than most. The best example of how this can provide benefit is the recent change in the law which allows drivers to carry scanned copies of their driving licences and RCs. Most people, however, have not heard about this change in the rules.

I have personally heard of many stories of traffic cops taking bribes from unassuming drivers merely because they tell them that they are required to carry physical copies of their documents. In such a case if people are informed about the change in rules and technology is used meaningfully, instances of bribes will automatically be reduced.

While the problem of corruption is huge, we can at least start adopting a different approach to tackle it. Bringing about a change in mindset will be of great help. This should be coupled with other innovative solutions. With these changes, I think, we will find that the problem of corruption is not as insurmountable as we think.

(The writer is former president of Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee)

“ ANOTHER WAY TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF CORRUPTION IS TO IMPROVE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND USE TECHNOLOGY. WHILE THE FORMER IS CRUCIAL AND MUST BE ENCOURAGED, THE LATTER MUST BE APPROACHED WITH GREATER CARE ”

SOUNDBITE

Sometimes the process is incorrect. I am not talking about the legality. The way his (Chidambaram's) matter has been handled is depressing.



West Bengal Chief Minister —Mamata Banerjee

You get this feeling of doubt, that do you remember even to act? I was also going through that stage. Not a very good frame of mind.



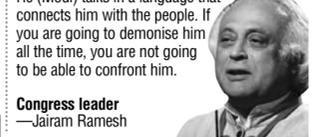
Actor —Suniel Shetty

Countries like India, Iran, Russia and Turkey would have to fight against terrorists in Afghanistan at some point of time.



US President —Donald Trump

He (Modi) talks in a language that connects him with the people. If you are going to demonise him all the time, you are not going to be able to confront him.



Congress leader —Jairam Ramesh

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Save the forests

Sir — It is a matter of concern that there has been a 83 per cent increase in forest fires in the Amazon rainforest area in Brazil. Conservationists have blamed Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro for its plight, saying that he encouraged loggers and farmers to clear the land. Bolsonaro on the other hand has blamed non-governmental organisations, saying that they may have set the fires to embarrass his Government after it's decision to cut funding for them. Ironically, Bolsonaro has no evidence to support his claim.

Spread across millions of hectares in multiple countries, the Amazon basin not only hosts massive sinks of carbon that helps bring down the pace of global warming but is also home to three million species. The situation today is depressing. First and foremost, the Brazilian Government must realise the need to protect the forests. The international community must put diplomatic pressure on Brazil to convince it on the need to protect the forests and also help it seek higher funds.

Tanisha Shrivastava
Ujjain

Idea of India needs fresh outlook

This refers to the article, "Reunification of India a necessity" (August 21) by Markandey Katju. The learned writer has put forth a very noble idea, the successful implementation and sustainability of which will be a boon for the entire sub-continent. However, a look back into the history of Partition of India will reveal that ground realities are different and do not offer much hope on the lines of Vietnam or Germany or Italy where, unlike India's religious bigotry, differences were political in nature. In this connection, I would like to make two points.

First, noting the facts of history and the extent of communal discord in the country during the last 70 years, it will be incorrect to put the blame of India's Partition entirely on the British. At best, it can be said that the British took advantage of communal discord. In this connection, it would be worthwhile to recollect what Mahatma Gandhi had said during a prayer meet on the day the vital decision of Partition was taken. He said: "It is no use blaming the Viceroy for Partition. Look to yourselves and in your hearts for an explanation of what has happened." Second, it will also be worth recalling that the seeds of Two-Nation Theory were sown in the 19th Century. Ironically, after the formation of the Indian National Congress (INC), the queering pitch for Independence raised alarm bells in the minds of Muslims



at the prospect of being ruled by the Hindu majority. It is, thus, a deep-rooted problem which requires extraordinary efforts in cleansing the heart and mind. We would, therefore, do well to accept the reality and create an atmosphere of open heartedness where grievances are brought out in the open and healed forever so that the noble idea of unification of India can be achieved. Sadly, this has not happened so far and things have remained camouflaged in political language and interference.

BP Srivastava
Noida

Damage already done

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Chidambaram in a spot" (August 22). After a day-long drama, P Chidambaram did

show up for a surprise Press conference at the Congress headquarters, but by then, the damage had been done. During the Press conference, he claimed that no formal chargesheet was filed against him in the INX

Media case and that there was no question of him evading the law.

Had Chidambaram said the same thing after the Delhi High Court rejected his bail plea, he would have done much good not

only to himself but also to his party. The Congress leadership, too, had been crying hoarse, terming the action taken against Chidambaram a "political witch hunt" but the High Court has sound evidence against him. The case against him appears to be water-tight. All eyes are now on the courts. Only time will uncover the truth but certainly, the Congress has further lost credibility among the masses.

Jai Prakash Gupta
Ambala Cantt

Clarity needed

Sir — This refers to the article, "Upping deterrence ante?" (August 22) by Vivek Mishra. The Government must come clear if it is contemplating a change in its 'No First Use' policy to checkmate Pakistan or is this just another exercise to make the people believe that it can go to any extent to protect the nation's interests? This issue demands wider debate and discussion.

Karthik
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Disable the plastic bomb

An awareness campaign in regional languages, riding on social media platforms, must be undertaken by the Centre and pushed down to the panchayat level



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

Mariam, an orphaned, baby dugong died somewhere in Thai waters this week. While she lived, 'Sleepyhead', so fondly nicknamed by the social media, ensured engaging moments for millions of her fans. Sadly, Mariam's life story ended tragically with her demise due to intestinal blockage caused by plastic waste. The little marine creature's suffering once again put the spotlight on the grave issue of plastic debris polluting our oceans.

A ticking bomb, that will inevitably lead to our destruction, microplastics, particles that are smaller than five millimeters, are making their way into our food and drinking water, yet, very little prevents us from asking the vegetable vendor for a plastic carry bag.

Let's take a look at some eye-popping statistics in order to understand the magnitude of the problem that we, with our callous attitude towards the environment, have created.

It is estimated that an average Indian ingests around five grams of microplastic every week, the equivalent of a credit card. A study conducted a few years ago by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) found that major Indian cities generate nearly 4,100 tons of plastic waste daily, which for the whole country translates to nearly 30,000 tons per day, out of which Delhi tops the chart at nearly 700 tons of plastic waste generated daily.

According to estimates, nearly 90 per cent of this untreated and non-recyclable plastic ends up in the soil, forests, mountains, landfills and oceans, harming humans and unsuspecting birds, marine creatures, cows and other animals.

Given the detrimental impact of plastic waste on human lives, particularly children, our oceans and the planet at large, it is commendable that a clarion call to defuse this bomb has come from Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. Modi, during his Independence Day address urged citizens to eliminate single-use plastic and use cloth and jute bags instead. He asked for the first big step in this direction to be taken from October 2, 2019, to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Thankfully, many government agencies and large private sector players have taken cognizance and have started taking steps to reduce or eliminate plastic under the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policy approach. While the Parliament has banned use of non-reusable plastic items within the complex, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) a subsidiary of the Indian Railways, has also banned plastic use from October 2. It has issued a circular which prevents vendors from using plastic carry bags and will ensure the return of plastic drinking water bottles by passengers. Encouragingly, some private firms like Mahindra and Hindustan Lever have also announced plastic reduction measures.

On the policy-making front, the CPCB is slated to submit a consolidated report on the use and management of plastic waste, after it gets data from State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). The recommendations of the CPCB will make it likely to bring in more norms on top of the Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2018.

However, good intentions and new guidelines are not enough to tackle this menace. There are a couple of measures that need to be implemented without any compromise to ensure compliance.

A mass awareness campaign in regional languages, riding on all social media platforms, needs to be undertaken by the central government and pushed right to the municipal and village panchayat level. Only mass campaigns on the lines of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan will create awareness at the grassroots and prevent indiscriminate and irresponsible plastic use. A key issue which needs urgent attention is coordination between the CPCB and SPCBs. Most often, like other areas of Federal Vs State policy overlaps, we find SPCBs passing "Shut with Immediate Effect" kind of orders that are not in line with Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2018.

A nodal ministry, looking into plastic waste management rules and their implementation, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) should urgently set up a national-level co-ordination task force comprising state and CPCB representatives. There should be significant private sector and civil society representation as well. This body should be given targets to reduce plastic waste and co-ordinate on key matters between the Centre and states. In the absence of such a body, interpretation of key laws remains ambiguous and lands in No Man's Zone. This leads to non-compliance and missed targets. Finally, citizens need to get religious about plastic waste management. The festive season is approaching and tons of plastic will be used, that will most likely end up in the nearest water body. A conscious, collective effort has to be made by all to cut down plastic use. In fact, a zero plastic festival would be a welcome idea this season.

(The writer is a policy analyst)

POINT COUNTERPOINT

HE (CHIDAMBARAM) WAS BEING TARGETTED. SINCE TRUTH IS INCONVENIENT TO COWARDS, HE IS BEING SHAMEFULLY HUNTED DOWN.
 —CONGRESS LEADER
PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA



PRIYANKA SHOULD BE TAKING CARE OF HER HUSBAND ROBERT VADRA. THERE ARE SEVERAL CASES AGAINST HIM.
 —DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER OF UTTAR PRADESH
KESHAV PRASAD MAURYA

Breaking barriers

Vatsalya, an initiative to improve the health and nutritional status of women and children, was undertaken in 22 villages in Amreli's Rajula Block



SWAPNA MAJUMDAR

The small boat at Gujarat's bustling Pipavav Port bobs up and down as it waits for ferry passengers to Shiyal Bet Island barely 600 metres away. It's a rainy morning and the waters of the Arabian Sea are beginning to turn choppy. Fifty-year-old Dakuben jumps onto the boat with ease, having undertaken the 12-minute journey innumerable times to visit her daughter in Shiyal Bet. However, this time, her visit is mired in sorrow as she is going to mourn the death of her newborn granddaughter.

Gujarat's Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 30 deaths per 1,000 live births and the state ranked tenth in the country according to the NITI Aayog's 2016 IMR report. According to statistics 69 per cent of infant deaths in Gujarat were neonatal, higher than the national average of 67.60 per cent.

Anaemia is one of the major factors responsible for the rising neonatal, infant and maternal mortality in Gujarat, especially among rural women. According to the fourth National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) conducted in 2014-15, 54.9 per cent women in the age group of 14-49 years are anaemic and 51.3 per cent of pregnant women have anaemia.

The NFHS-4 placed Gujarat among the top 15 states with the highest incidence of anaemia as the percentage of anaemic women there was higher than the national average of 53 per cent.

The survey revealed that lack of education played a major role and anaemia was particularly high among illiterate women due to lack of awareness about health-related issues.

At 31.2 per cent, Shiyal Bet's literacy rates are much lower than the state's 78.3 per cent (2011 census). With the island's female literacy rate being just 15.48 per cent, it's no surprise that awareness about anaemia and other health issues is low.

In order to change this scenario, Vatsalya, an initiative to improve the health and nutritional status of women, children, and adolescents was undertaken in Shiyal Bet and 21 villages with similar poor health and development indicators in Rajula Block in Amreli district. Launched in 2016 by the Centre for Health Education, Training, Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA), a not-for-profit organisation, the three-year programme has been able to bring down undernutrition, improve antenatal and postnatal care and ensure safe motherhood.

It has also been able to break myths related to early breastfeeding, promote healthy feeding practices, timely immunization and increase access to basic health services.

The intervention, supported by Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited (GPPL) APM Terminals under their corporate social responsibility initiative, used a multi-pronged strategy including games, Q&A sessions and street theatre to engage the community. Sustained efforts, coupled with community participation helped to bring down the number of children suffering from undernutrition from 30 per cent in 2016 to 14 per cent in 2019. The number of children who attained normal body mass index also rose.

The intervention marked up registration of pregnancies by almost 42 per cent and increased the number of women receiving antenatal care, tetanus injections and folic acid tablets. A rise in institutional deliveries by 9.42 per cent was also seen at the end of the three years.

“THE MONTHLY VATSALYA SAMWADS PROVED TO BE A GOOD MOVE AS THEY HELPED BREAK THE ICE ON MANY UNCOMFORTABLE ISSUES LIKE THE TRADITION OF EARLY MARRIAGE, MENSTRUATION AND FAMILY PLANNING IN ALL 22 VILLAGES. BESIDES EXPLAINING THE CONSEQUENCES OF EARLY MARRIAGE ON THE HEALTH OF ADOLESCENTS, THE IMPORTANCE OF ANTENATAL CARE AND POSTNATAL CARE VISITS FOR PREGNANT AND LACTATING WOMEN WERE DISCUSSED. ALSO ADDRESSED WERE MYTHS RELATED TO EARLY AND EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING



“We are committed to bringing change in the lives of marginalised communities. Therefore, empowering them with factual information and linking them to government schemes and programmes was imperative. This intervention was more challenging because we had to work in difficult-to-reach villages like Shiyal Bet and with migrating populations and communities that were isolated and neglected. But we were able to make a difference in their lives thanks to our dedicated field team, and our partnership with the community, frontline health workers and panchayat leaders,” said Pallavi Patel, Director, CHETNA.

A key to this success was the strategy to train women from the community as Vatsalya mitras (friends). This gave the community a sense of ownership and led to increased participation. So when Shantuben Chauhan became a trained Vatsalya mitra, she used her influence as an anganwadi worker (AWW) to reach out to pregnant and lactating women. Chauhan, an AWW for the last 15 years, is a popular face in Shiyal Bet. With both her marital and natal home being in Shiyal Bet, Chauhan was able to mobilise the community very effectively.

However, when the CHETNA team first visited Shiyal Bet, they found that although Chauhan was articulate and good at her work as an AWW, she, like most of the others, believed in many myths related to reproductive and sexual health. One of the biggest misconceptions she had was related to menstruation. Not only was it a taboo subject, but neither she nor her three daughters practiced menstrual hygiene. Considering that only 54 per cent of rural women use a hygienic method of menstrual protection (NFHS-4), this was not surprising.

The fact that women with at least 12 years of schooling were more than twice as likely to be using a hygienic method (79 per cent) as against women with no schooling (34 per cent) meant that Chauhan who is uneducated, didn't get access to information which could help her practice menstrual hygiene.

So the first step was to demystify menstruation. The team knew that once they were able to get Chauhan on board then she would get the others. “I was ashamed to discuss this issue. The training helped me understand why I should not be ashamed and why menstrual hygiene is important. I used the scientific information to convince other women and adolescents during Vatsalya samwads (dialogue),” recalled Chauhan.

For Vatsalya mitra Vandana Goswami, the training cured her of the belief that she was 'impure' during her periods and going to the temple or kitchen was wrong. “After I became better informed, I no longer forced my daughters to follow these customs. I used my own example to convince other women and girls,” contended Goswami.

The monthly Vatsalya samwads proved to be a good move as they helped break the ice on many 'uncomfortable' issues like the tradition of early marriage and family planning in all 22 villages. Besides explaining the consequences of early marriage on the health of adolescents, the importance of antenatal care and postnatal care visits for pregnant and lactating women were discussed. Also addressed were myths related to early and exclusive breastfeeding. According to NFHS-4, just 50 per cent women in Gujarat start breastfeeding in the first hour of life as recommended by the World Health Organisation, thus depriving

newborns of the highly nutritious first milk, colostrums, and the antibodies it contains. In fact, about one in five children who were ever breastfed were given something other than breast milk during the first three days.

Raziben's three children were among them. She had followed the custom of feeding her children goat's milk or hot water mixed with jaggery immediately after birth. It was only after attending the Vatsalya samwads that she understood why this was not healthy for the newborn. This helped her initiate early breastfeeding for her fourth child born last year. Inspired by this, her friend and neighbour Manjuben also breastfed her daughter within 24 hours of her birth in June this year. In fact, there was an 22 per cent increase in early breastfeeding by the end of the project.

A big factor in the improving health and nutrition indicators was the partnership with local leaders and panchayats. Leaders like Gangabhai, the sarpanch of Kundaliya Village, played an active role in mobilizing the community and promoting awareness.

“There has been a big change in my village after CHETNA began their work. The AWWs have become more informed and active. More women are attending the monthly Mamta Divas. Earlier only 7-8 women had health cards, now 60 of them have cards. I also pay visits to support and motivate them,” he said.

While the success has been encouraging, challenges remain. Considering the entrenched patriarchy and caste barriers in Gujarat, sustaining behavioural change requires greater investment of time and resources. Only then, will no one be left behind.

(The writer is a senior journalist)

In denial of converging global crises

Artificial Intelligence and climate emergency are the two biggest threats facing economies today. We know a good deal about both but not enough to be confident about our choices – and besides, they may well mutate and head off in unforeseen directions



GWYNNE DYER

Maybe we can get through the climate crisis without a global catastrophe, although that door is closing fast. And maybe we can cope with the huge loss of jobs caused by the revolution in robotics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) without a social and political calamity. But can we do both at the same time?

We should know how to deal with the AI revolution because we have been down this road before. It's a bit different this time, of course, in the sense that the original industrial revolution in 1780-1850 created as many new jobs (in manufacturing) as it destroyed (in cottage industries and skilled trades).

The AI revolution, by contrast, is

not producing nearly enough replacement jobs but it is making us much wealthier. The value of manufactured goods doubled in the United States (US) in the past 30 years even as the number of good industrial jobs fell by a third (eight million jobs gone). Maybe we could use that extra wealth to ease the transition to a job-scarce future. The climate emergency is unlike any challenge we have faced before. Surmounting it would require an unprecedented level of global cooperation and very big changes in how people consume and behave, neither of which human beings have historically been good at.

These two crises are already interacting. The erosion of middle-class jobs and the stagnation (or worse) of real wage levels generates resentment and anger among the victims and is already creating populist, authoritarian regimes throughout the world. These regimes despise international cooperation and often deny climate change as well (Trump in the US, Bolsonaro in Brazil).

And there is a recession coming. Maybe not this year, although almost



all the storm signals are flying: Stock markets spooked, a rush into gold, nine major economies already in recession or on the verge of one, an “inverted yield curve” on bonds and trade wars spreading. Even US President Donald Trump is worried, which is why he postponed the harsher American trade tariffs against China, which were due next month.

Economists have predicted nine of the past five recessions as they say in the trade, so I'm not calling the turn on this one. But a recession is overdue and a lot of the damage done by the

Great Recession of 2008 has still not been repaired. Interest rates are still very low, so the banks have little room to cut rates and soften the next one. When it arrives, it could be a doozy.

So what can we do about all this? The first thing is to recognise that we cannot plot a course that takes us from here and now, through all the changes and past all the unpleasant surprises to ultimate safety, maybe 50 years from now.

We can plan how to get through the next five years and we should be thinking hard about what will be need-

ed later on. But we can't steer a safe and steady course to the year 2070 any more than intelligent decision-makers in 1790 could have planned how to get through to 1840 without too much upheaval. They might have seen steam engines but they would have had no idea what a railroad was.

We are in the same position as those people with regard to both AI and the global environmental emergency (which extends far beyond “climate change”, although that is at its heart). We know a good deal about both issues but not enough to be confident about our choices – and besides, they may well mutate and head off in unforeseen directions as the crises deepen.

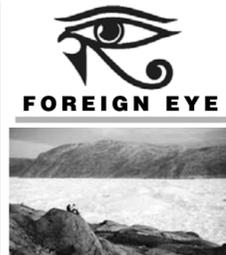
But there are two big things we can do right now. We need to stop the slide into populist and increasingly authoritarian Governments (because we are not going to stop the spread of AI). And we have to win ourselves more time to get our greenhouse gas emissions under control (because we are certainly going to go through 450 parts per million of carbon dioxide equivalent, which would give us +2°C

higher average global temperature).

The best bet for getting our politics back on track is a guaranteed minimum income, high enough to keep everybody comfortable – whether they are working or not. That is well within the reach of any developed country's economy and has the added benefit of putting enough money into people's pockets to save everybody's business model.

And the best way to win more time on the climate front is to start geo-engineering (direct intervention in the atmosphere to hold the global temperature down) as soon as we get anywhere near +2°C. To be ready then, we need to be doing open-air testing on a small scale now. There will be howls of protest from the right about a guaranteed minimum income and from the greener parts of the left about geo-engineering. However, both will probably be indispensable if we want to get through these huge changes without mass casualties or even civilisational collapse.

(The writer's new book is *Growing Pains, the Future of Democracy and Work*)



ON GREENLAND

As the seriousness of the climate crisis becomes more obvious, so does the fact that it can only be solved by coordinated international action, while competing nationalisms can only exacerbate it and make the easily foreseeable end worse for all competitors. A rules-based international order is the counsel of enlightened self-interest, not idealism. But today the most powerful nation is in the hands of a man who can recognise neither his own nor anyone else's legitimate self-interest.

(The Guardian editorial)

Trump flip-flops on tax cuts

Says US has 'strong economy'

AP ■ WASHINGTON

A day after considering cutting taxes to promote economic growth, President Donald Trump changed course and said he would abandon the idea because the nation already had "a strong economy."

Trump's flip-flop on Wednesday came after recent market volatility and economic uncertainty, and amid a debate about whether the United States was heading for a slowdown that would imperil his reelection chances.

Trump earlier this week acknowledged, for the first time, that his China trade policies may mean economic pain for Americans, though he insisted the tariffs are needed for more important long-term benefits. But his consideration of cutting payroll taxes appeared short-lived.

"I'm not looking at a tax cut now," he told reporters at the White House.

"We don't need it. We have a strong economy."

Trump also knocked down the idea of indexing to the cap-

ital gains tax, which applies when investors sell assets, to inflation. He said he feared "it will be perceived, if I do it, as somewhat elitist."

Analysts have warned that a slowdown, if not full-blown recession, could hit before next year's election. Trump, however, has largely praised the economy's performance and his handling of it.

He has often blamed the Federal Reserve (and Chairman Jerome Powell) and the global slowdown for creating dark clouds at home.

"Jay Powell and the Federal Reserve have totally missed the call. I was right and just about everybody admits that," Trump said Wednesday.

"He raised interest rates too fast, too furious, and we have a normalised rate. And now we have to go the other direction."

Some White House advisers fear Trump has undercut Powell's credibility.

They worry that the president's calls for rate cuts and his discussion of indexing or a payroll tax cut could spook, rather than reassure markets.

Trump indicated he had no choice but to impose the trade penalties that have been a drag on US manufacturers, financial markets and, by some mea-

asures, American consumers.

"Somebody had to do it. I am the chosen one," Trump said on the White House lawn, looking skyward.

"Somebody had to do it. So, I'm taking on China. I'm taking on China on trade."

China, though, said trade with the US has been "mutually beneficial" and appealed to Washington to "get along with us."

A foreign ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, expressed hope Washington can "meet China halfway" in settling disagreements.

The US economy appears to be showing vulnerabilities after more than 10 years of growth. Factory output has fallen and consumer confidence has waned as he has ramped up his trade fight with China. Trump rattled the stock and bond markets this month when he announced plans to put a 10 per cent tax on \$300 billion worth of Chinese imports.

The market reaction suggested a recession might be on the horizon and led Trump to delay some of the tariffs that were scheduled to begin in September, though 25 per cent tariffs are already in place for \$250 billion in other Chinese goods.

UAE to be first Middle East country to launch RuPay Card

PTI ■ DUBAI

The UAE will be the first Middle East country to launch the RuPay Card during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Gulf nation on Friday, according to a media report.

The RuPay card is a first-of-its-kind Indian domestic Debit and Credit Card payment network, with acceptance at ATMs, POS devices and e-commerce websites. It was launched in 2012.

"A Memorandum of Understanding to establish a technology interface between the payment platforms in India and UAE, would be exchanged between the National Payments Corporation of India and UAE's Mercury Payments Services," Navdeep Singh Suri, the Indian Ambassador to the UAE, told the UAE's state-run WAM news agency.

"This will enable the RuPay card to be used at point-of-sale terminals across the UAE," he said.

"The UAE is the largest and most vibrant business hub in the region. It hosts the largest Indian community, receives the largest number of Indian tourists and has the largest trade with India. By becoming the first country in the region to introduce the RuPay card, we expect that each of these ele-

ments of tourism, trade and the Indian diaspora will benefit," Suri said.

India has already launched the RuPay card in Singapore and Bhutan.

Prime Minister Modi's third official visit to the UAE on August 23-24 is another important milestone in the bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership, the Indian envoy said.

During the visit, Modi will receive the 'Order of Zayed', the highest civil decoration of the country for "giving a big boost to bilateral relations between the two countries."

Modi would also meet the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to discuss bilateral, regional and international matters of mutual interest.

The India-UAE bilateral trade touched almost \$60 billion last year with a fairly balanced profile of about \$30 billion of exports and \$30 billion of imports, the envoy said.

"On the investment side, we have already seen sizable inflows from India to the UAE in free zones like Jebel Ali, Hamriyah Free Zone Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone and also in sectors ranging from manufacturing and real estate to trade and services," he said.

Goyal: WTO reforms should be holistic, comprehensive

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday made a case for holistic and comprehensive reforms of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) without ignoring the ground realities, especially the stark inequality among developed and developing nations.

He said instead of going for a piecemeal reform, the members should take on board issues of all countries of the WTO. "It is the time when all members of the WTO start looking at some of those reforms that have been pending for long. When we look at reforming the WTO, (it should be done) holistically and comprehensively. It cannot be pick and choose," Goyal said.

He was speaking at a programme of South-South and Triangular Cooperation here.

"I do hope that as we look at reforming the WTO, a little bit more relevance to today and 21st century realities will come into play," he added.

The statement comes at a time when the US has called for reforming the world trade body. The US wants formulation of some guidelines regarding special and differential treatment (S&DT), which is meant for developing nations.

Business Corner



To inculcate the habit of learning and quizzing, NTPC organises Medha Pratiyogita i.e. quiz competition for its employees and School Children all across its Regional Headquarters and Stations. The regional round of Medha Pratiyogita (DBF & Hydro Region) was organised by DBF-HQ at NTPC Dabri



K Sreekant has assumed the charge of Chairman and Managing Director of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) on 5th August, 2019. Prior to taking up this assignment, he was serving as Director (Finance) POWERGRID



Rajeev Mehrotra, CMD (RITES) received the National Project Excellence Award of PMA(India) for the Project Bogibeel Rail cum Road Bridge from Amitabh Kant CEO, NITI Aayog in the inaugural function of Project Managers Global Summit 2019 on "Sustainability Through Competent Project Leadership". RITES worked as the design consultant for this project near Dibrugarh, Assam, across mighty River Brahmaputra



Atul Sobti has taken over as the Director General of SCOPE (Standing Conference of Public Enterprises), which is an apex organisation of Public Enterprises. Atul Sobti who recently superannuated as CMD of BHEL, a Maharashtra Public Sector Enterprise, is a graduate Mechanical engineer with post-graduation in international management and diploma in project management

WEDDINGZ.IN GROWS 480% POST-OYO ACQUISITION, EXPANDS TO OVER 30 CITIES IN INDIA

New Delhi: Weddingz.in, a wedding company posted that it has grown 480% since the acquisition of OYO. A year after its acquisition by OYO Hotels & Homes, India's largest, world's 3rd largest and fastest-growing chain of leased and franchised hotels, homes, living and workspaces, Weddingz.in has witnessed 480% growth in revenue. Backed by OYO's operational capabilities, a unique offering of providing hassle-free wedding experience and 1500+ talented employees, Weddingz.in has become a household name for a great wedding experience. Weddingz.in has witnessed 636% growth in bookings since August 2018 and enjoys high customer delight.

Mines tribunal stays K'taka Govt order that bars NMDC from mining

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mines tribunal, hearing the a petition filed by NMDC challenging the Government of Karnataka order withdrawing the extension of mining lease of Donimalai Iron Ore granted to the former in 2018, has stayed the Karnataka Government's order till next hearing. The tribunal on Wednesday in its order said that "accordingly the impugned order dated August 17, 2019 and any consequent action thereon are stayed until the next date of hearing"

The said stay order would prohibit the Government of Karnataka to take any further action regarding mining lease or initiate auction process of Donimalai mine.

NMDC on August 19, 2019 filed a Revision Petition



before the Mines Tribunal, challenging the Government of Karnataka's arbitrary order of withdrawing the extension of mining lease of Donimalai Iron Ore Mine granted to it on November 2, 2018, according to a press note issued by the Government of India enterprise.

The petition challenges the Karnataka Government's August 17 order that withdraws the extension of lease of Donimalai Iron Ore Mine, granted earlier for a period of 20 years till November 3, 2038.

Govt classifies ocean power as renewable energy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh on Thursday approved a proposal to declare ocean energy as renewable energy.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has clarified to all stakeholders that energy produced using various forms of ocean energy, such as tidal, wave, ocean thermal energy conversion, shall be considered as renewable energy.

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Under the RPO, distribution companies (discoms) are required to have certain proportion of clean energy supplies. The proportion is fixed by state power regulators. The discoms can also buy renew-

able energy certificates in lieu of mandated clean energy supplies, from the developers or renewable power generators.

Oceans cover 70 per cent of the earth's surface and represent an enormous amount of energy in the form of wave, tidal, marine current and thermal gradient.

A variety of different technologies are currently under development throughout the world to harness this energy in all its forms.

Deployment is currently limited but the sector has the potential to grow, fuelling economic growth, reducing carbon footprint and creating jobs not only along the coasts but also inland along its supply chains.

As India steps up its effort to contemplate its renewable energy and climate change objectives after 2022, it is opportune to explore all possible avenues to stimulate innovation, create economic growth and new jobs as well as to reduce our carbon footprint, the statement said.

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VAKILSEARCH TO INCORPORATE 10,000 FREE COMPANY INCORPORATIONS

New Delhi: VakilSearch, a legal-tech company which offers online legal, tax and compliance technology services has launched Swadeshi Startup Movement to encourage citizens of India to become entrepreneurs. Inspired by the Swadeshi Movement that ensued during the freedom struggle era, this campaign is being launched to commemorate the Make in India initiative, in-line with Startup India spearheaded by the Government of India.

NTPC gets shareholders' nod to raise up to ₹15k cr via bonds, hike borrowing limit

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-run power giant NTPC on Thursday has got shareholders' approval to raise up to ₹15,000 crore through issuance of bonds and to raise its borrowing limit to ₹2 lakh crore.

The company got shareholders' nod through a special resolution to raise funds up to ₹15,000 crore through issue of bonds/debtentures on private

placement basis in the domestic market at its annual general meeting (AGM) held on Wednesday, it said in a BSE filing.

According to the AGM notice, the funds raised will be used for capital expenditure, working capital and general corporate purposes.

NTPC has also got shareholders' approval to increase its borrowing limit from ₹1.5 lakh crore to ₹2 lakh crore.

Goodyear India unveils new Car, SUV range of tyres

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Goodyear India on Thursday launched two new products Assurance Duraplus 2 and Wrangler AT SilentTrac for the Indian market. While Assurance Duraplus 2 is designed for small-to-mid-sized passenger cars, Wrangler AT SilentTrac is tailored for confident SUV drivers with a strong desire for adventure and the freedom to explore with full control over the wheels.

The Empowered Officer, TRRD, PWD(PMGSY), 7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala, Tripura invites sealed tender(s) against press NleT No : 11/EO/TRRDA/2019-20 date: 14.08.2019.

For Upgradation of Road & CDs including LS Bridges of PMGSY Works (RRP-II WB-AF and G&CR);

1. TR-08-01 P2, TR-08-02 P2 & TR-08-03 P2: With Estimated cost: a) Upgradation: ₹ 1317.55 Lakh b) Maintenance: ₹ 149.22 Lakh c) Earnest money: ₹ 29.34 lakh
2. TR-03-02 P2, TR-03-01 P2 TR-03-03 & TR-03-04 P2 :With Estimated cost: a) Upgradation: ₹1831.51 Lakh b) Maintenance : ₹ 209.36 Lakh c) Earnest money: ₹ 40.82 lakh

Time of completion-12 (twelve) months. Last Date of dropping of tenders -12th September, 2019 up to 1500 hrs (the time settings fixed on the server & displayed at the top of the tender site).

For details please visit: www.pmsgytenderstrp.gov.in

Pre-bid meeting will be held on 22nd August, 2019 at 1100 hrs. in the office of the Empowered Officer, TRRD, PWD (PMGSY), 7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala, Tripura.

SD/- Empowered Officer, Tripura RRDA, PWD (PMGSY) 7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala ICA/C-871/2019-20

UJVN Limited
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax No.: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

e-Tender Notice

Office of the Executive Engineer (C&M), MB-II, Joshiyara (Uttarkashi) invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No.	01 / EE(C&M) / MB-II / 2019-20
Name of work	Annual Civil Repair & Maintenance of Joshiyara Barrage, Uttarkashi.
Estimated Cost	Rs. 4003515.00 (including GST)
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 100100.00
Tender Fee	Rs. 2360.00 (Including GST)
Date & time of availability of bid document on website	23.08.2019 from 17:00 Hrs.
Last date & time of submission of bids on website	16.09.2019 upto 17:00 Hrs.
Last date & time of submission of hard copies of bids	19.09.2019 upto 15:00 Hrs.
Date & time of opening of bids on website	21.09.2019 at 11:00 Hrs.

For fuller & further detail, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"

459/UJVNL/Adv1 Dated 21-08-2019 **E.E (C&M), MB-II, Joshiyara**
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Babli @ Bauo, S/o Gurdeep Singh, R/o J-232, Sardar Colony, Sec-16, Rohini, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 296/12 u/s 323/341/506 IPC** has been registered at **P.S. K.N.K. Marg, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Babli @ Bauo** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Babli @ Bauo** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Babli @ Bauo** accused of **FIR No. 296/12 u/s 323/341/506 IPC** is required to appear before this court to answer said complaint on or before **17.10.2019**.

By Order
Ms. Richa Sharma, Metropolitan Magistrate(08), Room No. 306, Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/3178/RD/19-(Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Namely : Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: approx. 28-30 years, Height: 5' 6", Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Red T-shirt with strips blue and cocka colour blue Jeans pant, camel colour belt, black dora around neck bare foot and French cut beard, who was found dead at Haiderpur water treatment plant, Delhi.** In this regard a case **DD No. 14-A, dated 18.08.2019** has been registered at **P.S. K.N.K Marg, 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. K.N.K Marg, Delhi Tel. No. 011-27571162

DP/3193/RD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a Male namely **Manoj S/o Munna Lal, R/o B-742, Ambika Enclave, Nihal Vihar, Delhi, Age : 29 yrs., Height : 5'5", Complexion : Fair, Face : Round, Wearing : Black Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jeans and Hawal Chappal in Feet,** has been missing / kidnapped since **02.08.2019** from the area of **P.S. Nihal Vihar**. In this regard a case **DD. No. 93-A dated 03.08.2019** has been lodged at **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped Male but no clue has come to light so far.

If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped Male please inform undersigned.

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

SHO PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946700, 25946710

DP/2575/OD/19.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Where as complaint has been made before me that **Ibrahim@Malik, S/o Md. Akbar, R/o Plot No. 507, Ishwar Colony, Bawana, Delhi** is involved in case **FIR No. 204/19, dated 06.05.19 u/s 392/397/120B/34 IPC, P.S. Bawana, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Ibrahim@Malik** cannot be found and where as it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ibrahim@Malik** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ibrahim@Malik, FIR No. 204/19 u/s 392/397/120B/34 IPC, P.S. Bawana, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **27-09-2019**.

By Order
Ms. Manu Goel Kharb Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (North) DP/533/ON/19 Room No. 114, 1st, Floor, Rohini Court, Delhi

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified body of a person namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was admitted on 19.08.2019 at Rajan Babu TB Hospital, Kingsway Camp, from the area of P.S. Kashmere Gate.** In this regard proceeding **DD No. 19-A dated 19.08.2019** has been lodged at **Police Station, Kashmere Gate, Delhi**. During the Treatment Doctor Declared him Dead. Identification of unidentified dead body of a male is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: 32 Years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: White Lining Shirt & Black Lower.

If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO Police Station Kashmere Gate, Delhi. Ph.: 011-23967889, 8750870123

DP/352/N/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED PERSON

General public is hereby informed that this person namely **Tilak Raj S/o Ram Singh R/o H.No. 1164, 1st Floor, Chota Shiv Mandir, Alipur, Delhi Age : 39 years, Height : 5'7", Face : Long, Complexion : Fair, Build : Normal, wearing cream colour T-shirt, blue colour pant and shoes in feet,** has been missing/ kidnapped since **16.07.2019** from the area of **P.S. Alipur, Delhi**. In this regard **DD No. 64-A** dated **01.08.2019** has been lodged at **P.S. Alipur, Delhi**.

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

SHO : P.S. Alipur, Delhi Ph. : 011-27202290, 27202265

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Ph.: 24368639, 24368641

DP/3193/ON/19

Sensex sinks 587 pts as stimulus hopes dim; Yes Bank dives 14 pc

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity markets closed deep in the red on Thursday after top government officials virtually ruled out a stimulus package for slowdown-hit sectors, triggering another round of selling in banking, auto and metal stocks.

A weakening rupee, which hit its lowest level in eight months, and lackluster global cues further weighed on investor sentiment, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex sank 587.44 points, or 1.59%, to finish at 36,472.93. The broader NSE Nifty slumped 177.35 points, or 1.62%, to 10,741.35. Both the key indices closed lower for the third straight session.

Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian on Thursday said using taxpayers' money to bail out companies going through a 'sunset' phase would create moral hazards and such a step was an anathema to the market economy.

Power Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg also said low interest rates and availability of credit to private sector were better tools than a fiscal stimulus.

The comments have dashed hopes of some sort of a stimulus package from the government to boost growth and revive

GOLD CONTINUES BULL RUN

New Delhi (PTI): Continuing the record-setting trend, gold price on Thursday hit a new high of ₹38,970 per 10 gram by gaining ₹150 in the national capital, according to the All-India Sarafa Association, mainly on account of a weaker rupee and safe-haven buying from investors due to weak equity market. Gold prices have been hitting a fresh high everyday since Tuesday. Silver advanced by ₹60 to ₹45,100 per kg on increased offtake by industrial units and coin makers.

flagging consumer sentiment, analysts said.

Yes Bank was the biggest laggard in the Sensex pack, plummeting 13.91%, followed by Vedanta, Bajaj Finance and Tata Motors, which declined up to 7.76%.

ONGC, SBI, Hero MotoCorp, ICICI Bank, Tata Steel, HDFC twins and RIL also closed with losses.

Tech Mahindra, TCS, HUL and HCL Tech were the only gainers, spurring up to 1.57%.

"Benchmark indices continue to remain weak with rupee hitting fresh lows and lack of news on the economic stimulus by the government... Investor sentiment was further dampened by statement made by Chief Economic Advisor that Indian economy doesn't need fiscal stimulus to tackle slowdown."

"Besides policy uncertainty on the domestic front, weak

global cues, foreign fund flow, currency and oil price movement would further determine the trend of the market," said Hemang Jani, head (advisory), Sharekhani by BNP Paribas.

Speaking at an event in Delhi, Subramanian stressed on the cyclical nature of a market economy.

"Since 1991 we are a market economy, and in a market economy there are sectors which go on sunrise and then go through sunset phase.

"If we basically expect the government to use taxpayers' money to intervene every time when there are some 'sunssets', then I think you introduce possible moral hazards from 'too big to fail' and as well as the possibility of a situation where profits are private and losses are socialized which is basically an anathema to way the market economy functions," he said.

Speaking at the same event,

Power Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg said reduction in interest rates and availability of credit to private sector are better tools than a fiscal stimulus. Garg, who was Finance Secretary till last month, also said the first quarter GDP number are likely to be lower than the same period last fiscal.

Meanwhile, BSE realty index was the biggest sectoral loser, cracking 6.01%, followed by metal, finance, oil and gas, bank and energy.

IT index was the sole gainer, rising 0.30%, buoyed by a weak rupee.

The broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices followed the benchmarks, closing up to 2.19% lower.

Globally, markets were jittery ahead of comments from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, US.

Elsewhere in Asia, Shanghai Composite Index and Nikkei ended on a positive note, while Hang Seng and Kospi settled in the red. Equities in Europe were trading lower in their respective early sessions.

The Indian rupee depreciated 33 paise to 71.88 against the US dollar intra-day.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.65% to USD 60.69 per barrel.

NITI Aayog for extraordinary steps to deal with slowdown

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Government think tank NITI Aayog on Thursday made a case for extraordinary steps to deal with the unprecedented stress in the financial sector which has resulted in an economic slowdown in the country.

The government needs to take steps which eliminate apprehension from the minds of private sector players and encourage them to step up investments, NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said. He also said private investments will drive India out of the middle income trap.

Termining the stress in the financial sector as unprecedented, he said nobody had faced this sort of situation in the last 70 years where entire financial system was under threat.

"Nobody is trusting anybody else... within the private sector nobody is ready to lend, everyone is sitting on cash... you may have to take steps which are extraordinary," he said at an event here.

Elaborating further, Kumar said some of the steps had already been announced in the Union Budget to address stress in the financial sector and give a push to economic growth which hit a 5-year low of 6.8 per cent in 2018-19.

Commerce min to soon come out with new foreign trade policy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Commerce Ministry will soon come out with a new foreign trade policy, which provides guideline and incentives for increasing exports, for the next five financial years 2020-25, an official said.

The ministry is giving final touches to the new policy as the validity for the old one will end on March 31, 2020.

"We have taken views of all stakeholders. The new policy is likely to be announced by September-end or early-October," the official said.

The new policy would focus on simplifying procedures for exporters and importers besides providing incentives to boost outbound shipments.

The ministry's arm, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), is formulating the policy.

At present, tax benefits are provided under merchandise export from India scheme (MEIS) for goods and services export from India scheme (SEIS).

In the new policy, changes are expected in the incentives given to goods as the current export promotion schemes are challenged by the US in the dispute resolution mechanism of the World Trade

Organisation (WTO).

In this backdrop, the government is recasting the incentives to make them compliant with global trade rules, being formulated by Geneva-based WTO, a 164 member Geneva-based multilateral body.

The Commerce Ministry has also floated a cabinet note for a new export incentives scheme — Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) — that would be compliant with the WTO norms.

The RoSCTL scheme is available for exports of garments and made-ups. It would now be proposed to extend it to all exports in a phased manner.

The new scheme would replace the existing MEIS, which was challenged by the US last year in the WTO. It would ensure refund of all un-rebated central and state levies and taxes imposed on inputs that are consumed in exports of all sectors.

Major un-rebated levies are state VAT/central excise duty on fuel used in transportation, captive power, farm sector; mandi tax; duty of electricity; stamp duty on export documents, purchases from unregistered dealers; embedded CGST and compensation cess coal used in the

production of electricity.

Exporters are demanding incentives based on research and development, and product-specific clusters under the new policy.

Ludhiana-based Hand Tools Association President SC Ralhan said the new policy should have provisions for refund of indirect taxes like on oil and power, and state levies such as mandi tax.

"Sectors like engineering should be promoted as they create huge number of jobs. There should be relaxation for obtaining licence under Export Promotion Capital Goods for modernisation of industry," Ralhan said.

Assistant professor and expert on agriculture economics Chirala Shankar Rao has said the policy should look at ways to promote agri exports as it holds huge opportunities.

During April-July 2019-20, the country's exports dipped 0.37 per cent to USD 107.41 billion.

Since 2011-12, India's exports have been hovering at around USD 300 billion. During 2018-19, overseas shipments grew 9 per cent to USD 331 billion.

The government is targeting to increase the exports to USD one trillion in the coming years.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	10905.30	10908.25	10718.30	10741.35	-177.35
BRIANNIA	2393.50	2477.00	2393.00	2425.40	40.90
TECHM	672.65	684.00	668.10	683.00	10.20
DREDDY	2503.00	2560.00	2503.00	2533.05	30.05
TCS	2187.00	2235.65	2170.00	2210.00	23.80
HINDUNILVR	1850.45	1880.00	1841.90	1869.10	19.10
HCLTECH	1070.50	1086.35	1056.05	1079.00	8.85
INFRAEEL	246.10	248.75	244.25	245.90	1.30
WIPRO	252.00	253.50	248.50	251.95	-0.45
TTAN	1065.80	1070.00	1048.05	1061.55	-3.75
MARUTI	6000.00	6298.50	6168.00	6198.00	-30.90
INFY	799.90	801.30	792.35	795.40	-4.05
AXISBANK	665.00	669.85	657.75	661.15	-3.55
ITC	242.20	246.00	239.00	240.00	-1.45
BAJAJ-AUTO	2762.00	2775.00	2731.30	2748.00	-16.80
BHARTIARTL	355.00	357.20	351.00	351.95	-2.95
HINDALCO	174.00	179.00	172.65	175.50	-1.55
SUNPHARMA	416.70	420.75	408.50	413.00	-4.00
POWERGRID	204.50	205.55	200.80	202.85	-2.05
ASIANPAINT	1582.50	1593.90	1566.30	1570.00	-19.15
CIPLA	464.90	469.95	460.60	462.60	-6.05
JSWSTEEL	215.00	220.40	212.80	216.20	-2.90
GRASIM	691.90	708.80	681.25	688.55	-10.25
GAIL	122.00	124.70	119.75	120.70	-1.80
LT	180.00	187.45	182.15	180.05	-20.60
ADANIPOR	348.80	348.80	340.80	342.50	-5.50
KOTAKBANK	159.55	1510.00	1472.40	1480.00	-25.75
M&M	521.55	523.75	509.85	511.85	-9.05
INDUSINDBK	1365.95	1365.95	1330.05	1339.75	-27.45
RELIANCE	1270.95	1271.00	1238.90	1244.20	-26.75
ULTRACEMCO	3903.75	3943.30	3817.10	3838.20	-83.20
HDFCBANK	2220.85	2220.85	2167.05	2177.00	-48.85
ONGC	121.20	121.50	116.20	117.70	-2.75
NTPC	118.00	118.40	113.85	114.90	-3.00
IOC	121.05	121.50	116.40	117.95	-3.10
HDFC	2066.00	2073.50	2007.95	2012.30	-54.60
TATASTEEL	339.90	346.95	330.40	333.00	-10.00
EICHERMOT	16005.00	16052.00	15480.05	15530.00	-470.50
ICICIBANK	411.00	412.50	398.00	398.85	-13.20
HEROMOTOCO	2713.00	2714.25	2666.00	2626.00	-88.25
SPIN	535.00	552.65	507.85	518.00	-17.90
UBL	278.20	278.20	267.30	268.00	-9.40
TATAMOTORS	112.00	114.00	106.20	108.05	-4.35
COALINDIA	188.00	188.45	177.00	181.10	-7.70
ZEELE	342.15	343.90	332.30	330.00	-14.20
BPCL	328.00	329.85	309.55	317.10	-14.10
BAJFINANCE	3259.00	3259.00	3098.45	3113.90	-147.55
BHUSHNGEN	470.00	470.00	438.30	458.50	-25.05
BAJAJFINSV	7164.00	7186.25	6740.00	6774.00	-371.85
VEDL	138.60	138.90	125.30	129.30	-10.65
YESBANK	66.40	67.70	53.20	57.45	-7.95

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	25460.85	25476.85	25078.75	25136.90	-345.15
DIVISLAB	1537.60	1576.30	1531.50	1569.00	35.90
OFSS	2851.05	2927.35	2851.05	2902.60	52.40
HAVELLS	647.50	665.00	643.35	658.90	8.25
PETRONET	238.00	245.25	236.15	239.95	1.05
NHPC	23.30	23.35	23.15	23.30	0.10
CONCOR	482.95	488.00	480.00	483.85	0.85
PGHIL	10325.95	10398.00	10151.10	10299.85	12.80
LUPIN	735.30	746.00	730.55	736.00	0.80
UBL	1287.90	1309.00	1273.65	1286.00	0.00
AUROPHARMA	589.50	600.70	582.35	589.20	-0.30
BANDHANBNK	469.00	470.00	453.25	465.00	-0.40
DMART	1481.75	1504.00	1477.35	1479.95	-8.20
BAJAJHLING	3370.00	3389.70	3330.00	3343.30	-1.80
DABUR	425.00	431.85	424.80	426.00	-1.05
HDFCLIFE	533.95	538.35	525.40	529.00	-1.70
ICICIGI	1125.25	1148.70	1120.25	1130.35	-4.00
MRFL	57502.00	57700.00	56979.00	57449.90	-287.10
INDIGO	1625.00	1650.00	1614.80	1616.00	-8.80
BHEL	48.15	48.80	47.70	48.00	-0.30
PIDILITIND	1369.30	1369.35	1345.55	1357.40	-8.90
BIOCON	224.70	226.25	218.05	221.90	-1.55
ABB	1361.55	1364.00	1340.00	1350.00	-9.35
CADILAC	210.00	217.30	210.50	212.65	-1.50
MARICO	393.00	394.30	389.50	390.35	-3.25
MOTHERSUMI	96.90	97.45	94.90	96.00	-0.90
GODREJCP	611.90	621.70	603.80	607.60	-4.40
ICICIPRULI	386.00	386.00	376.80	381.60	-4.10
COPAL	1200.05	1203.30	1180.00	1185.00	-14.15
ACC	1483.15	1489.00	1454.20	1462.70	-22.95
HINDZINC	201.00	202.90	198.05	199.25	-3.25
SIEMENS	1156.95	1161.20	1128.35	1132.05	-19.85
SHREECEM	18672.40	18789.95	18311.05	18341.00	-360.95
AMBUJACEM	200.80	200.90	196.50	197.00	-4.10
BOSCHLTD	13645.70	13773.45	13213.25	13400.00	-287.95
SBLIFE	826.20	837.65	805.35	810.00	-19.45
MCDOWELL-N	577.10	587.40	560.00	565.00	-13.85
PGENDIN	17950.10	17999.85	17590.05	17607.00	-433.95
NIACL	106.15	106.15	103.15	103.80	-2.65
HDFCAMC	2199.00	2199.60	2125.90	2138.00	-62.75
SRTRANSFIN	1009.20	1009.20	981.35	982.50	-29.35
PEL	1777.00	1784.95	1710.85	1724.00	-58.80
BANKBARODA	94.30	95.00	89.65	91.40	-3.45
L&TFH	96.90	97.50	92.05	93.10	-3.55
SAIL	31.30	31.75	29.70	30.10	-1.25
HINDPETRO	238.05	238.90	225.00	227.00	-11.75
IDEA	5.55	5.75	5.20	5.30	-0.30
ASHOKLEY	62.30	62.50	57.40	57.30	-4.20
GICRE	173.00	174.00	158.00	158.90	-13.95
NMDC	89.40	90.25	77.80	78.10	-8.25
DLF	168.80	168.90	137.65	143.05	-28.55

BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
LICHSGFIN	437.15			

Macron, Johnson set for bruising Brexit talks

AFP ■ PARIS

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson heads to Paris on Thursday for talks with French President Emmanuel Macron who is expected to rebuff his last-ditch efforts to renegotiate the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

Macron, who has said previously he is happy to be the "bad guy" on Brexit, roundly rejected Johnson's calls to scrap a key plank of a deal negotiated between the EU and former British premier Theresa May.

"Renegotiation on the terms currently proposed by the British is not an option that exists, and that has always been made clear by (EU) President Tusk," Macron told reporters on Wednesday evening.

At stake is the so-called "backstop", an arrangement guaranteeing that border checks will not return between EU member Ireland and Northern Ireland which is part of Britain.

Johnson considers the backstop to be "anti-democratic" and an affront to British sovereignty because it will require London to keep its regulations aligned with the EU



French President Emmanuel Macron talks to Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson during their meeting at the Elysee Palace on Thursday

during a transition exit period. The EU argues this is necessary to avoid the re-emergence of border checkpoints which could lead to a return of fighting on the divided island where anti-British violence has claimed thousands of lives.

More evidence of deadlock on Thursday would raise the chances of a "no deal" Brexit, which France now sees as the most likely scenario despite the expectation that it will wreak economic damage on Britain and the EU.

"The EU and member

states need to take the possibility of a 'no deal' outcome much more seriously than before," a senior EU official told reporters in Brussels on Thursday on condition of anonymity.

The Paris visit is the second leg of Johnson's first foreign trip since he became prime minister a month ago.

On Wednesday, he told German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin that the backstop has "grave defects for a sovereign, democratic country like the UK" and insisted the provision "has to go".

'Seriously looking' to end birthright citizenship: Trump

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump has threatened to end what he called the "ridiculous" US policy of birthright citizenship, which gives citizenship automatically to those born in America, as he sought ways to check illegal immigration.

"We're looking at that very seriously, birthright citizenship. It's frankly ridiculous," Trump said Wednesday outside the White House while responding to a question on the birthright citizenship, which grants automatic citizenship to those born in the US.

His comments echoes his administration's previous vow to unilaterally end the process by which babies born in the country automatically become US citizens.

"Birthright citizenship where you have a baby on our land, you walk over the border, have a baby, congratulations, the baby is now a US citizen. We're looking at it very, very seriously," Trump said.

During his 2016 presidential campaign, Trump had said that he will end the birthright citizenship.

The 14th Amendment of



the US Constitution guarantees birthright citizenship and states: "All persons born or naturalised in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

Indian-origin Presidential candidate Kamala Harris, a Democratic senator from California, mocked Trump's comments on Twitter Wednesday, stating the President "should 'seriously' consider reading the Constitution."

Trump's statement came as the administration announced a proposal to detain undocumented families together indefinitely, replacing the agreement that set a 20-day limit for holding children, The Hill reported.

China 'will not sit idly by' over US arms sale to Taiwan

AP ■ BEIJING

A senior Chinese officer says the country "will not sit idly by" if the US proceeds with a sale of advanced F-16V fighter jets to Taiwan, and warned of other potential countermeasures in addition to punishing foreign firms involved in the deal.

Col. Chen Rongdi, chief of the Institute of War Studies at the Academy of Military Sciences, said at a defense

forum Thursday that Beijing considered the sale a violation of previous US commitments to China regarding the island it considers its own territory to be annexed by force if necessary.

He did not elaborate on what additional measures China might take.

Beijing has repeatedly said it will levy sanctions against US companies linked to a planned USD 8 billion sale and demanded Washington cancel it immediately.

Iran's Prez says 'talks are useless' in dealing with US

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's President struck a muscular tone on dealings with the US, saying Thursday that "talks are useless" as Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers crumbles further. President Hassan Rouhani made the comment in a speech in Tehran during the unveiling of the Bavar-373, a long-range surface-to-air missile system that he described as an improvement to the Russian S-300.

"Now that our enemies do not accept logic, we cannot respond with logic," Rouhani said in the televised speech.

He added: "When the enemy launches a missile against us, we cannot give a speech and say: 'Mr. Rocket, please do not hit our country and our innocent people. Rocket-launching sir, if you can please hit a button and self-destruct the missile in the air.'"

On Wednesday, Iran's state TV reported that the Bavar-373 is able to recognize up to 100 targets at a same time and confront them with six different weapons.

Since 1992, Iran has developed a homegrown defense industry that has produced light and heavy weapons ranging from mortars and torpedoes to tanks and submarines.

Merkel gives Britain until Oct 31 for Brexit solution

AFP ■ THE HAGUE

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Thursday that Britain could have until the day of its scheduled EU departure to avoid a chaotic no-deal Brexit, clarifying that she had not set London a 30-day deadline. Merkel had appeared to lay down the 30-day rule to solve the vexed issue of the Irish border "backstop" when she met British Prime Minister Boris Johnson in Berlin on Wednesday.

"I said that what you want to do in three or two years, you

can do in 30 days -- or rather, you would have to say: you can do it by October 31," Merkel said at a press conference in The Hague with Dutch premier Mark Rutte.

"So it's not about 30 days, but they were symbolic for the fact that you can do it in a short period of time."

Merkel said she was giving the new date "because Great Britain said they would like to leave the European Union on 31 October."

"And until then we have to work on it -- work on it if the will exists on both sides."

The German leader said the aim was to find a regime that both respects the two-decade old peace agreement in the British province of Northern Ireland "and at the same time we can ensure the integrity of the (EU's) internal market."

In Berlin on Wednesday night, Merkel had appeared to give London its biggest glimmer of hope in weeks when she said that "we have said we would probably find it in the next two years, but maybe we can do it in the next 30 days, why not?"

Hong Kong students plan class boycott for protest demands

AP ■ HONG KONG

Hong Kong university student leaders said on Thursday they'll call for a boycott of the start of classes to pressure the government to respond to the protest movement gripping the city since June.

Student union leaders from 10 universities said they want students to skip the first two weeks of classes in September.

They vowed to escalate their action if the city's Beijing-backed leader, Carrie Lam, fails to respond by Sept. 13.

Young people have been at the forefront of the Chinese city's protest movement, which was sparked by calls for the withdrawal of an unpopular extradition bill.

The bill, which would have allowed suspects to be extradited to mainland China where the judiciary is not indepen-

Second day of Italy crisis talks after PM resigns

Rome: Italy's President began a second day of talks Thursday aimed at solving the political crisis shaking the country after the disintegration of the populist government.

President Sergio Mattarella was set to meet all the main parties, including the anti-establishment Five Star Movement (M5S) and far-right League. Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte resigned Tuesday after months of alliance sniping and a bid by League leader and Interior Minister Matteo Salvini to force a snap election, just 14 months after coming to power. AFP

Turkey to host Syria summit with Russia, Iran on Sept 16

AFP ■ ANKARA

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will host his Russian and Iranian counterparts for a summit on Syria in Ankara on September 16, the presidential spokesman said.

Despite being on opposing sides in the Syrian conflict, Syria regime backers Iran and Russia have worked closely with rebel supporter Turkey to find a political solution.

"The president will host a three-way summit with the participation of Russia and Iran in Ankara," spokesman Ibrahim Kalin said late Wednesday.

The announcement of the meeting between President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Erdogan comes at a time when Syrian forces have made advances into the last rebel stronghold of Idlib in Syria's northwest.

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, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Ext, New Delhi-110055

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

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken 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.	Ruchika Sharma/ Bhavna Sharma/ LBNOD00002050883	Flat No. 549, Second Floor "Akme Homes" Block Derby, Akme Polis, Nh 95 Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Village Jaundialia Ludhiana-141001 Punjab / Aug 16, 2019	July 31, 2015 Rs. 28,62,120/-	Del/Ncr
2.	Jasbir Singh Mann/ Rakesh/ LBNOD00002067544	Unit No. 531, SF On Second Floor, "Akme Homes" Derby Tower, Akme Township Nh 95 Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Jaundialia Ludhiana- 141001 Punjab/ Aug 16, 2019	June 29, 2015 Rs. 32,25,747/-	Del/Ncr
3.	Rajeev Kumar Jain/ Sandeep Gaur/ LBGUR00002061286	Unit No. 551, FF & SF, "Akme Homes", Akme Township Nh 95 Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Jaundialia Ludhiana-141001/ Aug 16, 2019	June 29, 2015 Rs. 51,43,357/-	Del/Ncr
4.	Raj Kumar/ Amita Devi/ LBGUR00002077645	Unit No.531, GF, "Akme Homes" At Akme Township Nh 95 Block Derby Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Jaundialia Ludhiana-141005 Punjab/ Aug 16, 2019	July 31, 2015 Rs. 32,80,734/-	Del/Ncr
5.	Shanu Gupta/ Shree Sai Jewellers/ Sonya Gupta/ LBDEL00002053679	Flat No.532-(GF & FF), On The Ground & First Floor "Akme Homes" Block Derby, Akme PO-LIS, Nh 95 Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Village Jaundialia Ludhiana-141001 Punjab/ Aug 16, 2019	December 31, 2015 Rs. 69,01,673/-	Del/Ncr
6.	Shiv Vishnoi/ Harpreet Kaur/ LBGUR00002048432	Flat No. 550, Second Floor "Akme Homes" Block Derby, Akme Polis, Nh 95 Ludhiana Chandigarh Road, Village Jaundialia Ludhiana-141001 Punjab / Aug 16, 2019	December 31, 2015 Rs. 43,50,446/-	Del/Ncr
7.	Vinay Dixit/ Prabha Dixit/ LBNOD00002056380	Flat No. - 534- GF- FF- SF On The Ground, 1st And 2nd Floor Akme Homes Block Derby, Akme Polis NH-95 Ludhiana- Chandigarh Road Village Jaundialia, Ludhiana Punjab, Ludhiana-141005/ August 16, 2019	July 31, 2015 Rs. 88,05,471/-	Del/Ncr
8.	Richa Rathil/ Ashish Rathil/ LBNOD00002066925	Flat No. - 525 SF On The Second Floor Akme Homes At Akme Polis NH- 95 Block Derby Ludhiana- Chandigarh Road Village Jaundialia, Ludhiana Punjab, Ludhiana- 141005/ August 16, 2019	July 31, 2015 Rs. 36,33,984/-	Del/Ncr
9.	Sameer Sharma/ Ruchika/ LBGUR00002118907	Flat No. - 510 SF On The Second Floor Akme Homes Akme Polis Nh-95 Ludhiana- Chandigarh Road Village Jaundialia, Ludhiana Punjab, Ludhiana-141005/ August 16, 2019	August 31, 2015 Rs. 31,26,219/-	Del/Ncr
10.	Abhishek Gupta/ Neha/ LBNOD00002062677	Flat No. - 532 SF, 2nd Floor Akme Homes Block Derby, Akme Polis NH-95 Ludhiana- Chandigarh Road Village Jaundialia, Ludhiana Punjab, Ludhiana-141005/ August 16, 2019	August 31, 2015 Rs. 32,86,786/-	Del/Ncr
11.	Mahendra Kumar/ Meena Verma/ LBDEL00002048071	Flat No. - 508 SF On The Second Floor Akme Homes Akme Polis, NH-95 Ludhiana- Chandigarh Road Village Jaundialia, Ludhiana Punjab, Ludhiana-141001/ August 16, 2019	December 31, 2015 Rs. 32,60,897/-	Del/Ncr
12.	Vivek Mehrotra/ Shweta Mehrotra/ LBNOD00002073190	Flat No. - 530 (GF-FF-SF), Block- Derby Akme Township Ludhiana/ August 16, 2019	April 22, 2016 Rs. 92,27,293/-	Del/Ncr
13.	Vivek Mehrotra/ Shweta Mehrotra/ LBNOD00002073188	Flat No. - 529 SF Block- Derby Akme Township Ludhiana/ August 16, 2019	April 22, 2016 Rs. 26,69,837/-	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 : 23-08-2019
Place: Delhi/ NCR

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Expression of Interest (EOI)

No.: 23AC/EOI/Non Plastic/NZM/2019 Date: .08.2019

Delhi Division, Northern Railway invites "Expression of Interest" from Entrepreneurs/Sole proprietors/Partnerships/Limited Liability Partnerships/Companies/ Cooperative societies/NGOs for free supply of biodegradable/Oxo-biodegradable eco-friendly Sustainable alternatives for single-use plastics and other plastic-based food packaging materials used at Catering units/stalls of Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station for a period of 1 year. The detailed information regarding EOI is available on the website of Northern Railway www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in. Last date of submission of EOI is upto 15.00 hrs. on 05.09.2019. 2705/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

Perfect Buildwell (P) Ltd.
ZARA AAVAAS

Sector - 104, Gurugram (Haryana) Affordable Group Housing Project License No. 12 of 2014

List of defaulters who have not made payment till date in spite of reminder. The successful applicant may deposit their installment along with applicable interest on or before 2nd September, 2019, failing which their allotment shall be cancelled without any further notice and 5% of the Total Cost of the Flat shall be deducted and balance shall be refunded to the applicant without any further claims.

LIST OF DEFAULTERS	
1 BHK 301 Sq. Ft.	2 BHK 498 Sq. Ft.
Unit No.	Unit No.
8021	1061
9014	
14042	

Note:-
1. All payments should be made in favour of M/s Zara Aavaas - Perfect Buildwell (P) Ltd.
2. Please mention your Booking No., Name and Phone No. on the back of Pay Order/Demand Draft.
3. All payment should be made at our Branch Off. 2nd Floor, E-597, Greater Kailash-II, New Delhi-110048.
4. In case of any clarifications you may get in touch at 40641100-88 or you can mail us at E-mail: info@perfectbuildwell.com
5. The above mentioned applicants can ignore the notice if already paid subject to their intimation.

The Executive Engineer, LTV Division, PWD(R&B), Manu, Dhalai Tripura invites e-tender against press NIT no.- 03/EE/LTV/PWD/M/2019-20, Date:- 07/08/2019

For "Proposed construction of 12(twelve) Nos. Staff Quarters building (Type-I quarter-04 units (one block-twin double storey), Type-II quarter-04 units (one block-twin double storey) and Type-III quarter-04 units (one block-twin double storey)) at Manu Community Health Centre (CHC), L.T. Valley Sub-division under Dhalai District, Tripura/SH: Building portion including internal water supply, Sanitary installation, Sewage and Drainage works (2nd CALL).

DNIT No: ACE/Project Unit/PWD(Buildings) /DNIT/43/2018-19
With Estimated cost: ₹ 2,25,17,830.00, Earnest Money: ₹ 2,25,178.00 Time of Completion-18 (eighteen) months. Last Date of bidding for bids -05/09/2019 upto 15.00Hrs.

For more details kindly visit: <https://tripuratenders.gov.in>

Sd/-
(E. P. Debbarma)
Executive Engineer
LTV Division, PWD (R&B)
Manu, Dhalai, Tripura

ICA/C-867/2019-20

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work: 1. Name of work with its location: Installation and operation of 44 Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) at 30 Railway Stations over Delhi Division for five years. 2. E-tender Notice Number on IREPS: Publicly ATM 118-2019 to Publicly ATM 161-2019/44 tenders. 3. Approximate cost of work: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in 4. Date of opening of Tender : 16.09.2019 at 11:00 hrs 5. Cost of Tender document & 18% GST : As per NIT on ireps.gov.in 6. Earnest Money Deposit : As per NIT on ireps.gov.in 7. Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen : <http://www.ireps.gov.in/> No.: 3PUB/Tender/ATM/DLI-DIV/2018 Date : 16.08.2019 2708/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE (E-TENDER)

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

1. Tender No.	197-S/181/Hiring of Truck/CC-9T/TKD/19/MC-IV
2. Name of work	Hiring of Full body Truck (Carrying capacity -9T) at Wagon Care Centre, TKD for transportation of Railway material between depot, over Delhi Division and JUDW for two years.
3. Advertised Tender Value	Rs. 23,84,025/- (including GST & ECC)
4. Earnest Money in favour of Sr. DFM/IR, New Delhi	Rs. 47,700/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS)
5. Date & time of submission of tender bid	Upto 20.09.2019 at 12.00 hrs.
6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

No. 197-S/181/Hiring of Truck/CC-9T/TKD/19/MC-IV dated : 21.08.2019 2714/19

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Time Extension Notice

The last date for submission and opening of tender specification no. 04/EE(E&M-I)/LP/2019-20 (Operation & maintenance of 33/11 KV Lakhwar substation) invited by Executive Engineer (E&M-I), Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar is hereby extended as under -
Last Date for downloading of tender document - 30/08/2019
Last date for submitting the tender Documents - 31/08/2019 up to 6.00 Hrs.
Due date for opening of tender Documents - 03/09/2019 at 11:00 Hrs. All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.
पत्र सं. 454 / दिनांक: 21.08.2019 Executive Engineer (E&M-I)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

WESTERN RAILWAY
VARIOUS WORKS

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Name of work	Tender Cost in (₹)	EMD (₹)
1	BCT/19-20/215 dt. 21/08/19	Virar- Surat Section:- Conducting "Continuous Scour Monitoring" of foundations of Bridge No. 92 Between station of VTN-SAH Section of Mumbai Central Division "using Sonar Echo-rang technology" by Airmar Echorange SSS Smart sensor of similar equipment on trial basis & submitting continuous monitoring data, analysis and preparation/ submission of detailed reports of continuous scour monitoring data, generating alarms/SMS alerts and validations of reports with grounds levels.	38,38,464/-	76,800/-
2	BCT/19-20/216 dt. 21/08/19	Virar- Surat Section:- ADEN/Valsad (i) TRR(P)= 7.274km TSR(P)=7.683. (ii) Thick Web Switch Renewal (iii) Casual renewal of rails for a section of under ADEN-BL (iv) Painting of AT weld collars & rails under ADEN/Valsad Section.	3,27,38,108.47	3,13,700/-
3	BCT/19-20/217 dt. 21/08/19	Virar- Surat Section:-ADEN/Valsad (i) Complete Track Renewal of existing 60kg rails on PRC sleepers at 1660 No./km including deep screening and recoumpment of ballast to 300mm on various location. i.e Total CTR(P) = 5.854km, CTR(S)= 3.110kms. (ii) Deep Screening of P&C (iii) TRR = 56.04km & TBR= 4.523km (iv) Rectification of bad layouts and TBR of P&C by use of T-28, JCB, Crane etc. under ADEN/Valsad Section.	3,16,55,349.83	3,08,300/-

Sr. No. 1, Date of opening : 19.09.2019 (15.30 hrs.). Sr. No. 2 & 3, Date of opening : 18.09.2019 (15.30 hrs.). For more details please visit www.ireps.gov.in. Manual offers will not be considered.

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GLOBE TROTTER

EXTREMISTS KILL 5 SOLDIERS IN MALI
Bamako (Mali): Mali's military says that extremists ambushed an army convoy in central Mali on Wednesday killing at least five soldiers. Army spokesman Col. Diarran Kone said Thursday that several others were wounded, and the assailants also damaged materials in the attack on the escort mission. The attack was claimed by the al-Qaida-linked group Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam Muslimeen, known as JNIM, which also says it is holding two Malian soldiers hostage.

SEVERAL KILLED IN STORM IN POLAND
Warsaw: "A few" people died and 12 were injured on Thursday during a sudden thunderstorm that saw lightning strike a metal cross in the Tatra mountains in southern Poland, rescuers said.

'CHINA LAUNCHES UNMANNED WARSHIP'
Beijing: China has launched an unmanned warship, which its developer claims is combat-ready. The ship, jointly developed by No. 716 and No. 702 research institutes under China's state-owned China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC), has a length of about 15 meters and a displacement of 20 tonnes. The JARI multi-purpose unmanned combat vessel held its launch ceremony on Wednesday at an undisclosed location, state-run Global Times reported on Thursday, quoting a statement issued by the CSIC.

Trend Blazer

Chitrangda to make her digital debut

Actress **CHITRANGDA SINGH** is all set to make her digital debut as an actress and a producer, with a musical drama web series. The shoot of the series begins at the end of the year.

"I will be starting to shoot for a web series at the end of the year or the beginning of next year. I am excited because I was waiting to do something interesting. It's been a long time since I have acted in a project," said Chitrangda.

The actress was last seen onscreen in *Bazaar*. She played Saif Ali Khan's wife in the film.



The War team tried to create a visual spectacle for the trailer

launch but no matter how big the plans were, the event was not able to match the scale of the film. An event for a film like this needs to be at par with what we are promising to the audience. It's impossible to create it from an event viewpoint. So we have scrapped the idea of the launch.

—Sidharth Anand

National Award-winning actor **AKSHAY KUMAR** has made it to the fourth position on the Forbes magazine's Worlds Highest-Paid Actors of 2019 list, beating Hollywood stars like **Bradley Cooper**, **Adam Sandler** and **Will Smith**. Akshay has raked in \$65 million (approximately ₹467 crore).



The actor, who has been on a roll in Bollywood, with almost all his recent films crossing the ₹100-crore mark. Between 2018 and 2019, Akshay was seen in films such as *Pad Man*, *Gold*, *2.0*, *Kesari* and *Mission Mangal*.

Kim poses with her four kids



KIM KARDASHIAN took to Instagram to share her first-ever picture with all four of her kids in Bahamas.

In the pic, Kim is on the beach with her junior quartet of North West, Saint West, Chicago West and Psalm West. The group makes for a great photo-op.

"I thought taking a pic with three kids was hard but OMG this is almost impossible!" Kim captioned the snapshot.

In the picture Kim's swimsuit is colour-coordinated with that of her daughters, Chicago and North. They are all turned up for beach action in silver swimsuits, while sons Psalm and Saint wore shorts.

Did you know *dabu* or *daboo* is an ancient mud resist hand block printing technique from Rajasthan? The practice almost died in the last century but was revived and is a flourishing business today. Day two of the Lakme Fashion Week Winter/Festive 2019, saw designer Alka Sharma with her sustainable label of Udaipur, Aavaran. She presented her collection *Miniature Moon*, which has been done by the same old-age *dabu* technique. It has been embraced for printing intricate motifs on the finest natural fabrics like *mushru*, *mulberry* silk and *chanderi*. Delicate and ethnic embroidery like *pit-tan* have been used for embellishing the clothes. Regalia inspired silhouettes have been blended with modern designs to create this timeless and aesthetic collection.

The contemporary clothing label specialises in *dabu* mud resist, hand dyed and block printed apparel. The fabrics were eco-friendly, organic and natural, which were in perfect sync with the brand's ethics of sustainability.

The process of *dabu* printing is quite complicated, involving many workers and multiple stages of printing, washing and dyeing. First, the plain fabric received from the mills is carefully washed to remove any impurities which may interfere with the dyeing process. Then, designs are meticulously and painstakingly hand printed on to the fabric using blocks which are dipped into fast dyes. The next and crucial step involves the use of the mud resist which makes this print so unique. Ingredients like mud, gum, lime and waste wheat chaff are combined to make the 'dhabu' or mud resist paste which is then patted over certain parts of the design. The paste is dried with sprinkled sawdust. This covering essentially protects these parts of the fabric from the dye used later on, creating a unique and colorful effect.

After this process of printing, the fabric is spread out in the sun where it completely dries out. It is then dipped into a vat of dye, dried again and finally given a thorough washing to remove the paste and any excess dye. The dyes used are typ-



REMAIN A CLASSIC

The Lakme Fashion Week has seen designers use forgotten techniques while extending their frontiers further



ically natural vegetable dyes and pastes. Thus the unprotected parts of the fabric catch the colour while the *dhabu* covered bits remain plain. The fabric may be dyed more than once in different colors to give each part of the design a different hue.

Speaking about her debut at the fashion week, Alka said, "The label was launched to sustain and revive the ancient, traditional craft of *dabu* print and provide economic empowerment to the indigenous craftsmen of the region. The designs are very similar to the motifs used in all traditional Rajasthani textiles, since the 'blocks' used for printing are common to most of these techniques. They tend to be nature inspired designs of plants, birds, flowers, fruits as well as artistic ethnic motifs."

Actresses Mrunal Thakur walked the ramp for Aavaran. She said, "I am

excited to be walking the ramp for Aavaran. This is truly thrilling as it will be a debut for us both at the week."

Designer Amit Aggarwal on Wednesday launched his luxury pret collection, *Flux*, with cricketer Hardik Pandya and actress Lisa Haydon walking on the ramp as showstoppers. Aggarwal, who is known for engineering recycled products in the garments he designs, has this time tied up with R-Elan — Reliance Industries' textile arm — to create the grandeur pieces in fluid, free flowing fabrics.

The designer used recycled polymer strips to add structure to the gowns, dresses and skirts that comprised the collection. Sheer wraps, exaggerated sleeves, power shoulders and billowing skirts were the highlight of the show. There was the use of techniques like *plisse*, fine draping and three-dimensional embroidery that added texture of

the pieces.

Use of electric colours, shiny metallic shades of silver, blue, purple and green, hues of emerald, petrol, neutrals like gold, blush and ivory made the collection pop up.

Speaking about his collection, Aggarwal said, "The entire collection is about free flow. The fabric had a such a large plethora of different colourations... It never really stopped inspiring me. Going ahead and creating 100 more looks."

Haydon, who wore a purple drape gown said, "I really admire what Amit does. And especially this collection. It's a great play of contrasts, structures. Each time a model walked the ramp wearing one of his pieces, I felt like 'Oh my gosh, I want to wear that. And that's always a great sign, it means this is an excellent collection.'"

—With inputs from agencies

'I don't want to lose my rawness'

Actress **RAGINI KHANNA** tells **SAKSHI SHARMA** that her role in *Posham Pa* made her inhabit a scary headspace which grossed her out and intrigued her in equal measure



Imagine yourself in a situation where your mother forces you to become a murderer and you can only survive by hunting food like animals and eating it from dustbins.

When *Sasural Genda Phool* fame Ragini Khanna heard the script of her short film, *Posham Pa*, it fired a million questions in her head and caught her attention like nothing else had before. She knew that it was going to be one of her most challenging roles but was sure of doing it as she wanted the audience to see her in characters with different shades and break her established image of a happy bubbly girl next door.

When asked as to what appealed her the most? She said, "The script. As I read it, it generated a lot of emotions in me which I can't even express in words. I was grossed, I was intrigued, I was curious that how can something so dark be true?"

Posham Pa is a psychological thriller inspired by true events. It talks about a disturbed mother who forces her daughter to be a part of heinous crimes and murders which in turn leads them to be charged with death penalty. The film, naturally, forces one to think.

Ragini feels that the film plunges you into such depths that you start questioning everything. She was impressed by simplistic storytelling which sends a deep message. Ragini said, "I always wanted to work with Sumon Mukhopadhyay Sir (director). He has done films that have redefined various conventions. In this film, it is pure and honest story telling. The truth is kept intact and very little is left to imagination. The way he has retained the authenticity of characters was on point." The actress is happy with the creative liberty the film offered. She shared that during the shoots everyone was on the same page in terms of creativity and there was a smooth exchange of ideas. You subconsciously unite when your cause is bigger and you have a similar motive, the universe just conspires to bring you together. "That's what happened with this film,

we shared an unsaid bonding which was magical. This translated on camera beautifully as it sensitive and catches your aura and energy," she added. This helps the film to connect closely to the audience and impact deeply," she explained.

Talking about her character in the film, Shikha Deshpande, Ragini shared, "My journey is from an infant to a 30-32 year old. I have played a street child who is raised with no sense of societal boundaries. She is raised like an animal at the cost of her relationships and is willing to go to any extent for her survival." She questioned, "How can someone have an animalistic motivation towards their choices? It is extremely scary." But, the other side of Shikha is that she is an extremely intelligent girl with a brilliant mind. If she had been raised as a child and not animal, things would have been different. It's all about how you nurture. Ragini shared that the writers wanted to point out the concept of nature versus nurture. Giving birth to a child is very different from raising him/her. The former is a natural process but the latter is a life long commitment. Upbringing and education empowers you as it gives you a sense of right and wrong. The dark role

that the film offered made it challenging for the actor to get into the skin of the character. Ragini said, "While playing this role I developed an unsaid bonding with Shikha. In the process of trying to understand what she has gone through I experienced immense pain as it was difficult for me to analyse my own behaviour. Half the time I was shocked by my own acts. I had mood swings, I used to laugh and cry on the set without reason." She talked about a scene of the film where she says, 'Maine kachre ki peti mei se khaana nikaal ke khaaya,' which involved a lot of self-pity. She also tried to justify herself that 'I am so because of what I am going through and not by choice.' Ragini further shared that the role made her inhabit a scary headspace and she wanted to let go of this character very soon as it was troubling her. "When I was traveling for the shoot on the second day, I felt Shikha in my skin. I was so grossed by that because I am raised on a moral conditioning which doesn't belong to the value structure Shikha comes from," she added.

In recent times we have seen that more and more films are inspired by true events. Ragini's last one, *Gurgaon*, was also one such. She said,

"We live in a fast moving world where something is always happening somewhere. This is enhancing real story telling. However, there are also stories which the human mind has not experienced and are a fragment of the directors' imagination."

Short films have a very limited time frame to leave the audience with thought-provoking ideas but they are still gaining attention in today's scenario. "They require a low attention span as it is only asking for 20 minutes from you. A three-hour film or series is a long commitment while short films are quick," said she. This digital era has paved the way for newer platforms and opportunities. Ragini feels that it is giving her the opportunity to play negative roles which she is not sure would have been possible in television. It as a blessing for her as she feels it provides her the chance to explore herself as an artist. She also emphasised on the responsibility attached to digital content in the past three to four years. Ragini said, "There is a lot of good work happening. We are directly competing with the international content." With this increasing competition the content is getting better and everything with higher accessibility.

Talking about her journey she shared that her mind has expanded with it she has led and the people she has been with. "The more I get enriched with life's experiences, the better my art will be. It will have far more depth and intensity. But at the same time I don't want to lose my unabashed rawness and candidness," she added. (The film is streaming on Zee5.)



Ayushmann's fan in frenzy

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana is riding high on a success of all his films. The actor who won a National Award, (Best Actor) for *Anhadhun*, was celebrating the success of the film at a party when, in a surprising event, he came across a fan who had gatecrashed the party.

The fun fact about this whole event was that, the fan was dressed in a cotton yellow saree, imitating Ayushmann from the poster of his forthcoming film *Dream Girl*, and she stormed through the venue holding his *pallu*, eager to meet his favourite superstar. Ayushmann, who is known to be very cordial and loving towards his fan, thanked him and took pictures with the fan.

Right after the trailer was released, it became the top trending video on YouTube and garnered over 15 million views in less than 24 hours. Audience all across the country and the world are appreciating the actor and lauding him for his unique choices and him being at the helm of changing the course of Indian cinema by putting content based films on the top.

Fans have been going berserk over the trailer so much so that they have been trying to call Pooja aka the dream girl on the number given at the end of the trailer.

The poster of *Dreamgirl* has the star looking quirky in a cotton saree and sitting on a rickshaw. Nushrat Bharucha is the lead actress paired alongside the actor with Vijay Raaz, Manjot Singh, Annu Kapoor and Rajesh Sharma among others in the cast. Directed by Raaj Shandilya, produced by Ekta Kapoor, Shobha Kapoor and Aashish Singh, the film is set to release on September 13.

TAPPA explores and blends the flavours in dishes to offer something familiar while extending food boundaries, says DHRUVIKA BHANOT

Five point dimsums



The essence of Tappa lies in the name itself, which implies to bounce back. It also makes one reminiscent of a game from childhood days. And in the array of dishes that gracefully crowd the menu, the knowledge of a well-travelled chef is present but so is the taste of the food we had as children.

While there was a separate 'bloggers menu' which catalogued the dishes that the chefs were most proud of, we oscillated between that and the a la carte menu to diversify the dinner as well as to have panoramic view of the delicacies that are prepared at the restaurant. Six months went in curating the menu which reflected in the most enticing array of dishes. I had never felt as blown away, figuratively speaking.

One of the best things, apart from the food, which will shortly be on the receiving end of my evaluation, were the chefs who were more eager than ever to describe the menu to us, and acquainted us with the fusion dishes, an amiable mix of the Indian and international flavours.

I have seldom had the experience of what people quote as bad service and my luck seemed to be on my side this time around too in the flawless service meant that the record remained unscathed. A pleasant smile and an incredibly hospitable attitude made our evening more special, a little corny but the truth nonetheless.

Before our ordered dishes were brought, chef Parul served us amuse bouche, which I have only ever heard Monica Geller rave about, in a little wooden box. It had the flavour of the

Indian *chat* put on a tart and it was in that moment that I knew that this dinner would soar past any expectations that I harboured. And close behind were our dim sums. The chef who makes the dim sums has about 17 years of experience and it showed in the variety that he showcased.

The cream cheese, water chestnut and chilli oil dimsums were suggestive of a cheesy encounter but it's not. Instead of the chewy cheese the soft skin of the dough was filled with warm cream cheese which completely melts in the mouth, and I say it without an ounce of exaggeration. They were served with chilli oil, so the spiciness is not too far behind the warmth of the cheese.

There was five spice chicken dimsums but if you are looking for an 'authentic' Chinese flavour from this dish, it is not the one for you. But then, that's exactly the aim of the chefs. The five spices used were not just Chinese but also Indian where the kick of the latter flavour was quite prominent. It was interesting to know that the blend was made by the chef himself rather than being a store-bought concoction which many rely on. You will taste the Indian-ness as well as the Chinese-ness in the dimsums.

One of my most favourite dishes of the night, undoubtedly, were the dimsums, had I sat there longer, I would have waxed poetry of how soft and appetising they were, delicately wrapped, and the chopsticks dug in the skin of the dimsums so deliciously. I could feel the softness even before they had the opportunity to sit on my tongue.



Chillas were up next, and as chef Parul shared with us, they were a product of endless trials and errors. Initially, *chillas* were planned like soft crepes but the chef did not want to design and make something borne out of imitation.

We chose goat cheese *chilla*, it was crispy and you might get a feel of a *dosa*, but this was not quite that. It was made from sprouted wheat flour and though different from the *besan* ones that are made at home, it still hits a nerve there. It was made in vinegar and enveloped capsicum, spinach goat cheese and beet root, which gave it a slight pungent taste. And though the chef had warned that it would be spicy, it had a balanced flavour. It was a different experience altogether. While I did not find any flavour amiss, the *chilla* gave me flashbacks of the beet root and kale salad I had at La Roca.

I have said it before, most of my excursions at restaurants are incomplete without pizza. And what is different about Tappa's menu is that instead of the classic round style, they offer *pide* which is a rich bread from Turkey. And from the plethora of options, we picked *Chauka* which was a

remained after the incredible service were given for the style of serving.

The green chutney, tangy in taste and spicy in flavour, complemented the *dosa* exceedingly well. The spiciness sits on the tongue, but that's what makes it good. The flavour isn't passable, rather it was impressive and establishes its taste well enough. Definitely a must try.

I ordered three things for mains of which *Dosa a la Tappa* was also one along with *Kladi Kulcha* and Manglore fried chicken. Each stuffed *kulcha* on the menu had a different preparation, different style and the taste of a different city all together.

The chicken was marinated in Manglorean flavours, deep fried and topped with lemon yogurt on top with some jalapenos and chillis. The chicken was tender, super soft. If I would call something that is absolutely flavour, it would be this dish.

I was a little perplexed when it came to dessert but sided with dark chocolate and litchi fudge. A great judgement on my part. The fudge was buried under a thick spread of meringue, and pieces of litchi coated in dark chocolate served with a scoop of ice cream. If I think hard enough, I might still be able to taste the fudge.

Tappa also offers in-house ice cream and the special of the evening was bourbon and fig. The bitter taste of the bourbon found a truce with the sweetness of the ice cream. I couldn't hold myself it was such a delight. This restaurant has engraved itself on my recommendation list.

CHEF TALK

A disruptive fusion

As chef OSCAR BALCON goes against convention by pairing Italian cuisine with whisky rather than wine, he says that food connoisseurs should always be open-minded to give space to culinary adventures. By TEAM VIVA

When you decide to indulge in authentic Italian cuisine, you have to pair wine with it. And it cannot be just 'any' wine. The idea is that the flavour of your drink should match the intensity of the meal's sauce. However, ever heard of authentic Italian meal being paired with whisky?

Angad Singh Gandhi, Glenfiddich brand ambassador, celebrated the disruptive fusion of a fine single-malt whisky with modern Italian cuisine, prepared by Artusi Ristorante chef Oscar Balcon. The idea was to create an "unusual pairing for today's consumers," who are looking for experiences that are extraordinary, and such practices also pave a way for experimentation for both consumers and chefs.

Here's a take of chef Balcon who has carefully handcrafted the four-course dinner, which married the flavours of the versatile Glenfiddich's 12-year-old, 15-year-old and 18-year-old variants.

Tell us about the special four-course menu.

The menu includes a journey that takes us through different time and places. Just like fine whisky, it has firm roots in traditional methods, a foundation that is built on the quality of natural ingredients. But at the same time, it has a bright-eyed glance of contemporary possibilities. It is a menu that showcases how wide-ranging the pairing options in Italian cuisine truly are.

How did you curate it? What inspired this special menu?

At the Artusi Ristorante, our culinary inspiration is always the traditional cuisine of the Emilia Romagna region in Northern Italy as it has a rich and incredible quality of natural products. But this time we chose to look beyond the borders and the quality of some of the finest whiskies from Scotland, such as Glenfiddich, fascinated me and inspired this spirit-paired dinner.

Just like fine wine, the tasting notes of fine whisky also



cuisine is the one that perfectly balances the nutrition and sensuous elements.

How do you source your ingredients?

Mostly from Italy but also other great sources of top-notch ingredients globally. Also, from the small farmers in India who are growing and creating a market for high-end specialist produce, when in season.

European and Italian cuisines are known to be blended or tasted with wine. But here, you have blended your menu with whisky. Why? What was the idea behind it. Did it turn out to be as amazing as the regular menu tasted with wine?

Wine is the traditional pairing beverage for a fine Italian meal and I believe that will never change. However, every now and then, I think we should be open-minded enough for culinary adventures. And, more often than not, we end up with a positive surprise and great memories, much like the innovative partnership with Glenfiddich.

How do you think such experiments can help bring a change in the way people look at the Italian cuisine?

Like often in life, an individual act rarely propels a long-lasting change, yet we know that repeated adventures are the spice of life and as humans, we become richer with each new one. So, I would say, it's a toast to breaking barriers and to new and exciting discoveries.

guide us in understanding its aroma, taste and finish. Hence, we will deduct that smokey elements that pair well with grilled meats, while more mellow, round and sweetish notes might make a match with the dessert. And thus, layer by layer, we have curated a menu that marries cheese, vegetables, home-made pasta and flaming desserts with the corresponding notes of peat, smoke or round honey. We were indeed very pleased with the resulting symphony.

What has shaped your food logic while growing up? Any anecdotes to share...

Family, traditions and good fortune. My food logic has been shaped by the fortune to be living in the vortex of the "age of great food" (nowadays, you can get great food anywhere in the world) and the good fortune to have had the possibility to experience the best dishes both in my home country as well as with extensive travels and living all over the world.

Which cuisine in the world would you say comes closest to the perfect sensory and nutritional balance?

Apart from our own, perhaps the traditional Japanese

gorge us

Hilton Garden Inn organises Janmashtami special dinner buffet. It offers authentic dishes from the streets of Mathura and Vrindavan and an array of delicacies like *Mathura ke pede*, *Sandesh*, *Hing dhaniya ke chatpate aloo*, *Aloo akhrot ki tikki*, *Methi paneer*, *Coconut laddoo* and many more. **Date:** August 24 **Time:** 7 pm onwards **Price:** ₹1,500 **Venue:** Hilton Garden Inn, New Saket.



Pullman hotel hosts the Turkish food festival, in which a special menu has been curated by its expert chefs, Ibrahim Yaman and Abdullah Olgun from Swissotel Istanbul. The menu offers local favourites of Turkey such as *Adana kebab*, *Purslane* with yoghurt, *Muhammara*, *Haydari* and more. **Date:** Till September 1 **Time:** 7 pm onwards **Venue:** Pluck, Pullman Aerocity.

Smaaash presents the *Kulcha* and *Kebab* fest that brings together a diverse range of delicacies. They have come up with delicious variants like *Murgh tikka*, *Gilafi chicken*, *Afghani lolipop* with *Bheega kulchas* for the non-vegetarians and *Paneer tikka*, *Veg gilafi kebab* and *Hara bhara kebab* with *Bheega kulchas* for vegetarians. **Date:** Till September 16 **Time:** 2 pm to 11 pm **Venue:** Available at all outlets.



Nueva offers Peruvian and modern cuisine, tender and juicy Creole-style pork belly, Prawns *pintxo* with cilantro infusion, *Filo pastry pizza*. Devour burritos, Charcoal burger *la hamburguesa* and their signature Nueva-style tacos. **Date:** Till August **Time:** 11.30 pm to 12 am **Price:** ₹3,000 (plus taxes) **Venue:** Sangam courtyard, RK Puram.



Soy Soi offers an aromatic and flavourful range of dimsums from Green curry to Prawn *hargau*. Devour chilli *hoisin* and Korean fried chicken baos, tantalising soups and salads to dynamic sushi, *sashimi* and *nigiris*. **Date:** Till September **Price:** ₹2,000 (plus taxes) **Venue:** Ardee mall, Gurugram.



Gulati restaurant celebrates the love for Lord Krishna by indulging in their traditional delicacy *Moong dal ka halwa*, which is a flavourful delight and makes the meal more fulfilling. **Venue:** Pandara Road Market.

STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST

- WHAT YOU NEED**
- Boneless chicken breasts: 5-6
 - Spinach: 2 bunches
 - Italian seasoning: 3-4 tsp
 - Mayonnaise: 3-4 tsp
 - Cream cheese: 4 ounces
 - Grated parmesan cheese: 2 cup
 - Garlic powder: ¼ tsp
 - Oregano: 1 tsp
 - Paprika: 1-2 tsp
 - Salt and pepper
 - Olive oil: 4-5 tsp
- METHOD**



- Preheat the oven to 190 degree celsius.
- Wash the spinach leaves and boil them. Chop them into fine and small pieces.
- Take a deep bowl, add spinach, cream cheese, grated parmesan, mayonnaise and mix all them all together.
- Take chicken breasts on a

parchment paper then to the cutting board and make pockets on each with a sharp knife. Make sure you don't make a hole.

- Season each breast with Italian seasoning, salt and pepper.
 - Stuff each chicken breast with the spinach mixture and lock the edge with the help of toothpick.
 - Sprinkle with some more salt, pepper, paprika, garlic powder and oregano. Dizzle with olive oil and bake for 25-30 minutes until chicken is well cooked.
 - Garnish with parsley leaves.
- Courtesy: Chef Sahaurya Veer Kapoor at Cafe Hawker's, CP.

KUKAD SINGH TALLI

- WHAT YOU NEED**
- To soak:**
- *Tandoori* chicken: 700-800 gm
 - Beer: 1 lit
 - Garlic clove: 5 to 6
 - Cinnamon stick: 2 inch
 - Black pepper whole: 10 to 15
- For marination:**
- Hung curd: 300 gm
 - *Degi mirch*: 20 gm
 - *Garam masala*: 5 gm
 - Mustard oil: 50 ml
 - *Tandoori* chicken masala: 10 gm



- Black salt: 5 gm
 - Lemon juice: 5 ml
 - Whisky: 20 ml
- METHOD**
- Clean the whole chicken. Then

deep cut the chicken and put it in a bowl with beer. Add clove, garlic, black pepper in the bowl and leave it over night.

- Mix all the ingredients in a big mixing bowl.
 - Take out the chicken from the bowl and marinate it. Keep aside for another few hours.
 - Now roast the chicken in *tandoor* or pre-heated oven or barbeque grill, basting it with butter.
 - Serve hot with mint chutney, green chilli and onion.
- Courtesy: Corporate Chef, Sanjay Singh Yadav at Vapour Bar Exchange.

Griezmann could be key against Betis

Neymar future remains up in air



Antoine Griezmann celebrates after scoring his maiden goal for Barcelona during pre-season friendly game against Inter Milan

AFP ■ BARCELONA

If Lionel Messi listens to Real Betis and sits out another match, Barcelona will likely have to rely on Antoine Griezmann to finally get some points on the board.

Betis, which visits the Camp Nou on Sunday, responded to a tweet by Barcelona that Messi was back to practicing with the team for the first time since being injured in the preseason by saying: "Don't rush, Leo. No need for you to force it!" Barcelona couldn't make up for

Messi's absence last weekend when its attack was held scoreless in a 1-0 loss at Athletic Bilbao.

That was the first time the two-time defending champions had lost a Spanish league opener in a decade. And after both Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid won, the pressure is on.

Barcelona acquired Griezmann after triggering the 120 million euro (\$133 million) buyout clause in his contract with rival Atlético. The France forward was supposed to be the fourth piece to an already world class attack featuring Messi,

Luis Suárez and Ousmane Dembele. But Griezmann may be left with all the scoring responsibility in his competitive home debut.

Messi strained his right calf in the team's first practice of the season on August 5 and hasn't played since. Although it is possible he will be back to face Betis, Suárez won't be after he injured a right leg muscle in the first half at Bilbao. Dembele has also been ruled out for several weeks with a left thigh injury.

Philippe Coutinho, who could have helped out as an attacking

player, is no longer with the team after being loaned out to Bayern Munich this week. Malcom, a Brazilian forward who played sparingly for Barcelona last season, was sold to Zenit St Petersburg.

Griezmann had a lackluster match at Bilbao. His only good scoring chance at San Mames Stadium came in the final minutes with a header.

The Frenchman, however, is used to carrying a team on his back.

Griezmann was a consistent scorer for Atlético, tallying more than 20 goals a season for five con-

Messi back in Barca training

AFP ■ BARCELONA

Lionel Messi gave Barcelona a timely boost on Wednesday by returning to training with the rest of the squad after a calf injury.

Messi trained alone in the morning before joining his teammates in the afternoon, increasing hopes that Barca's captain could play a role against Real Betis in La Liga on Sunday.

He strained his calf on August 5 in his first training session back following the Copa America and subsequently missed the club's pre-season.

It would be a surprise if Messi started at Camp Nou, but Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde will be eager to have his star available again, particularly after his team suffered a surprise 1-0 defeat by Athletic Bilbao in their opening league game last weekend.

Messi's absence has been compounded by injuries to other strikers.

Luis Suarez is expected to be out for around a month after hobbling off with a calf problem against Bilbao. Ousmane Dembele injured his hamstring and will need five weeks to recover.

Antoine Griezmann, the 120



Lionel Messi trains during Barca practice session on Wednesday

million summer signing from Atletico Madrid, is the only fully-fit forward, with Rafinha and 21-year-old Carles Perez possible options to play behind him.

The shortage up front has intensified speculation that Paris Saint-Germain's Neymar could return to Barcelona before the transfer window closes in Spain on September 2.

PSG sporting director Leonardo admitted earlier this month that the club were in "advanced negotiations" to sell Neymar but a deal is yet to be agreed with Barca, who have already spent around 250 million euros this summer.

secutive years despite the team often not having another attacking threat to draw away some of the attention of opposing defenses.

The problem at Bilbao, he said, was simply "the ball didn't go in." The other player who could make the most of the opportunity created by the injuries is 21-year-old Carles Perez, a member of Barcelona's reserve team. He impressed in the preseason, even scoring two goals in a 2-0 win over Japanese club Vissel Kobe, where former Barcelona great Andrés Iniesta now plays.

Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde included Perez in Wednesday's team practice. Betis

was the only team to beat Barcelona at its home stadium last season, outgunning the hosts 4-3.

Since then it has changed coaches, replacing the attack-minded Quique Setien with the more conservative Joan "Rubi" Ferrer, who led Espanyol to a Europa League berth.

Barcelona also poached one of its top players, left back Junior Firpo. Betis lost its Spanish league opener, falling 2-1 to Valladolid at home. The last time Betis played Barcelona was in Seville in March. Messi scored three goals and received a standing ovation from the Betis fans.

AFP ■ PARIS

Neymar remains no closer to getting his desired move away from Paris Saint-Germain amid reports on Thursday the French club have rejected an offer from Real Madrid of 100 million euros (\$111 million) plus players.

French sports daily *LEquipe* said Real had offered cash plus Gareth Bale, James Rodriguez and goalkeeper Keylor Navas, but PSG turned it down because "the overall value of the offer did not match their expectations."

Paris paid 222 million euros to sign Neymar from Barcelona two years ago and their sporting director Leonardo is understood to be determined to only sell the forward for a deal considered to be of the same value.

Real have spent the summer trying to offload Bale, while James is unwanted after returning from a loan at Bayern Munich and Navas is no longer the club's first-choice goalkeeper.

Meanwhile, Barcelona remain hopeful of bringing Neymar back to the Camp Nou, but Catalan daily *Sport* claims an attempt to sign the player on loan with an obligation to buy for 160 million euros at the end of the season has been firmly rejected in Paris.

Sport claims Barcelona feel "it is very clear that PSG are trying to prevent the Brazilian from returning to the Camp Nou in any scenario".

PSG had previously reportedly turned down an offer from Barcelona of 40 million euros plus Philippe Coutinho and Ivan Rakitic. Coutinho has since joined Bayern on loan.

Juventus are also believed to have stated an interest in signing the 27-year-old, who has not

been featured in any of PSG's matches so far this season having been frozen out amid the uncertainty over his future.

The transfer window closes in France, Spain and Italy on September 2, meaning time is fast running out for a deal to be done.

PSG's matches so far this season having been frozen out amid the uncertainty over his future. The transfer window closes in France, Spain and Italy on September 2, meaning time is fast running out for a deal to be done.

Henry desires to succeed as manager



Thierry Henry reacts after Monaco suffer defeat during Ligue 1 match

AFP ■ LONDON

France football legend Thierry Henry is keen for another chance to prove he can be a successful manager despite his unhappy brief tenure at Ligue 1 side Monaco.

The 42-year-old — Arsenal's record goalscorer — told the *Daily Telegraph* that although his phone did not ring for four months following his sacking, things have picked up since then and he has received five offers.

Henry's dream return last October to manage Monaco, the club where he established his reputation as a top class striker, turned into a nightmare.

Having been part of Belgium manager Roberto Martinez's backroom team at the World Cup — where they reached the semi-finals — he lasted just over 100 days after only four league wins.

"Call me crazy if you want, but I love football and I believe I can be a successful coach," he said.

"I'm not thinking about the pain, I'm not thinking about failure. I don't like easy.

"I like to lead and it's on me to make it happen. The same when I joined Arsenal as a player, the same when I went to Belgium with Roberto. It's an

evolution."

Henry, who was a member of the France squads that won both the 1998 World Cup and the Euro 2000 title, said although he has been contacted over jobs, he has yet to find the right fit. "My phone didn't ring for four months after I left Monaco and then all of a sudden I got five calls," he said.

"Some were not what I was looking for and some were as a number two."

"I won't do a number two job because I want to be a number one."

Henry says it is frustrating having to wait around for another opportunity but he is convinced football coaching is where his future lies.

"I came out of it fully reassured that's what I want to do, zero doubt about it," he said.

All Henry asks is for transparency from his employers.

"Communication and honesty from the start is key," he said.

"What's the job? Is the job to stay up, is the job to win the League or be in the Champions League?"

"But how and what is success? Is success improving players? Ultimately, results are the most important thing, but I want to improve players as well."

Messi 'made me better player': Cristiano

AFP ■ TURIN

Cristiano Ronaldo admitted on Wednesday his long-time rivalry with Lionel Messi has made him "a better player" and that he enjoys a "healthy" rivalry with the Argentine great.

However, Portuguese star Ronaldo, whose influence at Real Madrid mirrored that of Messi at Barcelona before he left for Juventus, admitted that the pair have never socialised together.

"I really admire the career he has had and from his side, he has already talked of the disappointment when I left Spain because it was a rivalry that he appreciated," Ronaldo told *TVI* in Portugal.

"It's a good rivalry but it's not unique — Michael Jordan had rivalries in basketball, there was Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost in Formula 1. The thing they all had in common is that they were healthy rivalries."

Ronaldo and Messi have won the coveted Ballon d'Or five times each, a factor that helps each player flourish.

"I have no doubt that Messi has made me a better player and vice-versa. When I am win-



Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi on the field during a match

ning trophies it must sting him and it's the same for me when he wins," he said.

"I have an excellent professional relationship because we have been sharing the same moments for 15 years.

He added: "We've never had dinner together but I don't see why we can't in the future. I don't see a problem with that."

Coutinho will not start against Schalke: Kovac

AFP ■ MUNICH

Brazilian star midfielder Philippe Coutinho will not make his first Bundesliga start when Bayern Munich travel to Schalke on Saturday, said coach Niko Kovac on Thursday.

Coutinho, 27, has been the talk of Germany since joining Bayern on a one-year loan deal from Barcelona earlier this week.

Yet at a press conference on Thursday, Kovac confirmed the Brazilian would begin his first game as a Bayern player on the bench.

"He is not quite at the level of fitness he needs to play for 90 minutes," said Kovac.

"He has said that himself, and we don't want to take any risks. He has only been training for the last two weeks, so he needs to catch up," he added, but confirmed Coutinho would be in the matchday squad.



He is not quite at the level of fitness he needs to play for 90 minutes. He has said that himself, and we don't want to take any risks — NIKO KOVAC

"I know a lot of people want us to play him straight away, but everything has to be right."

Kovac said Bayern's other new attacking signing, Croatia winger Ivan Perisic, could make the starting eleven against Schalke.

"Ivan is much further along, he started training at the same time as we

Roach, Gabriel jolt India early

Windies pacers exploit friendly conditions as India struggle at 68-3 in 1st session

PTI ■ NORTH SOUND

Opener KL Rahul put up a gritty fight with a circumspect Ajinkya Rahane as India partially recovered from a top-order collapse to reach 68 for 3 at lunch on the opening day of the first World Championship Test match against the West Indies.

Rahul, who had a wretched 18 months in the red-ball format, before this Test match, was composed during his unbeaten 37 after India were reduced to 25 for 3 inside the first eight overs on a track that offered bounce and lateral movement for new ball bowlers Kemar Roach (2/12 in 6 overs) and Shannon Gabriel (1/26 in 7 overs).

Mayank Agarwal (5), the ever-dependable Cheteshwar Pujara (2) and skipper Virat Kohli (9) were back in the pavilion in the first hour after Jason Holder put the visitors in on a bouncy track.

Rahul (37 batting, 73 balls) and vice-captain Rahane (10 batting, 43 balls) added 42 runs for the unbroken fourth wicket and stemmed the rot going into the lunch break after 24 overs were bowled during the opening session.

Agarwal got one from Roach, which held its line and the opener didn't fully commit forward with resultant nick being gobbled by Shai Hope behind the stumps.

The dogged Pujara didn't last long as he got a delivery from Roach that moved a shade away after pitching with India's No. 3 lunging forward. The edge was taken low down by Hope.

Skipper Kohli relishes such adverse situations and tough conditions but it wasn't his day despite a promising start that included a drive past point and another past mid-on.

However, Gabriel's ball, one



Mayank Agarwal looks down after being dismissed by Kemar Roach, right, during day 1 of the first Test in North Sound



India's captain Virat Kohli plays a shot during day one of the first Test

MAYANK AGARWAL (5), THE EVER-DEPENDABLE CHETESHWAR PUJARA (2) AND SKIPPER VIRAT KOHLI (9) WERE BACK IN THE PAVILION IN THE FIRST HOUR AFTER JASON HOLDER PUT THE VISITORS IN ON A BOUNCY TRACK

that climbed on him from short of length, saw Kohli fend awkwardly, only to be caught at gully by debutant Shamarr Brooks.

At 25 for 3, it could have been worse but a determined Rahul put his head down and left a lot of deliveries outside off-stump as Rahane also

defended dourly at the other end, waiting for Roach and Gabriel's first spell to end.

It was only when back-up pacer Miguel Cummins came into operation that Rahul collected three of his four boundaries -- a cut and a couple of off-drives.

Not for once did Rahane look comfortable during the first session and both his boundaries were freak ones. The first was a thickish outside edge that bounced short of second slip before going for four runs. The second was a pull-shot and he wasn't entirely in control. However, the best part was that he hung in there.

KEEMO PAUL RULED OUT

All-rounder Kemmo Paul has been ruled out of the first Test against India due to an ankle injury and pacer Miguel Cummins was named as his replacement by Cricket West Indies.

Paul was ruled out due to an injury in his left ankle and will remain in Antigua to continue his rehabilitation.

"With Keemo ruled out for this match, it's good to have someone with Miguel's quality back in the squad, as he brings experience to the team," Windies interim head coach Floyd Reifer said in a statement.

Cummins had made his Test debut against India three years ago and took a career best 6 for 48 in the second innings of the second match of the four-Test series.

"Watching him in the last A Team series against India A and the training sessions his lengths have improved. He's a very hard worker and a wicket-taker. I'm sure, if given the opportunity to play, he will make a valuable contribution in our bid to win this series," he added.

The first Test beginning on Thursday marks the start of the ICC World Test Championship for both teams. In this series, each team can earn 60 points for a win or 20 points for a draw.



Richards see same passion in Kohli

IAN S ■ NORTH SOUND

Virat Kohli had a fan boy moment ahead of the first Test as he got an opportunity to interview legendary cricketer Vivian Richards, whom the Indian skipper has always idol-worshipped.

Kohli quizzed Viv Richards on how he dealt with the fastest of bowlers of his time without even wearing a helmet or a guard. He introduced the Caribbean master as "the greatest inspiration to all of us batsmen".

"Whenever I have seen videos of you walking out, you're in a hat, no helmets back then. Even when there were, after a point you chose not to. Because it was something that made you feel like you had the belief and 'you are chewing gum'."

"I know the pitches were not as prepared or as covered back then. What was it like? What went through your head walking out knowing that you don't have a lot of protection. There is no restriction on bouncers and then you go out and dominate like that."

"What did you feel from the time you left the changing room till you got to the pitch. What was the mindset?" Kohli asked.

"I believed I am the man," said Richards. "It may sound arrogant but I always felt that I was involved in a game that I knew. I would back myself every time."

"You have to back yourself to get hurt, to take the knocks. But the helmet — I tried, I am not going to lie and tell you. But, it felt a little uncomfortable. So I felt my cap, my maroon cap which was given to me. I felt so proud with that."

"My mindset was that if I am good enough to be here, if I get hurt it's God's will. I will survive," the 67-year-old replied.

Kohli also shared his experience of facing fast bowlers: "I feel like it's better to get hit early on and get to know the feeling than always feeling like you might get hit."

"So, I prefer actually getting hit early on and really hard so it motivates me even further not allow that to happen again, just that pain to go through your body and be like — okay enough, it's not happening again."

Richards further said that getting hit was a part of cricket.

"Because to be fair while batting you are going to get hurt. It depends on how you come back from this knocks. In the old days, before these little guards (chest guards) around your ribs, you take it there and that's when you feel it. You take a count but then that's part and parcel of the sport," Richards opined.

Kohli also quizzed him about the challenges Richards faced that made him believe in himself. The former Windies skipper said: "I always felt I was good enough to be competing and I wanted to express myself in the best way that I can."

"I see that little similarity in you and that same passion in you," said Richards as Kohli had his moment. "There are times when folks would look at us and say, 'Wow why are they so angry?'"

Richards, who retired from the sport in 1991 had earlier hailed Kohli's batting skills and had said that the Indian skipper's batting style reminded him of his own days.

'Hesson almost beat Shastri to India coach job'

IAN S ■ NEW DELHI

Moments after Ravi Shastri was re-appointed as the head coach of the Indian team till 2021, Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) chief Kapil Dev had said 'as all of you were expecting' Shastri is the number one candidate for the job. But it has now come to the fore that Kiwi Mike Hesson had almost topped Shastri.

Speaking about it, a senior BCCI functionary said that it was a close call between Shastri and Hesson and New Zealand's track record under the Kiwi from 2012 till 2018 had almost sealed the deal for the former Kings XI Punjab coach.

"It was not a walk in the park for Shastri as some of you seem to believe. Hesson was really close to getting the go-ahead. It is there for all to see how the New Zealand team



improved by leaps and bounds under him across all formats.

"From being the perennial surprise package in big-ticket events, they had become a champion side under him and

that is something that really impressed the CAC.

"Under his coaching, the Kiwis reached their first-ever World Cup final in 2015. While he did resign in 2018, the Kiwis

playing their second final on the trot in 2019 also had a lot to do with what Hesson brought to the table.

His strategizing with the senior members in the team

can't be discounted," the functionary explained.

Asked what then turned the table back in Shastri's favour, considering that the CAC made it clear that skipper Virat Kohli wasn't consulted before taking the call, the functionary said it was Shastri's experience as a player on the international stage.

"The CAC felt that Shastri's proven record as a player was one area that needed to be given due recognition as one's own stature might become an area of concern when handling a team which has big names."

"Hesson hadn't played enough cricket himself and as we know started coaching in his early twenties. Shastri on the other hand played 80 Test matches and 150 ODIs. That is something that went against the for Kiwi coach," the functionary said.



Vikram Rathour replaces Bangar as batting coach

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Former opener Vikram Rathour will be replacing Sanjay Bangar as India's new batting coach while Bharath Arun and R Sridhar were expectedly retained as bowling and fielding coaches respectively.

The senior national selection committee headed by MSK Prasad has recommended three names each for all the support staff positions and the top names in each category will be appointed after the formalities with regards to Conflict of Interest declaration is complete.

The 50-year-old Rathour, has played 6 Tests and 7 ODIs in 1996 without much success but was a domestic heavyweight for Punjab. He till few years back (2016) was a senior national selector under Sandeep Patil's chairmanship.

He had earlier applied for NCA coaching consultant and U-19 batting coach's position but his application was put on hold as his brother-in-law Ashish Kapoor is the chairman of U-19 selection committee.

"Vikram Rathour has got enough experience and we are convinced with his skill sets (as a coach). We will ask him to declare if he has any conflict," BCCI CEO Rahul Johri told reporters.

As per the recommendations of the selection committee, current incumbent Sanjay Bangar came second while former England batsman Mark Ramprakash was third.

"The team management had their own views but looking ahead, we felt there should be some freshness in the support staff," Johri said.

Former Mumbai Indians physio Nitin Patel, who was part of the support staff during the 2011 campaign, is back while Englishman Luke Woodhouse was appointed as the strength and conditioning (trainer) coach.

The other notable candidate to lose his job was incumbent administrative manager Sunil Subramaniam, who was removed for his alleged misbehaviour with top diplomats of the Indian government during the ongoing tour of West Indies. Subramaniam was replaced by Girish Dongre.

Karunaratne stands tall on rain-hit day



AFP ■ COLOMBO

Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne helped Sri Lanka to 85 for two at stumps on a rain-hit day one of the second Test against New Zealand in Colombo on Thursday.

Only 36.3 overs were possible after rain washed out the first session and bad light ended play for the day with Karunaratne unbeaten on 49.

Karunaratne, fresh from a match-winning century in the first Test in Galle last week last week, hit six boundaries during his 100-ball stay in overcast conditions.

Former captain Angelo Mathews was giving Karunaratne company in the middle to remain unbeaten on nought after facing 14

deliveries.

New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme, who made the XI in place of Mitchell Santner, said the match was "evenly poised".

"There's a bit of more bounce on this track than what we encountered in Galle and that's nice," he said after play ended.

"If we can get a couple of early wickets on Friday morning that will be nice."

Karunaratne batted with positive intent despite losing opening partner Lahiru Thirimanne and Kusal Mendis either side of tea.

Thirimanne never looked comfortable and his 59-minute stay at the wicket produced just two runs.

His misery ended when he pushed a William Somerville delivery and was caught at extra cover by skipper Kane Williamson. He had been earlier dropped by wicketkeeper BJ Watling off Somerville.

Mendis looked good as he reached 32 with four fours and put on 50 runs with Karunaratne to steady the batting.

De Grandhomme got Mendis caught behind on a seaming delivery outside the off stump and Watling gloved the catch.

The hosts only need a draw to clinch the two-match series.

The entire opening session and another hour was lost due to persistent rain and the toss took place at 1:10 pm (0740 GMT). The afternoon session went uninterrupted but play was again delayed by 28 minutes after tea due to rain.

After 7.3 overs in the evening session, play was called off due to bad light.

Harris, Khawaja fall amid showers

AFP ■ LEEDS

Marcus Harris and Usman Khawaja both fell cheaply before Australia reached 54-2 at tea on Thursday's rain-marred opening day of the third Ashes Test against England at Headingley.

Only 18 overs in an original day's allocation of 90 had been bowled when bad light forced an early tea, with David Warner 26 not out — his first double-figure score in five innings this series — and Marnus Labuschagne seven not out.

Rain had previously stopped play at 2.45 pm (1345 GMT) after delaying the scheduled start by more than an hour.

And there was further frustration for both England and a crowd who had waited patiently to watch cricket when, after play resumed, only 3.1 more overs were possible before the umpires suspended play for bad light even though the floodlights were on full blast.

After a grinning Warner and Labuschagne sprinted off the field, umpires Chris Gaffaney and Joel Wilson were booed as they returned to the pavilion.

Wilson was later seen having an animated conversation on the dressing room balcony with several England players and backroom staff.

England, looking to level the five-match series at 1-1, had seen captain Joe Root win the toss in the hope of making the most of overcast, bowler-friendly conditions.

Australia had dropped opener Cameron Bancroft, who had made just 44 runs in four innings, and brought in Harris to partner Warner at the top of the order after England had enjoyed the bet-



ter of a rain-affected draw in the second Test at Lord's.

Both left-handed batsmen struggled against England's new-ball attack of Stuart Broad and Jofra Archer.

The experienced Warner was repeatedly beaten by Broad juggling the ball off a length, while the express Archer, in his second Test, went past Harris's outside edge.

Archer, bowling from around the wicket, squared him up with an 87.3 mph delivery that saw Harris get a thin edge through to wicketkeeper Jonny Bairstow — like Root appearing on his home ground.

Moments after Harris had fallen for eight, with Australia 12-1 off four overs, the umpires took the players off the field because of rain.

It took Warner 14 balls to get off the

mark as he continued to struggle, although Broad may have bowled a fraction too short with several deliveries beating the outside edge without really challenging the batsmen.

But he did take a wicket when Usman Khawaja, the third left-hander in Australia's top three, made thin contact with an intended leg glance and was caught behind as he too fell for eight.

England, however, had to review New Zealand official Gaffaney's original not out decision before reducing Australia to 25-2.

For Australia, fast bowler James Pattinson came in for paceman Peter Siddle.

England were unchanged after opener Jason Roy was passed fit having been hit on the head batting in the nets on Tuesday.