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Citizenship protests defer Shah's N-E visit

MHA Parl panel Assam tour also put off; anger spreads to Delhi, Bengal

PNS ■ GUWAHATI/NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has cancelled his scheduled two-day visit to Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh in view of raging protests across the North-East against the Citizenship Amendment Act.

Home Ministry's Parliamentary Committee's scheduled visit on December 18-20 to Assam was also cancelled in view of the ongoing unrest in the area.

The protest has now spread from North-East to Delhi and West Bengal where agitators set afire a railway station, RPF kiosks and tracks. Lashing out at the BJP-led Central Government over the amended Citizenship Act, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said she would not allow its implementation in the State "under any circumstances". Addressing a Press meet here, Mamata said the saffron party can't bulldoze the States to implement the law.

The indefinite curfew which was in force in Assam's Dibrugarh municipal area in



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and others arrive to pay tribute to the martyrs of the 2001 Parliament attack at Parliament in New Delhi on Friday PTI

view of the violent protests was relaxed for five hours on Friday even as a large number of protesters joined AASU's call for a 10-hour hunger strike in Chandmari area of Guwahati. AASU chief adviser Samujjal Bhattacharya said that the protests will continue.

Shah was scheduled to attend a passing-out parade in Shillong on Saturday and visit Arunachal Pradesh later to attend cultural functions.

As the situation remains explosive in the region, the Centre has kept on standby around 20 companies of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) to move into Assam.

Shah was supposed to take part in the passing-out parade at the North Eastern Police Academy near Shillong on Sunday and a festival in Tawang the next day.

At least two persons were killed in police firing in Assam



A demonstrator burns tyres on NH-17 during a protest rally against Citizenship Act in Kamrup district of Assam on Friday PTI

following widespread protests against the contentious Act which was passed by Parliament on Wednesday and given the Presidential assent on Thursday night.

Amid the continuing unrest, curfew has been imposed at several places in

Assam, while Army carried out flag marches in many districts to control the situation.

Protesters torched several vehicles and shops in Shillong in the last two days.

According to the amended Citizenship Act, members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain,

Parsi and Christian communities who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan till December 31, 2014 due to religious persecution there will not be treated as illegal immigrants and given Indian citizenship.

While the intensity of the protest in the North-East against the new citizenship law showed marginal signs of abating with relaxation in certain parts for limited hours, areas in neighbouring West Bengal were also engulfed in sporadic violence leading to vandalism of public property and clashes with the police by the protesters.

On Thursday, no violent incidents were reported from Guwahati, the centre of violent protests, but peaceful protests were held by AASU and some other outfits.

Will not implement Act, vow Opp CMs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Half a dozen Opposition-led States have refused to implement the amended Citizenship Act, setting the stage for an unprecedented Constitutional crisis.

After West Bengal, Punjab and Kerala Chief Ministers refused to implement the law in their respective States, CMs of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh too said that their Governments will toe the line taken by his party's Central leadership on the issue.

While Maharashtra State Minister Nitin Raut asserted that the State Government will not allow implementation of the law, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has also slammed the Act.

At the same time, addressing a protest rally organised by All Assam Students' Union (AASU), Arabinda Rajkhowa, the ULFA pro-talk faction chairman, claimed that under no circumstances they would allow the implementation of the law. The pro-talk faction of the ULFA asserted that the amended Citizenship Act, if implemented, would threaten the identity and existence of the people of Assam.

After the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act (MVA), this is the second decision made during the Modi Government in recent times that has been rejected by State Governments.

The Home Ministry officials said the States can't refuse



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath during an interaction with the media in New Delhi on Friday PTI

to implement the Act. A top Home Ministry official said State Governments have no powers to reject the implementation of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 as the legislation was enacted under the Union List of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution.

"If the State Government refuse to provide police protection to the settlers, it would be impossible to implement the law," said a political expert. "The States have no powers to deny implementation of a Central law which is in the Union List," the top official from the Home Ministry said.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said, "In your (BJP) manifesto, instead of development issues, you have put in promise to divide the country. Why will citizenship be on the basis of religion? I will not accept this. We dare you..." Mamata said who has also opposed the implementation of National Register of Citizens (NRC) in the State.

Abe cancels Guwahati meeting with Modi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The spate of foreign leaders deferring their visits to India continued on Friday as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe postponed his summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Guwahati next week. Assam and other parts of North-East are witnessing protests following the passage of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB), 2019 by Parliament earlier this week.

On Thursday, Bangladesh Foreign, Finance and Home Ministers had cancelled their visits at the last minute. Sources said the Japanese Government conveyed to India that it will not be possible for their Prime Minister to travel to Assam in view of the unrest. The summit was scheduled from December 15-17 in Guwahati.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said both India and Japan have decided to "defer" Abe's visit for the summit to a mutually convenient date.

"With reference to the proposed visit of Japanese Prime Minister Abe to India, both sides have decided to defer the visit to a mutually convenient date in the near future," he said in response to a query on the summit.

Diplomatic sources said the Japanese Government has



clearly conveyed to New Delhi that it would not be possible for Abe to travel to Guwahati in view of large-scale protests in the Northeastern city. They said the summit is now expected to take place next year. Asked whether an alternative venue was considered, sources said the option was not explored as hosting a leadership-level summit involves long preparations.

The External Affairs Ministry last week announced the dates for Abe's visit but did not mention the venue. However, preparations were in full swing in Guwahati for the high-profile summit.

Sources said a Japanese team visited Guwahati on Wednesday to take stock of the preparations following which Tokyo clearly conveyed to the Ministry that Abe's visit cannot go ahead under current circumstances.

Delhi breaks 22-yr record of highest Dec rain in 24-hour

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The national Capital recorded its highest 24-hour December rainfall since 1997 on Friday, MeT officials said.

The Safdarjung Observatory recorded 33.5 mm rainfall, the second highest after 70 mm in December 1997.

The Palam weather station registered an all-time December high of 40.2 mm in the last 24 hours. It had measured 33.7 mm rainfall on December 3, 1997, the officials said. India Meteorological Department (IMD) in its weekly weather forecast said foggy days will start from Saturday.



"Moderate to dense fog from December 14 to December 19," MeT updated in Regional Weather Forecast for Delhi. For the next week, minimum temperature will remain at 8 degrees Celsius and maximum will fluctuate between 18 and 20 degrees Celsius.

Boris Johnson wins historic UK election

PTI ■ LONDON

Election-weary British voters gave Prime Minister Boris Johnson a "powerful new mandate" in the historic General Elections as his Conservative Party on Friday won a commanding majority in Parliament to allow him to finalise UK's divorce deal with the European Union next month.

Johnson, 55, who vigorously campaigned on a simple slogan "Get Brexit done," vowed that he will work "flat out" to repay the trust of the voters after the Conservatives' most emphatic majority since the 1980s under Margaret Thatcher.

Detailed report on P12



Students of Jamia Millia Islamia pelt security personnel with stones during a protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act, in Delhi on Friday. (Inset) Policemen throw back stones at protesters PTI

Jamia agitation turns violent; students hurt, 2 cops critical

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Jamia Millia Islamia witnessed a pitched battle between students, including locals, and police on Friday afternoon after they were stopped at the varsity gate from carrying out their march towards Parliament to protest against the Citizenship Act.

In the ensuing clash, several students and cops were hurt. Of 42 students, who were detained with ten locals, were released later.

A senior police official said 12 police personnel were injured in the clash. "Conditions of two of them is said to be critical and they are admitted in Intensive Care Unit (ICU)," said the official.

The students claimed they were baton-charged by police. The students resorted to stone-pelting.

However, the protesters alleged that police resorted to stone-pelting first and students threw stones in response to the attack. To buttress their claims, students posted on social media videos showing police caning the protesters.

The CAB protest call was given by Jamia Teachers' Association (JTA) on Friday and everything went on peacefully on the campus until students started marching towards Parliament House with other local groups who were coming from Batla House. Looking at the outpouring of the residents, Jamia Nagar saw a liter-

al lockdown with police putting up barricades in several places, including in front of Jamia Nagar Police Station, forcing residents to walk to their destinations.

A few metres from Jamia main gate, police had cordoned off the road to stop protesters to go ahead towards Julaina. "Students started their march. We had placed barricades which they broke and tried to jump over them. Then they threw stones at us forcing us to use teargas shells. The students have been detained and taken to Badarpur police station," a senior police official present at the stop said.

A law student at Jamia Onaiha said, "We were marching peacefully and police stopped us from marching. First, they lathicharged us asking us to move backwards. Then they pelted stones in response to which students picked up stones too."

Another student alleged that police resorted to pelting stones and then used tear gas that resulted in many students being injured. Police, however, denied the allegations.

Additional Public Relation Officer (APRO), Delhi Police, Anil Mittal, said there were scheduled protest at Jantar Mantar today and since the place was already saturated with people beyond the permissible number of 1000, the protesters who were coming from different parts of the city

to gather at Jantar Mantar, were advised not to proceed to Jantar Mantar.

"In this process, some protesters who were coming from Central Delhi were stopped at Ranjeet Singh Flyover, and they dispersed peacefully after police persuasion. Likewise, the protesters who were coming from Jamia were also persuaded to protest peacefully there only and requested not to march towards New Delhi area," said the APRO.

"However, the students coming from Jamia got agitated and aggressively confronted the police personnel. They broke barricades and indulged in stone pelting at police personnel which also caused damage to parked vehicles. Police had to lob tear gas shells with use of limited force to disperse the protesters," said Mittal.

Local leaders, including Okhla AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan, former MLA Asif Md Khan, councillor Shoab Danish and Delhi Congress chief Subhash Chopra, turned up at the protest spot.

As a precautionary measure, the police also advised the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to close the entry and exit points at Patel Chowk and Janpath metro stations. "As advised by Delhi Police, entry and exit at Patel Chowk and Janpath have been closed. Trains will not be halting at these stations," DMRC said on twitter.

The station was resumed later.

BJP berates Rahul for 'rape in India' barb, seeks apology

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Led by its vocal women MPs in the Lok Sabha, the BJP on Friday launched a high-decibel attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his "rape in India" remark at an election rally in Jharkhand. The BJP sought Rahul's apology for the remark, but he refused to oblige them and instead sought an apology from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

From the word go, the Treasury Benches erupted and took positions against the former Congress president, condemning Rahul for his alleged anti-women comments.

Outside the House, Rahul described the BJP stance as diversionary tactics of the ruling party wanting to divert attention from the controversial Citizens Amendment Bill (CAB), 2019, that has led to violent protests in the North-East.

Rahul said he will never apologise, and instead demanded an apology from Narendra Modi, claiming that the Prime Minister had called Delhi a



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses the media at Parliament House in New Delhi on Friday PTI

"rape capital" under the UPA Government. "As far as their (BJP's) demand for apologising (is concerned), I am never going to apologise to them," Rahul told reporters outside Parliament.

Rahul also clarified his rape statement that triggered protests by the BJP in both Houses of Parliament, saying he has simply made a point that Modi has

been talking about "Made in India" but it has now become "rape in India" as incidents of rapes are being reported in newspapers across the country. "There is no BJP-ruled State where rape incidents are not reported regularly. In Unnao, a BJP MLA committed rape, but Modi did not utter a single word," the Congress leader alleged.

"What has happened is that Narendra Modi makes use of violence and spreads it and today there is violence in the entire country. There is violence against women, there is violence in the North-East and in Kashmir, and there is violence in the entire country," he alleged.

"Today the main issue is that the BJP, Narendra Modi and Amit Shah have burnt the North-East. That is the issue. And to divert the attention from this issue, Narendra Modi and the BJP are raising my statement," he claimed.

As Speaker Om Birla looked at some papers and flipped through them, batches of BJP women MPs standing close to the Well of the House launched a verbal attack against the Congress MP, lasting about 30 minutes before the House was adjourned until 12 noon.

The BJP's verbal offensive against Rahul was first started by Locket Chatterjee and then picked up by a fuming Union Minister Smriti Irani, who berated Rahul for his alleged

insult to women of India claiming his remarks amounted to inviting people to rape women. More than 30 members from the BJP, including Bhopal MP Pragya Thakur, were seen standing in the aisle and shouting slogans.

The Congress MPs also rose on their feet to back their leader. Rahul was seen with a stray smirk on his face.

Amidst loud noises from the treasury benches, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi challenged NCP MP Supriya Sule to speak on the issue and give her counter to Rahul's alleged insults against women.

At this point, DMK's Kanimozhi, sitting along with Sule and Congress MP Sashi Tharoor, said Rahul Gandhi did not make the remarks in the House and that he was referring to cases of sexual assaults and violence against women in the country. Kanimozhi said everyone wants Make-in-India programme of the Prime Minister to succeed and pushes Indian economic growth.

इंडियन बैंक
Indian Bank

Zonal Office, Karnal
Sector 12, Karnal-132001.
FAX: 0184-2266359, Phone: 0184-2266358, 2266264
E-mail:zokarnal@indianbank.co.in

NOTICE OF INTENDED SALE
Notice of intended sale under Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

The below mentioned borrowers availed loan facilities from Indian Bank, at the following branches, the repayment of which are secured by mortgage of schedule mentioned properties hereinafter referred to as "the Properties". The below mentioned borrowers failed to pay the outstanding to the bank. Therefore a Demand Notice under Sec 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (for short called as "The Act"), was issued by the Authorized Officer calling upon the below mentioned Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantors and others liable to the Bank to pay the amount due together with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon.

The below mentioned Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantors failed to make payment despite Demand notice, the Authorized Office took possession of the Schedule mentioned properties under the Act on date mentioned in the respective column of the each borrower after complying with all legal formalities. The amount due as on the given date for the respective borrowers is given in the respective column for the date given. As per section 13(4) of the Act, Secured creditor is entitled to affect the sale of the assets taken possession of and realize to proceeds towards the outstanding balance. In Accordance with same the undersigned Authorized Officer, proposed to be sell the below mentioned securities by way of public tender/ auction adopting the e-auction mode.

SECTOR 21 PANCHKULA BRANCH	BORROWER / GUARANTOR	PROPERTY	RESERVE PRICE
Demand Notice date 02.08.2018 Rs. 23,57,982 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Fifty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Two only) as on 31.07.2018 together with interest at the agreed rate from 01.09.2018, cost, other charges and expenses thereon.	1. Mrs. Kirandeep Kaur W/o Mr. Manpreet Singh (Applicant) R/o HNO-5/290, Gali No-5, Second Floor, Nirankari Colony, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, S.O. North West Delhi-110009	All that part and parcel of the residential property consist of Plot No. 145, Rosewood Estate, Village G u l a b g a r h, Barwala Road, Dera-Bassi, Distt. S A S Nagar North-East - Rear-Other Plot, South-East - Plot No. 146, North-West - Plot No. 144, South-West-Front Road	EMD Bid Increase Amount Prior Encumbrance Rs. 19,00,000/- Rs. 1,90,000/- Rs. 10,000/- NIL

THE SCHEDULE OF THE SALE

- The date of sale is fixed as 17th January, 2020 between 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM, which would be by e-auction mode.
- The Tender/bid Form with the terms and conditions can be had on-line from the website www.bankeauctions.com & howebadmi@indianbank.co.in and using the provision in the system/software, the same could be procured using the 'seal bid option' such that the activities could be done online. The tender form and the terms and conditions would be available in the website from 14th December, 2019 to 16th January, 2020 from 10.30 a.m. to 4.00 pm.
- The last date for submitting tenders/bids complying with all necessary terms along with EMD in the stipulated manner is 16th January, 2020 till 4.00 P.M.
- The inspection of the Schedule mentioned property and related documents and up to date EC may be had by the intending purchasers / bidders at his expense on 3rd January, 2020 between 10 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- The Reserve price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the sale of the secured assets is fixed as mentioned in the schedule.
- The tenders should be accompanied with EMD taken in DD/BPO/RTGS/NEFT/Account Transfer and /or any other acceptable mode of money transfer without time lag, failing which the tender becomes disqualified.
- The Nodal Bank account No./IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under
The Nodal Bank account No./IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under :

Nodal Bank A/c. No.	A/c. Name	IFSC Code
6840521310	INDIAN BANK SECTOR 21 PANCHKULA SARFAESI	IDIB000S161

The sale shall be confirmed by the Secured Creditor. The undersigned/Authorized Officer reserves right to accept or reject the bid/tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The sale is subject to confirmation by the Secured Creditor.

In the case of movable property/ies the sale price to be paid as agreed to/as per terms of sale published. The Authorized Officer reserves right to accept or reject the tender/bid/offer without assigning any reason therefor.

The sale is made on "As is where is and As is What is" basis and no representations and warranties are given by the Bank relating to encumbrances statutory liabilities etc.

***If the e-auction fails owing to any technical snag etc., the same may be re-scheduled by issuing 7 days prior notice.

*** This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor.

*** Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://www.bankeauctions.com) of our e-auction service provider M/s C1 India Pvt. Ltd. & howebadmi@indianbank.co.in for auction bid form and detailed terms and conditions which are annexed to the bid form. The helpline No. to get assistance during the entire process is 7291981124/25/26 and 9430888697/8901300107.

Place: Panchkula Date:- 13.12.2019 The Authorised Officer (Indian Bank)

इंडियन बैंक
Indian Bank

Zonal Office, Karnal
Sector 12, Karnal- 132001.
FAX: 0184-2266359, Phone: 0184-2266358, 2266264
E-mail:zokarnal@indianbank.co.in

NOTICE OF INTENDED SALE
Notice of intended sale under Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

The below mentioned borrowers availed loan facilities from Indian Bank, at the following branches, the repayment of which are secured by mortgage of schedule mentioned properties hereinafter referred to as "the Properties". The below mentioned borrowers failed to pay the outstanding to the bank. Therefore a Demand Notice under Sec 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (for short called as "The Act"), was issued by the Authorized Officer calling upon the below mentioned Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantors and others liable to the Bank to pay the amount due together with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon.

The below mentioned Borrowers/Mortgagor/Guarantors failed to make payment despite Demand notice, the Authorized Office took possession of the Schedule mentioned properties under the Act on date mentioned in the respective column of the each borrower after complying with all legal formalities. The amount due as on the given date for the respective borrowers is given in the respective column for the date given. As per section 13(4) of the Act, Secured creditor is entitled to affect the sale of the assets taken possession of and realize to proceeds towards the outstanding balance. In Accordance with same the undersigned Authorized Officer, proposed to be sell the below mentioned securities by way of public tender/ auction adopting the e-auction mode.

FARIDABAD MAIN BRANCH	BORROWER / GUARANTOR	PROPERTY	RESERVE PRICE
Demand Notice date 02.02.2019 Rs. 11,82,326/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Eighty Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Six only) for OCC IND SME and Rs. 15,33,144/- (Rupees FIFTEEN LAKHS THIRTY THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY FOUR only) together with interest at the agreed rate from 01.02.2019, cost, other charges and expenses thereon.	1. M/S DTS DIE CASTING (BORROWER) SOLE PROPRIETOR- MR. PREET PAL Plot No. 27/65, Laxmi Rattan Complex Hardward Chowk, NIT Faridabad 2. Mr. MUKHTIKAR SINGH (Guarantor) House No. 1025, Plot No. 196-A Near Shiv Park, Jawahar Colony NIT, Faridabad.	All that part and parcel of the residential property consist of House No 1025, Plot no 196-A, Part of Khawat No 693/679, Khatoni No 62, Killa No: 27/8, Near Shiv Park, Jawahar Colony, FARIDABAD (Haryana) 121001 OF 192.00 SQ. YARDS	EMD Bid Increase Amount Prior Encumbrance Rs. 41,69,000/- Rs. 4,17,000/- Rs. 10,000/- NIL

THE SCHEDULE OF THE SALE

- The date of sale is fixed as 17th January, 2020 between 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM, which would be by e-auction mode.
- The Tender/bid Form with the terms and conditions can be had on-line from the website www.bankeauctions.com & howebadmi@indianbank.co.in and using the provision in the system/software, the same could be procured using the 'seal bid option' such that the activities could be done online. The tender form and the terms and conditions would be available in the website from 14th December, 2019 to 16th January, 2020 from 10.30 a.m. to 4.00 pm.
- The last date for submitting tenders/bids complying with all necessary terms along with EMD in the stipulated manner is 16th January 2020 till 4.00 P.M.
- The inspection of the Schedule mentioned property and related documents and up to date EC may be had by the intending purchasers / bidders at his expense on 3rd January 2020 between 10 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
- The Reserve price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for the sale of the secured assets is fixed as mentioned in the schedule.
- The tenders should be accompanied with EMD taken in DD/BPO/RTGS/NEFT/Account Transfer and /or any other acceptable mode of money transfer without time lag, failing which the tender becomes disqualified.
- The Nodal Bank account No./IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under
The Nodal Bank account No./IFSC Code etc. for online money transfer is as under :

Nodal Bank A/c. No.	A/c. Name	IFSC Code
6840238070	INDIAN BANK FARIDABAD SARFAESI	IDIB000F001

The sale shall be confirmed by the Secured Creditor. The undersigned/Authorized Officer reserves right to accept or reject the bid/tender without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The sale is subject to confirmation by the Secured Creditor.

In the case of movable property/ies the sale price to be paid as agreed to/as per terms of sale published. The Authorized Officer reserves right to accept or reject the tender/bid/offer without assigning any reason therefor.

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***If the e-auction fails owing to any technical snag etc., the same may be re-scheduled by issuing 7 days prior notice.

*** This Notice is without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Secured Creditor.

*** Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://www.bankeauctions.com) of our e-auction service provider M/s C1 India Pvt. Ltd. & howebadmi@indianbank.co.in for auction bid form and detailed terms and conditions which are annexed to the bid form. The helpline No. to get assistance during the entire process is 7291981124/25/26 and 9958899033.

Place: Faridabad Date:- 13.12.2019 The Authorised Officer (Indian Bank)

HP House passes MSME Bill

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Pradesh Assembly on Friday passed the HP Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (facilitation of establishment and operation) Bill, 2019, which proposes to exempt any person bringing a MSME in the state from taking approvals from government departments for three years.

The bill was passed amid a walkout by the Congress, which raised several objections to the bill when it came up for discussion on the fifth day of the ongoing winter session of Himachal Assembly.

Opposing the bill, the Congress MLAs alleged that the State Government is trying to "sell" Himachal Pradesh.

IN BRIEF

HARYANA SPENDS NIRBHAYA FUND
Chandigarh: Haryana Police has emerged among top five states and Union Territories (UTs) in utilisation of Nirbhaya Funds allocated by the Ministry of Home Affairs for implementing projects related to safety of women. A spokesperson informed, out of a total amount of ₹13.66 crore which was allocated to Haryana Police, an amount of ₹4.46 crore was utilized for implementing various projects meant for promoting women safety. The remaining amount of ₹9.20 crore was earmarked for implementing the Emergency Response Support Scheme for women as a part of Dial 100 scheme of Haryana. This amount is proposed to be utilized during the current year during the implementation of Dial 100 scheme.

HARYANA DEPT INVITES RFP
Chandigarh: Haryana Development and Panchayats Department has invited Request for Proposal (RFP) from interested bidders (organizations/universities/institutions/firms etc.) of repute having capability, expertise for testing of various parameters like Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD), Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Total suspended solids (TSS) and pH Value of treated waste water in various villages in Panchayati Raj Circle Gurugram, got treated by the department under Liquid Waste Management Projects. A spokesman said, interested bidders may submit their RFP in sealed covers with all details.

OVER 74.83 LAKH MT PADDY ARRIVED IN MANDIS
Chandigarh: More than 74.83 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of paddy has so far arrived in mandis of Haryana as compared to over 73.94 lakh MT of paddy arrived during the corresponding period last year. A spokesman said, out of the total arrival of paddy, government agencies had so far procured over 64.33 lakh MT of paddy whereas remaining quantity of over 1.04 lakh MT of paddy was procured by the millers and dealers. Over 17.49 lakh MT paddy has arrived in mandis of Karnal followed by over 11.42 lakh MT in Kurukshetra, over 8.83 lakh MT in Ambala.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, DR. RADHA KRISHNAN GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, HAMIRPUR (HP)

No. HFW-HMR-GMC-Store/Tender(Surgery)/2019- Dated, Hamirpur the _____
TENDER NOTICE

Properly sealed tenders are invited for purchase of Machinery, Equipments & other Items in the Department of Surgery, Dr.Radhakrishnan Government Medical College, Hamirpur, so as to reach in this office on or before 23/12/2019 up-to 12:30 PM, thereafter no tender shall be entertained. The offer will be opened on same day at 02:00PM in the presence of the prospective tenderers who may wish to remain present. Tender document containing specifications and terms & conditions can be purchased from the office of the undersigned on any working day between 10AM to 5PM upto 21/12/2019 at the cost of Rs.500/- only which is non-refundable. The tenders sent by post or courier will be entertained only, if these are actually received by the specific date & time. The tender form can be viewed from Medical college website <http://www.rgmchamirpur.org/>.

The tender must be accompanied with an earnest amount Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) in the shape of DD/Banker Cheque/FDR and payable to the Principal, Dr. RKGMC Hamirpur. Tender without earnest money or short or not in form specified above will be rejected straightway. In case any date mentioned above happens to be a holiday next day will be considered as due date.

Joint Director (Admn.),
Dr. RKGMC, Hamirpur-HP

RO NO. 3538/19-20 Dt. 13-12-2019

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

"Notice Inviting Tender"

Sealed item rate tender on form No.6 and 8 are hereby invited on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh for the following works from the approved and eligible contractors enlisted in HPPWD., So as to reach in this office on or before 8.1.2020 up to 11.00 A.M. and tender will be opened on the same day at 12.00 Noon in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives who may like to be present. The tender form can be had from this office against cash payment (non refundable) up to 10.30 AM on or before 7.1.2020.

The earnest money in the shape of F.D.R./time deposited in HP duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, HP. PWD., must accompany with each tender. Conditional tender and the tender received without earnest money will summarily be rejected. The undersigned reserve the right to reject any or all tender without assigning any reasons. The offer of the tender will be kept open for 120 days.

- Work No.1:-** A/R & M/O to division office of PWD colony.(SH:-P/L balance work), Estimated cost:- 3,60,580/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-
- Work No.2:-** R/R damages to Bankala to gawado Rakhni road 0/0 to 5/795.(SH:-C/O R/wall at RD.0/138 to 0/144), Estimated cost:- 4,86,018/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-
- Work No.3:-** R/R damages to Bankala to gawado Rakhni road 0/0 to 5/795.(SH:-C/O R/wall at RD.0/144 to /150), Estimated cost:- 4,86,454/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-
- Work No.4:-** A/R & M/O to Jhameria Ramadon road Km.0/0 to 22/305.(SH:- R/O pot holes in left out reaches), Estimated cost:- 4,95,500/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-
- Work No.5:-** A/R & M/O to Banog Kheri road Km.0/0 to 28/0.(SH:-R/O pot holes in Km.13/0 to 19/0), Estimated cost:- 4,95,500/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-
- Work No.6:-** A/R & M/O to Banog Kheri road Km.0/0 to 28/0.(SH:-R/O pot holes in Km.19/0 to 28/0), Estimated cost:- 4,95,500/- Earnest Money:- 10,000/- Time limit:- Two month, Cost of tender form:-350/-

Terms & Conditions:-

- The Contractors/Bidders must quote their Permanent Income Tax Account Number/GST number on the tender along with the copy of the same be attached with the application.
- The Contractors/Firms should attach copy of the Registration/Renewal with the application.
- The Contractors/Bidders should quote his rates Both in Figures and words. Where there is any discrepancy between the rates in figures and words, the rates in words will be governed.
- Contractors/Bidders must inspect the site to ascertain/familiar the site conditions, accessibility etc. before quoting the bid/tender.
- Conditional and telegraphic tender shall not be accepted and rejected straightway. Tender received after due date and time will be rejected.
- The contractor/firms should have to produce the details of works in hand in HP. PWD., and its position thereof along with applications.
- The tender documents shall be issued to only those contractors who does not have more than two works in hand in any PWD Circle/ Division worth Rs.1.00 crore etc.
- The contractor shall have to establish testing laboratory at site for the day to day testing of the material.
- The offer shall remain valid up to 120 days.
- Executive Engineer reserve the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

HIM SUCHNA AWAM JAN SAMPARK.
RO NO. 3510/19-20 Dt. 12-12-2019

बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र
Bank of Maharashtra

भारत सरकार का उद्यम

Zonal Office :
S.C.O. 88-89 Sector 17-C, Chandigarh
Phone : 0172-2713010, 254889

Head Office 'LOKMANGAL': 1501 SHIVAJINAGAR, PUNE-411005

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Bank of Maharashtra under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under the sub-section (12) of section 13 read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice to the below mentioned Borrower/Mortgagor/ Guarantor on the date mentioned against the account, calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice within 60 days of the receipt of notice. The notice was sent by Registered AD Post/ Courier/Dasti. The Borrower(s)/Mortgagor/Guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount(s), notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/Mortgagor/ Guarantor(s) and the public in general, that the Authorized Officer has taken **symbolic possession** of the property, described herein below on the dates mentioned against each account, in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The Borrowers in particular and public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of **Bank Of Maharashtra** for the amounts mentioned here in below, along with charges/expenses & future interest.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of the section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name & Address of Borrower/ Mortgagor/ Guarantor & Branch	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding as per Notice
Mandi Branch, (H.P.)	Registered Mortgage of	08.05.2019	09.12.2019	Rs.18,80,312.00
(1)Borrower:M/s Sai Audio Care through its Proprietor Mr. Pawan Kumar S/O Sh. Daulat Ram, R/o Village Panjethi, PO Talyahar, Tehsil Sadar, Distt. Mandi (H.P.), 175001.	residential house constructed on plot bearing Khata/Khewat no. 120 mtr, Khaton No. 131, Khasha No. 696/221, measuring 00-04-06 bigha to the extent of full share measuring 00-04-06 bigha, situated at Mauja Talyahar, Muhal Panjethi/365, Tehsil Sadar, Distt. Mandi (HP) as per Jamabandi 2007-08. In the name of Sh. Pawan Kumar S/O Sh. Daulat Ram.			plus interest thereon w.e.f. 08.05.2019
(2) Guarantor: Mrs. Charu Vaidsya W/o Sh. Pawan Kumar, R/O Vill. Panjethi, PO. Talyahar, Tehsil Sadar, Distt. Mandi (HP), 175001.				
(3) Guarantor : Mrs. Barfi Devi W/o Sh. Daulat Ram, R/O Vill. Panjethi, PO Talyahar, Tehsil Sadar, Distt. Mandi (HP):-175001.				

Date : 12.12.2019 Authorized Officer

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed items rate tender are hereby invited by the Executive Engineer Paonta B&R Division HPPWD Paonta Sahib on behalf of Governor of HP from the approved/ eligible contractor registered in HPPWD for the work, so as to reach in this office on 04.01.2020 up to 10.30 AM and shall be opened on 04.01.2020 the same day at 11.30 A.M. in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representative who may like to be present. The tender form can be had from this office against cash payment (non refundable) up to 5.00 PM on 03.01.2020 for which the applications should reach in this office up to 5.00 PM on 02.01.2020. The tender form will be issued to the contractor giving proof of registration as GST.

The earnest money in the shape of NSC / Time deposit account / Saving account in any of the Post Office in HP or FDR/CDR from nationalized bank duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer Paonta B&R Division HPPWD Paonta Sahib must be accompanied with the application. Conditional tender and tender received without earnest money will be rejected. The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 90 days. The Executive Engineer reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning the reason. If there happens to be any holiday the same will be open on the next working day.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time Limit	Cost of form	Class
1	R/R damages to link road to village Upper Bhagani km 0/0 to 1/975(SH:-P/L Interlocking tiles from RD. 1/245 to 1/280).	Rs.96,994/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two month.	350/-	C & D
2	Construction of link road to village Bhatna Kayalna Giri Nadi in G.P. Kando Kansar km. 0/0 to 2/0 (SH:-C/O retaining wall in wire crate at RD.0/680 to 0/693).(Under SCSPP).	Rs.96,955/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two month.	350/-	C & D
3	R/R damages to link road to village Upper Bhagani km 0/0 to 1/975(SH:-P/L Interlocking tiles from RD. 1/285 to 1/320).	Rs.96,994/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two Months.	350/-	C & D
4	R/R damages to link road to village Upper Bhagani km 0/0 to 1/975(SH:-P/L Interlocking tiles from RD. 1/245 to 1/280).	Rs.96,994/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two Months.	350/-	C&D
5	R/R damages to link road Bhatnawali to Ganguwala km 0/0 to 1/0(SH:-P/L Interlocking concrete pavement, C.C.1:4:8 in RD. 0/030 to 0/059).	Rs.99,240/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
6	R/R damages to link road Badripur Jammivala Majra Parduni road in km. 0/0 to 14/500(SH:-P/L Interlocked tiles at RD. 8/958 to 8/993).	Rs.98,974/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
7	R/R damages to link road to village Upper Bhagani km 0/0 to 1/975(SH:-P/L interlocking tiles from RD. 1/285 to 1/320).	Rs.96,994/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two month.	350/-	C & D
8	R/R damages to link road from Mehruwala to Upper Bhagani km 0/0 to 3/600(SH:-Repair of V-shape drain and cleaning of drain in km. 0/0 to 0/500 right side including hiring of tractor with trolley for disposal of waster material).	Rs.97,177/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
9	R/R damages to Paonta Puruwala Singhpura Bhagani Gojar Dak Pathar road km 0/0 to 26/500 (SH:-P/L interlocking paver block in km. 21/360 to 21/400).	Rs.97,043/-	Rs.2000/-	Two Months.	350/-	C & D
10	C/O link road to village Jat Basti Taruwala km. 0/0 to 1/0 under Mukhya Mantri Gram Path Yojna(SH:-P/L interlocking tiles from RD. 0/175 to 0/400).(MMGSY).	Rs.4,36,323/-	Rs.9000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D
11	C/O link road to village Jat Basti Taruwala km. 0/0 to 1/0 under Mukhya Mantri Gram Path Yojna(SH:-P/L interlocking tiles from RD. 0/410 to 0/610).(MMGSY).	Rs.3,87,859/-	Rs.8000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D
12	C/O link road to village Jat Basti Taruwala km. 0/0 to 1/0 under Mukhya Mantri Gram Path Yojna(SH:-P/L interlocking tiles from RD. 0/620 to 0/795).(MMGSY).	Rs.3,39,396/-	Rs.7000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D
13	C/O link road to village Jat Basti Taruwala km. 0/0 to 1/0 under Mukhya Mantri Gram Path Yojna(SH:-P/L 2cm thick premix carpet surfacing in km.0/0 to 0/770).(MMGSY).	Rs.4,94,594/-	Rs.10,000/-	Three months.	350/-	All Class
14	R/R damages to link road SwarLandasi Katal Kharkari road km.0/0 to 3/0(SH:-C/O Retaining wall in wire crate at RD. 0/700 to 0/710).	Rs.99,3339/-	Rs.2000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D
15	R/R damages to Kyarda Misserwala Majra road km 0/0 to 3/500(SH:-C/O U-shape drain at RD. 0/645 to 0/707).	Rs.99,684/-	Rs.2000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D
16	C/O bridge over Sunkhro khala at RD. 1/245 to 1/305 on link road Harizan Basti Khairi Palhoi Simbalwala km 0/0 to 4/600(SH:-Preparation of Detailed Design and drawings of bridge and Detailed Project Report).	Rs.99,500/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
17	C/O bridge over Sunkhro khala at RD. 1/ 245 to 1/305 on link road Harizan Basti Khairi Palhoi Simbalwala km 0/0 to 4/600(SH:-opographical investigation of bridge site with approaches, preparation of hydraulic data etc.).	Rs.99,500/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
18	C/O bridge over Sunkhro khala at RD. 1/245 to 1/305 on link road Harizan Basti Khairi Palhoi Simbalwala km 0/0 to 4/600(SH:-Preparation of Detailed Design and drawings of bridge and Detailed Project Report).	Rs.99,500/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
19	R/R damages to Paonta Puruwala Singhpura Bhagani Gojar Dak Pathar road km 0/0 to 26/500 (SH:-P/L interlocking paver block in km. 26/375 to 26/420).	Rs.98,419/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
20	R/R damages to Paonta Puruwala Singhpura Bhagani Gojar Dak Pathar road km. 0/0 to 26/500 (SH:-P/L interlocking paver block in km. 22/100 to 22/135).	Rs.97,467/-	Rs.2000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
21	Construction of Rain shelter in Badripur Jammivala Parduni road (SH:-C/O Rain shelter in village Kheri at RD. 15/270).	Rs.97,762/-	Rs.2000/-	Three month.	350/-	C & D
22	R/R damages to link road Badripur Jammivala Majra Parduni road in km. 0/0 to 14/500(SH:-P/L Interlocked tiles at RD. 8/958 to 8/993).	Rs.98,974/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
23	R/R damages to link road Badripur Jammivala Majra Parduni road in km. 0/0 to 14/500(SH:-P/L Interlocked tiles at RD. 8/886 to 8/921).	Rs.98,974/-	Rs.2,000/-	Two months.	350/-	C & D
24	R/R damages to Jarra Rajban road km.23/0 to 43/0(SH:-Construction of breast wall in cement concrete at R.D. 31/585 to 31/599).	Rs.90,801/-	Rs.2000/-	Three months.	350/-	C & D

Conditions:-

The tender document shall be issued to only those contractors / firms:-

- Who possess valid Contractor Registration Number.
- Who possess valid GST Registration Number.
- Who possess valid Permanent Account Number.
- Who Possess valid EPF Number.
- Ambiguous / telegraphic / conditional tenders or tenders by FAX / E-mail shall not be entertained / considered in any case.
- If any date mentioned above happens to be local /

MILITARY LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2019

Guv unveils MLF, claims India strong enough to deal with any threat

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Asserting that India was "strong enough to deal with any insurgency and threat", Punjab Governor VP Singh Badnore on Friday said that strikes by Indian Armed Forces across the Line of Control (LoC) shows that the country has the capability and competence to secure its borders, including naval routes.

Badnore, who inaugurated the third edition of annual Military Literature Festival on Friday, envisaged that India would become self-reliant on manufacturing its own defence weapons with cutting edge technology.

"Already Rs 3,000 crore worth of defence equipment is being made in India. 'Make in India' for defence systems is no longer a mere slogan but a reality. Very soon, we shall be fighting securing our nation with a totally indigenously designed and manufactured weapons and equipment inventory," he added.

Kick-starting the three-day military extravaganza from December 13 to 15 with galaxy of military historians, serving and retired military officers, researchers, academicians, hundreds of school-children, authors and delegates from across the country and foreign shores, the Governor fondly remembered and paid tributes to the martyrs of Parliament attack, who made supreme sacrifice while defending the 'temple of democracy' on this day in 2001.

Describing the MLF as a unique platform to acquaint students and youngsters with rich and glorious past of coun-

try's armed forces, the Governor recalled that he mooted the idea to Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh to start a literary festival, like Jaipur and other areas, in Chandigarh with an only focus on defence and war, which was accepted by the latter.

"Our country has exhibited that it was competent in reaching targets in space, are evolving our own global positioning system and have the ability to watch its frontiers and beyond with our satellite systems. We are in the process of making the Indian Ocean militarily safe for our country, secure our island territories and our maritime traffic," he added.

WAR EXPERTS FOR INCLUDING ALL STAKE-HOLDERS FOR LASTING SOLUTION TO KASHMIR PROBLEM

Rejecting military solution as the only way out for resolution of vexed Kashmir issue, war experts on Friday called for including all stakeholders, especially the local residents, to ensure its lasting solution.

Taking part in a panel discussion on the first day of MLF on the issue of 'The Taliban and ISIK in Kashmir', former RAW chief AS Dulat made startling revelation that most of the people in India don't know about the real problem of Kashmir. "Kashmir issue is not the military issue alone and Army alone cannot solve the problem," he said.

"Though the Army has been holding the ground in Kashmir since long and the situation have improved manifold, even then, the real solution of Kashmir problem is not



to be solved by Army. Apart from terrorism, Kashmir has emotive and social angle which has to be taken into account," he said.

Pointing out that means of warfare have undergone considerable change, Dulat said that it was America who earlier supported the militant groups around the world. "Even in Kashmir, they call the separatists as freedom fighters. The America's stand changed after 9/11. Then the Americans sensed the real danger posed by the terrorism in the face of humanity. After 9/11, America waged the war against terrorism and overnight freedom fighters turned into terrorists," he said.

PUNJABIS ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR THEIR SELF ESTEEM, PRIDE

During the panel discus-

sion on 'Delhi Fateh Banda Singh Bahadur Toan Ranjit Singh De Daur Da Jangi Itihas', educationist Prof Jasbir Singh said that the Sikhs have always been known for their resistance towards invading forces.

"It is a misconception that the pre-partition Punjab was considered to be the gateway to India and that is why, the Punjabis had their fighting spirit because several invaders had entered India from this route. Punjabis have always stood against invaders and always fought for safeguarding their motherland as well as for the sake of their self esteem and pride," he said.

He added that if any person wants to learn more about the war history of that period, they can get several examples from "janganama" as well as "wars" written in several languages of the region.

Historian Dr Amanpreet Singh Gill said that to win a war, more than the military strength, the people of that land need to have a thought process, where they cannot allow invaders to rule them.

He also stressed that the Sirhand Fateh was a much bigger event than even Delhi Fateh as when Delhi was won, the Mughal rulers of that time were already going through testing times, whereas when Baba Banda Singh Bahadur won Sirhand, the Mughals were at their peak and had never even imagined that it could even be possible.

ARMY LITERATURE IN PUNJABI LANGUAGE IS NEED OF HOUR

Punjabis have always contributed with their blood in not only in the freedom movement of our country but also in

securing its borders and it is important to write military literature in Punjabi language.

The views were expressed during a book discussion by Colonel BS Sra on selected battles of Indian Army and first Indo-Pakistan war and 1947-48 Operation Rescue (Jammu and Kashmir), discussed by renowned writer and editor of Punjabi Tribune Surinder Singh Tej.

BOOK ON 'KARGIL VICTORY' THROWS LIGHT ON UNTOLD INCIDENTS OF WAR

The Kargil War was one of the most difficult and challenging in Indian history which demonstrated unparalleled valour of the Indian Army, maintained Colonel SC Tyagi whose book, 'The Kargil Victory: Battles From Peak to Peak' gives a glimpse about 'untold incidents' of war which is a great source of inspiration for today's youth.

On the question of Aditya, a seventh class student in the session, the writer said that this war was one of most difficult in the Indian history as the war was fought on 18,000 feet above sea level in which the enemy took advantage of height and it was not easy to fight with them.

He said that in the bone-chilling cold, it was a herculean task to climb with the weapons.

Writer Vikramjeet Singh said that the book gives in-depth look and insight about Kargil War as the writer had ground zero personal experience which other journalists and writers had not gained the same.

Policymakers have failed to learn lessons from Kargil: Gen Malik

Defence experts bat for greater thrust on development of indigenous defence platforms to ensure India's self reliance under Make in India

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Lamenting the lackadaisical attitude of political class towards the country's defence needs, former Army Chief General VP Malik on Friday said that due lessons had not been learnt from the Kargil War leaving the nation vulnerable on the security front.

"We should have by now built enough indigenous defence capacity platforms," said General Malik who headed the force during Kargil War, adding that the Parliament should debate the reasons leading to this failure more than it was doing at the moment.

Participating during a panel discussion 'Make in India and the Nation's Security' on the very first day of the Military Literature Festival (MLF), General Malik led the chorus on urgently streamlining the defence procurement processes making them facilitators and not hurdles in our endeavour to endow our forces with the cutting edge weaponry.

Dispelling the notion that Army was fond of importing weapons from abroad, General Malik categorically said that abject failure of our public sector to fully deliver the

required weaponry was the only reason for this.

Echoing the views, former Financial Advisor (Acquisition) with Ministry of Defence Amit Cowshish questioned the ambiguity and mistrust around objectives laid down under 'Make in India' as far as defence acquisitions were concerned. "There is no clear cut policy and framework to achieve avowed goals under the new slogan," he said adding that indignation cannot be the sole criterion to reduce costs.

He advocated a dedicated overarching organization to process and deliver on our defence needs in a time bound manner.

Cautioning against the temptation to tag defence matters with mere sloganeering, Lt General Arun Sahni urged for allocating more funds for upgradation of our warfare. "We need a more serious approach where accountability is fixed for producing unusable products at the public sector institutions working in the sphere," he said.

The panelists also concurred that India should leverage its advantage of being the largest importer of weapons while dealing with foreign exporters.

Capt orders extension of deadline for registration of building & other construction workers board

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Friday directed the Labour Department to extend the deadline for registration of members of the Building and Other Construction Workers Board till March 31, 2020, besides announcing compensation to construction workers on account of damage caused to the building due to natural calamity.

In a series of directives aimed at promoting the welfare of workers, the Chief Minister announced compensation to the tune of ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh in case of damage to the house of a construction worker due to storm, heavy rains and other natural calamity.

Capt Amarinder, presiding over a meeting of 'Punjab Building and Other Construction Workers Board', said that workers who had been unable to get themselves registered with the Board in the earlier time-frame should be given another opportunity to do so. The state Labour Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu informed the meeting that the Department had constituted a committee under SDM with Assistant Labour Commissioners (ALCs) and BDPOs for rural areas, and SDM with ALCs and Executive Officers (EOs) for urban areas, to assess the damage due to

calamity so as to provide adequate compensation to such workers under the new scheme of compensation.

The Chief Minister also approved the proposal of the Labour Department to provide financial assistance of ₹50,000 for fitting of prosthetic limbs to workers in case they suffer injuries during construction activities.

He also asked the Department to intensify healthcare measures and expand other amenities for the workers.

With a view to helping workers employ their skills effectively to earn their livelihood, Capt Amarinder announced ₹10,000 for the purchase of requisite tool kits for them. He announced enhancement in leave travel concession (LTC) from existing ₹2,000 to ₹10,000, to facilitate workers to pay obeisance at religious shrines.

It was decided in the meeting that ₹11,000 would be given to the meritorious wards of the building and other construction workers if they secure 75 percent marks in the annual examinations.

In addition, ₹11,000, ₹21,000 and ₹51,000 would be given to the children of these workers if they won first positions in their respective sports at district, state and national level respectively.

Punjab CM declares new filework system only on eOffice for Govt entities

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Taking the state's digital revolution forward, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Friday announced that all Punjab Government entities will start dealing in new file work only on eOffice from next month.

All documents, issued by Sewa Kendras, will be digitally pushed to the Digilocker of the citizens, to enable them anytime-anywhere access to them, announced the Chief Minister, chairing a meeting of Board of Governors (BoG) of Punjab State e-Governance Society (PSeGS) to review the status of various innovative projects being undertaken by the Society.

PSeGS is managing 520 Sewa Kendras in the State for delivering more than 200 services to around 30,000 citizens daily. All the important services, including various kinds of certificates and licenses, are delivered through Sewa Kendra.

The government is also bringing services of Department of Revenue and Transport on the Sewa Kendra platform.

Capt Amarinder congratulated the PSeGS team on their contribution to the creation of state-level applications on e-Sewa, debt relief, PM-KISAN, and monitoring of SDGs.

Appreciating them for bringing down pendency from a whopping 23 percent to only

1.5 percent, Capt Amarinder directed PSeGS to continue the endeavor towards efficient and accountable administration in the State.

The state Additional Chief Secretary-cum-PSeGS vice chairman Vini Mahajan told the Chief Minister that PSeGS had a separate team of dedicated professionals, which was providing IT consultation to other Departments of the State and had helped create state level applications like Punjab State Development Tax, Smart Village. The team has also supported the Revenue Department in bringing all the land records to the Cloud platform.

Vini added that a team of governance fellows had been hired to support various departments for best practices for this purpose.

Punjab Chief Secretary-cum-senior vice chairman PSeGS Karan Avtar Singh apprised the Chief Minister that PSeGS was working on implementing Enterprise Architecture in the State, and policy in this regard had been drafted.

All departments will be integrated via micro services and will maintain single source of truth of their databases, he said. More than 1,35,000 e-files had already been created in eOffice by more than 8,500 users, he added.

PWD SEs told to make Tweeter account for plaint redressal

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala on Friday directed the Superintendent Engineers of Public Works (Building and Roads) Department (PWD) to make a Twitter account operational within 12 hours for the redressal of complaints.

An officer of level of Superintendent Engineer would ensure its monitoring at headquarter level.

Dushyant said while presiding over a review meeting of works of PWD (B&R), in Panchkula near here.

He said that his aim would be to make the roads of the state better.

No matter the roads, ROBs or RUBs belong to Public Works Department, National Highways Authority of India or Railways, the officers should prepare their road map in 10 days and submit report to the Additional Chief Secretary of the Department, Rajeev Arora, he directed.

Dushyant informed that he would soon convene a meeting with Union Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal and discuss all the railway related issues of Haryana.

It was also informed in the meeting that there are total 759 railway crossings in Haryana out of which 167 are unmanned. There is a target to make all railway crossings unmanned by the year 2020.

The Deputy Chief Minister was apprized that during the

year 2019-20, work for the construction of 48 ROBs/RUBs has been completed and work on 14 ROBs/RUBs is in progress.

He said, all the ROBs within the city should be used either for banding zones or for parking. For this, every Superintendent Engineer should prepare a list of such ROBs in their jurisdiction and also, prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the utilization of places under the ROBs, he added.

It was decided in the meeting that the projects that have been declared as infrastructure and where the land acquisition is required, the policy would be got amended as per NHAI and Railways Act.

Dushyant directed the officers to prepare a list of all the assets of the Department. Besides, rest houses should be got renovated as sample projects from those companies who could do this work free of cost so that these could be adopted as a model later on.

He also asked the Department to prepare a scheme for installing CCTV cameras in the cities.

He said that the officers would ensure that after the completion of the road work, the repair of roads in the defect liability period be carried out by the same contractor.

Dushyant also directed to make available the list of those contractors on whom fine has been imposed in the last 10 years.

Harpath App would con-

tinue to work, but the Department would resolve complaints on Twitter handle at its level, he added.

Dushyant receives 'Youth Icon of the Year-2019'

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala has been conferred with the "Youth Icon of the Year 2019" award, in a programme held at PWD Rest House in Panchkula near here.

The award was jointly presented by the Saragarhi Foundation of USA and a delegation of officers from the UK Army Headquarters.

After being honoured, Dushyant thanked both the organisations and said, "This award has not only honoured me but also thousands of youth who have been working with me for the progress of the state."

While recalling 21 warriors who had fought thousands of Afghan fighters at the battle of Saragarhi, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the brave warriors had fought till their last breath to save their posts on the border. Two of those 21 warriors were also from Haryana state, he said.

Dushyant said, "I feel overwhelmed to receive such honour from Saragarhi organisation. I will work to make this heroic story for new generations to come."

On the occasion, the delegation members suggested that the heroic warriors of Saragarhi should reach every corner of the country in different languages. On this, Deputy Chief Minister said, "The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) should include this in all its history books. I would take this issue to the Union Minister for Human Resource Development."

Dushyant said that an effort will also be made to build a memorial of two brave warriors of Haryana in their respective villages so that this heroic saga can be kept alive for new generations to come.

He, however, said that Charkhi Dabri and Panchkula districts would not be included in the Twitter handle.



Create new Job offers: Min to Industrialists

PNS ■ AMRITSAR

Punjab Sports, Youth and NRI Affairs Minister Rana Gurmit Singh Sodhi on Friday appealed industrialists to open new avenues of jobs while expanding their business as the State Government is ready to provide every possible support to them.

Sodhi, addressing the industrialists reached from all parts of the country during the 14th edition of PITEX organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, mentioned that the Government has done required changes in the industrial policy and made it suitable as per the industry's need.

He apprised that the Government has done agreement with UK and Canada to open common skill development centres in Punjab and the project will commence soon in next year. As per the agree-

ment, the international experts will train the youth of Punjab as per the international demand and the infrastructure will be supported by Punjab Government.

"Tourism is also getting a boost because of the State Government's zero tolerance policy against crime on women and children. Punjabi film industry will also get a new destination to shoot films in Bulgaria as per the MoU done with the Government of Bulgaria," he said.

Sodhi added that the Punjab Government is coming out with a lucrative policy for the state's sports industry and the target is to take sports industry to Rs 14,000 crore from the current Rs 1,400 crore.

"Industry in Jalandhar, Amritsar, Mohali and Patiala will be directly benefitted from this initiative," he said adding that there is huge scope in

sports industry and this will help in employment generation as well.

PHD Chamber's Punjab

Chapter's mentor RS Sachdeva said that with the support of Punjab Government and Amritsar Administration,

PITEX is getting bigger and better year after year. More than 400 exhibitors are participating this year, he said.

Film city near Chandigarh soon

PNS ■ AMRITSAR

Cameras are all set to roll in Punjab with the State Government planning to establish its own Film City near Chandigarh.

With the increased demand of Punjabi culture and Punjabi songs in Bollywood, Punjab Government has decided to setup a Film City near Chandigarh which would provide the needed infrastructure to Punjabi cinema and offer desired location to Bollywood producers.

The government has ini-

tiated the proceedings in this direction, said the state Additional Director (Tourism and Cultural Affairs) Lakhmir Singh, while speaking at the seminar during the 14th edition of PITEX organized in association with Punjab Government.

He apprised that the State Government is spending Rs 215 crore in the current financial year to promote tourism and the budget of Rs 227 crore has been decided for the next financial year.

He updated that there is an increase of 27 percent

domestic tourist and 30 percent international tourist in last two years in Punjab.

Lakhmir Singh said that there are ample opportunities in the field of medical tourism and religious tourism in the State. "Punjab Government is going to offer world class facilities at the upcoming Medi City being set up near Chandigarh. Destinations like Virasat-e-Khalsa in Amritsar and the upcoming exhibition Centre at Kartarpur Sahib are world class and can attract tourists from India and abroad," he said.

BJP attacks Capt on CAB

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Bharatiya Janata Party on Friday lashed out at Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh for his statement criticizing Citizen Amendment Bill and his announcement regarding not to implement the Bill in Congress governed state.

BJP national secretary Tarun Chugh said that Capt Amarinder's statement was aimed to please the Gandhis at the cost of the sentiments of Sikhs and Hindus who were victimized, tortured, shamed and were forced to live like third class citizens in the neighbouring countries.

"The Congress and its allies are once again playing the politics of vote bank," Chugh said adding that it was highly surprising and unfortunate that Capt Amarinder, who at times projects himself as champion of Sikh rights, was opposing the



Bill brought by the Prime Minister Narendra-Modi led Government to safeguard the interests of lakhs of Sikhs, Hindus, Parsis, Jains and Bodhis who had been denied to live a life of dignity by the respective governments and the majorities in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

"It is sad that Amarinder has chosen to ignore the plight of Sikhs and Hindus who had

been suffering since long. It is strange to see Capt Amarinder conveniently forgetting the sufferings of young Sikh and Hindu girls and their families even as everyone knows how the girls were targeted, victimized and forced to convert against their wishes," he said.

Chugh slammed the Congress for denying citizenship rights to lakhs of refugees who had over the years so many times requested the successive Congress and Congress-led governments to give them a right to be citizen of India so that they can lead a life of dignity.

"The Congress only made hollow promises to the refugees but never took their demands seriously," he said adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah dared to do what Congress did not think of doing.

Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate and Mark sheet of Main Secondary Examination of Year 1997 and Roll No. 2139182 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Pankaj Punder, # 1394, Saini Vihar Phase-3 Ballana, 9888612825.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Amit Gupta S/o Tarsem Kumar Gupta R/O Friends Colony, Street-B, Sunder nagar/Teh/Distt Pathankot have changed my name to Amit Kumar Gupta.

I, No. 15482971P Rank LD Sawant Vitthal Shrirangrao R/O VPO-Bori, Tehsil Basamath Distt Hingoli (Maharashtra) PIN-431705 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name of my daughter from Sawant Kranti to Sawant Kranti Vitthal before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, No. 15482971P Rank LD Sawant Vitthal Shrirangrao R/O VPO-Bori, Tehsil Basamath Distt Hingoli (Maharashtra) PIN-431705 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name of my son from Sawant Govind to Sawant Govind Vitthal before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, Mukta W/o No. 15482971P Rank LD Sawant Vitthal Shrirangrao R/O VPO-Bori, Tehsil Basamath Distt Hingoli (Maharashtra) PIN-431705 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name from Mukta to Sawant Mukta Vitthal before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, No. 15482892A Rank LD Bhosale Appasaheb Parbhat R/O VPO-Adgaon Tehsil-Kannad Distt Aurangabad (Maharashtra) PIN-431104 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name of my daughter from Ganga to Bhosale Ganga Appasaheb before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, No. 15482892A Rank LD Bhosale Appasaheb Parbhat R/O VPO-Adgaon Tehsil-Kannad Distt Aurangabad (Maharashtra) PIN-431104 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name of my daughter from Paranjali Bhosale to Bhosale Pranjali Appasaheb before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, No. 15482892A Rank LD Bhosale Appasaheb Parbhat R/O VPO-Adgaon Tehsil-Kannad Distt Aurangabad (Maharashtra) PIN-431104 presently residing at 66 Armed C/o 56 APO Tibri Cantt Distt Gurdaspur have changed my name of my son from Pawan to Pawan Appasaheb Bhosale before Kuljinder Singh Mann, Notary Public, Gurdaspur (Pb) dated 12.12.19.

I, Balbir Chand Holding Indian Passport No: R8093776 Issued at Dubai on 10/07/2017 and Permanent Resident of V Naugul Bure PO Pandosi Bavaddass Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab and presently Resident of Dubai UAE do hereby change my name from Balbir Chand to Balvir Singh (Given Name) with immediate effect.

I, No. 13750098N EX NK Ravinder Kumar S/o Shri Madan Lal R/O VPO. Behal Manj, Teh. Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur Punjab. Declare that have changed the name of my Daughter from Rithu Sharma to Ritu Sharma Concerned note.

I, Dhanpati W/o Mangal Singh R/O Ward No. 4, Village Chhari, PO Banti, Tehsil Radaur, Distt. Yamunanagar have changed my name to Dhanoo Devi.

I, Nisha Widow No. 1488588W Late SPR Manjit Singh, Village Purana Bhangala, Tehsil Mukerian, Distt. Hoshiarpur declare that the Correct name of my Son is Gurbindar Singh & DOB is 27 Sept 2003 and Daughter's correct name is Parminder Kaur & DOB is 14 June 2001.

Jessymol Mathew W/o Peter Theanikal aged 52 yrs residing at 76/A Sector A, Chandimandir Cantt has changed my name to Jessy Mathew vide aff. No. 46AA 396898 at 02/9/19.

I, Gummanampati Nurjahan W/o No. 15169381Y Rank L/NK (GNR) Gummanampati Nasarvalli R/O Qtr No B/24, NSP Colony, PO Vinukonda MD Vinukonda District Guntur, Andhra Pradesh have changed my name from G Noorjahan to Gummanampati Nurjahan vide affidavit No 94AA 081546 Dt 05 Dec 2019. Kindly note all.

I, Bhag Singh S/o late Dila Ram Village Sukhrajri Tehsil kaika distt. Panchkula my daughter name Diksha Choudhary mentioned in document. Have changed her name Diksha Choudhary in future Known as Diksha Choudhary.

I, Shweta Kapoor D/O Shri Yashpal Kapoor W/O Shri Gaurav Dhooper R/O H.No-2111-A Housing Board Colony, Sector-6 Karnal Declare that I have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Akshat To Akshat Dhooper. In Future, He Will Be Known As Akshat Dhooper.

I, Lalit Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Jagdish Chander Sharma, R/O H. No. 131, Shanti Vihar, Nr. Sun City Mall, O P Jindal Marg, Hisar (Hry) have changed my name from Lalit Kumar to Lalit Kumar Sharma in future.

I, Suman W/o Naresh Kumar R/O Agondhi District Kaithal declare that all are my name Suman, Suman Bala and Sharma Devi. In future my name is Suman all of purpose.

I, Aarti Kathuria W/O Deepak Kathuria H.No-400-A, Ram Nagar, Tehsil Camp, Panipat. Changed My Name From Arti Rani To Aarti Kathuria.

I, Pardeep S/o Sh. Shripal R/o Barwasni, Sonipat declare that in my company's M/s Danblock Brakes India Pvt Ltd. ESIC Card no. 1322290253 my name is mention as Partap which is wrong. My Correct name is Pardeep.

I, Sukhwinder Singh S/o Bhagwant Singh R/O H.No. 1580/12, Didar Nagar, Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Sukhwinder Singh (Old Name) to Sukhwinder Singh (New Name). Note all concerns.

I, Amanjit Kaur W/o Sukhwinder Singh R/O H.No. 1580/12, Didar Nagar, Tehsil Thanesar District Kurukshetra have changed my name from Amanjeet Kaur (Old Name) to Amanjit Kaur (New Name). Note all concerns.

I, Babita Alias Babitha Sagwan Alias Babitha Ruhil W/o Col Ravinder Singh # 6345-B Rajeev Vihar Manimajra Chandigarh have changed my name to Babitha.

I, Gurtaj Singh S/o Gurmukh Singh R/o Alipur Virane, Distt. Karnal informed that my name is written as Gurtaj in my passport J8059921. But in all my documents my name is Gurtaj Singh. In future also I will be known as Gurtaj Singh.

I, Som Parkash S/o Sh. Kishori Lal R/O 269, F-Block, Near Civil Hospital, Sirsa have changed my name to Som Parkash Setia. Concerned note.

I, Mandeep Kaur legally wedded spouse of No. 14935541M RANK NK Name Lakhwinder Singh posted at 4 MECH INF C/O 56 APO Resident of Vill- Bhukra, PO- Gurdaspur, Teh- Gurdaspur, Distt- Gurdaspur, State- Punjab-143521 have changed my name from Mandeep Kaur to Mandeep Kaur vide affidavit dated 13/12/2019 before Session Court Hisar.

I, No. 14935541M Rank NK Name Lakhwinder Singh posted at 4 MECH INF C/O 56 APO have changed my daughter's name from Abhijot Kaur to Abhijot Kaur in my army record.

I, No. 15490397W RANK LD NAME Preetpal Singh posted at 13 ARMD REGT C/O 56 APO have changed my son's name from Harman Jyot Singh to Harman Jot Singh in my army record.

I, Arvinder Kour legally wedded spouse of No. 15490397W RANK LD NAME Preetpal Singh posted at 13 ARMD REGT C/O 56 APO Resident of Vill- Bhamboi, PO- Dhadlia Nazara, Teh- Batala, Distt- Gurdaspur, State- Punjab-143521 have changed my name from Arvinder Kour to Ravinder Kaur vide affidavit dated 13/12/2019 before Session Court Hisar.

I, Rajbir Singh S/o Sh. Tara Chand R/O VPO Sarhera Tehsil Barwala, Distt. Hisar have changed my name from Rajbir to Rajbir Singh for all purposes in future.

I, Paramjit Kaur W/o Sukhjeet Singh R/O VPO Timmawal District Amritsar have changed my name Paramjit Kaur to Manjit Kaur.

I, Maninder W/o Amarjit Singh R/O 462, Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar Jalandhar have changed my name Maninder to Gurmel Kaur.

I, Jasvir Kaur W/o Malkit Singh R/O Village Ran Singh Wala District Faridkot have changed my name to Jasveer Kaur.

I, Ankita Madan D/O Premjit Madaan R/O H.No.M1/425, Gali No.2,Abadi Hargobindpura,Hakima Gate,Amritsar have changed my name from Ankita Madan to Ankita Madaan.

I, Simerjit W/o Manpreet Singh R/O H.No.108, Karam Singh Colony Ajnala Road District Amritsar have changed my name to Simeranjit Kaur.

I, Harpritkaur Baldevsingh Khalsa W/o Harjot Singh R/O H.No.420, Green Avenue Amritsar have changed my name to Harprit Kaur.

I, Paramjeet Kaur W/o Tarsem Singh R/O Village Kamba PO Heir Amritsar have changed my name to Paramjit Kaur.

I, Swastika Bhargav W/o Subhash Bhargav R/O H.No.144/8, Katra Karam Singh Amritsar have changed my name from Swastika Bhargav to Suman Bhargav

I, No.2514466H Rank Sep Unit 27 Punjab Gurpreet Singh S/O Guman Singh R/O Village Sallopur Po Chak Sharif, Distt. Gurdaspur. Declare That In My Army Record, Name Of My Mother Is Wrongly Recorded As Paramjit Kaur. Her Correct Name Is Parmjit Kaur. Concerned Note.

I, Sahida /o Shahida W/O Abdul Sakur, R/O Raikot, Distt. Ludhiana Hereby Declares That Sahida & Shahida Are One & The Same Person With Two Names.

I, Mansi D/o Manjit Lal R/O Vpo. Ghoruka Teh-Phillaur, (Jalandhar) changed my name to Mansi Kumari.

I, Madan Lal S/O Piara Lal R/O Vpo. Tehang Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my minor son name from Saimi to Saimi Kaler.

I, Brij Bhushan Shastri S/O Krishan Chand Shastri R/O Village Jassran, Mandi Gobindgarh, Tehsil Amloh Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib Have Changed My Name To Abhinav Shastri.

I, Monika W/O Gurjit Singh R/O Sultanpurlodhi District Kapurthala Have Changed My Name To Monika Singh.

I, Kuldip Singh S/O Jagir Singh R/O Vpo. Chak Prema, Tehsil Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala, Punjab Have Changed My Name Kuldip Singh To Singh Kuldip.

I, Gurinder Singh S/O Onkar Singh R/O Village Dhak Mazara P.O Dayal Pur Distt. Jalandhar Have Changed My Name Gurinder Singh To Gurinder Singh Bajwa.

I, Rajinder Singh S/O Randhir Singh R/O Ward No.5, Mehraj Basti, Rampura Phul Distt. Bathinda Have Changed My Name To Rajinder Singh Gill.

I, Maninderpal Singh S/O Surinder Singh R/O H.No.2213 Bhagsar Road Sri Muktar Sahib District Sri Muktar Sahib Have Changed My Name To Maninderpal Singh Bora.

I, Navjot Kaur Bedi Wife Of Amarjeet Singh Bedi Resident Of Vpo. Guruharsahai Tehsil Guruharsahai Distt. Ferozepur Have Changed My Name To Navjot Kaur.

I, Paramjeet Singh Taggar S/O Pal Singh R/O Vpo. Daulatpura Niwan Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Paramjit Singh.

I, Lakhwinder Singh S/O Sukhmander Singh R/O Vpo. Muthanwali, Distt. Moga Have Changed My Name To Lakhwinder Singh Johal.

I, Kiran Devi And Kiran Kaur W/O Mahinder Singh R/O Duneke Distt. Moga Declare That Am Known By Above Both Names.

I, Jaswinder Singh S/O Dhian Singh R/O Village Bhami Paswal Po-Jogawal Bet (143528) Tehsil/Distt Gurdaspur, Punjab, India. Have Changed My Name To Jaswinder Singh Lubana.

I, Kulwinder Kaur W/o Maninder Singh R/o HL-66-A, First Floor, Mohali, have changed my name from Kulwinder Kaur Makkar to Kulwinder Kaur.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Major Singh S/o Mohar Singh Village Mealkalan Tehsil Samana District Patiala declare my son Sharnjit Singh and his wife Ramanjit Kaur is out of my control. So I disown them from movable/immovable property.

I, Sukhdev Singh S/o Late Mehar Singh R/O H.No- 1432, old No 7536/4 Shukulkund Road, Ambala City inform that my son Gagandeep Singh, his wife Vipinjeet Kaur (Goldi) is out of my control. So I disown both of them from my movable/immovable properties. If anybody deals with them will do so his/her at their own risk.

I, Diwan Chand S/o Lekh Ram R/O H. No. 38, Sarangpur, Chandigarh, declare that my daughter Parveen Kumari is out of my control. I disown her from my movable/ immovable property. Anybody dealing with her shall do so at their own risk.

I, Bakshish Singh S/o Sh. Jagdish Singh R/O H. No. 2204, Sector 23C, Chandigarh, declare that my son Karanveer Singh is out of my control. I disown him from my movable/ immovable property. Anybody dealing with him shall do so at their own risk.

I, Veena Kumari W/o Manmohan Singh R/O 124 Motia city Zirakpur, My Daughter Divya died 2-11-2017. There is registration of Bullet Motorcycle PB 65 AN 0516 Key Number 183736 Registration Number 718986. Model 4/2015. I want to change the number in Registration on Veena Kumari. If anybody have objection contact in 10 days.

I, Balwinder Singh S/o Hari Singh R/O Vill Kotla, Teh Bhasi Pathana, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib, declare that my daughter Sukhpreet Kaur is out of my control. I disown her from my movable and immovable property. Anybody deals with her at his/her own risk.

I, Surinder Singh S/o Bhagwan Singh R/O H.No.17, Gurudwara Amb Sahib, Phase-8, Tehsil and Distt. S.A.S. Nagar, declare that my son Sandeep Singh and his wife Archana are out of my control. I disown them from my movable/immovable property. Anybody deals with them at their own risk.

I, Surinder Singh S/o Piara Singh Vill. Saidpur (SAS Nagar) declare that my daughter Gurpreet Kaur is out of my control. I disown her from my movable/immovable property. Anybody deals with her at own his risk.

I, No.2514466H Rank Sep Unit 27 Punjab Gurpreet Singh S/O Guman Singh R/O Village Sallopur Po Chak Sharif, Distt. Gurdaspur. Declare That In My Army Record, Name Of My Mother Is Wrongly Recorded As Paramjit Kaur. Her Correct Name Is Parmjit Kaur. Concerned Note.

I, Sahida /o Shahida W/O Abdul Sakur, R/O Raikot, Distt. Ludhiana Hereby Declares That Sahida & Shahida Are One & The Same Person With Two Names.

I, Mansi D/o Manjit Lal R/O Vpo. Ghoruka Teh-Phillaur, (Jalandhar) changed my name to Mansi Kumari.

I, Madan Lal S/O Piara Lal R/O Vpo. Tehang Teh-Phillaur (Jalandhar) changed my minor son name from Saimi to Saimi Kaler.

The Pioneer does not take responsibility for the contents for the advertisement (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own.

Classified Advertisement Contact: 94174-19351

Punjab DGP reviews security preparedness in border districts

Constitutes designated teams to chase remaining category 'A' gangsters

PNS ■ JALANDHAR/CHANDIGARH

Reviewing the security preparedness in the state's border districts in the light of the heightened threat from Pakistan-based terrorists, Punjab DGP Dinkar Gupta on Thursday asked the police force to intensify checks along the border. At the same time, the state police chief also ordered a series of measures to further tighten the noose against gangsters, drug smugglers and criminals.

The DGP directed the Commissioners of Police (CPs) and the Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) of all districts to give personal attention to control crimes against women and redress public grievances on priority.

All CPs and SSPs were directed to ensure that all directly recruited sub-inspectors and constables after 2010, who had not served in the Police Stations till now, are immediately posted to Police Stations for at least two years.

Besides asking the officers to hold weekly crime meetings in each district every Wednesday, the DGP asked the field officers to trace blind murders and prevent vehicle snatchings and street crime in the state on priority.

The meeting of senior police officers from the Headquarters and all

Commissioners of Police, SSPs, Range IGs, was held at PAP Jalandhar.

Taking note of the security challenges before the border state, especially in the wake of the developments in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the DGP stressed on the need to keep an effective check on all kinds of crimes, including terrorist crime, in the oncoming foggy and winter season, when Pakistan is known to intensify its attempts to infiltrate trained terrorists and fidayeen into Punjab and J&K.

As a part of the review of the security situation and the security preparedness in the border districts, the DGP also held a separate meeting with ADGP Internal Security, ADGP Law and Order, IG Border and SSPs of the seven border districts.

The state police chief also carried out a comprehensive review of the 'Drive against Drugs' in the State, along with ADGP STF, IGP STF and the senior field Police officers. The meeting discussed and formulated 'supply reduction' strategies, with directions issued to ADGP STF and the CPs/SSPs to further intensify the 'Drive Against Drugs'.

All CPs and SSPs were ordered to withdraw Sis and ASIs posted on personal security duties with immediate effect, except those deployed with highly threatened protectees to ensure proper investigation of the large number of NDPS cases registered in the State, said Gupta.

It was also decided that each Police Station and Sub-Division would be a 'responsibility centre' and the performance of the SHO and Sub-Divisional Police officers would be carried out on a monthly basis on pre-defined parameters, such as 'Drive Against Drugs', control of crime, detection and investigation of criminal cases, arrest of POs etc.

The meeting decided on a special campaign to be launched for arrest of POs, especially in NDPS Act cases. Investigation of NDPS Act cases as per the various guidelines issued by the courts should be strictly adhered to, said Gupta.

The DGP also reviewed the status of the constitution of District Level Specialised Teams in the districts, such as District Social Media Team (DSMT), District Cyber Team (DCT), District Interrogation Team (DIT), and Sexual Assault Response Team.

Besides reviewing the security scenario of the state, and focusing on women safety, as well as crime against women and children, the meeting decided on inspection of all Police Stations within next six months, with their informal inspections to be completed within one month.

Other decisions taken included stock-taking of arms and ammunition in the districts and battalions, as well as verification of antecedents of arms license holders background, the DGP added.

IN BRIEF

CONCERT NAMED 'YAAD KIYA DIL NE' TO BE HELD Chandigarh: In the memory of late Ram Niwas (IAS), former Home Secretary, Haryana, a concert named "Yaad Kiya Dil Ne" will be held on December 14 at Tagore Theatre from 5pm under the banner of Pranav Entertainers. Director, Pranav Entertainers, Manmohan Lakhera said that the event will be inaugurated by his wife Babita Verma as chief guest. Former Home Secretary, Haryana, SS Prasad, Chief Administrator, Haryana State Agricultural Marketing Board, Dr. J. Ganesan, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, Jagdeep Dhandra, Chief Engineer, Chandigarh Administration, Mukesh Anand and other senior officers of Haryana, Punjab and Chandigarh will also be present, he added.

1,150 BOXES OF ILLICIT LIQUOR SEIZED IN KAITHAL Chandigarh: Continuing its crackdown on illicit liquor smuggling, Haryana Police has seized 1150 boxes of illicit Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) in district Kaithal. Police have also impounded a truck being used in smuggling of liquor. A spokesman said, arrested accused was identified as driver of the vehicle Vaishakha, a resident of Malout in Punjab. The accused failed to produce any permit or document about seized liquor. During preliminary interrogation, accused revealed that he had brought seized liquor from Chandigarh for supply in Rajasthan.

Punjab urges Centre to provide viability gap funding for lowering cost of biomass power to ₹5 per kwh



PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Government has purged the Central Government to provide Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for lowering the cost of biomass power to Rs five per kwh at which price the utility is ready to purchase the power.

The information was shared by the state Additional Chief Secretary (Power) and Principal Secretary (New and Renewable Energy Sources) Ravneet Kaur during a brainstorming session-cum-interaction meet on Biomass Based Power Plants/Co-Generation Projects/Bio-CNG/Bio-Ethanol/Bio-Coal Projects organized by Punjab Energy Development Agency in collaboration with Indian Council for Agriculture Research (ICAR), Bhopal.

The inaugural session focused on utilization of rice straw, causing lot of environmental pollution, which can be used in various technologies like Biomass Based Power Plants, Co-Generation Projects, Bio-CNG, Bio-Ethanol or Bio-Coal Projects etc.

Responding to the state's demand, the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Joint Secretary Dinesh Dayanand Jagdale said that MNRE was working on this and will shortly bring out some policy or support mechanism for promoting Biomass Power

Projects.

During technical session, major companies — Bioende AB Sweden, VERBIO INDIA — gave presentation about their ongoing projects being set up in the state of Punjab of conversion of rice straw into torrefied bio-coal pellets and Bio-CNG respectively.

Sukhbir Agro director Harbhajan Singh also shared their experiences of setting up two 18 MW 100 percent rice straw based biomass power plants in the State by utilization of boiler technologies from company in Denmark.

Gurkeerat Sekhon from Punjab Renewable Energy System gave presentation on their strategy and action plan for rice straw collection and supply chain mechanism including setting up of projects for conversion of rice straw into steam into industrial process using.

In the second technical session, presentation was made by Manas Puri, Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO), regarding their study and experience with regard to managing rice straw and utilization for conversion into valuable products.

Cities Innovative Biofuels CEO Dr Gurjot Singh briefed about their upcoming Bio-CNG project based on technology from a company in Switzerland.

Hry CM: Corruption will not be tolerated, strict action must be taken on corrupt officials

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal on Friday reiterated that corruption will not be tolerated and strict action will be taken against the corrupt officials.

He said that is government is committed to make the Haryana state corruption free and this agenda is being going on since his government's last tenure, which is being carried forward in this second tenure as well.

Manohar Lal was talking to mediapersons after presiding over the monthly meeting of district grievances redressal committee in Swatantrata Senani Zila Parishad Bhavan of Gurugram.

He redressed almost all the 12 complaints put forth before him in the meeting has been redressed.

He said that decision has been taken at the state level to hold district grievances redressal committee meeting regularly and it will be held either on 2nd or 4th Friday of every month in the state. In rare cases it may be deferred or postponed, only in cases of urgency, he said.

While replying to a question, the Chief Minister said that for curbing corruption in government offices toll free number 18001802022 and a WhatsApp number 09417891064 has been circulated. If a complainant complains with proof of audio, video or photos, it will be easy to bring the guilty to book.

The Chief Minister announced that special gir-dawari has been ordered in the state to analyse the losses in crops due to hailstorm and heavy torrential rains on Thursday.

He said that losses in crops have been reported districts Nuh, Palwal, Charkhi Dadri, Bhiwani and Jhajjar.

Replying to another question the Chief Minister said

that Transport Nagar will be developed in Gurugram and he had directed the concerned authorities to identify the real transporters in a month and present detailed plan in the next meeting.

He also directed the Agriculture and Horticulture Department authorities to educate the farmers to get the crops sown on the Meri fasal Mera byora portal within a month of sowing.

The Chief Minister also ordered the municipal corporation Gurugram authorities that no fresh licences will be issued for opening meat shops in residential colonies falling in the Corporation area

He further said that in order to remove old diesel autos from the roads of Gurugram, an action plan has been prepared according to which more than 5 years older diesel auto rickshaws will be replaced with e-rickshaws in a phased manner.

Rain lashes several parts of Haryana, Punjab

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Minimum temperatures in Punjab and Haryana hovered above normal limits for the second consecutive day on Friday, even as several parts of the two states received moderate to heavy rains.

Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana received 21 mm rains and recorded a low of 13.1 degrees Celsius, seven degrees above normal. The maximum tem-

perature in the city settled at 19.2 degrees, three notches below normal level.

"The minimum temperatures in the two states hovered four to seven notches above normal limits at most places. However, the maximum temperatures settled below normal limits," said a Met official.

In Punjab, Amritsar's minimum temperature was 11.4

degrees Celsius while in Ludhiana and Patiala it was 13 degrees Celsius and 13.2 degrees Celsius respectively.

Faridkot, Bathinda, Adampur, Halwara, Gurdaspur and Pathankot registered minimum temperature at 11.8 degrees Celsius, 12.2 degrees Celsius, 12.7 degrees Celsius, 13.1 degrees Celsius, 10.6 degrees Celsius and 10.5 degrees Celsius respective-

ly. Ludhiana recorded 15 mm rains while Patiala recorded 3 mm till Friday evening.

In Haryana, Ambala recorded 14 mm rains and settled at a minimum of 12.1 degree Celsius, five degrees above normal limit.

Hisar in Haryana recorded a low of 12.8 degrees Celsius while Karnal registered a minimum temperature of 12 degrees Celsius.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reg. Plot No. 281, IIDC , Industrial Estate, Phase -1, Sector 38, Rai (Sonipat) measuring 312.50 sq. Mtrs. Was allotted by he corporation to Shri Paramjeet Singh Prop. Jeet Industries (now deceased) R/O H. No. 173/19, Kailash Colony, Opposite ITI, Sonipat vide regular letter of allotment No.20265 dated 27.12.2004. The Corporation has been informed that the allottee Shri Paramjeet Singh had expired on 15.03.2013. The legal heirs of the deceased allottee (Shri Paramjeet Singh), Smt. Santosh (his wife) has approached the corporation for transfer of the plot in question in favour of Smt. Santosh, who is wife of the deceased. The Corporation is in process of considering her request and transferring the said plot in favour of Smt. Santosh. Through this public notice it is hereby informed that any person having reservation/objection to said transfer may file his/her objection in writing before the undersigned alongwith an affidavit within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. In case no response is received within the aforesaid period, it will be presumed that no one has any objection to transfer of the captioned plot in favour of Smt. Santosh and the corporation shall go ahead with transfer of plot in favour of Smt. Santosh w/o late Shri Paramjeet Singh. The Asstt. General Manager (Estate) for & on behalf of Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Dev.Corpn. Ltd. Branch office : Industrial Estate, Rai, District Sonipat E-mail : hsidrcrai@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Telehos Employees CO-OP House Building First Society Ltd., Sector 50-C, Chandigarh

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Bimla Devi W/O Sh. Krishan Kumar S/o Sh. Rai Singh R/O Village Bodiwali, P.O. Gillan Khera, Tehsil & Distt. Fatehabad (Haryana) declare that in My Husband No. is JC244534P Rank RIS Name Krishan Kumar posting at 3 CAVALRY C/o 56APO, army record my name is mentioned as Kumari Bimla Devi but in my all documents my name is mentioned as Bimla Devi. This is my correct name. Now I want to change my name as Bimla Devi in my husband's army record.

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Quotations/Tenders are invited from reputed Firms, Manufacturers/ Authorized Stockists/ Distributors & Contractors for THE Modification of 525 kw existing DC Panel Board to make it cordless. Terms & Conditions: Details of tender Notice can be down loaded from our website www.nawanshahrsugar.com & detailed Tenders forms can be collected from Mills office on any working day and submitted to Mills office on or before 23.12.2019 upto 11:00 AM. and will be opened & negotiation held on same day at 02:00 PM with the lowest quote, if required. The undersigned reserve the right to reject / Postpone any or all of the tender without assigning any reason. General Manager

Secretary-level officers reshuffled

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday effected a major reshuffle of Secretary-level officers in various key departments.

Ravi Mittal is the new Information and Broadcasting Secretary in place of 1985-batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre Amit Khare, who has now been made the Higher Education Secretary. Mittal, a 1986-batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre is at present, Special Secretary, at the Department of Financial Services.

TV Somanathan has been appointed Expenditure Secretary. Somanathan, a 1987 batch Tamil Nadu cadre officer, was serving in the PMO since 2015. The appointment of new Expenditure Secretary comes a month and a half ahead of the Budget for 2020-21, to be presented on February 1 by the Modi Government.

Khare replaces R Subrahmanyam, who has been appointed as Secretary, Department of Social Justice & Empowerment. Senior bureaucrat Sushil Kumar will be



Ravi Mittal is the new I&B Secretary in place of 1985-batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre Amit Khare, who has now been made the Higher Education Secretary



Secretary Mines. He is Additional Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, and Secretary, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The reshuffle also saw Enforcement Directorate (ED) chief Sanjay Kumar Mishra been elevated to Secretary level. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the rank and pay of Secretary to Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Director, Enforcement Directorate. He is a 1984-batch officer of Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax), the Personnel Ministry said.

Currently, ED Chiefs were in the rank of Additional Secretary level and reporting to Revenue Secretary. This is the first time that an ED Chief has been elevated to the Secretary level.

Culture Secretary Arun Goel has been transferred and appointed as Secretary, Department of Heavy Industry in place of Asha Ram Sihag, who superannuates on December 31. Kshatrapati Shivaji, Executive Director, Asian Development Bank, is now Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public

Grievances. The officer will also hold additional charge of the post of Secretary, Department of Pensions and Pensioners Welfare.

Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, will now be Secretary, Department of Rural Development in place of Amarjeet Sinha, who retires this month-end.

Kerala cadre officer VP Joy, Director General of Hydrocarbons, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has been appointed as Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat in place of Bhushan. Subhas Chandra Lal Das will be DG Hydrocarbons in place of Joy. Das is Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Sunil Kumar has been appointed as Secretary, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. He is Special Secretary, Department of Commerce. Barun Mitra will be Officer on Special Duty, the Department of Justice.

Mitra, a 1987-batch IAS officer of Manipur cadre, is at present Special Secretary, Department of Defence

Production.

Senior bureaucrat Praveen Kumar has been appointed as Secretary, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in place of K P Krishnan, who superannuates on December 31. Kumar is Special Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. IAS officer Niten Chandra has been appointed as the Secretary, Central Information Commission. A 1990 batch IAS officer, Chandra is at present serving in his cadre state Odisha. Chandan Sinha has been named as the Director General, National Archives of India, Ministry of Culture in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary. Sinha, a 1989-batch IAS officer, is working in his cadre state West Bengal.

Rajit Punhani, a 1991-batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre, will be Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Home Affairs in place of Bhupendra Singh, who superannuates on December 31. Punhani is Chief Vigilance Officer, National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., Ministry of Power

Govt extends relaxed fumigation norms for imported onions

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to improve domestic supply and check onion prices that are ruling above ₹ 100 per kg in many cities, the Agriculture Ministry on Friday further extended relaxed fumigation norms for the imported bulbs till January 31.

The second extension has been given as most of the onion shipments are expected to arrive by next month. According to the Ministry, average onion prices across major cities have jumped five fold in the last one year to ₹101.35 per kg as domestic production in Kharif and late-kharif seasons (summer-sown) is estimated to have declined by 22 per cent. The prices have risen by 81 per cent in the last one month.

In a written reply to Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Food and Consumer Affairs Danve Raosaheb Dadarao informed that all-India daily average retail price stood at ₹101.35 per kg on Tuesday (December 10) as against ₹ 55.95 per kg a month-ago and ₹19.69 per kg a year-ago.

"The combined Kharif and late-Kharif production for 2019-20 is estimated at 54.73 lakh tonnes as against 69.91 lakh tonnes in 2018-19," he said. Currently, State-run MMTTC is importing onion on the behalf of the Government which has decided to buy 1.2 lakh tonnes from the overseas market to increase domestic supplies. The Government is also facilitating private imports as well.

Onion is a seasonal crop with harvesting period of Rabi (March to June), Kharif (October to December) and late Kharif (January to March). In the intervening period (July to October), the market is fed by stored Rabi onions.

As per Agriculture Ministry estimates, the storage of onion in 2017 and 2018 stood at 48.73 lakh tonnes and 50.05 Lakh tonnes, respectively.

"During 2019-20, there was a three-four weeks delay in sowing as well as decline in sown area of the Kharif onion because of late arrival of monsoon. Further, untimely pro-

longed rains in the major growing States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh during the harvesting period from September to October, caused damage to the standing crops in these regions.

"All this adversely impacted production and quality of the Kharif crop. The rains during September/October also affected transportation of the crop from these regions to consuming areas. This led to limited availability of Kharif onion in the market and put pressure on its prices," Dadarao said.

To boost domestic supply and control prices, the Minister said several steps such as creation of onion buffer of about 57,373 tonnes during Rabi 2019, ban on exports since September 29, facilitation of import, imposition of stock limit on traders, approval for import on onion through MMTTC and domestic procurement of onions from producing/surplus states by NAFED for supplies in deficit States.

Anand demands all-party meet on N-E

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As the Rajya Sabha witnessed din on Friday by the Opposition over the unrest in Assam and other parts of the North-East following the passage of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB), 2019 by Parliament earlier this week, senior Congress leader Anand Sharma demanded the Prime Minister should immediately convene an all party meeting (with) Chief Ministers on the worsening law and order situation in the North East.

Determined to draw attention to the situation arising after CAB, the TMC raised the issue during the Question Hour but Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu did not allow the party's MPs to do so. The agitated members led by their leader



Derek O'Brien repeatedly interrupted the proceedings and they also trooped into the well of the house. Dola Sen (TMC) even tore a piece of paper while standing in the well.

Unable to pacify the TMC members who were supported by other Opposition parties, the Chair then adjourned the proceedings for half an hour.

Earlier, raising the issue during the Zero Hour, Sharma said an all party meeting was a must in view of the fallout in India's external relations particularly with Bangladesh.

"I will urge the Government and the Prime Minister in particular to immediately convene an all party meeting (with) Chief Ministers of all the States and to reassure that mere statements and blame game is not going to happen. This is also having a fallout in India's external relations particularly with the sensitive state of Bangladesh which cannot be allowed," Sharma said.

Naidu said a country's name cannot be taken, to which Sharma said it has to be as it is part of India's foreign policy. "You cannot export your domestic policies to a neighbour. There have been

reactions in our neighbouring country and the Government therefore has a

responsibility," Sharma said.

He said the situation in the North Eastern States particularly in Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and even Manipur was disturbing. These border states are "very sensitive" parts of the country and share borders with China, Bangladesh and Bhutan, he said.

"It is because of the insecurity and uncertainty that has been created following the Citizenship Amendment Bill and fears about the influx of a large number of people which will disturb the culture, language and the composition of society," the Congress leader said.

Pleas in SC challenging Citizenship Act validity

FROM RAJYA SABHA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Several petitions, including those by Congress MP Jairam Ramesh and Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, were filed in the Supreme Court on Friday challenging the constitutional validity of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019.

According to the amended Act, members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan till December 31, 2014 and face religious persecution there will not be treated as illegal immi-

grants but given Indian citizenship. President Ram Nath Kovind had given assent to the CAB, 2019 on Thursday night, turning it into an Act.

Several other petitioners including All Assam Students Union (AASU), Peace Party, NGOs 'Rihai Manch' and Citizens Against Hate, advocate M L Sharma, law students have also approached the apex court challenging the Act.

Moitra's plea was mentioned for urgent listing before a bench headed by Chief Justice SA Bobde and her counsel urged that the petition be heard during the day or on December 16.

"Today? Nothing today. You go to the mentioning officer," the bench, also comprising justices B R Gavai and Surya

Kant, told Moitra's counsel.

While Ramesh has said that the Act is a "brazen attack" on core fundamental rights envisaged under the Constitution and treats "equals as unequal", Moitra has said that "patent unconstitutionality" of the law "destroys the plural, multi-religious and egalitarian basis of India's secular fabric, and replaces it with a constitutionally unsustainable religion centric substance."

In his petition, Ramesh said that substantial questions of law, including whether religion can be a factor to either acquire or deny citizenship in India, arises for consideration of the court as it is a "patently unconstitutional" amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955.

FROM SUPREME COURT

Satisfied with HC Juvenile Justice Committee report saying no detention of minors in J&K

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Friday said it is satisfied with the report of Juvenile Justice Committee of J&K High Court which said that no minors were detained in jails in the erstwhile State post the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370.

The apex court, after perusing the Committee's report, said that four high court judges visited all the jails in J&K and they have clearly stated that no minors have been illegally detained there.

A bench, headed by Justice NV Ramana, said that it would not be proper if the court does not believe its own judges.

The bench made this comment when senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for petitioner Enakshi Ganguly who has alleged that minors were detained there post abrogation of provisions of Article 370, insisted that he should be given time to respond to the committee's report.

The bench granted liberty to the petitioners to approach the appropriate forum if they have any grievance over alleged detention of minors in J&K.

The court on November 5 asked the Committee to examine afresh the allegations of detention of minors by security forces and place its report expeditiously.

It observed that the J&K DGP had filed a report on September 25 in which he categorically refuted the assertions and allegations made in the media and the petition.

The Committee's report also contained the findings of the Additional DGP denying allegations of illegal detention of juveniles in Kashmir.

It had told the Supreme Court that 144 juveniles were detained in the State after the Centre abrogated provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution, but 142 minors were released. The remaining two were sent to juvenile homes.

Sabarimala order on safe entry of women declined

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Friday declined to pass any order on the pleas by two women activists seeking a direction to the Kerala Government to ensure safe entry of women in the Sabarimala temple under police protection.

The top court said the issue was "very emotive" and it did not want the situation to become "explosive". A bench, headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde, said the "balance of convenience" required that no orders are passed in the matter today as the issue had already been referred to a 7-judge bench. The apex court said it would endeavour to constitute the larger bench at the earliest to hear the matter.

The bench, also comprising Justices B R Gavai and Surya Kant, said though there was no stay on the September 28, 2018 judgment allowing entry of women of all ages into the shrine, "it is equally true that it is not final".

India, Maldives vow to deepen maritime ties



Prime Minister Narendra Modi shakes hands with Maldives Parliament speaker Mohamed Nasheed during a meeting in New Delhi on Friday

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India and the Maldives on Friday vowed to boost anti-terrorism cooperation and expand their maritime security ties to deal with common challenges in the Indian Ocean, a region where China has been rapidly expanding its military presence.

After talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Maldivian counterpart Abdulla Shahid, both sides inked two pacts providing for cooperation in financial intelligence and election-related issues besides exchanging an instrument of

ratification for a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

"Both sides noted that India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and Maldives' 'India First' policy were working in tandem to further strengthen a dynamic, multifaceted and mutually beneficial partnership that rests on the foundation of mutual trust, understanding and sensitivity to each other's concerns," a joint statement issued after the talks said.

A vast range of bilateral and regional issues were discussed at the 6th Joint Commission Meeting (JCM),

CA Act internal matter of India: Speaker Nasheed

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The amended Citizenship Act is an internal matter of India, Maldives' Parliament Speaker Mohamed Nasheed said on Friday, noting that the country has always been a safe haven for persecuted minorities. The former president of Maldives, who is leading a parliamentary delegation to India, raised three key issues plaguing the island nation - the Islamic State, debt trap of China and climate change.

which was co-chaired by Jaishankar and Shahid. The JCM took place after a gap of over four years.

"Both ministers emphasised the nurturing of a strong bilateral partnership in the maritime domain given the shared interests and common challenges in the Indian Ocean Region," the statement said.

Attendance records goes missing at CGHS centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Despite installation of biometric machines, the attendance records for 2018-19 at CGHS Centre at Parliament House Annexe at Parliament is missing. Intriguingly, this includes records of not only of the staff but also the head of the CGHS Centre, a Chief Medical Officer.

In an RTI reply, CMO Dr Vijender Kumar, who heads CGHS Centre, under Union Health Ministry, said the casual leave record/compensatory causal off record of his and one of his employees for year 2018-19 is misplaced somewhere in office of medical centre, Parliament House Annexe and could not be located inspite of best efforts at his level.

Dr Kumar shared this information with the Union Health Ministry and CGHS headquarters after he was asked to provide the biometric attendance of one Kunti Rani, a pharmacist at the Medical Centre at the PHA. However, the RTI reply was silent on whether any police complaint had been made or not with regard to the missing data.

INSHORT

PARLIAMENT'S SESSION OF 2022 IN NEW BUILDING

New Delhi: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday expressed confidence that Parliament's session in 2022, when India will celebrate its 75th year of Independence, will be held in a new building. "We are working to have our session in a new Parliament building when we celebrate 75 years of Independence. I am hopeful that it will be completed by 2022," he told reporters following the end of the Winter Session.

CBI SEARCHES RESIDENCE OF AMAN LOHIA

New Delhi: The CBI has carried out searches at the residence of businessman Aman Lohia who escaped to the UAE with his own toddler daughter in violation of court orders resulting in an Interpol search operation for the girl.

SC STAYS HC PROCEEDINGS AGAINST RAJIV MODI

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed the proceedings before the Bombay High Court against Rajiv Modi, Chairman and CEO of Cadila Pharmaceuticals, on a petition filed by his estranged wife seeking custody of their 19-year-old son.

EC REJECTS AIADMK ANTI-AMMK OBJECTION

New Delhi: The Election Commission, which this week registered the TTV Dhinakaran-led AIADMK as a political party, overruling the AIADMK's objection, said on Friday there's "no similarity in the names of the two parties". It also rejected AIADMK's another objection against AMMK for using the word "Ammma" in its name, saying it did not find any merit in that as it was a commonly used word to refer to mother.

MAPPING INDIA BOOK RELEASED AT JAMIA

New Delhi: A book, Mapping India: Transitions and Transformations, 18th-19th Century, was released at Jamia Millia Islamia recently. Co-edited by Delhi University academicians Dr Sutapa Dutta and Dr Nilanjana Mukherjee, book traces transformations which occurred in 18th century in the Indian subcontinent through a diverse range of scholarly essays engaging with multidisciplinary perspectives.

6,000 cases per month against online retailers

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Consumers lodged nearly 6,000 complaints every month against online retailers and telecom giants between April and September this year. Flipkart topped the chart with over 11,000 complaints registered against it on the National Consumer Helpline, set up to help resolve grievances. Amazon, with over 7,200 complaints against it, followed Flipkart.

With regard to telecom giants, there were 6000, 5700 and 4900 complaints registered against Reliance JIO, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone respectively.

In a reply to Rajya Sabha, the Department of Food and

Consumer Affairs said that Flipkart Internet, Amazon, Reliance JIO, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone are the among the top five companies against the consumer lodged complaints in National Consumer Helpline.

"Together, these five companies have received 34, 991 complaints between April and September this year. Of them, 34,342 were resolved," it said. According to data from the Consumer Affairs Ministry, one in every five complaints filed on the helpline was against e-commerce companies.

"Different Regulatory Bodies look into different products such as the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is concerned with food

products, the Central Drug Controller with medicines/cosmetics to check for counterfeit and sub-standard products in the market on regular basis and if any deficiency is found, manufacturers are penalised as per the provisions in the related Acts," the Ministry said.

In case a counterfeit or sub-standard product is received by a consumer, existing Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has provisions for the consumer to file a consumer complaint in the consumer forum established under the Act which are empowered to give relief of a specific nature and to award, wherever appropriate, compensation to consumers.

Rajya Sabha MP Majeed Memon has asked to provide details of the first five companies that topped the list of consumer complaints received on the Government's national helpline set up to resolve the grievances of consumers.

The Government also recently rolled out draft rules to keep a check on e-commerce companies by requiring them to display the details of sellers including the identity of their business, legal name, principal geographic address, name of website, email address and contacts details on the website.

Every e-tailer firm must provide the name of its grievance officer who will respond to complaints within a month.

Western disturbance in north, north central India

Western disturbance is a normal weather phenomenon during winter season to bring down temperature

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department on Friday predicted widespread rain and snowfall in north, north central parts of the country in the next 24 hours due to western disturbance (WD) with cyclonic circulation located over the north and north central India. Due to WD, Punjab, Haryana,

Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh witnessed cold wave like situation. The WD will move away in the eastern direction and weaken by Saturday evening.

According to Dr Kuldeep ZSrivastava, a scientist with the IMD, western disturbance is a normal weather phenomenon during winter season to bring down temperature, snowfall and rain several parts of the country.

"Under the influence of Western Disturbance and its induced cyclonic circulation, widespread rain/snow with isolated heavy falls accompanied with thunderstorm/hailstorm is very likely over Western Himalayan region for next 24 hours.

Fairly widespread to widespread rain with isolated heavy falls accompanied with thunderstorm and hailstorm is also very likely over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and East Madhya Pradesh during the same period. Western Himalayan region, which includes Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, is likely to witness the maximum intensity of rain and snow on Friday, as per the IMD forecast.

"Thereafter, due to favourable meteorological conditions, dense fog at a few places with very dense fog at isolated pockets very likely over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, north

Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh in morning hours of December 15 and 16.

According to the IMD, most places in Uttar Pradesh received light to moderate rainfall and thundershowers on Friday bringing down the mercury in the State. Nainital and Mussoorie and areas around the two Uttarakhand towns witnessed the season's first snowfall, cheering up the locals and tourists alike. The famous Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills experienced the season's first snowfall as moderate to heavy snow and rains lashed wide parts of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for the second consecutive day disrupting normal life.

15-year-old girl raped & killed; Maha cops search for stepfather

Pune: A 15-year-old girl was allegedly raped and strangled to death here in Maharashtra and police are on the lookout for her stepfather who is suspected to have committed the crime, an official said on Friday.



police said, quoting from the complaint. "In the evening, the deceased's sister came home and found the door locked from outside. On breaking open the door, the 15-year-old girl was found dead," said an official from the Bhosari police station.

The victim's body was discovered by her sister at their home in Dapodi in Pimpri Chinchwad, an industrial town near here, on Thursday evening, he said.

According to a complaint registered by the victim's mother, she and her husband, the teen's stepfather, had a heated argument over some domestic issue on Thursday morning.

The man allegedly threatened his wife and warned her of dire consequences following which she asked him to stay away from her daughters, the

Based on the complaint by the victim's mother, a case of murder was initially registered against the absconding accused, an autorickshaw driver, he said.

A post-mortem examination revealed the girl was strangled to death and also indicated that she "might" have been sexually assaulted, the official said.

"Upon receiving the report on Friday, we added section 376 (rape) of the IPC and other relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), he said. PTI

Hundreds in Patna protest against gangrape of 20-yr-old

Patna: Police here on Friday charged the baton and used water cannons to quell hundreds of young men and women — most of them students of Patna University — who had poured out on the streets of the city braving winter rains to express outrage over the gang-rape of a 20-year-old earlier this week.

The victim has alleged that the four perpetrators were known to her and had exploited her sexually a few months back before raping her again a few days ago following which she lodged a police complaint.

"The girl resides in a locality under Pataliputra police station area. She has alleged in the FIR, given statement to the effect before a magistrate, that she was sexually assaulted by four boys who had formerly been her classmates inside an out-house of an apartment in Gandhi Path area of the city," the Station House Officer (SHO) of Mahila Thana, Arti Kumari Jaiswal, told reporters here.

"She has admitted that the boys had forced themselves upon her in October and filmed the act and used to blackmail her for sexual favours. "On December 9, when she abused was once again, she decided to bring the matter before the police," the SHO said.



She has given the names, addresses and mobile numbers of all the accused who are on the run and the phones are switched off.

Efforts are, however, being made to catch them at the earliest, Jaiswal said. "In the meantime a medical examination has been conducted on the victim and we would be able to say more on the issue after report comes out," Jaiswal added. PTI

the accused who are on the run and the phones are switched off.

Efforts are, however, being made to catch them at the earliest, Jaiswal said. "In the meantime a medical examination has been conducted on the victim and we would be able to say more on the issue after report comes out," Jaiswal added. PTI

UP hangman ready to execute Nirbhaya convicts

Lucknow: The hangman at the Meerut prison on Friday indicated that he is ready to carry out the execution in the Tihar Jail of the men convicted of raping and murdering Nirbhaya in 2012.

Pawan Jallad, who is a third-generation hangman, said his grandfather had carried out the hanging of the two men involved in the assassination of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi besides notorious criminals Ranga and Billa. "I am ready to carry out the execution if asked by the jail administration," Pawan Jallad told PTI on phone, referring to the authorities at the Meerut jail.

Amid reports about preparations to hang the four men convicted of the rape and murder, the Uttar Pradesh's Additional Director General (Prisons) Anand Kumar confirmed that Delhi's Tihar Jail has sent out a request for hangmen.

"The Tihar Jail had asked Uttar Pradesh to provide two hangmen at short notice but since one of them in Lucknow is unwell, the other one in Meerut has been asked to remain prepared," he said.

Jallad, who is about 55-year-old, however, said he is not aware of the identity of the convicts to be hanged but added that as the Nirbhaya case is in the news right now he might be required for those convicted in that.

Though he has not yet got any instructions from the Meerut jail administration, he said he is ready to go to Tihar Jail on 24 hours' notice.

Pawan said his father and grandfather were also hangmen. "My grandfather Kallu Jallad and father Babbu Jallad had done this job. I personally helped my grandfather in five executions," Pawan claimed. PTI

Tamil Nadu back in poll mode

Rural local bodies poll to be held on December 27 and 30

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI/COIMBATORE

Tamil Nadu is back into election mode. Election to the rural local bodies would be held on December 27 and 30 as the Supreme Court on Wednesday dismissed the petition filed by the DMK, the principal opposition party, to stay the poll schedule announced by the State Election Commission.

It was the DMK which has been scuttling the State Election Commission's move to hold elections to the urban and rural local Government bodies since October 2016 when the tenure of the local self-Governments came to an end having completed their five-year term.

The DMK got the poll stayed in 2016 with the contention that the State poll panel

has not completed the delimitation of wards and reservation of seats for SC/ST based on the 2011 census. As the case moved from the High Court to the Supreme Court, the poll schedule got delayed and there are no local self Governments functioning in the State as of now. This has made the Centre denying basic grant and performance grant to the State. The amount running to Rs 4200 crore would be released only to democratically elected panchayat and municipal bodies, said a senior Government secretary in State Secretariat.

"The DMK, which had the ignominy of suffering three consecutive elections (the Assembly election of 2011 and 2016 and the Lok Sabha Polls of 2014) was in a state of shock. As M Karunanidhi, the then party chief had been confined to sick bed, the party was

facing a leadership vacuum. M K Stalin, the then working president did not want to test the waters at that stage because he was not sure about himself," said Govindarajan Satyamurthy, political commentator based in Coimbatore.

The local self-Government, described as school of democracy has been immobilised because of the delay in holding elections, said T Ramakrishnan, author and public policy specialist based in Chennai.

"It is the duty of local bodies to ensure economic development and social justice, apart from a host of services," said Ramakrishnan. He also pointed out that the State is the pioneer in holding democratic elections. "Historical evidences confirm that the State was home to democratic elections as earlier as 1000 CE," said

Ramakrishnan quoting from archaeological inscriptions dug out from the State.

Satyamurthy says that both the AIADMK and the DMK were not willing to face the electorate because of lack of confidence. "Though elections to rural local bodies are held in non-political lines, it is in rural areas we see intense fighting and lobbying," he said.

Satyamurthy's fear proved right by Thursday as a big controversy has erupted in Cuddalore district over the "auctioning" of the posts of presidents and vice-presidents in panchayat for prices ranging from ₹ 45 lakh to ₹ 55 lakh. The auctioning process got vitiated by Thursday as Satish Kumar, one of the social activists questioning the illegal process was beaten to death by a group of power-brokers in Cuddalore district.

Ajit spoke to Sharad before joining BJP: Fadnavis

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In sensational disclosure, former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday that then NCP's breakaway leader Ajit Pawar had spoken to his party president and uncle Sharad Pawar before joining the BJP in forming a Government in the State.

In another disclosure, Fadnavis said that he and his few of his party colleagues had spoken to at least 36 NCP MLAs to ascertain that Ajit Pawar had numbers with him.

In his first detailed interview with a leading Marathi channel after his Government collapsed within 80 hours after he and Ajit Pawar were sworn into office, Fadnavis disclosed that it was the NCP leader (Ajit Pawar) who had come to the BJP to extend his support to form a Government and not the other way around.

"It is true that we (the BJP) went with Ajit Pawar to form a Government that lasted for just three days.

It was Ajit Pawar who had come to us saying that the three parties (Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress) could not form a Government. Ajit Pawar told us that he had spoken to Pawar saheb (NCP president Sharad Pawar). It was more of a guerrilla



tactic that we decided to we swear into office at 8 am. We wanted to take out opponent by surprise," Fadnavis revealed.

"Ajit Pawar told us that he had sounded out Sharad Pawar about decision to go with the BJP. But, he had not told us whether Pawar saheb had agreed with him or not. We at the State BJP level took the decision to go with Ajit Pawar. We informed the Central party leadership about it. Seeing the letter by Ajit Pawar and our letter, the Governor agreed to swear in a Government," Fadnavis said.

Confirming that the BJP had ascertained that Ajit Pawar had adequate number of MLAs within, Fadnavis said: "When we decided to go with Ajit Pawar, we had

spoken to many people ..

In fact we (BJP) had spoken to 36 NCP MLAs. We had met several of them. Ajit Pawar had told us that entire party was with him. Later on, he backed out and told me that he could not go with the BJP because of some personal reasons. Immediately after Ajit Pawar told me this, I tendered my resignation to the Governor."

"We were not happy to go with Ajit Pawar. At a time when our long-time alliance partner (Shiv Sena) decided to align with other parties, someone (Ajit Pawar) was willing to support us to form a government. We decided to go with him," Fadnavis said.

It may be recalled that on November 26, then Chief Minister Fadnavis resigned from his post after the NCP's breakaway group leader Ajit Pawar pulled out of the new dispensation under tremendous pressure from the parent party leaders.

Within hours after the Supreme Court put a break to a possible horse-trading by ordering completion of a floor test in the State Assembly by 5 pm on November 26, Fadnavis' 80-hour-long stint as the chief minister had ended, after Ajit Pawar — the ruling party's Trojan horse — handed him over his resignation as the Deputy Chief Minister citing "personal" reasons.

Pak intruder shot in Jammu's Hiranagar

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Alert BSF troops late Thursday night foiled an infiltration bid in Hiranagar sector of Jammu frontier by eliminating a Pakistani intruder inside the Indian territory.

According to senior BSF officers of Jammu frontier, "lone intruder attempted to sneak inside the Indian territory near Manguchak border outpost in Hiranagar sector around 9.45 p.m late Thursday night".

Initially, he was challenged and fired upon by BSF troops when he entered in to Indian territory.

Due to inclement weather conditions, the BSF authorities could not retrieve the dead body of the intruder.

Inspector General, BSF frontier along with other senior officers visited the border outpost to take stock of the ground situation.

Local villagers in the area claimed, firing took place late night near Manguchak border outpost in which one of the



intruder from Pakistan was reportedly killed. Local villagers claimed, Pakistani rangers have been regularly violating ceasefire agreement for over last one month by shelling forward villages in a bid to prevent BSF from constructing 'wall of defence'.

Meanwhile, following failed intrusion bid high alert was sounded in the entire border belt to prevent fresh infiltration bid from the Pakistani side in the coming days.

Due to fresh snowfall in the higher reaches of North

Kashmir, militant handlers have shifted focus towards the plain areas and waiting for an opportunity to sneak inside the Indian territory.

On its part, BSF has also activated its Winter Border Management strategy and rushed reinforcements to plug the gaps, if any, to prevent any infiltration bid.

Anti-fog lights and other sophisticated gadgets have been installed along vulnerable patches of the border fence to track down the movement of suspected intruders.

Pankaja holds rally for political survival: Sanjay Kakade

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A day after Pankaja Munde and senior BJP leader Eknath Khadse covertly hit out at former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at a public rally at Munde's home town of Parli in Marathwada, party's Rajya Sabha member and Fadnavis' supporter Sanjay Kakade said on Friday that Pankaja had organised the public rally for her "sheer political survival".

Singling out Pankaja for a vicious attack, Kakade said: "Here is a person who could not retain her seat. She is now talking about touring the state and building the party. If she had implemented whatever she said at the rally yesterday, the situation would have been different in her constituency and she would have won the election by a margin of one lakh votes".

"She organised yesterday's rally at Parli for her sheer political survival. There were large crowds at the rally not

because of Pankaja but due to goodwill that late Gopinath Munde continues to enjoy in home constituency," Kakade said.

"No one conspired to defeat Pankaja Munde in the election. She can't blame anyone for her defeat. The Parli people voted against her. No outsiders had been brought to vote in the polls. She lost because of her own shortfalls," Kakade said.

Comparing her defeat with that State BJP President Chandrakant Patil who was from Kolhapur but contested from Pune, Kakade said: "Despite the fact that he was contesting from another constituency than own, Chandrakant Patil could win the polls from Pune. Pankaja could not succeed in winning the polls. Since she could not win from her own constituency, she has not moral right to blame others for her defeat".

At Thursday's Pankaja had said she would not leave the party, but it was for the party



leadership to sack her from the party.

Speaking at a public rally organised t Parli on the occasion of her late father and senior BJP leader Gopinath Munde's 70th birth anniversary, Pankaja had said: "After I wrote a Facebook post, there was a huge speculation that I would rebel against the party and quit the party. Let make it very clear that I would not quit the party. But, if the party chooses to throw me out, it can do so. Working under the auspices of the Gopinath Munde Pratishthan, I will bring together people from castes and reli-



gions of the society." Among other things, Pankaja had announced her resignation as a member of the party's core committee.

Apart from giving clear indications that she was distancing her from the BJP, she had said that she would set up an office in Mumbai on January 26 and undertake a day-long fast at Aurangabad on January 27.

At the rally, Khadse had reiterated that Pankaja's defeat was engineered by some of the BJP men themselves.

Charging that Fadnavis was "ungrateful" towards late

Munde, Khadse had said: "Gopinathrao did not stab anyone in the back. It was Gopinathrao who made Fadnavis the state party president. When I was the minister in the BJP-led government, I had allotted the land for constructing a memorial after Gopinathrao.

But, Fadnavis completed one full term as the chief minister and came back briefly as the chief minister. But, still the memorial for late Gopinathrao was not constructed," he said.

Heaping praise on late Munde for building the BJP party to a level it is today, Khadse had also said: "The BJP used to be earlier known as a 'Shetji-Bhatji' party. It was after Munde built the party that it came to be known as the Bahujan Samaj party".

With Friday's remarks by Kakade against Pankaja, the BJP will witness an internal turf war between the Pankaja and Fadnavis camps in the coming days.

Assembly passes Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Friday passed the Disha Bill which impose death penalty for rape besides taking stringent action for crimes against women by setting up special courts to deal with such offences.

The Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill—Criminal Law (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill 2019 amending the Penal Code, says that all cases regarding offences against women shall be investigated and tried expeditiously with provisions of death penalty.

The Andhra Pradesh Disha Bill—Criminal Law (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill 2019 amending the Penal Code, says that all cases regarding offences against women shall be investigated and tried expeditiously with provisions of death penalty.

said, as the Disha Bill is in the concurrent list of State and Centre, it will go for Presidential Accord which will attract the national attention through debates and discussions, and the two Bills will stand as an answer to the system which needs to expedite cases where there is conclusive evidence.

The Nirbhaya Case is an example, where the culprits could not be punished yet and as family members of the victims seeks fast and fair justice and the public response and acclaim the recent Disha case has received were considered before drafting the Bills, he said.

The New Bill prescribes death penalty for rape crimes where there is conclusive evidence, and this needs the amendment of Section 376 of IPC.

This apart the Bill reduces the judgement period to 21 working days with investigation being completed in seven days and trial closing in 14 days.



The AP Disha Bill prescribes life imprisonment for other sexual offences against children and includes Section 354 F and 354 G in IPC.

In cases of harassment of women through social or digital media, the Bill states two years imprisonment for the first conviction and four years for second and subsequent convictions. For this a new

Section 354 E will be added in IPC, 1860.

To ensure speedy trial, the State will set up exclusive special courts in all the 13 districts to deal with cases of offences against women and children including rape, acid attacks, stalking, voyeurism, social media harassment of women, sexual harassment and all cases under POCSO Act. The State

will also employ special Public Prosecutors and Special Police force dedicated for such crimes only.

A Women and Children Offenders Registry will be maintained and will be on public domain and available to law enforcement agencies.

Earlier, piloting the Bills Home Minister Mekathoti Sucharitha said, that there is imperative need to amend laws to bring speedy justice for all offences against women and children and the recent Disha case on the outskirts of Hyderabad has shaken the conscience of the nation.

Deputy Chief Minister Pushpa Srivani, T Anitha, Reddy Shanti, N Dhanalakshmi, V Sriodevi, V Rajini, KV Ushasri Charan, Adireddy Bhavani were among those who spoke in support of the Bill.

No plan to shift AP's Capital Amaravati: Botsa

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

Setting doubts over shifting of the Capital Amaravati to another location to rest, Municipal Administration and Urban Development Botsa Satyanarayana on Friday made a key announcement in the AP Legislative Council.

When TDP members asked the minister if there was a proposal to shift the Capital, said said, "No". They also sought to know from how much had been spent on the Capital project so far.

The TDP members further asked him how much financial burden would fall on the government if the Capital was shifted, he quipped, "Such a question does not arise."

With this, Botsa seem to have given clarity over the location of the Capital which generated a lot of debate in the absence of any concrete statement being made by Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy ever since he assumed charge six months ago.

YSRCP leaders had made conflicting statements over the project, adding fuel to the fire.

Moreover, the State Government too, on its part, has contributed to the uncertainty over continuance of Amaravati as the Capital, by appointing an expert committee to look into the issue.

A host of YSRCP leaders alleged that the previous TDP Government had resorted to 'insider trading' while pooling land for the Capital and that it was a huge real estate scam committed by former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

Ironically, it was Botsa who had stoked controversy over the issue by hinting that the Capital might be shifted to another location in the State. He had said the government was discussing the issue and a decision would be taken soon in this regard.

He had raked up a controversy stating that the Amaravati was located in flood zone and that the construction cost

would be too high due to the nature of the soil in the area.

With this, the Opposition TDP started building pressure on the Government to come out with its decision on the issue. Botsa controversial statements drew widespread criticism from even the BJP whose national spokesman GVL Narasimha Rao said the Centre would take a serious view if the State Government decided to shift the Capital.

Even Jana Sena, Left parties and the Congress had opposed the move to shift the Capital. Later, the Government constituted to five-member committee with urban planning experts to suggest ways for the overall development of the State including the Capital project.

This has led to widespread speculation that Capital may be shifted. It was surprising that even at this stage, CM Jaganmohan Reddy had failed to utter a word on the issue.

CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT ACT

Assam-like violence erupts in Bengal

BJP Govt dividing India in name of NRC, Act: Didi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

All hell broke loose even as Assam-like protests against Citizenship Amendment Act flared up in parts of south Bengal with hundreds of protesters vandalising Railway properties including moving trains — the most visible asset of the Central Government — at Uluberia in Howrah district, Beldanga and Raghunathganj in Murshidabad, parts of rural Birbhum and Diamond Harbour in South 24 Parganas.

The sudden eruption of violence prompted Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to call an emergency meeting of top Government officials including Chief Secretary, Home Secretary, Director General of Police and Kolkata Commissioner of Police etc.

Railway properties were set afire and trains like Howrah-Coromondal Express, Tamralipta Express, Kandari Express and numerous suburban local trains were stranded at various stations while agitators pelted stones on moving carriages.

“Howrah-bound

Coromondal Express had to be halted at Uluberia after the agitators threw stones at the engine in which the driver got injured,” sources said adding trains were running as per scheduled in remaining parts of the State.

Demonstrators, numbering around 250, obstructed the Up and Down lines at Uluberia station and hurled stones at the stranded trains, injuring a driver, South Eastern Railway CPRO Sanjoy Ghosh said.

At Beldanga in Murshidabad district bordering Bangladesh protesters threw burning tyres on the railway track and torched part of the station premises sources said adding railway properties were looted, ransacked, destroyed and thrown on the railway tracks.

Protesters shouting slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah vandalised the kiosks of the Railway Protection Force at Raghunathganj-Jangipur. In the melee some RPF personnel were injured, sources said adding huge posse of police force had been rushed to the



‘WE WILL NOT ALLOW THIS DRACONIAN LAW TO BE ENFORCED IN INDIA AND PARTICULARLY BENGAL’

such attacks.

Both Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar appealed to the people to maintain calm and communal harmony. “I appeal to the people with my folded hands,” the Governor said asking the people to avoid violence as “I know that Bengal is a peace-loving State.”

The porters blocked National Highways too, demanding immediate withdrawal of the new law. They blocked NH-6, NH-34, NH-31 at various places, police said.

In Kolkata too protesters mostly belonging to the minority groups took out processions at various parts of Kolkata blockading roads. The busy Park Circus seven-point crossing was blockaded for more than hour leading to 3 km-long traffic jam, police said.

In some places of Birbhum local workers of the BJP were attacked, sources said adding the TMC men masterminded

to maintain peace and calm and protest through lawful means,” Banerjee who announced a protest march on Monday said. “We will not allow this draconian Bill to be enforced in India and particularly Bengal,” she said.

“They are portioning India and dividing the people of the country in the name of a communally oriented Citizenship Amendment Bill. We will organise two peaceful protest marches in Kolkata on Monday... Such rallies will also be organised in the districts on Sunday... they may send us to jails but we will continue our march,” she said adding the “foolish policies of the Government has let India down internationally.”

Reminding how the visit of Japanese Prime Minister had to be postponed and how the Bangladesh Ministers had cancelled their visit to India Banerjee said “India enjoyed great prestige as a tolerant and peaceful nation. That prestige is today gone because of this arrogant Government.”

Meanwhile, BJP MP Mahua Moitra on Friday filed a petition against the Bill in the Supreme Court.

No place for it in Maha: Cong Min

Mumbai: The Congress will not let the amended Citizenship Act get implemented in Maharashtra, state minister Nitin Raut asserted on Friday and said Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray will cooperate with the national party on the sensitive issue.

Thackeray’s party Shiv Sena is heading the coalition Government in Maharashtra, where the Congress and the Sharad Pawar-led NCP are the other ruling alliance constituents.

The contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (CAB) was approved by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha this week, and became an Act after President Ram Nath Kovind gave assent to it

on Thursday night.

The Act paves the way for granting Indian citizenship to non-Muslim refugees from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh who have migrated after facing religious persecution in their respective country. “The Congress is opposed to the CAB and we will not let it be implemented in Maharashtra... I think Uddhav ji will completely cooperate with us in this,” Raut, a Congress leader, told PTI over the phone.

The Shiv Sena had supported the bill in the Lok Sabha, but had staged a walk-out before it was put for voting in the Rajya Sabha.

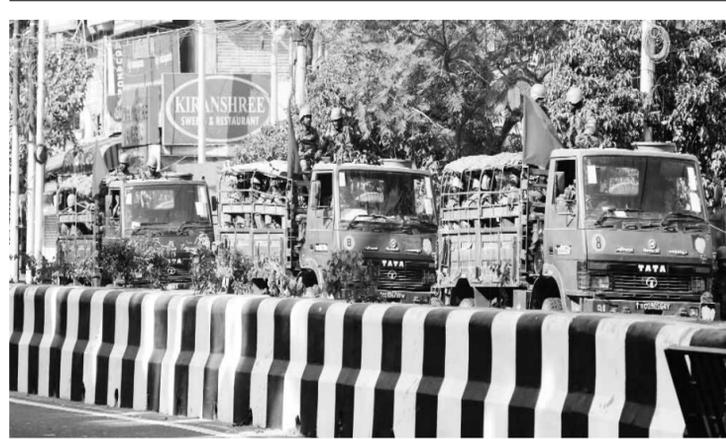
Raut said the Congress had discussed the stand taken

by the Shiv Sena on the controversial legislation in the Lok Sabha with its president Thackeray.

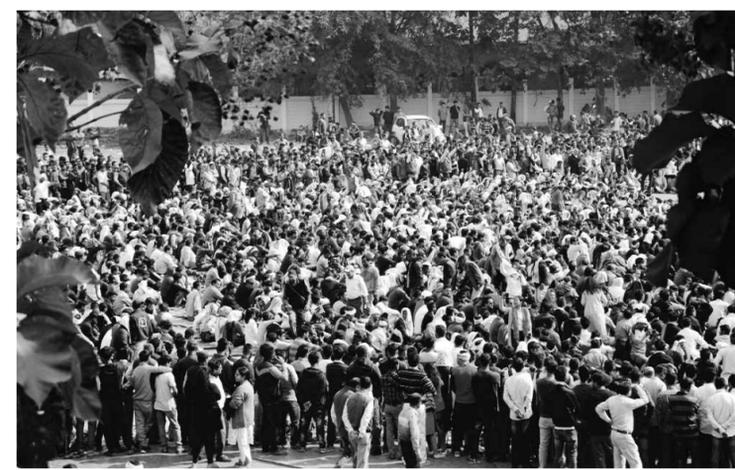
“They have kept forth their view on this in no uncertain terms in the Rajya Sabha... I am sure Uddhav ji is firm on the position his party took on the issue in the Rajya Sabha,” Raut added.

The Sena had posed certain queries to the government over the bill and demanded their answers before supporting the legislation in the Upper House of Parliament.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra minister and MPCC president Balasaheb Thorat said the state Congress will follow the central leadership’s line on the Citizenship Act. **PTI**



Army personnel conduct a flag march in a curfew-bound part of Guwahati on Friday. Authorities imposed indefinite curfew in various parts of Assam in the view of several violent protests over the Citizenship Amendment Bill **PTI**



People assemble for a peaceful protest against the Citizenship Amendment Bill despite curfew, in Guwahati on Friday **PTI**

Exempt entire N-E from purview of amended Act, Agatha urges PM

Shillong: National Peoples Party (NPP) leader Agatha K Sangma has asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to exempt the entire North East from the purview of the Amended Citizenship Act to ensure that peace returns to the region.

The Tura MP had written a letter to the Prime Minister on Thursday night demanding that the entire North East be exempted from the purview of the Act.

According to the Act, members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan till December 31, 2014 and facing religious persecution there will not be treated as illegal immigrants but given Indian citizenship.

“The North East is a complex region that needs a holistic protection, the government must revisit the CAB and exempt the entire region from its purview. This is the only way peace and confidence can be built among our people,” Agatha said in a letter to Modi.

She said the CAB has been vehemently opposed by the people of the North East because they fear demographic

Have suffered a thousand wounds, still capable of taking on foes: Lalu

Patna: The Citizenship Act and National Register for Citizens, ailing and incarcerated RJD chief Lalu Prasad on Friday declared that he was “capable of taking on enemies, despite having suffered a thousand wounds”.

Better known for his earthy sense of humour, Prasad who is at Ranchi serving sentences in fodder scam cases, expressed the sentiment with a political flourish posting an Urdu couplet on his official twitter handle understandably operated by his close aides.

“Abhi aankhon ki shamaen jal raheen hain, usool zinda hai, aap log maayus mat hona bimar abhi zinda hai. Hazaron zakham khakar bhi main dushman ke muqabil hoon, Khuda ka shukr ab tak dil e khuddar zinda hai”, read the tweet by Prasad.

Roughly translated the verse said “the flames of my eyes are still burning bright and my principles are still alive, you people must not feel dejected as the sick man is still alive. I am still capable of taking on enemies despite having suffered a thousand wounds, thank God,



his wife Rabri Devi ruled Bihar during this period.

Now a pale shadow of its former self with not a single member in the Lok Sabha, the RJD has sensed an opportunity to win back the Muslims a section of whom had earlier gravitated towards Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in the wake of the JD(U) voting in favor of the CAB in Parliament.

The party has also been seeking to defend itself against the numerous corruption allegations that surround Prasad and his family insisting that these were “fabricated because of stout refusal to strike a compromise” with the hegemonic BJP.

In the wake of Prasad’s latest outbursts, the JD(U) mortified by allegations of capitulating before the BJP took the bait and quoted an old speech by the RJD supremo in which he had attacked the Congress for having engineered the 1989 Bhagalpur riots “to defame the BJP and the RSS”. **PTI**

Maya questions Centre’s haste in getting CAB passed in Parliament

Lucknow: BSP supremo Mayawati on Friday questioned the Centre’s haste in getting the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill passed in Parliament and said it would have been better had the same promptness been shown in introducing strict laws to check crimes against women.

In a tweet in Hindi, she said, “It is well known that the BSP strongly opposed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in both the Houses of

Parliament and also voted against it.”

“It would have been better had the Centre shown the same haste — it showed in getting the legislation passed — in framing strict laws for checking women harassment and rape and murder,” Mayawati said.

She added, “Merely writing letters to states in this connection is not going to serve any meaningful purpose.”

The **Citizenship**

(Amendment) Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday and by the Lok Sabha on Monday.

As per the Act, members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan till December 31, 2014 and facing religious persecution there will not be treated as illegal immigrants but given Indian citizenship. **PTI**

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
Online tenders are being invited from experienced bidders on OPEN / Two-part (E-tender) mode for the following jobs at NALCO, Smelter Plant at Angul, Odisha:

1- NIT No. OMC-5137
Name of the work: Packaging of Wire Rod Coils (9.5mm/12 mm wire rods)

2- NIT No. OMC-5142
Name of the work: Maintenance Jobs for Instruments Installed at various location of Cast House - A & B. **DGM (Mech.)-T&C**

3- NIT No. OMC-5144
Name of the work: A.T Welding of 52 KG Rail at Budhapank Exchange Yard & Smelter in Plant Yard. **AGM (Mech.)-T&C**

For details of NITs like contract period, EMD, Date and time of E-submission, Part-I Bid Opening, Modification/Amendments (if any) please log in to www.nalcoindia.com & <http://eprocure.gov.in>

Worried that Assam stir may hit supplies, people in Nagaland rush to hoard essential items

Kohima: With protests against the amended Citizenship Act raging across the northeast, people of Nagaland, who had been busy all of last week celebrating Hornbill Festival, were seen rushing to goods stores on Friday to hoard essential items, amid tension that curfew in neighbouring Assam might hit supplies.

As Assam happened to be the lifeline of Nagaland when it came to supply of essential commodities, people were skeptical they might have to face food and medicine shortage in the days to come, official sources said.

Long queues were also witnessed at fuel outlets in state capital Kohima and commercial hub Dimapur, with most of the pumps drying up by noon. Allaying fears, Principal Secretary (home) Abhijit Sinha told **PTI** that the Indian Oil Corporation depot in Dimapur has been stocked up to last a few days.

“Petrol pumps may have dried up in several places due to the rise in demand, but the deposit in IOC Dimapur wouldn’t run out of stock in the next few days,” he said, adding that fresh supply would reach the state soon through rail route.

On essential commodities, Sinha claimed that the State had enough in store for now, and there was no reason for people to panic. **PTI**

8 columns of Army, AR deployed in Assam

Guwahati: Eight columns of the Army and Assam Rifles have been deployed in Assam, including capital Guwahati to control the ongoing violent protests against the Citizenship Amendment Bill and the amended Citizenship Act.

Defence Public Relation Officer Lt Col P Khongsai said the Army and Assam Rifles were requisitioned by the civil administration in Morigaon, Sonitpur and Dibrugarh districts besides Guwahati to arrest the deteriorating law and order situation.

The Army was called out on Wednesday as the protestors turned violent over the Bill.

President Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the bill on Friday which made it an act.

“Till now, a total of eight columns have been requisitioned which include one in Bongaigaon, one in Morigaon, four columns in Guwahati and two in Sonitpur,” he said.

Each column of the force comprise of around 70 personnel.

All Army and Assam Rifles



columns have managed to restore normalcy in the areas they were deployed and have been continuously working to aid the civil administration, Khongsai added. Assam is witnessing one of the most violent protests by the people in its history with three railway stations, post office, bank, bus terminus and many other public properties being set ablaze or totally damaged. After the Rajya Sabha

passed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, the state erupted in uncontrolled protests, in which agitators engaged in pitched battle in almost every major city or town, forcing the administration to impose curfew.

Several towns and cities were placed under indefinite curfew, including Guwahati, the epicentre of protests, besides Dibrugarh, Tezpur and Dhekiajuli. Night curfew was imposed in Jorhat, Golaghat, Tinsukia and Charaideo districts. **PTI**

DELHI JAL BOARD
OFFICE OF THE EE(SDW)-VI
W.S.T.P. KESHOPUR: NEW DELHI-110018
Short Tenders N.I.T. No. 19/EE(SDW)-VI/(2019-20)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimate cost	E/Money	Tender Fee	Date of release of tender in e-Procurement Solution	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement Solution
1.	Renovation / Repairing / Desilting of various E&M equipment / Units at Nilotri STP, Phase-I	29,41,669/-	58900/-	500/-	2019_DJB_185535_1 Dt. 12.12.2019	21.12.2019 at 11.00 A.M.

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

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) **Sd/-**
Advt. NO. J.S.V. 652/2019-20 **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SDW)-VI**

DMK protests against Act, Udhayanidhi Stalin detained

Chennai: DMK youth wing leader Udhayanidhi Stalin and scores of party workers were detained on Friday when they tried to stage a road blockade here while holding a protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, police said.

Udhayanidhi, son of DMK president M K Stalin, led the protest at Saidapet.

Many activists were seen tearing copies of the Bill, which proposes citizenship to persecuted religious minorities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

The agitation affected vehicular movement in the



area. Later, speaking to reporters, Udhayanidhi, the DMK’s youth wing secretary, said the CAB was “against minorities and Sri Lankan Tamils.”

He warned that the protests will continue till the Bill was withdrawn.

According to the CAB, members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities, who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, till December 31, 2014 facing religious persecution there, will not be treated as illegal immigrants but given Indian citizenship.

Both Houses of Parliament had passed the bill. **PTI**

EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Office of the Ex. Engineer (M-II) Shah-North

LIG Flats, East of Loni Road, Shahdara-Delhi
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No. : EE (M)-III-SH (N)/TC/2019-20/23 Dated : 12.12.2019
Executive Engineer M-II/Shah (N) invites tender on behalf of Commissioner, EDMC from registered contractor of MCD.

S. No.	Name of Work	Head of Account	Tender Amount (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender No.
1.	Improvement Dev. of Welcome Seelampur by pdg. Interlocking tiles from gall behind Gyanand Cinema and its link in Welcome Colony Shah (N) Zone, Ward No. 39-E.	UDF	25,69,820/-	51,400/-	317876
2.	Remodeling and construction of Rubber Factory road Nallah-Right side in North Ghonda by pdg. RMC from in Ward No. 48-E, Shah (N) Zone.	XL-VIII-S(v)	42,00,502/-	84,050/-	317877

Time of Completion : 3 Months for Sl. No. 1, **5 Months** for Sl. No. 2; **Validity of Rates : 05 Months** each for both the above works; **Tender Cost : Rs. 500/-** each, for both the above works.

Last date & time of download of tender document : 24.12.2019 upto 15.00 P.M. The detailed documents can be seen & downloaded by the registered contractor from website <http://mcdetenders.com>. The tender will be opened in the office of E.E.-(M Shah(N))-III on 26.12.2019.

R.O. No. 113/DP/East/2019-20 **EE-M-II-Shah(N) Zone**
EDMC’s Citizens Helpline No. : 155303

Web of lies

As internet shutdowns become the new tool of suffocation, the Northeast protests show why they are counter-productive



It's official. India, which would like everybody to believe it is a vibrant democracy, tops the list of internet shutdowns in a supposedly free world, 158 between 2016 and 2018. If the *New York Times* is to be believed then we were responsible for 67 per cent of the world's Internet shutdowns last year. With 134 incidents this year, India has had 89 Internet black-outs, four months in Kashmir alone. This is, of course, separate from mobile network shutdowns, which would make us look like the most hypocritical nation of the world and a

poser of democracy. At least autocratic nations do not hide under pretence. Unofficially, we have been branded the "internet shutdown capital" of the world. Holding up the information highway has become the latest tool for authoritarian governments everywhere to control the political narrative on their terms and carpet-bomb any opinion or emotion against themselves. The internet, by virtue of its unpoliced nature and access, is the first casualty in such times simply because it disrupts all known forms of government control. Besides, the easy interactivity of the worldwide web has brought politics closer to the people and helped them become stakeholders in decisions. The Modi Government may claim that this is being done in the interest of national security and for curbing fake news but this is self-destructive rather than being self-protective. Such propagandist oppression disregards the volcanic fury that becomes visible in the real world when people are not free to express themselves on established communication platforms. The first manifestation is physical violence, the easiest way to challenge the establishment, examples of which are rampant across the North-east, particularly Assam. Shutting down news about Army clampdowns and local anxieties about a new law, which allows religion-based citizenship to refugees and asylum seekers, has left the North-east burning. Having dealt with waves of immigrants as residents of border States, changes in demographic profile and settlers swamping indigenous people, jobs and the local economy, locals are against any kind of influx regardless of religion. The Assamese do not want any more settlers and want their practical fears addressed in a reasonable manner rather than being cloaked by the halo of a larger Hindu nationalism. The heartland plank does not work in the diverse extremities of India. Instead, it is this Central assumption that it can manage the North-east that has stoked latent insecurities and led locals out on the streets. In fact, in the absence of the right information, rumour-mongering is at its highest, like the one about five crore Hindu immigrants being regularised. Besides, technology comes with its solutions, and as the Kashmir experience has shown, many are circumventing shutdowns through virtual private networks (VPNs). The trouble with subterranean traffic in other countries is that the global perception about India can be hopelessly skewed.

While the Government perceives the internet as a threat, it ignores its social consequences. Four months of shutdown have meant that Kashmiris have been automatically disqualified from using Whatsapp, a chat platform that allows not only personal conversations and information storage but lets groups devoted to various non-political causes to organise themselves. It has affected students the most as they have great difficulty filling up online forms for competitive exams like the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET), professional courses and jobs. Aggregator businesses in the Valley are on the verge of closure as they can hardly process service requests. Local businesses are suffering because no online transaction can go through smoothly, be it about filing tenders, tax compliances or net banking. If reports are anything to go by, over 16,000 traders were blocked on the GSTN portal for failure to pay taxes on time. Nobody even thinks of the cascading impact on telemedicine or distance learning. When you are marooned, higher pursuits seem like a luxury and basics your ticket to freedom. Denial becomes a process of adjustment and rewiring life as you knew it than making demands on good governance or even insisting on a modicum of performance. Promises of a digital India or cashless economy seem like a pipedream. Such restrictions on human rights in a modern society are nothing but counter-productive. In July 2016, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed a resolution condemning internet shutdowns. Yet such is the brazen trampling of dissent that PM Modi took to the internet to reassure the very people who didn't have access to it that their rights would be protected. Clearly, it was meant for his own loyalist audience than a real concern for the North-east. Right to Information no longer qualifies as a marker of Indian democracy.

A Brexit mandate

Boris Johnson has won a stunning verdict and should now lead the United Kingdom out of the European Union



The complete and utter shock at the headquarters of the Labour Party as their quasi-Communist leaders led them to a defeat unprecedented in recent times was broadcast to the entire world by the British media. This reconfirms the notion that Left-wing, liberal politicians have got so caught up in their own hyperbole that they forget their core constituencies. Conservative Party leader Boris Johnson, the Oxford-educated member of British aristocracy who will remain as Prime Minister, had a simple message: That he would get Brexit done. Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, who would rather spend time with hate-spewing anti-India and anti-Israel activists and had a long-winded manifesto promising the moon and more, lost. But it was the scale of Labour's loss in safe seats in England's north, all of which had held their own even during Margaret Thatcher's landslide victories, that became the headline act. There's a lesson for Left-leaning leaders here. They must get out of the television studios and stop meaningless talk, else their slide to irrelevance will continue.

First things first. There needs to be that basic understanding that most voters are naturally slightly conservative. Denying that voters in North England wanted to leave the European Union (EU), just because a group of urbane Londoners felt otherwise, has led to the complete annihilation of the Labour Party's Red Wall. Remember how US Democrat presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's arrogance towards the "deplorables" led to her defeat, too? Do not ignore or belittle the voter who does not subscribe to your views, engage them instead. However, with the UK now leaving the EU almost a done deal, what sort of Brexit will be delivered? Will the provinces of Scotland and Northern Ireland leave? Already the pro-EU Scottish Nationalist Party, which has done well recently, may accelerate its campaign for independence. What the vote also means is that nations are increasingly becoming protectionist and insular. If indeed Britons, as the massive results show, have given in to hyper nationalism, so will the Scots and Irish, who want to be with Europe. Johnson now has to strike new international trade deals and keep London valuable and relevant as a financial market. The polls might have been emphatic and ruled out the need for a second referendum but Johnson's big challenge will be in keeping the UK together.

The Afghan imbroglio

The Taliban attack on a US base in Afghanistan has raised many questions. Kabul, which will be profoundly affected by any peace agreement, must be prepared for the worst



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

On December 7, the US and the Taliban resumed peace talks, which President Donald Trump had pronounced on September 9, 2019, to be "dead." His statement had followed a Taliban attack that had killed 12 people, including an American soldier. On Wednesday, December 11, at least two civilians were killed and 73 others wounded in a car bombing and subsequent assault at Bagram Air Base by the Taliban. Two questions arise here. Why did the Taliban launch Wednesday's attack? What would happen now?

As to the first, two pat answers are likely. First, the Taliban want to spike the talks. Second, they want to test the resolve of the Americans to hold their ground. Third, they are divided and one of the sections opposed to the resumption of the talks has mounted Wednesday's attack in the hope that Washington, DC, will walk out of the talks.

Those opposed to the first assumption would argue that the Taliban could not have wanted to sabotage the talks they were participating in. One can also say that their desire for a settlement is further underlined by the prisoner swap on November 19, under which the Taliban released an American and an Australian scholar as well as 10 members of the Afghan security forces held by them, while the Afghan Government released three Taliban leaders.

All this, however, would overlook the possibility that the Taliban believed that this time the Americans would not abandon the talks despite provocations. Their reasoning may well have been that the very fact that the Trump administration had resumed the talks shows its keenness, bordering on desperation, to work out a peace agreement enabling most, if not all, American troops to be brought home. The desperation, they may have further felt, should be all the greater when Trump is facing impeachment proceedings and the 2020 US presidential elections are drawing closer. A peace agreement, which he can stick to his hat as a feather, and the return of American troops would give a significant thrust to his bid for a second term. It is, thus, quite logical for the Taliban to feel that if they continue to go through the motions of talks, the Trump administration would give them the agreement they want if not soon then as the presidential elections draw near.

The question springs up: What kind of an agreement would they want? First, they have made clear that they would not accept the present Afghan Constitution adopted by a Loya Jirga (a grand tribal council with legislative functions) in 2004. On their part, they issued, in 2005, their Order of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, a document closest to a Constitution they have produced. It is fundamentally different from the Constitution in terms of the political systems they stand for. This will be clear from a brief look at them, which is what one can do here given the paucity of space.



The Afghan Constitution has set up a democratic system of Government in which a popularly-elected President is the head of State and Government. The Taliban order, by contrast, proclaims Afghanistan as an Islamic Emirate under Mullah Mohammad's leadership. The legislative and judicial branches of the two systems differ significantly. The Afghan Constitution has established a bicameral National Assembly in which the lower house is directly elected and the upper house consists of a mix of indirectly elected and presidentially appointed senators. The Taliban order, by contrast, establishes a single chamber Islamic Council as the highest legislative organ, whose members are appointed by the Amir ul-Momineen (Commander of the Faithful) based on their familiarity with the principles of *jihad* and *Shariah*. The order does not mention how the Amir ul-Momineen is to be selected or how long an individual may serve in this role. It does, however, specify that he must be a male Muslim follower of the Hanafi school of Islamic jurisprudence.

It is difficult to imagine how the basic contradictions between the Afghan Constitution and the Order of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, which clearly seeks to establish a fundamentalist Islamist theocracy, can be

“IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE HOW THE BASIC CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN THE AFGHAN CONSTITUTION AND THE ORDER OF THE ISLAMIC EMIRATE OF AFGHANISTAN, WHICH CLEARLY SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A FUNDAMENTALIST ISLAMIST THEOCRACY, CAN BE RESOLVED”

resolved. This, in turn, gives a sharp edge to the question whether the Trump administration would accept an agreement that makes for the replacement of the Constitution by the Order. One cannot rule out the possibility that it may. It had, in July 2018, started seeking direct talks with the Taliban, abandoning its insistence that the Afghan Government should be a participant in the talks while the Taliban had long been insisting that they would first discuss peace with the Americans. And now it has resumed talking to them even though they had continued being aggressive on the ground.

Wednesday's attacks have to be seen in this context. At one level they might have been aimed at observing the American response for an indication as to whether the US desperation could be pushed to a point where it accepts a peace settlement that enables the Taliban to march into Kabul and take over Afghanistan with the support of Pakistani Army and the Air Force. At another, it might have been a part of their continued effort to undermine the morale of the Afghan Government and security forces and progressively reduce their ability to resist the offensive mentioned above. And, of course, it could have been both.

One cannot, of course, rule out the third possibility — that the Taliban are divided and one

of the sections opposed to the resumption of the talks had mounted Wednesday's attack in the hope that Washington, DC, will walk out of the talks. Whether this is so will be clear in a few days when the circumstances of the attacks become better known.

Of course, the Afghan Government, which will be profoundly affected by any peace agreement, has to prepare for the worst — an American withdrawal that leaves it fending for itself. For this, it must first get over the deep fissures that divide it — a fact that is strikingly underlined by the fact the results of the presidential election in the country, held in September, 2019, remain stalled in the midst of a bitter dispute between the incumbent President, Osman Ghani, and the principal challenger, Abdullah Abdullah. Both leaders must remember that a Taliban takeover would mean a return to medieval savagery, which besides reducing women to domestic slavery, would rob life of all gaiety and entertainment.

Meanwhile, India, which has serious stakes in Afghanistan, needs to assess its options. It must be prepared to render any assistance it needs to, including the supply of military hardware, to the Afghan Government to hold its own.

(The writer is Consultant Editor, *The Pioneer*, and an author)

SOUNDBITE

The footprint of every major act of international terrorism passes through Pakistan where terrorists are trained in safe havens to take innocent lives.



Indian diplomat —Paulomi Tripathi

I do feel the responsibility of delivering good cinema to the audience and it's a good pressure to have because it will keep my hunger to find the best content going.



Actor —Ayushmann Khurrana

The US has seriously damaged the hard-won foundation of mutual trust by criticising Beijing over issues such as Hong Kong and the treatment of Muslim Uighurs.



Senior Chinese diplomat —Wang Yi

My Ministry is working (on economic issues) wherever it is needed. I will continue to address the problem of the industry as and when it is required.



Finance Minister —Nirmala Sitharaman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Religious divide

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Spent force" (December 13). The Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) may seem benevolent but the effects it will have on the very idea of Indian citizenship, with especial emphasis on "religion", cannot be brushed aside. People of all religions and communities have lived in India since years. Then why this differentiation now? Why are our political representatives hell bent on dividing the country on the basis of religion? Our Constitution does not discriminate people on religious grounds. Ours is a secular country and one should not bring religion into the picture for granting citizenship. Civil society should oppose the Bill.

Jubel D'Cruz
Mumbai

Unconstitutional move

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Spent force" (December 13). The Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) holds the mirror to the face of today's India. It will not be an overstatement to say that the

A tale of two citizens

This refers to the editorial, "Spent force" (December 13). The Citizens (Amendment) Bill (CAB), 2019, which guarantees Indian citizenship to "persecuted" non-Muslims from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan before 2014, is anchored to an ideological mooring. It is a firm step towards ushering in a controlled democracy with the Hindu religion as its centrifuge. Obviously, the inclusion of Buddhists, Christians, Jains, Parsis and Sikhs is a pretence to nullify remonstrance that CAB is a law that will fundamentally benefit Hindu migrants. The Bill reasserts the sectarian view that Hindus have a divine right on the land and Muslims here are just occupants.

Without the National Register of Citizenship (NRC), this Bill could remain a non-starter. Except if the ruling dispensation devises an extraneous mechanism to identify and label. The Bill, therefore, has to be read with the passionate advocacy of a nationwide exercise for a pan-India NRC. With the enactment of CAB, the character of Indian citizenship has undergone a sea change. Hindus, who have inhabited this land since time immemorial or since independence or migrated to this land before 1971/2014, are straightaway deemed as citizens. On the contrary, Muslims



across the country, despite living here for centuries, will have to establish their citizenship afresh with adequate proof. Any Muslim, who fails to produce evidence of his/her citizenship, will face the prospect of being declared an illegal immigrant and be forced into a deportation camp. India has pushed itself into a turbulent future where one could witness blatant Hindutva majoritarianism, unconcealed partisanship and geographical instability.

Haridasan Rajan
Kozhikode

to say, the wider society does not oppose the law passionately but leaves it to those who would be directly affected to protest.

G David Milton
Maruthancode

Government's failure

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Spent force" (December 13). It is the very nature of the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) that has sent the North-east on the boil. The Bill does not specify what proof the fleeing immigrants from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan will have to furnish to support their claims and prove themselves. Suspicion was all the more heightened after the non-inclusion of many Bengali Hindus in Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC). Perhaps instead of protecting the immigrants, the BJP wants to develop its vote bank. Some communities other than the Hindus have been included in the CAB only to avoid making it look like too arbitrary a move.

Shashi
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

The CAB is unconstitutional

Ahmadiyya and Shia Muslims are also persecuted in Pakistan and may come to India to avoid oppression. The Bill should allow that



MARKANDEY KATJU

The Citizens Amendment Bill (CAB) has been passed by both Houses of Parliament and has got the assent of the President. Since a lot of controversy has been raised over it, the Bill needs a dispassionate analysis. Assam has seen an influx of a large number of Bangladeshi immigrants who came after the Partition of 1947. Some (Hindus, Buddhists and so on) came due to religious persecution by the Muslim majority. Many poor Muslims also came in search of a "better life." Such "economic refugees", i.e. those who migrate not due to religious persecution but to seek a better life, are not strictly speaking refugees as defined in the UN Refugee Convention, 1951. But the fact is, that worldwide there are a large number of "economic refugees."

For example, the USA has about 11 million illegal immigrants from Mexico who migrated to America for a better life. Many of them have been living there for decades and now have little roots left in Mexico. What is to be done with them? As we all know, US President Donald Trump wants them deported to Mexico. However, that is easier said than done. In India, under the Assam Accord, only those Bangladeshis who came to the State before March 1971 would be granted citizenship under the Citizenship Act. But CAB will make people of six religions, namely Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Parsis, Buddhists and Jains, who came from three countries, viz Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, Indian citizens, provided they have lived in India for five years. CAB omits the mention of Muslims and this is where the controversy lies.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Government justifies this discrimination by saying that Muslims did not come into India due to persecution, whereas people of other religions did. But this is only a pretext. The real reason is that the BJP knows that Muslims will vote against them in elections and so wishes to deny them citizenship (which carries voting rights).

Also, what has been overlooked is that many Muslims in Pakistan, for example Shias, Ahmadiyyas and so on, are also persecuted there, and may come to India to avoid persecution. Whereas by a constitutional amendment, Pakistan has declared Ahmadiyyas non-Muslims, the Kerala High Court has declared them Muslims and Ahmadiyyas regard themselves as such. However they are treated barbarically in Pakistan.

Many Assamese are protesting because they do not want any immigrants in Assam, whether Muslim or non-Muslim and object to citizenship being given to any settler. Others are objecting to CAB for other reasons. The whole of Assam is up in flames and in many places the Army has been called out.

The truth is that many Bangladeshi Muslims have been living in Assam for decades, though they may not have come here legally. Many were even born in Assam. They have no roots now in Bangladesh. Where are they to go if they get deported? Bangladesh has said it will not accept them. So should they be dumped into the Bay of Bengal? It is a humanitarian problem, not just a legal one.

When I was on the Bench of the Supreme Court, a case regarding illegal squatters in shanties in Mumbai was being heard. The senior judge on the Bench shouted that the illegal squatters had no legal right to remain where they were living and must be thrown out, to which I retorted, "But brother, where are they to go? Should they be dumped into the Arabian Sea? It is not just a legal problem, it is also a humanitarian issue."

It may be noted that under the Indian Constitution whereas certain rights, like those mentioned in Article 19, are available only to citizens, others, like the right to equality, mentioned in Article 14, and the right to life and liberty mentioned in Article 21 (which has been interpreted by the Supreme Court to mean the right to live with dignity) are available to all. A non-citizen is certainly a person, and hence is also entitled to those rights.

In the National Human Rights Commission vs State of Arunachal Pradesh, 1996 case, the question was about the Chakma refugees, who were illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. The apex court observed that the fundamental right of life and liberty guaranteed by Article 21 of the Indian Constitution is also available to Chakmas, though they were not Indian citizens. It is submitted that CAB is unconstitutional as it violates both Articles 14 and 21 of the Indian Constitution.

(The writer is a former judge of the Supreme Court of India. With inputs by Dhriti Kapadia, Advocate on Record at the Supreme Court of India and Solicitor, Bombay High Court).

NOT ALL MEN ARE RAPISTS. THIS IS AN INSULT TO INDIA. HE (RAHUL GANDHI) SHOULD BE PUNISHED (FOR HIS RAPE IN INDIA STATEMENT).

—UNION MINISTER SMRITI IRANI

POINT COUNTERPOINT



I HAD SAID THE PM KEEPS TALKING ABOUT MAKE IN INDIA. BUT THERE IS NO NEWS ABOUT THAT. BUT WE READ ABOUT SO MANY RAPE CASES IN PAPERS.

—CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI

No more labour pains

The Government has decided to develop a cadre of midwives as one of the strategies to reduce maternal and infant mortality



SWAPNA MAJUMDAR

Shanti Devi is a household name at Nichla Badho Village in Jagjit Nagar of Solan district, Himachal Pradesh. This is not surprising considering that as a traditional birth attendant or *dai*, she delivered more than half the population of the village, including six of her grandchildren.

Even after she turned 80, Shanti remained the *dai* a pregnant woman in distress turned to or if the fears of a first-time mother-to-be needed to be soothed. Midwives can provide 87 per cent of the essential care for expectant mothers and newborns if they are educated and trained, says the World Health Organisation (WHO). But most importantly, as an integral part of a woman's life, they provide quality care, support and play an important role in reducing preventable maternal deaths.

WHO research has shown that women were less likely to give birth prematurely or lose their babies before 24 weeks of gestation if midwives were the main providers of care during pregnancy. Further, global data indicates that 83 per cent of all maternal deaths and newborn deaths could be averted with the care provided by midwives. Considering four women die giving birth every hour in India, midwives can be the game-changers in this grim scenario.

This is perhaps why the Government finally recognised that midwives could provide quality assistance through the 30 million pregnancies that take place every year and become a cost-effective and efficient model to improve reproductive, maternal and neonatal health services. The decision to develop a cadre of midwives as one of the strategies to reduce maternal and infant mortality was shared by the Indian Government at the recently-concluded International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD+25) in Nairobi. India was among the 179 countries that signed the first international agreement recognising the right to sexual and reproductive health and women's empowerment at the ICPD in Cairo in 1994. This announcement was made as a part of its commitments to reduce preventable maternal deaths and provide an enabling environment to facilitate women's autonomy in reproductive decisions.

Although, there has been a decline in the maternal mortality rate (MMR) from 167 to 122 per 100,000 live births (SRS 2016), India has a long way to go to ensure that no woman dies while giving birth. Nearly 32,000 pregnant women still lose their lives during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period every year. Factors like inequalities in access to quality health services, poverty, distance to facilities, lack of information, inadequate and poor quality services and cultural beliefs remain significant barriers to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) to reduce MMR to less than 70 per 100,000 births by 2030.

Besides, disrespect and abuse of women during childbirth at health facilities contribute to maternal mortality and morbidity. While formulating its guidelines on midwifery care, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare accepted that these were some of the reasons that deterred women from opting for institutional delivery. Although the Government's LaQshya programme mandates promoting respectful maternity care, its implementation remains poor. However, midwifery-led care could address

“ WHO RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT WOMEN WERE LESS LIKELY TO GIVE BIRTH PREMATURELY OR LOSE THEIR BABIES BEFORE 24 WEEKS OF GESTATION IF MIDWIVES WERE THE MAIN PROVIDERS OF CARE DURING PREGNANCY. FURTHER, GLOBAL DATA INDICATES THAT 83 PER CENT OF ALL MATERNAL DEATHS AND NEWBORN DEATHS COULD BE AVERTED WITH THE CARE PROVIDED BY MIDWIVES. CONSIDERING FOUR WOMEN DIE GIVING BIRTH EVERY HOUR IN INDIA, MIDWIVES CAN BE THE GAME-CHANGERS IN THIS GRIM SCENARIO ”



these issues by promoting quality and continuity of assistance through the provision of women-centric care and help expectant mothers have a positive birth experience, according to the Ministry.

While the Government may have come to this conclusion now, women in Himachal Pradesh realised it much earlier. They also understood that women attended by midwives needed fewer epidurals. This is probably why Shanti was a much sought after *dai* as she used traditional knowledge and promoted natural birth. She even induced labour pains by giving hot herbal drinks made by boiling fenugreek and carom seeds with soya. Women have often stated that they prefer to have home deliveries by someone they know, rather than an unknown doctor, especially when respectful maternity care is missing.

With health facilities in rural areas being far, the balance in favour of the midwife is heavily tilted. In Shanti's case, not only was she right there and readily available but her personal touch boosted the confidence of pregnant women. They also knew that she would accompany them to the nearest hospital for delivery if she felt that the pregnancy was complicated and beyond her capabilities.

Shanti's long experience enabled her to predict when a delivery would take place and she also had the skill to deliver a breach baby. Besides, she provided information on immunisation, birth registration and nutrition. Her abilities, skill and knowledge prompted families living in distant villages to seek her help with deliveries. This also

included families belonging to the upper caste, which traditionally shied away from taking the help of a *dai* belonging to a lower caste.

There are over 10 lakh *daies* like Shanti serving rural and urban communities. They can be lifesavers in places where there is an acute shortage of trained medical personnel. At present, there are only 1,859 obstetricians at Community Health Centres in the country as against the requirement of 5,510 (2016 Rural Health Statistics). This lack of specialists can be critical for pregnant women, as one of the major causes of maternal deaths (almost 46 per cent according to a 2014 *Lancet* study) is the poor quality of intrapartum care. This is where trained midwives can make the difference by supporting the overburdened secondary and tertiary care facilities that do not have enough obstetricians.

Severe bleeding after birth can kill a healthy woman within hours if untreated and simply injecting oxytocics effectively reduces this risk. The second major cause of maternal deaths is infection after childbirth.

This can be eliminated if good hygiene is observed and if early signs of infection are recognised and treated promptly. Third, if pre-eclampsia is detected and appropriately managed before the onset of convulsions and other life-threatening complications, maternal deaths can be reduced. In this case, administering drugs such as magnesium sulfate for pre-eclampsia can lower a woman's risk of developing seizures. These risks could be reduced by midwives who are usually from the same communities as the pregnant

women and are familiar with their medical history.

Therefore, investing in harnessing the power of existing midwives across the country by upgrading their skills could mean the difference between life and death for women. What makes the case in favour of trained midwives even stronger is the fact that the financial costs of ending preventable maternal deaths are now known.

A collaborative study between UNFPA, John Hopkins University, Victoria University, University of Washington and Avenir Health shared at the Nairobi ICPD+25, gave a breakdown of the collective costs of ending preventable maternal deaths in 120 countries, including India.

According to Natalia Kanem, Executive Director UNFPA, these figures were a drop in the ocean compared to the dividend expected and the funds available. Speaking at the summit, she said that it would be wrong to even refer to this as a cost as these were smart, affordable investments that would transform the lives of women. What was needed next was the political will and financing to get the job done. The cost of inaction would be much higher, she said.

The decision to build a cadre of trained midwives is a good move to reduce the costs of inaction. But it must not overlook the knowledge and skills that traditional birth attendants have. They must be supported and trained for the sake of the millions of pregnant women they continue to save. After all, even a single preventable maternal death is one too many.

(The writer is a senior journalist)

Free education is no charity

Peaceful protests and demonstrations cannot be ridiculed in any healthy and vibrant democracy. In fact, we need more campuses like JNU, with students who are curious, questioning, intellectually-aspiring and democratically-engaged



RAHUL KASHYAP

The nation is trying to identify the villain of the piece in the ongoing Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) saga and social media is running amok demonising the premier institution itself. The first question, much before apportioning blame, is to ask ourselves, have we missed the forest for the trees? We indeed have.

My fear is that as a society we are getting consumed by market-driven "everythingness", oversimplified by applying the yardsticks for measuring chalk to cheese as well. In this highly volatile process, we are ending up supporting an ecosystem that kills dialogue and argumentation. Do we even

realise the inherent dangers to nationhood? Please realise this is destructive to the idea of both nationalism and nation-building. There is a huge cacophony and also rancour over the negligible fee paid by a JNU student. Let us never forget that education is every individual's right and even if free, education is not charity. In our attempt to berate JNU, many are ending up giving social credibility to commodification of education. We are playing into the hands of the private education mafia. By doing so, we are committing a crime against future generations. They will blame us for centuries.

If you find the idea odd, it would be relevant to remember how public telecom was bemoaned and ridiculed to tarnish its reputation and make way for private players and how Air India was derided so that it bled and its business share was usurped by private air carriers. So, the assault on the very credibility of JNU is to be seen with concern and obvious suspicion. Withdrawal of the State from health and education is the most undesirable act in a civilisation. Free education

and free health services must be seen as a right rather than charity in a democracy and a welfare State. The more developed a country is, the more dedicated a welfare State is, the more essential services are free. Particularly health and education, followed closely by free public transportation.

We applaud social media forwards about how a train in Japan was continued only because one girl boarded it to go to school. But when it comes to our own country, we seamlessly adopt shameless double standards.

The ones studying in JNU are equal citizens of the country and their parents are also paying taxes. And in future, most of these students will perhaps pay much more in income tax than many of those castigating them claim they cost the country right now, by joining the bureaucracy, media, the development sector, academia and politics. Even the current dispensation at the Centre has two former JNU students as Cabinet Ministers. A study also reveals that 40 per cent of the Cabinet Committee on Security comprises JNU alumni.

JNU has been marked an island of excellence and repeatedly awarded for high standards of research and pedagogy by the Government of India. It is nothing but a calamity that JNU's commitment to education in building a brighter India has been compromised. The need is to work on the perception deficit in the mind of the common man.

The deliberate loss of reputation is doing no good to anyone but vested interests. Currently there are nearly 8,000 students at JNU.

However, a minuscule number, belonging to the radical Left, have held hostage the credibility of the university. These are mischief makers, suffering from an identity crisis and lack of political foothold, taking refuge in provocative acts like honouring Mahishasur.

These elements — the Right-wing loves to call them urban Naxals — are like the goons in a locality who create nuisance because the silent majority avoids them. The need is to awaken this silent majority. There are several ideological streams strongly present in the university. It is time they

challenge these elements on the basis of knowledge as well as positive activism. These are the elements that need to be handled. So that the rest, comprising a large number from the socially and economically-deprived strata, are allowed to follow academic pursuits in peace.

The problem is made complex because the official Left ends up supporting these disruptive elements as they see their vice-like grip over academia slowly slipping, prejudiced research getting exposed and challenged, and a summary loss of political relevance across India. JNU seems to be giving them that fig leaf cover and token confidence.

Peaceful protests and demonstrations cannot be ridiculed in any healthy and vibrant democracy. In fact, we need more campuses with students who are curious, questioning, intellectually-aspiring and democratically-engaged. This is where we should create the India of tomorrow.

The media, especially television, has played a rather ignoble role in the issue. Anchors, with strange display of histrionics and overplay, do not

mind showing off their inadequacies in understanding society and politics. The drama that is unleashed from the television studios — led by intellectually-bankrupt and educationally-compromised anchors indulging in shameless acts of exposing their limitations and their rooted prejudice — must force managements of these channels to take note.

There would hardly be any doubt that JNU is the most gender-friendly and also the safest campus for women. Therefore it comes as no surprise that the Nirbhaya protests started nowhere else but here.

People do not understand that demonisation of a public university like JNU will impact all institutions including the IITs and IIMs. We should not be that short-sighted.

There is an exponential hike in the fee of IITs and IIMs. This must also be opposed. And the students of IITs and IIMs must learn to protest effectively and fight for their rights. We need many more JNUs all across India. Fight for this cause, each one of you, who cares for India.

(The writer is a senior journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



HUMANITY ON TRIAL

Criticism of Aung San Suu Kyi's defence of her country must not overshadow the issue at the heart of the case at the ICJ: The ongoing suffering of Rohingya Muslims. Myanmar's generals are largely inured to international condemnation. But the reminder that there may one day be consequences for their actions could offer some deterrent to the worst abuses. It could also increase the pressure on the UNSC to take on the issue.

(The Guardian, editorial)

INCREASING GST rates Buzz everywhere except my office: FM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Ahead of the crucial meeting of the GST Council, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said the buzz of an increase in GST rates is everywhere other than her office.

She was responding to a question on talk of current GST rates of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent being raised to make up for the fall in revenues that has even hampered giving compensation to states for loss of revenue from implementation of the indirect tax regime.

"The buzz is everywhere other than my office. I don't know where this is coming from. I have not been to GST Council yet... We have not had

any conversation yet. But it's good to see all this churning outside, it helps to clarify our thought processes," she remarked.

Sitharaman, however, did not rule out a hike in GST rates, saying her ministry is yet to apply its mind to it.

"I am saying we as a team have not spoken yet on what we want to go to the GST Council with," she said.

She added there is no denying the fact that GST compensation is pending to all States. "No one is denying it is their (states) right. I fully acknowledge it is their right and I have also given the figures out as to what was the collection, how much was paid in 2017-18, in

More measures to boost economy as and when required, says Sitharaman

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday promised more stimulus measures for sectors of the economy in distress as she counted on steps taken till now to boost growth by driving up consumption.

She also said the Centre is aware of the pending GST compensation to States and will honour its commitment. Addressing a Press conference on the state of the economy along with senior officials, Sitharaman said the government will continue to take

BUSINESS CORNER

BoI CONDUCTS HAR GHAR DASTAK CAMPAIGN



New Delhi: Bank of India, one of the premium bank of our country has launched HAR GHAR DASTAK Campaign across its National Banking Group Offices and Zonal Offices/Branches working under these NBBG Groups with the Slogan One Bank, One Team, One Dream to achieve the target of Business mix of ₹10 trillion by September 2020 in the back ground (Dus Ka Dam) and special drive for recovery. In line with the campaign New Delhi Zone conducted Har Ghar Dastak Mahotsav on December 11, 2019 at STC, Noida premises.

QUIZ, PAINTING COMPETITION HELD IN CLW



New Delhi: Energy Conservation Day will be observed in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) on December 14. In order to create awareness about Energy conservation among common people, various efforts are being taken with the help of posters, banners and handbills in CLW for Residents. Further to educate Children of CLW township about energy conservation, quiz & painting competitions were conducted among students of various schools of CLW Township from 07-12-2019 to 12-12-2019 in two categories of Class-I to V and Class -VI to XII. The final round of the Quiz & Painting competition amongst students was held on December 13 in Technical Training Centre in Chittaranjan conducted by Electrical Maintenance dept. The winning candidates will be given an opportunity to participate in presentation by Experts on Energy conservation on December 14.

N RLY GEN MANAGER INSPECTS DELHI CANTT SECTION



New Delhi: General Manager, Northern Railway TP Singh conducted an extensive inspection of Delhi Cantt.-Rewari-Jhajjar-Asthal Bohar Rail section on Thursday. He was accompanied by SC Jain, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Northern Railway, Delhi, Principal Head of Departments of Northern Railway & Senior Divisional Officers of Delhi Division. TP Singh, General Manager inspected the Booking office & circulating area at Delhi Cantt Railway Station. He also inspected a newly developed Smart Coach. He also inspected a Health ATM installed recently at the station.

Moody's cuts India's GDP growth forecast to 5.6% for 2019

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service on Friday said it has lowered its 2019 GDP growth forecast for India to 5.6 per cent as slow employment growth weighs on consumption.

It expects economic growth to pick up in 2020 and 2021 to 6.6 per cent and 6.7 per cent respectively, but sees the pace of growth remaining lower than past. "We have lowered our 2019 gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for India to 5.6 per cent, which is lower than 7.4 per cent growth in 2018," Moody's said in a report.

"India's economic growth has decelerated since mid-2018, with real GDP growth slipping from nearly 8 per cent to 5 per cent in the second quarter (April-June) of 2019," it noted.

It further slipped to 4.5 per cent in July-September quarter. "Consumption demand has cooled notably, with slow employment growth weighing on consumption," it said. "We expect economic growth to pick up in 2020 and 2021 to 6.6 per cent and 6.7 per cent, respectively, but the pace of growth will remain lower than in the recent past."

Moody's said fiscal measures undertaken by the Government — such as corporate tax rate cuts, bank recapitalisation, infrastructure spending plans, support for the auto sector and others — do not directly address widespread weakness in consumption demand, which has been the chief driver of the economy.

In addition, interest rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India are not being adequately transmitted to lending rates because of the credit squeeze caused by disruption in the non-bank financial sector, it said. Commercial vehicle sales in India declined 22.95 per cent in

India's exports contract for fourth straight month in Nov to \$25.98 billion

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's exports contracted for the fourth month in a row in November, dipping 0.34 per cent to \$25.98 billion, mainly on account of poor shipments of petroleum, gems & jewellery and leather products.

Imports too declined by 12.71 per cent to \$38.11 billion in November, narrowing the trade deficit to \$12.12 billion, according to Government data released on Friday.

Gold imports increased by 6.59 per cent to \$2.94 billion in the month. The trade deficit stood at \$17.58 billion in November 2018.

Out of the 30 key sectors, as many as 17 segments showed contraction in exports during the month under review.

Shipments of petroleum products, gems and jewellery, fruits and vegetables, leather and leather products and ready-made garments of all textiles contracted by 13.12 per cent, 8.14 per cent, 15.10 per cent, 5.29 per cent and 6.52 per cent respectively.

In November, oil imports declined by 18.17 per cent to \$11.06 billion, while non-oil imports contracted 10.26 per cent to \$27.04 billion.

RBI Central Board discusses functioning of co-op banks

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

The RBI Central Board on Friday reviewed functioning of the urban cooperative banks and enforcement framework in the backdrop of scam in the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank affecting lakhs of depositors.

The Central Board headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das also discussed the current economic situation, as well as the domestic and global challenges facing the country, the central bank said in a release.

"The Board's discussions focussed on issues related to urban cooperative banks, extension of enforcement policy and framework to cooperative banks and NBFCs (non-banking financial companies)," it said.

Income tax, input tax credit refunds up: Revenue Secy

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Income Tax Department is now conducting complete faceless assessment and the refunds so far in this fiscal stood at ₹1.57 lakh crore as compared to ₹1.23 lakh crore in the last fiscal. IGST (Integrated Goods and Service Tax) refunds so far this fiscal are ₹38,988 crore as compared to ₹56,057 crore in the previous fiscal.

"ITC (Input Tax Credit) refunds are at ₹33,395 crore in FY20 as compared to ₹36,513 crore in FY19. A total of 58,322 cases have been covered under the faceless assessment system and questionnaires have been issued in 19,883 cases," Pandey said at a press conference called by the Finance Ministry to highlight the impact of the steps taken by the Government to boost consumption. He said tax refund cases have gone up by 17 per cent to 2.16 crore.

"The picture regarding revenue targets will be clear in the next few weeks. On December 15, the figures for advance tax for the third quarter will come and we will get a fairly good estimate of what is going to be the impact of corporate tax reduction. Then only we will arrive at a realistic figure as to what will be the revenue collection under income tax this year," said the Revenue Secretary.

Tax collection data for this quarter, and estimates of the collections for the next quarter, will be released on December 15 or December 16. He added it will be compulsory for all the taxpayers with turnover of more than ₹100 crore to generate e-invoice for all B2B transactions. The same will be optional for those businesses with a turnover of more than ₹500 crore.

Nationwide economic census to be completed by March 2020: CSC e-Governance Service India CEO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The 7th Economic Census, which is being conducted nationwide through common services centres (CSCs), is expected to be completed by March 2020, CSC e-Governance Service India CEO Dinesh Tyagi said on Friday.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has tied up with CSC e-Governance Service for the 7th Economic Census. The survey was launched in Delhi on Friday.

"For the first time, the entire Census is being conducted on a digital platform by the use of an application which will ensure high accuracy and data security.

"In Delhi, the entire process will take around three months where enumerators will survey around 45 lakh establishments and households," Central Statistics Office Director General (Social Statistics) A K Sadhu said after flagging off the survey for

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Navneet Gupta S/o Late. Sh. Surender Kumar** R/o H.No 919/7, Ward No. 7, Mehrauli, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under case **E-FIR No. 873/16 U/s 379/411 IPC.**, has been registered at **P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Navneet Gupta S/o Late. Sh. Surender Kumar**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Navneet Gupta S/o Late. Sh. Surender Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Navneet Gupta S/o Late. Sh. Surender Kumar** FIR No. 523/18 U/s 323/341/452/506/356/379/34 IPC required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 17.01.2020.

DP/5857/SD/19- Court matter **By Order Sh. Vaibhav Mehta, MM-5 Room No. 210, Saket Courts Complex, New Delhi**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Bharat @ Mirchi S/o Dalip** R/o H.No.8030, Gali No.09, Multani Dhandha, Paharganj, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **e-FIR No. 009793/17 u/s 379/411/34 IPC P.S. Janak Puri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Bharat @ Mirchi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Bharat @ Mirchi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Bharat @ Mirchi** of **e-FIR No. 009793/17 u/s 379/411/34 IPC P.S. Janak Puri, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on **24.01.2020**.

By Order Sh. Deepak Vats Metropolitan Magistrate Room No. 9, Ground Floor, Dwarka District Courts, Sector-10, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Santosh Kumar S/o Krishan Kumar** R/o (1) B-48, Pocket-3, LIG-Flats, Sec-02, Rohini, Near Jaipur Golden Hospital, Red Light, Delhi (2) Saini Travels at Old Private Bus Stand Churu, Rajasthan (3) Shop No. 35, Ambedkar Market Near Gate No.-06, Tis Hazari Court, Mori Gate Delhi (4) A-117, Ekta Enclave, Near Metro Station, Peeragarhi, Delhi have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **Cr. No. 8838/17, 8839/17, 8840/17** has been registered at **P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Santosh Kumar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Santosh Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Santosh Kumar** of **Cr. No. 8838/17, 8839/17, 8840/17** has been registered at **P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on **06.02.2020**.

By Order Ms. Pooja Aggarwal, MM, Room No.112, Rohini Court, Delhi

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a one lady namely **Unknown** W/o Unknown R/o Unknown **Age-55 years, Height-4'6", Face-Long, Complexion-Sallow, Wearing-White Colour Printed Suit-Jamani Salwar and Hawi Chappal** in her feet found abandoned near DDA Park, Nihal Vihar on Dated 22.11.2019 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar. In this regard a **DD No. 73-B Dated 22.11.2019** has been lodged of **P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the lady but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this lady please inform undersigned.

E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 SHO DP/2925/OD/19 P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946710, 25946700 706503619

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Kajal D/o Sh. Praveen Kumar** R/o B-2/33, 3rd Floor, Sharma Colony, Budh Vihar, Ph-II, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 18.11.2019 from the area of PS Budh Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 23-A dated 20.11.2019** has been lodged at P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Age : 19 years, Height: 5'4", Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Oval, Wearing : Red & Black Colour Top and Black Colour Jeans and Red Colour Leather Sleeper.

Any person having any information/clue about this missing/kidnapped girl, may inform SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or Website: **http://cbi.nic.in.**

Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi DP/3481/RD/19 Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. No. 011-27052772, 27052773

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Mala** D/o **Sh. Hari Poodar**, R/o **H.No. C-7A, Gali No. 09, Shalimar Village, Delhi**, **Age : 16 yrs., Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, Built : Normal, Wearing : Blue Colour Suit, White Colour Salwar and Golden Colour Sandal in Feet**, has been missing / kidnapped since **22.11.2019**. In this regard a case **FIR No. 609/19 dated 22.11.2019** u/s 363 IPC has been registered at **PS. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.

if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned

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

SHO DP/9568/NW/19. P.S. Shalimar Bagh, Delhi Ph.: 011-27495198, 8750870227

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Upender S/o Birj Kishor** R/o C-755, Mangolpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under case **E-FIR No. 873/16 U/s 379/411 IPC.**, has been registered at **P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Upender S/o Birj Kishor**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Upender S/o Birj Kishor** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Upender S/o Birj Kishor** E- FIR No. 873/16 U/s 379/411 IPC, required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 23.04.2020.

By Order Sh. Rakesh Kumar-II, MM (North- West Distt) Room No.105 1st Floor Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/2956/OD/19- Court matter

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one female **Namely: Sanjura**, W/o: **Minjar, R/o: H. No. 238, Mumim ka Makan, Village-Rajapur, Sec-09, Rohini, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped since **11.11.2019** from the area of P.S. Prashant Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 28-A dated 13.11.2019** has been registered at P. S. Prashant Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing female are as under: **Age: 24 years, Height: 5' 1", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: White colour suit, salwar and black colour hawal sleeper** in her feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

Website: **http://cbi.nic.in**
E-mail Id - **cic@cbi.gov.in**
Ph.: **011-24368638, 24368641** **SHO DP/3494/RD/19 P.S. Prashant Vihar, Delhi Tel.No. 011-27557184, 8750870328**

Sensex zooms 428 pts on trade deal boost, Brexit clarity

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex soared 428 points to close above the 41,000-mark on Friday as the US and China reportedly reached a trade deal and Boris Johnson's win in UK general elections turbocharged global equity sentiment.

After hitting a high of 41,055.80 points, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 428 points, or 1.05 per cent, higher at 41,009.71.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty settled 114.90 points, or 0.96 per cent, higher at 12,086.70.

On a weekly basis, Sensex advanced 564.56 points or 1.39 per cent and Nifty rose 165.20 points or 1.38 per cent.

Global markets surged after reports said the US had finalised a phase one trade deal with China in return for Beijing buying more American goods.

US President Donald Trump has reportedly given his final approval to the deal which would suspend tariffs that are set to kick in from Sunday, de-escalating their 17-month trade war.

Meanwhile, Boris Johnson secured a thumping parliamentary majority in the UK's general elections, ending the uncertainty over Brexit.

Gold tumbles ₹232

New Delhi (PTI): Gold prices on Friday fell by ₹232 to ₹38,486 per 10 gram in the national capital on stronger rupee, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the precious metal had closed at ₹38,718 per 10 gram.

“Spot gold for 24 Karat in Delhi fell by ₹232, reflecting overnight fall in international prices. Gold prices witnessed additional pressure on stronger rupee with fall in dollar index. The spot rupee was trading around 15 paise higher during the day,” HDFC Securities senior analyst (commodities) Tapan Patel said.

Silver prices fell marginally by ₹7 to ₹45,189 per kg from ₹45,196 per kg on Thursday.

Gold prices traded steady with international spot gold prices trading near USD 1,470 per ounce on Friday witnessing decline from recent highs on possible phase 1 trade deal between the US and China, Patel added.

Axis Bank was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, rallying 4.21 per cent, followed by Vedanta 3.75 per cent, SBI 3.39 per cent, Maruti 3.20 per cent, IndusInd Bank 3.07 per cent and Yes Bank 2.87 per cent.

On the other hand, Bharti Airtel slipped 1.98 per cent, Kotak Bank 1.38 per cent, Bajaj Auto 0.88 per cent, Asian Paints 0.31 per cent, HDFC Bank 0.05 per cent and HUL 0.03 per cent.

According to Narendra Solanki, head of fundamental research (investment services) at AVP Equity Research, Anand Rathi Shares & Stock Brokers, Indian markets

bank and finance indices ended up to 2.30 per cent higher. BSE telecom settled in the red. Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices closed up to 0.92 per cent higher.

In rest of Asia, bourses in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul and Tokyo soared up to 2.57 per cent.

Stocks in Europe were also trading significantly higher in opening deals.

Brent futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 1.07 per cent to USD 64.89 per barrel.

RUPEE PARES GAINS TO CLOSE FLAT AT 70.83

On the currency front, the rupee retreated from the day's high levels to close flat at 70.83 to the US dollar on Friday as surging crude oil prices after reports that the US and China have agreed on a partial trade deal weighed on the unit.

The rupee opened strong at 70.54 and surged further by 33 paise to touch the day's high of 70.50 to the US dollar, mirroring sharp gains in the stock markets.

However, crude oil prices gaining more than 1 per cent to USD 65.19 per barrel hit the rupee sentiment. The domestic unit, finally, closed flat at 70.83.

RIL arm acquires 51.78% stake in Asteria Aerospace for ₹23.12 crore

New Delhi (PTI): Reliance Industries on Friday said its wholly-owned subsidiary Reliance Strategic Business Ventures Ltd had acquired over 51% stake in Asteria Aerospace for ₹23.12 crore.

“RSBVL has acquired equity shares of Asteria Aerospace for a cash consideration of ₹23,12,49,584. The said investment represents 51.78% holding in the equity share capital of Asteria,” Reliance Industries Ltd said in a BSE filing. The investment will further enable the group's initiatives in emerging technology, it added. RSBVL proposes to make a further investment of up to ₹125 crore, subject to Asteria achieving agreed milestones, and is expected to be completed by December 2021, it said.

“Post the further investment, the shareholding of RSBVL will increase to 87.3% of the equity share capital of Asteria,” it added. On Thursday, RSBVL had said it had picked up 85% stake in NowFloats Technologies for a cash consideration of ₹141.63 crore. Asteria, incorporated in India in June 2011, is a full-stack drone technology company with in-house drone manufacturing capabilities, and also offers software solutions to provide actionable insights from aerial data to deliver “drone-as-a-service” digital platform.

Yes Bank expects 3rd quarter to remain subdued, sees some improvement in revenue in Q4

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Yes Bank on Friday said it expects the third quarter of the current financial year to remain subdued but sees improvement in revenue in the March quarter on the back of Government measures.

The muted demand environment amid economic slowdown weighed on corporate earnings during the second quarter of 2019-20 with an aggregate revenue recording a contraction of 3.5 per cent year-on-year compared to an expansion of 3 per cent in the preceding quarter of the financial year, Yes Bank said in a note on ‘Corporate Earnings and Sectoral Outlook: Q2 FY20’.

“Going forward, we expect Q3 FY20 to remain subdued, however topline growth in Q4 (fourth quarter) FY20 could see some relative improvement as the economy is likely to gradually respond to measures rolled out by the Government along with improved monetary policy transmission,” the bank said.

Yes Bank had posted a consolidated net loss of ₹629.1 crore for the September 2019 quarter due to a spurt in bad loans. Its total consolidated income slipped to ₹8,347.50 crore during July-September 2019, compared with ₹8,713.67 crore in the corresponding period last year.

Restaurants may hike prices if onion remains costlier: AHAR

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Indian Hotel and Restaurant Association (AHAR) on Friday said they may have to hike rates of the dishes that contains onion if the tuber prices does not reach to around ₹60 per kg level soon in the city.

Onion prices had touched ₹160-170 per kg in local vegetable markets across Mumbai and its suburbs over the last week.

However, on Monday, prices of the tuber began to fall by up to 30 per cent with onion growers bringing more domestic produce to wholesale markets to get the benefit of the higher prices.

“The onion prices are on a downward trend and have gone down by 30 per cent in Mumbai. We will wait and watch the trend for a week to 10 days before taking a decision of hiking prices on the dishes that contain onion,” AHAR president Santosh Shetty told PTI here.

AHAR is an apex body which has over 8,000 members of big and small scale restaurants in Mumbai. The rates of onions had increased sharply in the last two months, the tuber which was available in ₹20 per kg, crossed over ₹100, Shetty said. “There are many hotels and restaurants which have cut down on onion-based items. If this situation continues, we will be left with no option but to increase the prices as we cannot sustain the business,” he added. The AHAR members had called for a meeting of hotel and restaurant owners last week to decide on the future course of action.

GIC settles insider trading case with Sebi

New Delhi (PTI): General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has settled with regulator Sebi a case of alleged violation of insider trading norms by paying over ₹1.23 crore towards settlement charges. The markets watchdog had conducted an investigation in the scrip of Axis Bank and observed that state-owned GIC had delayed in making disclosures with respect to change in its

shareholding in the private lender as required under Prohibition of Insider Trading norms.

However, before proceeding further and initiating proceedings, Sebi sent a notice of settlement to the reinsurer in October 2019 intimating that proceedings may be settled and disposed of upon filing of a settlement application along with remittance of over ₹1.23 crore.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	12026.40	12098.85	12023.60	12086.70	114.90
AXISBANK	725.60	754.85	725.00	752.25	30.15
VEDL	147.60	150.70	147.60	149.45	5.45
HINDALCO	207.00	209.00	205.30	208.60	7.15
SBIN	325.20	333.45	325.00	333.15	11.30
MARUTI	7043.95	7249.00	7030.15	7242.00	242.20
INDUSINDBK	1449.75	1493.95	1449.75	1493.00	48.85
COALINDIA	191.70	196.90	191.30	196.45	6.30
YESBANK	45.50	47.65	45.40	46.70	1.35
TATASTEEL	430.25	434.60	423.45	430.00	11.30
TCS	2023.00	2077.40	2007.00	2070.00	49.10
ULTRACEMCO	4034.00	4091.50	3999.50	4083.00	90.90
IT	1287.95	1308.00	1285.30	1306.00	26.30
TATAMOTORS	177.25	183.95	175.50	176.80	3.45
WIPRO	242.00	244.85	240.00	243.70	4.25
HCLTECH	538.00	545.00	536.80	544.50	8.15
HDFC	2330.70	2369.50	2318.10	2351.20	32.75
NESTLEIND	14190.00	14285.90	14101.00	14345.00	190.05
INFY	700.35	712.90	700.35	711.50	9.40
JSWSTEEL	263.00	264.40	255.55	259.00	3.40
ITC	240.00	242.50	239.20	241.65	3.10
ADANIPORTS	372.55	380.90	372.55	375.50	4.00
BPCL	492.50	500.80	486.20	496.95	5.20
GRASIM	776.05	787.60	774.75	782.20	8.00
RELIANCE	1580.00	1590.00	1572.40	1584.05	15.85
NTPC	115.05	116.15	114.50	115.60	1.15
M&M	514.55	522.80	513.75	516.25	4.35
SUNPHARMA	437.60	441.90	425.60	437.75	3.60
POWERGRID	185.70	187.55	185.00	186.20	1.45
GAIL	119.00	120.00	118.40	119.65	0.70
BAJAJFINSV	9200.00	9274.90	9142.15	9217.30	48.05
ONGC	126.45	127.45	126.00	126.55	0.65
BAJFINANCE	4070.00	4089.25	4041.10	4076.00	18.85
TECHM	758.95	763.95	748.25	759.60	3.15
ECHERMOT	22008.45	22459.00	21836.75	22028.00	74.45
ICICIBANK	537.90	542.80	535.70	541.10	1.75
INFRAEATL	253.75	256.45	246.05	253.00	0.80
IOC	128.65	129.70	127.60	128.50	0.40
HEROMOTOCO	2345.00	2359.00	2320.20	2338.20	4.15
HDFCBANK	1026.00	1027.35	1029.25	1026.10	-0.50
HINDUNILVR	2018.45	2024.00	2000.00	2005.90	-1.45
CIPLA	461.05	465.00	460.00	460.65	-0.40
TITAN	1191.00	1203.50	1182.60	1184.55	-3.45
ASIANPAINT	1751.00	1757.70	1735.55	1743.95	-6.70
BRITANNIA	3095.00	3096.00	3035.00	3058.90	-14.65
BAJAJ-AUTO	3274.90	3274.90	3220.25	3229.80	-31.65
UPL	573.45	578.10	563.50	564.00	-5.95
KOTAKBANK	1716.20	1719.00	1687.25	1691.50	-24.10
ZEE	283.00	284.25	278.00	279.75	-4.55
BHARTIARTL	440.00	440.70	426.00	430.00	-8.65
DREDDY	2865.10	2865.65	2773.00	2825.05	-80.60

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27906.20	28102.00	27893.30	28076.70	282.90
IBULHSGFIN	293.00	315.40	292.10	309.90	18.65
PNB	61.25	64.65	61.10	64.50	3.70
MOTHERSUMI	136.20	143.40	136.20	141.35	5.90
BANKBARODA	98.45	102.15	98.20	101.95	4.05
ASHOKLEY	78.95	82.10	78.70	81.40	2.90
GICRE	230.95	239.50	230.10	236.20	7.30
CONCOR	562.00	580.20	562.00	575.55	14.85
AMBUJACEM	194.20	199.35	193.65	198.30	5.05
ACC	1444.95	1467.90	1430.80	1465.10	32.50
HDFCAMC	3078.00	3138.00	3070.10	3122.00	60.80
PAGEND	21934.00	22510.00	21900.00	22340.00	405.80
SHREECEM	20211.50	20469.65	20101.00	20399.90	313.90
DIF	226.10	231.20	225.10	228.35	3.45
SBILIFE	984.90	982.70	963.25	974.90	14.50
BOSCHLTD	14988.60	15550.00	14988.60	15185.00	220.05
IDEA	6.85	7.10	6.75	6.90	0.10
PETRONET	273.30	276.00	271.10	275.10	3.55
GODREJCP	670.35	677.55	667.15	674.65	8.45
MARICO	331.90	335.00	330.65	334.90	3.80
NIACL	136.00	138.70	135.35	136.50	1.50
PGHH	11277.05	11500.00	11261.00	11399.95	122.90
PEL	1660.00	1695.10	1657.00	1675.00	17.25
HDFCLIFE	585.70	595.10	585.70	588.65	5.75
ICICIGI	1338.25	1366.00	1338.00	1350.00	12.80
LUPIN	753.55	758.50	748.15	754.95	6.20
L&TFH	115.20	117.60	115.05	116.00	0.85
NHPC	23.80	24.25	23.80	23.95	0.15
DISVISAL	1833.70	1847.95	1818.00	1840.00	10.65
ICICIPRULI	460.00	499.00	493.45	495.90	2.65
UBFL	1212.00	1224.60	1202.35	1217.00	6.40
OFSS	2928.50	2949.80	2890.00	2930.00	14.10
DABUR	460.00	462.80	457.65	459.75	2.05
HDFCPETRO	260.20	268.80	263.40	267.30	1.10
BERGEANT	500.00	502.30	496.30	500.05	1.65
AUROPHARMA	447.50	452.40	440.00	450.00	1.25
HINDZINC	207.35	209.40	205.50	206.05	0.55
SRTRANSFIN	1106.70	1119.70	1099.55	1103.00	2.80
NMDC	114.25	116.00	112.60	113.90	0.15
HAVELLS	663.65	660.05	650.25	653.00	0.70
DMART	1789.65	1800.00	1759.00	1780.00	14.45
COPAL	1485.25	1485.25	1475.55	1475.00	-1.05
PPC	116.00	116.50	114.50	115.25	-0.25
SIEMENS	1493.70	1499.00	1424.65	1482.75	-5.05
BANDHANBNK	518.50	524.55	512.00	513.95	-1.80
BIOCON	294.00	295.00	290.60	291.70	-1.15
PIDITIND	1337.90	1337.90	1317.70	1325.00	-6.05
MCDOWELL-N	595.00	595.00	587.25	589.30	-2.70
BAJAJHDLNG	3351.00	3382.15	3305.55	3318.00	-41.75
CADILAH	264.00	264.00	259.00	264.55	-3.55
INDIGO	1347.00	1367.95	1310.00	1317.90	-21.50

Bse 500

SCRIP	Open	High	Low	LTP
IBULHSGFIN	292.05	315.60	292.05	309.30
RELIANCE	1575.00	1590.00	1572.55	1582.45
TATAMOTORS	177.00	183.90	175.50	176.65
SBIN	325.00	333.55	324.85	332.70
YESBANK	45.75	47.65	45.50	46.65
INFY	706.90	712.70	700.10	711.25
MARUTI	7020.00	7250.00	7020.00	721.35
TATASTEEL	429.30</			

PM JOHNSON WINS HISTORIC UK ELECTION

Vows Brexit by Jan 31

PTI ■ LONDON
Election-weary British voters gave Prime Minister Boris Johnson a "powerful new mandate" in the historic polls as his Conservative Party on Friday won a commanding majority in Parliament to allow him to finalise UK's divorce deal with the European Union next month.
Johnson, 55, who vigorously campaigned on a simple slogan "Get Brexit done," vowed that he will work "night and day" to repay the trust of the voters after the Conservatives' most emphatic majority since the 1980s under Margaret Thatcher.
A 364-seat haul gave the party a solid 78-seat majority in the 650-strong House of Commons.
Addressing a victory rally, Johnson hailed a "new dawn" which "unarguably" broke the Brexit deadlock and vowed not to let down the "sacred trust"



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his partner Carrie Symonds wave from the steps of number 10 Downing Street in London on Friday

Johnson, who was accompanied by his girlfriend Carrie Symonds and their pet dog Dilyn at the rally.
"With this election I think we've put an end to all those miserable threats of a second referendum," he said, as he got the crowd to repeat "Get Brexit Done" numerous times during an energetic victory speech.
Johnson will soon have an audience with Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace, which will mark the formal start of his new government.
The Opposition Labour was down to just 203 seats, a disastrous performance for the party in decades which resulted in

leader Jeremy Corbyn announcing that he would not lead the party in the next election.
"It has been a very disappointing night for Labour... I will not lead the party in any future General Election campaign," said 70-year-old Corbyn, as he won his own seat in London's Islington North constituency.

How world is reacting to Johnson's win

Paris: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's resounding election victory was largely welcomed by governments around the world on Friday, with hopes it will put an end to years of Brexit deadlock.
"Congratulations to Boris Johnson on his great WIN!" US President Donald Trump tweeted.
"Britain and the United States will now be free to strike a massive new Trade Deal after BREXIT. This deal has the potential to be far bigger and more lucrative than any deal that could be made with the EU Celebrate Boris!"
EU Council President Charles Michel said the bloc was now ready to embark on trade talks with Britain.
"My point is very clear: we are ready. We have decided what are our priorities," he said. "I hope we will have loyal negotiations, good negotiations."
He also voiced hope for an early ratification by the British parliament of the exit agreement negotiated between London and the EU "so that we can start the negotiations on the next phase calmly, quietly but with great determination."
The EU's Internal Market Commissioner Thierry Breton said: "We now have to rebuild relations with Great Britain which is an important partner." He told French radio the bloc wanted "balanced" trade relations with the UK.
Britain, he said, was a very important trade partner for the EU, "but we are by far the biggest trading partner for Britain."

Ready for Brexit trade talks: EU

Brussels: EU leaders said on Friday they were ready for the next phase of Brexit, just hours after the resounding victory of Prime Minister Boris Johnson's party that all but seals Britain's divorce from the bloc. "My point is very clear: we are ready. We have decided what are our priorities," said EU President Charles Michel as he arrived to an EU summit where leaders will discuss the aftermath of the UK vote and Britain's planned departure from the bloc on January 31.

Trump congratulates UK's PM Boris

Washington: US President Donald Trump on Friday congratulated UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on his election victory, saying their two countries were now free to strike a "massive" new trade deal. Prime Minister Boris Johnson looks set to win a comfortable majority in parliament after Thursday's election. "Congratulations to Boris Johnson on his great WIN!", Trump tweeted. "Britain and the US will now be free to strike a massive new Trade Deal after BREXIT".

Corbyn: Will not lead Labour at next poll

London: Jeremy Corbyn on Friday said he would not lead Britain's Labour party at the next general election, after predictions of a crushing defeat at nationwide polls. "I will not lead the party in any future general election campaign," the socialist, 70, said after winning his north London seat. Corbyn went into Thursday's election offering a radical leftist programme for social change, including huge investment in public services, as well as a second referendum on Brexit.

WESTERN RAILWAY			
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.S/13/2019 Date 12/12/2019			
S.N.	Short Description of items	Quantity	T.O.D.
291	10 Watt Bulk Head LED Down Lighter	9506 Nos.	06.01.20
292	HASP Locking Pin	2556 Nos.	06.01.20
293	Electro Hydraulic OT Table	1 No.	07.01.20
294	Remote Controlled Electro Hydraulic OT table with Accessories	1 No.	07.01.20
295	Control Arm Lower Left	128 Nos.	07.01.20
296	2D Echo Machine with Doppler	1 No.	08.01.20
297	Entrance Door Handle	338 Nos.	08.01.20
298	Stainless Steel Air Refresher	2274 Nos.	08.01.20
299	Liquefied Petroleum Gas	73200 Kg.	09.01.20
300	Synthetic Enamel Paint Gential Blue	53200 Ltrs.	09.01.20
301	REMUMounted AC Package Unit	25 Set	09.01.20
302	Case Hardening Steel	2500 Nos.	09.01.20
303	R/M Paint Synthetic Enamel, Exterior Finishing colour Black	129132 Ltrs.	10.01.20
304	Joint Less Grooved Copper Contract Wire	7344 Kg.	10.01.20
305	Step steel	600 Nos.	11.01.20

Britain will be 'competitor at our door' after Brexit: Merkel

Brussels: German Chancellor Angela Merkel warned on Friday that Britain would be an economic "competitor at our door" after it leaves the European Union.
Merkel was speaking after British Prime Minister Boris Johnson won a resounding election victory promising to get Brexit done without further delay.
The EU is worried about the tight timetable to strike a trade deal and officials have stressed they will insist that Britain respect European norms to win the agreement.
"There will be a competitor at our door... That may also encourage us to be quicker in our decisions," the German leader said. Some Brexit supporters want Johnson to make Britain a low-tax, low-regulation "Singapore on Thames" after leaving the bloc, leading to fears in Brussels of a race to the bottom on labour, environmental and other standards.

Macron seeks 'clarity' after Johnson win

Brussels: French President Emmanuel Macron on Friday congratulated British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on his crushing election victory but demanded clarity over Britain's repeatedly delayed exit from the European Union.
"The time for clarity has come," Macron said after a summit with European Union leaders in Brussels, adding: "I hope the Brexit agreement will be ratified as quickly as possible by the British parliament."

Want 'constructive talk' with UK: Putin

Moscow: Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday called for "constructive dialogue" with Britain's Boris Johnson as he congratulated him on a decisive general election victory. "I am sure that the development of constructive dialogue and cooperation in various spheres would be fully in the interests of our countries' peoples and the entire European continent," he said in a statement. Earlier Friday the Kremlin said it doubted however that Johnson's election victory would change Russian-UK ties for the better.

15 Indian-origin MPs register strong result

London: A record 15 Indian-origin politicians entered the UK's House of Commons on Friday after a historic election won by Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Indian-origin candidates across both the ruling Conservative and Opposition Labour parties registered equally strong results of seven wins each in the UK's General Election on Thursday, with around a dozen MPs retaining their seats alongside some new faces, taking their number in the UK's lower house up to 15.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. PC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Javed S/o Sh. Irshad Jain R/o 574, Ghoda Chowk, Khajonwali Gali, Jafrabad, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide FIR No. 361/15 at Police Station - RK Puram, Delhi which is punishable under section 33/58 of Indian Penal code and a warrant of arrest issued thereupon has been returned unexecuted stating that the said accused Javed could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Javed has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Javed is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 15.01.2020.
By Order
Sh. Manoj Kumar
Metropolitan Magistrate-08
Patiala House Court,
New Delhi
DP/5864/SD/19

GLOBE TROTTER

2 SOLDIERS KILLED IN FIRING IN PAKISTAN
Peshawar: Unidentified gunmen opened indiscriminate fire on paramilitary personnel in northwest Pakistan on Friday, killing two soldiers on the spot, police said.

House to take historic vote on Trump impeachment

AP ■ WASHINGTON
The House Judiciary Committee is expected to approve articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump on Friday after abruptly shutting down a 14-hour session late Thursday following a marathon slog through Republican amendments aimed at killing the charges.
Approval of the two charges against the president would send the matter to the full House for a vote expected next week.
But the sudden turn late Thursday punctuated the deep split in the Congress, and the nation, over impeaching the Republican president.
The committee, made up of some of the most strident lawmakers, clashed all day and into the night as Republicans insisted on lengthy debate over amendments designed to kill the two formal charges against the president but with no hope of winning votes from the majority Democrats.
Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said the committee would resume at 10 a.m. Friday.
"It is now very late at night," Nadler said after presiding over the two-day session. "I want the members on both sides of the aisle to think about what has happened over these past two days and to search their consciences before they cast their final votes."
Trump is accused, in the first article, of abusing his presidential power by asking Ukraine to investigate his 2020 rival Joe Biden while holding military aid as leverage, and, in the second, of obstructing Congress by blocking the House's efforts to probe his actions.
The Republicans on the

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is here by informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Seema D/o Bhoran Lal R/o Gali No. 09, Nathu Colony, Swaroop Nagar, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from the area of PS Swaroop Nagar, Delhi since 15.11.2019. In this regard FIR No. 457/19 U/s 363 IPC dated 15.11.2019 at PS Swaroop Nagar, Delhi has been lodged. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.
Her physical description is as under:-
Sex: Female, **Age:** 17 years **Height:** 5' 5" ft., **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Strong, **Wearing:** Red Colour Suit & Black Colour Salwar and Hawai Chappal in feet.
Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-
SHO P.S. Swaroop Nagar, Delhi
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph. No.: 011-27811415
Fax No.: 011-24368639 Mob. No: 7065036327
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 DP/831/ON/19

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4th Floor Jeevan Tara Building Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
OA No. 841/18 Date: 07.12.2019
STATE BANK OF INDIA Versus APPLICANT
SH. VIKAS SHARMA & ORS. RESPONDENT
To, DEFENDANT
3. M/S IDEA BUILDERS PVT. LTD.
C-294, 1st FLOOR, VIVEK VIHAR, NEW DELHI-95, ALSO AT: C-10, RAMA PRASTHA, GHAZIABAD, UP-201010.
Whereas the above named applicant(s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs.17,32,439/- (RUPEE TWENTY SEVENTEEN LAKH THIRTY TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY NINE ONLY) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 29.01.2020 at 10.30 A.M.
Take Notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.
By Order of the Tribunal,
Section Officer, DRT-II, Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one lady Namely: **Laxmi, W/o: Golu, R/o: J-269, Prem Nagar Kirari, Delhi, Age: 20 Years, Height: 5', Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Red & Orange Sari and Pink Sandal in feet with son Aryan, Age 6 Months has been missing/kidnapped since 26.11.2019 from the area of PS Nangloi, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 14-A Dated 28.11.2019 has been lodged at PS. Nangloi, Delhi.**
Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped lady with son but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped lady with son please inform the undersigned.
SHO PS. Nangloi, Delhi
Web-site : <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph. No.: 011-25947225, 25949470
Fax: 011-24368639 DP/2954/OD/19

UN talks struggle to stave off climate chaos

Madrid: United Nations climate negotiations in Madrid were set to wrap up Friday with even the best-case outcome likely to fall well short of what science says is needed to avert a future ravaged by global warming.
The COP25 summit comes on the heels of climate-related disasters across the planet, including unprecedented cyclones, deadly droughts and record-setting heatwaves.
Scientists have amassed a mountain of evidence pointing to even more dire impacts on the near horizon, while millions of youth activists are holding weekly strikes demanding government action.
As pressure inside and outside the talks mounts, old splits dividing rich polluters and developing nations -- over who should slash greenhouse gas emissions by how much, and how to pay the trillions needed to live in a climate-addled world -- have reemerged.

Martian auroras may help track planet's water loss: NASA

Washington: A type of aurora in Mars -- first identified by NASA's MAVEN spacecraft in 2016 -- is the most common form of the lights occurring on the Red Planet, according to a study which can help track water loss from the Red Planet.
The study, published in the Journal of Geophysical Research - Space Physics, noted that aurora on the Earth are commonly seen as colourful displays of light in the night sky near the polar regions. However, the researchers from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in the US, said the phenomenon on Mars, called a proton aurora, happens during the day and gives off ultraviolet light.
They said it is invisible to the human eye but detectable to the Imaging UltraViolet Spectrograph (IUVS) instrument on the MAVEN -- Mars Atmosphere and Volatile EvolutionN -- spacecraft.
The spacecraft's mission is to investigate how Mars lost much of its atmosphere and water, transforming its climate from one that might have supported life to one that is cold, dry, and inhospitable.
According to the researchers, the proton aurora is generated indirectly by hydrogen derived from Martian water which is in the process of being lost to space. So they said this aurora could be used to help track ongoing water loss.
"In this new study using MAVEN/IUVS data from multiple Mars years, the team has found that periods of increased atmospheric escape correspond with increases in proton aurora occurrence and intensity," said Andrea Hughes of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in the US.

House panel approves Trump charges

Washington: US lawmakers took the grave step Friday of approving two charges against Donald Trump, setting up a full House of Representatives vote to impeach the president over his alleged misconduct.
Democrats and Republicans in the House Judiciary Committee voted along strict party lines, 23 to 17, appearing somber as they put Trump on track to become only the third president to be impeached in US history.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION.
DIRECTORATE OF RAJBHASHA & O&M
Rajbhasha Book Award Scheme: 2018-19 for books originally written/translated in Hindi.
Books originally written/translated in Hindi in the field of Defence Science and Technology and Allied subjects are invited for the under-mentioned awards to promote writing books in Hindi
Defence Science & Technology and Allied subjects

1st Prize (one)	50,000/- ₹
2nd Prize (one)	40,000/- ₹
3rd Prize (one)	30,000/- ₹
Consolation Prize (Two)	20,000/- ₹

Details of the scheme alongwith the prescribed application form, can be obtained from the Director, Rajbhasha & O&M, DRDO HQ., Ministry of Defence, DRDO Bhawan, Rajaji Marg, New Delhi-110011.
Last date for submission of application form is **31st JANUARY 2020.**
Davp/10301/11/0118/1920

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER
For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Security Commissioner(Cord)/RPF/Northern Railway, Delhi Division, New Delhi invites 'E- Tender' in prescribed tender form for the following work.

1. Name of the work with its location	Hiring of one multi utility road vehicle (Innova Crysta, Tata Hexa, Scorpio or equivalent) along with vehicle driver for movement of day & night (24 hrs.) under jurisdiction of Sr.DSC/RPF/Delhi, Delhi Division on monthly basis for a period of Two years.
2. Office Address	Sr.DSC (Co-ordination)/RPF, P.K.Road, New Delhi
3. Approx. Cost of work (Tender value) (Rs)	Rs. 10,36,800/- with GST as applicable
4. E.M.D (Rs)	Rs. 20,790/-
5. Date and time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender.	15.00 hrs on 15.01.2020
6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in
7. Cost of tender documents	Rs. 2000/- + 360 GST 18% Total Rs. 2360/- payment of tender document Fee in respect of e-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only

TENDER NOTICE No. -1 Sr.DSC(Cord)-RPF-V.H.-Delhi/2019-20 Dt. 12.12.2019 3983/2019
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DIVERSION/ RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS
This is notified for the information of all concerned that Northern Railway will undertake the work of Electronic Interlocking at Parsakhera Railway Station on Moradabad-Bareilly Double line electrified section. To execute this work, traffic block will be taken for the duration of 5:00 Hrs from 12.00 hrs to 17.00 hrs on 16.12.2019 (Monday). Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected as under :-

DIVERSION OF TRAINS ON 15.12.2019	
Train No. & Train Name	Diverted Route
15910 Lalgarh-Dibrugarh Awadh Assam Express	Via Moradabad-Chandausi-Bareilly Cantt. instead of Moradabad-Bareilly Cantt.
15211 Darbhanga-Amritsar Jannayak Express	Moradabad-Bareilly Cantt.

RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS ON 16.12.2019
Train No. 12358 Amritsar-Kolkata Durgiana Superfast Express will be rescheduled at 06.55 hrs instead of 05.55 hrs
Train No. 14258 New Delhi-Varanasi Kashi Vishwanath Exp. will be rescheduled at 12.35 hrs instead of 11.35 hrs

Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passengers Complaint Helpline No. 138

Please join us on

NORTHERN RAILWAY
visit us at: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

3980/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SHORT CIRCUITS

AYUSHMANN KHURRANA

It has been an eye-opening year for me. This year has bolstered my belief that I should only back content that is extremely fresh, disruptive, unique and experimental because the audience expects that from me. It has been humbling to get the kind of love and adulation from audience as well as from critics.



TWINKLE KHANNA

My partner returns from performing at the Kapil Sharma show and says, 'They were showing onion earrings to Kareena (Kapoor). I don't think she was too impressed, but I knew you would enjoy them so I got them for you'. Sometimes it's the smallest and the silliest things that can touch your heart. #onion-earrings #bestpresentaward



SARA ALI KHAN

I am super excited to be walking down the orange carpet and performing at the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards for the very first time. While the details on the line-up are still being worked out, I am going to perform with Nicktoons on a song from my forthcoming film with Varun (Dhawan).



DEEPIKA PADUKONE

With more than 300 million people suffering with various problems, depression is a major contributor to the overall global burden of disease. Therefore, we need to aggressively address what is an invisible and overlooked social burden. I am humbled and deeply honoured to be chosen for this year's Crystal Award.

TAYLOR SWIFT

Lately, there has been a new shift that has affected me personally and that I feel is a potentially harmful force in the music industry. I felt the need to bring it up. The unregulated world of private equity coming in and buying up our music as if it's real estate just happened without my approval or consent.



In God's country



U2 touched down in Mumbai on Thursday night ahead of tomorrow's concert at DY Patil Stadium. It is the band's first visit to India and will see Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton and Larry Mullen play the final show on the acclaimed *The Joshua Tree Tour*. A new track titled *Ahimsa* from U2 and AR Rahman was released to celebrate the occasion. The album is influenced by American and Irish roots music and through socio-politically conscious lyrics, embellished with spiritual imagery, contrasts the group's antipathy for the "real" America with their fascination with the "mythical" America. After completing *The Joshua Tree*, Bono said that he was "as pleased with the record as I can ever be pleased with a record," calling it their most complete album since their debut.

CONVERSATION 45 MINUTES

Author AVIK CHANDA revisits the Mughal prince and makes him more relevant to contemporary times through his book *Dara Shukoh, The Man Who Would Be King*, says SAIMI SATTAR



Bahrain, which means mingling of two oceans (Hinduism and Islam). If we really want to celebrate Dara Shukoh's legacy, let us start from there," he emphasises.

He believes it is important to revisit history but not to rewrite it. "Revisiting might just be about updating ourselves, having a new perspective of things, which is not equivalent to rewriting which implies striking something off," he says. He quotes the example of taking off Tipu from textbooks. "Among the British forces which defeated the Mysore ruler was Arthur Wellesley. A couple of decades later, he moved up the ranks and became Duke of Wellington and towards the end of June 1815, he comprehensively defeated the invincible Napoleon at Waterloo. So, if Tipu did not exist and was not defeated, Wellington did not exist, if Wellington did not exist, Napoleon was not defeated and probably we would be having this conversation in French!" he exclaims and guffaws before adding, "It sounds bizarre. But the assumption is ridiculous."

To revisit Dara, he relied on three sources. "In the absence of original Persian scripts, I read translations that were accurate and non-interpolative. The second source was contemporary Europeans. For instance, Sir Thomas Roe was writing during the same time when the *Jahangir Nama* was written, so both give a perspective of the times. What is interesting among Europeans is that I have Niccolao Manucci, who is partisan to Dara's cause as François Bernier, who didn't like him and Jean-Baptiste Tavernier, who was on the periphery of the royal house. So these three different perspectives of three different Europeans who were contemporaries of Dara give an overall view."

The third category that he relied upon were historians like Jaduath Sarkar writing in 1950 right down to contemporary chronicles, like Muzaffar Alam, Sanjay Subramanian, Rajiv Kinra from whose wealth of scholarship available he benefited immensely.

Crucial to Dara is often the debate that even though he was a secular and a liberal ruler, he might not have been able to hold on to the reins of power had he ascended the throne instead of Aurangzeb. Chanda points out, "Dara along with Jehanara interceded with Shah Jahan to get the pilgrimage tax waived off. It was levied on people travelling to Benaras to worship. So if he came to power, it is fair to assume that this, as well as 'jizyah', would not have been imposed again. This naturally would have found favour among his subjects. On the other hand, he was very easily susceptible to superstitions, sycophancy and not a good judge of human character. So how would he have got good people around him? The second aspect is, like his ancestor Humayun, who was a brilliant connoisseur of arts, a liberal person, not dogmatic and large-hearted, he was unsuccessful on the battlefield, which was essential in those times." Like many questions of history, this, too, shall remain in the realm of "what if" with a million permutations and combinations.



Pinni, straight from the heart: Tahira

Author-filmmaker Tahira Kashyap describes her forthcoming short film *Pinni* as a sweet story, adding that the effort came straight from her heart.

"I have made a short film with Neena (Gupta) ji and it is produced by Gunet Monga. It's a very sweet film and it has come straight from the heart. There is nothing complicated about it. It's the voice of a woman, so I am looking forward to releasing it," said Tahira at the launch of the Audible Suno app.

She has previously directed the short film *Toffee* and the music video *Kudiyeh ni*, which featured her brother-in-law Aparshakti Khurrana. The year 2019 has been special for her husband, actor Ayushmann Khurrana, who delivered the back-to-back hits *Article 15*, *Dream Girl* and *Bala*. "I am so glad that he is doing a fantastic job. He has been picking up good scripts and I feel he has grown a lot as an actor," Tahira said, about her husband's growth as an actor.

On the Audible Suno app, she will narrate *My Ex-Breast*, a seven-episode audio series by Tahira and Gunet Monga. In this series, Tahira takes you on an intimate journey through her experience of battling breast cancer.

Talking about the forthcoming series, she said, "I am very excited because this is the first time I have done an audio show. It's a subject that is very close to my heart, so I am very excited about it. It's a quirky, fun and happy show but it deals with something really serious. I have given my voice to it and it's my story."

The Amazon-owned audio platform Audible Suno offers free access to more than 60 original and exclusive series in Hindi and English, featuring voice-acting by Ajay Devgn, Katrina Kaif, Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone, Guru Randhawa, Anil Kapoor, Diljit Dosanjh, Ranbir Kapoor, Tabu, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Taapsee Pannu, Mouni Roy, Karan Johar, Farhan Akhtar, Anurag Kashyap, Vir Das and Vicky Kaushal.

The variety of content spans horror, suspense and romance on the fiction front and interviews, podcasts and discussions in non-fiction, which touch upon mental health and LGBTQ+ rights among other issues.

FIFTY SHADES OF GREY

There is a tide in the affairs of men/Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune," proclaims Brutus in Act-4, Scene 3 of *Julius Caesar*. And something similar happened with business adviser, entrepreneur, trainer speaker and author, Avik Chanda, when in 2016, he decided to pen a book on Dara Shukoh, the Mughal, who despite being his father Shah Jahan's favourite, did not succeed him to the throne. Chanda had already written two books, one a novel and the second a business book "which did quite well." He was wondering whether he should follow it up with another business book, considering that "there were so many issues in the world, particularly in the disruptive economy that we find ourselves in." But he decided to give it a miss in favour of "something which is purely from my own perspective, a passion project. Something that I am really fond of, which I really want to do but which is a little out of my domain of work in sphere of experience and training." He spoke to his publisher Harper Collins and discussed it with his agent Priya Doraswamy, who felt that it was a great idea. "She told me that Dara seemed to be the forgotten Mughal. So much has been written about Akbar or Shah Jahan and even the female personages like Noor Jahan as compared to him. And very uncannily, today, when the book is out, Dara Shukoh is the man of the moment for all kinds of political reasons," he says with a laugh, speaking over the phone from Kolkata.

he started work on the book. As he started reading, he realised that so much more had been written in 100 years from 1914-15 to 2016 about Aurangzeb, who was so to say the other side of the same coin. "There was research around what his legacy meant, his politics, his kinship but all that Dara had were two fairly obscure biographies, one by Konika Ranjan Kanungo, *Life of Dara Shukoh*, in the mid-1930s and Bikram Jit Hasrat's monograph published by Vishwa Bharati. Neither was there a debate or discussion in the academic sphere or in the readers' mind," he says. Chanda realised that it was also important to talk about Dara to break stereotypes and he goes about explaining it from a different angle. "I come from the corporate world and engage in organisational transformation. Whenever we are talking of people, at the back of our minds is the premise that the person is not a great or a bad performer, manager, leader and employee. The truth is not black and white. The truth behind that perception is multi-layered, so we need to figure out what those layers are before we give any kind of a solution. And when this is true for just run-of-the-mill regular people, how much more is it true for very complicated and complex historical persons." It was this approach, which made him question the labels that we often encounter during our reading of textbook history like "good Mughal, bad Mughal," "good Muslim, bad Muslim," "good Indian and bad Indian." Even though the book had been written, the idea further got sharpened sometime last month. "Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said that we are not going to celebrate Tipu Jayanti. Then he made an official Press announcement saying

that he wants to take Tipu Sultan off the history books as if he had never existed. This is the kind of narrative that we have been seeing all this time," argues Chanda. He says that neither was Aurangzeb completely black nor Dara Shukoh pure white. There are different shades of grey. "Both of them were astute politicians. It is not that Dara never did politics, nor did Aurangzeb indulge only in Machiavellian moves and kill people. If this was the case, how did he have Rajput *rajas* fighting on Aurangzeb's side? One of the things that I wanted to do was to, in an accessible, engaging way, break these myths and stereotypes," says Chanda. When history lessons are often imparted on WhatsApp groups, how does one engage with people and make them understand that? He points out that while the internet is a great tool for the dissemination of information, the problem arises when it is used for a particular kind of information-building. "From morning to night, you keep getting different versions of history on WhatsApp. And when at midnight, you are tired and someone wants to know your opinion about the issue, you will say this is what I read and it must be true. That is a very dangerous thing. I don't even know if there is an alternative. What do we do? Create a group and say this is authentic history?" he asks. Talking about the recent killings of the alleged rapists in Hyderabad and the way social media praised them, he points to the way popular culture celebrates it. "While reading the news, I am reminded about the film *Shootout at Lokhandwala*, in which at the end they are justifying the killing, even glorifying it. It very subtly legitimises the position that this is fine and this is the way they

ought to be treated while we will look the other way," he says and adds that mob justice is even more alarming. History can give positive examples which are relevant to present times. Dara, for instance, was known to have got several religious texts translated from Sanskrit to Persian which stands in stark contrast to the recent controversy where a Muslim professor's appointment in the Sanskrit department saw protests from the students of Banaras Hindu University. "It is very unfortunate," says Chanda and adds, "Things like education and art do not belong to a particular denomination. I am a music buff and I love Hindustani classical. So one of the greatest vocalists of the past century in the genre was Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, who sang a *raag* called *Chhaya Nat*, in which the entire first part has him repeating the phrase *Sugreeva Ram Kripa Chahat Hai* (Sugreeva wants the benevolence of Lord Rama) over and over again. Should we go back and dishonour his memory and say how dare Bade Ghulam Ali sang that?" However, at his own level, he is a part of initiatives that would bring about a change in people and mindsets. He says, "Recently, I was doing a session on Dara in Kolkata, which was a part of an initiative called *History for Peace*. The history teachers of a cross-section of schools in West Bengal were told that though they had a limited time to finish the syllabus, they had to be aware of the underlying sub-currents and texts, particularly in a milieu where there might be selective representation of facts. Things like this would go a long way in disseminating the right kind of information." The author frequently equates history with present events to put things in perspective. He points to a symposium where the discussion was on Dara Shukoh being the emblem of Indianness. "I have one little point to sum up his philosophy. He wrote a book *Majma Ul*

ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES

Superhero tells her story

Filmmaker RAM DEVINENI's *Priya and the Lost Girls*, despite being a comic book integrated with augmented reality, brings the grave issue of sex trafficking to the fore and makes sure the message gets delivered aptly, says SAKSHI SHARMA

she is like everyone — the power exists in all of us but is hidden in our fears. She was named by UN Women as a "gender equality champion."

How does the story begin and move forward?

The protagonist, Priya, continues her adventures with the flying tiger Sahas. She then returns home and discovers that all the young women of her village have disappeared, including her sister, Laxmi. She learns from her parents that they were taken to an underground city, Rahu. Priya searches for the city and discovers that it is run by a demon living in a volcano, who gets his power through fear and entrapment of women in his brothel city. The city used to be a tranquil kingdom run by Manidhari, half-snake and half-woman and her husband, Paatal. But Rahu tricked them and turned the kingdom into a wasteland and put his servant, Amrit, in charge of luring women and controlling them. Priya convinces her sister and other women to leave Rahu and break his spell over them. When the women escape and

return home, they face the stigma and prejudice from their own people and family. This angers Priya and leads to a dramatic conclusion.

Comic books are usually seen as a fun read. So how did you conceptualise such a grave issue?

I selected the comic book format because I grew up reading the series *Amar Chitra Katha* and was hugely influenced by it. I think mil-

lions of children have entered the collective consciousness of contemporary Indian culture by reading these stories. Comic book characters like Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman have become modern mythological icons. Other comic book stories such as Art



Spiegelman's *Maus* address important historical events. We are using existing constructs that are familiar to everyone in India but presenting them in a fresh and an original way. A comic book can talk about serious subjects too besides being entertaining.

This edition by far has reflected upon the horrors of the brutal gangrape of 2012. Recently, the Hyderabad gangrape also initiated debates, bringing attention to how such crimes haven't really changed even in seven years. What would you say about it? Do you plan to curate this issue into the newer edition?

Violence towards women is a major problem in India and the Hyderabad gangrape is the most extreme example of it. Creating a

cultural shift is incredibly difficult to do and takes time. The goal of the comic book series is to create empathy for survivors and challenge patriarchal views. Talking with several rape survivors, I realised how difficult it was for them to seek justice and how much their lives were constantly under threat after they reported the crime. Their family, local community and even the police discouraged them from pursuing criminal action against their attackers. The burden of shame was placed on the victim and not the perpetrators. This created a level of impunity among certain men to commit more rapes.

Artists have the creative freedom and power to put across a perspective through their talent.

Does this give them a certain kind of responsibility towards the society?

Free artistic expression is critical in a democratic society — even art that challenges and criticises society is very important. In the comic book series, I have struck a beautiful balance between storytelling, dynamic artwork, technological innovation and social responsibility.

How have you used augmented reality to bring your comic book to life?

Through AR we are able to embed a lot of information, interactive elements and stories from survivors. It is a powerful and imaginative tool to bring the comic book to life.

The images are markers which are activated through the Artive App. The image can be mounted on wall, printed in a comic book on your computer screen or even on a large mural on the side of a building. The AR is really effective when you see it on a printed comic book or on street art, but it also can be viewed on the downloadable versions on your computer. The comic book is the perfect format for AR because it comprises images. Embedded in the AR are many new layers, including stories from survivors who were sex trafficked, and short documentaries. For *Priya and the Lost Girls*, we innovatively used green-screen filming to put real people and effects into the comic book. For example, the writer Dipti Mehta was filmed performing excerpts from her play *Honour: Confession of a Mumbai Courtesan*. When you scan certain pages with the AR app, she appears in the pages.

Do you think technology plays an important role in changing perspectives?

We believe that the use of augmented reality will have a significant impact on the readers who are not much familiar with this approach. There is a huge "wow" factor when readers experience it for the very first time. Our comic book was one of the first publications to use augmented reality in India and defined the new frontiers of integrating books, exhibitions and public art. We also created AR murals in Mumbai, Delhi and Bengaluru on buildings which were seen by millions.



Given the increasing graph of crimes against women, the comic book genre, too, has been moved enough to take positions. Filmmaker Ram Devineni, along with writer Dipti Mehta, decided to focus on the issue through a comic book integrated with augmented reality, *Priya's Shakti*, which was earlier showcased in an exhibition. He has now brought a third edition to it — *Priya and the Lost Girls* — which revolves around sex trafficking and gender-based violence. He introduces Priya as the first female superhero of India who is a rape survivor and acts as an inspiration for acid attack victims. He explains how his characters are animated through AR.

Since it's the third edition of the book, what is new this time?

Priya and the Lost Girls is the third in our series which focusses on Priya — India's first female superhero and a rape survivor. Her origin and the theme of gender-based violence was in the first comic book, *Priya's Shakti*. The second comic book, *Priya's Mirror*, focussed on acid attacks. And this new edition continues Priya's journey and focusses on sex trafficking.

What was the idea behind creating a female superhero — Priya?

We did not want to create a typical superhero. Instead, we wanted a hero whose strength is her idea. Priya is not your typical "superhero." Her strength is her power of persuasion and the power of an idea. Although she is seen riding a tiger, she has no special powers. An idea is much more powerful than Superman's strength or Wonder Woman's magic lesson. Another idea that we kept in mind was the non-violence and passive resistance that the society has. So



CELEB TALK 30 MINUTES

Who ruled the red carpet?

The closing decade was an ever-shifting parade of fashion for Hollywood

Lady Gaga wore meat and Rihanna went naked, practically. Kate Middleton delivered royal wedding opulence and Billy Porter went viral in a tuxedo gown. There was the much-coveted Olivia Pope white coat, Lupita Nyong'o's perfect powder blue Oscar gown and Karl Lagerfeld's embrace of athleisure.

The closing decade was ever-shifting in fashion. The most special moments among fashion editors had Rihanna and Beyonce top of mind as trendsetters, along with the Duchess of Cambridge, the Duchess of Sussex, Meghan Markle, and former first lady Michelle Obama.

Rachel Torgerson, senior fashion editor at Cosmopolitan, said it might seem easy to overlook the decade of 2010 to 2020 fashion-wise. Lady Gaga's raw meat dress in 2010 at the MTV Video Music Awards was a much talked about exception.

More definitive moments came before — the grunge-y '90s, the Paris Hilton-drenched early aughts," Torgerson said. "But the truth is there were some majorly iconic sartorial instances that changed us forever during this time." We'll start with Rihanna.

"My jaw dropped to the floor when Rihanna sparkled onto the stage in an Adam Selman Swarovski crystal 'naked dress' to receive her CFDA style icon award," said JoYann King, executive editorial director of HarpersBazaar.com. "It was as beautiful as it was provocative and began a trend that continues to rule the red carpet and our social feeds."

Laurel Pantin, fashion features director of InStyle, agreed, "I'll never forget it. In my dreams, that's what I look like and that's what I'm wearing."

It was 2014. The following year, at the Met Gala, Beyonce donned Givenchy in another barely there look, a long sheer design that relied on coverage from strategically placed embroidery and a smattering of sparkles, said Andrea Laventhal, style and beauty director for People.

Duchess Kate wore the house of McQueen to marry Prince William in 2011, more than a year after Alexander McQueen's death. The lace and ivory satin gown included a pinched-in bodice inspired by Victorian corsetry, a signature of McQueen, but it also evoked the wedding look of Grace Kelly. It was designed by his successor, Sarah Burton.

"Literally every bride wanted to look like her then, and many still do," Torgerson said. "People are still request-



Billy Porter has provided more than a few moments but it's his showstopping black velvet tuxedo gown by Christian Siriano at Oscars that initiated a dialogue about race, gender & fashion

ing look alike."

"In this decade, not only one but two of the UK's spotlight princesses got married, which left the world pondering about who these women would choose to design their momentous wedding dresses," said Shilpa Prabhakar Nadella, fashion market director for Glamour. "Both have become style icons in their own right." As style icons go, few had as much impact as Obama, who caused dresses and other attire to sell out simply by putting them on and was a big booster of both fashion and diverse designers. Her choices often made headlines.

Lindsay Peoples Wagner, editor in chief of Teen Vogue, noted a particular Obama moment, this one by designer Tracy Reese, a rare African American woman among top designers. It was the pink sleeveless dress with specks of gold brocade that Obama wore for her speech at the Democratic National Convention in 2012. "I can still remember how the dress shimmered as she walked on that stage," Peoples Wagner said.

Like Obama, Beyonce served a heaping plate of style throughout the decade. There was her larger-than-life black hat and layered necklaces of Swarovski crystals, leather and gems in *Formation*, from her groundbreaking *Lemonade* visual album. For her September 2018 Vogue cover, she was photographed by Tyler Mitchell in a huge floral headdress by Phil John Perry for Rebel Rebel. It was stun-



Michelle Obama's pink sleeveless dress with specks of gold brocade, which she wore for her speech at the Democratic National Convention in 2012, made headlines

ning and also historic: Mitchell became the first black photographer to shoot a cover for the magazine.

"The photos were so dynamic and powerful," Peoples Wagner said. Rihanna, too, has endured. Her bright yellow cape gown by Chinese couturier Guo Pei won the 2015 Met Gala and launched a thousand omelette memes, Hyland said. Pei said, "Only women who have the confidence of a queen could wear it."

By the decade's end, she would also become a powerful fashion and beauty mogul in her own right — Her Fenty Beauty line with its inclusive shades forced other brands to adapt a wider view, her Savage X Fenty lingerie line for all body types was cited as a reason for Victoria's Secret's drop in popularity, and

she became the first black woman to helm a luxury line for LVMH with Fenty.

Virgil Abloh, as creative director of Louis Vuitton's menswear, also made history. "Not only did he become one of the first black men to take over such a position in fashion, but the self-taught designer and multi-hyphenate represented a democratisation of the industry and a breaking down of boundaries previously in the way for those considered far outside the lines of the traditional fashion industry insiders," said Brooke Bobb, senior fashion news writer for Vogue.com.

Legendary designer Lagerfeld died in February, but his faux supermarket show for Chanel in 2014 lives on. "Karl Lagerfeld, who once equated sweatpants with 'giving up', cheekily nodded to the athleisure industrial complex with intentionally holey sweatsuits and dad sneakers," said Veronique Hyland, fashion features director for Elle. "It came at a turning point in fashion, with the everyday becoming more aspirational and studied casualness becoming the order of the day, even for fashion week habits. It was also prescient. These days, the Whole Foods aisle is our runway."

Kerry Washington, buoyed by *Scandal*, and Porter, uplifted by *Pose*, helped define the decade as well. "*Scandal* was pretty much everything and every adult woman wanted Olivia Pope's polished, perfect style and crisp, white waterfall overcoat," Torgerson said.

Porter has provided more than a few moments but it's his showstopping black velvet tuxedo gown by Christian Siriano that achieved his goal in February at the Oscars — A conversation about gender, race and fashion. The top half was a classic men's tuxedo jacket he wore with a bow tie and the bottom was a dramatic full skirt.

"Gender neutral fashion and inclusion emerged as a key shift in the way designers approached creative direction and their businesses," King said. "Billy Porter's tuxedo gown that went viral embodied this movement in the most glamorous way."

Porter, the black and gay breakout star of the boundary-expanding FX series, spent the awards season using fashion as political art. There were previous dresses, and there was help from powerhouses Tom Ford and Michael Kors, along with smaller designers who embrace a greater gender fluidity in their collections and were thrilled to dress him.

"People are actually listening," Porter said after the Oscars. "I hope it opens up a dialogue of healing. I will always continue to do me." —AP



A classic revival

Actors RASHIDA JONES and KENAN THOMPSON say that *The Grinch* is a timeless story with complex layers. By TEAM VIVA

How does it feel to be a part of the classic Dr Seuss story and what are your memories of the book?

Kenan: It is an absolute pleasure to know Dr Seuss' history. I don't have a lot of memories with the book but I remember watching *The Grinch* on TV every year and being scared of it when I was a little kid because he was a sinister with a frown. It was very intruding and it felt like it pierced through the TV screen. I was just so confused because I loved Christmas and he hated it like anything.

Tell us something about your character Bricklebaum and relationship with Grinch?

Kenan: Bricklebaum is purported to be the happiest Who in Whoville and also believes that he's Grinch's best friend. Bricklebaum is oblivious to the Grinch's schemes throughout and his overwhelming good faith and optimism become a source of entertainment for all viewers. He is super jolly and happy-go-lucky kind of a person. It's all about Christmas for him. Grinch hates Christmas because his entire life, he has spent the festival alone, which

makes him despise the holiday. When he meets Cindy-Lou Who, his heart softens. And when you think of all the Whos, you think of how much they all love Christmas. In order to bring another character to have the opportunity to make a splash like that on top of what we already know is the highest version of Christmas celebration.

What can the audience expect from this version of The Grinch?

Kenan: The audience can expect a classic revival of the story with a lot of new stuff thrown in the traditional motif of watching a guy go from being horrible to amazing, underneath the umbrella of Christmas. There is no sweeter time, in my opinion, in the entire year, where everybody is on the same page, everyone is like let's just ease off from the arguing or from the tempering or from all that other stuff for a few days. For me, it starts around Halloween all the way through Christmas. Winter brings people together every year. It's the most magical time.

How does Donna relate to the Grinch in the film?

Rashida: It might sound weird but sometimes during Christmas, I feel a little grinchy myself and this film does a really good job of making the season a little bit annoying in a way that I completely relate to. It's like 'no more trees, no more lights, just give me a break.' I just need one year off exactly like Grinch. I don't know if I felt that way before, maybe that makes me Grinchy.

Tell us something about Donna.

Rashida: It was so great to see the character that I voiced come to life. You spend a lot of time making weird noises with a lot of grunts and efforts, not quite sure of how it's going to look on camera. She is a good mother, so it's actually good to see that my efforts are all worth it.

How has Illumination brought another layer of comedy to the story?

Rashida: I think that it's a timeless story and Illumination is well-known for its comedy, especially physical one. For me, that just puts another layer on top of the story because even though Grinch is kind of a bad guy but in reality, he is not and it's laughable because he is lovable in all his layers. There is something really sweet about all the crazy stuff. He is not a bad guy and is completely relatable and fun to watch.

(*The Grinch* will premiere on Sony P1X on December 22 at 1 pm and 9 pm.)

Utd youth shines in Europa

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Teenager Mason Greenwood again grabbed his chances for Manchester United, scoring twice in a 4-0 thrashing of AZ Alkmaar in the Europa League on Thursday. Earlier Arsenal came back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 at Standard Liege and also make sure of a place in the last 32 as Group F winners. With Wolves, who crushed Besiktas 4-0, also advancing, English clubs ended with a full house in Europe with the three Europa League entries following the Premier League's four Champions League teams into the knockout rounds. Spanish clubs also completed a full set when Getafe joined already-qualified Sevilla and Espanyol by scoring three times in the last 14 minutes to beat Krasnodar 3-0 in a showdown for second place in Group C. However, Bundesliga leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach and Italian power Lazio made surprising exits. At Old Trafford, in a battle for top spot in Group L, Alkmaar matched a youthful United side until the 53rd minute when veteran Ashley Young smashed the home team ahead. Greenwood pounced on a loose ball to snap the second into the corner of the net. After Greenwood was fouled, Juan Mata converted a penalty. Then the Spaniard set up Greenwood for another crisp low left-footer inside the post.



Mason Greenwood acknowledges crowd support after Man Utd win

Alexandre Lacazette and Bukayo Saka were on target in the space of three second-half minutes as Arsenal survived a scare to win their group. They lived on their nerves as Eintracht Frankfurt were poised to knock them off top spot when the Germans led Guimaraes 2-1. However, the Portuguese side,

already eliminated, scored twice in the last five minutes to claim a 3-2 win. With a place in the knockout round already virtually certain, Arsenal caretaker coach Freddie Ljungberg made nine changes to his starting line-up in Belgium. The home side took the lead just after half-time when a speculative Samuel Bastien shot took a huge deflection. The goal meant Arsenal had failed to keep a clean sheet in their last 13 matches in all competitions. It got worse after 69 minutes when Selim Amallah made it 2-0 off another deflection as Liege looked for the unlikely scoreline of 5-0 which would put them through and Arsenal out. However, Lacazette calmed Arsenal nerves after 78 minutes when he headed in a cross from Saka. Three minutes later, the impressive Saka levelled with a fine finish from the edge of the box. On a night of late drama, Gladbach conceded in the 91st minute to lose 2-1 to Istanbul Basaksehir and drop from first to third in Group J and out of the competition. Marcus Thuram had given the Germans a 33rd minute lead. Ifran

Can Kahveci replied before half time and Enzo Crivelli hit the late winner after a goalmouth scramble. Basaksehir topped the pool. Roma, held 2-2 at home to Austrians Wolfsburg, were second. In a straight shootout for second in Group H in Razgrad, Bulgaria, substitute Nikolay Signevich scored five minutes into added time to give Ferencvaros a 1-1 draw with Ludogorets. The Hungarians finished one point ahead of Ludogorets in second place behind Espanyol. Celtic, fresh from winning the Scottish League Cup last weekend and already assured of making the last 32, lost 2-0 at Cluj who went through as Group E runners-up behind the Scots. Lazio, third in Serie A, were knocked out after a 2-0 loss at Rennes in the same group. Rangers got the draw they needed with a 1-1 home draw against Young Boys of Berne in Group G. Alfredo Morelos gave the home team the lead but in the 89th minute Borna Boric put into his own goal to deprive the Glaswegians of first place in Group G. That went to Porto who beat Feyenoord 3-2 in a game in which all the goals came in the first 33 minutes.

SINGLES

COMAN EXPECTED BACK IN JANUARY
Munich: Bayern Munich's team doctor expects French winger Kingsley Coman to be able to play again soon after the January winter break despite suffering a knee injury. Coman had to be helped off on Wednesday when his left knee buckled while he was running for the ball, prompting fears of another long spell on the sidelines for the injury-prone star. However, tests showed Coman tore the capsule around the joint — a less severe injury than feared — and he should be able to take part in Bayern's training camp in Doha, which starts on January 4.

GERRARD SIGNS NEW RANGERS DEAL
GLASGOW: Steven Gerrard has signed a contract extension at Scottish Premiership giants Rangers that will keep him at Ibrox until 2024. The former Liverpool and England player, appointed in May 2018, led the club to a runners-up spot in the league in his first season. On Thursday the 39-year-old guided Rangers into the last 32 of the Europa League. "Rangers Football Club is today delighted to announce manager Steven Gerrard has agreed a two-year extension which will keep him at Ibrox until the summer of 2024," it said in a statement.

PEP DENIES MAN CITY BREAK CLAUSE
MANCHESTER: Pep Guardiola has denied having a clause in his contract that would allow him to leave Manchester City at the end of the season. The Spaniard signed a deal last year keeping him at the Etihad Stadium until 2021, but reports had suggested that the deal included an option allowing Guardiola to depart 12 months early. Speaking at Friday's press conference ahead of the weekend clash with Arsenal, Guardiola said: "No, it is not true. I spoke a few weeks ago about my intentions with the club."

Klopp agrees new Reds deal

AFP ■ LONDON

Jürgen Klopp has agreed a contract extension with Liverpool until 2024, the runaway Premier League leaders announced on Friday. Klopp, who moved to Anfield in 2015, guided Liverpool to Champions League glory in June and they are currently eight points clear at the top of the Premier League. "For me personally this is a statement of intent, one which is built on my knowledge of what we as a partnership have achieved so far and what is still there for us to achieve," the 52-year-old Klopp told Liverpool's official website. "When I see the development of the club and the collaborative work that continues to take place, I feel my con-

tribution can only grow." A statement from owners the Fenway Sports Group (FSG) said Liverpool had taken "giant strides in re-establishing themselves as one of world football's powerhouses" under the German. During Klopp's first campaign at Anfield, Liverpool reached the finals of both the League Cup and Europa League but ended the season empty-handed. They lost 3-1 to Real Madrid in the 2018 Champions League final but regrouped and became European champions for a sixth time after a 2-0 win against Tottenham in Madrid this year. Liverpool lost just one match in the Premier League last season, racking up 97 points -- the best in the club's history -- but missed out on the title by a

solitary point to Manchester City. **PREMIER LEAGUE CHARGE** So far this season, Klopp has overseen Liverpool's surge to the top of the Premier League, where they currently sit eight points clear after 15 wins from their opening 16 matches. They are chasing their first English top-flight title since 1990, and their 19th overall. Klopp, who won two Bundesliga titles with Borussia Dortmund, said success on the pitch was not the only measure of progress — he had also seen commitment from the owners. "When the call came in autumn 2015, I felt we were perfect for each other. If anything, now I feel I underestimated that. It is only with a total belief that the collaboration remains totally

So far this season, Klopp has overseen Liverpool's surge to the top of the Premier League, where they currently sit eight points clear after 15 wins from their opening 16 matches. They are chasing their first English top-flight title since 1990, and their 19th overall.



Jurgen Klopp poses for photo after signing new Liverpool contract

complementary on both sides that I am able to make this commitment to 2024. "If I didn't I would not be re-signing. This club is in such a good place I couldn't contemplate leaving." Assistant managers Peter Krautz and Pepijn Lijnders have also agreed deals keeping them at the club until 2024. Principal owner John Henry, chairman Tom Werner and FSG president Mike Gordon said in a joint statement: "We are absolutely delighted we have been able to reach an agreement with Jürgen, as well as Peter and Pep, on extending their time with the club. "As we are sure our supporters would agree, it is truly wonderful news and we are all extremely thrilled, not only professionally, but personally too." Liverpool reached the knockout stages of the Champions League with a 2-0 win against Salzburg on Tuesday and will play in the Club World Cup in Qatar later this month.

SPORTS MINISTRY STEPS IN AICF DISPUTE

Major setback for AICF prez

NAVIN UPADHYAY ■ NEW DELHI

In a major setback for All India Chess Federation President PR Venketrama Raja, the Union ministry of sports has cancelled an urgent meeting of the AICF convened by him in Chennai on December 14 and asked him to follow a spate of directives failing which the Federation could be derecognized or suspended. The ministry stepped into the AICF factional war on a petition from the Federation secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan. Raja convened the urgent meeting after issuing an order to cancel a prescheduled General council meeting of the AICF convened by Chauhan on December 22. The AICF secretary and the President are at loggerheads over a spate of issues. Raja recently issued a show cause notice on Chauhan, asking him to explain some 'so-called irregularities' committed by him violation of the AICF constitution. "It's great day for me. I served chess with sincerity and

passion for more than four decades. No one ever raised a finger at me. Now, some people were trying to tarnish my image. I'm thankful to God to save my honour and dignity," Chauhan told The Pioneer. Chauhan wrote to the sports ministry that Raja is trying to protect West Bengal chess association secretary Atanu Lahiri, who is facing serious corruption charges leveled by Grandmaster Dibeyndu Barua. Barua had accused Lahiri of diverting state fund for chess promotion to his (Lahiri's) company Global Chess and banning several top players on flimsy grounds. Chauhan backed Barua and chess players and issued strong statement against Lahiri. Raja expressed displeasure over this press release and formed a three-member committee to probe Barua's charges. Interestingly, he kept Chauhan outside the committee ignoring the fact that as per AICF constitution Secretary has to be part of all such committees. Barua has objected to the composition of the probe committee contending that in-house committee can never fairly probe alleged misconduct of another

office-bearer of the Federation. Incidentally, Lahiri is joint secretary of the AICF. The three-member committee gave a clean hit to Lahiri and authorized him to conduct the election of the state chess association. Barua approached the Kolkata High Court against the order. In a major setback to the AICF, the court appointed two administrators to conduct the elections. The Raja faction faced another major loss of face when the Sports Authority of India (SAI) found that Lahiri had submitted fake utilization certification of a national event organized the state association. SAI found that the signature of the chartered account was forged. It asked the AICF to look into the matter and take appropriate action. Raja referred the matter to the same committee which had given clean hit to Lahiri and also asked Chauhan to attend its meeting on December 5, Chauhan refused to attend the meeting, asked for setting up a new committee, and suggested that the AICF should file a FIR for faking the utilization certificate. In this background,

PTI ■ GUANGZHOU

Sindhu beats Bingjiao for consolation win

Already out of reckoning, India's PV Sindhu recorded a consolation win over China's He Bingjiao in the third Group A match to end her campaign on a positive note at the year-ending BWF World Tour

Final here on Friday. Sindhu, whose title defence lay in tatters after her second successive loss on Thursday, scripted an incredible turnaround after being 9-18 down in the opening

game to eventually outwit Bingjiao 21-19, 21-19 in minutes and finish third in the group. This win also snapped Sindhu's run of four straight losses to the Chinese, making

their head-to-head record 6-9. The Indian struggled with her precision initially, allowing Bingjiao to lead 7-3 at one stage in the opening game. left-handed Chinese cruised to a 11-6 advantage at the break with the Indian misjudging a shuttle. she failed to reign in her errors even after the break, hitting the shuttle wide and long as Bingjiao jumped to a 18-9 lead.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BRANCH : GARHA, JALANDHAR SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with rule 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Bank issued a demand notice on the date mentioned against the account and stated therein after calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The borrowers have failed to repay the amount. Therefore, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the assets described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said Act on date mentioned against the account. The borrowers / guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the assets mentioned below. Any dealing concerning these assets will be subject to the charge of Bank of India for the amounts, costs, other charges and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the NPA Account	Date of the Demand Notice	Date of the Possession	Amount Outstanding as per date of Demand Notice
(1) Sh. Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Ganesh Shah and Mrs. Annapurna Devi W/o Mr. Pawan Kumar both R/o House no. 21, Raj Nagar, Basti Bawa Khel, Jalandhar	07-10-2019	11-12-2019	Rs. 2,39,611/75 + Interest, charges w.e.f. 30-09-2019 and less recovery if any, till date affected
(2) Sh. Pawan Kumar S/o Sh. Ganesh Shah R/o House no. 21, Raj Nagar, Basti Bawa Khel, Jalandhar	07-10-2019	11-12-2019	Rs. 2,82,080/59 + Interest, charges w.e.f. 30-09-2019 and less recovery if any, till date affected

Description of the Immovable Property : All that Part and Parcel of the Property situated at House no. 151, New Gautam Nagar, Faigra Painter Wali Gali, Basti Peer Daad Khan, Jalandhar, Owned by Mr. Pawan Kumar S/o Mr. Ganesh Shah, area measuring 1500 sq. ft. It title deed bearing Wasika no. 5337 dated 14-11-2008 comprised in Kharsa no. 3/10, 11, 4/15, 16/1, 3/20 out of Khawat and Khatouni no. 301/325 as per Jamabandi for the year 2003-04, Hadbasta no. 313 and bounded as East : Magar Singh, West : Property of Others, North : Property of Others, South : Rasta

Date : 14-12-2019 Place : Jalandhar Sd/- Authorised Officer

ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

DEPARTMENT : RECOVERY & LAW : Cluster Monitoring Office, 3rd Floor, 2439/1-2, Dhanraj Complex, Near Pau Gate No-1 Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana-141001

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Last Date & Time of Submission of EMD (Earnest Money) Through RTGS/NEFT Only & Documents mentioned against the account.

Sale of Movable/Immovable property mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 (No.54 of 2002) Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Oriental Bank of Commerce had taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with our Branch with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: antaresystems.com

SR No.	NAME OF THE BRANCH & BORROWERS	Description & owner of property	EMD REMITTANCE ACCOUNT DETAILS	Demand Notice Date Outstanding amount (Secured Debt)	Last Date & Time for Submission of Documents	Reserve Price (Rs.) (i) EMD (Rs.) (ii) Bid Increase Amount (Rs.) (iii) 6,00,00,000.00 (iv) 60,00,000.00 (v) 10000.00	Date & Time for E-Auction for extension of 5 minutes between 30.12.2019 and 12pm to 1pm
1.	B/o Chaura Bazar Ludhiana	Eq mortgage of the property consisting of Bearing Wasika no. 2817 dated 02.06.2010, Measuring 2994.75 Sq.Yards (4K19 M), Situated at Bahadur Key Road, Near Octroi post, Ludhiana, Standing in the name of SMT. SAHNIAA VATSA.	IFSC CODE: ORBC0100004 A/C No.: 00041181000083	01.07.2015 Rs. 8,33,45,102.94 + future interest and other charges	27.12.2019 upto 4pm		

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: (1) The e-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" AND "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" without recourse to the bank or its officials. (2) Last date & Time of submission of EMD and documents 27.12.2019 upto 4 pm (3) To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there is no encumbrance on the property. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of properties put on auction and claims/rights/Dues effecting the property/ies, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/Dues. (4) The intended bidders who have deposited the EMD and requires assistance in creating Login ID & password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact M/s. Antares Systems Ltd. Contact No. +91 7686913157 Helpline e-mail ID: kushal.b@antaresystems.com, tousik.g@antaresystems.com, manohar.s@antaresystems.com and for any property related query may contact the Cluster Head, Chief Manager, Cluster Monitoring Office, 3rd Floor, 2439/1-2, Dhanraj Complex, Near Pau Gate No-1, Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana-141001 email :- rrl_7647 @obc.co.in Telephone No.9675171230, 7073460582 during the office hours on any working days. (5) The bidders shall improve their offers in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount". In case the bid is placed in last 5 Minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 Minutes (Subject to maximum three extensions of 5 minutes each.) (6) The Bank reserve the right to sell the property through Private Treaty in the event of failure of e-auction (7) The successful bidders shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price, adjusting the EMD already paid, immediately on the same day after completion of the auction and acceptance of bid price by the Authorized officer. The balance 75% of sale price shall be deposited on or before 15th day of the sale. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder, the amounts already deposited by the bidder shall be liable to be forfeited and the property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/right in respect of property/amount. (8) For Detailed Terms and Conditions interested bidders are requested to refer to Our Website www.obcindia.co.in and also e-auction service provider's website: www.antaresystems.com

Statutory 15 Days Sale Notice under Rule 8(6) of the SARFAESI acts 2002

The borrowers/guarantors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 14.12.2019 Place: Ludhiana Authorized Officer- ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE

हरीयाणा सरकार HARYANA GOVT

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	UHBVN PANCHKULA	EOI NO. 06/UH/XEN/MY-II DATED 14.11.2019	Extension in due dates.	uhbvn.org.in, etenders.hry.nic.in	9357189013 cernm@uhbvn.org.in
2	HVPNL, ROHTAK	NIT NO. 11/TS/DIVN/RTK/2019-20 DATED.20.11.2019	Providing additional 20/25 MVA, 132/33 KV T/F with 132 & 33 KV Bays at 132 KV S/Stn.Bhandari. The last date of online bid submission is extended upto 23.12.2019 (13.00 hrs)	https://www.hvnpn.org.in https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2583789 pr@hvnpn.org.in
3	THE ROHTAK CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LIMITED, ROHTAK	2019_HBC_109685_1	Re-Scheduled for dated 27.12.2019 at 4.00 P.M. / Opening 28.12.2019 at 11.30 A.M.	https://etenders.hry.nic.in www.vitaindia.org.in	01262-276302,277364 vitarohatk@gmail.com
4	HPGCL,PANIPAT	(NIT NO.26/SM-366/2019-20) (TENDER ID NO. 2019_HBC_108052_1)	Start date 08.11.2019. & Last date 16.12.2019 at 13:00 Hrs	www.hpgcl.org.in & https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcpl1@gmail.com
5	HPGCL,PANIPAT	(NIT NO. PTP/POM-111881) (TENDER ID 2019_HBC_96793_1)	Start date 22.08.2019 at 18:00 Hrs. & Last date 27.12.2019 at 13:00 Hrs	www.hpgcl.org.in & https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcpl1@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanae-auction-gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO NO. 79527

'Dube will get better with confidence'

Iyer should bat at 4: Kumble

PTI ■ CHENNAI

India bowling coach Bharat Arun strongly feels that Shivam Dube has all the ingredients to become a good all-rounder at the international level as he keeps gaining confidence with every international game that he plays.

Dube came into the limelight with his big-hitting prowess during an innings of 54 in 30 balls during the second T20 International against West Indies in Thiruvananthapuram.

He hit four sixes in that innings apart from a good show with the ball in an earlier series against Bangladesh.

"He is an exciting prospect and I think he is gaining in confidence from every game. Even you if look at the way he came back the way after he bowled the first over (in Mumbai) against West Indies, I think that was creditable. For Virat (Kohli), to show faith in him after the first over and also for him to bowl a good spell after that..."

"And I think he is an exciting talent for us. As he gains in confidence, he will become a good all-rounder," Arun said.

He was all praise for seamer Deepak Chahar, who has done well in the recent T20 games, the Indian bowling coach said he has got everything in him to do well consistently at the international level.

"Deepak has been exceptional even in the IPL. He is someone who can move the ball both ways. He is also a very skillful bowler, bowling

SHIVAM IS AN EXCITING PROSPECT AND I THINK HE IS GAINING IN CONFIDENCE FROM EVERY GAME. AND IF HE CONTINUES TO DO SO HE WILL BECOME A GOOD ALL-ROUNDER —BHARAT ARUN

slow bouncers, yorkers, I think with so much skill on hand... Let me put it this way, he has got everything in him to do well at the international level," he added.

Wrist spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahal hasn't featured together in recent games unlike the last two years in the lead up to the World Cup.

"See, we were looking at an ideal combination which lends absolute balance to the team. Also there was an option to use Ravindra Jadeja as an all-rounder. That really helped us. There may be occasions when there may be conducive conditions where both can be used. We have to look at overall balance of the team," he added.

Looking ahead to the first ODI



India allrounder Shivam Dube during net session

BCCI/Twitter

against the West Indies boasting of aggressive batsmen, asked if the India bowlers can tame the rival batsmen, he said their batsmen come after you there is always a chance.

"Definitely, I think yes. The last two out of three games we have won, the bowling also has done pretty well. I am sure we have the bowling to restrict them, but saying that West Indies are an extremely competitive side. But when their batsmen come after you, you also have a chance against them," he added.

Arun said that the team was not overtly worried about the dew factor.

About the fitness status of pacerman Bhuvneshwar Kumar, he said the physios are taking a call and they would be giving a press release later in the evening after the assessment.

About the Indians having a number of quality fast bowlers presently, Arun said it augurs well but it would be horses for courses policy.

"...The more number of bowlers do well, I think it augurs well for us. So it gives you a varied pool of bowlers to choose from. Also we would be seeing the conditions, New Zealand would be different, Australia would be different. So it will be horses for courses," he added.

On not playing right-arm off-spinners more in the ODIs, he said: "As it is, if you look at Jadeja, you have a readymade all-rounder for us. Jadeja, after the World Cup, he has been exceptional for us. He bowls well, bats well and is the best fielder in the world. He adds a lot of dimension for us."



Shreyas Iyer raises his bat. BCCI/Twitter

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India captain and spin legend Anil Kumble wants Shreyas Iyer to bat at the crucial no.4 position in

the upcoming ODI series against the West Indies, which according to him, is going to be a tough challenge for the Indian bowlers.

Giving his views on the upcoming three ODIs, starting Sunday, Kumble said India

s bowling attack will have to be at its best to get the better of a powerful West Indies batting line-up.

"With Shikhar (Dhawan) not being there it again gives KL Rahul chance to open the batting. We have seen Shreyas Iyer's quality and he has grown in stature, so I would like him to be at number four," he told 'Star Sports'.

West Indies lost T20 leg of the tour, going 1-2 to the hosts. The three-match ODI rubber will start in Chennai.

"I'd like to see the bowling come through because against West Indies it would be a challenge. They're all powerful hitters. The surfaces are going to be good and so, you would want the bowling to come good," added Kumble, who has 619 Test and 337 ODI wickets for India.

The 49-year-old former captain and coach has represented India in 132 Tests and 271 ODIs.

Kohli is the benchmark for WI youngsters



India's captain Virat Kohli warms up during a training session

AP

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Virat Kohli is the "benchmark" and that is why all West Indies players should work as hard as the Indian captain to achieve their goals, feels their assistant coach Roddy Estwick.

In a media interaction ahead of the ODI series, which begins here on Sunday, said the

team's young cricketers like Shimon Hetmyer and Nicholas Pooran must learn from opposition skipper Kohli.

"It's exciting times for us when you look at guys like Hetmyer, Pooran and Hope. We have got young batsmen who are developing. But the key thing is how you prepare to work hard. You have got a

benchmark in Virat Kohli. He is somebody who will be in the gym and work very hard," he said on Friday.

"A lot of players can learn from him. Then, we have got a chance. Without hard work, there is no success. Hard work is boring but it can give you great success. Once they keep working and dealing with the process, they will have a chance."

He said the players had been brilliant on this tour but cautioned that in cricket one cannot relax.

"They have been brilliant on this tour, we can't fault them. They have worked really hard. They are beginning to see the results. If you look at Hetmyer's play in the T20s, it was exciting. Now, we move to a longer format. People forget the fact that at a very young age, he already has four ODI hundreds. Obviously, there is a lot of talent there. In cricket, you cannot rest and relax," he added.

Estwick also said the West Indies team had done well to bridge the gap with India in the T20s and hoped to do the same in the ODIs too. The visitors lost the T20 series 1-2.

"We are happy with the way we performed in the T20s. When these two teams played three T20s in the Caribbean, the gulf between them was wide. We are happy that we have narrowed that gap (in the T20 matches) and hope to do the same in 50 overs," he added.

Eng shuffle their aces for SA series

AFP ■ LONDON

England opted to limit the workload of some of their World Cup winners when they announced the squads on Friday for one-day and T20 series in South Africa in February.

Jofra Archer, Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes and Mark Wood will all be rested when England play their first ODIs since beating New Zealand at Lord's on July 14.

Test captain Joe Root is in the ODI squad, led by Eoin Morgan which plays a three-match series from February 4 to February 9 but not in the 16 for the three T20s.

Worcestershire seamer Pat Brown, Somerset batsman Tom Banton and the Lancashire duo of Matthew Parkinson and Saqib Mahmood are included in the ODI squad for the first time.

Banton and Mahmood are among five players who were in the T20 squad for England's 3-2 victory over New Zealand in November but are dropped for the three T20s in South Africa from February 12-16. Sam Billings, Lewis Gregory and James Vince also miss out as World Cup winners Archer, Buttler, Stokes and Wood return to England action.

England's 16-strong squad for the three-match ODI series in South Africa, starting February 4 in Cape Town: Eoin Morgan (capt), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Tom Banton, Pat Brown, Sam Curran, Tom Curran, Joe Denly, Chris Jordan, Saqib Mahmood, Dawid Malan, Matthew Parkinson, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason Roy, Chris Woakes.

"These two squads were selected with an eye on the T20 World Cup in Australia in 2020," national selector Ed Smith said in a press release.

"We want to expand the pool of players who can perform successfully for England, while also helping the team to peak for major tournaments."

The T20 World Cup is in Australia in October and November.

England's 16-strong squad for the three-match T20 series against the Proteas, starting February 12 in East London:

SQUAD Eoin Morgan, Moeen Ali, Jofra Archer, Jonathan Bairstow, Jos Buttler, Pat Brown, Sam Curran, Tom Curran, Joe Denly, Chris Jordan, Dawid Malan, Matthew Parkinson, Adil Rashid, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes, Mark Wood.

Starc's magic puts Aus in front

IAN S ■ PERTH (AUSTRALIA)

Bowlers dominated Day 2 of the first Test between Australia and New Zealand at the Perth Stadium. Ross Taylor's resilience has given the visitors hopes of not having to follow-on, but Australia are firmly in the driver's seat in the Test having blown away the Kiwi top-order in the final session. New Zealand ended the day on 109/5, trailing Australia by 307 runs.

Australia were all out for 416 earlier in the day and Mitchell Starc started the rampage with the wicket of Tom Latham in the very first over of the innings. Hazlewood then castled Jeet Raval with a searing inswinger that went straight through the gates.

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson and Ross Taylor then held on in what was treacherous conditions for the batsmen. Hazlewood pulled up short while bowling the third ball of the fourth over and walked off. His participation for the day ended with that incident.

Cummins and Starc steamed in on the two batsmen with Matthew Wade bowling two overs in between before Nathan Lyon was brought into the attack. New Zealand did not lose a wicket until the 23rd over in which Williamson fell to Starc largely thanks to a stunning



Australian players celebrate as Henry Nicholls leaves the field after being dismissed

catch at second slip by Steve Smith.

Henry Nicholls replaced his captain and survived for five overs before becoming Starc's third wicket. Neil Wagner, sent in as nightwatchman, was dismissed the very next ball. Starc didn't get his hat-trick and Taylor, who scored a fifty, ended the day with a four towards mid-on.

Earlier, Australia started the day on an overnight total of 248/4 with centurion Marcus Labuschagne and Travis Head at the crease. It was Labuschagne who fell first after adding 33 runs to his total. Neil Wagner bowled

an inswinger from round the wicket that castled him and Labuschagne walked with 143 off 240 balls to his name.

Head went on to score a fifty in the 110th over and fell two overs later to Tim Southee, going for a wide ball outside off with a drive that was caught at cover.

Captain Tim Paine and Pat Cummins then held fort into the next session and it was Jeet Raval who got the latter out after he had absorbed 84 balls. Paine batted on with the tail and was the last man to be dismissed as the Australian innings wrapped up for 416.

Rain spoil Test return in Pak

AFP ■ RAWALPINDI

Wet weather delayed the start of play between Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Rawalpindi on Friday, the first Test in the country since a deadly attack in 2009.

Groundmen were soaking the outfield and wiping water from the covers, with the third day's play unlikely to start until lunch at 11:45 am (0645 GMT).

Rain and bad light halted play for all but 83 minutes on Thursday, during which Sri Lanka added 43 runs in 18.2 overs before stumps were drawn.



Mushtaq Ahmed is new spin consultant

PTI ■ KARACHI

Pakistan has appointed former Test leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed as spin bowling consultant for a one-year term.

Mushtaq's first job will be to work with experienced leg-spinner Yasir Shah at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore and get him ready for the second Test against Sri Lanka in Karachi.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has confirmed that Yasir had been released from the national

team in Rawalpindi and told to report to the new spin consultant in Lahore.

"He will rejoin the team for the second test in Karachi," a PCB source said.

The PCB said Mushtaq was appointed as a spin bowling consultant last week.

According to his contract, he will work 120 days in a year at the National Cricket Academy with the U-16, U-19 and other domestic bowlers. As and when required, he will work with the national team.



Bravo ready for int'l return

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo on Friday announced his return to international cricket, little over a year after he called it quits due to a bitter fallout with his country's Board.

Bravo said the decision was prompted by the change of guard in the Cricket West Indies (CWI), where former team manager Ricky Skerritt took over as the new president replacing Dave Cameron earlier this year.

"Today I confirm the announcement of my decision to return to International Cricket to all

my fans and well wishers all around the world," the 36-year-old said in a statement.

"It's no secret that this big announcement has come as a result of the changes made at the administration level. For a while now I have been contemplating my return to international cricket and my decision was solidified by these positive changes," he added.

Bravo had a bitter spat with Cameron and had accused him of destroying careers. This was after a Bravo-led West Indies team abandoned a tour of India in 2014 midway during an ODI series owing to a pay dispute with the WICB.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 332 cricketers will go under the hammer at the IPL auction in Kolkata on December 19 with Australia's Glenn Maxwell and South African Dale Steyn among those opting for the highest base price of Rs 2 crore.

"While 997 players had initially registered for the auction, the final list has been pruned after the eight franchises submitted their shortlist of players," read an official IPL statement.

Australian all-rounder Mitchell Marsh and Sri Lanka veteran Angelo Mathews too have opted for the Rs 2 crore

base price. Only 73 slots are there to be filled in the eight franchises and only 29 of them can be foreign buys.

Robin Uthappa, who was released by Kolkata Knight Riders last month, is the sole Indian player in the auction list with a base price of Rs 1.5 crore.

Premier Australian pacer Josh Hazlewood, who has never played in the IPL, has put himself in the highest base price bracket alongside bowling partner Pat Cummins. Maxwell, who recently

took a break to deal with mental health, is back in the auction pool after opting out of the last edition alongside Aaron Finch.

Finch is back in the pool at a base price of Rs 1 crore. Fellow Australian Chris Lynn, who was released by KKR, will be expecting to go at a good price at the auction next week.

Besides Uthappa, other Indian names including Piyush Chawla (released by KKR), Yusuf Pathan (Sunrisers Hyderabad) and Jaydev Unadkat (Rajasthan Royals)



have set their base price at Rs 1 crore.

A total of 186 Indian, 143 overseas and three players from Associate Nations will be up for grabs at the auction.

Seven cricketers have placed themselves in the highest base price list of Rs 2 crore, 10 in Rs 1.5 crore bracket and 23 in Rs 1 crore category.

Among the uncapped players, as many as 183 players are in the Rs 20 lakh category, seven in Rs 40 lakh and eight in Rs 30 lakh.