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UNCERTAINTY BOTHERED ME: RASIKA DUGAL
13 VIVACITY



Extrajudicial justice for Hyd rapists-killers

All 4 accused were taken to the spot for reconstruction of their crime, shot in encounter

NAVEEN KUMAR/PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In the early hours of Friday, the nation woke up to the news that the four men accused of brutally gangraping and immolating a 26-year-old veterinarian were shot dead in an alleged exchange of fire with the police between 5.45 am and 6.15 am. The four were taken by a 10-member police team to the scene of their crime at Chatanpally, 50 km near Hyderabad, for the reconstruction of events as part of the investigation into the rape-murder.

More than eight hours after the four rape-murder accused were killed in the encounter, the police allowed the media into the area that had been cordoned off until then.

The four bodies lay close to each other, barely 5 metres apart. Areef, who, according to the police, smothered and killed the vet after she was raped, could be seen holding a gun in his right hand. In a yellow T-shirt and jeans, his body lay on the ground face-up, no wounds visible on the body, but blood underneath him suggested that he was shot in the back. Perpendicular to him was the body of Jollu Shiva, who was wearing a white shirt. It was evident from his body, face up, that he received the gunshot in the chest. A few metres away was the body of Jollu Naveen in an orange shirt.

Speaking about the alleged encounter, Cyberabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar said that an investigation was required to reconstruct the crime scene in the November 27 rape-murder case, hence the four accused were taken to the Chatanpally culvert where the vet's charred body was found late a day later.

"When the cops were questioning them about the location



Forensic experts collect evidence from the spot where four men accused of raping and murdering a woman veterinarian were shot dead in an encounter with the police, at Shadnagar of Ranga Reddy district in Hyderabad on Friday. PTI

of the missing cell phone, the four accused tried to attack the police with sticks and stones. Areef snatched a revolver from the police. The cops present at the site told the four to surrender. However, they did not heed the warnings. This resulted in crossfire. They continued to attack cops and were eventually shot dead," Sajjanar said.

The accused were shot dead barely 500 metres from the Chatanpally underpass, where they had set the veterinarian body's on fire last week.

According to sources, the accused were taken from Cheralpally jail around midnight to the scene of the offence, which is about 70 km away, as there was a threat posed to them by the public. The encounter took place in an agricultural field owned by one S Satyam.

"They were not handcuffed. They ganged up and assaulted us with the sticks

found here. Two of them snatched weapons and fired at us. A sub-inspector and a constable suffered injuries in the crossfire, the two have been

admitted to hospital. One of the accused attacked S-I Venkateswarlu with a stone, he was hit on the right side of his forehead and constable Arvind

Goud was hit on his right shoulder with a stick. He suffered soft tissue injury. Condition of both policemen is stable. Two revolvers were recovered from Areef and Chenakeshavulu," revealed Sajjanar. Doctors from Mahbubnagar hospital conducted postmortem at the spot. Replying to a question about the criticism from NHRC and others regarding the encounter, he said, "The law has done its duty."

Preserve bodies of 4 accused till Dec 9, orders HC

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Friday directed the State Government to preserve the bodies of four accused in the rape and murder of a young veterinarian till 8pm on December 9.

The High Court gave the order on a representation received in the office of the Chief Justice, requesting judicial intervention

CRIME & PUNISHMENT!

November 27: Around 9.30 pm, the 25-year old woman employed at a state-run hospital goes missing after she left for a clinic to Gachibowli around 5.50 pm from her home in Shamshabad area

November 28: At 3.10 am, vet's sister files a missing complaint, saying some people had offered help to the victim whose two-wheeler had a punctured tyre

9 am: Woman's charred body found under a culvert on NH 44.

November 29: Areef (26), Jollu Shiva (20), Jollu Naveen (20) and Chintakunta Chenakeshavulu arrested. They confess to raping, killing and immolating the victim

November 30: 3 cops suspended for delay in registering an FIR

December 1: Telangana CM orders a fast track court

December 4: Court sends the four to 7-day police custody

Dec 6: All 4 taken to the spot for crime recreation, shot in encounter



People throw flower petals on policemen guarding the area where the rape-murder accused were shot, in Shadnagar on Friday. AP

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- All the four accused were brought to the crime scene early in the morning for the reconstruction of the sequence of events
- As soon as the police personnel reached the crime spot, the four accused got together and attacked the cops with sticks and stones, police said, adding they then snatched the weapons of cops
- One of the accused, Mohammed Arif, was the first to open fire at the police personnel, said the Cyberabad Police Commissioner
- The cops asked the accused to surrender, the Commissioner added
- When the accused did not pay heed to warning by the cops, the police personnel retaliated in self-defence
- The encounter lasted for 45 minutes from 5.45 am to 6.30am, according to the police
- Two policemen sustained injuries in the encounter

Same cop, same ending: Surreal tale of 2 crimes against women

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

It's a tale of two encounters 11 years apart with many similarities — both in December and both featuring VC Sajjanar in a central role.

Cyberabad Commissioner Sajjanar, who was hailed by many as a hero on Friday for the encounter killing of four men accused of gangraping and murdering a Hyderabad veterinarian, was superintendent of police in 2008.



The story began in Warangal on December 10 that year. Swapnika and Pranitha, both electrical engineering students, were riding home on a two-wheeler when three youths on a bike came alongside and threw sulphuric acid on them. Swapnika, who was riding pillion, was the target and took

the full impact of the acid attack. Pranitha, who was wearing a helmet, was not so badly injured. The incident led to protests across the then unified Andhra Pradesh.

Sajjanar headed the probe. Soon, three men — S Srinivas, D Sanjay and P Harikrishna — were arrested. Three days later came the news about the three being killed in the encounter, propelling Sajjanar to the status of instant hero.

Continued on Page 4

Encounter evokes euphoria, concerns

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/HYDERABAD

The encounter killing of the four men accused of gangraping and murdering a Hyderabad veterinarian on Friday set off a chorus of appreciation as well as concern and criticism among general public, politicians and human right activists.

People from different walks of life, including students, in Telangana on Friday showered praise on Cyberabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar with some performing "milk bath" to his portraits in Hyderabad and elsewhere.

School and college students and members of different organisations raised slogans like "Jai Police and Jai Sai Sajjanar".

"We are proud of Sajjanar Sir. He has ensured justice. We want police official like you," said a schoolgirl in Hyderabad.

The families of the Hyderabad veterinarian victim and of Nirbhaya, the 23-year-old paramedic student who died days after being brutally gangraped in Delhi in December 2012, have both come out in support of the policemen involved in the encounter.

The BJP, the Congress and the entire political class was divided in its reaction to the



Women offer sweet to policemen as they commend the Hyderabad Police for its action against the four accused in the gang-rape and murder of a 25-year-old veterinarian, in Hyderabad on Friday. PTI

encounter killing. BSP chief Mayawati praised the Hyderabad Police saying, "The action that has been taken by the Hyderabad Police is praiseworthy. In UP, this (rape) is happening every day not just in one district but in every district."

Members of Parliament, like Jaya Bachchan, saw it as speedy justice for the rape victim, others such as Maneka Gandhi and Shashi Tharoor said extrajudicial killings are a matter of concern.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi slammed the Telangana Police while BJP's Telangana BJP spokesperson K Krishna Sagar

Rao said India is not "Banana Republic."

"However, India is not a banana republic and is bound by legal and constitutional framework. Politics over crime cannot set a right precedence. Telangana State Government and DGP should call a Press conference immediately," the BJP said.

"As a responsible national party the BJP will react only after official police statement," he said.

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram, who is in Ranchi, said an enquiry into the matter to ascertain the facts were needed.

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Axe mercy option for rapists of kids: Prez

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Ram Nath Kovind on Friday called for abolishing the provision of mercy petitions for those convicted of sexual offences against children saying "demonic" attacks on women have shaken the conscience of the country.

"In this context, several things are coming up. Such convicts have been given the right of mercy petition by the Constitution. I have said that there should be reconsideration on this... In cases under POCOA (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act, they be deprived of the right of mercy petition. They do not need any such



right," he said.

The Union Cabinet has given its nod to amend certain sections of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 to include provision of death penalty in cases of sexual offences against children.

Continued on Page 4

Reject mercy plea of Nirbhaya's rapist, MHA conveys to Kovind

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has sent to President Ram Nath Kovind the recommendation of the Delhi Government rejecting the mercy plea of Vinay Sharma, one of the convicts in the 2012 Nirbhaya gang-rape case. The move came two days after the file rejecting the mercy plea was sent by Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal to the

Home Ministry.

The file has been forwarded to the President for consideration and final decision. The mother of Nirbhaya, the 23-year-old paramedic student who died days after being brutally gangraped in Delhi in December 2012, on Friday urged President Ram Nath Kovind to reject the mercy petition filed by one of the four men convicted in the case.

The letter written by

Nirbhaya's mother to Kovind said the petition filed by one of the convicts — Vinay Sharma — "deliberately tries to avoid the execution of the death sentence and hamper the dissemination of justice."

Vinay Sharma, one of the convicts facing the gallows for the rape-and-murder of a 23-year-old paramedic student, had filed the mercy petition before the President.

Continued on Page 4

CAPSULE

32 RLY OFFICERS GIVEN PREMATURE RETIREMENT
New Delhi: In a rare move, the Railways has prematurely retired 32 of its officers above the age of 50 years in "public interest" on grounds of inefficiency, doubtful integrity and conduct unbecoming of a public servant as part of a periodic review, according to a statement.

WIFE, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW KILLED OVER AFFAIR
New Delhi: A 64-year-old retired teacher was arrested on Friday for allegedly killing his wife and daughter-in-law in Rohini here suspecting them of being in illicit relationships. P2

15.86 LAKH CANCER PATIENTS IN 2018: GOVT
New Delhi: There were 15.86 lakh cancer cases in the country in 2018, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said.

ACB EXONERATES AJIT IN IRRIGATION SCAM
Nagpur: Maharashtra's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has given a clean chit to NCP leader Ajit Pawar in the multi-crore Vidarbha irrigation scam. P7

CBI books Allahabad HC judge in medical college scam case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has booked Allahabad High Court judge SN Shukla in a corruption case for allegedly favouring a medical college and conducted searches at his Lucknow residence. The CBI carried out searches in Meerut and Delhi. Besides Shukla, the agency has also named IM Qaddusi, a retired judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court, Bhagwan Prasad Yadav and Palash Yadav of the Prasad Education Trust, the trust and private persons Bhavna Pandey and Sudhir Giri in the graft case, officials said.

The accused were booked under section 120-B of the IPC (criminal conspiracy) and provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act. After registering the FIR, the CBI started conducting searches at multiple locations in Lucknow,

Meerut and Delhi, they said. It was alleged in the FIR that Prasad Institute of Medical Sciences based at Lucknow was debarred by the Centre for admitting medical students for the forthcoming two years due to sub-standard facilities and non-fulfilment of the required criteria in May, 2017, along with 46 other medical colleges, which were debarred on similar grounds, officials said.

This decision of the Centre was opposed by the medical institute before the Supreme Court. "Subsequently, a conspiracy was hatched between the accused and the writ petition filed before the SC was withdrawn with the permission of the court and a writ petition was filed before the Division Bench of Allahabad High Court, Lucknow Bench on August 24, 2017," the CBI said in a statement.

Continued on Page 4

Unnao rape-immolation victim passes away

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Unnao's rape-immolation victim, who had suffered 90 per cent burns after five men, including two of her rapists, had set her on fire while she was on her way to court, died around 11.40 pm on Friday at Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital, where she was airlifted from Lucknow on Thursday. The accused had thrashed, stabbed and then set her ablaze.

Earlier on Friday, doctors at the hospital had said the condition of the victim was critical. She was on ventilator.

The Delhi Traffic Police had on Thursday provided a "green corridor" for hindrance-free movement of the ambulance carrying her from the airport to the hospital.

One of the two rapists was granted bail 10 days back. All the five men were attacked within hours after the news spread like wildfire across the nation.



Accused threatened to kill me: Girl's uncle

Unnao: A day after the Unnao woman was set afire here by five men, including two accused of raping her, her uncle, who lives in a rented house here and runs a small shop, told reporters that a relative of accused Shivam had called him and threatened that he will have to face "dire consequences".

"Your shop will be set on fire and we will not let you live," the victim's uncle described the caller as saying. "I am going to inform the police and demand action in this regard," he said. Police have not yet received any complaint in the matter. PTI

Fugitive Nithyananda's passport cancelled

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government has cancelled the passport of controversial self-styled godman Nithyananda and rejected his application for fresh one, the External Affairs Ministry said on Friday.

MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar also said the Ministry has sensitised all its missions and posts abroad about Nithyananda.

Nithyananda is wanted for several crimes, including rapes, in India and is believed to have fled the country. Reports indicate he has purchased an island near Ecuador in South America to form a "Hindu Nation" by the name of "Kailaasa".

The Ministry Spokesman said, "We have sensitised all our missions and posts and told them to inform local Governments about him." Nithyananda is wanted in India for multiple cases, including alleged rape and abduction. Kumar said Nithyananda's passport was cancelled before



its validity was to expire in 2018 and that his application for a new one was also rejected because of cases pending against him.

Asked about reports that Nithyananda declaring founding his own country called "Kailaasa" in his website, Kumar said, "Setting up a website is different from setting up a nation."

The embassy of Ecuador, in a statement, categorically denied that the Nithyananda was given asylum by it or has been helped by its Government in purchasing any land or island in S America near or far from Ecuador.

Continued on Page 4

People losing faith in justice system: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday said people are celebrating the encounter of the four accused in the gangrape and murder case of a Hyderabad veterinarian, shows that they have lost faith in the criminal justice system and investigating agencies and called it a matter of concern.

Kejriwal was reacting to the encounter killings of four persons accused of raping and killing a veterinarian in Hyderabad. "There has been so many crimes against women, be it Unnao or Hyderabad, that there is anger among the people across the nation. The agencies and governments (State and Center) should sit

together to discuss ways to strengthen the criminal justice system in country," said Kejriwal.

"After the encounter, people are happy and satisfied and they are cheering the encounter but this also shows that people have lost their faith in the criminal justice system and the investigating agencies," said Kejriwal.

"This loss of faith in justice system and security agencies is a matter of concern. We all have to strengthen our law and order system so that people start believing in this system again and every victim can get justice soon," said Kejriwal.

Speaking about the Nirbhaya culprits, he requested President Ram Nath Kovind

to reject their mercy request. "This is really sad that the Nirbhaya's accused are still not hanged. Our government have rejected

HYDERABAD ENCOUNTER

mercy petition and I also appeal to the President to reject the mercy petition and hang the culprit," said Kejriwal.

A 25-year-old veterinarian was gang raped by four truck drivers and cleaners near the Outer Ring Road at Shamshabad on the night of November 27. They later dumped the body and set it afire. The gang rape-and-murder triggered a nationwide outrage with the public and lawmakers demanding speedy punishment to the perpetrators.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Supporting the police encounter of the accused in the Hyderabad gangrape and murder case on Friday morning, the family of Nirbhaya said the Telangana police has set an example and urged

authorities not to punish the policemen responsible for the action. Nirbhaya's mother said that the court, the Government and the Delhi Police should see what example the Hyderabad police have set.

In December, 2012, Nirbhaya, a 23-year-old paramedic student, was gangraped in the national Capital and later died due to her injuries. Her rapists, who were sentenced to death, are still awaiting their fate.

"Police has done a great job



and I demand no action should be taken against the police personnel. Now I request to the judiciary and the Centre government to hang Nirbhaya's accused as soon as possible and set an example before the society," said Nirbhaya's mother. Justifying the encounter, Nirbhaya's father said had the police not acted promptly and shot the accused, they would

have fled. "The family of the Hyderabad doctor will not have to wait for seven years for justice like us. We can understand the pain of her parents. At least, they got justice early," he said.

"It is good that the police showed prompt response and acted. Otherwise the accused would have fled and it would have been difficult to catch

'The family of the Hyderabad doctor will not have to wait for seven years for justice like us. We can understand the pain of her parents. At least, they got justice early'

them. The escape would also have raised questions on the efficiency of the police," he said. Her father said the family has been awaiting justice for seven years now.

Nirbhaya's grandfather also welcomed the step, saying actions like these will deter those involved in heinous crimes. "I appreciate the killing of rapists by the police in an encounter. Such steps will create fear among rapists and

deter them from committing such heinous acts," he told reporters at his ancestral village in Ballia.

"The way in which rapists are using loopholes in the judicial system, such encounters are necessary. The Parliament should enact a law enabling police to kill such persons in encounters," he said, adding that no one should question the police action.

Referring to the Unnao rape survivor, who has been battling for her life, Nirbhaya's grandfather said had the Uttar Pradesh police taken such action in the Unnao case the girl would not have been set on fire.

"My granddaughter was raped seven years ago and the accused have still not been given capital punishment. Had they (accused) been given capital punishment, the country would not have been in such anger," he added.

Students to learn about Ambedkar's life, contribution

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Thousands of students studying in schools funded by Delhi Government will soon get to study and learn about the life and achievements of Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Commemorating the 63rd death anniversary of Dr Ambedkar, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday announced that the students studying in class VI, VII and VIII will be taught about the 'Life and Contributions of Baba Saheb Ambedkar' in the schools.

In the event, which also had the presence of Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam, the CM also launched a short biography titled 'Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar: A Short Biography' for classes 6, 7 and 8.

"We celebrate Mahaparivran Diwas every year but it is special this special year as the government launches a booklet on the life and teachings of Baba Saheb Ambedkar to be taught in all its government schools. I hope that private schools will also include the booklet in their curriculum. Baba Saheb

Ambedkar was a brave and mighty soul. Portraying him just as a Dalit leader doesn't do justice to his greatness. Baba Saheb Ambedkar raised his voice for all the neglected and exploited sections of the society, as he raised his voice against the atrocities against Dalits in the country," said Kejriwal while paying tribute to Dr. Ambedkar.

"He was born in a village to a poor Dalit family and had to face a lot of struggles and evil practices of untouchability and discrimination throughout his life. Education was a privilege that he was fortunate to access. At that time, it was very difficult for even students with a strong financial background to complete their education. But Baba Saheb Ambedkar attained two doctoral degrees back then from the prestigious Columbia University and London School of Economics. It would be an honor to teach our students about how Baba Saheb Ambedkar, despite facing manifold obstacles climbed the ladder of success," the Chief Minister added.

Kejriwal also said that the booklet should only be considered as a draft and the government will refine the



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam launch booklet on the life and achievements of Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar on his 63rd death Anniversary. Ranjan Dimri / Pioneer

contents of the book after getting feedbacks from the students, teachers and guardians. "I believe that within a span of one or two years, we will be able to develop a course on Baba Saheb Ambedkar which will be adopted not only in Delhi but in all the schools across the country," said Kejriwal.

While the Sisodia who is also the minister of Education, said "We cannot compile the entire life and teachings of in a brief chapter of Baba Saheb Ambedkar - a great visionary into a book. Today, with this curriculum, we introduce the

noble thoughts that Babasaheb Ambedkar believed in, to our children, so that they would also learn to inculcate it in their lives."

Sisodia also said that Education Department will introduce a curriculum in Delhi schools based on this booklet. "After teaching these chapters, we'll take feedback to assess to what extent students could understand and inculcate the values and fine thoughts that Baba Saheb stood for and lived. If children can stand against various forms of inequality and discrimination in the society, then our aim to teach Baba Saheb

Ambedkar's life and thoughts would be fulfilled," he said.

Further, the Social welfare minister Gautam, the brain behind the booklet said, "Today Delhi government has taken a historic and decisive step to teach the life and contributions of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in the schools in Delhi. He was a social reformer par excellence, human rights activist, constitutional expert, but portraying him as only a Messiah of Dalits is an injustice to his invaluable contributions."

The first part of the booklet for Class 6 explores the life and education of Ambedkar and his social reforms initiatives, contributions to women empowerment and making the constitution of India. The second part for class 7 details his contributions to social justice, and Gender justice. The third part for class 8 elucidates the contributions of Baba Saheb Ambedkar in Parliamentary Democracy and Government.

The booklet was prepared by the Social Welfare department of the Delhi government with the help of three scholars and experts from Delhi University - Mani Sagar, Shashi Rani, and N. Sukumar.

Thought of killing accused never struck, says former top cop who handled Nirbhaya case

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former Delhi Police Commissioner Neeraj Kumar, who handled the Nirbhaya gangrape-and-murder case, on Friday said the thought of killing the accused never crossed his mind.

Kumar recalled that it was a "tough time" when the Nirbhaya case was reported in December, 2012 since the policemen were treated as rapists."

Nirbhaya was gangraped on December 16, 2012. She later succumbed to her injuries. The brutality of the incident had rocked the nation, leading to massive protests.

"There was a lot of pressure at that time, but the thought of killing them never came. We were getting messages, asking us to throw the accused in front of hungry lions. Someone said castrate them in public, someone said lynch them, but we just stuck to our guns. There was no question of doing anything illegal," Kumar told PTI over phone.



His comments came as all four accused in the rape-and-murder case of a 25-year-old woman veterinarian in Hyderabad last month were killed in an exchange of fire with police on Friday morning.

Kumar, who had also served as the Joint Commissioner of Police, Special Cell, said encounters took place during his tenure as well and the one at Ansal Plaza, in which two suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba militants were gunned down inside the crowded mall, faced questions.

"After every encounter, there are always questions and this (Hyderabad) was not an

encounter with a terrorist or gangster. It was in a case which has been under public scrutiny. To investigate what actually happened and transpired, there is a judicial inquiry that has been ordered. We have to wait for its findings to know whether the encounter was justified or not," he said.

Kumar had penned a book, "The Khaki Files", in which he mentioned that his daughters were threatened with rape and his resignation was demanded. The "Delhi Crime" series on Netflix, based on the Nirbhaya incident, also showed the politics behind the case at that time.

"It was a very tough time for me. I was made to feel that I was one of the rapists. We were doing our job and were not at fault."

"I volunteered to undergo a judicial inquiry and it even said that the police was not at fault. People were baying for our blood, but it was all stage-managed," Kumar said.

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PRESS NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

The Deputy Director (Hort), DUSIB, invites on behalf of DUSIB online Percentage rate bid on two bid system for following works :-

Last date and time of submission of bid 17.12.2019 (upto 15:00 hrs.) The bid form and other details can be obtained from the web site (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)

Name of work :- MLA LAD FUND Sub-Head: Providing and fixing Open Gym, Playing Equipments and RCC Benches in Shishu Vatika's/Parks in various Jhuggle Jhopri Clusters under the Jurisdiction of Assembly Constituency-47

NIT No. 60/Dy.Dir(Hort)/DUSIB/2019-20
Tender ID:- 2019_DUSIB_184271_1

ESTIMATED COST (Rs): 76.79.193/-
EARNEST MONEY: 1,53,600/- TENDER COST: 1000/- TIME: 180 days

Note(1) Any Amendments / Change / Clarifications (if any) will be uploaded only on <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> therefore intending tenderers may inspect the site regularly.

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SDMC earns ₹90L by taping sun

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to ramp up its efforts to go green and earn revenue simultaneously, South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has achieved another milestone by earning nearly ₹90 lakh by selling surplus solar power generated from solar panels installed over roof-top of its buildings as result of 90 lakh in its revenue.

"The civic body generated 6615 KW power from solar panels installed over 150 of its buildings," he said, adding that with the move the SDMC also saved a huge amount as it generated electricity for fulfill its

requirements and even earned lakhs of rupees by selling surplus power to BRPL. "The SDMC has also able to reducing carbon foot prints which ultimately helps in containing pollution in the city," he said.

Amal Sinha, CEO of BRPL on Friday presented a cheque of ₹33.38 lakh to the SDMC



Commissioner after deducting the bill amount of arrears of consumptions of electricity units in the corporation buildings.

The Commissioner said the process of installing solar panels with a total capacity of 9.3 MW, has been installed on 208 municipal building till date. "The project cost is ₹35 Cr and it will be recovered in just five years," he added.

Bharti further said that the solar panel will remain in working to generate power for next 25 years. He also said that SDMC is keen to increase its solar power generation by installing more such panels.

It may be noted that last year, the SDMC claimed to have become the first Municipal Corporation in the country to generate solar energy by installing solar panel over roof-top of its buildings.

Man stabs wife, daughter-in-law to death over illicit affairs, arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 64-year-old retired teacher, who allegedly killed his wife and daughter-in-law in Delhi's Rohini over suspicion of illicit relationships, was arrested. Police said the incident occurred on early hours of Friday and the accused was arrested on the same day.

The accused, identified as Satish Chaudhary, is a resident of Shiv Apartments in Rohini Sector-4. The deceased has been identified as Snehlata Chaudhary (62), wife of the accused, and their daughter-in-law Pragya Chaudhary (35). Police said that Snehlata was a retired DTC employee while Pragya was an air hostess.

According to SD Mishra, the

DCP, Rohini district, on Friday around 5.55 am, Satish's younger son Saurabh Chaudhary (30) informed police about the incident. "He also got injured while trying to save the victims. Acting on the call a police team was dispatched for the spot. When police reached the spot, they found Pragya and her mother-in-law Snehlata in a pool of blood lying in a room. They were rushed to nearby hospital where they declared brought dead," said the DCP.

"During initial investigation, it was revealed that the incident took place at around 5.30 am. Satish woke up and entered the room where his wife and daughter-in-law were sleeping. He first stabbed

Pragya multiple times and when Snehlata came in rescue of her, he also attacked her. Snehlata got one stab wound," said the DCP. Saurabh said when he was sleeping, he heard the cries of the victims.

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New Delhi-110057

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Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Dr. Paramjeet Kaur is owner of Entire Third Floor, with roof rights, (the said floor), of Property No. 1634 A, Gali No.14, situated at Govind Puri, Kalkaji, New Delhi by virtue of Sale Deed dated 06.03.2012 having Registration No. 3555. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to sell the said floor and someone want to purchase by taking loan from our client. If anybody has any objection/s over the said floor, and its ownership kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kumar & Associates
(Advocates & Consultants)
200, Second Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15 Ph : 011 - 41112527-28
kumar.associates.advocate@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

By virtue of this Public Notice it is hereby informed to the public at large that my clients Sh. Vinay Kumar Sharma S/o Late Sh. Roshan Lal Sharma, Resident of B-392, Nirman Vihar, Vikas Marg, New Delhi-110092 have withdrawn their public notice in Jansatta, Hindi Newspaper dated 24.08.2017, whereby my client notify for general information that they have disowned and debarred their son, (1) Sh. Anuj Sharma and (2) Ranul Sharma for all movable and immovable property, my client has also severed all relations with this son due to their disobedient and disloyal act. By way of present public notice My clients have restored his relationship with his son (1) Sh. Anuj Sharma and (2) Sh. Ranul Sharma and now they are welcome back in the family fold. Now they have legal right in all movable and immovable properties of my client. Ravi Rai, (Advocate), Ch. No. 516-A, IIndFloor, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No. E-55/2019-2020 E-Tender Notice Date: 03.12.2019

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence:-S.No.- Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity: S.N. 1, 051910754A, (20.12.2019), Gauge for Alignment, as per DLW, Part No. 15630092, 20 Nos., S.N. 2, 05195193, (20.12.2019), Screw Air compressor, 01 Set, S.N. 3, 05195142B, (01.01.2020), Aluminium Bronze Hollow Round, 188 Kgs., S.N. 4, 05195209, (01.01.2020), Helical Gear & Pinion Shaft, 01 Set, S.N. 5, 05195213, (01.01.2020), Shaft with Pinion, 15 Nos., S.N. 6, 05195217, (01.01.2020), Oil Burner Control, 02 Nos., S.N. 7, 05195219, (01.01.2020), 6" Inch Long Nose Plier, 150 Nos., S.N. 8, 05195064D, (01.01.2020), Deep Penetrating Electrodes, as per DLW Part No. 76019329, 5377 Nos., S.N. 9, 05191156, (01.01.2020), Dry Charge Lead Acid Battery, as per DLW Part No. 67040020, 40 Nos., S.N. 10, 06191072B, (27.12.2019), Cable Cleat Kit, Part No. 12520585, 37 Set, S.N. 11, 06191084, (27.12.2019), 3 Phase AC Fuel Pump Motor, Part No. 12102120, Qty.: 15 Nos., S.N. 12, 10191266, (03.01.2020), Thrust Collar STD to PL No. 16130406, 10 Nos., S.N. 13, 10191270, (03.01.2020), Gear Turbo Idler to PL No. 16142706, 05 Nos., S.N. 14, 10191271, (03.01.2020), Gear Turbo Drive to PL No. 16142524, 05 Nos., S.N. 15, 10191275, (03.01.2020), (I) Shaft ASM LB to PL No. 16050988, 05 Nos., (II) Shaft ASM RB to PL No. 16050976, 5 Nos., S.N. 16, 10191256, (03.01.2020), (I) Manifold Assly Fuel Line to PL No. 16050939, 5 Nos., (II) Manifold Assly Fuel Line to PL No. 16050940, 5 Nos., S.N. 17, 10191258, (09.01.2020), (I) Inj. Cont. Shaft ASM LB to PL No. 16050990, 5 Nos., (II) Inj. Cont. Shaft ASM RB to PL No. 16051002, 5 Nos., S.N. 18, 10191228A, (24.12.2019), Stub Shaft Taper to PL No. 16140175, 15 Nos., Note: The details of above tenders are available on www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in. PRO/DLW/S-111 Controller of Stores

diesellocomoworks Website: www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in

L-G felicitates Armed forces personnel on flag day

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Anil Bajjal on Friday felicitated 29 Armed forces personnel, including serving and retired, in recognition of the gallantry and distinguished service awards bestowed on them by President Ram Nath Kovind.

According to a statement, nine gallantry awardees and 20 distinguished service medalists hailing from the national capital were felicitated and honoured at Raj Niwas. The lieutenant governor also released Flag Day brochure of the Rajya Sainik Board.

"This occasion provides an opportunity to all of us to pay homage to the sacrifices made by the valiant personnel of the Indian Armed Forces for protecting the sovereignty and integrity of our nation," the



Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal felicitates 29 armed forces in recognition of the gallantry and distinguished service awards bestowed on them by President Ram Nath Kovi on Friday. Pioneer photo

statement quoted Bajjal as saying at the event.

The L-G also launched the

donation campaign and urged Delhiites to support the noble cause by donating generously

to the Delhi State Armed Forces Flag Day.

Bajjal also emphasised that

GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR DELHI SPORTSPERSONS TO SOAR HIGH



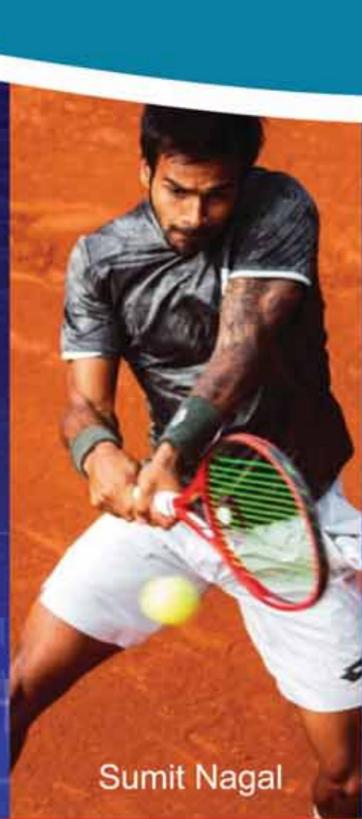
Manika Batra



Deepak Arya



Pincky balhara



Sumit Nagal



Abhishek Verma

DELHI GOVERNMENT'S REVOLUTIONARY STEPS TO ENCOURAGE SPORTS IN DELHI

MISSION EXCELLENCE

A scheme to support sportspersons for making Delhi proud

Highlights of the scheme

- ❑ It will support top level sportspersons for receiving training and coaching to prepare themselves to compete in International tournaments and Championships.
- ❑ Financial assistance upto Rs.16.00 lakhs per annum will be provided.
- ❑ This amount will be given for Food/Nutrition, sports equipments, sports kits, training and travel (within the Country as well as outside the Country) and medical insurance.
- ❑ Top level Sports Injuries Centres will be co-opted for the players.

Obligations of the player

- ❑ During this period, the player has to represent Delhi in all the competitions.
- ❑ The Player can be engaged as Brand Ambassador of Delhi.

PLAY & PROGRESS

A scheme for promoting sports talent in the students of Delhi

Highlights of the scheme

- ❑ Providing assistance to Delhi school students for Training and coaching to prepare themselves to compete in National and International tournaments.
- ❑ Players below 14 years, will be provided assistance of Rs. 2.00 lakhs.
- ❑ Players above 14 years and upto 17 years, will be provided assistance of Rs. 3.00 lakhs.
- ❑ This amount will be given for Food/Nutrition, sports equipments, sports kits, training & travel and medical insurance.
- ❑ Prominent games like athletics, badminton, swimming, football, wrestling, kabbadi etc. are part of the scheme.

Obligations of the player

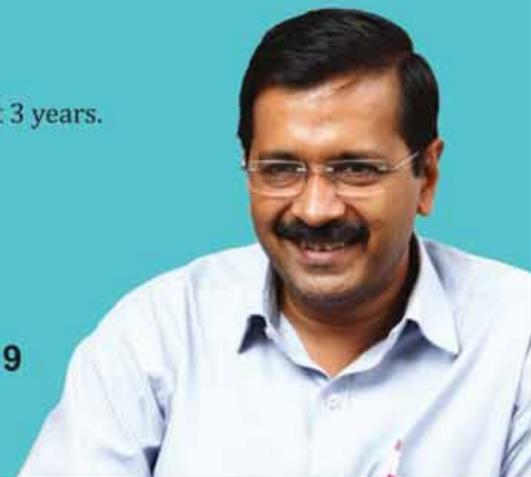
- ❑ During this period, the player has to represent Delhi in all the competitions.

Note: This assistance will be given to those who are bonafide residents of Delhi for the last 3 years.

For more information, log on to:

www.edudel.nic.in

Last date for online submission of application: 13.12.2019



HYDERABAD ENCOUNTER

Preserve bodies of 4 accused till Dec 9: HC

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

The court directed the Principal District Judge, Mahabubnagar to receive the CD or pen drive and hand it over to the Registrar General of the High Court by tomorrow evening.

The High Court gave the order on a representation received in the office of the Chief Justice, requesting judicial intervention into the incident, alleging it was an extra-judicial killing.

The High Court directed that the video of the post-mortem in Compact Disc form or pen-drive be handed over to the Principal District Judge, Mahabubnagar, after completion of the post-mortem of all the accused.

Home Secy writes to States, asks them to ensure women security

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked all States to take every possible step for the security of women, saying it was the highest priority of the Government.

In a letter to chief secretaries of all states, Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla said that he was writing the letter in the wake of the unfortunate incidents of heinous sexual offences against women and girls reported recently.

"Safety of women and girls is a high priority for the government. While the government has taken steps to strengthen legislative provisions to deal with such offences in a stringent manner, for effective deterrence it is imperative that the police is easily accessible and is able to deal with any complaint on crime against women in a timely and pro-active manner," the home secretary said.

The Union Home secretary also mentioned various advisories sent by the home ministry to the states to ensure security of women.

Bhalla said that on May 16, 2019, the MHA had requested all States and Union Territories to ensure strict compliance with the provision in law to file "Zero" FIR in event of a cognizable offence, including sexual assault on women.

"It had also been reiterated that failure in this regard by any police official is a punishable offence. States and UTs were also requested to undertake refresher courses for police personnel on this essential aspect," the home secretary said.

The advisory said it is necessary to ensure that police personnel are much more responsive and sensitive in handling complaints of crimes against women and girls.

"I would also like to draw your attention to the facility of Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences (ITSSO) portal available to the police in your state and UT. ITSSO enables every state and UT to monitor completion of investigation in serious sexual offences in the prescribed two-month time period," it said.

The ITSSO is based on Crime and Criminal Tracking and Networks System (CCTNS) and the utility of this tool has been adequately highlighted to the states and Union Territories by the Ministry.

Pvt Bill seeks action for insulting Gandhi in RS

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

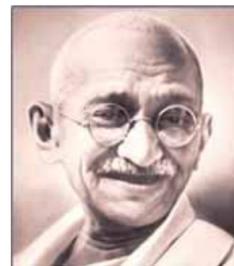
A Rajya Sabha member introduced a private member's bill in the House on Friday seeking punishment of seven years for insulting Mahatma Gandhi and other freedom fighters, days after BJP MP Pragna Thakur's controversial remarks praising Nathuram Godse.

The bill titled "Prevention Of Insult To The Father Of The Nation And Other Icons Of Freedom Movement Bill" was introduced by Javed Ali, a Samajwadi Party MP in the upper house.

According to the bill, whoever insults Mahatma Gandhi or other icons of the freedom movement shall be punished with an imprisonment for a term of seven years.

The bill seeks to "prevent insult to the Father of the Nation and other icons of Freedom Movement or showing of respect to assassins of the Father of the Nation".

Giving the rationale behind proposed legislation, Ali said



insults to Mahatma Gandhi in the recent years and other freedom fighters had increased and existing laws had failed to check these acts.

"In such scenario, it is unnecessary to undertake measures to ensure respect owed to freedom struggle and its heroes by providing and legislating harsh punishment to those who are trying to malign the image of the father of the nation and other icons of the freedom movement," Ali said in the statement of objects and reasons in the bill.

A private member's bill can be introduced by an MP other than an Union minister. Such bill is introduced by the member in his personal capacity and normally such bills fail to get passed.

Malaria-endemic districts reduced to 63 in 2018: Govt

New Delhi: The Government has identified malaria-prone areas of the country and the number of high endemic districts has reduced from 132 in 2016 to 63 in 2018, Minister of State for Health Ashwini Choubey informed the Parliament on Friday.

He said that dengue and chikungunya are outbreak prone diseases and their cases varied from the State to State.

The Minister said in a written reply that 96 people died due to malaria in the country in 2018 with Chhattisgarh reporting the highest number of deaths (39) followed by Tripura and Maharashtra, each recording 13 deaths. A total 42,9928 cases of Malaria were reported in the country in 2018.

Further 172 people succumbed to dengue in 2018 with 55 of them dying in Maharashtra followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu which recorded 32 and 13 deaths respectively. A total 57,813 cases of chikungunya were reported in the country in 2018. Till date, no death has been reported by any State or Union Territory that is directly attributable to chikungunya, the Minister said.

Snatch power from men to shield yourself against crime: Priyanka to women

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday expressed grave concern over the crime against women and urged women to "snatch power from men" to protect themselves from such crime.

"I would say women should get power in the society. I will tell my sisters to snatch power from men, fight panchayat and Vidhan Sabha elections and come forward in politics so that you get power and protect yourself when such incidents take place," said Priyanka Gandhi in an informal interaction with newsmen.

The Congress leader who is here on a two-day visit, reiterated that her party will fight for the rights of women at all levels.

Attacking the State Government on the law and order situation, specially on crime against women, she said, "In Unnao, it has been seen that there have been almost 90 rape cases in last 11 months."

"When the last incident was reported, the government shielded criminals till the last. You can think how difficult it would have been for the woman and her patience to fight the battle," she said, referring to the Unnao rape case in which a BJP lawmaker is an accused.



In touch with Pak on unhindered consular access to Jadhav: India

New Delhi: India on Friday said it has asked for "immediate, effective and unhindered" consular access to Kulbushan Jadhav from Pakistan and was in touch with the neighbouring country through diplomatic channels on the matter.

After Pakistan had said in September that second consular access to Jadhav would not be granted, India had asserted that it will keep trying for full implementation of the verdict by the International Court of Justice in his case.

"On Kulbushan Jadhav, we are in touch with the Pakistani side through diplomatic channels. Would not like to disclose what is the nature of discussion on this matter at a public forum," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said when asked about any development on second consular access to Jadhav.

"We have requested immediate, effective and unhindered consular access from Pakistan in light of the ICJ judgement and we will see where it goes. But, yes there is some communication that is going on between India and Pakistan on this issue," he said. Jadhav was sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court on charges of espionage and terrorism in April 2017. Weeks later, India approached the ICJ against Pakistan for denial of consular access to Jadhav and to challenge the death sentence.

In its verdict in the case on July 17, the ICJ ordered Pakistan to undertake an "effective" review of the conviction and sentence of Jadhav and asked it to grant consular access to him without further delay.

Charge d' Affaires at the Indian High Commission in Islamabad Gaurav Ahluwalia met Jadhav on September 2 after Pakistan granted consular access to the retired Indian Navy officer following a directive from the ICJ.

After the meeting, the MEA had said Jadhav appeared to be under "extreme pressure" to parrot a false narrative to bolster Pakistan's untenable claims in his case.

Asked about Mumbai terror attacks trial in Pakistan, Kumar said, "We all know who the perpetrators of the attack were. We all know who the mastermind is. We are also aware that the mastermind of this attack is roaming freely, he is enjoying Pakistan's hospitality."

"We are also aware about the link this attack had to the elements within the Pakistani establishment. There is a certain responsibility they have, they have an International obligation to take action. You are also aware that we have shared all the evidence with them. Now it is the responsibility of Pakistan to take action," he said.

Pakistan has shied away in the past from taking action citing different excuses which of course is not working internationally and among the global community there is a feeling that Pakistan is not serious in taking action against those who are involved in the Mumbai terror attacks, he said.



China denies its research ship conducted any experiment near Andaman

Beijing: China on Friday said its research ship sailed through India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) near Andaman Islands in September, but it did not conduct any experiment.

Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh on Tuesday said a Chinese naval ship was driven away from the EEZ in the Andaman sea recently, asserting that such activities will be dealt with sternly.

Military sources in New Delhi said the research ship Shi Yan 1 forayed into Indian waters in September but was forced to retreat after it was suspected to be involved in spying. The ship entered the area without Indian Navy's prior permission, they said.

Singh said anyone operating in "our region, will have to notify the Indian Navy".

The Chinese Foreign Ministry in a statement on Friday said, "China has taken note of the remarks made by the Indian navy chief of staff on the Indian navy's expulsion of the Chinese research vessel 'Experiment-1' in September." "It has been verified that the research vessel 'Experiment-1' was conducting acoustic propagation experiments and hydrologic environment measurements on the high seas of the Indian Ocean. It did not conduct any operations in the Indian EEZ during the whole process, and only sailed through the Indian EEZ on the way to and from the experimental area," the statement said.

It said throughout the ship's voyage, the Indian navy aircraft followed it with warnings and its crew also relied in accordance with international practice. "These facts are supported by operational plans, logbooks, and GPS tracks. Experiment-1's scientific activities are in full compliance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea," the statement said.

"China has always exercised the freedom of scientific research on the high seas in accordance with the law and fully respects the jurisdiction of relevant coastal states over their scientific research activities in the waters under their jurisdiction," it said.

Uddhav meets Modi for first time after becoming CM

Pune: Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray received Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Pune airport on Friday evening.

It was the two leaders' first meeting after Thackeray broke away from ally BJP and formed a Shiv Sena-led Government in Maharashtra with the support of the Congress and NCP last month. Prime Minister will be attending the national conference of director generals and inspector generals of police which is being held in Pune. After receiving the PM, Thackeray left for Mumbai. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari and BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis also greeted Modi at airport.

Fugitive Nithyananda's passport ...

From Page 1

There were reports that the self-styled godman purchased an island in South America with the help from Ecuador.

The statement said Ecuador denied the request for grant of refuge by Nithyananda and later on, he left Ecuador presumably on his way to Haiti.

"All the information, whatever, which is published in digital and print media in India, is based on the information which allegedly has been sourced from https://kailaasa.org, a website which is supposedly maintained by Nithyananda or by his people," it said.

"Henceforth all digital or print media houses should refrain from citing Ecuador in any form in all pieces of information related to Nithyananda," the statement added.

Axe mercy option for rapists of kids...

From Page 1

It is for Parliament to take a decision on the matter and make necessary constitutional amendments, "but the thought of all of us is moving ahead in that direction," he said.

"It is the responsibility of every parent to instill among boys the feeling of respect for women," Kovind said at Mount Abu, Rajasthan, the headquarters of 'Brahma Kumaris', a world-wide spiritual organisation run by women.

Kovind was expressing his views in the backdrop of a spate of recent violence incidents of rape, killing and burning of women across the country which has triggered public protest and debate on the safety of young girls and children.

Speaking on women empowerment, the President said education is important for empowerment of women.

"It is true that when you make a boy educated, it gives benefit to one family but when you make a girl educated, its benefit goes to two families. Another important fact is that the children of an educated woman do not remain uneducated," he said.

Kovind said financial empowerment of women was equally important and the Centre's Jan Dhan Yojana has played an important role in that direction.

Remembering BR Ambedkar on his death anniversary, the President said Ambedkar always gave priority to women empowerment.

He said there has been an improvement in child sex ratio due to women development centric schemes and Haryana, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have been honoured for the improvement.

"I have been informed that

an improvement of nearly 35 points in child sex ratio is there in Haryana, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. This is an important social change. Birth of 1003 daughters per 1000 sons in Rajasthan's Banswara district is a good thing," he said.

He said example of political empowerment of women is also there.

"This year, for the present Lok Sabha, election of 78 women MP is an achievement for our society. In rural India, more than 10 lakh women through Panchayati Raj Institutions are also playing their role effectively," he said.

The President, who was addressing a national convention on 'empowerment of women for social transformation' organised by the Brahma Kumaris, stressed that a society based on equality and harmony could only be possible by empowering women.

Kovind said the theme of this national conference is very relevant and Brahma Kumaris are carrying out empowerment of women for social change in the true sense.

Reject mercy plea of Nirbhaya's rapist, MHA conveys to Kovind

From Page 1

The Supreme Court on July 2018 upheld the death penalty to Mukesh Kumar, Pawan Gupta and Vinay Sharma. Mukesh and Pawan did not apply for mercy petition.

Nirbhaya was gang-raped on December 16, 2012. She later succumbed to her injuries. The brutality of the rape had rocked the nation leading to massive protests.

Meanwhile, the mother of Nirbhaya urged President Ram Nath Kovind to reject the mercy petition filed by Vinay Sharma.

The letter written to Kovind said the petition filed by one of the convicts - Vinay Sharma - "deliberately tries to avoid the execution of the death sentence and hamper the dissemination of justice."

"Almost seven years have elapsed since then. The trauma, pain and agony suffered by the applicant (mother) is unbearable and the wait for justice is getting longer and longer," the letter sent through her lawyer further said.

Same cop, same ending: Surreal tale of 2 crimes...

From Page 1

At the time, Sajjanar told reporters that a police team had taken the accused to the place where they had hidden the stolen motorbike and the acid bottle used in the attack. "They suddenly took out a country-made weapon and tried to open fire and also threw acid on policemen. The police opened fire in self-defence, killing all the three accused," he said.

A similar story played out on Friday. "... All the four accused got together, they started attacking the police party with stones, sticks, and other material. And they also they snatched away weapons from our two officers and started firing," Sajjanar said.

Police will complete investigations into the case and submit a chargesheet in the case before a court in Telangana. All the accused will be mentioned as accused in column number two -- for people who could not be brought to trial due to their death.

Encounter evokes...

From Page 1

His party colleague Abhishek Singhvi said sometimes the mood of the country takes precedence over human rights "logics".

BJP leader Maneka Gandhi slammed the police for killing the four accused, saying it set a "horrific" precedent for the country.

"Jo bhi hua hai bohot bhayanak hua hai is desh ke liye (What happened was horrifying for the country)... You cannot not kill people because you want to. You cannot take law in your hands. They (accused) would have been hanged by court anyhow."

"If you're going to shoot them before due process of law has been followed, then what's the point of having courts, law and police?" the former Union Women and Child Development Minister told reporters.

Congress leader and Lok

"It is also something to be worried about, the way people have lost their faith in the criminal justice system. Together all the Governments will have to take action on how to strengthen criminal justice system."

BJP MP Rajyavardhan Rathore hailed the encounter and also the leadership that allowed it.

"I congratulate the Hyderabad police and the leadership that allows the police to act like police. Let all know this is the country where good will always prevail over evil (disclaimer for holier than thou-police acted swiftly in self defence)," he tweeted.

Congress leader Sharmishtha Mukherjee raised questions over the killings and demanded an "unbiased enquiry" into the incident.

"If the police version is right that they wanted to flee, then you cannot allow those who have committed such heinous crimes to get away," said Mukherjee, daughter of former President Pranab Mukherjee.

"But, on the other hand, there was a lot of public outrage and public pressure on the government. If the government has taken any step under public pressure that could be an extra judicial killing, then that is a very dangerous situation for the country because it will set a precedent," said Mukherjee. The Congress spokesperson also specified that her remarks were in her personal capacity.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil on Friday said the version of the Hyderabad police on how the alleged rapists and murderers were killed in an early morning 'encounter' sounded funny.

Addressing the audiences at the India Today Conclave East, Sushil said he is against lynchings and 'this kind of encounters'.

"I am personally against lynching and this kind of encounter. People are celebrating this, but they [the four rape

accused] should have been punished under the law. The cops' version of the story sounds funny," Sushil Modi said.

Several retired and serving police officers cautioned against doubting the police in the encounter killing of four accused in the gang rape and murder of a 25-year-old veterinarian in Hyderabad, but demanded an independent probe into the incident.

Former Tihar Jail DG Vinla Mehra demanded an enquiry to ascertain the reasons that led to the encounter.

Alok Kumar, former Joint Commissioner of Delhi Police (Crime ranch), said whenever a judicial scrutiny happens, things will be cleared.

"This is a situation that has happened. Two of the policemen also got injured and one of them has serious head injuries. The firing was in self-defence. We should accept things. Subsequently, there will be judicial vetting," he told PTI over the phone.

CBI books Allahabad HC judge...

From Page 1

It was further alleged in the FIR that this petition was heard on August 25 by the Division Bench of Allahabad High Court, Lucknow Bench comprising the accused Judge and an order was passed on the same day, they added.

In order to get a favourable order, an alleged illegal gratification was paid to one of FIR named persons by the private persons of accused medical college, the officials further said.

Searches have led to recovery of certain incriminating documents including investments and financial transactions, the CBI said.

Goa BJP to get new chief by Dec 20

PTI ■ PANAJI

The Goa unit of the BJP will get a new chief by December 20, a senior party functionary said here on Friday.

Rajya Sabha MP Vinay Tendulkar has been heading the party in the coastal state since 2016.

BJP's Goa unit general secretary Sadanand Tanavade said elections for the booth-level presidents of the party are currently on and presidents of North and South districts would be elected by December 15.

"The new State unit president of Goa would be in place by December 20," he said.

THE PIONEER
CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Vikaas Khanna S/o Pawan Khanna R/o H.No.14/202, Vipul Greens, Sohna Road, Gurgaon have changed my son's name from Aryan Khanna to Aryan Raj Khanna. All concerned please note.
PD(8690)C

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice hereby given to the public that Mr. Sahil Khurana and Mrs. Heena Khurana R/O 274 Sunheri Bagh apt. Sector-13 Rohini Delhi-85 is owner of property no. 1665 Bhagirath Palace Chandni Chowk Delhi-110006. Following original documents of the above mentioned property has been lost or misplaced and we are mortgaging the above mentioned property with HDFC Bank.
1. Settlement deed dated 31.03.1972 registered as Document No.6001 in Add. Book No. II Volume No.2831 at page no. 06 to 10 which was registered on 26.05.1972.
If someone has any objection/dispute over this publication then he/she may contact HDFC Bank Ltd. Mr. Gulvez Ahmed 9891983083.

Unnao immolation, Hyd encounter echo in LS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Incidents of setting afire a rape victim in Unnao and police encounter of alleged rapists in Hyderabad echoed in Lok Sabha on Friday with Opposition and Treasury Benches trading charges of politicisation of the issue against each other.

Leader of opposition Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury who spoke during zero hour created an uproar in the house by saying that while Government was planning to construct a temple for Lord Ram, "sita ko jalaya jar rahan hai" (Sita is being burnt) and accused the Government of inaction. He was referring to the Unnao case in Uttar Pradesh, a BJP-ruled state, where a woman rape-survivor was burnt alive this week by the rape accused on the bail. The woman with 90 per cent burnt is in critical condition in a Delhi hospital.

The Unnao incident in Uttar Pradesh happened a

day after a woman veterinarian in Hyderabad was gang-raped, killed and her body burnt as the stranded woman was seeking help after her two-wheeler's got deflated at a secluded place. All the four alleged rapists of Veterinarian woman were sensationally killed in a controversial 'encounter' on Friday night.

Chowdhury said while there are talks to make Uttar Pradesh a Uttam Pradesh (best State), it is become "Adharm Pradesh" (broadly land of lawlessness).

Intervening, Irani said it was unfortunate that incidents of rape and killing of women are being communalised and politicised. She said the opposition members are not referring to a similar case in Malda in West Bengal.

"Yes, setting afire a woman is condemnable, yes, the rape and killing of a woman is inhuman, but do not politicise the issue. No one has ever communalised the issue in this House," she said

responding to Chowdhury's comments on Unnao rape and killing case in UP.

At this point, Congress MPs TN Prathapan and Dean Kuriakose came to the aisle near the Well and shouted something. One of them was pulled back by some Congress and NCP members. Tamperers rose high with verbal exchanges disrupting the house proceedings. Speaker Om Birla adjourned the house until lunch break. When house resumed proceedings, the Government sought an apology from two Lok Sabha members of the Congress for their "threatening position" towards Irani, when she was speaking on the Unnao rape issue in the House.

"This is the most condemnable behaviour. They came in threatening position...When she was speaking. She is a lady member of the house. It is most uncalled and they should apologise," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said in the House

when it assembled after lunch break.

Meenakshi Lekhi, who was in the Chair, told Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury to ask his party MPs to come to the House and seek an apology. The two MPs did not turn up in the house. The house was then adjourned for the day. The Speaker is expected to take against the two Congress MPs on Monday. The BJP has given a notice to the Speaker to suspend two Congress members for their alleged unruly behaviour against Irani in the House.

Earlier speaking on the rape and Hyderabad police encounter issue during Zero Hour, Lekhi (BJP) said police had to open fire when the accused tried to escape. The MP sought to justify encounter of rape accused.

"Police ko hatiyar sajane ke liye nahin diye gaye" (Police have not been given weapons for keeping as show piece), she said.

Cong divided on encounter of 4 rapists

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress seemed to be a divided lot on the issue of encounter of four accused in Hyderabad on Friday. While senior party leader and a lawyer Abhishek Manu Singhvi has come out in support of the Hyderabad police action, former Home Minister P Chidambaram demanded a thorough probe. Another senior leader of the party and a Lok Sabha member Shashi Tharoor said extra-judicial killings were not acceptable.

While the leaders expressed their opinions and also took to social media party's General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi is all set to launch a protest to highlight the plight of women and farmers across the country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh of which she is incharge. Sources close of the

Priyanka said she has asked workers to ensure fullscale youth and women mobilization for a proposed 'Bharat Bachao Rally' rally on December 14 in national Capital.

The Congress General Secretary is on a two-day visit to Lucknow where she met the strategy group of the party and discussed the law and order situation in the state and how to begin mass protest at the backdrop of Unnao and Hyderabad rape cases in which the victims were burned.

The party however late in the evening officially said that only after a magisterial inquiry a stand can be taken on the encounter of all the four men accused of raping and murdering a 25-year-old Hyderabad woman veterinarian last month.

"A magisterial inquiry is taking place. I just cannot

speak on what will be the outcome of the magisterial inquiry, but we should wait... We need to hear the police version because all encounters cannot be bracketed into the same terminology," Congress MP Ameer Yajnik said at a AICC press conference.

Chidambaram said the encounter should be thoroughly inquired into to find out if it was a genuine encounter. "I am not aware of the facts and what happened in Hyderabad. As a responsible citizen, I can say it must be thoroughly inquired into, to find out if it was a genuine encounter whether they were trying to flee or was it anything else," said Chidambaram who is out on bail after 106 days in Tihar Jail in a corruption case.

"Agree in principle. We need to know more, for instance if the criminals were armed, the police may have

been justified in opening fire preemptively. Until details emerge we should not rush to condemn. But extra-judicial killings are otherwise unacceptable in a society of laws," Tharoor said.

Priyanka took to social media and slammed BJP MP from Unnao, Sakshi Maharaj, for wishing MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, accused of rape on his birthday. "A lawmaker and BJP MP is giving best wishes to rape accused MLA. Only yesterday (Thursday) in Unnao, a rape survivor was set on fire. When lawmakers will stand in support of rape accused, how will anybody fight with the criminals," Priyanka tweeted.

Sakshi had posted his birthday wishes for Sengar from his official Twitter handle on Thursday.

CAG pulls up ordnance factories for delaying arms supply to Army

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pulled up the Ordnance Factories for delays, especially for supplying weapons to the Army, and said it affected the operational preparedness of the force. The factories achieved the production targets for only 49 per cent of items, and the exports decreased by 39 per cent in 2017-18 over 2016-17.

Making these observations in its report tabled in Parliament on Friday, the CAG also expressed concern over producing production orders and said the oldest such order pertained to 2009-10. The report reviewed the performance of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) for the year ended March 2018.

The OFB is producing weapons for the armed forces for the last 150 years and at present has 41 factories spread all over the country with its headquarters in Kolkata. It manufactures the entire range of weaponry including tanks, rifles, ammunition besides stores like clothing.

In its report, the CAG said the OFB received a budgetary grant of ₹14,793 crores for capital and ₹804 crore for rev-



enue expenditures in 2017-18. The Ordnance factories supplied material of ₹14,251 crores to its different indentors in the same period. The Indian Army being the major consumer accounting for nearly 80 per cent of total items.

The report said the factories achieved the production target of only 49 percent of the items and a significant quantity of the Army's demand for some principal ammunition items remained outstanding as on March 31, 2018 thus adversely impacting their operational readiness.

In addition, the exports by the OFB decreased by 39 per cent in 2017-18 over 2016-17. In fact, the watchdog remarked the exports by the OFB during

2013-14 to 2017-2018 was very 'meager' compared to total items produced by the factories. The OFB exports brake parachutes, Prahari guns and Kavach launchers. These items are exported to Italy, Mauritius, Indonesia, Malaysia and Tajikistan. Underlining the need for a road map for enhancement of export activity, the CAG said value of exports decreased by 39 per cent from ₹22.69 crores in 2016-17 to ₹13.94 crores in 2017-18.

As regards pending orders, the CAG said work-in-progress constituted 32 per cent of the total inventory and noted this as area of concern. The report said the oldest pending order pertained to 2009-2010.

Paramilitary set to embrace khadi

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Central paramilitary forces like CRPF, BSF and ITBP are set to adopt signature fabric of the nation — khadi — for uniforms following a directive from Union Home Minister Amit Shah who has sought introduction and use of these products from the cottage sector as part of the ongoing celebration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Besides the adoption of the khadi fabric, the paramilitary forces are also going to introduce only "swadeshi" origin items manufactured by the khadi sector in messes and canteens. Officials of various paramilitary officials have already contacted the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) with their specifications of the fabric and the list of items as also volume of the products required for their canteens and messes.

The KVIC has also provided the samples of the disruptive pattern/camouflage designs of the khadi fabric including woolsens. The uniform fabric will be in the nature of Polykhadi (70 per cent cotton enriched with 30 per cent polyester), cotton besides woolen cloth.

The KVIC has also provided a list of swadeshi items for the messes and canteens like pick-



les, papad, honey, soaps, detergents, shampoos, phenol, tea and mustard oil among others

During a meeting with chiefs of the paramilitary forces recently, Shah instructed the officials to rely on khadi fabric for uniforms and items manufactured by the sector for the canteens and messes.

With a combined strength of nearly 10 lakh serving personnel in the seven paramilitary forces under the command of the Union Home Ministry, the decision is expected to revolutionize the khadi sector and will create lakhs of man-hours for the cottage sector artisans across the country.

Besides the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) which is the biggest with over three personnel in strength and Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), National Security Guards (NSG) and Assam

Rifles (AR) are under the administrative control of the Home Ministry.

After Shah pitched for the khadi fabric and products in the paramilitary forces, the KVIC is set to create a platform for huge number of livelihood opportunities in the Khadi and Village Industries sector which is successfully creating jobs in remote and rural areas, the Commission officials said.

Following the Home Minister's directive, several meetings were held between the KVIC and paramilitary officials. Sources said that the meetings had been going on for the last two weeks and have reached the stage of finalization, after several samples were shared by KVIC for approval by the paramilitary Forces.

The Chairman of KVIC Vinai Kumar Saxena told the Pioneer, "The samples of cotton and woolen uniforms, blankets and camouflage uniform etc. provided by the para-

military forces have been developed by KVIC and submitted to few forces for final approval. The sample developed for camouflage fabric was not only liked by one of the paramilitary forces but was also found quite superior from the existing material used by the forces."

Saxena further said, "This move will not only double the annual turnover of Khadi and Village Industries which is nearly ₹75,000 crores currently, but also create millions of additional man hours for the Khadi artisans who will weave millions of meters of Khadi fabric for our paramilitary forces.

The Khadi fabric is most suitable for the tropical climate conditions in the country as the handwoven fabric is "breathable" in nature and also easy to maintain besides being eco-friendly, he said.

The BSF alone would require 11 lakh metres of fabric for the uniform of nearly 2.5 lakh personnel.

"As the Home Minister has

also asked the forces to keep different village industries' products in all their canteens, it will certainly create faith and confidence among the artisans, as their niche products will now be showcased before the real guards of our nation," Saxena said, adding one the designs are approved, the KVIC will fulfil the supply commitments within two months.

Khadi, which is a symbol of pride and patriotism has been achieving several accolades in the recent past under the current regime.

Quite noticeably, various steps are being taken by KVIC for increasing the sales and promotion of Khadi and Village Industries products, such as sale of Khadi Gift Coupons, partnerships with e-commerce portals for the sale of Khadi products, promotion of pottery at railway stations, ban on import of agarbatti, ban on import of National Flag, new HS Code for 11 khadi products, new Khadi stores and development of centralized Supply modules.

KVIC has also taken a number of initiatives to check the malpractices by various bogus institutions, and penalizing the violators in order to ensure the quality of Khadi and Village Industries products sold under the brand Khadi is pure and genuine.

Min's 'bio-break' forces adjournment of RS proceedings

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A short 'bio-break' by Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Friday forced a brief adjournment of proceedings in the Rajya Sabha as Opposition MPs protested the absence of any Minister in the House when it was discussing private member business.

The house is mostly deserted during this time when individual MPs bring laws that they feel Parliament should enact. In almost all cases, such Bills are turned down by the House.

According to the procedure, a Cabinet Minister is present during such a discussion. On Friday, Law and Telecom Minister Prasad was on roster

duty. Congress member BK Hariprasad pointed out there was no Cabinet Minister present in the House. This prompted Derek to stop midway, citing rules.

This was the time TMC's Derek O'Brien was to table his The Elder Persons (Care and Protection) Bill calling for a national policy to ensure the preservation of rights and provision of specialised care to senior citizens.

"I am raising the Bill but my colleagues are saying the Minister is not here... I do not want such an important Bill for elders to become infructuous," he said, demanding adjournment of the proceedings till the Minister is present in the

House. He got support from Congress, Javed Ali Khan of the Samajwadi Party and some other members.

In an attempt to pacify the agitating members, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Hariyansh Narayan Singh stated that the Minister has gone for a washroom break and would be back soon.

V Muraleedharan, the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, also made a statement informing about the short break taken by Prasad but this was not enough to pacify the agitating members. "The minister was here till just now. He has gone for the

washroom, he would be coming back," Muraleedharan said.

The Deputy Chairman also tried to pacify the members saying "I have been informed that he has gone for washroom for 5 minutes. He would come back." On this, Derek asked the Chair to adjourn the proceedings for 10 minutes. "You adjourn the house for the No 1 or No 2 break, whichever," he said. The house proceedings were then adjourned for 10 minutes.

No sooner had the proceedings adjourned, Prasad walked in and looked amused at the turn of the events. After the break, the House resumed functioning.

CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT BILL 'Those who arrived before Dec 31, 2014 eligible'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities, who come from Afghanistan, Bangladesh or Pakistan facing persecution there, will not be treated as illegal immigrants but given Indian citizenship when the proposed amendments to the six-decade-old Citizenship Act come into effect.

According to the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which was distributed among MPs, the new law, however, will not be applicable in the Inner Line Permit (ILP) regime areas and those tribal regions which are governed



under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

The controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB), which generated widespread protests in the Northeastern States, is expected to be tabled in Lok Sabha on

Monday for consideration and passage. The Bill says the refugees entered before December 31, 2014 are eligible to get Indian citizenship.

The Bill also proposes to give immunity to such refugees facing legal cases after being found as illegal migrants. The Bill also says: "Provided further that the person who makes the application for citizenship under this section shall not be deprived of his rights and privileges to which he was entitled on the date of receipt of his application on the ground of making such application."

According to the proposed legislation, the amendment will not be applicable to the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram or Tripura as included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution and in the areas covered under The Inner Line, notified under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873.

NTCA proposal on DWS as tiger reserve fails to convince local bodies

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Tiger Conservation Authority's (NTCA) proposal for declaring the Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary (DWS) in Arunachal Pradesh's Dibang district as tiger reserve has failed to cut any ice with local organisations, including the Idu Mishmi Cultural & Literary Society (IMCLS), the apex body of the community which have called for re-demarcation and review of the protected habitat.

Now, the NTCA has asked the State Government to form a panel to look into the concerns of the public and refixing of erroneous boundary pillars, if any.

According to the minutes of the consultative meeting which was attended by officials of top tiger protection body and State's forest department



with the community in October, the community organisations have made it clear to the Centre that any talk on declaration of the tiger reserve can proceed only after re-demarcation of the area.

Anup Kumar Nayak, head

of the NTCA told *The Pioneer* that a panel comprised of the Dibang Valley district administration, Idu Mishmi organisations, PCCF (Wild) and officials from the forest department will be formed to look into the matter.

He said that the need for declaring the DWS as tiger reserve has been felt after the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India (WII) submitted its research findings saying that 11 big cats were camera-trapped in the DWLS

and the 'Mishmi Hills' in the region. "Upgradation of the sanctuary to the tiger reserve will ensure regular fund and monitoring," said Nayak.

The locals including those representing the IMCLS have been seeking reorganization of the boundary of the DWS from current 4149 sq kms to 2500 sq kms.

The IMCLS and other community members have claimed that the notification of the sanctuary in 1998 was "done unilaterally by suppressing, misleading and misrepresenting the indigenous habitants," depriving the community of their land and their cultural and traditional values.

They also claimed that no consultations was done with the affected local population while notifying the sanctuary. "The indigenous habitants are not against the constitution

of the wildlife sanctuary but pray that the land acquired for the purpose be justified in such (a way) that the traditional values and ancestral land would not be disturbed. The tiger reserve would not be welcomed until the matter of DWLS is amicably resolved," the representation read, as per the minutes of the meeting.

"The total area of Dibang Valley district is 9,149 sq kms, within which the Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary is spread across 4149 sq kms. Half of the district is under the sanctuary," said Eva Mipi of the IMCLS.

However, this is not the first time that the NTCA has sought declaration of the sanctuary as a tiger reserve. It had written to the forest department twice — in 2014 and 2016 seeking the same.

Ex-CRPF chief appointed as senior security adviser in Union Home Ministry



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Former chief of CRPF and adviser to Jammu & Kashmir Governor K Vijay Kumar has been appointed as senior security adviser in the Union Home Ministry. The 1975-batch Tamil Nadu cadre

IPS officer will "advise the Ministry on security related matters of Union Territory of JK and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States," the order said.

The 67-year-old Kumar emerged as super cop after elimination of notorious forest brigand Veerappan in 2004.

HYDERABAD ENCOUNTER

Public hails cops' move

Hyderabad: A large number of people in the city on Friday expressed happiness over the encounter killing of the four accused arrested in the rape and murder of a woman veterinarian near here.

A section of people reached the "encounter" site and congratulated the police and raised slogans in favour of them like "Telangana police zindabad" and "We got justice" and said this would act as a deterrent for people from committing such crimes.

Some women were seen distributing sweets to police personnel.

Members of the public celebrated the killing of the four accused by bursting fire crack-

ers in other parts of the city.

"It has brought peace to soul of Disha and her family has got justice. They (police) have done encounter we are really happy. It will act as a deterrent. Those want to do crime they should fear...The police have done a very good job," a Hyderabad resident said.

Earlier, public anger over the rape and murder of the woman was evident on Saturday last as a restive crowd pelted stones at a police vehicle carrying them to jail.

Protests were also held by different student groups and others at various places in the state, demanding capital punishment for the accused. **PTI**



People raise slogans in favour of police at the encounter site, where four accused in the rape-murder case of a 25-year-old veterinarian were killed in an exchange of fire with police, at Shadnagar of Ranga Reddy district in Hyderabad on Friday **PTI**

It's a result of public anger, says Rupani

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

The Hyderabad encounter of four accused in a rape and murder case was an outcome of public anger against the gruesome crime, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said on Friday.

All four accused in the rape-and-murder case of a 25-year-old woman veterinarian near Hyderabad last month were killed in an exchange of fire with police on Friday morning, police said.

Rupani said the rape and murder of the woman had caused widespread outrage and anger.

There is a feeling that those who commit inhuman crimes should be given harsh punishment, Rupani told reporters at Songadh in Tapi district.

Today morning we received the news that the accused of the gruesome incident in Hyderabad were killed in an encounter.

"There was palpable anger among the people of the country and result of that has come out as an encounter, said Rupani when asked to react to the Telangana encounter killing.

The encounter took place when the accused were taken to the site of the offence for reconstruction of the scene of the crime as part of the investigation.

"They (accused) snatched weapons from police and fired on police and tried to escape... Police fired in retaliation in which the four accused died," a senior Telangana police official said.

Unnao victim's family backs police action

Unnao (UP): The family members of the rape victim who was set ablaze here on Friday said they are "happy" with the death of the Hyderabad rape-and-murder accused in a police encounter and sought "similar punishment" in the Uttar Pradesh case. The Unnao woman was on Thursday allegedly set on fire by five men, including two accused of raping her in December last year.

"We are happy that the rapists in the Hyderabad case were killed in an encounter. We want similar punishment in this case also, otherwise such atrocities will continue," the victim's father said. Her uncle also justified the Hyderabad encounter.

"Such action will instil fear among those involved in such heinous acts. If there is no fear, this will continue," he said. **PTI**

Global media gives prominent coverage to police action

Washington/London: The death of all the four accused in the sensational rape and murder of a young veterinarian in Hyderabad on Friday received prominent coverage in the world media which highlighted the enormous public support while also drawing attention to concerns over the extrajudicial executions.

All four men arrested on November 29 for allegedly raping and killing the 25-year-old woman by smothering her and later burning her body were shot dead by police on Friday during a pre-dawn exchange of fire near Hyderabad, a top police official said.

The Washington Post in a detailed report said the deaths sparked praise in some quarters in a country that has grappled with a series of gruesome crimes against women and girls. But activists and lawyers said the shootings bore the hallmarks of extrajudicial killings.

Killings by police of suspected criminals are so widespread in India that they have their own terminology. Such incidents are known as "encounter" killings, and the officers involved typically state



that they acted in self-defence. But activists say that in practice, police officers enjoy broad impunity and that the killings are not followed by thorough investigations, the report said.

Terming it as one of India's "most troubling" rape cases of recent months, The New York Times noted that the chilling incident was brought to a sudden and shocking end on Friday.

"The officers are being hailed as heroes, and were showered with rose petals by residents who thronged the streets of Hyderabad to celebrate what they saw as an act of swift retribution for a horrific crime. So many people poured into the streets on Friday to celebrate that traffic was brought to a standstill," it said. The woman's charred remains were found near a highway underpass on November 27, sparking nationwide outrage and protests in several major cities including Bengaluru and New Delhi. **PTI**

Justice should be done only via judicial system: Raj Ministers

Jaipur: Two Rajasthan Ministers on Friday said the rape accused in Hyderabad should have been caught alive by the police and that justice should be provided only through judicial means.

While the state's Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal said that rapists should be hanged as soon as possible but only through the judicial system, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Bhanwar Lal Meghwal said that encounters are not the solution to crimes.

"There is no doubt over the quantum of punishment to rapists. There should be speedy trial and they must be awarded death penalty by the courts. But as far as encounter is concerned, this raises doubts and many questions," Dhariwal said.

He questioned why the policemen could not catch the rape accused alive in Hyderabad and instead encountered them.

"Several questions are raised when an encounter happens. When the police force was present there, why they could not catch the rape accused alive?"

If an accused is found guilty of rape, he must definitely get death punishment but only through court," he told **PTI**.

Dhariwal also said that the Government should ban porn content on the internet. **PTI**

BSY backs police action

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Friday backed the Telangana police action killing four accused in the rape and murder of a woman veterinarian near Hyderabad, saying they acted in self-defence.

"They (accused) tried to attack and escape when they were taken to spot (of crime), so the encounter was inevitable to save their (police) lives," he told reporters here. According to Cyberabad police, the four, arrested in connection with the brutal incident, were shot dead after they 'attacked' the personnel and attempted to escape when taken to the spot for crime reconstruction early Friday. **PTI**

Malik, Gorhe disapprove of encounter killings

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Fear would have been instilled in the people's minds had the Hyderabad woman veterinarian rape-murder case's accused been hanged in public square after following due legal process, NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik said on Friday.

Malik also disapproved of the killings of the four accused in an encounter in Hyderabad, saying justice cannot be delivered in an "unjust manner".

All four accused in the rape-and-murder case of the 25-year-old veterinarian near Hyderabad last month were killed in an exchange of

fire with police on Friday morning, police said.

"The accused were killed in an encounter. But this is not the way of giving justice. Justice cannot be delivered in an unjust way," Malik told reporters here.

"Fear would have instilled in the minds of the people had they been hanged in chowks after following law and due judicial process," he added.

The Hyderabad encounter took place around 6.30 am when the accused were taken to the site of the offence for reconstruction of the scene of the crime as part of the investigation, a senior police official said.

"They (accused) snatched weapons from police and fired on police and tried to escape... Police fired in retaliation in which the four accused died," a senior Telangana police official said.

Shiv Sena leader Neelam Gorhe said the accused should have been punished after following the due process of law.

"I see this is as a conspiracy...It was important that the accused were punished as per law," Gorhe told TV9 Marathi news channel. She also said it has been observed in many encounters in the past that police themselves ask accused to run away and then open fire at the latter.

'Happy' that someone got justice: Akhilesh Yadav

Lucknow: Hours after all four accused in the rape-and-murder of a 25-year-old woman veterinarian were killed in an encounter with police in Hyderabad on Friday, Samajwadi Party supreme Akhilesh Yadav said he was "happy" that someone got justice.

The four men, all lorry workers, aged between 20 and 24, were arrested on November 29 for raping and killing the woman by smothering her and later burning her body. They were remanded to seven days' judicial custody.

According to Hyderabad police, the

accused were shot dead around 6.30 am on Friday when they tried to escape after they were taken to the site of the offence for reconstruction of the scene of the crime.

"Those running away from law...How far could they run from justice. I am happy that someone has got justice but real happiness will come when there will be effective preventive security arrangements and social atmosphere that such heinous crimes never happen with any sister or daughter," Yadav tweeted in Hindi, without mentioning the Hyderabad encounter. **PTI**

Kathua rape victim's family expresses satisfaction

Jammu: The family of an eight-year-old girl, who was gang-raped and murdered in Kathua in January last year, expressed satisfaction over the encounter killings in Hyderabad, saying at least the family of the victim will not have to face "nightmare" of lengthy trial.

The biological father of the Kathua victim, Mohammed Akhtar, told **PTI** over phone from his residence in Samba, 30 km from here, that if these peo-

ple had indulged in the heinous crime, "I feel justice has been done with the victim and her family".

They deserved death for what they have done and their end would at least relieve the veterinarian's family of the ordeal of the courts and lurking threat of the acquittal of the accused. All four accused in the rape-and-murder of a 25-year-old woman veterinarian last month were killed by police on Friday morning. **PTI**

Didi to oppose Citizenship Bill tooth & nail

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Mamata Banerjee on Friday said that she was ready to support a religion-neutral Citizenship Amendment Bill and said her party would "oppose tooth and nail the Bill in its current shape."

Attacking the Narendra Modi Government for bringing a communally oriented bill, the Bengal Chief Minister said there was no difference between the National Register for Citizens (NRC) and the Citizenship Amendment Bill both of which were the two sides of the same coin.

Speaking on the 27th anniversary of the Babri mosque demolition, Banerjee said NRC has claimed 30 lives in Bengal and she would not allow more deaths to happen in the State.

"We have seen 30 deaths in Bengal due to the NRC panic. No more deaths should follow.

The Government is trying to create a communal divide among the citizens by introducing this Bill... no citizen can be given citizenship on the basis of religion. This is unconstitutional," Banerjee said adding she was ready to support a religion-neutral bill.

In its current shape the bill scheduled to be tabled on December 9, Banerjee said, "both NRC and CAB are the two sides of the same coin and both are unconstitutional in their present form."

The amended bill seeks to grant citizenship to people without valid documents from minority communities (read only Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians) from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan after six years of residence in India.

Union Home Minister has on multiple occasions gone on record saying that "no Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain and



Christian who have migrated from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh following persecution would be deprived of citizenship in India."

The new CAB would amend the Citizenship Act of 1955. The Trinamool Congress on Friday said that it has issued a whip directing its MPs to remain present in Parliament on December 9 when it would be tabled.

The party would oppose the bill in parliament. Banerjee told the gathering in Kolkata that her party would oppose the bill at all level regardless of

the fact that BJP with its brute majority might get it passed in Parliament.

"You (BJP) have majority and may pass CAB in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. But we will not accept it and will oppose till the end because we do not believe in religious discrimination.

Referring to the recent Unnao incident in Uttar Pradesh where a rape victim was set on fire, Banerjee said the state's BJP government had not provided security to the victim. Slamming the BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh for allowing the "Unnao rape victim to be burnt alive" by tormentors Banerjee said "both the Hyderabad and Unnao incidents are shameful," wondering "why was there a security lapse for the Unnao girl who had earlier faced life-threatening attacks on her. My heart bleeds for the victims"

Both Unnao and Hyderabad incidents shameful: Mamata

Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday said both Hyderabad and Unnao incidents are "shameful" and demanded stringent legislation to deal with cases of rape.

Her comment comes in the backdrop of all the four accused in the rape and murder of a young veterinarian in Hyderabad being killed in an encounter on Friday during a pre-dawn exchange of fire near the Telangana capital.

The news of death of the gangrape accused was welcomed by some and sparked concern over "extra-judicial" killings among others.

"Law should always take its own course and no one can take it into their own hands," she said in a veiled reference to the incident. Banerjee, a strident critic of the BJP, referred to the ghastly incident at Unnao in Uttar Pradesh where a rape survivor

was set on fire by her tormentors and sustained 90 per cent burns, and said that the government in that State had not provided security to the victim.

"Both the Hyderabad and Unnao incidents are shameful. My heart bleeds for the victims. There should be stringent laws to deal with such crimes," the chief minister said.

"We do not tolerate any crimes against women. Everyone knew about the Unnao case, yet attempts were made to burn the victim," she said.

Banerjee said safety for women will never be compromised in West Bengal. "Police, administration and judiciary will carry out their duties.

Instructing the police to file chargesheet in cases of crimes against women within 10 days, she said the State administration will take stringent steps in case of police inaction. **PTI**

Nitish blames porn sites for rapes, would write to the Centre seeking ban

Gopalganj (Bihar): Blaming porn sites for the rising incidence of sexual crimes against women, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday urged the Centre to ban all such internet platforms which professed voyeuristic pleasure through video clips of rapes purportedly filmed by the perpetrators themselves.

Referring to the infamous rape and murder case of Hyderabad after which a couple of similar incidents have been reported from Buxar and Samastipur districts of Bihar, Kumar said he was planning to write a letter to the centre seeking a complete ban on such sites across the country.

"A disgusting trend has been witnessed. Incidents involving women in far-off Hyderabad, in Bihar, in UP. In all places. I have always

expressed reservations about the social media and the ill-effects of technology, while not denying its enormous benefits," Kumar who is techno-savvy and an engineer by training said here.

The chief minister was in this north Bihar district on the final day of the first phase of his "Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Yatra" during which he proposes to cover the entire length and breadth of the state with his message for environmental conservation and combating climate change. In his nearly 45-minute-long address, Kumar referred to sexual crimes after speaking about his thrust on climate change which, he asserted, was in line with his social reform measures like prohibition and campaigns against child marriage and dowry. **PTI**

A day after snub, WB Gov visits Assembly gracefully

Kolkata: A day after high-voltage drama, West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar went inside the West Bengal Legislature Assembly complex on Friday through the gate designated for him, and said he is ready to sit for talks with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Dhankhar who was on Thursday made to wait outside the Assembly as the gate designated for his entry was locked and made entrance through a gate meant for media persons and officials, on Friday went inside with his wife through the gate designated for the Governor.

He was warmly received by House Marshal, other officials and the MLAs. However, Speaker

Biman Banerjee, who was present in the house was not there to receive the Governor, as he was attending a Business Advisory (BA) committee meeting.

Undeterred by his experience the previous day, Dhankhar returned to the Assembly premises on Friday to pay floral tribute at the statue of Dr B R Ambedkar on his birth anniversary.

Dhankhar, who has been at loggerheads with the TMC government on several issues since his arrival here in July last, said he is ready to sit for talks with the chief minister.

He told reporters at the Assembly that it is not for the first time that he has spoken about it (talks with cm). **PTI**

Has Manmohan lost narration about anti-Sikh riots of 1984?

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

The narration about the anti-Sikh riots of 1984 that happened in the national Capital immediately after the assassination of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had taken a new turn on December 4, Wednesday, with former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh charging PV Narasimha Rao, the then Home Minister, responsible for the pogrom which claimed the lives of more than 3,000 Sikhs.

While addressing a meeting organised in New Delhi, Manmohan Singh said that Rao failed to summon the Army to put an end to the riots and this was the reason for the murder and mayhem of thousands of innocent Sikhs in Delhi as a retaliation for the assassination of Indira

Gandhi by two members of her security wing, both of whom belonging to the Sikh community.

"When the sad event of 1984 took place, Gujarat Ji on that same sad evening went to the then Home Minister P V Narasimha Rao, and said to him that the situation is so grave that it is necessary for the government to call the army at the earliest. If that advice would have been heeded, perhaps the massacre that took place in 1984 could have been avoided," Singh is quoted as saying.

Though Gujral lived up to November 30, 2012 (28 years, to be precise), he has not uttered anywhere about the meeting he had with Rao and his request to summon the Army to prevent the anti-Sikh riots. Gujral has not mentioned anywhere about the meeting

between him and Rao as alleged by Singh.

Interestingly, in his widely read autobiography "Matter of Discretion", published in 2011, Gujral has written a lot about Narasimha Rao and his tenure as Foreign Minister in the Cabinet of Indira Gandhi. But in the chapter dealing with the assassination of Indira Gandhi, Gujral has indirectly blamed Rajiv Gandhi for the anti-Sikh riots that shook the conscience of humanity.

"To this day, I don't know for certain under what circumstances and on whose advice she had first imposed internal emergency in June 1975 and later let the Bhindranwale crisis fester, ending in the fateful Operation Bluestar! These two decisions had blotted her otherwise fair name and bright era. The mis-

fortune did not end with her death. The era of her son Rajiv Gandhi began ominously with the torrent of anti-Sikh riots, which continue to haunt the nation to this day," writes Gujral in Chapter 32 (Indira Gandhi's Assassination-page 246).

After going through the book, one gets the impression that Gujral had no love lost for Rao. He describes that Narasimha Rao's emergence as Prime Minister was pure accident.

"Nobody ever expected it. Not even he himself! In fact even before the general elections were announced, after the fall of Chandrasekhar's Government, Rao had decided to retire from public life.

His decision was motivated by the fact that his influence in the Congress Party had declined to such an extent that he was not even

considered for membership of Parliament. It was indeed callous how an extremely capable leader and a scholar to boot who had spent all his life in politics was so contemptuously discarded by the powers that be, as if he had never existed," says Gujral (Page 344-345 Chapter 49).

The question being asked is if Gujral could be so open minded about Rao and G K Mooppanar (whose Prime Ministerial dreams immediately after the 1996 elections were demolished by none other than the latter's acolyte P Chidambaram and DMK leader M Karunanidhi), why the diplomat-turned-politician should hide this incident from the general public? The answer is Manmohan Singh has lost some links somewhere in this discourse. **PTI**

VIDARBHA IRRIGATION SCAM

ACB clean chit to Ajit Pawar

PTI ■ NAGPUR

Maharashtra's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has given a clean chit to NCP leader and former deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar in the multi-crore Vidarbha irrigation scam.

The ACB, in its affidavit submitted in the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court, has ruled out Pawar's involvement in cases of alleged irregularities in approval and commissioning of irrigation projects in the State.

The affidavit was submitted on November 27, a day before the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government of the Shiv Sena—NCP—Congress was sworn-in in the State on November 28.

The court had asked the ACB to clarify its stand on the role of Pawar, a former Water Resources Development Minister, in these cases.

Pawar, the NCP MLA from Baramati in Pune district, was Water Resources Development Minister during 1999-2009 when the Congress—NCP combine was in power in Maharashtra.

Pawar had also served as chairman of Vidarbha



Irrigation Development Corporation (VIDC), which had cleared irrigation projects in which irregularities were alleged.

The affidavit said there were lapses on the part of executing agencies of the tender work — that is engineers, divisional accountants and respective contractors of these projects.

"However, the VIDC chairman/Minister of Water Resource Department (WRD) cannot be made responsible for the acts of the executing agencies as there is no legal duty on his part," it stated.

The ACB is inquiring into a total of 2,654 tenders related to 45 projects of VIDC as per two PILs filed in 2012 before the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court.

On November 25, the anti-graft agency had said it has closed probe in nine cases of

alleged corruption in irrigation projects, but clarified none of them was linked to Pawar.

"These enquiries were closed as no criminal offence was made out after enquiry against anyone. None of these nine enquiries was in respect to Ajit Pawar, the then chairman of VIDC," the ACB had said.

About the November 27 affidavit, a senior ACB official said the court had asked the agency to submit a 'status report' on the VIDC scam before November 28.

"We have not closed inquiry into the VIDC cases. In some cases we have filed chargesheets and investigation is also going on. Similarly, investigation into FIRs related to these cases are also going on."

"We have submitted the status report on investigation going on into tenders that were issued (by VIDC)," he said.

He said the HC had asked the ACB to submit a report on the PIL filed by one Atul Jagtap concerning award of tenders for an irrigation project in Amravati. Pawar was named a respondent in this PIL.

"Concerning this we had, in our previous affidavit, written that we have referred this matter to the government for opinion. "Now, we have got opinion from the Government that Ajit Pawar was not involved in it (the scam) and this we have communicated to the court a few days back.

"Besides, Ajit Pawar was never an accused in any of our cases and investigation into Vidarbha irrigation tender cases are still on," the ACB official said.

The November 27 affidavit said, "There are two allegations against the (then) chairman of VIDC (Pawar) —(A) regarding grant of sanction to the liability of the tender cost including that of updated cost and (B) grant of mobilisation advance to the contractor despite there was no mention of the same in the tender booklet."

"Detailed enquiries/investigations have been conducted in this regard and opinion of the expert committee members appointed by the Government for advise in the course of enquiry on technical issues have been obtained. Similarly, queries were referred to Government also," it said.

'BJP's move to form Govt in Maha with Ajit Pawar's support was misadventure'



Kolkata: Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi said on Friday that the BJP's move to form Government in Maharashtra with the support of Sharad Pawar's nephew Ajit Pawar was a "misadventure".

He said the BJP might have had a "misplaced faith" on Ajit Pawar for getting the numbers to form Government and "so this has happened".

"It was a misadventure. Rather I will say a miscalculation," the BJP leader said at the 'India Today Conclave East' here.

In the last week of November, BJP's Devendra Fadnavis was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra for the second time with the help of Ajit Pawar, who broke away from the NCP along with some party MLAs.

However, failing to gather the numbers for proving majority, Fadnavis had to resign, even as Ajit Pawar patched up with his uncle and went

Thackeray, Pawar discuss portfolio allocation

Mumbai: Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and NCP chief Sharad Pawar met here on Friday evening to discuss allocation of portfolios and expansion of the week-old Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government in the state.

The meeting at Nehru Center was attended by Shiv Sena leaders Eknath Shinde, Sanjay Raut and Subhash Desai, and the NCP's Ajit Pawar and Jayant Patil, sources said.

Pawar stressed the need for allocation of portfolios to the ministers who were sworn in with Thackeray on November 28 at the earliest, sources said.

Portfolio allocation is likely to happen on Monday, but before that another meeting could be held with Congress leaders, they added. The expansion of council of ministers will be done after the winter session of State legislature, sources said.

J&K highway reopened after remaining closed for 15 hrs

Banihal/Jammu: The Jammu-Srinagar national highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, was reopened for vehicular traffic on Friday after remaining closed for 15 hours following a landslide in Ramban district, an official said.

The highway has been reopened for vehicular traffic on Friday and only stranded vehicles have been allowed to move, the official said.

The 270-km highway was blocked by the landslide at around 5 pm on Thursday, the official said, adding that over 1,000 vehicles were stranded.

Three people had a narrow escape when a truck came under the debris of a landslide and got trapped at Ramban's Mehar belt, the official said.

There is a traffic jam on the highway's Banihal section, the official added.



BJP on cloud nine after favourable K'taka exit polls

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

The ruling Karnataka Government led by Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa even though waiting for bypoll results is in a celebration mood.

The prediction of exit polls by some of the local channels has given a majority to the saffron party which consolidate Lingayat strongman's position in the State. S Prakash the State media coordinator said they were confident of winning more than 11 seats and expects decimation of both Congress and the JD(S) in Karnataka. He said "we are confident we will win in most of the seats but sure to win in 11 seats which gives us more than majority in the Government. All the exit polls conducted have been predicting a big win for us. This is because of our PMs good work and also the brilliance of our national president Amit Shah."

For the first time Karnataka has faced 15 bypolls at a time and crucial for both the ruling BJP and the Congress which is struggling to keep its identity in Karnataka. Yediyurappa who has taken a challenge and accommodated all the rebels who have contested his position to answer both his detractors inside and



in Delhi. Yediyurappa who is leading a minority Government needs seven more seats to consolidate his position in the 224 member house. Two more bypolls are pending. The rebels who were responsible for the fall of Kumaraswamy led JDs and Congress Government have all been contesting the polls.

Yediyurappa said he was sure of winning in almost all the places. He blamed Congress and said they have failed to give a good governance along with JDs in the State. His close aides were happy on the predictions of the exit polls and feel that it would help him to consolidate his position in state politics.

The vernacular TV channels for the first time getting into the exit poll business and given full majority to BJP. The exit polls in predict that the ruling BJP will win the majority of Thursday's by-elections in 15 Assembly segments. Power TV, a Kannada news channel, has estimated a minimum of eight and a maximum of 12

Assembly seats for the BJP. For Congress, it predicted three to six wins in the by-elections and 0 to two seats for Janata Dal (Secular).

Public TV, also a Kannada news channel, predicted 8 to 10 seats for BJP, 1 to 2 seats for JD (S) and 3 to 5 for the Congress. BT, another vernacular news channel, estimated the BJP to win 9 to 11 seats, 0 to 2 seats for JD(S) and 2 to 4 seats for the Congress. Power TV, a Kannada news channel, has estimated a minimum of eight and a maximum of 12 Assembly seats for the BJP. This will come as a massive booster shot for Chief Minister Yediyurappa.

In 4,185 polling stations, 37.77 lakh electors, including 4,711 service electors, cast their votes on Thursday, the Election Commission said. On Thursday, the by-elections were held in Athani, Kagwad, Gokak, Yellapura, Hirekerur, Ranibennur, Vijaynagara, Chickballapura, K.R. Pura, Yeshwanthpura, Mahalakshmi Layout, Shivajinagara, Hosakote, K.R. Pete and Hunsur. As many as 248 candidates, 234 males and 14 females, contested the by-elections for 15 constituencies in the state. Counting of votes will take place on December 9.

JKNPP calls for 'Jammu bandh' on December 7 against internet blockade, Samba toll plaza

Jammu: The JKNPP on Friday called for a 'Jammu bandh' on December 7 to protest the internet blockade following the abrogation of certain provisions of Article 370 and the setting up of a toll plaza at Sarore.

The Congress said it will support the 'bandh'. "We appeal to the people to participate in the peaceful bandh tomorrow (Saturday) against the authoritarian moves of the government. Over 34 organisations, including traders, transporters and students are supporting our 'bandh' call," Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) chairman Harsh Dev said. He accused the government of "ruthlessly suppressing" the genuine aspirations of the "nationalist" people of the Jammu region.

"It is an insult to the people of Jammu who are being subjected to an internet gap and a communication blockade," he added.

Internet services in Jammu & Kashmir have been suspended since August 5, when the Centre revoked the erstwhile state's special status under Article 370 and announced the decision to bifurcate it into

two Union territories. Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy, in response to a written question in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, said the restrictions had been imposed to check aggressive anti-India social media posts being pushed from Pakistan to instigate the youth in the valley. Referring to newly set up toll plaza at Sarore in Samba district, Dev said the city of temples was being converted into a "city of toll plazas".

The toll plaza at Sarore was inaugurated by the National Highway Authority of India on October 11, drawing a strong reaction from the people from all sections of the society and political parties. Private buses stayed off the roads for days as transporters went on a strike and staged demonstrations at different places against the setting up of the toll plaza. A Congress spokesperson said the party will support the 'bandh' call given by the JKNPP.

Abrogation of Art 370 true tribute to Ambedkar: Yogi

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that abrogation of Article 370 which gave special status to Jammu & Kashmir was the true tribute to Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar who fought for the unity of the country but was ignored by the then ruling Congress party.

Congress leaders were jealous of Dr Ambedkar's talent because of which they never paid heed to him. Despite the warnings of Babasaheb, they added Article 370 to the Constitution in 1952. As expected, this Article became the cause of separatism.

Finally, Prime Minister Narendra Modi honoured Dr Ambedkar by abrogating this Article," Yogi said while addressing a programme organised by Dr Ambedkar Mahasabha to mark Dr Ambedkar's Parinirvan Diwas here on Friday.

The Chief Minister said that post-Independence, many promises were made for the welfare of the most deprived section of society but no work was done with honesty.

"Had the work been done, the social and financial disparity would have been removed to a considerable extent by now. Actually, those who made the promises had no intention of fulfilling them. These were the same people who murdered the Constitution, whose architect was Dr Ambedkar. Those who insulted the Constitution are today fighting for their own survival," he said. Praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister said that "actual work in the interest of the poor has been done by the Prime Minister and we are carrying it forward".

NSUI calls for bandh of Gujarat colleges on recruitment exam issue

PTI ■ AHMEDABAD

The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) on Friday gave a call for a State-wide bandh of all colleges in Gujarat on December 7 over the issue of alleged irregularities in the recruitment exam held last month.

The students' wing of the Congress gave the bandh call to express solidarity with the youths demanding cancellation of recruitment exam over the allegations of irregularities.

Meanwhile, a large number of youths continued with the protest in Gandhinagar for the third consecutive day on Friday over their demand for cancellation of the exam, even as the State Government on Thursday announced formation of a four-member SIT to probe alleged irregularities, including mass-copying and paper leak.

The protesters alleged that the announcement of SIT was just an eyewash and said their protest will continue until the government scraps the exam.

Gujarat NSUI president, Mahipalsinh Gadhvi, said, "Both- NSUI and Youth Congress- are with the agitating candidates. We fully sup-



port their demand for cancellation of the exam."

"We have given a college-bandh call for tomorrow in the state. I appeal to all students and college authorities to refrain from academic work on Saturday and show solidarity with these youths and their demand," he added.

The agitators warned that they will not budge till the government accepts their demand.

"Formation of SIT was not our demand. What is there to probe when all the evidence is available? This SIT is just an eyewash. We will not back down till the Government cancels the exam," said one of the agitators.

Hundreds of job aspirants, who had appeared for the written test conducted by the Gujarat Subordinate Service Selection Board (GSSSB) on November 17, are part of the protest, seeking cancellation of the exam held for recruiting 3,910 non-secretariat clerks and office assistants.

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

E-TENDER NOTICE

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

Sl. No.	Job No.	Name of work	Amount in Lac
A 1	04/GM(R)/SM (WC-2)/2019-20	D/o Village (P/L C.C. in Ambedkar Vihar Sector-37), Noida.	₹ 36.51
B 2	02/GM(R)/SM (WC-3)/2019-20	M/o Road (P/L BC in Internal road of Block F-64C area Sector-40), Noida.	₹ 36.21
C 3	17/GM(R)/SM (WC-1)/2019-20	M/o Drain (Strengthening of drain from Rose Garden Sector-6 to B1 Sector-1), Noida.	₹ 43.13
D 4	29/GM(R)/SM (WC-1)/2019-20	M/o Drain (Repair of drain, P/L Interlocking tile & Refixing of Tile from Electric Sub Station to Laxmi Narayan Temple in Sector-56), Noida	₹ 39.88

Which can be uploaded by Date **16.12.2019** upto **5.00 PM**. Pre-Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date **17.12.2019** at **11.00 AM**.

Which can be uploaded by Date **23.12.2019** upto **5.00 PM**. Pre-Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date **24.12.2019** at **11.00 AM**.

General Manager (R)
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CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Gorakhpur: Hindu outfits celebrate demolition of Babri mosque; AIMIM observes black day

Gorakhpur (UP): The Bajrang Dal and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad here on Friday celebrated the 27th anniversary of the demolition of the Babri mosque as "Shaurya Diwas" while the AIMIM observed it as a black day.

Members of the VHP and the Bajrang Dal gathered at the Kali temple in the Daudpur area of Gorakhpur, reciting the Hanuman Chalisa.

The AIMIM on the other hand demonstrated outside the office of the district magistrate, seeking punishment for those behind the razing of the dis-

puted structure. Members of the AIMIM also handed over a memorandum addressed to the president to City Magistrate Umesh Mishra in this regard.

Addressing the gathering at the Kali temple, Bajrang Dal office-bearer Durgesh Tripathi said in 1528, emperor Babar's commander Mir Baqi had demolished the Ram temple in Ayodhya and constructed a mosque as a symbol of victory.

For the construction of the temple, our ancestors fought 76 battles, he claimed. "On December 6, 1992, a

wave from the Hindu community erased the symbol of insult and this year on November 9, the Supreme Court cleared the hindrance in the way of the construction of a Ram temple," he said.

City VHP president Vijay Khemka appealed to the Hindus to come forward and work to make the community aware and strong.

Meanwhile, AIMIM's district president Mohd Islam said the hearing of cases against the accused of the Babri mosque demolition should be fast tracked and punishment be given to them.

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"e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No.10 /E.E.(Gen.)/RPS/Klg/2019-20

- Name of the Work :** Design, Engineering, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of LT Panel of latest technology at Ramganga Power Station.
- Estimated Cost :** Rs. 98,87,500.00 (Rs. Ninety Eight Lac Eighty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Only) GST extra as applicable.
- Period of Completion :** Supply within 6 week from the date of start. Work Part to be completed of the each unit (LT Panel) Within 15 days from the handing over that particular unit.
- Date & Time of start of availability of bid document in the portal :** 06.12.2019 16:00 Hrs on wards.
- Last Date & Time for receipt of bid in the portal :** 26.12.2019 up to 16:00 Hrs.
- Last Date & Time for submission of hard copy of documents :** 28.12.2019 up to 16:00 Hrs.
- Date of opening of bid on the website :** 31.12.2019 at 11:00 Hrs. onwards.
- Name & Address of the officer inviting the bid :** Executive Engineer (Gen.), Ramganga Power Station, Kalagari, Pauri Garhwal.

9. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in".

पत्र सं. 699 / दिनांक: 05.12.2019

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT 24th FLOOR,
DR. SPM CIVIC CENTRE J.L. NEHRU MARG, NEW DELHI-11 0002
F-/DIT/SDMC/2019-20/14D- 899. Dated: 06.12.2019

Subject:- Selection of Vendor for providing internet bandwidth, AMC & Maintenance of IT infrastructure, Network Management for the three Corporations of Delhi. online bids are invited through e-tender portal of SDMC "for selection of vendor for providing internet bandwidth, AMC & Maintenance of IT infrastructure, Network Management for the three Corporations of Delhi". Request for proposal (RFP) with detailed terms and conditions can be downloaded from the website-www.tenderwizard.com/ **SOUTHDMCETENDER** and http://www.mcdonline.gov.in/tril/sdmc_mcdportal/newtenderlist.php. Last date of submission of tender documents is 27.12.2019 at 15:00 hrs. Please note the bid submission is only through the e-tendering portal i.e <http://www.tenderwizard.com/> **SOUTHDMCETENDER** for the registered users. All details of Revisions, Clarifications, Corrigendum, Addendum, Time extension etc, if any, in respect of these tenders will be uploaded on SDMC website i.e http://mcdonline.gov.in/tril/sdmc_mcdportal/newtenderlist.php. (under News & Events) & e Tendering portal i.e www.tenderwizard.com/ **SOUTHDMCETENDER** and will not be published in newspaper (s). Bidders should regularly visit the website to keep themselves regularly updated in respect of these tenders.

RO No. 123/DPI/S/2019-20 **AC (IT)**

PUBLIC NOTICE

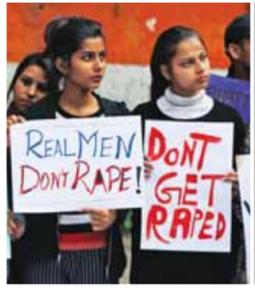
NOTICE is hereby given that UNITED SPIRITS LIMITED, a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and having its Registered Office at UB Tower, 24, Vittal Mallya Road, Bengaluru - 560 001, is the owner of a land situated at: Village Runi Chursai, Tehsil Farukhabad, District Farukhabad, Uttar Pradesh (Said Land); which was acquired by one, Bakarpur Simbholi Beverages Limited, which was subsequently amalgamated with Shaw Wallace Distilleries Limited, which later amalgamated with McDowell & Company Limited, which later changed its name to United Spirits Limited. The said United Spirits Limited has lost/misplaced (1) Original Sale Deed executed between (i) Draggal Singh son of Subedar Singh, (ii) Ram Singh son of Rajbahadur Singh, (iii) Amrita Cold Storage Private Limited and Bakarpur Simbholi Beverages Limited registered on 15.02.1992 at Sl. No. 788, Vol. No. 2274/2285, Book No.1 at pages 128/157 to 160 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Farukhabad; (2) Original Sale Deed executed between Rakesh Singh son of Ragpal Singh and Bakarpur Simbholi Beverages Limited registered on 15.02.1992 at Sl. No. 791, Vol. No. 2274/2285, Book No.1 at pages 128/169 to 172 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Farukhabad; and (3) original Sale Deed executed between (i) Ramdatta, (ii) Hariaram, (iii) Bhagwandas all sons of Susala and (iv) Ramsaran son of Baburam and Bakarpur Simbholi Beverages Limited registered on 15.02.1992 at Sl. No. 786, Vol. No. 2274/2285, Book No. 1 at pages 128/149 to 152 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Farukhabad, pertaining to the said Land (collectively 'Original Title Deeds'), and in that behalf has filed a missing complaint/ FIR, before the Crime Branch, Delhi on 28.08.2018.

The said United Spirits Limited has instructed us to investigate its title to the Said Land and in the above circumstances, any person having any claim, right, title or interest in or to the Said Land or any part thereof on the basis of the Original Title Deeds, is hereby required to make the same known in writing to the undersigned at the address given below within 7 days from the date of publication of this Notice failing which it shall be presumed that there are no such claims and the same, if any, shall be deemed to be waived and/or abandoned and shall not be binding on our Client.

(Gaurav Jaggi, Advocate)
H.K.J. & Associates
2nd Floor, Manish Chambers, Mayur Vihar, Phase-II, Delhi - 110091
PH: 011-22772666/43053619 | E-mail: partner@hkjlaw.in
Dated: 06.12.2019
Place: Delhi

Let's hold our horses

When civil society celebrates vigilantism, then we are actually absolving the justice system of accountability



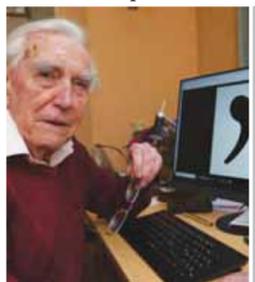
Mahatma Gandhi believed there is a higher court "than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience." That kind of justice flows from the moral choice we make as humans with the full knowledge that we would be responsible for the consequences, some of which will impact society beyond our timeline. Crime and its punishment have been one such choice that we have had to make through civilisations, from "an eye for an eye" medievalism to a civil justice system. The first is instantaneous, the second protracted, the first

douses our raging emotions, the second gives the satisfaction that we aren't just as bad as the killers and deviants and have done absolutely the right thing by respecting behavioural over bestial codes. Yet, civility has little place in these impassioned times. Nobody thinks that the severity of crimes and the savagery of predatory intent have not been tamed even by the ruthless execution of the death penalty. Hence there is a prevalent public sentiment for vigilantism in utter disregard of the law which governs the everyday grid of our lives. That fails, every other civilisational construct fails, humanity fails, evolution fails. So when news trickled in that the Telangana police shot dead four rapists of the 26-year-old veterinarian in an encounter during a crime scene reconstruction, the response in its favour was overwhelming as it soothed collective anger. Inarguably, the societal breaking point didn't happen without a reason. Rape surpasses murder in our country if the National Crime Records Bureau figures are to be believed, at 5 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. Considering the heinousness of the crime, the innocence of the victim, the delayed justice for perpetrators (Nirbhaya death row convicts are still encircling legal loops for seven years) and the continuing violations of women, it is not difficult to gauge the ferocity of public anger. But does that mean that our public institutions and systems should play to the gallery, fan extreme sentiments and encourage gun culture? In the end, outrage cannot justify outrageous behaviour. The police, often tainted by custodial excesses, cannot be seen as giving into frenzy and escaping its responsibility, which is restoring our faith in the justice system with persuasive efficiencies. Killing the accused without a trial definitely won't put them beyond a reasonable doubt.

Let us consider the larger implication of the clamour for death penalty as a deterrent. Even as protests were held to demand death for Hyderabad rapists, a girl was raped and burnt in Bihar, another was raped and strangled to death in Karnataka, two were raped and killed in Rajasthan and Bengal and a rape survivor in Uttar Pradesh (UP) was burnt and is fighting for each breath in hospital. So fragile is the threshold that a dancer at a wedding in UP was shot dead for not complying with certain demands. A rapist/criminal has a devious mind, understands what might get him into trouble and hence has already begun covering his tracks by not just killing but eliminating the victim's remains. The second major problem with a knee-jerk reaction is that we are absolving the police of its failure to do its job. A responsive criminal justice system creates confidence among the citizenry and slows down criminal activity. The Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) says that a trial in rape cases should be completed in 60 days but that never happens because of the tardiness of investigations. Then there are judicial flaws that need to be plugged when it comes to rape, the primary fix being denial of bail to the accused till completion of probes. The average time of finishing trial even in fast track courts is eight months. As for the death penalty, acquittals, appeals and mercy petitions mean that only about five per cent of such verdicts are upheld by the higher courts. A traumatised rape survivor hardly has the courage to go through such travesty and gives up midway. How many of us have been tracking the Nirbhaya case over the last seven years as it has faded from public memory? Also, the law has been classist about convicting rapists who are politicians. While the shoot-at-sight approach is easy enough to use against truck cleaners, let us not forget that the rape accused like Kuldeep Sengar and Swami Chinmayanand are privileged by the politics they practise and had been roaming free before they were put in custody. Many serving MPs are in the dark zone. We need police and judicial reforms to let justice remain credible than return to the laws of the jungle. Every crime, rape included, needs a trial. Guilt should be above suspicion. Otherwise, we cannot stop every other person from picking up the gun, deciding what's best and institutionalising it simply by resorting to it frequently.

The curl of civility

The Apostrophe Society may have wound up but we still need the punctuation mark to make sense of each other



Whatsapp or Wassup or What's up? Chances are that the first two words would be understood as an endearing form of social communication than the friendly and decidedly sincere warmth of the latter. And in a world dependent on texting in 140 words, who wants the complexity of a curl with a knobhead? So long as it sounds all right. That then is the tragedy of the apostrophe in times of instant and individual grammar — the finesse of civility, of indicating possession, ownership and holding up missing words, yielding to the

mass plurality of acceptance. McDonald's is not about ownership of a certain type of burger but all burgers, or McDonalds. Perhaps, this is why one of the oldest crusaders for correct punctuation, retired journalist John Richards, decided to disband the 18-year-old Apostrophe Protection Society. In a sad reflection on the communication skills of the modern world, the 96-year-old founder and chairman said that despite his best efforts he lost the battle for proper usage of the much-abused apostrophe. Attributing the reasons for his defeat to "ignorance and laziness present in modern times," Richards in a way signalled the end of conscientious living to a dumbed down anti-intellectualism. However, this abuse of the apostrophe is not new and for decades purists in the UK and the US have fumed over its misuse by stores which sell "apple's and pear's." Towns and stores around the world are quietly dropping it to make things "simpler" for the common folks. For instance Birmingham dropped it from all road signs in 2009 so that its staff wouldn't have to deal with "complaints about grammar" and British book retailer Waterstone's decided in 2012 to drop the apostrophe from its name so that it reads "Waterstones" to "suit its digital presence."

Nothing can justify playing with grammar and punctuation because they are intended to clarify meaning. The same words used in the same order mean two very different things when punctuated differently. For instance, a sign to advertise the goodies "Pies & Burgers" can be distorted to "Pie's & Burgers", thereby implying that the burger stand belongs to a man named Pie. Or "we're number one" can change to "were number one" if the apostrophe is dropped. Improper punctuation can misrepresent you, spoil that first impression and make you appear uneducated and unprofessional, especially to a prospective employer. Need a Wren & Martin anyone? If not, Richards, whose website registered a 600-fold increase in hits after his decision, will keep that alive at least. His next mission: Commas.

opinion

Doctrine of justice

The basic structure of the Constitution that invokes separation of powers between the three organs of the State and ensures supremacy of the rule of law should guide us all the time



KK PAUL

Whenever an aggrieved person approaches the Supreme Court, he/she is well aware that this body is at the very apex of the judicial hierarchy and that no further appeal is possible before any other authority, beyond this court. As such, the common man would naturally appreciate that this is the end of his/her quest for justice. While this is true, the fact is also that by virtue of the powers vested in the top court, through provisions in Article 142 of the Constitution, it has been empowered to deliver complete justice. So, does this mean that the delivery of justice, except for as provided in Article 142, will remain incomplete or lacking in any manner? While this is obviously not the case, in order to fully appreciate the importance of Article 142 and the meaning of complete justice, we must look back at its genesis and subsequent interpretations over a period of time. For, complete justice travels far beyond the concept of giving justice to a party. Complete justice strives at imparting justice not just for one side, but for all.

While taking Article 210 from the Government of India Act, 1935, a modification was made and the draft Article 118 was finalised by the Constituent Assembly as: "The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any case or matter pending before it." It is this draft that was finally adopted as Article 142 in the final version. This was passed by the Constituent Assembly as it is, and without a debate on May, 27, 1949, except that during the stage of revision, the words "and until provision in that behalf is so made in such manner as the President may by order prescribe" were added to it.

It was observed by the Supreme Court itself that the power to do complete justice is entirely of a different level and quality and cannot be limited or restricted by the provisions of the statutory law. Further, powers have been conferred for due and proper administration of justice and whenever the court sees that the demand for justice warrants exercise of such powers, it will reach out to ensure that justice is done by resorting to this extraordinary provision introduced in the Constitution to meet the demands of just such a situation.

Broadly, the apex court has acted in such matters where there is some manifest illegality or where some palpable injustice has resulted and the grant of relief is beyond the parameters of the statutory law. On certain occasions, the decrees passed under this Article appear to have assumed the shape of executive directions, which are, of course, in larger public interest, from which the society has benefitted immensely. One of the most celebrated matters where such directions were issued under this Article happens to be the 'Taj Trapezium' case. As is well known, on account of severity of environ-



mental pollution in the Agra-Mathura area, the marble of Taj Mahal, an iconic heritage monument, had begun to fade into shades of yellow. The Supreme Court, under Article 142, imposed severe restrictions in the Taj Trapezium zone and ensured stringent enforcement of its orders. This has since resulted in the Taj Mahal returning back to its old glory.

In yet another case, on account of our painfully slow and archaic criminal justice system, it was discovered that in hundreds of cases, undertrial prisoners continued to be in custody for periods more than that prescribed for maximum imprisonment on conviction. All such prisoners were given due relief by the top court.

Similarly in the Bhopal Gas tragedy case, too, the top court, acting under Article 142, while awarding a compensation of \$470 million to the victims, stated that the power under this Article must be exercised sparingly for furthering the ends of justice. But if such power was conditioned by any statutory limitations, it would defeat the very purpose for conferment of such wide powers. In a way, this could be interpreted as the Supreme Court having placed itself beyond and above the statutes. But this impression was subsequently corrected, where it was said that Article 142 could not be used to supplant the existing law but only to supplement the law. However, appli-

cations have varied from case to case as this provision offers a certain degree of elasticity.

On the other hand, there have been cases where the use of Article 142 appears to have gone into the domain of the executive. Very often, legal luminaries have cited the cancellation of coal block allotments in this context, where individual allottees were not heard but penalties were imposed. Similarly, the directions under this Article came under a lot of criticism as the apex court imposed a ban on liquor stores within 500 metres of the national highways as well as the State highways. The order led to hundreds of job losses besides loss of revenue. Ultimately, it was discovered that drunken driving resulted in only 4.2 per cent of the accident cases in 2015 as against 44.2 per cent caused due to over-speeding.

The current debate is on whether Article 142 can be treated as a source of substantive power in ensuring the observance of the due process of the law. The concept of due process of law was originally negated by the Constituent Assembly in favour of a procedure established by the law in relation to Article 210. At the same time, there have been opinions on whether Article 142 confers substantive powers on the apex court or is it merely a procedural instrument? According to former Chief

Justice of India Justice PB Gajendragadkar: "It may be pertinent to point out that the wide powers, which are given to this court for doing complete justice between the parties, do not bind the court to adhere to the relevant procedures if it is satisfied that a departure from the said procedure is necessary to do complete justice between the parties." It is clear that exercising these and similar other powers would mean that Article 142 gives the liberty to the Supreme Court only in matters of procedure. He further elaborated: "An order, which this court can make in order to do complete justice between the parties, must not only be consistent with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution but it cannot even be inconsistent with the substantive provisions of the relevant statutory laws."

In the context of the recently-concluded Ayodhya matter, it has been observed that in assessing the submissions of the parties and arriving at the eventual conclusion, the needs of justice required specific attention to the peculiarities of the case. The case canvassed the rule of law, religion and law and conquest, besides a myriad of conflicting interests. These could not always be comprehended within the available statutory framework applicable to the present facts. All these make the role of the court even more sensitive as it has to craft a relief that accords

with justice, equity and good conscience.

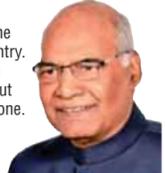
As observed in the judgment, the obliteration of the Islamic structure was an egregious violation of the rule of law. At the same time, it was mentioned that the Supreme Court cannot entertain claims that stem from the actions of the Mughal rulers against Hindu places of worship in a court of law today. But the court went on to say that in exercising the powers under Article 142 of the Constitution, it must ensure that a wrong committed must be remedied. Justice would not prevail if the court were to overlook the entitlement of the Muslims, who have been deprived of the structure of the mosque through means that should not have been employed in a secular nation committed to the rule of law. As our Constitution postulates the equality of all faiths, tolerance and mutual co-existence nourish the secular commitment of our nation and its people.

In conclusion, one can only say that in the normal course, the basic structure of the Constitution invoking separation of powers between the three organs of the State, while at the same time ensuring the supremacy of the rule of law, needs to be our guiding principle at all times, including the application of Article 142 to various situations. (The writer is a retired Delhi Police Commissioner and former Uttarakhand Governor)

SOUNDBITE

Demonic attacks on women have shaken the conscience of the country. A lot of work has been done on this subject but much remains to be done.

President
— Ram Nath Kovind



I've come out of all kinds of tags, don't want them anymore. I'm very comfortable playing all kinds of genres. If anything new comes in, if it's risky and fun, then I'd just go for it.

Actor
— Akshay Kumar



I have always expressed reservations about the social media and the ill-effects of technology, while not denying its enormous benefits.

Bihar Chief Minister
— Nitish Kumar



You cannot kill people because you want to. You cannot take law in your hands, they (accused) would have been hanged by court anyhow.

BJP leader
— Maneka Gandhi



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Signs of failing economy

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "India Inc worried" (December 4). The entire country must have been astonished when Rahul Bajaj, the grandson of the industrialist and freedom fighter, Jammalal Bajaj, spoke out about the atmosphere of fear pervading in India at a recent awards ceremony. He stated that during the tenure of the UPA-II Government, one could openly criticise anyone in power but it is difficult to be sure whether similar criticism would be appreciated by the present dispensation at the Centre.

Bajaj's boldness should not come as a surprise. His son, Rajiv, had trashed the idea of demonetisation within a few months of its execution when the rest of the industrial world accepted it in nervous silence. Yet Bajaj should be applauded for his courage to bring up the issue in front of a number of senior ministers, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah. After all, few can claim to be living with a mind without fear and the head held high. Besides the ambience of fear, Bajaj expressed his concern about the absence of effective action against lynchings and BJP MP Pragna Singh Thakur's alleged remark in Parliament praising Nathuram Godse. Although in his response Shah tried to clear the Government of the allegations, it is a

Questioning the establishment

shame that an industrialist of Bajaj's stature had to hesitate so much while making his point. It should be evident that the nation is suffering at the hands of the people who hardly understand economics, with the gross domestic product falling and unemployment on the rise. The only solace for ordinary citizens is that the influence of the rhetoric of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah on alliance partners and voters seems to be diminishing somewhat.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee
Faridabad



such as the implementation of the National Register of Citizens in Assam, leveraging social divides, keeping opponents besieged by Central agencies and, all the while, managing to spin an idea that all is well simply by juggling data. Worse, it continues to blame

the Opposition for each of its own failures. GDP is at a six-year low, private investment is negligible and unemployment at its peak. The BJP never had the acumen or bench strength in economics.

R Narayanan
Navi Mumbai

Maintain food standards

Sir — Yet another incident of a dead rat being found in the mid-day meal for school children in Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, has been reported. As a matter of

fact, complaints of unhygienic food being served in trains, too, are routine. The system should be such that only packaged food is served both in schools as well as trains. The Government can motivate companies to provide packaged food under the Corporate Social Responsibility provision. A better option would be for the IRCTC to set up units in all districts for providing packaged food for the mid-day meal scheme as well as in trains.

Madhu Agrawal
New Delhi

Dangerous trend

Sir — The Telangana police's claim that the four suspects, accused of the gang-rape and murder of a Hyderabad veterinarian doctor, were killed in an encounter has raised troubling questions. Even as the evidence against them was still to be put through a judicial process, they were killed. This goes against the spirit of democracy.

Rashmi
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Uphold dignity of our courts

The duty to maintain the dignity and decorum of the court depends on both lawyers and judges, no matter how trying the circumstances



MARKANDEY KATJU

A senior Supreme Court (SC) judge recently lost his temper in the apex court at a senior SC lawyer, allegedly because the latter was repeating an argument which had already been made by another lawyer in the same case, and at his retort. The judge reportedly threatened to initiate contempt of court proceedings against the lawyer and convict him. At this remark, the senior lawyer walked out of the courtroom since he could not bear the insult.

I am in America at present and I read about the incident on the internet. So I shot off an email to the senior lawyer concerned asking for his version of the appalling incident but he did not respond. However, several other lawyers of the apex court have told me many times that this particular person is very rude to lawyers in his court.

I enquired about the incident from another senior advocate of the apex court, who confirmed that it was indeed just as I had read on the internet. He also added, "The level of gratuitous rudeness in the Supreme Court has increased to a point that it has become insufferable. Hopefully the new judges will restore the balance, unless while sitting with their seniors they have assumed that rudeness is the due process of the court."

He also mentioned the previous Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi, who was known for his brusque behaviour in court (apart from his other well-known failings), telling eminent senior lawyers like Fali Nariman, Kapil Sibal, Dushyant Dave, Rajiv Dhavan and many others like them, in court, "None of you deserves to be heard."

In my opinion, judges losing their temper in court and expressing rude behaviour like shouting and screaming, using insulting language, threatening contempt proceedings against lawyers for perceived repetition and retorts and threatening to have them thrown out of court or convicted and so on, are simply not done.

In particular, those in the higher judiciary must be mindful of the dignity of the court and avoid such behaviour. No doubt judges have to control court proceedings but this must be done in a dignified manner. An ugly display of temper by a judge in court not only lowers its dignity but may even lead to injustice, for when a person loses their temper, he/she is prone to mistakes. The higher one moves up a hierarchy, the more humble and courteous one must become. Judges of the Supreme Court are at the apex of the judicial hierarchy and so must be particularly humble and polite. Every written sentence of theirs becomes the law of the land (vide Article 141 of the Indian Constitution). This tremendous power comes coupled with tremendous responsibility. This calls for calm, placid and unperturbed behaviour in court and a tranquil and serene frame of mind under all circumstances, no matter how trying. In the early years of the Supreme Court, there were judges like Justices Patanjali Shastri, BK Mukherji, Vivian Bose, Fazl Ali, and so on, who were not only very erudite but also polite and humble. I may give an illustration.

Once, a very senior and very old lawyer of the Allahabad High Court, Shyam Kishan Dar, came to Delhi in the 1950s to argue a case before the Supreme Court. He was then in his 80s and was hard of hearing. He was also known to be a bit short-tempered and unsophisticated in his language.

While arguing his case, he felt the judges were unnecessarily interrupting him and not following him, so he turned to his junior and said loudly enough for all present in court to hear, "Yeh h#*#@%#e na sunte hain na samajhte hain (These b#*#@%#s neither listen to what I am saying nor do they understand)."

Instead of initiating contempt proceedings against him, the judges coolly said to the junior counsel, "Mr Counsel, we respect Mr Dar a lot, but he seems to be upset. Have we done anything wrong? We apologise if we have."

Can we imagine this happening today? It appears that this trend has now reversed and the lack of erudition among many Indian judges is accompanied by arrogance over their high office, a short fuse and a touchy nature that is willing to take offence even over trivialities. In the context of the latest unsavoury incident in the apex court, I was glad to read that the Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association (SCORA) stood up for the aggrieved lawyer and spoke out against the judge in question. The Executive Committee of the SCORA expressed deep concern over the incident and passed a resolution saying that several members of the Bar had repeatedly been raising such grievances about the unwarranted treatment and passing of personal remarks by the judge concerned. And the resolution requested the judge to be a little more patient in dealing with lawyers. The association reminded us all that the duty to maintain the dignity and decorum of the court is cast upon both lawyers and judges. I hope the senior judges are listening.

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

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KULDEEP SENGAR ON THIS AUSPICIOUS DAY. MAY YOU LIVE LONG AND ALWAYS BE VICTORIOUS.
—BJP MP FROM UNNAO
SAKSHI MAHARAJ

POINT COUNTERPOINT



WHEN RAPE ACCUSED ARE BEING WISHED ON THEIR BIRTHDAY BY THE BJP MP FROM UNNAO THEN SURELY IT WILL GIVE A BOOST TO CRIMINALS.
—CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON
RAJIV TYAGI

Make it Ram's Ayodhya

The day the Government plans to lay the foundation of the temple, it should also announce mega projects as this will create jobs and bring prosperity to the city



BISWAJEET BANERJEE

The residents of Ayodhya believe that Lord Ram was born in this temple town some 900,000 years ago. Their belief made people call this city Ram Nagri (Ram's town). The recent Supreme Court (SC) verdict cemented this belief, settling the nearly 132-year-old dispute, which even witnessed the demolition of Babri Mosque over 27 years ago on December 6. The SC's verdict may have opened a Pandora's Box, with the Hindu saints wanting to be involved in the proposed Ram Mandir Trust and some sections of the Muslims unhappy about it. But, no one is talking about the opportunity the apex court's order has thrown open for the Centre and Uttar Pradesh (UP) to transform Ayodhya into a religious tourism hub.

Almost a month after the verdict, the incoherent voices of the *sants* are emanating from Ayodhya about which model should be used for construction of the Ram Temple or who should head the trust, but no one is talking about how to develop Ayodhya into a tourism centre not only for Hindus but also for Buddhists because of its proximity with Kushinagar.

This part of UP, which was once the centre of Awadh culture, is basically an agricultural belt. But agricultural productivity has been steadily coming down because of repeated fragmentation of farmlands. The smaller the farm, the lesser the yield and this has adversely affected the economy of the region. This poverty-driven region has failed to make an impact because no Government ever took pains to develop Faizabad district — which has now been renamed as Ayodhya — into an industrial hub despite Tanda, a small town of this region, having made a mark in weaving sarees and clothes. With the passage of time Tanda lost its charm and Ayodhya remained neglected.

Faizabad, which is full of sugar refineries and mills for extracting oil from seeds, is a market centre for the produce of the surrounding area, including grain, oilseeds, cotton and tobacco. A hydroelectric plant is located nearby. As per the UP State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC) the growth rate of industries in Faizabad district is 5.4 per cent annually. However, this is just limited to the micro and small-scale sector as the medium and large-scale sectors have a meagre annual growth rate of one per cent. These industries give direct employment to less than 10,000 people.

So, why has Faizabad-Ayodhya failed to transform into an industrial hub?

Almost all the industrial chambers say that lack of development in this area is primarily due to the poor power supply and drainage system. The other problems include non-availability of skilled manpower, lack of awareness regarding MSME schemes and technological and financial support. Some say lack of political support also hampered development of the region.

When the Ram Temple agitation gathered momentum in the late 80s, no Government dared to pump in money in different projects, mainly industrial, because of the fear that communal violence could have an impact on the economy of the region. Many parties refused to talk about Ayodhya because they felt it damaged their "secular" image.

Government records say that Faizabad has

AYODHYA IS AS IMPORTANT FOR HINDUS AS VARANASI IS. BUT THE BASIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN KASHI AND AYODHYA IS THAT AYODHYA LACKS THE INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRED FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS TOURISM WHILE KASHI HAS A VERY GOOD INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING A WORKING AIRPORT AND GOOD RAIL AND ROAD CONNECTIVITY



a population of 167,544 with 50,000 of them in the Ayodhya temple town according to the 2011 census. The literacy rate of the region is around 86.52 per cent, which is higher than the national literacy average of 74.04 per cent. The credit for this goes to the presence of good educational institutions in the region. Thriving on the academic excellence of the students, hundreds of coaching institutions have mushroomed in the twin cities of Ayodhya-Faizabad.

The flourishing coaching institutes have proved to be good business for those who run them or those who teach in these institutions as faculty members. But they are largely "outsiders" from bigger cities, depriving the local talent of jobs. The city has two universities, the Rammanohar Lohia Avadh University and the Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology.

In this scenario, religion is the only force that can drive the economy of this region. Residents claim that the link between Lord Ram and Ayodhya is so strong that of the 6,000 Hindu shrines and temples in the city, more than 4,000 are dedicated to him. Besides, every second month Ayodhya hosts religious festivals stretching from *Magh* to *Kartik Purnima*. These fairs are organised on the banks of the Saryu River and provide a good source of income for people and small traders.

Official records suggest that over 30 lakh pilgrims visit Ayodhya annually — this figure excludes the people from surrounding areas who gather at the fairs. People from across the country — particularly from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bengal and South India — visit Ayodhya to pay obeisance to Lord Ram.

This is a huge number and can help in reviving the economy of the region.

The question often raised is why not develop Ayodhya on the lines of Varanasi and Allahabad? Ayodhya is as important for Hindus as Varanasi is. The difference is that Kashi or Varanasi symbolises *moksha* (salvation) while Ayodhya symbolises karma, which asks people to fulfil their *putra* dharma (filial duty) and karma dharma. But, the basic difference between Kashi and Ayodhya is that Ayodhya lacks the infrastructure required for promoting religious tourism while Kashi has a very good infrastructure, including a working airport and good rail and road connectivity.

Apart from this, Ayodhya does not have proper hotels despite having a major foothold of pilgrims. The only stay-ins are *dharamshalas* (shelters) which are of poor quality and lack basic facilities. The only good hotels are found in Faizabad and they are few in number and very expensive.

The only thing that will help Ayodhya turn into a Kashi is good hotels, preferably on the bank of Saryu River, with rooms facing the Ram Temple. Besides, the city needs good roads, permanent electric supply and greater rail and road connectivity. A working airport with flights from cities like Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai would add to its popularity. Fortunately, the Yogi Adityanath Government has launched many projects in Ayodhya and the Chief Minister has been advocating construction of a Ram Temple. He even proposed the construction of the tallest statue of Lord Ram on the banks of Saryu River and gave the festival of Diwali a new meaning. He is on record saying that his Government would ensure that Ayodhya regains the glory it had achieved during the *Treta Yug* (second age of mankind).

UP made a Guinness World Record

by lighting over 500,000 earthen lamps on Deepotasava on the banks of the Saryu River in October. Helicopters showered flower petals and models from Delhi dressed as Ram, Sita and Lakshman descended in a chopper.

The Union Government has come up with an ambitious project that will be executed by the UP Government. Ramkatha Park will be part of a new ₹133 crore "Ramayan circuit" that will include a market and a Korean temple on the Saryu riverfront. The project will depict events described in the *Ramayana*. An imposing Ram court will be constructed at the site where Adityanath held a Diwali puja. The court will include a gallery depicting the story of Ram and a state-of-the-art digital museum.

The beginning seems to have been made. But much more is required to be done. The ancient should amalgamate with modernity. Ayodhya should retain its pristine beauty but also have something to attract the young generation. The Government should come out with a blueprint and involve the citizens in this work. Good roads and electricity will make work easy for the planners. Good incentives to hoteliers may prompt them to invest here. Even the involvement of the Korean Government can add a new dimension.

Time is running out. The day the Government plans to lay the foundation of the Ram Temple, it should also announce mega projects for the city. Only good planning can transform the region into a tourist hub, which in turn will create jobs for the youth and usher in prosperity. Only then will it truly be Ram's Ayodhya. In the end, that route will have to find its way through economics.

(The writer is Executive Director, News, The Pioneer, Lucknow)

Enforce green laws strictly

We currently have many fines for various environmental offences but none of them are stiff enough, nor are they enforced stringently. This whole exercise is futile



KOTA SRIRAJ

mental crises it finds itself in: Be it air pollution, water pollution, soil contamination or ground water contamination, we have it all.

So what ails our environmental scenario? Given that we make all the right moves on paper, one can only conclude that our nation is high on legislation and very low on compliance. Be it the ban on plastics, crop residue burning, waste segregation, adherence to the vehicle rationing odd-even scheme, littering, Indians seem to have a major problem listening to the Government or complying with the laws pertaining to environmental protection. This inherent disregard for rules seems to be ingrained in us to the extent that we are not even alarmed by the fact that this is worsening each day and will affect not just us but our children and the generations after them. No wonder India has the dubious distinction of being ranked as one of the most polluted countries in the world. According to a latest study by AirVisual and Greenpeace, seven of the 10 worst-polluted cities globally, are in India.



Why is there such a major disconnect between environmental laws and the people's intent to observe and comply with them? Why do we feel such an inexplicable satisfaction upon breaking a law as opposed to having a great feeling on adhering to it and doing our bit to save the environment?

For instance, not long ago the Delhi Government had launched the waste segregation initiative and a good amount of public money was

intervened to prevent the waste segregation initiative from failing and has set a one-year deadline for the civic bodies to fall in line and comply with the waste segregation guidelines. This has spurred the civic authorities into taking action and ensuring that segregation is done. This launch and re-launch of initiatives have ensured one thing and that is the people's interest has been lost for good. Now nobody is interested, as everyone is of the opinion that every new initiative by the Government is just a passing fad, not realising that it was the lack of compliance by citizens that had caused the failure of the initiatives in the first place.

So what is the solution? The answer lies in a penalty-backed compliance system, similar to the recently-tweaked Motor Vehicles Act. Before the current amendments to the Act, the fines for violations were marginal. For example, driving without a licence used to attract a fine of ₹500. But under the new rules, the same offence now attracts a penalty of ₹5,000 and this has caught the attention of the Indian motorist like

never before. The result is that traffic violations have fallen sharply. Delhi alone witnessed a massive 79 per cent fall in traffic violations. Is this a cue for the Government? Is this how the common man will listen and fall in line and observe rules? It may actually work as financial penalties may act as the most effective deterrents and ensure much-needed compliance. The concept of penalty-backed compliance is not new in environmental conservation. We currently have many fines for various environmental offences but none of them are stiff enough nor are they enforced stringently. This makes the whole exercise futile. This can be made to change on the lines of the new Motor Vehicle Act when non-compliance of environmental laws by citizens or businesses will attract steep and instant penalties. This may seem harsh but is necessary to ensure a course correction in the larger interests of the environment and more importantly for our precious future generations.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



INFORMATION DISORDER

The world is suffering from severe information disorder syndrome. Freedom of information on the net has allowed fake news to target vulnerable groups through computational amplification filter bubbles and echo chambers. Last year, French President Macron proposed a trust for cyberspace security that was supported by 75 countries. Unfortunately, key players like the US, China, India, and Russia are not on board.

(South China Morning Post)

China to exempt 'some' US soybean, pork from tariffs

AFP ■ BEIJING

China will waive tariffs on "some" imports of US soybean and pork, it said on Friday, in the latest sign of easing trade tensions between Beijing and Washington as they try to finalise a partial trade pact.



China is the world's biggest consumer of soybean and has been shopping elsewhere, such as Brazil, to boost supplies.

Beijing has increased tariffs on US pork three times since the trade war started, raising the total duty from 12 to 72 percent between April 2018 and September this year.

Exempting tariffs on pork could also help ease a surge in prices of China's staple meat, which has more than doubled over a year, with an outbreak of African swine fever last August leading to the culling of nearly a third of the country's pig herd.

The country has tapped its strategic reserve of the meat but that has not stopped costs spiralling.

Hopes had risen last month that Beijing and Washington were close to reaching a mini deal.

But comments from US President Donald Trump and recent US legislation backing Hong Kong pro-democracy protests and China's Uighur minority appeared to throw the talks off track.

On Tuesday, Trump appeared to dash hopes for a deal this year by suggesting he would be happy waiting until after the 2020 presidential election before signing off on it.

China echoed those comments Wednesday by saying they "will not set any time limit" on signing an agreement.

But China's commerce ministry spokesman Gao Feng said at a news briefing Thursday that the two sides were "maintaining close communication." He added, however, that "if the two sides are to reach a phase one deal, tariffs should be reduced accordingly".

Trump has insisted that China should buy \$40-\$50 billion-worth of US agriculture products as part of the deal, which critics say is difficult to achieve.

China's imports of US farm goods fell in 2017 to \$19.5 billion, before dropping sharply last year to just over \$9 billion after Beijing imposed burdensome taxes on US imports in retaliation for similar measures by Washington.

JAYPEE INFRA CASE Lenders face ₹3,700 cr hit Homebuyers to miss delay penalty in takeover offers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Lenders to Jaypee Infratech will have to take a haircut of over ₹3,700 crore while 20,000 homebuyers will not get paid any penalty for delay in construction of their homes in the takeover proposals brought by Mumbai-based Suraksha Realty and state-owned NBCC for the debt-laden firm.

As against the admitted claims of secured financial creditors of ₹9,783 crore, Suraksha and NBCC are offering repayment of only 62 per cent of their outstanding dues, despite the liquidation value of the company being around ₹13,000 crore, sources privy to the development said.

The two suitors on December 3 submitted revised offers for the takeover of the debt-laden firm that just a few years back built the country's first expressway wide enough to allow fighter jets to land in emergency situations.

While bringing in very little cash, the two firms have offered land out of the land bank of Jaypee Infratech to settle some of the dues of the lenders.

Sources said neither is offering any penalty to homebuyers whose houses has been delayed.

Homebuyers have received delay penalty of ₹325 crore during the insolvency but the two bidders, called resolution applicants under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, are not offering any, they said, adding that possession of over 7,500 flats

has also been given in the last two years.

Jaypee Infratech's revenue stood at over ₹1,000 crore in the first half of this fiscal with positive EBITDA of ₹43 crore, sources said. The net worth of the company stood at around ₹3,500 crore.

NBCC is offering to infuse ₹120 crore as equity in Jaypee Infratech and Suraksha only ₹25 crore, while the two bidders are estimated to gain by over ₹10,000 crore from underlying assets of the company including land bank, additional FSI, hospitals and expressway, sources said.

On December 3, NBCC and Suraksha Realty offered more land parcels to lenders in their final bids to acquire bankrupt realtor Jaypee Infratech through the insolvency process.

This is the third round of bidding process for resolution of Jaypee Infratech, which is a subsidiary of crisis-hit Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL).

Sources has earlier said NBCC in its final bid has offered 1,526 acres of land under the land-debt swap deal. It has proposed to complete the pending flats in three-and-a-half years but is not offering any penalty to homebuyers for delays in completion of apartments.

For lenders, the public sector firm has also proposed to increase concession agreement by 10 years on Yamuna Expressway, which it has proposed to transfer to bankers. However, NBCC has proposed to take ₹2,500 crore debt against

toll income of the expressway, which connects Noida and Agra, for completion of pending flats.

On the other hand, Suraksha Realty is offering 2,220 acres of land under the land-debt swap deal. It has increased upfront cash payment to lenders to ₹175 crore from ₹25 crore earlier.

For homebuyers, Suraksha Realty has set aside land worth ₹250 crore for delay penalty but is not infusing any fresh fund for this purpose.

Suraksha will retain Yamuna Expressway with itself, but has proposed a line of credit worth ₹2,000 crore for completion of pending housing projects. Jaypee Infratech went into insolvency process in August 2017 after the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) admitted an application by an IDBI Bank-led consortium.

Anuj Jain was appointed as the interim resolution professional (IRP) to conduct the insolvency process and also manage the affairs of the company.

In the first round of insolvency proceedings conducted last year, ₹7,350-crore bid of Lakshdeep, part of Suraksha Group, was rejected by lenders.

The Committee of Creditors (CoC) rejected the bids of Suraksha Realty and NBCC in the second round held in May-June this year.

The matter reached the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) and then the Supreme Court.

BUSINESS CORNER

QUARTERLY VENDORS MEET HELD BY CLW

Chittaranjan: Quarterly Vendors Meet was organised by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) in Administrative office meeting room at Chittaranjan on 5th Dec 2019. The objective of this quarterly vendors meet was discussions on supplies of mechanical items to be made during December 2019 to March 2020 for steady production of locomotives. Nitin Dhimole, PCMM presided over the Quarterly Vendors Meet and TA Khan CMM Mechanical, Shri Ganesh, CEE/P&I, AK Singh, CEE D&D, Shri Ravindra Verma, SMM — 3PH were present. 38 approved vendors and regular suppliers attended this meet. The Vendors were requested to make a steady and committed supply of items required for the manufacturing of electric locomotive in CLW so that CLW can make record numbers of Electric locomotives in this FY 2019-20.



NF RAILWAY OBSERVES 64TH 'MAHAPARINIRVAN DIVAS'

Maligaon: The officers and staff of NF Railway, Construction Organisation today observed 63rd "Mahaparivarn Divas" of Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar in the HQ premises at Maligaon. NK Prasad, General Manager, NF Railway, Construction paid homage by lighting a lamp and also by floral tribute on the occasion of 64th "Mahaparivarn Divas" of the great leader and architect of Indian Constitution, Bharat Ratna Dr. B R Ambedkar.



Maruti Suzuki recalls 63,493 units of Ciaz, Ertiga, XL6

FIANS ■ NEW DELHI

Maruti Suzuki on Friday announced to recall 63,493 units of petrol smart hybrid variants of Ciaz, Ertiga and XL6 models due to a likely issue with their motor generator units (MGU).



In a regulatory filing, the company said: "A possible defect may have occurred in the MGU during manufacturing by an overseas global part supplier."

The company said that starting Friday, owners of the vehicles under this recall campaign would be contacted by Maruti Suzuki dealers for inspection and replacement of the faulty part.

"Maruti Suzuki has decided to proactively recall the vehicles for inspection and those found 'OK' will be released immediately. Vehicles requiring replacement of faulty part will be retained for part replacement free of cost.

Keeping in view customer convenience, Maruti Suzuki dealers may make alternate mobility arrangements in such cases, if required," the filing said.

Recall campaigns are undertaken globally to rectify faults that may be potential safety defects. At 2.47 p.m. on Friday, shares of the company on the BSE was trading at ₹6,898.55, lower by ₹107.05 or 1.53 per cent from its previous close.

Earlier in the week, the company announced to increase the prices of its vehicles from January 2020, which it attributed to the rise in the input costs.

Auto component industry turnover dips 10% in Apr-Sep; 1L temp workers lose jobs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The auto component industry's turnover witnessed worst ever decline in the first half of the current fiscal leading to a job loss of around 1 lakh temporary workers till July this year, industry body ACMA said on Friday.

The turnover of the industry dropped to Rs 1.79 lakh crore in the April-September period, down 10.1 per cent from Rs 1.99 lakh crore in the year-ago period. Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA) said.

The industry body said the slowdown has also resulted in an investment loss of up to USD 2 billion dollars during the period.

Exports, however, registered a marginal growth of 2.7 per cent to Rs 51,397 crore (USD 7.5 billion) during the period, while aftermarket segment grew by 4 per cent to Rs 35,096 crore (USD 5.1 billion).

Import of components declined by 6.7 per cent to Rs 57,574 crore (USD 8.4 billion),

ACMA said.

"The automotive industry is facing a prolonged slowdown. The vehicles sales in all segments have continued to plummet for the last one year," ACMA President Deepak Jain told reporters here.

Considering that auto components industry grows on the back of vehicle industry, a current 15-20 per cent cut in vehicle production has adversely impacted the component segment, he added.

The last time when the auto components industry witnessed a decline in turnover was in 2013-14 when it dipped by 2 per cent, ACMA said. On job losses, Jain said retrenchment has taken place from October last year till July 2019.

"Primarily, it is the temporary employees who have lost jobs during the period," Jain said, adding it was due to component makers adjusting production to demand.

He said a 10 per cent growth would have added USD 6 billion of revenue, for which the corre-

sponding investment could have been around USD 2 billion.

"Therefore, the investment loss due to the slowdown would be around USD 1.5-2 billion," he added.

Currently, he said the components industry's capacity utilisation has come down to 50 per cent from around 80 per cent when the growth was at the peak. ACMA said subdued vehicle demand, recent investments made for transition to BS-VI from BS-IV, liquidity crunch, lack of clarity on policy for electrification of vehicles, among others had an adverse impact on expansion plans for the components sector.

Jain said on BS-VI transition alone, the auto industry as a whole has invested around Rs 80,000-90,000 crore, out of which the components sector has put in Rs 30,000-35,000 crore.

Seeking government intervention for a sustainable long-term growth of the auto component industry, he said one of the key demands of the sector has been for a uniform GST rate of 18 per cent on all parts.

Oil companies' shares fall on OPEC output cut buzz

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of oil and gas companies fell on Friday amid reports that OPEC and other major producers are looking to finalise a deal to cut production.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's shares fell 1.71 per cent to ₹126.60 per unit on the BSE and 1.86 per cent to ₹126.50 on the NSE.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) saw its stock decline by 1.09 per cent to ₹263.05 a unit on the BSE and 0.71 per cent on the NSE to ₹264.

Shares of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) were down by 1.39 per cent to ₹124.25 apiece on the BSE and 1.23 per cent on the NSE to ₹124.40.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) scrip slipped 0.65 per cent to ₹488.30 on the BSE and 0.59 per cent on the NSE to ₹488.95.

RBI to retain dovish bias going forward: Report

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

The Reserve Bank of India is expected to retain a dovish bias going forward and its emphasis may switch towards ensuring that the aggressive rate cut this year gets transmitted to commercial lending rates, says a report.

After five consecutive cuts in interest rates this year, the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, unanimously voted to hold the key repo rate at 5.15 per cent and reverse repo rate at 4.90 per cent.

"We think that the RBI will retain a dovish bias, but the emphasis may now switch towards ensuring that the aggressive rate cuts this year (cumulative 135bps) gets transmitted to commercial lending rates," Singapore's DBS banking Group said in a research note.

The RBI reiterated that it would maintain an accommodative stance as long as necessary to revive economic growth but cut its GDP growth forecast to 5 per cent for the 2019-20 fiscal from the earlier estimate of 6.1 per cent.

OPEC has another go at oil deal after night of 'brain squeezing'

AFP ■ VIENNA

Ministers from the powerful OPEC group of oil producers got together again on Friday, a day after failing in a marathon meeting to agree on a fresh output reduction deal they hope would stem prices which have been under pressure from abundant reserves and weak global economic growth.

Friday's so-called OPEC+ meeting included Russia, the world's second-largest oil producer and not a member of the cartel. Saudi Oil Minister Prince Abdulaziz Ben Salman, who is attending his first meeting in the post, admitted that Thursday's six-hour meeting had seen delegations "labouring... Until 11 o'clock in the evening, squashing their heads, squeezing their brains" in search of an agreement.

However, ministers seemed hopeful about the prospects of an eventual deal on an overall output level and each member's share.

Arriving at Friday's meeting, the chairman of Libya's National Oil Corporation Mustafa Sanallah said of the negotiations that there was "no problem at all, just discussions".

OPEC countries have been mulling an additional cut that would go beyond their agreement to reduce output by 1.2 million barrels per day from October 2018 levels.

That deal was originally fixed in December last year, was extended at OPEC's last meeting in July, and is due to expire in March 2020.

On Thursday, Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said a preliminary gathering of ministers had recommended an additional cut of 500,000 barrels per day be considered for the first quarter of 2020.

Novak added that level could be re-examined during an

"extraordinary meeting" in March.

On Friday Novak said it was "extremely important in today's condition to send a very clear message to the market and to determine and show what the next step should be".

Oil prices have however not been significantly affected, because markets consider any cut "more of a housekeeping move that will narrow the gap between (producers) current target and the overcompliance we have seen from the alliance," Oanda analyst Edward Moya told AFP.

Prince Abdulaziz used the opening of the meeting to hint at Saudi irritation that not all countries have been sticking to the production quotas agreed under the current deal.

While Saudi Arabia has voluntarily pumped below its quota other producers — including Russia, Iraq and Nigeria — have been exceeding theirs.

Set up panel to scrutinise FDIs which can affect national security: Private member's Bill

New Delhi: Nominated Rajya Sabha member Narendra Jadhav on Friday moved a private member's bill that seeks to set up a committee to scrutinise foreign investments in financial services, critical infrastructure and technology sectors having bearing on national security.

Moving the Foreign Investment in Financial Services, Critical Infrastructure and Technology Affecting National Security (Regulation) Bill, he said, "This bill seeks to protect national security while promoting foreign investment."

"This is sought to be done by reforming the process by which foreign investments are examined in the light of national security considerations," he added.

The bill seeks to establish a committee on foreign investment headed by the economic affairs secretary to effectively guard against the risk to national security posed by certain types of foreign investment in financial services, critical infrastructure and technology sectors.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one lady (depicted in the photo) namely Faruti Kumari W/o Rahul Kumar R/o Rajbir ka Makan, H.No. 351, Pkt B-4, Gali No-9, Punjabi Colony, Narela, Delhi Aged-19 Years has been reported missing/ kidnapped since 05.11.2019 from the area of P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi vide DD No.26-A Dated 06.11.2019 lodged at Police Station Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. Her physical description is as under-



Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Round, Built: Medium, Clothing: Red Colour Suit & Salwar and White & Black Sandal in feet.

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

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 Sd/-
FAX No. : 011-24368639 SHO, Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
DP/828/ON/19 Tel.: 011-27787592, 27787593

FORM A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT (Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016) For the attention of the creditors of Greenworld International Private Limited	
RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of corporate debtor	Greenworld International Private Limited
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	17.10.2012
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered	ROC-Delhi
4. Corporate Identity No. / Limited Liability Identification No. of corporate debtor	U37100DL2012PTC243731
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	Registered Office: B-92, WHS Kirti Nagar, West Delhi-110015 Principal Office: Plot No 60-61, Ganpati Dham, Industrial Area, Sankholi, Bahadurgarh, Haryana-124507
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor	22.11.2019/Uploaded on NCLT website on 05.12.2019
7. Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process	20.05.2020
8. Name and registration number of the insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional	CA/IP SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA IBBI/PA-001/IP-P0205/2017-18/10394
9. Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board	B-10, Magnum House-1, Karampura Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110015 Email: caskg82@gmail.com, 9953999077
10. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional	B-10, Magnum House-1, Karampura Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110015 Email: green.crp@gmail.com
11. Last date for submission of claims	19.12.2019
12. Classes of creditors, if any, under clause (b) of sub-section (8A) of section 21, ascertained by the interim resolution professional	NA
13. Names of Insolvency Professionals identified to act as Authorised Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)	NA
14. (a) Relevant Forms and (b) Details of authorized representatives are available at:	(a) WebLink: https://www.ibbi.gov.in/home/downloads/www_ibbi.gov.in (b) Physical Address: NA

Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal has ordered the commencement of a corporate insolvency resolution process of the Greenworld International Private Limited on 22.11.2019/Uploaded on NCLT website on 05.12.2019.

The creditors of Greenworld International Private Limited are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before 19.12.2019 to the Interim Resolution Professional at the address mentioned against entry No. 10.

The financial creditors shall submit their claims with proof by electronic means only. All other creditors may submit the claims with proof in person, by post or by electronic means.

A financial creditor belonging to a class, as listed against the entry No. 12, shall indicate its choice of authorised representative from among the three insolvency professionals listed against entry No. 13 to act as authorised representative of the class in Form CA.

Submission of false or misleading proof of claim shall attract penalties.

Date: 06.12.2019 Name and Signature of Interim Resolution Professional: CA/ IP SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA
Place: DELHI

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a female namely Bharti, W/o: Sh. Harish Kumar, R/o: H. No. 126, Gali No. 02, Main Road, Nehru Nagar, Anand Parbat, Delhi has been missing since 26.11.2019 at 06.30 am from the area of P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 52A, dated 26.11.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Anand Parbat, Delhi. The description of missing female is as under:

Name: Bharti, Age: 31 Years, Height: 5'5", Face: Long, Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue colour suit, orange pjami and black colour chappal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing female please inform to the following:-

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
Police Station, Anand Parbat, Delhi
DP/6774/CD/19 Ph: 011-28762468, 28764807, 8750870435

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that a female person was found dead in the jurisdiction of PS Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi on dated 25.11.2019 Time: 14:52:51. In this regard a DD No. 25-A on Dated 25.11.2019 has been lodged at PS Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi



The description of the dead person is given as under Name: Khushbu, W/o Naushad, R/o Gali No 03, Bhangal, Noida, U.P. Age: 21 years, Face: Long, Height: 5', Complexion: Sallow, Built: Thin, Wearing: Red Suit and Salwar

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

SHO
PS Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi
DP/9565/NW/19 Ph.:011-27654675, 8750870234

US wants to ensure India's data localisation plan doesn't stymie growth in transactions: Mnuchin

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US wants India to ensure that its data localisation plan does not "stymie growth" and American financial transaction companies are treated "fairly", Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has said. Mnuchin also insisted that America has no problem if countries want to have local data for regulatory purposes as long as they do not eliminate it outside the country.

Data localisation is the practice of physically storing data on servers located within a country's territory. The RBI had, in April last year, asked payment firms to ensure their data were stored exclusively on local servers, setting a tight six-month deadline for compliance.

US firms like Google, Mastercard, Visa and Amazon have lobbied against data localisation rules around the world including India, stressing that it would make their operations more complicated and costly.

WALKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE BY WELCOMING 7600 NEW TEACHERS



INTERACTION OF CHIEF MINISTER, ARVIND KEJRIWAL
WITH 7600 NEWLY APPOINTED DELHI GOVERNMENT SCHOOL TEACHERS

7th December, 2019 at 11am | Thyagraj Stadium, New Delhi

Chief Guest:

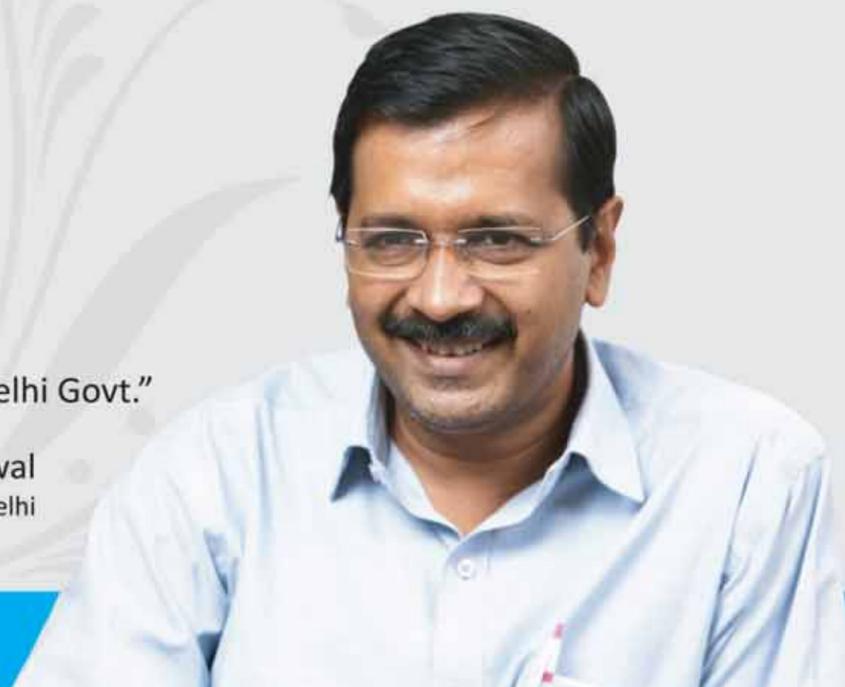
Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour

Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

“Teachers are the ones who shape the future of our country, and we welcome them for connecting with Education Department of Delhi Govt.”

- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi



TRUMP impeachment

Charges must come swiftly: Democrats

AP ■ WASHINGTON

House Democrats moved aggressively to draw up formal articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump on Thursday, with Speaker Nancy Pelosi saying he "leaves us no choice" but to act swiftly because he's likely to corrupt the system again unless removed before next year's election.

A strictly partisan effort at this point, derided immediately by Trump and other leading Republicans as a sham and a hoax, it is a politically risky undertaking, Democrats say it is their duty, in the aftermath of the Ukraine probe, while Republicans say it will drive Pelosi's majority from office.

Congress must act, Pelosi said. "The democracy is what is at stake."

"The President's actions have seriously violated the Constitution," she said in a somber address at the Capitol. "He is trying to corrupt, once



The President's actions have seriously violated the Constitution...He is trying to corrupt, once again, the election for his own benefit

NANCY PELOSI



tory Congress has tried to remove a president, and it intensifies the rigid and polarising partisanship of the Trump era that is consuming Washington and dividing the nation.

The speaker delivered her historic announcement in solemn tones at the Capitol, drawing on the Constitution and the Founding Fathers in forcefully claiming Congress' oversight of the president in the nation's system of checks and balances. Democrats are already beginning to prepare the formal charges, pushing toward House votes, possibly before Christmas.

"Sadly, but with confidence and humility, with allegiance to our founders and a heart full of love for America, today I am asking our chairmen to proceed with articles of impeachment," Pelosi said.

Seemingly eager to fight, Trump tweeted that if Democrats "are going to impeach me, do it now, fast."

Though he has fought the House investigation, trying to bar current and former officials from testifying, he said he now wants to move on to a "fair trial" in the Senate.

Approval of articles of impeachment is considered likely in the Democratic-majority House. Conviction in a following trial in the Republican-dominated Senate seems very unlikely. Once reluctant to pursue impeachment, warning it was too divisive for the country and needed to be bipartisan, Pelosi is now leading Congress into politically uncertain terrain for all sides just ahead of the election year.

Republican are standing lockstep with Trump, unswayed by arguments that his actions amount to wrongdoing, let alone impeachable offenses. That is leaving Democrats to go it alone in a campaign to consider removing the 45th president from office.

ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT: Explaining what's next in the House

AP ■ WASHINGTON

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on Thursday that Democrats will draft articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, a crucial step toward a vote of the full House.

The articles are likely to mostly encompass Democrats' findings on Trump's dealings with Ukraine. Democrats are still writing them, but the articles could charge Trump with abuse of office, bribery and obstruction.

Lawmakers and staff are expected to finish drafting the articles in the coming days, a process that is being led by Pelosi and the House Judiciary Committee.

That panel could approve the articles as early as next week, setting up a vote of the

full House in the days before Christmas.

Articles of impeachment are charges against the president. If the House approves them, they are then sent to the Senate for a trial and eventual vote. There can be as few or as many articles as the House decides. In a Senate trial, senators are jurors and select House members act as prosecutors, or impeachment managers. The chief justice of the Supreme Court presides.

If the Senate approves an article of impeachment with a two-thirds vote of "guilty," the president is convicted and removed from office. If all the articles are rejected, the president is acquitted.

While the process has the trappings of a criminal trial, the decision is purely political.

GLOBE TROTTERING

BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER CRASHES, THREE KILLED

St. Cloud, Minn.: All three Minnesota National Guard soldiers were killed when the Black Hawk helicopter they were in crashed on Thursday, Governor Tim Walz said. The identities of the soldiers were not released, pending notification of family. The crash was being investigated and preliminary information on the crash was not released.

PANEL: PAK HINDU STUDENT COMMITTED SUICIDE

Lahore: A Pakistani Hindu dental college student, who was found dead under mysterious circumstances in her hostel room, committed suicide as she was under "severe stress", a judicial commission concluded on Friday, contradicting her final autopsy report which said she was murdered.

IRAN WERE 'SHOOTING TO KILL' PROTESTERS: UN

Geneva: Iranian security forces were "shooting to kill" in their deadly crackdown against protesters in recent weeks, according to credible video footage, the UN Human rights chief said on Friday. The unrest left at least 208 people dead nationwide, the office of High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said, echoing a count also tallied by Amnesty International. Iran disputes death toll figures released by foreign organisations but has so far refused to any countrywide casualty or arrest figures.

DISNEY WORKER CHARGED WITH RAPING 13-YR-OLD

Orlando: A Florida man who works for a Disney cruise line has been accused of repeatedly raping a 13-year-old girl at his home. Orange County deputies arrested 53-year-old Keith Seitz on November 25, the Orlando Sentinel reported on Thursday. The girl told her mother Seitz raped her multiple times between 2016 and 2019, beginning when she was 10 years old, according to testimony in an arrest affidavit.

UBER RECEIVED 6K SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES IN 2017-18

San Francisco: Nearly 6,000 instances of sexual assault, including more than 450 cases of rape, were reported to Uber in the US in 2017 and 2018, the ride-sharing company said in a report on safety released on Thursday.

GRAFT CASE: KYRGYZSTAN SENTENCES FORMER PMs

Bishkek: Two former Prime Ministers in Central Asian Kyrgyzstan were sentenced to long jail terms on corruption charges in a trial that roiled the national elite and fuelled suspicion toward China. The pair were among eight defendants on trial over a nearly USD 400 million China-financed deal for modernising a power plant.

PRESS E-TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. VII, Irrigation & Flood Control Deptt., Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi invites online Item rate E-tenders on behalf of the President of India from approved and eligible contractors of I&FC Deptt. The contractors who are registered with other Departments but granted provisional permission by the Chief Engineer (I&FC) are also eligible for participation of e-tendering for the following works:-

Sr. No. 1, NIT No.: EE/CD-VII/NIT/2019-2093. Name of Work: Demolition and Reconstruction of Jatav Control Deptt., Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi. Head of Account: SC/ST Basties, Estimate Cost (In Rs.): 83,20,717/-, Earnest Money (In Rs.): 1,66,414/-, Time Allowed: 12 Months, Tender ID No.: 2019./JFC.184867.1, Last date & time for submission of Price Bid: 19.12.2019 upto 15:00 Hrs.

- The enlistment of the contractors should be valid on the last date of opening of tenders. In case, the last date of opening of tender is extended, the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.
- Earnest money in physical form and self attested copy of Registration of enlistment & other documents (eg. ESI & EPF registration, copy of PAN card, Copy of VAT documents) should be submitted in the Office of Executive Engineer, Civil Division-VII, I&FC Deptt., Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110085 upto 3:00 PM on the last date of submission of technical bids for obtaining the deposit slip for uploading.
- The details of above mentioned work(s) can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
- The agencies who do not fulfill eligibility criteria do not submit required documents upto the stipulated time, their tenders shall be rejected summarily at technical bid stage.
- Tenders submitted through e-procurement portal shall only be considered and no manual tender shall be accepted.
- Intending tenders participating in tendering process in EE CD-VII, I&FC shall furnish ESI & EPF registration along with other required documents and the same shall be uploaded while bidding. Moreover the ESI & EPF registration documents of all contractors shall be kept on records and ESI & EPF registration documents of lowest tenderer to whom the work awarded shall form the part of the agreement. (I&FC department office order No 141748 dated 29.01.2016).

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CD-VII) Irr. & Flood Control Deptt., Govt of NCT of Delhi
DIP/Shabdharth/1094/19-20

UK PM faces flak for ducking TV grilling

London: Boris Johnson came under fire on Friday for failing to face one of Britain's top political interviewers as he prepared for a final head-to-head debate with the main opposition leader before next week's election. Four other major party leaders have subjected themselves to an uncomfortable grilling from the BBC's Andrew Neil but the prime minister has so far declined to do so. The spat comes before the second and final televised showdown between Conservative party leader Johnson and Jeremy Corbyn, of the main opposition Labour party, at 8:30 pm.

AFP

China places new restrictions on American diplomats

Beijing: China said on Friday it will now require US Diplomats to give five days' notice before holding meetings with Chinese officials and academics in retaliation for a similar restriction by Washington. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a daily briefing that the rule was a direct response to Washington's move in October to require all Chinese diplomats to preregister for meetings with officials down to the

municipal level as well as visits to educational and research institutions.

Hua said the US Should "correct its mistakes, revoke the relevant decision, and provide support and convenience for Chinese diplomatic and consular staff in the US to perform their duty." The tit-for-tat restrictions come amid a trade war between the world's two largest economies and US allegations Huawei poses a security threat to Western democracies. AP

Iran N deal parties meet as accord nears collapse

Vienna: The signatories to the Iran nuclear deal remain committed to the faltering accord, China and Russia said on Friday, following crunch talks as Tehran has vowed to continue to breach limits on its nuclear programme.

Envoys from Britain, France, Germany, China, Russia and Iran took part in the three-hour-long meeting in Vienna, which is the first time the six parties have gathered in this format since July.

Since May, Iran has taken a series of measures, including

stepping up uranium enrichment, in breach of the 2015 deal, with another such move likely in early January.

Iran insists that under the agreement it has the right to take these measures in retaliation for the US's withdrawal from the deal in 2018 and reimposition of crippling sanctions. Since last month, European members have in turn begun raising the possibility of triggering the so-called "dispute resolution mechanism" foreseen in the accord, which could lead to the resumption of UN sanctions on Iran.

On the eve of what was already likely to be a strained meeting, Britain, France and Germany accused Iran of developing nuclear-capable ballistic missiles, in a letter to the UN on Thursday.

Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif dismissed the allegation as "desperate falsehood". Chinese delegation head Cong Fu told reporters after the talks that all parties remained committed to the deal and the dispute resolution mechanism — which China is against activating — was not evoked. AFP

NORTHERN RAILWAY (MORADABAD DIVISION) Tender Notice (Parking)

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Moradabad for & on behalf of the President of India, e-tender for the following work:-

S No	Name of Work & Place	Area (in sq-meter)	Reserve Price for 1 year (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money (2% of reserve price of 3 years)	Completion period	Cost of Tender Form (With 18% GST)	Address of website from which tender documents can be downloaded	Last Date & time of submission
1.	Contract for Cycle Scooter Motor-cycle Stand 1st at Shahja -hanpur Railway Station (A-Category)	388 Sq-m	Rs. 4,60,800/-	Rs. 27,700/- to be paid through online payment gateway	03 Years	Rs. 2,360/- to be paid through online payment gateway	www.ireps.gov.in (E-tendering mode)	Upto 14.00 hrs. on 30.12.19 and will be open on the same day
2.	Contract for Cycle Scooter Motor-Cycle Stand 11nd Entry at Shahja -hanpur Railway Station (A-Category)	328 Sq-m	Rs. 3,92,832/-	Rs. 23,600/- to be paid through online payment gateway	03 Years	Rs. 2,360/- to be paid through online payment gateway	www.ireps.gov.in (E-tendering mode)	Upto 14.00 hrs. on 30.12.19 and will be open on the same day

Note: The pre bid conference regarding to the tenders will be held at 20.12.2019 DRM's Office, Commercial Branch, Moradabad at 11.00 am. 1. Single packet system shall be adopted in this tender. 2. In case of any difficulty helpdesk and learning centre available on the website IREPS may be approached. 3. Tenderer(s) are advised to read tender document carefully before participating in the tender. Tender Notice No. 21-10/Parking/MB/2019/C-24 Dt.: 06.12.2019 391719

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location	30-ELECT-26-T-R1-19-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with replacement of depleted wiring at ROH depot & DSL shed TKD.
Approx. Cost of the work	₹80.39 Lakh
Address of the office	Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
Earnest money	₹1,60,800.00
Date & time of submission of tender	02.01.2020, 15:00 hrs.
Opening of tender	02.01.2020, 15:00 hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divil. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3899/19

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN-E-TENDER NOTICE

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

1. Name of work	Installation of open gym equipments and swings for children & installation of LED lights with poles under MPLAD funds of Park near Kabir Mandir Prem Nagar Delhi
2. Approx cost of work	Rs. 18,86,232.71 (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eighty Six Thousand and Two Hundred Thirty Two and Paise Seventy One only)
3. Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 37,700/- (Rupees Thirty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Only)
4. Cost of tender document	Rs. 3000/-
5. Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	31.12.2019 @ 15:00 Hrs.
6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. No manual offers are acceptable. Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/43/2019-20/W-5 Dated: 05.12.2019 3903/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice

Sr. DEE-TRS-GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 230-TRS-GZB-2019-20-11. The details are as under:

1. Name of the work	Supply and Fitting of Tool Box 250 Nos, having dimension 18"x08"x07" of 1.5 mm MS sheet as per IS:2062 with lock operated by SL key and power coating with gray color for Loco Pilot in 3 phase locomotives
2. Approx. cost of work	Rs. 3,54,000/-
3. Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 7,100/-
4. Cost of Tender Document	Rs. 1,180/-
5. Last Date & Time of Submission of tender bid of tender	06.01.2020 (15.00 hrs.)
6. Date and time of opening of tender Document	06.01.2020 (15.30 hrs.)
7. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

Note: (i) The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in e-tender system. (ii) For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. (iii) No manual offers are acceptable. (iv) Cost of Tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No.: 230-TRS-GZB-2019-20-11 Dated: 04.12.2019 3904/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Mob besieges Pak daily's office again for terming London Bridge attacker 'man of Pak origin'

Islamabad: For the second time in a week, nearly 100 protesters on Friday besieged the office of a Pakistani newspaper, chanting slogans against the organisation and setting copies of its editions on fire, for publishing a news report in which the London Bridge attacker was identified as a "man of Pakistani origin".

The Dawn newspaper in its headline had identified Usman Khan, a convicted Islamist terrorist from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir who stabbed two people to death in a terror attack on London Bridge on November 29, as "UK national of Pakistani origin, unlike many other local dailies which said he was born and brought up in Britain and had no link with Pakistan.

Nearly 100 people arrived in vans and gathered outside the newspaper's office and besieged Dawn's Islamabad bureau — the second time this week — and chanted slogans against the media group and set copies of the newspaper on fire, the paper reported. Police arrived at the scene but the protesters dispersed on their own after about 40 minutes, it said. PTI

Abandoned baby giraffe befriended by dog in Africa dies



A South African animal orphanage says a baby giraffe that was befriended by a dog after it was abandoned in the wild has died. The Rhino Orphanage in a Facebook post on Friday said Jazz the giraffe collapsed after hemorrhaging in the brain. The orphanage said the giraffe had been unstable on its feet in recent days. In Pic: Hunter, a young Belgian Malinois, keeps an eye on Jazz, a nine-day-old giraffe AP/File

5 die in gas explosion in Slovakia: Police

Bratislava: At least five people died in a gas explosion that rocked a high-rise apartment building in eastern Slovakia on Friday, police and firefighters said.

"The blast followed by a fire affected four or five floors" of the 12-storey building, firefighters told local media, adding that the build-

ing was in danger of collapsing.

The blast in the eastern Slovak town of Presov, 410 kms from the capital Bratislava, took place around mid-day on Friday. Firefighters were evacuating an unknown number of people from the building, local police said in a post on their official Facebook page. AFP

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan, New Delhi- 110055

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co-Borrower(s) /Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Esha Laxman (Borrower), Divay Mehta (Co-Borrower)-LBDEL00002432219	Flat No. 307 3rd Floor Tower-10 Sunworld Arista GH- 1C, Sector- 168, Noida Express way UP, Noida- 201301, Area 615 Sq. Ft	Rs. 46,00,920/- as on December 02, 2019	Rs. 33,83,000/- (Thirty Three lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Only)	December 19,2019 From 12 Noon to 02 P.M.	December 31,2019 From 1:00 P.M. Onwards
2.	Archana Gupta (Borrower), Sharad Gupta (Co-Borrower)-LBFDB00002378934	Flat No. 2501, 25th Floor Tower 10, Sunworld Arista, Plot No.- GH 01/C, Sector- 168, Noida, UP- 201301, Area 615 Sq. Ft	Rs. 37,63,212 /- as on December 02,2019	Rs. 31,30,000/- (Thirty OneLakh Thirty Thousand Only)	December 19,2019 From 12 Noon to 02 P.M.	December 31,2019 from 1:30 P.M. Onwards

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://eauctions.samil.in>) of our auction agency Shriram Automall India Ltd. The Mortgagor/s noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till December 30, 2019 before 5:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with the earnest money deposit (refer column E) in a sealed envelope that mentions "Offer for purchase of property" to ICICI Bank Limited, 2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi-110055 or to our marketing agent Shriram Automall India Ltd at 2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, on or before December 30, 2019 before 5:00PM. The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Bank Limited on 9599281817. Tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/eauction vendor official and registered before the cut-off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: 07.12.2019 Place: Noida Sd/- Authorised Officer ICICI Bank Limited

Expression of Interest

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM INDIVIDUALS, NGOS, TRUSTS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, CORPORATES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION OF CHARNI ROAD & GRANT ROAD RAILWAY STATIONS ON WESTERN RAILWAY

Western Railway is proposing to develop Charni Road and Grant Road Railway stations with beautification including restoration of the heritage look. The plan and the work scope to be decided as per Railway's approval and work to be executed as per Railway's plan and specification.

Railway may allow putting up a plaque or a board acknowledging contribution of the sponsor by way of logo, company's name etc at appropriate place decided by Railways.

To promote participation of individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable Institutions, Corporates, etc. Expression of Interest for development of Charni Road and Grant Road Railway stations is invited with following details.

- Name of the individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable Institutions, Corporates, etc.
- Profile of the Individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable Institutions, Corporates, etc.
- Contact person and Phone No. & Mail Id.
- Amount of fund for this purpose.

Additional information if any required for these stations can be obtained from the contact persons, Senior Divisional Engineer (Co-ordination) / Mumbai Central / W. R. (M.No. 09004499200).

Interested party desiring to visit the site can contact the above nominated person.

For clarification and discussion on this issue a conference has been organized on 17/12/2019 at 11.30 hours at Engineering Conference Room at Western Railway Headquarter GLO Opposite Churchgate Station Mumbai.

The Expression of Interest shall be submitted in hardcopy to this office. They can also mail their proposals to cpdsdw@gmail.com All proposals must be submitted by 16/12/2019.

Participation in conference and submission of details in response to above EOIs is not a guarantee to award of any contract.

Railway reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the expression of interest without assigning any reasons there to.



Western Railway www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in

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SHORT CIRCUITS

AYUSHMANN KHURRANA

Our imperfections make us real and everyone connects to people and stories that are absolutely real because they can easily relate to them and are believable. People should be able to see the problems, joys, pain, victories, ambitions, imperfections and say yes we are like this.



RASIKA DUGAL

Since I have been in the industry for a decade, I have now got used to the things which I didn't like earlier. For instance, I found the uncertainty of the business very hard to deal with in the initial days of my career. You think you are shooting tomorrow then you plan accordingly. And then suddenly makers change the schedules.



SAHIL SALATHIA

I hope that the next generation watches films like *Panipat*. They will learn and be proud of our country. It is important to know about the third battle of Panipat, Maratha bravery and our great warriors. Though the battle was a part of our textbooks but I don't know how many people know about it at length.



AMAAL MALLIK

U2 happens to be one of the world's most celebrated bands of all time. They have influenced my own music and playlists growing up. In fact, when I was in college, I won a singing competition with a U2 song. When I was presented with the opportunity to reimagine 'Beautiful Day', I knew I would need to go above and beyond.

KARTIK AARYAN

Acting and sex are like bread and butter. You can't quit either. Acting and sex or love goes hand in hand for me. I don't like talking about my personal life but I don't like hiding it also. I won't stop going for a dinner at a restaurant with someone just because there will be paparazzi there.

ENCOUNTER 45 MINUTES

The reluctant actor



Actor and former VJ PURAB KOHLI connects over a WhatsApp call from London, where he is based, to talk about his latest outing, *Out of Love*. Rather than an interview, it turns out to be more like a discussion where he frequently digresses from the topic and takes off on a different tangent before deciding to make a course correction. The free-wheeling chat with SAIMI SATTAR reveals that the actor, who has been a part of some pathbreaking films like *My Brother Nikhil*, *Rock On* and shows like *Hip Hip Hurray* and *Typewriter*, has interests which extend beyond the glitz and glamour of the industry

What made you take on the show?

The first thing that you look at is the writing. In this case, I had the reference of the original *Doctor Foster*. It is an interesting part and I haven't done anything similar before.

Adultery has been dealt with in films, TV shows and web series. Was there a reason you felt the treatment was unique?

I think it was because of the stance that the protagonist takes and the way she deals with it. And treating it like a thriller is quite a unique way of dealing with the subject, which hasn't been done before. You can say in *Khoon Bhari Maang*, the treatment was similar. But if you see the show, it has been dealt with very differently.

You play a 40 something father in the show and you are roughly the same age. Why does the idea of eternal youth not enamour you unlike most celebrities?

(Guffaws) I don't think that it is celebrities alone. It affects everyone now. I find it largely annoying that everyone around me wants to stay young and youthful. There is a great joy in accepting who you are and how you are and it is nice to have the same energy and buzz which you had at a younger age. Only that it is a different kind of a buzz. It is energy with maturity. If you are holding on to what you were at 18 or 19, it is a recipe for stagnation. If we are looking at evolution, then you have to look at maturity. That is how I look at it rather than as getting old.

What is the character like?

(Laughs) Having just spoken of maturity, this character is quite immature. He is someone who is trying to hold on to that age and trying to feel young. He wants to experience the first flush of love. He is involved with a younger woman. Even in the interactions with his son, he is more like a buddy than a father. Akarsh has that thing about wanting to be 18 or 19 again and have that youthfulness without taking up the responsibility that comes with age. He tries hard to be a good father and a husband. He has a loving relationship with his wife where they have a great physical and romantic chemistry but he feels that he has too much of love to offer. And he has it for more than one person so he wants to disburse it.

A co-star is someone who can inspire a better performance. What does Rasika (Dugal) add to your character?

If there is one reason that one should see the show, it is Rasika. She is fantastic! She is a powerful actor and this is a perfect role for one and she has done justice to it. She is an

absolute joy to work with. When you are two actors on a set, it is a dance of sorts. You throw something at each other, react to it and take it forward. When you have a great co-star, then you really enjoy giving back and doing things in tandem.

Coming back to your question, I think nobody could have made for a better Dr Meera Kapoor and it is a big responsibility to play the title part. I look at her as the protagonist and Akarsh, my character, as the conflict of the show. Both are important and would fall flat without each other. On the set, we were starting from a level that was quite high and then we tried to see how much higher we could take it.

Web series means uncensored content so often people try to use that to grab eyeballs by using titillation and unprecedented violence. Does it call for some amount of self-censorship on the part of the makers?

I think that it is essential for the audience to choose the makers of the show wisely. I don't agree that censorship should exist in any form. What should exist is viewer's discernment to choose what to watch. If I want to watch crass, then I will. There are creative people in the business and then there are people who claim to be creative and want to make money. It can also be their idea of creativity. Censorship implies treating the audience like children. *Ye to bachcha hai, usey samajh nahin aayega. Humein isey yeh nahin dikhana chahiye violent ho jayega* (A child should not be exposed to such content). An audience that has been treated like that becomes like that. You have to nurture and push creative thought. People who do that will have a following of people who want to watch such shows. Moreover, you as a journalist will talk about the shows that you enjoyed watching or found crass as you are the medium through which creativity ultimately reaches the reader and the consumer. Censorship should lie with people who make informed choices.

Moreover, a filmmaker might use sex in context and not just for titillation. Or maybe even to titillate because it is a creative process as he wants the viewer to be sexually aroused. For me, anything that is creative where a good writer and director are trying to take the audience on an emotional journey, which has many layers, should not be censored by an external agency. Even when the emotions are negative like anger, arousal or hate, these media help release them. If someone is feeling aggressive, they see that emotion on screen which can help them release that emotion. If I feel like shedding a tear and watching a great show or performance that takes me through an emotional journey which I connect with, I feel "Wow, that has

helped me." Monitoring and trying to control is wrong. The scary bit is that often you realise that people are getting the entertainment they want to see. Creative people have to accept that.

Content in the past two years has seen a drastic improvement. Is star power not enough to make any film a hit?

All through eternity, star power has not carried a film through. What it does is get the numbers. That is what star power is used for cleverly. I heard a story recently. I don't know if it is true or not. Studios are looking at Instagram followers and casting people. It doesn't matter if they are actors or not.

Having said that, many stars are great actors and that is why they are successful. For me, a star is a face that makes it easier for marketing. I am bringing its reference to your industry also. When you have a known person, it is easier for the PR to bring in the journalists as the readers want to see them on the cover. Carrying a project forward needs content and a lot of intelligent stars in our country move with the trends. If something is working, they position

themselves in those films.

You have been a VJ and have also done films, TV and web series. How have the different media contributed to the journey?

I enjoy watching films more than anything else because in films, there is some sort of closure. In series, because they are trying to engage you for longer, it seems never-ending. I am not complaining on the career front (laughs) but I am talking in terms of a viewer.

But yes, I do get absorbed in a series. For instance, *Doctor Foster*, on which this is based, is a series I watched in one night. It was so good. On the internet, the content is pushing the bar in terms of creativity because there is a lot of money involved. Two, people are trying to make content that is great. Three, they are trying to capture an audience that had not had representation for a long time so they are trying to discover who this audience is and what they want. This is the audience that had stopped going to theatres because they were so disappointed with the kind of films that were being made. Suddenly, there is a platform where they can be entertained

director) had displayed more than the love relationship. Today, you have a country which has legalised homosexual relationships. The film set the ball rolling. (Pauses) I've gone on chatting so much that I've lost my train of thought. (Guffaws).

I will come back to the original question that what is the difference between the three. As an actor, whether you are acting in films, web or TV, you are acting as someone else. I think about the medium that I am performing for to decide the level of performance or how I want to play things out. When you are hosting a show, you are really being yourself and not anyone else. You are really functioning from being Purab Kohli. That is the straightforward answer to your question. (Laughs)

You have anchored shows on Channel V, which at the time was a purely music channel. What would you say about the way such channels have changed their formats?

I am not from the business end of the channels so maybe I am the wrong person to comment. But yes, I know how it works. I remember having a chat with my boss who said that Channel V never made money but was seen adding value to a bouquet of channels and was sold as a youthful, trend-setting, fashionable music channel, which made the entire package look great. But when that shifted and they wanted to make money out of the channels, they became mini-GECs (General Entertainment Channels). These were no longer trendsetting channels. Also, with the birth of internet, Instagram moved cool people to the web, you find many of them there and you don't find people like us on television. Also, a larger audience has become 'cool'. Satellite TV came to India in 1993-94 and in 1999, we joined Channel V as the first bunch of Indian VJs as earlier, there were only foreigners. We were the door openers to that 'cool' space. Let us not call it cool as it means different things to different people. We can rather call it the unexplored space. That gateway is now wide-open and there are a lot of gate-keepers who are all on Instagram.

How did Hip Hip Hurray happen?

It was very random. I come from a film family. Actors, directors and technicians have always been around me while I was growing up. But I never wanted to be an actor. I wanted to be a pilot. This was in 1995-96 when Jet Airways had just started and was the first non-government airlines that was flying one flight a week. It was ridiculous. And then Vayudoot had shut down. It was a very fragile time in the airline business which seems to have carried on forever (laughs). It is very sad to see the collapse of Jet Airways because when I started travelling and flying around, it was an airline that people were proud about as it was something that was really Indian with international standards.

But then, this is besides the point as this is not what the interview is about. I was training to become a pilot. I realised it was going to be very hard to get a job after the very expensive course. I was very conscious at a young age about taking too much money from home. I wanted to go out and do my own thing. It was at this time that my aunt, who is very close to my family, said that "a friend who is a budding director is looking for new faces and you are a decent looking guy. Why don't you go and just meet her?" So I decided to do just that. Nupur Asthana, the director, called me to the UTV office for audition. I thought I would just go and chat with them. During the audition, there were two people including Nilanjana Sharma, who later played Mona. We did some improvisations and jigs, I don't even know what we were doing. But we were certainly having fun. After 10 days, I was called for a second round to Nupur's house. I took along two friends and told them that I will quickly go in and say that I don't want to do it as I am not interested. When I reached, the entire cast was there. I was probably the last one to arrive. I walked in and realised that I couldn't say this in front of everyone. So my friends were out there waiting for me for a good 45 minutes to an hour. These were pre-mobile phone days and I couldn't call them to tell them that

I was stuck. During that time, I started chatting with some of them. One or two of them were with me in school or college and I realised they are not a bad bunch of people. I don't mind hanging out with them. It will be like a weekend shooting and I could still go to college from Monday to Friday. Moreover, it would mean extra money. I was getting ₹800 from my father and this would give me ₹5,000, which sounded really good. The shoot was a party and I never looked at it as work. There was this energy which can never be recreated. We were 12 innocent kids, who were having a great time and that is what translated on screen as well. When we moved out into the world, we were bitten by the television bug and got famous. The energy started changing. Nupur realised it and decided to end the show.

Most people who come from a film family usually have a huge launch. You didn't want to take that route?

Like I said, I never wanted to be an actor. In fact, when I did *Hip Hip Hurray*, my lovely grand uncle, who was very close to my family, called me and asked me to meet him.

Yes, Dev sa'ab was known to launch newcomers...

No, this was not Dev sa'ab. It was his brother Goldie Uncle, Vijay Anand, who was very close to my family. I remember him calling me and telling me, "Tu bohut acha lagta hai screen pe (You look very good on screen). You are quite a good actor but you need to loosen up a bit. Why don't you come and work with me?" But I did not want to be an actor. I was so caught up having fun that I told him, "Uncle, I don't really want to act. I am doing that because I am having fun and making some money. All my friends have gone to America to study. And I want to do the same." And with that, my opportunity to work with one of the greatest directors went down the drain. I had some great interactions with him as grand uncle. But not the opportunity to actually sit down and work with them. Now I have the maturity to look at it. That is why I don't want to be stuck at 18! (Guffaws) It all connects.

When did you finally decide that you wanted to be an actor?

After *My Brother Nikhil*. I remember watching it at a screening that Onir had done for a very suppressed community, that of HIV+ people, in the theatre. And they were so moved by the film that it broke my heart. I said to myself, "What a powerful medium!" That is the moment I started growing up. Today, when we speak about them, I don't know how many of them are alive. And to see their representation in the film and a story being told about them, I really felt the power of cinema. Even now as I am telling you this story, it is giving me goosebumps. I was lucky to have that experience. That is when I sat back and said that "this is what I can do because this is the impact that it can have on people. And if I have been given the skill by this universe, I need to exercise it as much as I can."

I live in London and work in India so everything becomes very calculated as every project means leaving my family behind for long periods. There is so much happening now that it is easy to get stuck in the wave of doing a lot of work and I have never done that. I tend to sit back and watch what is happening. *Out of Love* is a great show which is quite impactful in its storytelling. It is a good representation of the female story. I hope they all don't go out and start doing what she does. (Guffaws) But none the less, it is quite empowering.

What do you do when you are not working?

There is a little tech business that I am involved in. I give some time there. I am also a father of two children and I try to spend as much time with them as possible because once I am at a shoot, it extends for long hours. Even if they are at the location, I get very little time with them. There is also some writing that I do. These three things take my time besides reading 150 scripts a day. (Laughs)

(The show is streaming on Hotstar.)

TELLY TALKIES 45 MINUTES

UPSIDE DOWN

Actors VARUN BADOLA and SHWETA TIWARI say that their latest TV series *Mere Dad ki Dulhan* lets go of the age-old formulaic narratives and welcomes an unconventional storyline. By AYUSHI SHARMA

Recently, a girl's post on Twitter went viral as she was trying to find a groom for her mother. She posted a picture of herself with her and captioned it, "Looking for a handsome 50-year-old man for my mother! Vegetarian, Non-Drinker, Well Established. #Groomhunting." It's not often that we see children looking for life partners for their parents since it is always the other way round. However, Sony Entertainment Television's latest offering *Mere Dad ki Dulhan*, which stars actors Varun Badola and Shweta Tiwari together for the very first time, builds on the idea of a daughter looking for a bride for her father.

Shweta believes that as a parent, if you choose your partner, it's tough to make your children understand the reason for the choice. "If you have accepted that person, it doesn't mean that they will do so too. If the children like someone, they expect their parents to accept that person. So why can't it be the same in case of us (parents)? Shouldn't it be the other way round too?" she asks.

The show also portrays how a father-daughter duo navigates through life and the dynamics of their relationship which focuses on their dependence on each other. Not many shows have touched upon the fact that even single parents need and long for companionship after a certain stage. This important message is the essence of the entire show.

So does the concept of the show fit into the real life scenario? Are children open to finding and welcoming a step parent? Varun feels that probably children from the metro towns are addressing this

issue a lot faster but that is happening because of the exposure they get. "It will still take time to reach the B and C towns. There are certain things you just enjoy because of the presentation in the story. And here, a lot of girls are able to relate to the show because they see their own father in my character. I feel that there should be some kind of connect, irrespective of what that is. It is not necessary that every daughter should go out and look for a partner for her father. People could relate to it in any manner that they want to. Why should we discard the fact that a good story will always remain a good story?" says he.

Varun was fascinated with the show because of its interesting and unique characterisation. He says, "More than that I feel proud to be part of this transition phase that Indian television is in. It is great to see how we are slowly letting go of the age-old formulaic narratives and finally welcoming fresh and unconventional storylines which are relatable to the new generation."

His character, Amber Sharma, is a stubborn straight-forward person, who doesn't believe in change and lives his life in a set pattern. He prefers being anti-social. "This character allows me to step out of my comfort zone, which is essential for every actor and performer. The show addresses an issue which still remains a taboo in society. Sooner or later, we will have to confront it. Viewers will definitely get a new flavour with this show," Varun adds.

The mere reason why Shweta agreed to do the show was because of its title. She says, "Nowadays, who gives such title? It is so self-explana-



theory that it gives a complete insight into the concept of the show." She plays the character of Guneeet Sikka, a 40-year-old single woman, who lives with her mother. She has tried searching love online but failed. Despite being shamed several times by her mother for being single, she is happy to have a roof over her head and food to eat.

The *Kasautii Zindagi Kay* (2001) actor has had a tough life and she never denies the fact. So how has it influenced her perception of the world and the world's perception of her? Well, she is one of those who doesn't like to make perceptions for anyone and she expects the same from people. "If they want to get inspired or hate me, it's completely upto them.



Nothing really bothers me. I did some kissing scenes and I was told that I am not a good wife. People can keep such mindsets with themselves. I have a question for those people who said

how can her marriage go wrong a second time. Why can't things go wrong? At least, I have the courage to face them and come out in the open. This is what matters the most," says she.

Controversies are part of the industry: Vidyut

Actor Vidyut Jammwal has reacted on the storm over his recently-released film *Commando 3*, by saying that controversies are part and parcel of the film industry. Vidyut added saying that makers of the film did not intend to hurt peoples sentiment with the particular scene that has raised objections from certain sectors.

Commando 3 landed in a controversy over a scene involving wrestlers, who are shown harassing schoolgirls. So far, many netizens have criticised the film terming the sequence as derogatory towards wrestlers. Well-known Indian wrestler Sushil Kumar has also objected to the particular scene, where a group of wrestlers are shown to try and molest a girl because she wears skirt to school. Previously, wrestlers Bajrang Punia and Yogeshwar Dutt had also objected about the scene.

Vidyut was interacting with the media after the success of *Commando 3*, along with co-actor Gulshan Devaiah, when a female reporter asked him whether such a controversy would benefit the film. "When Pakistan throws bombs in Indian territory, then I don't understand why journalists ask the question like whether it's right or wrong. People have died and how do you feel about it? I think these kinds of questions are ridiculous. I feel really bad," Vidyut retorted.

"Journalists should stop asking questions like rape has happened and how do you feel about it? Now you (reporter) are asking me whether this controversy is benefiting the film or not, it's such a ridiculous thing to ask. We don't do these

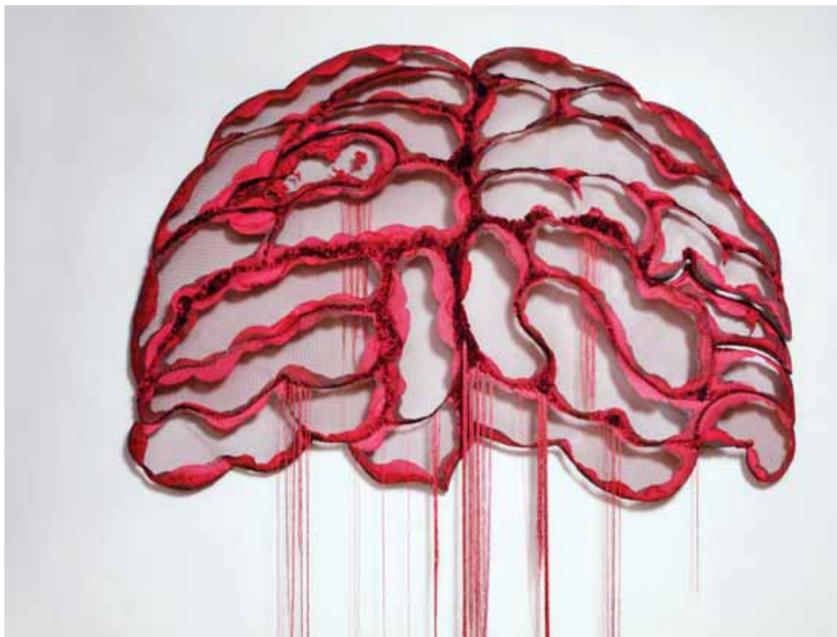
things for our benefit. I feel controversies are part and parcel of this industry, so I do not agree with your (reporter) question," he said.

Vidyut added, "I am associated with an Indian martial art named Kalaripayattu and I can say with pride that I am connected with this country as much as anyone else. My father, grandfather, paternal and maternal uncle have served in the Indian Army. My maternal uncle died in the 1971 war, so to ask me such a question is not a correct thing. I respect every single athlete of India be it wrestlers, body-builders, boxers or others. I would like to tell them that if knowingly or unknowingly, we have hurt your sentiments, then I would like to apologise for that, and from now I will ensure we don't hurt anyone's sentiments."

Commando 3 has collected ₹27.19 crore at the box-office within six days of release. The film is directed by Aditya Datt and produced by Vipul Amrutlal Shah, Reliance Entertainment and Motion Picture Capital. —IANS



WALKTHROUGH 30 MINUTES



Threads, knitting and net are intertwined for the exhibition *Speaking Threads*. Through it, Pranati Panda explores landscapes and human organs in sculpture, prints and paintings which she fondly refers to as 'time pieces'.

Pranati wanted to have a confluence of two energies. So she used both, what she perceives as 'feminine' materials such as thread and fabric alongside 'masculine' materials such as net and jaali. Said she, "I grew up watching my mother knit so I was very clear that I wanted to use it. I particularly used nets in my brain work because in our country women still need freedom and jaali symbolises a cage that they are trapped in. Though we suppress our feelings and emotions and don't talk freely about them but we want to be free from all the atrocities."

As a mother and a woman, I have gone through many experiences in my life. And this is what I wanted to reflect in my paintings," said artist Pranati Panda. Why did you choose thread as the core element for your work? Said Pranati, "They connect one idea to another, or maybe one idea to many and vice versa. They can hold the masculine and feminine energy together. And the best part is that they are seamless, there is no narration of time. Ideally that is what life is. There couldn't have been a better material than this to describe my journey."

Much of Pranati's oeuvre continues to be driven by self-analysis, her experiences and philosophies. Often when an exhibition revolves around one person's experiences, it doesn't necessarily inter-

INTERTWINED TALES

Artist PRANATI PANDA's exhibition *Speaking Threads* explores landscapes and human organs in sculpture, prints and paintings.

By SAKSHI SHARMA

est everyone. But she feels that though each one of us lead our lives differently, we are very connected. Every human goes through similar emotions in different phases of life. Even the objects, nature and the outer world is connected to each other as human reactions have a direct impact on the outside world. So she believes that people will be able to connect closely with her work.

Known as the father of neuroscience, Dr Santiago Raman has been her source of inspiration as his work and journey fascinated her. Apart from him, the everyday ordinariness that she witness-

es around her inspires her too. "I learn from every moment and person. Not only that, I even learn from my dog because he loves me without any expectations. I learn from my maids too. When I talk to them I feel that they have similar desires in life. The only difference is that they feel it is hard or nearly impossible to accomplish them," said she.

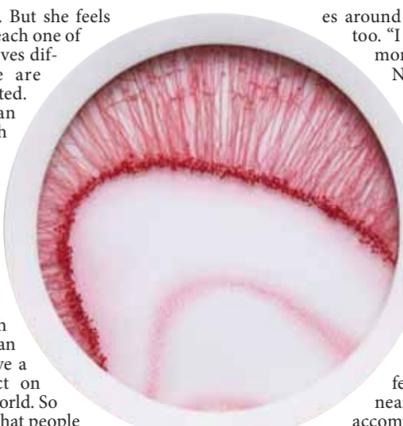
She was keen to showcase the brain sculptures as the organ is the powerhouse of thoughts. So it governs our ideation process, everyday activities and relationships.

Most of her work has rampant use of

red, which represents blood and life force. When questioned about the overpowering colour, she shared an incident about the loss of her first child while giving birth. And the artist somehow still lives with that particular moment. She said, "Not only this, I connect to this colour because of other reasons too. I belong to Odisha, where we believe that when you wear anything red, you find your soulmate. And my mother always used to put a big red bindi, sindoor and wear red bangles. So while growing up, I have seen it all around. Even today I wear something or the other which is red. Maybe a bindi or a bangle. For me this colour is my life energy." She added that she lost her mother at a very young age. And when she closes her eyes, the first thing that grabs her attention is the colour. For her, it symbolises her mother's presence or maybe her bindi.

This absence played a huge role in her works as three to four of them were titled, *Essence of absence* which reminds her of her child and her mother's presence.

Other than this, some paintings even seemed inspired by nature. The



artist expressed her love for nature since childhood as she had spent most of her early life in village. Said she, "My childhood was very colourful. I have seen both village and city life. So I have always been very close to nature and animals. Even today I love spending time with plants and talking to them as they have similar emotions." But she feels that the hassles

of so-called modern life have taken those small joys away. Now the intensity between humans and nature is less.

Pointing towards a painting with layers of white thread she said, "They depict my hidden emotions, some pleasant, some unpleasant."

(The exhibition is on till January 15, 2020 at Vadehra Art Gallery.)



Manchester derby
Live from 11:00pm IST
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1

Derby day in Manchester

United travel Etihad to face Pep's City as Liverpool threaten to burst beyond reach

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Both sides of the Manchester divide will be hoping some derby delight can add impetus to disappointing seasons when City host United today, while Liverpool travel to Bournemouth aiming to surge further clear at the top of the Premier League.

Manchester United got a badly needed win for manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer on Wednesday, inflicting a first defeat as Tottenham manager Jose Mourinho and the Portuguese returned to Old Trafford.

The Red Devils were again reliant on Marcus Rashford goals as the England forward struck twice to take his tally to 12 in 13 games for club and country.

There has been precious little for United fans to enjoy this season, but just a fifth Premier League victory in 15 games was enough to lift them up to sixth.

That is still 11 points adrift of third-placed City, despite their own struggles at times.

Pep Guardiola's men looked more like their old selves in thrashing Burnley 4-1 on Tuesday with Gabriel Jesus stepping up in the absence of the injured Sergio Agüero to score twice.

City have lost just one of six league meetings with United since Guardiola took charge three years ago and cannot afford to slip up if they are to maintain any aspirations of catching Liverpool in the title race.

The English champions could kick-off at the Etihad 14 points behind the leaders, should Jurgen Klopp's men continue their scintillating form at Bournemouth earlier at Vitality.

STRENGTH IN DEPTH

Klopp could even afford the luxury of leaving Roberto Firmino and Mohamed Salah on the bench for a 5-2 thrashing of Everton in the Merseyside derby in midweek.

Both are expected to return for the visit to the south coast, but Klopp may rest some of his stars who did start against Everton ahead of a huge week for the European champions.

Liverpool travel to Salzburg in the Champions League on Tuesday needing to avoid defeat if their defence of the title is not to embarrassingly end in the group stages.

Divock Origi scored twice against Everton and Xherdan Shaqiri struck on his first start of the season to prove Klopp does have the strength in depth to successfully shuffle his pack.

CHRISTMAS NO 1 SPOT

Jurgen Klopp says he does not care about being top at Christmas as he prepares his team for a hectic few weeks.

A win on the south coast would mean Liverpool cannot be caught before December 25.

Only three times in the past 11 years has the top-placed team at Christmas failed to go on to win the title — and on every occasion it was Liverpool, including last year.

Klopp, targeting Liverpool's first English top-flight title for 30 years, said he was not interested in such numbers.

"There are a lot of people who celebrate already, a lot of people who worry still and a lot of people who hope that we will still fail so that's it," he said at his pre-match conference.

"I don't listen to (any) of them, to be honest. So I'm completely fine. We want to try and win at

NUMBER GAME

1 Thursday was Brighton's first ever Premier League away win against 'big six' opposition (D1 L15), and the first time the Seagulls have scored more than once in such a game

9 Arsenal are winless in nine games in all competitions, their longest such streak since a run of 10 in March 1977

4 There have been four Premier League victories by sides with less than 30% possession this season, with Newcastle responsible for two of those (26.6% tonight and 19.8% vs Spurs in August)

2 Newcastle have scored with both of their shots on target in this game, with Shelvey's 70th minute goal their first attempt of any kind since Saint-Maximin opened the scoring in the 15th minute

1 Marco Silva is the first ever Everton manager to leave the club having faced Merseyside rivals Liverpool in his final game in charge, with Wednesday's 5-2 defeat being the 234th Merseyside Derby in all competitions.

1.28 Marco Silva's points-per-game average of 1.28 is the lowest of any Everton manager in the Premier League since Walter Smith between July 1998 to March 2002 (1.15).

Bournemouth.

"What that means for Christmas, I never thought about. So it's not really interesting. We know that we are in a really, really difficult situation with the games coming up.

Toffees part ways with Silva

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Everton sacked manager Marco Silva after 18 months in charge at Goodison Park on Thursday after a 5-2 thrashing by Liverpool saw the club fall into the relegation zone.

"Everton Football Club can confirm that manager Marco Silva has left the Club," Everton said in a statement.

"Duncan Ferguson has taken temporary charge of the first team and will manage the side for the game against Chelsea on Saturday."

David Moyes has been linked with a return to Goodison as Silva's successor as a stop-gap until the end of the season.

Silva becomes the fourth Premier League manager to be sacked in little over two weeks

after Tottenham, Arsenal and Watford also fired Mauricio Pochettino, Unai Emery and Quique Sanchez Flores respectively.

The former Hull and Watford boss becomes the fourth managerial casualty since Farhad Moshiri took charge of Everton in 2016 after Roberto Martinez, Ronald Koeman and Sam Allardyce.

Bright on spot

Arsenal 'no show' ends in defeat at Emirates



Brighton's Adam Webster, 2nd right, celebrates after scoring his sides first goal AP

AFP ■ LONDON

Caretaker manager Freddie Ljungberg said Arsenal "did not show up" for the first 45 minutes as the Gunners' winless streak reached nine games in a 2-1 home defeat to Brighton on Thursday.

Neal Maupay headed in a deserved winner for the Seagulls 10 minutes from time after Alexandre Lacazette had cancelled out Adam Webster's opener for Brighton.

Defeat leaves Arsenal in 10th place and 10 points adrift of fourth-placed Chelsea in the hunt for Champions League qualification next season.

On this evidence there is little chance of Ljungberg landing the job on a permanent basis as another sparse crowd at the Emirates greeted the final whistle with a chorus of boos.

"You cannot give away a whole half against any team in the Premier League," said Ljungberg.

"We did not show up in the first half, we very passive, we didn't move. We had chat at half-time, made a tactical change and all of a sudden we looked like the team we wanted to for 20 minutes."

Brighton made the most of

Gunners poor run to win on the road in the Premier League for the first time since the opening week-end of the season.

Victory for Brighton takes them to within a point of Arsenal and four clear of the relegation zone.

"We had lots of quality and courage," said Brighton boss Graham Potter, whose side enjoyed more possession and more shots on goal than the hosts.

"The main stat is the score-line. At the end it's nice for the players and supporters that you get a reward for the way we are trying to play."

Elsewhere, Newcastle taught Sheffield United a lesson in taking their chances as the Magpies won 2-0 at Bramall Lane despite enjoying just 27 percent possession.

Allan Saint-Maximin headed the visitors in front with his first goal for the club and Jonjo Shelvey secured the three points when he played on as the Blades defence stopped at the sight of the offside flag going up against Andy Carroll.

A VAR review showed Carroll was onside as he flicked the ball into Shelvey's path.

Chelsea free to sign players

LONDON: Chelsea manager Frank Lampard admitted the club will be on the lookout for new faces in the January window after a FIFA-imposed transfer ban was reduced on appeal by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on Friday.

The ban, imposed following violations in the recruitment of minors, was reduced from two transfer windows to one, which Chelsea already served in the summer.

A fine was also reduced from 600,000 Swiss francs (\$607,000; £462,000) to half that amount by the Lausanne-based court.

Lampard insisted he had not yet had any conversations with Chelsea's board about transfer plans, but will start them now in earnest.

"It's a positive outcome for us. It allows us the potential to look

at the market going forward," Lampard said at a press conference ahead of today's trip to Everton.

"So I'm pleased from a footballing level. It was never my business to get involved in the reasons why or the legal side of it.

"So from my point of view, for the club moving forward, it's obviously a good thing."

A CAS statement explaining their decision said that Chelsea were guilty of violating rules related to the international transfer and registration of minors, "but for a significantly smaller number of players", concluding that they were only guilty of one third of the violations found by FIFA.

In addition, the breaches of other transfer rules "were found to be less serious than those attributed to Chelsea FC by FIFA".

Defeat 'out of question' for Bayern at Gladbach



Robert Lewandowski attends training AP

AFP ■ MÖNCHENGLADBACH

Manuel Neuer says a second consecutive defeat is unthinkable for Bayern Munich today as Bundesliga leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach, who quietly harbour aspirations of a first German title since 1977.

Bayern have lifted the trophy each of the past seven seasons but their Bundesliga reign is under threat as they sit fourth — four points behind Gladbach — with a third of the season played.

Interim Bayern coach Hansi Flick, who replaced the sacked Niko Kovac last month, suffered his first defeat in five games a week ago with a shock 2-1 loss at home to Bayer Leverkusen.

Neuer has called for a response by Bayern at Borussia Park.

"We simply must not lose, that's out of the question — we're going there to win," the Germany goalkeeper told *Kicker* magazine.

Under new head coach Marco Rose, Gladbach are this season's surprise package and have spent the last two months in first place.

A win over Bayern would go some way to firming up Gladbach's status as genuine title contenders, especially with second-placed RB Leipzig, who host mid-table Hoffenheim today, just a point behind.

"We always want to compete with the best — and Bayern are the best," said Embolo.

"But it's not just us who want to stand up to them. Leipzig, Schalke and Leverkusen want that too.

"It's going to be a top game. Bayern are a world-class team and we need to hope for a good day."

Another defeat would pile the pressure on Bayern and Flick. Ex-Germany coach and Gladbach legend Bertie Vogts said his former side "will be hard to knock off top spot" if they beat the Bavarians this weekend.

Germany defender Matthias Ginter is expected to be fit again after injury to face Bayern, who are near full strength.

Shame to see Mane on 4th in Ballon d'Or: Messi

MADRID: Barcelona star striker Lionel Messi feels it was very unfortunate for Liverpool forward Sadio Mane to finish fourth in the Ballon d'Or vote.

Earlier this week, Messi won the Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player for a record sixth time. Mane finished fourth behind Messi, Virgil van Dijk and Cristiano Ronaldo in the Ballon d'Or vote.

"It's a shame to see Mane finish in fourth place," Messi was quoted as saying by *goal.com*.

The 32-year-old further admitted that he had voted for the Senegalese in The Best poll.

"But I think there have been a lot of great players this year. That's why it was difficult to choose a particular player. But I chose Sadio Mane (for *The Best* award) because he's a player that I like," said Messi. "Mane achieved a great year that was exceptional for the entire Liverpool team. That's why I chose him. "I repeat, there were a lot of very great players this year, so the choice was difficult," he added.

PTI ■ KATHMANDU/POKHARA

Shuttlers led India's yet another stupendous show as the country widened the gap at the top by clinching 41 medals, including 19 Gold, on Day 5 of the 13th South Asian Games here on Friday.

India grabbed another 18 Silver and 4 Bronze to take the total tally to 165 medals (81 Gold, 59 Silver, 25 Bronze) and leave second-placed Nepal (41 Gold, 27 Silver, 48 Bronze), who won 116 medals in aggregate, behind.

Sri Lanka are third with a total of 134 medals (23 Gold, 42 Silver, 69 Bronze).

The shuttlers won the maximum Gold medals — four — for India on Friday. They com-

pletely dominated the discipline by winning four Golds and two Silver in the day.

Former world junior championships Silver medalist Siril Verma lived up to his top seeding as he rallied from a game down to outwit compatriot Aryaman Tandon 17-21, 23-21, 21-13 in an all-Indian men's singles final.

In the women's singles final, Ashmita Chaliha overcame a late surge from fellow Indian Gayatri Gopichand to finish off with a 21-18, 25-23.

In doubles, there was double delight for Dhruv who



Real Madrid's Gareth Bale leaves the field AP

Bale joins list of Real absentees

AFP ■ MADRID

Zinedine Zidane confirmed on Friday that Gareth Bale has not trained ahead of Real Madrid's match against Espanyol as injury threatens to rule him out of this month's Clasico.

Bale is struggling with a minor problem in his thigh although the club remain optimistic he will recover in time for the crunch game against Barcelona at Camp Nou on December 18.

"He did it in the match against Alaves," said Zidane at a press conference before today's La Liga match.

"We've had a few days off but he has felt some discomfort. He hasn't trained with us either

Real Madrid vs Espanyol
Live from 5:30pm IST
FACEBOOK

today or this week."

Bale has only recently shaken off a calf injury that kept him out for just over a month between October and November, and his latest setback adds to a worrying list of fitness concerns for Zidane.

Eden Hazard could be sidelined for more than a month after suffering a fracture in his ankle while Marcelo might also miss the game against Barcelona, after he sustained a calf strain in training.

Lucas Vazquez (toe), James Rodriguez (knee) and Marco

Asensio (cruciate ligament) are also out.

"Injuries are a nightmare. Eden isn't happy but it is what it is," said Zidane. "We hope his injury is a little less serious than expected."

"I don't know what we are going to do, I hope he will be back soon, Marcelo and Gareth the same. It is a major blow but we can't do anything about it."

"There are other players and that is what we have to focus on. We have to maintain our momentum in the game tomorrow."

Rodrygo and Isco could fill in up front either side of Karim Benzema while Ferland Mendy is likely to replace Marcelo at left-back.

Siril, Ashmita lead India to 6 Badminton Gold



Indian badminton players pose with Tricolour and their medals during SAF

emerged victorious in both men's and mixed doubles. He paired up with Krishna Prasad Garaga to win the men's doubles title 21-19, 19-21, 21-18 against Sri Lanka's Sachin Dias and Buwaneka.

Track and field athletes, who were leading the Indian charge in the past few days, fetched the maximum 12 medals but just two of them were Gold. The two Gold were won in men's and women's shot put events.

The country's fencers also made their presence felt in the South Asian Games by clinching three Gold and as many Silver.

In table tennis also, the Indians won the Gold and Silver in both the men's and women's singles.

India weightlifters also continued their impressive run in the regional multi-sporting event by claiming three Gold

and a Silver.

Achinta Sheuli opened the Gold account as he finished on top of podium in men's 73kg with a total lift of 300kg.

Rakhi Halder added another Gold in women's 64kg with a total effort of 200 kg while Manpreet Kaur won the third in women's 71kg category with a total lift of 192kg.

Indian cyclists also opened their Gold medal account on Friday.

Elangbam Chaoba Devi finished on the top of podium in women's elite race while John Naveen Thomas and Arvind Panwar bagged a Gold and Silver respectively in the men's elite event.

SINGLES

WOZNIACKI TO RETIRE AFTER AUS OPEN

PARIS: Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki announced on Friday that she will retire from tennis after next month's Australian Open. The 29-year-old Dane won her only Grand Slam singles title in Melbourne last year in her third major final. "I've accomplished everything I could ever dream of on the court," she said in an *Instagram* post. She spent 71 weeks at the top of the WTA rankings after first becoming the world's best player in October 2010 and won 30 WTA titles, including the 2017 Tour Finals in Singapore.

BOULT, GRANDHOMME TO TRAVEL AUS

WELLINGTON: New Zealand have received a major boost ahead of the three-Test series against Australia as Trent Boult and Colin de Grandhomme have made remarkable progress in recoveries from their injuries and have been cleared to travel with the squad. Boult (side strain) and de Grandhomme (abdominal tear) had missed the second Test against England. However, on Friday New Zealand Cricket confirmed that both of them would travel to Perth with the squad today having come through a training session in Mount Maunganui on Friday. But there still remains a question mark whether both of them would be able to participate in the day-night Test at Perth Stadium which starts December 12.

MAXWELL CLOSER TO CRICKET RETURN

MELBOURNE: Australia's Glenn Maxwell seems to be moving closer to a comeback from his mental health break after the all-rounder was seen training with his state side Victoria. Maxwell, who stepped away from cricket to deal with his unspecified problems during T20 series against Sri Lanka, returned to club cricket recently. He has played three Victorian Premier Cricket matches with club side Fitzroy Doncaster since and has taken part in some aspects of Victoria's Shield program. On Thursday, the 31-year-old, who bowls off-spin, participated in Victoria's training session at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

RODGERS SIGNS NEW FOXES DEAL

LEICESTER: Brendan Rodgers has committed his long-term future to Leicester City, ending speculation linking him with the vacant Arsenal manager's job. The Northern Irishman has taken Leicester to second in the Premier League behind Liverpool, with 11 wins from 15 matches this season and his success at the King Power Stadium saw him linked heavily with the Arsenal manager's job after the sacking last week of Unai Emery.

GERMANY CONFIRM FRIENDLY MATCHES

MUNICH: Germany will play friendlies against fellow European powerhouses Spain and Italy next March in the build-up to Euro 2020, the German Football Association (DFB) has confirmed. Joachim Loew's side face Spain in Madrid on March 26 and Italy on March 31 in Nuremberg before the European Championship finals, which start on June 12. "With Spain and Italy, we will face two exceptional teams in the run-up to the tournament, which will be highly valuable," said Germany team director Oliver Bierhoff.

MOROE SUSPENDED OVER MISCONDUCT

JOHANNESBURG: Cricket South Africa (CSA) announced on Friday that chief executive Thabang Moroe had been suspended on allegations of misconduct as the body faces a mounting crisis. Shortly before it was announced that Moroe had been suspended, the South African Cricketers' Association (SACA) called for the resignation of Moroe and the entire CSA board, while a major sponsor announced it would not renew its agreement, linking their withdrawal directly to events which have engulfed the governing body. It also followed a call by the Gauteng Lions, one of Cricket South Africa's major provincial affiliates, for the resignation of Moroe and the board.

Super V

Captain Kohli improves his best T20 score (94 not out) to help India beat Windies by 6 wickets in record chase

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Skipper Virat Kohli stamped his authority with yet another sublime innings of career-best 94 not out as India pulled off their highest successful run chase in a T20 International to beat West Indies by six wickets in the first match here on Friday.

KL Rahul also struck an impressive 62 off just 40 balls to help India chase down the target of 208 with eight balls to spare.

The earlier highest successful run chase for India in a T20I was the 207 against Sri Lanka in Mohali in 2009.

India, thus, took a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. The second T20 International will be played in Thiruvananthapuram tomorrow.

Opening the innings in the absence of injured Shikhar Dhawan, Rahul played fluently to score his seventh T20I fifty, during which he hit five boundaries and four sixes to make a case for himself to be in India's squad for next year's T20 World Cup.

Kohli, who played the second fiddle till Rahul was around, showed his class and opened up his arms to notch up his fifty of 35 balls and guided India to a rather comprehensive win as the home side reached 208 for 4 in 18.4 overs.

Rahul and Kohli shared 100 runs for the second wicket to lay the platform for the victory.

FASTEST TO 1000 RUNS IN T20I*			
Batsman	Matches	Innings	Time period
Babar Azam (Pakistan)	26	26	2 years & 58 days
Virat Kohli (India)	29	27	5 years & 112 days
Aaron Finch (Australia)	29	29	6 years & 36 days
Lokesh Rahul (India)	32	29	3 years & 171 days
Kevin Pietersen (England)	32	32	6 years & 79 days
Alex Hales (England)	32	32	2 years & 262 days
Faf du Plessis (South Africa)	32	32	3 years & 192 days

MOST 50 PLUS SCORES IN T20I*						
Batsman	M	Runs	AVG	HS	S/R	50+
Virat Kohli (IND)	73	2544	51.91	94*	136.70	23
Rohit Sharma (IND)	102	2547	31.83	118	137.45	22
Martin Guptill (NZ)	83	2436	33.36	105	134.58	17
Paul Stirling (IRL)	72	1929	29.67	91	137.68	16
David Warner (AUS)	76	2079	30.57	100*	140.85	16

VIRAT KOHLI TOP T20I SCORES			
Score	Opponent	Venue	Year
94*	West Indies	Hyderabad	2019
90*	Australia	Adelaide	2016
89*	West Indies	Mumbai (Wankhede)	2016
82*	Australia	Mohali	2016
82	Sri Lanka	Colombo (R Premadasa)	2017

Kohli, in the end, remained unbeaten six runs shy of century. He hit six fours and as many sixes from the 50 balls he faced.

Rishabh Pant made 18 off nine deliveries but again threw away his wicket to only make matters difficult for himself.

Earlier, Shimron Hetmyer struck a quick half-century as West Indies produced a fine batting display to post a challenging 207 for 5.

An aggressive Hetmyer made 56 off 41 balls which was studded with two boundaries and four hits over the fence to hold West Indies from one end after being sent into bat.

He first added 37 runs with Brandon King (31 off 23 balls) and then shared 71 runs with skipper

Kieron Pollard (37 off 19 balls) to lay the base for the West

Indies total.

The Indians, however, were far from impressive on the field as Washington Sundar and Rohit Sharma dropped a few catches.

Off-spinner Washington Sundar (1/34) leaked runs in the first over before Deepak Chahar (1/56) gave India the breakthrough in the next over, taking the wicket of Lendl Simmons, caught by Rohit Sharma in the first slip.

Evin Lewis (40 off 17) and young King then added 51 runs for the second wicket, during which they played some fearless shots, to take West Indies forward.

Lewis pulled Chahar for two sixes in the fourth over to make his intentions clear. He continued the onslaught and struck comeback man Bhuvneshwar Kumar for a six and a four in consecutive balls. He then smoked off-spinner Sundar over the cover boundary but perished in the next ball, LBW in search of one shot too many.

Young King and Hetmyer then added 37 runs for the third wicket before the former was stumped by Rishabh Pant off Ravindra Jadeja's (1/30) bowling. Hetmyer, on the other hand,

'I don't hit in air to entertain crowd'

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Indian captain Virat Kohli on Friday said that he's not a player who hits the ball in the air to entertain the crowd but someone who wants to do his job and win matches for the country.

Kohli, who played a sublime innings of career-best 94 not out in India's win, said he does not want to play slam-bang cricket even in this shortest format.

"Whenever I play T20 cricket I am not someone who comes to the ground to hit the ball in the air to entertain the crowd. I focus on doing the job. Our strength as a team is to strike in the latter half of the innings," Kohli said after the match.

"I don't want to change my game too much because I play all three formats. I just want to contribute in all three formats, that's what I want to do. I don't want to be a format specialist."

After hitting Kesrick Williams for a six in the 16th over, a fired up Indian captain also used his bat as an imaginary notebook to "tick" the bowler's name off. Kohli later said that he remembered Williams doing the same in Jamaica when the Indian team was there for a tour.

"It's not the CPL (about Williams' celebration), it happened to me in Jamaica when he got me out. So I thought I'll tick a few in the notebook as well, but all good. There were a few words, but smiles at the end," Kohli said.

"That's what you want to see. Good competitive cricket but in the end shake hands and give a hi-fi. That's what cricket is all about. Play it hard but have respect for opponents."

West Indies captain Kieron Pollard said that his side did not execute the plans properly.

"208 to defend, on any day, you'd take that 10 out of 10 times. Where we lost the game was the extras and our bowling. Our execution was poor. If we had executed the plans we had spoken about, despite the good batting wicket, it would have been a different scenario," he said.

went about his business in a quiet fashion, hitting the bad deliveries out of the park to register his fifth half-century in T20 cricket in 35 balls.

But a double breakthrough by leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal (2/36) in the 18th over put a check on West Indies' scoring rate.



Kieron Pollard trains during Windies nets session AP

WI should leave India as better team: Lara

PTI ■ MUMBAI

West Indies batting icon Brian Lara on Friday said the Kieron Pollard-led side should target becoming an improved outfit by the end of its limited-overs series against India here even if it fails to win much in the rubber.

"...He (Pollard) will have to build a team...Playing against India in India is always a tough proposition and he must leave here not necessarily winning but he must leave here a better team after this tournament," Lara said at an event.

Lara backed Pollard's appointment as the team's skipper for the limited-overs format.

"Over a period of time, his representation for West Indies may not be a lot but he has played all around the World in different leagues. He has gained a lot of respect from the opposition. I didn't see it as a bad decision (to appoint him as a captain)," Lara told reporters.

"He (Pollard) has easily gained the respect of his team-mates and he can move forward. There is a (T20) World Cup in under 12 months and you are looking for the right person, someone who can keep the ground running. He has that experience to do so. It is a good decision, but it is still going to be an uphill battle," explained the 50-year-old.

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