

**WORLD 7**  
WH WON'T PARTICIPATE  
IN PROCEEDINGS

**MONEY 8**  
INCOME TAX CUT UNDER  
CONSIDERATION: FM

**SPORT 10**  
INDIA TO FACE WEST INDIES  
IN SECOND T20 TODAY

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**USUALSUSPECTS**  
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

## CAB not regressive, it'll heal Partition wounds

One of the more interesting features of modern society — at least since the advent of instant, global communications — is the fleeting collective attention span of people. The tendency to jump from subject to subject or, rather, controversy to controversy, has distorted public discourse immeasurably and made it extremely difficult for policy makers to get a fix on public opinion.

At one time, it was imagined that social media would constitute a great democratic input by providing a visible and public platform to those whose voices were suppressed in the past. It is not that this project has been completely derailed. However, increasingly, social media appears to have been taken over by precisely those individuals and groups whose voices dominated the old media. This is particularly so as far as Twitter is concerned and less so in Facebook. But the dilution of the original aims of democratic opinion-building is painfully obvious.

Ideally, the coming week should have been dominated by a detailed dissection of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill that is due to be presented to Parliament this week. If all goes according to plan, the Bill will be passed in both Houses and will trigger profound changes in determining who is regarded as an Indian and who is not.

The codification of India's citizenship norms have become overdue for a number of reasons. First, unlike the past when only a handful of Indians bothered to acquire passports for themselves, overseas travel has become routine. The biggest entrant has been the Indian middle classes that travel overseas quite frequently for both work and leisure. Secondly, the past decade has witnessed the increasing attempts by State and Central Governments to roll out effective welfare programmes. Though there is nothing unique about this, technology has ensured that benefits are actually being received by those who have been targeted. India's slow but discernible entry into the welfare state zone has made it necessary to be clear that the recipients of Government schemes are actually citizens and not those who have no right to be in India.

The critics seem to be suggesting two things. First, that Partition was a function of secular politics. It clearly wasn't. And second that those who fled religious persecution must be put on par with those whose entry into India were dictated by other considerations. One lot was pushed out; the other lot walked out

that predated the Constitution of 1950 and needs to be somehow incorporated into modern legislation. The present CAB is a modest endeavour in that direction.

The horrific incidents in Hyderabad and Unnao have, unfortunately, diverted some attention from CAB. The Bill will be presented, debated and probably passed in Parliament. However, consideration of the CAB needs much more than the articulation of views by MPs who, in any case, will follow their party lines. The wider discussion in civil society will probably happen to some extent in eastern India — notably in West Bengal, Assam and the North-eastern States. However, the other discussion will be dominated by a small handful of people who seem determined to paint India in wholly unappetising colours.

I think the biggest casualty of the controlled discussion on the CAB is rigour. Thanks to the Government proffering the Bill to the public at a very late stage, there have been wilful distortions that have crept in. The report on the website of the Financial Times is indicative: "India's Cabinet has approved a draft law to make non-Muslims who have fled religious persecution in neighbouring countries automatically eligible for Indian citizenship. It is a big step in the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's vision of transforming India from a secular democracy into an explicitly Hindu State."

The misreading arises on a number of counts. The most important of these is the failure to recognise that one of the main purposes of the CAB is to address some of the issues that have followed the Partition of India in 1947. India may have declared itself a non-denominational, secular republic, but the others did not. The nature of the refugees who crossed over into India after 1947 fleeing Islamic oppression was determined by the type of societies created in Pakistan and Bangladesh. The overwhelming number of the refugees were Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists. A very small number were Christians. They were turfed out not on account of their politics but on account of their faith. They were also turfed out permanently and the chances of their returning are zero. To them India is the default home. Should the nature of this exodus not be acknowledged? Should it be concealed in a wave of political correctness and called a secular exodus when it was quite categorically a religious exodus? Should they not be given Indian citizenship, especially after their departure is permanent? And most important, should these refugees not be distinguished from those who were not pushed out but came to India for economic reasons, albeit illegally?

It is because the CAB tries to answer these questions forthrightly, without taking recourse to intellectual subterfuge, that it is being painted as regressive. The critics seem to be suggesting two things. First, that Partition was a function of secular politics. It clearly wasn't. And second that those who fled religious persecution must be put on par with those whose entry into India were dictated by other considerations. One lot was pushed out; the other lot walked out.

# Politics takes centre stage on Unnao

Villagers heckle Mins; Priyanka meets rape-immolation victim's kin, Akhilesh sits on dharna



Mortals remains of the rape victim who succumbed to severe burns reaches her native village in Unnao district on Saturday

PTI

PNS ■ UNNAO

Politics took the centre stage on Saturday as anger mounted over the death of the Unnao rape-immolation victim at Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi on Friday night. With family members of the victim and people at large calling for speedy justice, the situation was so tense that people heckled Uttar Pradesh Ministers Swami Prasad Maurya and Kamal Rani Varun, who along with local BJP MP Sakshi Maharaj, reached the village of the Unnao victim to meet her family members.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi met the family members of the victim and Akhilesh Yadav sat on a dharna outside the Vidhan Bhavan here on Saturday. The Yogi Government announced ₹25 lakh compensation and a house to the family of the victim. A number of protesters, including some local Congress leaders, sustained injuries as police used force to disperse the crowd which gathered outside the residence of the victim. They shouted "Vaapas Jao, Vaapas Jao" (go back) and raised slogans against the State Government and Sakshi Maharaj.

The sloganeering continued for 15 minutes. Police used force against the protesters after which the two Ministers and the MP could be taken to the victim's home, villagers said. The 23-year-old rape victim who was airlifted to Delhi and admitted to Safdarjung Hospital with 90 per cent burns after being set afire by the accused, including two rapists, died following a cardiac arrest at 11.40 pm on Friday.

Meanwhile, Priyanka alleged that the BJP Government had created such circumstances that there was no fear in the minds of crimi-

UP Govt announces setting up of fast-track court, ₹25 lakh for victim's family  
Victim's father demands justice on the lines of the Hyderabad encounter

nals in the State, she urged the Government and the administration to take seriously the issue of violence against women.

"They (the BJP Government) are saying that there is no place for criminals in UP. But the way in which anarchy has spread and violence against women is taking place in the State, I wonder if in Uttar Pradesh there is any place for women," she told reporters after meeting the deceased woman's family members at their house.

Priyanka told reporters that during the meeting the victim's family members narrated their ordeal of being harassed for a long time by their daughter's perpetrators.

"A young girl (from the victim's family) was threatened that her name will be struck off from school, so she did not dare to go to school. The (girl child's) father was beaten up, and their agriculture field set ablaze in June. The family was tortured in every possible way. After that, all these things happened," Priyanka claimed.

The Congress general secretary went on to say there were rumours that the pradhan of the village has links with the BJP, asking reporters to find out



Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav stages a dharna in front of Vidhan Bhawan in protest over Unnao rape victim's death on Saturday

PTI



Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra visits Sindupur village, the home of the rape victim who succumbed to burns, on Saturday

PTI

the truth behind it.

"There are possibilities that he may be given patronage. In the past, we have seen that there were prominent accused persons who were protected. Such type of incidents are happening on a daily basis," she said, adding that the issue should not be turned into a political one and that the Government should find out why such incidents happen in the State on a regular basis.

"Today, there is no fear among criminals in Uttar Pradesh. If someone can barge into their home, beat her (the girl child's) father, threaten the children and women, and also set the agricultural field ablaze, obviously, there is no fear in their (criminals') minds. The Government must take seriously why such circumstances exist in UP," she told reporters.

In Lucknow, police lathi-charged Congress workers who staged a protest against the Government in Hazratganj.

Meanwhile, BSP chief Mayawati urged the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognizance of the growing incidents of crime against women and direct the Centre to take prompt steps for effectively checking them.

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## Access to justice beyond reach of poor: President

PTI ■ JODHPUR

President Ram Nath Kovind here on Saturday expressed concern over access to justice, saying the judicial process has gone beyond the reach of the common man.

"The judicial process has become expensive, even beyond the reach of common man due to many reasons, especially in the high court and the Supreme Court where it has become impossible for common litigants," the President said during the inauguration of the newly constructed Rajasthan High Court building.

"Today, can any poor or deprived person come here with his complaint? This question is the most important because in the Preamble to the Constitution, we all have



accepted the responsibility of providing justice to all," he said. He added Mahatma Gandhi was concerned about the expenditure incurred in the process of justice. For him, the welfare of the poorest of poor (daridra narayan) was always paramount, he said.

"If we keep in mind Gandhiji's famous criterion, if we remember the face of the poorest and the weakest, then we will see the right path," Kovind said.

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## CJI: Justice can't be instant, it must not take form of revenge

PTI ■ JODHPUR

Against the backdrop of the Hyderabad rape-murder incident and gunning down of the four accused in an alleged encounter, Chief Justice of India SA Bobde on Saturday said justice can never be instant and loses its character when it becomes revenge.

At the same time, he admitted that the recent events in the country have sparked off an old debate with new vigour, where there is no doubt that the criminal justice system must reconsider its position and attitude towards the time it takes to dispose of a case.

"But I don't think justice can ever be or ought to be instant, and justice must never ever take the form of revenge. I believe justice loses its character of justice if it becomes revenge," the CJI said during the inauguration of a new building of the Rajasthan High Court here.

The CJI's remarks came a day after the police claimed that all the four accused in the rape and murder of a young veterinarian in Hyderabad were shot dead in "retaliatory" firing by



the cops when two of the accused opened fire at them after snatching their weapons and tried to escape from the site where they had been taken for a reenactment of events as part of the investigation.

Addressing the event here, Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad urged the CJI and other senior judges to ensure that there is a mechanism to monitor quick disposal of rape cases, saying that the women of the country are under pain and distress and crying for justice.

"I would urge the CJI and other senior judge that now there must be a mechanism to monitor the disposal of these cases so that India's stature as a proud country governed by rule of law must be restored at the earliest," Prasad said, and assured Government funding for it.

The Hyderabad incident had sparked demands of swift punishment to rape convicts. The news of the "encounter" killing led to celebrations in some quarters and concern in others.

The four accused were arrested on November 29 for allegedly raping and killing the 25-year-old veterinary doctor by smothering her and later burning her body.

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## 63% turnout in J'khand polls, 1 killed in scuffle with police

SAURAV ROY ■ RANCHI

The second phase of election for the Assembly in Jharkhand that drew 63.36 per cent turnout saw death of one person in police firing at a polling booth in Gumla district's Sisai constituency on Saturday. Two others sustained bullet injuries in the firing.

The villagers pelted stones at the security personnel and stabbed them with sharp objects causing serious injuries after the first accidental gunshot hit one of the assailants on his thigh, police said.

The security personnel had to take the extreme step in a bid to protect themselves from an



Security personnel trying to control the situation after clashes between workers of two political parties at a polling booth in Gumla on Saturday

PTI

enraged group who tried to snatch their guns during a scuffle. The first gunshot hit thigh of one of the assailant, when he tried to snatch a cop's gun. The second gunshot killed another assailant.

In another incident, Maoists torched a bus used for ferrying voters in Chaibasa.

However, no casualties were reported in the incident. Later in the day, Maoists attacked poll parties in Khunti's Arki block leading to an encounter with security forces. With prompt reinforcement, the security personnel forced them to flee, said Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Vinay Kumar Choubey.

## 50% income of 25 parties comes from electoral bonds

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Three national parties and 22 regional parties generated more than 50 per cent of their income through the electoral bonds in 2018-19. A total of ₹587.87 crore of the income declared by these parties to the Election Commission (EC) came through electoral bonds which are anonymous and the identity of their donors are not disclosed to the public.

According to the EC, the total income declared by the parties was ₹1,163.17 crore. These parties collected ₹893.60 crore or 76.82 per cent of their total income from voluntary contributions, including donations and contributions and electoral bonds in 2018-19.

ly that the remaining ₹1,952 crore worth electoral bonds were encashed by parties whose audit reports are not available on the ECI website.

The ruling BJP has been the biggest beneficiary of electoral bonds garnering 94.5 per cent of the bonds worth around ₹210 crore in 2018.

The issue of electoral bonds came under the spotlight after a report indicated earlier this week that RBI had

repeatedly warned the Government that the electoral bond scheme would lead to money laundering. However, the Government ignored the warnings and went ahead with the scheme. With the introduction of electoral bonds scheme, any Indian citizen, corporate or other entity such as trusts or NGOs are allowed to buy bonds from SBI branches and donate them to political parties. The issue was rocked in the ongoing Parliament Winter Session this week as the Opposition, including the Congress, alleged the ruling BJP as a biggest beneficiary of the scheme.

As per an analysis of the parties' audit reports carried out by ADR, under voluntary

contributions, the parties collected 50.54 per cent or ₹587.87 crore of their income from donations through electoral bonds while other donations and contributions amounted to ₹305.73 crore or 26.28 per cent in 2018-19. The three national parties that submitted their details are Trinamool Congress, CPI(M) and Bahujan Samaj Party.

However, of the three national parties analysed, only Trinamool Congress declared receiving donations through electoral bonds, amounting to ₹97.28 crore. Only five of the 22 regional parties that were analysed declared donations through bonds, the amount being ₹490.59 crore.

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### CAPSULE

**I-T DEPT RAIDS BSE BROKERS, TRADERS**

New Delhi: The income-tax (I-T) department has conducted searches at 39 locations to check tax evasion by brokers and traders operating at the Bombay Stock Exchange in transactions worth about ₹3,500 crore. P5

**DEAD FISH FOUND IN GANGA CANAL, PROBE ON MUZZAFFARGARH**

Thousands of dead fish were found floating in the Ganga canal in Hastinapur area of Muzaffarnagar district. An investigation is underway.

**MAN THROWS CHEMICAL ON WOMAN IN DELHI**

New Delhi: A 30-year-old woman was injured after a man threw a chemical on her near the New Delhi Railway Station. P3

# 'I am not playing Sita but living it'

MUSBA HASHMI chats up SHIVYA PATHANIA about what made her choose Ram Siya Ke Luv Kush, preparations for the role and if she would like to be a part of a reality show

## ■ What prompted you to play Sita in Ram Siya Ke Luv Kush?

First, the character of course. We have seen so many versions of the Ramayana but never heard its story from Luv-Kush's perspective. This was another reason that I chose to take up this project. Also mythology is a genre that will never become out dated. The audience loves to see the stories that represents our culture and history. As for the younger generations, they just know about the stories but not what it taught us. These shows are a wonderful medium to teach the younger generations about the values and our culture.

## ■ What research did you do for the role?

I didn't do anything at all. I didn't refer to any books neither I haven't seen any previously made series on Ramayana because I didn't want to resemble anybody or portray the role like somebody else did before. We all know what the story is, it has been told since decades. I wanted to showcase the less-told story which our narrators wanted to tell through the show.

## ■ How hard was it for you to carry off such heavy costumes?

My costume weighs 15 kilogram, but I never feel the heaviness. I am not just playing the character, I am living it. And when you do something with utmost dedication and love you don't feel any challenges in it, it becomes a part of you. I am wearing the costume from morning to evening, but I feel so comfortable that I don't realise its weight. When I am shooting, I don't even remove my jewellery, not even during the breaks.

## ■ How has your journey been thus far?

My journey started from a contest — Miss Shimla and I won it. Then I gave an audition for a show and fortunately I cleared it. I was called to Mumbai for a look test. Back then, I thought I am going to Mumbai for only a couple of days as I would not be able to clear the next round. I went there without much clothes, but

the city had no plans of leaving me. I was selected for the show — *Humsafars* and since then there is no looking back. I have seen both ups and downs in my journey and have enjoyed being a part of this industry.

## ■ You have played a bahu and then went on playing a mythological character. Was it hard to do this transition?

I don't know. I have never think about these transitions because at the end of the day it is all about doing good work. The only thing I would say that I have been lucky enough to have been getting such good projects. Be it *Ek Rishita Saajhedaari Ka* or *RadhaKrishn* or *Ram Siya Ke Luv Kush*, I have been fortunate to have got the opportunity to explore different genres and play such beautiful roles.

## ■ What kind of roles are you looking forward to?

My father tells me one thing '*teri gaadi toh bhagwaan hi chala raha hai*' which means God is taking care of me. I don't plan anything. I take up projects that come my way and I feel that they are good. Whatever God has in store for me, I know it will be for my good. I believe in going with the flow.

## ■ How is Shivya in real life?

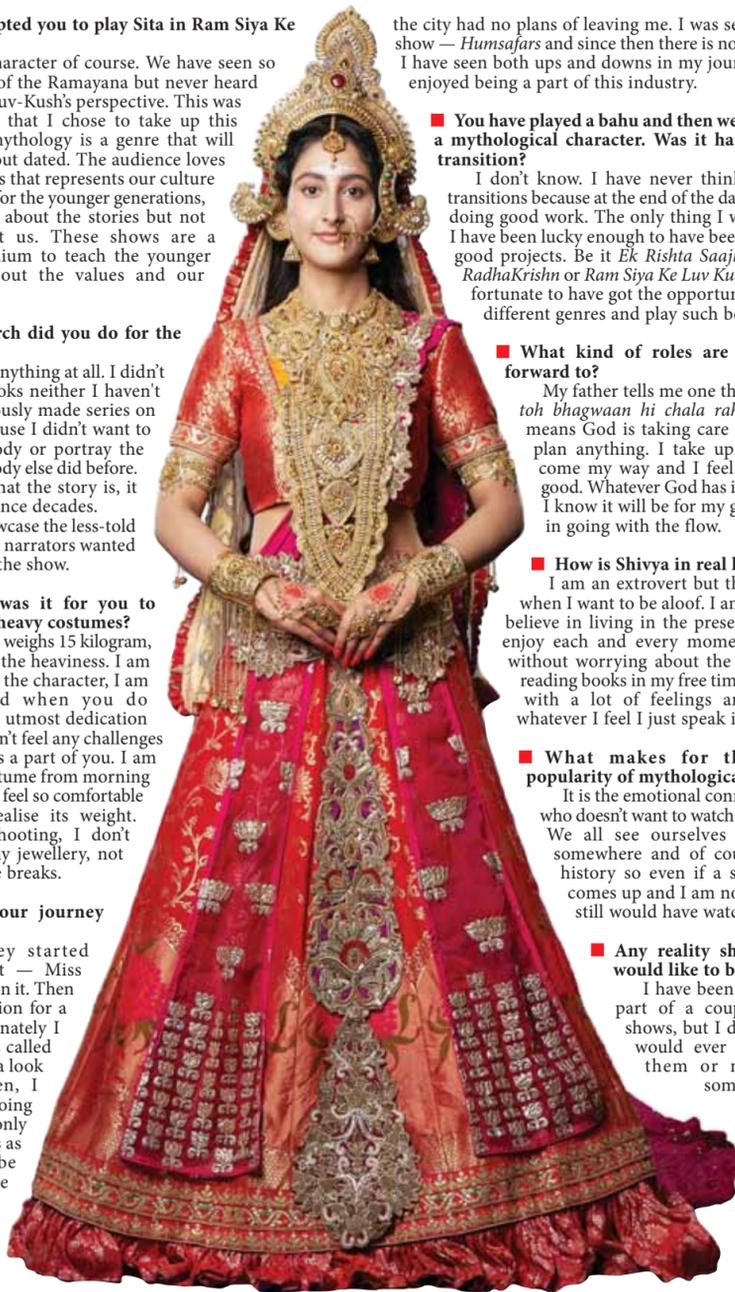
I am an extrovert but there are times when I want to be aloof. I am friendly and believe in living in the present. I want to enjoy each and every moment of my life without worrying about the future. I love reading books in my free time. I am person with a lot of feelings and emotions, whatever I feel I just speak it out.

## ■ What makes for the growing popularity of mythological shows?

It is the emotional connect. I wonder who doesn't want to watch Ram and Sita? We all see ourselves in the story somewhere and of course it is our history so even if a show like this comes up and I am not a part of it I still would have watched it.

## ■ Any reality show that you would like to be a part of?

I have been asked to be a part of a couple of reality shows, but I don't know if I would ever be a part of them or not. May be sometime in the future I will see, I am not sure at the moment. I just want to focus on *Ram Siya Ke Luv Kush* right now.



# 'Directing films is more challenging'

One of the most entertaining persons in the industry, a super talented film-maker and choreographer Farah Khan is all set to make an appearance on the latest episode of *Not Just Supper Stars* on Zee Café, available as part of Zee Prime English Pack. This is your chance to get the inside scoop as she shares nuggets about her journey in the industry with host Gunjan Utreja. Joining Farah on the show for the first time ever is her friend and celebrity hair stylist, Kanta Motwani.

Speaking about her experience as she dabbles the dual role of a choreographer and film-maker, Farah Khan says: "Directing a film has been more challenging because of the process. One must not only build everything from scratch, but also bring it alive. Choreographing a song is much easier as it's like a five-minute film with actors and lyrics. The song is readily available, and your scene is also set."

The episode sees Gunjan Utreja and Farah Khan in conversation about her career. She quotes: "A lot of research goes behind choreographing a song. Basis the requirement of the scene, we pick up steps from various dance forms. I prefer visiting musicals, catch some local dance performances that help in gaining inspiration to do justice to the song and the scene."

When asked about her relationship with her kids, she says: "Our holidays have always been about spending extensive time with



my kids which is my most favourite part. We usually have at least 3 holidays a year and when work takes over, the come and pay visit on my set."

While Farah revealed nuggets from her personal and professional journey, her friend Kanta joined the party with some interesting bits to share. Speaking about their 20-year long friendship, Kanta jokingly revealed how Farah and her family are almost entirely responsible for taking care of Kanta's domestic bills. Speaking about Farah, she says: "She lights up the whole place. She is never in a bad mood."

Talking about how the salon is her go-

to place, Farah says, "I love going to the parlour. It's my social place. I'll bump into Shilpa Shetty, Sonali Bendre Shweta Bachchan, Madhuri Dixit, Kriti Sanon and sometimes even my mother." She goes on to say, "I live in Kanta's parlour more than I live in my own house. I know the names of everybody from the boy who serves tea, to the colourist. That really is proof that you've been going there a long time."

When asked if they ever call each other at odd hours for random requests Farah retorts: "All my friends know that at 9:30 pm my phone is put off, whenever my children and husband are at home."

# New twist in Alia's life

The bubbly Alia (Anusha Mishra) of Sony SAB will soon be seen in a fierce avatar. The romantic comedy, *Tera Kya Hoga Alia* has taken a rather serious turn where Alia is on a mission to win back her husband, Alok (Harshad Arora). The show is set to take an unexpected turn as Alia learns about Tara (Priyanka Purohit) faking her own accident to be close to Alok.

Earlier, Tara's accident had led to memory gain, where Tara starts living in her own future and starts calling Alok as her husband. The doctor had warned Alok of her sensitive state of mind, and also suggesting that she needs special care. Alok, a true

gentleman, brings Tara home and pretends to be her husband.

Alia is disturbed as she is forced to move in with her mother while Tara takes over Alia's place in Alok's life. Things take a shocking turn when Alia while peeping inside Alok's room sees wheelchair bound Tara walking on her own. Alia realises that Tara was faking her own accident and she is now bent on exposing Tara in front of Alok.

In an attempt to expose Tara's facade in front of everyone, Alia joins hand with Kunal (Neil Motwani), Tara's ex-boyfriend, to put an end to Tara's act. Will Alia be able to expose Tara? Tune in to know more.

# Gold medal on Saisha's cards

Sony Entertainment Television's *Patiala Babes* has been a trend setter when it comes to clutter breaking content. While initially it started with a beautiful depiction of mother-daughter relationship, with the leap, the viewers are witnessing an interesting take on sisters and their bitter-sweet bond. While Ashnoor plays the part of a mature and grown up Mini, Saisha Bajaj as Hanuman and Babita's daughter Arya is stealing the show!

Bajaj, who is from New Delhi, has already taken a year's training in Kathak. She is also undergoing training in gymnastics since the last six months. "I want to get Gold medal for India in gymnastics. I am a huge Tiger Shroff fan, I love his dancing and gymnastic skills. Now that we have moved to Mumbai, I am looking for a gymnastics teacher here. Apart from this, I also love to experiment with singing," Bajaj says.

# Plan Your Sunday

## Kanaat by Ritu Kumar

**Venue:** Ritu Kumar store, M4, South Extension — Part II  
**When:** December 12 and December 13, 2019  
**Time:** 11 am to 5 pm

For over five decades, textile revivalist and fashion designer Ritu Kumar has travelled around the world studying historical Indian textile collections and contemporary traditions of hand-making. Ritu Kumar presents Kanaat; a brief history of painted and printed Indian Textiles; an exhibition which presents historical pieces, archival images and collages around the diverse traditions of hand painting and hand printing on cloth. This showcase also highlights Kumar's efforts to recreate their timeless appeal in contemporary collections for her eponymous label Ritu Kumar Home.

The word *kanaat* refers to textile panels which were used to create walls, screens and tents over centuries in the Indian subcontinent. Historically, many of these were meant for furnishings, interiors and architecture. Forming travelling palaces, garden pavilions and sacred spaces, they reflected the outstanding genius of Indian dyers, artists and printers which developed in the Indian subcontinent over centuries. They conjured celebratory worlds of flora and fauna with the use of exceptional colours, fabrics, techniques and skills, producing masterpieces which remain unparalleled. Made for both local markets and for export, such patterned textiles — made in India — further inspired the growth of printed fabric in other parts of Asia and Europe.



## Ramen Festival

**Venue:** Youmee, Greater Kailash II, New Delhi  
**When:** Till December 8, 2019  
**Time:** 11 am to 11:30 pm

One of life's simplest and universal pleasures is a bowl of hot ramen. With the onset of winter, Youmee is all set to pay an ode to the delicious soup art made with crafted noodles, savory broths, and perfectly melded toppings with a ten day Ramen festival. The special menu will be offering different types of ramen to try and slurp to your heart's delight.

With exciting options for both vegetarians and non-vegetarians, the ramen bowls will be a delight for people who love the convenience and warmth of one-bowl meals. The menu will cater to the palate of the adventurous foodies as well as the ones who like more tried-and-tested popular options.

The mouth-watering vegetarian options include vegan dreams, a delicious ramen meat bowl with tofu, broccoli, pok choy, mushroom, lettuce in miso broth and Veggie Delight, blend of mushroom, pok choy, chinese cabbage, bean sprouts in garlic sesame flavoured broth.

The non-vegetarians can enjoy Teriyaki Chicken Ramen-a Chef's special teriyaki glazed chicken ramen with a healthy miso broth, wakame & nori and many others.



## Peking Duck & Flavours Of Sichuan

**Venue:** The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi  
**When:** Till December 22, 2019  
**Time:** 11 am to 7 pm  
**Cost:** ₹2,500 plus taxes (for two)

The Westin Gurgaon announces the launch of Peking Duck at EEST, its exquisitely designed Pan Asian specialty dining outlet; introducing savors from the Imperial era in the menu.

That's not it though! The hotel also brings forth Flavours of Sichuan at EEST, an authentic menu inspired by Sichuan cuisine originating from the Sichuan Province in China. This festival curating the most popular cuisine of China — the indulgent Sichuan also marks the launch of the Sichuan Special Menu at EEST, upgrading its expansive Pan Asian menu to offering Sichuan specialties now.

The carefully curated menu showcases a myriad of taste profiles the complex Sichuan cuisine has to offer ultimately aiming to manifest comfort dining for patrons through its bespoke traditional presentation in a sophisticated ambience.



## 7th edition of Vh1 Supersonic

**Venue:** Mahalakshmi Lawns, Pune  
**When:** February 7 to February 9, 2020  
**Cost:** ₹3,000 per ticket

BeThereBeFree! step up music fanatics and get ready to groove to the pumping beats of India's biggest multi-genre festival — Vh1 Supersonic 2020.

Known for diverse music, extravagan stages, breakthrough artist line-up, and wholesome festival experience Vh1 Supersonic 2020 returns to its three-day original format and promises to set you free with its theme — The Rabbit Hole. The theme is a place of infinite possibilities, a place that resonates with the beat of Supersonic- #BeThereBeFree.

Taking the festival to its crescendo will be the all-time favourite — American DJ and musician Illenium, rock band Chon, Indian rapper Divine and world's biggest techno brand Awakenings!



## TELLYTALE

### JENNIFER'S NEW AVATAR



Sony Entertainment Television's much-talked-about daily show *Beyhadh-2* has captured the cumulative attention of the Indian audience. Jennifer Winget, who played a psychotic lover in the first season, is back in this season in a fiercer avatar. The promos of the show have generated a lot of curiosity and excitement among the viewers, and no surprises, that the show has become the talk of the town.

For a sequence, Maya will be seen in Marathi *mulgi avatar* wearing the traditional outfit of a Maharashtrian woman. Sharing her excitement on wearing the outfit for the first time, Jennifer shared: "It was fun to dress up in an attire that I have never donned before, especially in *Beyhadh* where you wouldn't expect Maya wearing something like this. Everybody on the set including me was very happy to me in that attire and I actually went home in that dress. I wanted my mom to see me in the Maharashtrian traditional wear as I never got the opportunity to wear it before. She was extremely happy to me in that outfit."

Meanwhile, it will be interesting for audience to see how Maya plans to meet with MJ's sons and manipulates Rishi, spies on him and his family.

### 'TURNING 18 CAME WITH CLAUSES'

Roshni Walia, also known as Tara from the most loved show of Sony Entertainment Television's *Tara From Satara* reveals about her dating life. Roshni Walia who recently turned eighteen says how her mother has set some dating clauses for her.

Roshni Walia is very comfortable sharing her personal life with her parents and that's what every kid hopes for. As her mother supports her for acting, Roshni revealed that her mother has no problems with her dating somebody. She says: "I am comfortable sharing my personal life with my parents as they have been extremely supportive. I am currently not dating anyone but my mother has set some clauses for me if I date someone in the future. My focus is



to concentrate on my acting and on my show". When asked about what kind of a guy she wanted she said: "The guy should be as responsible as I am. Currently I am focusing on my career and I expect the guy to do the same. Looks doesn't matter to me, but the guy should focus on building up his own career and support me in what I do. It is okay for me to date a guy who is outside of the industry, as all my friends do not belong to television sector. This keeps me updated of the on-goings in the outside world as most of my time goes in shooting for my show."

Currently, the most famous dramality show will witness the second round of *Dancer No 1* where Radhika (Urvasi Pardeshi) will be seen setting the stage on fire through her bollywood dance and how Tara innocently tries to save her sister from her father's anger.

### KAIKALA TO BE CROWNED AS NEW KING

Things are all set to take a dramatic turn of events in Sony SAB's periodic drama — Tenali Rama as Pandit Rama Krishna's (Krishna Bharadwaj) biggest nemesis, Kaikala (Vishwajeet Pradhan) is all set to be



crowned as the new King of Vijayanagar. Vijayanagar's future and rule resides under the power of the corrupt and evil minister and the future episodes will tell what's in store for the residents of the city as their beloved Pandit Rama Krishna fails to stop Kaikala's Rajya-abhishek.

Before being crowned as the King of Vijayanagar, Kaikala threatens Rama that he will kill King Balakumara and then make sure he ends Rama's life as well. Determined Kaikala, starts scheming to put Balakumara's (Shakti Anand) life in danger but Rama saves his life by figuring Kaikala's plan with his wit and intelligence.

Despite Rama's effort to keep Balakumara safe, he gets terrified after an unknown man tries to feed him a poisoned betel leaf. Balakumara is afraid of the looming threat on his life and decides to step down as the King of Vijayanagar by declaring Kaikala as the new King.

Dark times are ahead of Vijayanagar. Now that Rama's biggest enemy is the King of Vijayanagar, how will Rama save himself from his murderous intents?

What will Pandit Rama Krishna do next, save himself or Vijayanagar?

Krishna Bharadwaj, playing the role of Pandit Rama Krishna said: "A big challenge lies ahead of Pandit Rama as his biggest enemy is crowned as the King. The upcoming episodes will showcase Rama's

journey to keep himself and Balakumara safe from Kaikala's threat and at the same time save Vijayanagar from their ultimate doom. It will be interesting for our viewers to watch the episodes further as they are full of thrilling and unexpected twists."

### SEQUEL OF YJHK IN MAKING?

Star Plus' popular fiction show, *Yehh Jadu Hai Jinn Ka* (YJHK) has been entertaining the audience's week on week with its interesting storyline and twists and turns in the plot. The mysterious tale of a Nawab and his transformation into a



different entity altogether has heightened interest amongst the viewers. While the show has been ruling the TRP charts, there have been rumors that the show would go off air soon. Is the producer of the show planning to make a sequel of the show *Yehh Jadu Hai Jinn Ka*.

The show has endeared itself to audiences and as per the BARC report, the demand to watch the show has been increasing. Considering the interest of the viewers and the show being a finite series, the makers of the show might make a sequel.

As per the sources: "The makers have finalised the story which further heightens the experience of the audiences. While the original show featured graphics, the second installment is bound to take it a notch higher. The makers of the show have hired specialists from Mumbai, who have started working on some grandiose ideas."

### REYHNAA LOVES BELLY DANCING

After playing the lead role for the most part of season one, Reyhnaa Pandit is back for *Manmohini Season 2*. While most of the cast is pretty new, Reyhnaa has been retained, but for a new part. She is playing the passive and deceiving Sandhya, who wants to get her evil powers back. However, she is completely different in real life. The happy-go-lucky and bubbly Reyhnaa Pandit loves to try new things and we hear that she has taken up belly dancing recently.

Reyhnaa Pandit confirmed the same and revealed: "I absolutely love dancing and I want to learn different dance forms. In fact, I have even joined a belly dancing class in Andheri (Mumbai) recently and have completed a few sessions already. The shooting schedule obviously doesn't allow me to completely focus on it, but whenever I get a chance, I try and attend the class. I want to be a pro at it. I want to prepare a full belly dance performance on *Manmohini*'s title track and will record a video soon."

# Protest against rape: Police use water cannons on protesters

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Commission For Women (DCW) Swati Maliwal on Saturday said a peaceful candlelight vigil to demand capital punishment for rapists was stopped by police, which used water cannons.

According to a senior police official, the protesters threw a torch (mashaal) towards the policemen, which led to use water cannons.

"Police used water canons on protesters who were holding a candle march from Rajghat to India Gate.

@SwatiJaiHind is protesting for time-bound and strict punishment for rapists, the DCW posted on its Twitter handle.

DCW chief Swati Maliwal has been on a hunger strike to demand capital punishment for rapists within six months of their conviction. Supporters of Maliwal took out a candlelight march from Rajghat to India Gate but were stopped midway, they said.

The protesters were screaming 'We want justice' and carrying torches.

According to police, the protesters threw torches towards the police, which led them to use water canons as a



Police use water cannons to disperse protesters demanding justice of Unnao rape and murder victim PTI

crowd control measure.

The protesters tried to climb barricades and were stopped by police. They lit candles on the barricades.

Earlier, in the day Delhi Commission For Women (DCW) chief Swati Maliwal demanded that the accused in the Unnao case be hanged within six months of their conviction.

Following the death of the Unnao rape victim, the DCW chief accused the Government of being "deaf" and "insensitive" and not hearing the "screams" of rape victims, adding that she was "ashamed" of the country's Government.

hanged within a month," said Maliwal, who began an indefinite hunger strike on December 3 to press her demand that rapists be hanged within six months of their conviction.

Following the death of the Unnao rape victim, the DCW chief accused the Government of being "deaf" and "insensitive" and not hearing the "screams" of rape victims, adding that she was "ashamed" of the country's Government.

The rape victim from Unnao, airlifted to Delhi and admitted to the Safdarjung Hospital here after she was set ablaze allegedly by five persons including two men accused of raping her, died on Friday night.

Maliwal also received support from Nirbhaya's mother, politicians Sanjay Singh and Sharad Yadav, who visited Samta Sthal, near Rajghat, the venue of her strike to express solidarity.

## Unnao rape victim's death shameful: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday called the death of the rape victim from Unnao "shameful" for every Indian and said he hoped that the Uttar Pradesh Government will hang the culprits "to set an example" for the society.

"The death of Unnao's daughter is shameful for every Indian. God give courage to the family of the victim. The whole country is standing with them in this fight. I hope that the UP Government will soon complete the judicial process and hang our daughter's killers that will set an example for the whole society," Kejriwal said in a tweet in Hindi.

Protests are being held in several states including Delhi since Thursday when the 23-year-old woman was set on fire by five men, including two who were accused of raping.

The victim was attacked outside Sindpur village in Unnao district when she was

on her way to the court in Rae Bareilly for the hearing in the rape case. Out of the five men who attacked her two were out on bail in the rape case filed by her against them. She was allegedly raped by Shivam Trivedi and Shubham in December who constantly threatened her to take the case back.

The victim, who died at 11.40 PM on Friday following a cardiac arrest, had suffered more than 90 per cent burns, most of which were facial and inhalation injuries.

## OUTSIDE SAFDARJUNG, PROTESTING WOMAN POURS INFLAMMABLE LIQUID ON DAUGHTER

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Demanding justice for Unnao gangrape and murder victim, a woman on Saturday afternoon poured suspected inflammable liquid on her minor daughter, said a source adding that the police personnel on the spot saved the girl and took the woman along with them.

According to a senior police official, the incident occurred around 1 PM, nearly an hour after the Unnao gang rape-and-murder victim's body was taken to her village in Uttar Pradesh from Safdarjung after a post-mortem.

"While people were stand-

ing outside the hospital, a woman came there shouting 'we want justice' and immediately poured what is suspected to be an inflammable substance on her minor daughter," said a source adding that the police personnel on the spot saved the girl and took the woman along with them.

The woman said she was traumatised by the recent Unnao rape-and-murder case and came to the Safdarjung Hospital after hearing about her death, a senior officer said, adding that they had sent the liquid to check its property.

## Sharad Yadav, Sanjay Singh meet Maliwal

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

AP MLA Sanjay Singh and former Member of Parliament (MP) Sharad Yadav met the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) chief Swati Maliwal to pay solidarity with her protest against the increasing number of rapes across the country and sought justice for the

Unnao rape victim who succumbed to her burnt injuries on Saturday.

Paying condolences to the Unnao rape victim, former MP Shrad Yadav said, "Maliwal always did a wonderful job for woman safety and always fought for woman rights, safety and security. We have lost another daughter today but the Central

Government is sitting mute and deaf without taking any action," said Yadav.

While AAP MLA Sanjay Singh said, "We are with Swati ji. AAP will also request other parties to join them and will submit memorandum and stage a protest and put pressure on Centre to take immediate action against the rapist on Monday."

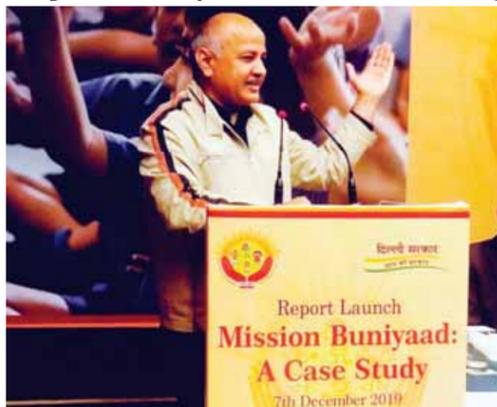
## Mission Buniyad improves reading level of students: Govt

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Government's pet project 'Mission Buniyad' has become a successful initiative for the improvement of learning and reading skills among the students. This was shown by a case study done by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR). The study shows that there has been a 20 per cent increase in the primary grade students (Class I to V) who can solve division.

According to the case study published on Saturday by the Education and Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, 25 per cent increase was noticed among students of class 6th to 9th. Nearly 72 per cent of class V and 56 per cent of class VIII students in India cannot solve division.

Mission Buniyad campaign was a pet project of Delhi Government launched in 2018 and the idea behind this campaign was to make the students of classes 3rd to 9th learn to read, write and solve basic math prob-



Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia at the report launch of Mission Buniyad A case Study on Saturday Pioneer photo

lems who cannot do that.

"I am happy that we identified the problem and started working on the loopholes. Mission Buniyad was the first step towards admitting this loop-

hole in our education system. We checked the ground realities in the year 2016, for the first time, having our teachers on board with us, who assessed where we stood in terms of quality educa-

tion imparted to our children. This started off as "Chunauti" and more people got attached to this vision and it became Mission Buniyad. This report denotes the success of our collective effort," said Sisodia while launching the case study.

The report also highlights that the substantial gains in reading proficiency of students. As per the data, a 12% increase has been observed in primary grade students who can read a story in Hindi and 15% increase in students of class 6-9th who can read an advanced level of story in Hindi.

"Earlier, if there were 30 students in a class who could not read or decipher the text from their books, after starting Mission Buniyad, that number has gone down to 15 students. It is an achievement in itself for us that we brought about this change in a matter of three months. But we have a long way to go from here," he added.

Adding to it, he said, "I want to ask you this question. The child

cannot decipher the chapters of his books, you're trying to teach him the entire curriculum, is it fair? Day by day, a student feels de-motivated to go to schools as he cannot understand what is being taught in the classrooms. The sudden rush to finish the syllabus hampers with the learning process of the students. There are students who copy down everything from the black board written by their teacher but do not understand it. We have achieved, 96% results in board exams, built good infrastructure, and other facilities, but our focus is also on solidifying the learning foundation of our students."

While DCPCR Chairperson Ramesh Negi, said, "I don't think children hailing from the deprived sections of the society lack the skills to learn and gain knowledge. It is just the proper guidance they lack to study and get educated. This is where the gaps arise, it is about the way education is imparted to these students, and the Mission Buniyad comes here in to bridge that gap."

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## Nirbhaya convict: I am yet to exhaust legal remedies

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Vinay Sharma, one of the four convicts in the 2012 Nirbhaya gangrape and murder case, on Saturday sought immediate withdrawal of his mercy plea from President Ram Nath Kovind, saying it was sent without his consent.

The convict wrote to the president, alleging his mercy plea, which was forwarded to him from the Ministry of Home Affairs, had been sent by the Tihar jail authorities with a "malafide intention" and in "criminal conspiracy" with the Delhi Government.

Sharma said he was yet to exhaust all legal remedies available to him before filing the mercy plea as he has not filed any curative petition before the Supreme Court.

"It is therefore prayed to your kind honour that until the exhaustion of the judicial remedies, including those yet to be filed and/or pending in the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court by me as well as my co-accused, you may allow me to withdraw this mercy petition which has been filed without my consent and signature.

Additionally, you are requested in the interim not to take any decision on my mercy petition," Sharma said in the letter, sent through his lawyer AP Singh.

In his letter to President Kovind, Sharma also said his mercy plea was sent "fraudulently", without annexing to it any document detailing the mitigating circumstances of his case and by concealing various important facts so that the same is rejected.

The convict also pleaded that taking any step on his mercy plea would amount to a grave injustice as he was yet to exhaust all his judicial remedies.

A Delhi court had recently directed Tihar Jail authorities to produce the four convicts before it on December 13 so that they can apprise the court about the status of their petitions.

The court was hearing a plea by the victim's parents who have sought a direction to the jail authorities to expedite the execution of the convicts.

The victim's parents had approached the court saying the convicts have exhausted all legal remedies.

## Man throws chemical on woman near New Delhi Railway Station

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 29-year-old woman was injured after a man threw a chemical on her near the New Delhi Railway Station (NDRS) on Saturday. Police said that the accused, identified as Rudra Vishwash, who hails from West Bengal, threw some chemical substance at her and fled.

Police said that both the accused and victim are vagabonds. The victim woman hails from Telangana. According to a senior police official, a police control room (PCR) call was made at around 1:15 pm on Saturday by a passerby who stated that some chemical has been thrown on

a woman near deluxe toilet at Ajmeri gate side of NDRS.

"Acting on the call, Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) was dispatched for the spot. When the police team reached on the spot, the victim told police that her boyfriend, Rudra Vishwash has thrown some liquid chemical substance on her," said the senior police official.

"She was rushed to Lok Nayak Jai Prakash (LNJP) hospital where she is being treated. In her statement the woman stated that she came to Delhi with Rudra Vishwash six months ago and they lived together for couple of months. After an altercation with her boyfriend she was living as destitute at NDRS," said the senior

police official.

"The woman told police that Rudra wanted her to live with him but she denied. On Saturday, Rudra met her near deluxe toilet Ajmeri gate side and threw the substance on her before fleeing away from the spot. The liquid seemingly dilute chemical was brought in a plastic water bottle by the accused," said a police official privy to investigation.

"A case under relevant section of law has been registered at NDRS police station. The victim has got swelling on her right eye and she has some blurred vision for which she is undergoing treatment. Manhunt has been initiated to nab the culprit," said the police official.

## NRC a conspiracy to target people from UP, Bihar: Singh

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh on Saturday alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Centre Government's plans to implement National Register of Citizens (NRC) across the country is a conspiracy to target people from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Singh, who is also Member of Parliament (MP), Rajya Sabha said that the AAP party will hold a protest on Sunday at the Jantar Mantar against the central government's plans. "The demonstration will be led by the AAP's purvanchali unit head Gopal Rai," said Singh.

Purvanchalis are people from Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh settled in the nation-

al capital and they play an important role in any election here.

"If the NRC is implemented across India, where will people from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar residing in different parts of the country for decades go as they would not be able to prove their resident ship before 1971," said Singh.

"Our purvanchali unit headed by Gopal Rai will sit on a protest at the Jantar Mantar on Sunday against the NRC's implementation which the government is planning to carry out in the whole country," he said.

Singh was also part of a meeting of opposition parties that was called to strategise on how to oppose the Citizen (Amendment) Bill in Parliament.

## Gang of robbers busted with 2 arrests

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of two criminals, the Delhi Police on Saturday claimed to have busted a gang of robbers who used to steal high-end bikes and cars from the national Capital and then sell them on forged registration papers. Police said that the gang had been active for the last two years and used to target 'Royal Enfield' bikes mostly.

The accused have been identified as Jayprakash (30), a resident of Noida in Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Shamim Durrani (26), a resident of UP's Aligarh. Police said that with their arrest they have solved eight cases registered across the national Capital. Police have also recovered 11 stolen two wheelers and

two cars from the possession of the duo.

According to Dr G Ram Gopal Naik, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Crime Branch, specific inputs were received on November 28 that a member of an auto-lifter gang would be arriving near Sarai Kale Khan Bus Terminus to sell a stolen Bullet motorcycle on forged papers.

"Acting on the inputs, a trap was laid and Jayprakash was nabbed by the police team. The Royal Enfield bike he was riding was found to be stolen and registration certificate was fake," said the DCP.

"Subsequently, a case under section 420/465/467/468/471/411/482/120-B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at Crime Branch police station

and the accused was arrested. He was taken on five days police custody and at his instance, five more stolen vehicles were recovered and his associate Shamim Durrani was also arrested. Accused Shamim was also taken in police custody and at his instance, six more stolen vehicles were recovered," said the DCP.

"During interrogation, the accused revealed that the gang operates in Delhi and NCR area. They directed their gang members to steal mostly new vehicles and after getting the stolen vehicle at cheap rate from the thieves, they used to make forged documents of the vehicle and used to sell it at a higher price to other persons," said the DCP adding that further investigation is in progress.

## Plogging by CISF jawans in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Hundreds of CISF personnel took part in the mega 'Plogging run' on Saturday from Red Fort Metro Station to Rajghat, in order to create awareness among general public towards cleanliness drive. Plogging run is a part of 'Swachhta Pakhwada' an initiative where the people pick up plastics and wastes while jogging.

The 'Swachhta Pakhwada' which is being organised by CISF from 1st to 15th December had the presence of all 346 CISF Units, 12 Reserve Battalions, 09 Training Institutions, sector/zone/group head quarters across the country.

The Plogging Run was flagged off from Red Fort by A K Pateria, SDG, CISE, who



also led the Plogging Run. Further, the run also saw the presence of senior ranking officials such as Jagbir Singh, IG, Udayan Banarjee, IG, Sudhanshu Kumar, IG (NS),

Vikram Singh Mann, IG, Sudhir Kumar, IG and other Senior officers of CISF.

The CISF will further carry a mass swachhta drive for next 15 days at public places such as

bus stops, parks, nearby river banks and in other places such as hospitals, temples, drainages. Also, it will conduct plantation drive along this during the program.

## Social Welfare Minister inaugurates free medical camp

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam inaugurated the free medical and health awareness camp on Saturday at Aundhar nagri area where about 800 people have been provided free medical check-up such as Blood Pressure, sugar, eye, dental and other general health check-ups by a team specialist.

The camp was organised by Delhi Scheduled Caste (SC) Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Committee (OBC) Minorities and Handicapped Financial and Development Corporation (DSFDC) in collaboration with National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC).



Besides, Aadhar card and postal card camp was also organised to provide information on procedures for applying/amendments in Aadhar Card and different schemes of Postal Department.

## 25-yr-old notorious criminal arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 25-year-old armed criminal involved in more than 30 heinous cases, including murder, robbery, burglary and theft, was arrested by the Police Control Room (PCR) unit of Delhi Police on Saturday.

The accused was identified as, Vikas (25), a resident of Bindapur area in Delhi. Police have also recovered a country made pistol from the possession of the accused.

According to Sharat Kumar Sinha, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), PCR, on the wee hours of Saturday, a police team on the Mobile Patrol Vehicle (MPV) received a call regard-



ing a man standing in Bindapur area with a pistol.

"The police team rushed to the spot. After seeing the police the alleged person tried to escape, but was apprehended. On spot, Vikas revealed that he hid the country made pistol in a box at garbage dump nearby. The weapon was recovered on the instance of Vikas," said the DCP.

"Vikas was handed over to local police of Bindapur police station for further investigation," said the DCP.

# Ajit approached me, claims Fadnavis

**Mumbai:** Leader of Opposition and former Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis claimed on Saturday that it was NCP leader Ajit Pawar who approached him to form a Government in Maharashtra. In a stunner amid deadlock in Government formation in the State and while talks between non-BJP parties were at an advanced stage, Fadnavis and Pawar were sworn in as CM and deputy CM in a hush-hush ceremony early morning on November 23, the Government lasting only 80 hours. Speaking to news channel Zee 24taas, Fadnavis said Ajit Pawar had assured him of support of all 54 NCP MLAs.

"He made me talk to some MLAs who told me they wanted to go with the BJP. Ajit Pawar also told me he had discussed with (NCP chief) Sharad Pawar." "Ajit Pawar approached us and said the NCP doesn't want to go with the Congress. A three-party Government (also involving the Shiv Sena) can't run. We (NCP) are ready to go with the BJP for a stable government," Fadnavis said. The BJP leader admitted that the move "boomeranged", but added that "behind the scenes" and "between the lines" stories about the political drama will be revealed in the days to come. Fadnavis resigned on

November 26, paving the way for a Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi government led by Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray. He also said he had nothing to do with the clean hit given to Ajit Pawar in the irrigation scam, saying "the ACB affidavit is of November 27, and I resigned on November 26". Fadnavis went on to add that the ACB affidavit "will not stick (stand) in high court". In the Assembly poll, the results of which were declared on October 24, the BJP won 105 seats in the 288-member House, the Sena coming second with 56 seats, the NCP getting 54 and the Congress 44 seats. **PTI**

# Bhagwat says rearing cows found to have lessened jail inmates' criminality

**Pune:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said on Saturday that experience has shown that "criminal mindset" of jail inmates decreased when they were given the task of looking after cows. Such observations and findings should be documented for proving the cow's qualities to the world, he said. Bhagwat was speaking at an award ceremony organised by the Go-Vigyan Sanshodhan Sanshtha, an organisation dedicated to 'cow science' research, here. "Cow is the mother of universe...It nurtures soil, it nurtures animals, birds and it also nurtures humans and protects

them from diseases and makes the human heart as tender as flower," he said. "When jails set up cow sheds and prisoners started rearing cows, the authorities saw that the criminal mindset of these prisoners started diminishing, and I am telling you this from experiences shared by some jail authorities," he said. "If you want to prove the qualities of the cow to the world, we have to start doing documentation. We will have to carry out psychological experiments on prisoners, and assess the changes in them after they rear cows for a certain time, and findings need to be sourced from different places," he said. **PTI**

# Acid thrown on rape victim by 4 for refusing to withdraw case

**Muzaffarnagar:** A day before a rape victim was set afire in Unnao by two of her alleged rapists and three others, a 30-year-old woman faced acid attack by four men in a village near here for refusing to withdraw her complaint of rape against them from court, police said on Saturday. The woman suffered 30 percent burns and is undergoing treatment at a Meerut hospital near here, they said. The four men barged into the woman's house on Wednesday night and poured acid on her as she had been refusing to withdraw her complaint of rape against them, filed in a court here, said Circle Officer Girja Shanker

Tripathi of Shahpur police station. The four men involved in the acid attack on the woman have been identified as Arif, Shah Nawaz, Sharif and Abid of Kaserva village, said Tripathi. "All four men are absconding but we will nab them soon," he added. The woman had earlier filed a complaint in a court here, accusing the four of raping her some time back, he said. Explaining why the woman filed the complaint in the court instead of approaching police, the sources in the department said woman had earlier lodged the complaint with the police.

But as no evidence of rape surfaced during the investigation, the police had to close the case, they said. Tripathi said for the acid attack incident, a case under section 326 A of the Indian Penal Code — an especially enacted penal provision in the wake of spate of incidents of acid attacks — has been registered by the police. The provision entails a jail term of ten years on conviction. The other IPC sections, invoked in the FIR are sections 323 (causing hurt), 452 (trespassing into one's house with an intention to assault him or her), 504 (criminal insult) and 506 (criminal threat), he said. **PTI**



Tourists ride elephants at Amer Fort in Jaipur on Saturday

# Unwed couples staying in hotel is no crime: Madras HC

**Chennai:** Observing that a live-in relationship of two adults is not deemed to be an offence, the Madras High Court has said that the occupation of a hotel room by such unmarried couples will not attract a criminal offence. "Apparently, there are no laws or regulations forbidding unmarried persons of the opposite sex to occupy hotel rooms as guests," Justice M S Ramesh said in a recent order. He made the observations while directing authorities to de-seal a hire service apartment in Coimbatore, which was closed after a police and revenue team conducted a search following complaints of alleged immoral activities and found an unmarried couple and some liquor bottles in a room there in June this year. While live-in-relationship of two adults was not deemed to



be a crime, the occupation of hotel room by an unmarried couple would not attract an offence, the Judge said. While that being so, the extreme step of sealing the premises on the ground that an unmarried couple was occupying the premises is totally illegal in the absence of any law prohibiting the same, he said. According to the petitioner, the "My preferred

Transformation and Hospitality Private Limited" of Gurgaon in Haryana, it was running Hire Service apartment at the premises in Coimbatore. A search was conducted on the premises by a team from the office of the Tahsildar and local police on June 25 last. The team found liquor bottles in one of the rooms occupied by the guests and in one room two adults who were not married were staying.

The premises came to be sealed by the team without any written order against which the present petition was filed. The petitioner contended that there was no justification on the part of the authorities in not giving them an opportunity to put forth their objections. Sealing of the premises without any order was a violation of the principles of natural justice. The petition said such an action has been taken based on the viral news spread on the social media about the premises. The prosecution said the petitioner's premises had not obtained Form D and without details of the guests in the booking registers, illegal activities by the guests were permitted. In view of the objections from the neighbouring womenfolk, action was taken against the petitioner.

Justice Ramesh said it was not in dispute that the petitioner had not been put on notice prior to the sealing of the premises and no explanation was called for. Particularly, in the background of the present case that alleged immoral activities in the premises may not be an offence, it would have been just and proper for the respondents to be called for explanation before taking any coercive steps against the petitioner, the judge said. "The entire episode of sealing the premises is in total violation of the principles of natural justice," he said. Noting that the state law allowed possession of stipulated quantities of liquor by an individual, the Judge said the consumption of liquor by the guests on the petitioner's premises cannot also be termed as illegal. **PTI**

# INSAS RIFLE THEFT Suspect found to be serving Army soldier

**Bhopal:** One of the two men who are suspected to have stolen INSAS rifles from the Army cantonment at Pachmarhi in Madhya Pradesh has been identified as a serving Army soldier, the police said on Saturday. Earlier, the police had said he was an army officer. "His name is Harpreet Singh, resident of Miani in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab," a senior official of Madhya Pradesh police said. A team of MP police has been sent to Punjab for probe he added. "He is with Sikh regiment, posted at Ramgarh, Bihar. He is on leave without pay since October 15," the official said. The sepoy had undergone

band training at Pachmarhi between March 2018 and June 2018, the official added. The identity of the other accused was still not known, he said. As per earlier inputs, they seemed to have crossed into Maharashtra, but now they are suspected to have reached Hoshiarpur, another police officer said. The duo stole two INSAS rifles from Pachmarhi cantonment in the early hours of December 6, sending the police into a tizzy and forcing them to sound high alert. The duo posed as army officers, and ordered a sentry at a check post to summon other jawans for assembly. They sent

another sentry to call a Junior Commissioned Officer from the camp. When the two sentries left the check post, the duo picked up their INSAS assault rifles loaded with 20-cartridge magazines, and fled, the police said. Preliminary investigation found that the duo had arrived at Pipariya railway station in Hoshangabad district after boarding a train in Jabalpur, and hired an SUV to reach Pachmarhi cantonment, 55 km away. They apparently took the SUV back to the railway station after stealing rifles. "We have CCTV footage of the accused wearing hooded sweatshirts, getting food packed

from a dhaba before committing the theft," Hoshangabad superintendent of police M L Chhari told PTI earlier in the day. "The SUV driver told us that the duo spoke to each other in Punjabi accent," the SP said. "The duo entered the Army camp around 1.30 am and left around 3.13 am on Friday," the SP said. Additional director general of police (ADG) Dr S W Naqvi said the police obtained CCTV footage showing that the duo travelled to Pipariya from Jabalpur. "We are yet to find out how and where they escaped from the railway station after committing the crime," he said. **PTI**

# Taken on joyride, 5-year-old raped by auto-rickshaw driver in Bihar's Darbhanga: Police

**Darbhanga (Bihar):** A five-year-old girl was sexually assaulted by an auto-rickshaw driver who beckoned her to accompany him for a joyride and dumped her at a secluded spot, battered and bruised, police said here on Saturday. The incident took place in Kharua More locality of Sadar police station area late Friday night and the girl, who fell unconscious following the sexual assault, was undergoing treatment at a hospital while the accused has been arrested, said Babu Ram, Senior Superintendent of Police. He said the girl was playing along with another three-

year-old close to the place where the three-wheeler was parked and then they got onto the vehicle. Sahni started the vehicle, telling the girls that he would take them for a joyride but soon dropped the three-year-old at a nearby spot before raping the survivor at a secluded place, the officer said. The incident, coming close on the heels of charred bodies of unidentified woman, dumped after suspected rape and murder, being recovered in Buxar and Samastipur districts earlier this week, sparked outrage. **PTI**

# PM urges scientists to develop low cost technologies

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday urged scientists to develop low cost technologies that would cater to India's specific requirements and help fast-track country's growth. He made these remarks while interacting with scientists of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Pune, a statement issued by his office said. IISER scientists made presentations to the Prime Minister on varied topics ranging from New Materials and devices for Clean Energy application to

Agricultural Biotechnology to Natural Resource mapping. The presentations also showcased cutting edge technologies in the field of molecular biology, antimicrobial resistance, climate studies and mathematical finance research. "He urged them to develop low cost technologies that would cater to India's specific requirements and help in fast-tracking India's growth," the statement said. Earlier, Modi visited the IISER, Pune campus and interacted with the students and researchers. **PTI**

# Politics takes centre...

**From Page 1** Launching a scathing attack on the BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh, she said incidents of rape, murder and molestation are taking place all over the country, but in UP, such cases have been "excessive". "It is a matter of deep regret that during the past some years, especially since the BJP Government has come to power, women are not safe. This is not the only incident, in UP I said it yesterday also that there is not a day when there is not an incident of rape and murder, attempt to rape or molestation," Mayawati said at a Press conference here.

Not to be left behind, Samajwadi Party president and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav sat on a dharna outside the Vidhan Bhavan here on Saturday, accusing the Yogi Adityanath Government of failing the Unnao gangrape victim who was set on fire and died at a hospital in Delhi. Terming the day a "Black Day", he demanded that the BJP Government in the State be removed. Accompanied by senior party leaders, Yadav squatted before the main entrance of the Vidhan Sabha and said his party will agitate against the Government in all district headquarters.

"What help you have given to the family of the girl? Will you run your Government in this manner?" Yadav asked. "A Government which is giving sorrow and creating difficulties. Our demand is that this Government should be removed. The party will agitate for people, and in this regard the Samajwadi Party will hold 'shok sabha' (condolence meetings) in all district headquarters. It will be in memory of all the daughters, who had lost their lives," he told reporters. Facing all-round flak, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has termed her death "extremely sad". He said in a statement that all the

accused have been arrested and the case will be tried in a fast-track court and punishment will be served. Adityanath announced an ex gratia of Rs 25 lakh for the family of the Unnao rape victim. Other facilities to be extended to the family will be looked at the local level. Senior UP Minister Swami Prasad Maurya who was sent to Unnao to meet the bereaved family, also made an announcement in this regard there. "The Chief Minister is very much with the family of the deceased in this hour of crisis. The culprits will be dealt with sternly and punished. A fast-track court will be set up with this view in mind," Maurya said. Besides Rs 25 lakh, the family will be given a Government house, he said.

# 50% income...

**From Page 1** The ADR stated that given the anonymity provided to donors by the scheme, it is seen that electoral bonds have emerged as the most common and popular channel of donations to national and regional parties for 2018-19. A total of 12.13 per cent or ₹141.038 crore of the total income was generated through membership and subscriptions fees by these parties. The BJD reported the highest income of ₹249.31 crore, which was 21.43 per cent of the total income of all parties analysed. The Trinamool declared an income of ₹192.65 crore or 16.56 per cent, while the TRS stated it got ₹88.71 crore or 16.22 per cent of the total income of all parties. The total income of the top three parties was ₹630.67 crore, which com-

prised 54.22 per cent of the total income of the parties. Out of a total of 25 parties analysed, 17 parties have shown an increase in their income from 2017-18 to 2018-19, while six parties have shown a decline in their income during this period. The BJD reported the highest increase in its income of ₹235.19 crore, followed by Trinamool Congress and YSR-Congress, which declared a total increase of ₹187.48 crore and ₹166.84 crore, respectively, between 2017-18 and 2018-19. According to the scheme that was notified by the Government of India on January 2, 2018, only the parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which have secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last general election to the Lok Sabha or the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, are eligible to receive electoral bonds.

# SC Bar Association polls on December 12

**New Delhi:** Elections for the posts of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president, vice-president, secretary, joint secretary, treasurer, joint treasurer and the executive committee members will be organised on December 12. The candidates contesting for the post of president are Vikas Singh, Bharat Bhushan Dinkar, S.L. Gupta, Dushyant Dave and Ajit Kumar Sinha. Eight nominations have been filed for the post of vice-president, 13 for the secretary and 12 for the joint secretary. The poll debate among candidates for the posts of president and the secretary will be on December 11. **IANS**

Due to administrative reasons, the last date for submission of online bids & opening of Technical bids against NIT No:76 of 2019 dated 03.10.2019 floated by this Hqrs for hiring of Consultant for implementation of State Wide CCTV Surveillance Project are re-scheduled as under:-  
1) Last date of receipt of tenders = 16.12.2019 up to 1800 hours  
2) Date of opening of technical bids = 18.12.2019 at 1100 hours.  
The other terms and conditions of the NIT shall remain same.

# PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that Choudhary Amarjit Singh, Choudhary Harbir Singh, Choudhary Indrajit Singh all sons of Late Sh. Dhara Singh, M/s. Vivek Malik & Associates, Sh. Kartar Singh, Sh. Balbir Singh, Both sons of Sh. Hukam Singh, all Residence of Village Sibi, Tehsil Ballalgarh, District Faridabad, who are joint owners of 11.26 Acres land falling in revenue estate of Village Sibi, Tehsil Ballalgarh, District Faridabad have agreed to sell the same to my client M/s. Crown Township (P) Ltd. The sale deed could not have been executed earlier by said land owners. Now in view of the order dated 27.11.2019 passed by Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana declined any relief to M/s. Bonanza Promoters Pvt. Ltd. there is no impediment left in the matter. As such now my client has got every legal right to buy the above land. But the above named five co-owners of the above land are secretly planning to sell the above land, they have agreed to sell to my client, at a higher rate to someone else. If at all anybody enters into any agreement in respect of above land with aforesaid five persons and or purchase the same the said deal will be completely unlawful and such a person will do so at his own risk. A Legal notice is already issued to the aforesaid five co-owners on behalf of my client for execution of the sale deed in respect of the above land in favour of my client. As such the general public is cautioned to keep itself away from entering into any deal with respect to the above land. The particulars of the land are given below:- Land bearing Khatoni No. 298/333, Rect. No. 21, Killa No. 24/1 (7-9), 25 (7-9), Rect. No. 25, Killa No. 5(8-0), 6(8-0), 7/1(3-10), Rect. No. 33, Killa No. 5(7-9) & Khatoni No. 403/458, Rect. No. 25, Killa No. 4(8-0), 25(8-0), & Khatoni No. 4/4, Rect. No. 21, Killa No. 24/2(0-11), Rect. No. 25, Killa No. 14 (8-0), 15 (8-0), 16(8-0), 17/1(7-9) & share to the extent of 5 Marlas in common well along with share of common land measuring 90 Kanals 2 Faras (11.26 Acres) situated within the revenue estate of Village Sibi, Tehsil Ballalgarh, Distt. Faridabad

**Pradeep Sharma Advocate**  
Office:- 39, Nissen Hut, N.H. 5, NIT, Faridabad. Phone: 9811086752

# CJI: Justice can't be instant, it...

**From Page 1** The incident had led to widespread outrage and brought back memories of the December 16, 2012 Nirbhaya case. "The women of the country are under pain and distress. They are crying for justice," Prasad said. The Minister said there are 704 fast-track courts for heinous offences and others and the government is in the process of setting up 1,123 dedicated courts for POCSO and rape offences. "In the law relating to women violence, we have already laid down capital punishment and other severe punishment including completion

of trial in two months time," he added. The Chief Justice of India, who spoke after the Minister, stressed that as an institution, the judiciary must remain committed to making justice accessible to people by strengthening the existing avenues and evolving newer means to achieve an affordable, quick and satisfactory settlement of disputes. "At the same time, we must be aware of the changes and perception about the judiciary," Justice Bobde said. He said there is a need in the judiciary to invoke self-correcting measures but whether or not they should be publicised is a matter of debate.

"We have to devise methods for not only speeding up litigation but all together preventing it. There are laws which provide for pre-litigation mediation," he said, adding that there was a need to consider compulsory pre-litigation mediation. Surprisingly, no courses were available for conferring a degree or diploma in mediation, he said. He also said the press conference held by four senior most judges of the apex court last year was just a self-corrective measure. In an unprecedented move, Justices J Chelameswar, Ranjan Gogoi, MB Lokur and Kurien Joseph-- had on January 12,

2018, held a press conference, saying the situation in the top court was "not in order" and many "less than desirable" things had taken place. Ranjan Gogoi later in the year had succeeded the then Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra. "I believe the institution (judiciary) must correct itself and indeed it did during the time when the much-criticised press conference was held. It was nothing more than a self-corrective measure and I do not wish to justify it," Justice Bobde said. The CJI further said, "All judges were eminent and Justice (Ranjan) Gogoi in particular showed great competence and led the judiciary from the front."

# Access...

**From Page 1** He said one way out is the provision of free legal aid. Remembering veteran lawyer Ashoke Sen, he said in multiple roles, his sole objective was the pursuit of justice for one and all. He expressed hope that more and more law professionals would draw inspiration from Sen and distribute fruits of their knowledge among the needy. The president said he was happy to note that the Supreme Court had started making its judgments available in nine regional languages. Information and communication technology could bring amazing results in this domain, he added.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS J&K JAMMU**  
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**Extension Notice**  
Due to administrative reasons, the last date for submission of online bids & opening of Technical bids against NIT No:76 of 2019 dated 03.10.2019 floated by this Hqrs for hiring of Consultant for implementation of State Wide CCTV Surveillance Project are re-scheduled as under:-  
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The other terms and conditions of the NIT shall remain same.

No. DP/14-10257/19 Sd/- Mukesh Lall, IAS, J&K (President) (TSP/01)  
Dated: 06.12.2019 For Director General of Police, J&K (Jammu)

CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

# Rahul Gandhi slams Modi Govt

PM's political career based on hatred, division and violence: Rahul in Wayanad

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Saturday launched multi-pronged attack on the Modi Government for increasing stances of rape and crime against women. While priyanka Gandhi led the Congress protest in Unnao, her brother Rahul Gandhi highlighted the issue during his visit to Wayanad — his parliamentary constituency. The party also held a press conference in Delhi to corner the BJP over crime against women.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi gives a speech as a student translates it at Vakoli Higher Secondary School at Bathery in Wayanad on Friday PTI

Winding up a three-day tour of his Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency, the Congress MP also lashed out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and said his (Modi's) entire political career was based on hatred and division and violence.

"The girls, sisters and mothers must be shocked when they read newspapers that every day a girl is raped or killed... The international community today ridicules India. India is known as the rape capital of the world," Gandhi said.

In an apparent reference to the rape case against UP BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, he

alleged that the Prime Minister had failed to react when the victim's car was hit by a truck.

"UP BJP MLA is involved in rape and PM hasn't said a word. Her car is hit by a truck and PM doesn't say a word... Foreign nations are asking this question why the nation can't take care of its daughters," Gandhi said.

Directly attacking the Prime Minister, Gandhi said Modi represents the worst aspects of the country.

"We have a PM who

believes in the ideology of hatred and violence. His entire political career is based on hatred and division and violence. He divides religions communities and languages, he insults culture. He doesn't understand economics.

Our people live in fear and discomfort," Gandhi said and urged the people of the country not to "underestimate" their (peoples) strength to change the narrative of the nation.

In Delhi, Congress attacked the Uttar Pradesh Government

over the death of the Unnao rape victim who was set ablaze, alleging that law-and-order situation has "completely collapsed" in the State which is becoming the country's "rape capital". Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinat also demanded strict action against the accused in the case.

"He is the father, I can understand his pain and his disappointment. I empathise with the family and we solidly stand with them in this hour of grief... But law and order is the basis of any civil society. 'Law and order needs to be strengthened to an extent where perpetrators of crime against women don't have the courage to do anything. Police needs to be sensitised to first make it safe for women, and in case of a crime lodge FIRs and offer protection instead of shielding the accused," she said.

Hitting out at the State Government, Shrinat said that it is "not the first and this will not indeed be the last case if you (UP Government) don't wake up. The State Government seems to be in a dying hurry to become the rape capital".

"More than assurance, the

Uttar Pradesh Government needs to strengthen the law-and-order in the State. Our question is to the State police is why FIR was not registered in four months and why the accused were left out on bail," Shrinat told reporters.

She was responding to a statement of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who gave the assurance that the case would be pleaded in a fast-track court to provide speedy justice to the deceased woman's family.

"How do accused get away by committing such heinous crimes? What gives them the courage to do so? The answer is, it is due to complete collapse of law and order in the state. They somehow find political protection and that is why they have the courage to go ahead and do this against our women," the Congress spokesperson said. She also questioned the silence of the Prime Minister and senior BJP leaders.

"We can't turn a blind eye. Why are the prime minister, all those ministers who took to streets earlier now silent. Why is there a conspicuous silence in the matter?" she posed.

# BJP seeks law for MPs to take MEA nod for foreign visits mandatory

DEEPAK K UPRETI ■ NEW DELHI

BJP has called for a law to make it mandatory for Members of Parliament to place any invitations from foreign countries, Governments or organisation to be routed through the Ministry of External Affairs. The invitation will be sent to the FCRA division of Ministry of Home Affairs ten clear days in advance of the date from which the "foreign hospitality" is proposed to be accepted.

The prior permission will be required to be obtained and "mere sending" the application would not automatically grant the go ahead for the foreign visit, according to a private member bill introduced in the upper house by BJP's Rajya Sabha member GVL Narasimha Rao.

Seeking to make foreign tours of members of Parliament "transparent", the bill requires a copy of the application should also be sent to Ministry of Parliamentary affairs. The new stringent format for the application to obtain the permission for foreign visits makes it mandatory for the visiting MP to provide all details of the foreign host including his "name, nationality, passport number, profession, address, e-mail address and mobile number." This is besides, providing

ALTHOUGH PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILLS ARE RARELY PASSED, A DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION MAY ALLOW BJP MEMBERS TO GET BACK AT CONGRESS AS THE BJP GOVERNMENT HAS IN THE RECENT PAST ATTACKED CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI FOR HIS 'SECRET' FOREIGN TRIPS

the "nature of hospitality-cash or kind", purpose, duration of stay and approximate expenditure.

The bill intends to make all the details mandatory for obtaining permission from the Government.

"Application with complete details in the prescribed form (FC-2) along with the invitation letter from the host be sent to the Ministry of home affairs, FCRA, division...", the bill says. This is after all the applications are routed through the Foreign Ministry.

Lawmakers were issued guidelines in 2017 about sharing details of their foreign visits, including the ones in personal

capacity, and the Parliament Affairs Ministry in July 2019 reiterated them through a communication, Rao said.

However, most MPs have not adhered to the advisory for want of an statutory requirement, he said.

"MPs are important public functionaries and transparency about their functioning, sources of their income and expenses is necessary to demonstrate their financial integrity. From time-to-time, Parliament has enacted legislation and framed rules to ensure that those elected to Parliament uphold the cherished ideal," he said.

The bill was introduced by Rao on Friday to amend RP Act 1951 to make it mandatory for MPs to disclose their foreign trips to the Parliament secretary.

Though private member's bills are rarely passed, a discussion on the proposed legislation may allow BJP members to get back at Congress as the BJP Government has in the recent past attacked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his "secret" foreign trips.

In October this year, the party at a press conference sought to know the details of his "frequent" foreign visits asking if he was involved in some secret operation.

# 'TAX EVASION' BY BSE BROKERS, TRADERS

## I-T department conducts searches at 39 locations

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The income-tax (I-T) department has conducted searches at 39 locations to check alleged tax evasion by brokers and traders operating at the Bombay Stock Exchange in transactions worth about ₹3,500 crore. According to the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), on Saturday said raids and survey operations were undertaken on December 3 at 39 locations in Mumbai, Kolkata, Kanpur, Delhi, Noida, Gurugram, Hyderabad and Ghaziabad.

The action was taken against brokers and traders who were involved in facilitating accommodation of profits/losses through reversal trades in illiquid stock options

in equity derivative segment and also currency derivative segment on the BSE, the CBDT said in a statement.

"The action has unravelled the entire modus operandi which has been adopted by share brokers and traders to trade into the liquid stock options in equity derivative segment and thereby generate artificial losses/profit by executing reversal trades in a very short span of time," it said.

"By this contrived methodology, the unscrupulous entities have secured desired profits/losses, which is estimated to be more than ₹3,500 crore," the CBDT said.

The action also resulted into identification of the wrongful long-term capital gains taken in at least three

penny stocks listed on the BSE, where the manipulated profits utilised by the beneficiaries aggregate to around ₹2,000 crore, it said, adding that unaccounted cash of ₹1.20 crore was also seized after the raids.

The number of beneficiaries who have been benefitted by these manipulated transactions could be to the tune of a few thousand scattered across India and efforts are being made to identify them as also the corresponding quantum of income evaded, the CBDT said.

"Incriminating" evidence recovered during the searches and surveys is being examined for determination of contravention of the various direct tax laws, it added.

# Vadra seeks Delhi court's permission to travel abroad

New Delhi: Robert Vadra, the son-in-law of Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, on Saturday moved a Delhi court, seeking its permission to travel abroad for medical treatment and business purposes.

Vadra is facing probe under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, following allegations of money laundering related to purchase of a property in London at 12, Bryanston Square, worth 1.9 million pounds.

Senior advocate K T S Tuli, appearing for Vadra, told Special Judge Arvind Kumar that his client wanted to travel to Spain for two weeks from Dec 9.

Special Judge Arvind Kumar directed the ED to file a reply by Dec 9, when the court will hear the matter, after the



agency sought time to file its response.

In June, the court allowed Vadra to travel to the US and the Netherlands for six weeks on account of health reasons. It, however, did not allow him to go to the United Kingdom.

The ED had expressed apprehension that the accused may destroy evidence if allowed to go to the UK. Vadra was directed on April 1 to not leave the country without prior permission by a court here which had granted him conditional anticipatory bail. PTI

# ISIS Kerala, TN module case: NIA chargesheets 2

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday filed a chargesheet against two ISIS suspects arrested by the agency in connection with its probe into the ISIS Kerala-Tamil Nadu module case, including the group mastermind.

An NIA spokesperson on Saturday said the anti-terror probe agency filed the chargesheet against Mohammad Azarudeen and Sheikh Hidayatullah in a Special NIA court in Ernakulam under several sections of IPC and the Unlawful (Activities) Prevention Act (UAPA).

According to the NIA, Azarudeen was the mastermind of the Islamic State group's Tamil Nadu module and he was arrested from Coimbatore on



June 12 this year.

The NIA had arrested both the accused the same day. According to NIA officials, Azarudeen was also a Facebook friend of Zahran Hashim, the alleged mastermind behind the recent easter bombings in Sri Lanka that left over 250 people dead.

The Central probe agency registered a case on May 30 this year, taking suo motu action against six accused from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, based on information that the accused and their associates were propagating the ideology of the proscribed terrorist organization ISIS/Daish on social media with

the intention of recruiting vulnerable youths in Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

The spokesperson said that during investigation, it was revealed that Azarudeen and Hidayatullah were propagating violent extremist ideology since 2017. According to the NIA officials, Azarudeen was the leader of the module and was also maintaining a Facebook page named "KhilafahGFX", through which he had been propagating the ideology of ISIS/ Daish.

"They organized several secret classes at their houses besides at other places in Coimbatore, in support of the ISIS/Daish. They also followed the Sri Lankan ISIS/ Daish leader Zahran Hashim, over social media, while downloading and disseminating his speeches in support of violent jihad," he said.

# HYDERABAD ENCOUNTER KILLINGS

## Two PILs seeking SIT probe filed in SC

New Delhi: Two petitions were filed on Saturday in the Supreme Court seeking an SIT probe into the killing of four persons, arrested on charge of gangrape and murder of a veterinarian in Telangana, by police in an alleged encounter and compensation for their families.

While the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by advocate ML Sharma said that the SIT probe should be monitored by former apex court judges, a separate petition filed by lawyers G S Mani and Pradeep Kumar Yadav said that independent investigation against concerned police officials should be conducted.

Sharma alleged that it was a case of "extra-judicial killings" and sought prosecution of policemen involved in the incident.

The PIL filed by Mani and Yadav claimed that the alleged encounter was "fake" and FIR should be lodged against police officials who were involved in the incident.

"The incident is a clear violation of Article 21 (right to life and fair trial) of the Constitution of India. A persons is innocent till guilt is proved," Sharma said in his PIL.

"However, in the present case, four persons have been declared guilty of gangrape without any trial..." the plea said.

Mani and Yadav, in their separate PIL, said that no one would support the accused who are involved in gang rape and murder cases against innocent women.

"However, an investigating agency and officers even at

high level like Commissioner of Police taking the law into their hand, conducting fake encounter and killing alleged rape accused .... Without bringing them before the court for punishment is very unfortunate," the plea said.

"No one including the investigating agency like police has right to punish any accused without due process of law. The court alone after applying all the procedure and law and affording an opportunity all the right of free and fair trial and hearing can impose punishment of imprisonment or death sentence," Mani and Yadav said in their PIL.

In his plea, Sharma said it is a killing in police custody and "therefore all the police officers involved" must be arrested and prosecuted in accordance with law after an

SIT probe by CBI.

Besides seeking court-monitored SIT probe, the PIL filed by Sharma also seeks action against Samajwadi Party lawmaker and Bollywood actress Jaya Bachchan and Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Women Swati Maliwal for alleged "provocation" and "pressuring police for extrajudicial killing of arrested persons in police custody without trial."

The plea, which may come up for hearing next week, also seeks compensation of Rs 20 lakh each to the families of the four accused killed in the pre-dawn police encounter on Friday

Telangana police on Friday said that the accused were killed in an exchange of fire with police during the morning hours. PTI

# No space for Opposition in BJP's model of democracy: J&K Cong

Jammu: The Congress' Jammu & Kashmir unit on Saturday accused the BJP-led central Government of suppressing all opposition voices through use of police authority to "crush all sorts of genuine dissent" in the Union Territory.

Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said the BJP's philosophy of democracy is based on "no space to Opposition".

"It (BJP) had already given slogan of Congress-mukt Bharat (India free of Congress) whereas it has been attempting to crush all Opposition forces. All those against the BJP are dubbed as threat to peace and against the national interests and detained," Sharma said in a statement here. "This is a replica of a sick thinking which goes against the

democratic duty and rights towards people".

"The party asked the Government to tolerate the genuine Opposition voices and facilitate all sorts of political activities to allow democracy to flourish of which dissent is the fundamental essence," the Congress leader said. He also sought immediate release of all opposition leaders and workers "detained without any justification" simply for appealing the people to respond to their call for bandh.

JKNPP chairman and former minister Harsh Dev Singh was detained along with several other associates on Friday while he was trying to gather support for the bandh to protest internet shutdown after the abrogation of Article 370 provisions on August 5. PTI

# ED attaches ₹34-crore assets of Gujarat company for 'money laundering'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth over ₹34 crore of a Gujarat-based firm under the anti-money laundering law in connection with an alleged bank fraud case.

The ED probe pertains to Biotor Industries Limited and its managing director, Rajesh M Kapadia, and others, which is also being investigated by the Gujarat police and the Central Bureau of Investigation. "The probe revealed that the accused had "misappropriated" funds to the tune of about ₹250 crore by preparing bogus bills and invoices during 2007-2009, the ED said in a statement.

"Arif Ismailbhai Memon, owner of KGN Group of companies, was instrumental in preparing the circular paper transactions for transferring proceeds of crime in connivance with Rajesh Kapadia and others," it said.

By adopting fraudulent methods, Memon parked the proceeds of crime of about ₹62 crore in the accounts of the KGN Group companies, it alleged.

The agency has issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for attachment of a land, plant and machinery owned by KGN Enterprise Ltd and Sailani Agrotech Industries Ltd in Hariyal village of Gujarat's Kheda district and Memon's residential property located at Paldi in Ahmedabad. The total value of the assets frozen under the latest order is ₹34.47 crore, it said.

# 2019 saw record 11 cyclonic disturbances over Indian Ocean after 127 yrs

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

As cyclonic storm 'Pawan' crossed over the Somalia coast on Saturday and weakened into a deep depression, the calendar year 2019 has witnessed 11 cyclonic disturbances developed over the Indian Ocean, a phenomenon recorded after 127 years. Such development was last recorded in 1893.

Of the 11 cyclonic disturbances, five were developed over the Arabian Sea while four of them turned into severe intensity. Similarly, the Bay of Bengal (BoB) witnessed three cyclonic disturbances this year. Of them, two developed into severe intensity. "India will break its previous record of having been hit by the most number of tropical cyclones in a year. Back-to-back cyclones have caused



havoc and affected weather pattern in Indian Sub Continent. The maximum number of 10 cyclones developed over north Indian Ocean during 1893, 1926, 1930 and 1976. The maximum number of five cyclones with

four severe cyclones developed over Arabian Sea during 1902," the India Meteorological Department said.

The Arabian Sea has been more active during 2019 with the formation of seven cyclonic

disturbances against the normal of 1.7 cyclonic disturbances per year. Of them, five have developed into severe or extensive intensity cyclones against the normal of 1 per year.

The Bay of Bengal on the

western side remains relatively quite with only three cyclones-Pabuk, Fani and Bulbul this year.

"Thus, the frequency of cyclone storm observed over the Arabian Sea during 2019 post monsoon season equals the past record of 1982 and 2011 when four cyclonic disturbances CDs developed in the post monsoon season. It also equals the past record of 1902 post monsoon season with formation of three cyclones including two severe cyclones," it said.

According to the IMD, Vayu in June, Hikka in September were severe intensity cyclonic storms, Maha cyclone was put in extremely severe cyclonic storm, Kyarr was recognized as super cyclonic storm while Pawan was put in cyclonic storm only.

The formation of cyclones

Kyarr and Maha simultaneously in end-October was considered to be an unusual occurrence observed last in 1965. While, cyclone Maha turned "extremely severe", cyclone Kyarr intensified into a super cyclone and dissipated near the coast of Somalia. The last such occurrence (five cyclones) was observed in 1902.

According to the IMD, cyclone Pabuk over Andaman Sea came during January 04 and 08 this year; the extremely severe cyclonic storm FANI came over the Bengal during April 26-May 04. Very severe cyclonic storm Vayu came over Very severe cyclonic storm VAYU over the Arabian Sea during 10-17 June. Very severe cyclone Bulbul over the Bay of Bengal came between November 5 and 11.

According to scientists, warming of oceans is fuelling stronger cyclones in the North Indian Ocean, with increasing potential energy available to these cyclonic disturbances. The systems also seem to have intensified rapidly, most probably due to higher sea-surface temperatures, which lead to an increase in cyclonic wind speeds. Studies show that with a rapidly warming Indian Ocean, the frequency of severe cyclones is expected to increase.

The cyclonic activity brought post-monsoon rain, hitting agriculture in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka. Of the seven cyclonic disturbances over the Arabian Sea this year, four were recorded post-monsoon.

# LAW MIN URGES CJI 'Ensure mechanism for quick disposal of all rape cases'

PTI ■ JODHPUR

Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Saturday urged the Chief Justice of India and other senior judges to ensure that there is a mechanism to monitor quick disposal of rape cases, saying that the women of the country are under pain and distress and crying for justice.

"I would urge the CJI and other senior judge that now there must be a mechanism to monitor the disposal of these cases so that India's stature as a proud country governed by rule of law must be restored at the earliest," Prasad said, and assured government funding for it.

"The women of the country are under pain and distress. They are crying for justice," he said. The minister said there are 704



fast-track courts for heinous offences and others and the government is in the process of setting up 1,123 dedicated courts for POCSO and rape offences.

"In the law relating to women violence, we have already laid down capital punishment and other severe punishment including completion

of trial in two months time," he added.

He also said India's judiciary, be it the Supreme Court, high courts or subordinate courts, has upheld the principles of the rule of law. But, he stressed, the need to attract more talent in subordinate judiciary.

"We need to reflect more on having attraction of talent in our subordinate judiciary. We should have a good talent pool of judges. The time has come that we need to have greater induction of talent in the judiciary," he said. The Minister was speaking at a function for inauguration of a new building of the Rajasthan High court in Jodhpur.

# One of Walayar rape accused thrashed by mob in Kerala

**Palakkad:** An accused in the Walayar rape and death case of two minor Dalit sisters was on Saturday thrashed by a group of people following an altercation, police said.

M Madhu, the third accused in the case, who was acquitted recently by a lower court, allegedly got into an argument with the group near his house, the police said.

"The group allegedly called him (Madhu) a rapist when he came to his house from Coimbatore. The man used some vulgar expressions, words and picked up a fight with the locals following which he was thrashed," Palakkad police chief told.

However, Madhu's mother told the media that the attackers were from Sangh Parivar, he said.

The accused has been admitted to the district hospital in Palakkad. The police official further said a case has been registered against four people.

"We have also taken three of them into custody. The probe is on," police said.

The State Government had recently ordered a judicial probe into the death of siblings by suicide after they were sexually exploited at Walayar in Palakkad district. The older child (13) was found hanging in her house on January 13, 2017, while her nine-year-old sister died 52 days later in a similar manner.

# Maya urges SC to take cognisance of rising crime against women

**Lucknow:** Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati has urged the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognisance of growing incidents of crime against women and direct the Centre to take prompt steps for effectively checking them.

Hours after the death of the Unnao rape victim in a Delhi hospital, Mayawati met Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel on Saturday morning and submitted a memorandum, urging her to apprise the State Government about people's concern over dipping law and order situation and an alarming rise in incidents of violence against women.

She also urged the Governor to intervene in the matter as per her Constitutional obligations.

# All flights cancelled at Srinagar airport due to dense fog



**Srinagar:** The air traffic was badly affected in the Kashmir Valley on Saturday as dense fog forced cancellation of all flights to and fro Srinagar airport, leaving hundreds of passengers stranded, officials said.

A total of 27 flights were scheduled for the day including a couple of those for armed personnel, the officials said.

"All the scheduled flights were cancelled due to poor visibility at the airport," an official of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) said.

He said the visibility at the airport was around 600 metres only this morning but since there was no improvement in the situation, the air traffic was suspended for the day.

The cancellation of the flights left hundreds of passengers stranded, the officials said. The city experienced the coldest night of the season so far recording a low of minus 3.6 degrees Celsius, an official of the Meteorological Department here said.

He said the heavy fog affected the visibility, causing problems to the people, especially motorists.

The MeT official said the valley is undergoing intense cold conditions as the mercury dipped several notches below the normal for this part of the season.

# MAHA-KARNATAKA BORDER ROW Uddhav sets up panel to expedite case disposal

■ MUMBAI

In line with the promise made by it after assuming office in the State, the Shiv Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government on Saturday appointed a co-ordination committee, headed by Sena's Minister Eknath Shinde and NCP's Minister Chhagan Bhujbal, to speed up the pending litigation in the Supreme Court over the Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute.

The co-ordination committee will soon hold consultations with the lawyers representing the State in the Supreme Court to take stock of the status of the case pending before the apex court, while Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray will hold a meeting with senior lawyer Harish Salve in the near future.

In an effort to push matters relating to the pending litigation in the Supreme Court over the Maharashtra-Karnataka border row, Uddhav held a meeting of the Ministers in his Cabinet and some senior MLAs and decided on a plan of action to pursue intensely the pending legal matters relating to the border row.

At the meeting, Uddhav said that he invited the representatives of the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES), which is spearheading the agitation by Marathi-speaking people in border areas of Karnataka, for the meeting to seek their views on the border issue.

"We need to talk to the



MES representatives to make our case strong in the Supreme Court. I also feel that all the political parties should come together to fight the issue," he said.

At the meeting, senior ministers Eknath Shinde, Subhash Desai (both Shiv Sena), Jayant Patil, Chhagan Bhujbal (both the NCP), Nitin Raut (Congress) and MLAs Hasan Mashrif, Rajesh Patil and Anil Parab.

State Advocate-General Ashutosh Kumbhakoni, secretary of General Administration Department Anshu Sinha, senior lawyers and representatives of the MES, including former MLAs Manohar Kinekar, Arvind Patil, Digambar Patil, senior journalist Kiran Thakur and Prakash Digholkar were among others present at the meeting.

Maharashtra has long been staking claim its jurisdiction over 865 villages in Belgum, Karwar, Bidar and Gulbarga districts in Karnataka.

In an affidavit filed before the Supreme Court on July 6, 2010, the then Congress-led UPA government had ejected outright Maharashtra's claim - made in its 2004 affidavit and its application in 2009 - on its jurisdiction over 865 villages in Belgum, Karwar, Bidar and Gulbarga districts in Karnataka.

The UPA Government had taken a stand that "just because most people in the border districts speak Marathi, it is not ground enough for the areas to be appended to Maharashtra".

In a resolution adopted unanimously later on July 13, 2010, the Maharashtra Assembly unanimously had urged the then UPA Government to re-consider its affidavit made the apex court seven days earlier, rejecting outright Maharashtra's claim over 865 villages in Belgum, Karwar, Bidar and Gulbarga districts in Karnataka.

Congress-led UDF

Government on the same day rooted for imposition of a Centrally-administered rule in the Marathi-speaking areas of Karnataka, pending a verdict by the Supreme Court on the ongoing litigation over the border row between the two states.

Later on December 20, 2011, the Shiv Sena pushed its agenda on the Maharashtra-Karnataka border issue by submitting a memorandum to the then President Pratibha Patil, urging her to recommend to the Centre to declare Belgum and neighbouring areas as a "Union Territory", keeping in view the interests of Marathi-speaking people there.

Since then, there has not been much of a movement on the Maharashtra-Karnataka border case pending before the Supreme Court.

Articulating the new MVA government's stand on the Maharashtra-Karnataka border issue, Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari - in his address to joint session of both the Houses of Maharashtra Legislature on December 1 - reiterated the State Government's commitment to "protect" the constitutional rights and privileges of the Marathi speaking people of 865 villages claimed by the state in relation to Maharashtra-Karnataka border.

"My Government will continue to take a firm stand and strive to get justice in the matter pending in the Supreme Court," the Governor said.

# Disgruntled Khadse hints revolt after BJP's loss in Maharashtra

**Jalgaon (Mah):** Senior BJP leader Eknath Khadse issued a veiled warning to the party leadership on Saturday that he would look at other options if his 'humiliation' continued.

He also said that he had submitted to the party leadership 'evidence' of anti-party activities which led to his daughter's defeat in the Assembly polls.

Khadse met Maharashtra BJP chief Chandrakant Patil after a meeting of the party's

North Maharashtra core committee here. Speaking to reporters later, he said over the years, he has been kept out of the core committee's meetings and decision-making process of the state BJP. "I am not God. I am a human being and have emotions. I don't want to leave the party for whose growth I worked hard for more than four decades. I am still ready to work for the party," the former minister said.

"But If I continue to face

humiliation of being kept away from decision-making, I will have to think differently," he said. To a question about his statement that Other Backward Class (OBC) leaders in the BJP are being sidelined, Khadse said, "It is not me but party workers feel so. OBC and Bahujan Samaj (a term generally used to denote non-Brahmin communities) leaders have toiled hard, giving blood and sweat for the party's growth."

# No response from Mamata's office on requests for dialogue: Dhankhar

**Kolkata:** West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar, who is at loggerheads with the TMC Government in the State, said on Saturday that all attempts to reach out to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee were exhausted as there was no response from her office on his requests for a dialogue.

Stating that a Chief Minister should be in regular communication with the governor of the State, Dhankhar said he is still hopeful of a positive response from Banerjee.

"@MamataOfficial. As Governor after exhausting back channels I engaged in outreach to CM by publicly inviting her to Discussions and Dialogue at her chosen place, time, date as this the only constitutional way," Dhankhar said in a tweet.

"CM sd (should) not be communicated to Gov. Am sure there wd (would) b +ve (positive) response," he added.

Dhankhar is being blamed by TMC for delaying clearance of pending bills which had led to an abrupt two-day adjournment of the

State Assembly earlier this week, opening a new front for hostilities.

Later speaking at the India Today Conclave East, Dhankhar said he was not at in a combative relation with the Mamata Banerjee government but it was the other way around.

"That the Governor is at loggerheads with the State Government is a narrative of the other side. This Governor is not at loggerheads with any government. It is actually the state government, more than half-a-dozen (of its) ministers, the Speaker who are at loggerheads with me. I am at the receiving end," Dhankhar said at the Conclave. The governor said that he cannot keep on appreciating the chief minister to be in the news headlines as there occasions when there are political murders which are shown as suicides, which worry him.

"I appreciated her (the CM's role) for dealing with the situation after Cyclone Bulbul and the next day it made the headlines. I get publicity when I praise for the CM but I cannot do that all the time," he said.

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD**

**E-Tender Notice**

No.: AGRA/E/OP/TENDER/2019/11 Date: 05.12.2019

Divisional Electrical Engineer (OP), North Central Railway, Agra, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites the following E-Tender on prescribed form the details of the tender are as under:

Tender No.	Name of work	Approximate Cost ₹	Earnest Money ₹	Cost of Tender Document ₹
AGRA/E/OP/TENDER/2019/11	Installation and commissioning of Bio Gas plant RR/Agra Cantt., RR/Mathura, Agra Cantt. Station & Agra Fortstation	4523400.00	90500.00	3540.00

**Date of opening of tender:** 27.12.2019 **Note:** 1. The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders will be available on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) up to 15:00 hrs. on 27.12.2019 the due date of tender opening. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3. Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendors shall be straight way ignored and shall not be considered. 4. Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. 5. This tender notice has also been uploaded on [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in). 6. Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender Document Cost (TDC) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. 7. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. 1772/19(II)

North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @CPRONCR

# Our stand vindicated, NCP says on ACB's clean chit to Ajit

**Mumbai:** Reacting to the Maharashtra Anti-Corruption Bureau's clean chit to party leader Ajit Pawar in the irrigation scam, the NCP said on Saturday that it had always maintained that he was innocent.

The ACB, in an affidavit before the Bombay High Court, has ruled out Pawar's involvement in alleged irregularities in irrigation projects in Vidarbha.

"Ajit Pawar or any other Minister did not commit any irregularity. The BJP's false campaign is getting exposed now. We are happy that truth is coming out before the people," NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik said here.

The ACB filed the affidavit on November 27, a day before the Maha Vikas Aghadi Government of the Shiv Sena -NCP-Congress was sworn in.

# We will win maximum number of seats in K'taka bypolls, says BJP

**Bengaluru:** Several BJP leaders in Karnataka, including Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa, on Saturday exuded confidence about the party's prospects of winning the December 5 bypolls to 15 Assembly seats, the outcome of which will have a bearing on the Government led by him.

The results will be declared on December 9. "I will not speak anything about the bypoll results now. You will get to know on December 9. We will win with a lead of 25,000-30,000 votes in most of the constituencies and according to our estimate, we are confident of winning all the 15 seats," Yediyurappa told reporters.

Speaking to reporters in Magadi, Deputy Chief Minister CN Ashwathnarayan said it was a 'known fact' that BJP would win the maximum

number of seats and that would be officially known on December 9.

Noting that a stable and strong BJP Government would continue in the state, he said people have voted for the party with this in mind.

The public opinion has come in the form of exit polls. According to me we will win in at least 12 seats. Even if we win in all 15 seats, dont be surprised, he added. Exit polls by some agencies and regional news channels have predicted that BJP would get a comfortable majority, with the ruling party winning in 9-12 out of the 15 seats.

The BJP needs to win at least six seats to remain in a majority in the 225-member Assembly (including the Speaker, who has a casting vote), which would still have two vacant seats - Maski and R R Nagar.

**BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI**

4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

O.A. No.1290/18 Date: 25.11.2019

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA ..... Applicant

Versus

SUMITRA PAUL & ORS. .... Respondent

To, DEFENDANT

1. SUMITRA PAUL W/O. SH. ARUNAV CHATTERJEE

2. ARUNAV CHATTERJEE S/O. SH. ASHIM KUMAR CHATTERJEE.

Both at: House No. 296/1, Adarsh Nagar, Gurgaon, Haryana.

3. SHUBHKAMNA BUILDTECH PVT. LTD., 197-E, Pkt.-IV, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091.

Also at: Plot No. 18-19, Neelamber Apartment, Lower Ground Floor, Sector-14, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, U.P.

Also at: A-102, 1st Floor, Star House, Sector-4, Noida U.P.-201301. Also at: Plot No.GH/05 (B) Sector-137, Expressway Noida -201301.

Whereas the above named applicant(s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of Rs.30,39,308/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Eight Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **10.02.2020 at 10:30 A.M.**

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL, SECTION OFFICER, DRT-II, DELHI

**Office of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., Gautambudhnagar**

No. 4360/7A Dated. 29.11.2019

**E-Procurement Tender Notice**

On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites online bids through e-tendering <http://etender.up.nic.in> from the registered firm. The bid document upload from dated 12.12.2019 to 18.12.2019 upto 5.00 PM. Tender bids will be open on date 19.12.2019 at 12.30 PM. by the Committee in the office of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, P.W.D., Gautambudhnagar. Date of financial bid will be informed separately to the technically qualified contractors. In case of holiday or office closed the technical bid/financial bids will be opened on next working day in the same manners. Details of works as follow.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lac)	Bid security (Rs. in Lacs)	Time of Completion	Cost of Bid documents including 18% GST	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	जनपद गौतमबुधनगर में केन्द्रीय मार्ग निधि के अन्तर्गत उपरोक्त-दुजाना- आकिलपुर- यावली एनटीपीसी मार्ग के किमी 0.00 से 15.510 तक मार्ग पर धर्मोत्सवक पेट्र का कार्य।	12-00	1.20	1 month	500+225+ 18% GST= 856.00	Registered for Signage work in UP PWD.

1- The Bid Security and Tender Document fee must be deposited through Internet Banking/NEFT/RTGS only.

2- All registered contractors have to upload Turnover certified by CA of last 5 Years and details of maximum cost work satisfactorily in last 5 Years on Chanakya Software before submission of tender. Details of E-Tender uploaded on <http://etender.up.nic.in> shall also be uploaded on UP PWD Chanakya Software before last date and time of submission of Tender.

3- Terms and other conditions related to bid available on Website <http://etender.up.nic.in>

Executive Engineer Provincial Division, PWD, Gautambudh Nagar

UP 146224 Date 4.12.2019

विज्ञापन वेबसाइट [www.upgov.nic.in](http://www.upgov.nic.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

**Indian Bank**

Indian Bank, Moradabad - A-3, Gandhi Nagar, Near Old Roadways Bus Stand, Moradabad, Pin 244001, Phone 0591 - 2490956, E-mail: [moradabad@indianbank.co.in](mailto:moradabad@indianbank.co.in) | [www.indianbank.in](http://www.indianbank.in)

**DEMAND NOTICE**

Notice issued under Sec. 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act - 2002

S. N.	Demand Notice Date / Amount Outstanding	Name of the Borrower/Mortgagor Guarantor/Proprietor/Director	Property Charged to the Bank
1.	11.11.2019 IBHL A/c No. 6601820767 Outstanding Rs. 9,15,449.29 as on 31.10.2019 + Interest & other Expenses w.e.f. 01.11.2019	1. Mr Arvind Kumar Pandey (Borrower) S/o Sh. Banwari Lal Pandey, Ehatmali, Moradabad (UP) - 244001 2. Mr. Piyush Pandey (Co-borrower) S/o Sh. Arvind Kumar Pandey, Gata No. 83, Mauja Kalyanpur, Ehatmali, Moradabad (UP) - 244001 3. Mr. Megh Singh (Guarantor) 121 Near Saraswati Vihar, Sihora Anshik, Moradabad	Gata No. 83 Mauja Kalyanpur Ehatmali, admeasuring about 70 Sq. Mtr., Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh in the name of Arvind Kumar Pandey. Boundaries: East: 4.5 Mtr. Rasta, West: Plot Vinod Pal, North: Plot Satpal Singh, South: Plot other

All of you committed default in repayment of loans to the tune of above mentioned Amount with further interest at the agreed rate till date of repayment. The Bank issued notice under the Act on the above mentioned date calling upon all of you to repay the above mentioned outstanding amount. The Notice was sent to each of you by Regd. post has been returned unserved. You are called upon to pay above mentioned amount in your respective loan account together with interest/cost mentioned above, till date of payment within 60 days from the date of this notice failing which Bank will be constrained to exercise its right of enforcement of security interest against the secured assets as given above. This Notice is without prejudice to any other right remedy available to the Bank.

Date : 08.12.2019 Place : Moradabad Authorized Officer, Indian Bank

**WESTERN RAILWAY**

**BULK ADVERTISING RIGHTS FOR DISPLAY OF ADVERTISEMENTS**

Tender Notice No. : CA-11 Bulk Station, BA 2019, dttd. 05/12/2019. Work and Location : Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for display of Advertisements at Bandra Station for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway. Approx. Tender Value for 5 Years: ₹ 4,17,22,100/- EMD : ₹ 8,34,500/- Date & Time of Submission and Opening of Tender : Up to 15.00 hrs. on 06/12/2020 and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. on the same day. Website Where Tender and bidding details Available : [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

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

**WESTERN RAILWAY**

**REPOWERING OF TRACK MACHINES**

Chief Engineer, Western Railway, Churhgate, invites the following E-Procurement Tenders. Tender No. : W64/12/2019/33. Dated: 05/12/2019. Website Where Tender and bidding details Available : [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Repowering of Track Machines by Replacing Greaves make Engines with Cummins Engines. Total Tender Value : ₹ 1,50,16,249.44. EMD : ₹ 2,25,100/- Date of Closing of e-Tender Box : 07/01/2020 at 15.00 hrs. Date of Opening of e-Tender Box : 07/01/2020 at 15.15 hrs. Note: (1) The complete information along with tender document of above e-Procurement Tender is available in website on <https://ireps.gov.in> upto the due date of tender opening. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Class III Digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000.

Like us on [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://facebook.com/WesternRly)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform general public that Mrs. Madhu Chhabra is intending to purchase Entire Third floor with roof rights of Property No. B-10 & B11, area measuring 110 sq. yds., Part of Kharsa No. 623, Village Tihar, colony known as Asha Park, Jail Road, New Delhi-110018 through Sale Deed to be executed by Mrs. Chandrerfrabha Arora who became the owner of the above property vide Relinquishment Deed dated 20.09.2019 executed by (1) Ms. Himanshi Arora (2) Ms. Neelam Arora (3) Mr. Pankaj Arora in favour of Mrs. Chandrerfrabha Arora. Mrs. Madhu Chhabra is availing loan on this property form Hero Housing Finance Ltd. by mortgage the said property. We have been made in understand that no other person has any right, title or interest in the above said property. Vide this notice we wish to inform that in case anyone has any objection regarding purchase/mortgage of the said property, the same may be raised within 15 days of this publication to Mr. Munesh Dhawan/Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Vertices, Unit No.-405, 4th Floor, GD-II, Northex Tower, (A-09), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 906670172/9818228636 (M).

**ABHEY OSWAL GROUP**

**Oswal Agro Mills Limited**

CIN L15319PB1979PLC012267  
Regd. Office: Near Jain Colony, Vijay Nagar, Gurgaon, Haryana.  
Ludhiana-141003 (Punjab) Ph: 0161-2544313  
Head Office: 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Antriksh Bhawan 22, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001  
Ph. No. 011-23753652, Fax No. 011-23716276  
Website: [www.oswalagro.com](http://www.oswalagro.com)  
Email ID: [oswal@oswalagro.com](mailto:oswal@oswalagro.com)

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 33 and 47 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company is scheduled to be held on **Friday, December 13, 2019** inter-alia, to consider and approve the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

This intimation is also available on Company's website at [www.oswalagro.com](http://www.oswalagro.com) and on Stock Exchanges' website at [www.bseindia.com](http://www.bseindia.com) and [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com)

For Oswal Agro Mills Limited  
Sd/-  
Date : 06.12.2019 Anil Bhalia  
Place : New Delhi Director

# TRUMP IMPEACHMENT WH won't participate in proceedings

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The White House on Friday informed the House Democrats that it would not participate in the impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump.

In a letter to House Judiciary Committee, Jerrold Nadler, White House Counsel Pat Cipollone said it would be a "reckless abuse of power" for them to adopt the articles of impeachment.

This "would constitute the most unjust, highly partisan, and unconstitutional attempt at impeachment in our Nation's history," he said in a one-page letter.

"As the President has recently stated: 'if you are going to impeach me, do it now, fast, so we can have a fair trial in the Senate,'" he wrote and slammed the ongoing impeachment inquiry as "completely baseless."

It violates "basic principles of due process and fundamental fairness," the White House Counsel said.

Expressing disappointment over the White House response, Nadler said that American people deserve answers from Trump.

"The House invited, and then subpoenaed, his top advi-



sors. The President ordered them not to show and continues to block key evidence from Congress. We are disappointed that the President has once again failed to provide those answers here," he said.

"We gave President Trump a fair opportunity to question witnesses and present his own to address the overwhelming evidence before us. After listening to him complain about the impeachment process, we had hoped that he might accept our invitation," Nadler added.

"If the President has no good response to the allegations, then he would not want to appear before the Committee. Having declined this opportunity, he cannot claim that the process is unfair. The President's failure will not prevent us from carrying out our solemn constitutional

duty," Nadler said. Nadler has scheduled a Monday morning hearing at which members will hear "presentations of evidence" from attorneys for the House Judiciary and Intelligence committee.

Last week, Nadler had asked White House to participate in the impeachment hearings. In his letter, Cipollone said House Democrats had wasted enough of America's time with this "charade".

"You should end this inquiry now and not waste even more time with additional hearings. Adopting articles of impeachment would be a reckless abuse of power by House Democrats, and would constitute the most unjust, highly partisan, and unconstitutional attempt at impeachment in our Nation's history," he said.

# US resumes talks with Taliban in Doha: US source

AFP ■ DOHA

Washington resumed talks with the Taliban in Qatar Saturday, a US source said, three months after President Donald Trump abruptly halted diplomatic efforts that could end America's longest war.

In September, the United States and the Taliban had appeared on the verge of signing a deal that would have seen Washington begin withdrawing thousands of troops in return for security guarantees.

It was also expected to pave the way towards direct talks between the Taliban and the Government in Kabul and, ultimately, a possible peace agreement after more than 18 years of war.

But that same month, Trump abruptly called the year-long effort "dead" and withdrew an invitation to the insurgents to join secret talks at his US retreat at Camp David after the killing of an American soldier.

"The US rejoined talks today in Doha. The focus of discussion will be reduction of violence that leads to intra-Afghan negotiations and a ceasefire," said the US source briefed on efforts to end almost two decades of war in Afghanistan.

During a surprise visit to a US military base in

Afghanistan last week, Trump said the Taliban "wants to make a deal." Even during the stall in talks, US negotiator Zalmay Khalilzad has in recent weeks made a whistle-stop tour of nations with a stake in Afghan peace, including Pakistan.

He recently arranged a captive swap in which the Taliban released an American and an Australian academic whom they had held hostage for three years. The Taliban have until now refused to negotiate with the Afghan government, which they consider an illegitimate regime.

In a nod to concerns raised by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, the State Department voiced support for a ceasefire - a key priority for Kabul before it enters negotiations with the Islamist insurgents.

"Ambassador Khalilzad will rejoin talks with the Taliban to discuss steps that could lead to intra-Afghan negotiations and a peaceful settlement of the war, specifically a reduction in violence that leads to a ceasefire," the State Department said on Wednesday as it announced the resumption of efforts to end the conflict. Washington had sought to seal a political deal with the Taliban ahead of September's elections in Afghanistan.

# Drone hits Iraq cleric's home as tensions rise after Baghdad attack

AFP ■ BAGHDAD

An armed drone targeted the home of Iraqi cleric Moqtada Sadr on Saturday, hours after his supporters deployed in Baghdad in response to an attack that left 17 protesters dead.

The developments marked a worrying turn for the anti-Government protests rocking Iraq since October, the country's largest and deadliest grassroots movement in decades.

The mostly young protesters in the capital's iconic Tahrir Square had long feared a spiral into chaos, and on Friday it appeared their apprehensions were well-placed.

After nightfall, armed men on pick-up trucks attacked a large building where protesters had been camped out for weeks near the capital's Al-Sinek bridge.

Security forces deployed on the bridge itself did not intervene, witnesses said, as the attackers ousted protesters from the building in a volley of gunfire.

At least 17 people were killed and dozens more wounded, medics told AFP, with ambulances shuttling teenagers suffering gunshot and stab wounds to nearby field clinics.

Panicked demonstrators rushed out into the street,

sending out calls through social media for people to come to their main gathering place in Tahrir Square.

By Saturday morning, hundreds had arrived.

"I came after the incident and there were tons of people in Tahrir and by Al-Sinek," one demonstrator told AFP.

Many of the new arrivals were suspected to be members of Saraya al-Salam (Peace Brigades), the paramilitary group headed by Sadr.

They are nicknamed "blue helmets" for the headgear they typically wear, and witnesses said they were visible in large numbers in Tahrir before dawn on Saturday.

A source within Saraya told AFP one of its own members had died in the overnight clash, and that more unarmed members had been sent to Tahrir "to protect protesters."

Sadr has backed the protests, but demonstrators have been wary of his support as they feared it could pave the way for confrontations with pro-government forces.

Early Saturday, a drone dropped a bomb on his home in the shrine city of Najaf, damaging the exterior wall, sources within his party told AFP.

Sadr, a notoriously versatile figure, is currently in Iran.

# London bridge terrorist buried in ancestral village in PoK

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Uzman Khan, the convicted terrorist of Pakistani origin who was shot dead during last week's terror attack in London, has been buried in his family's ancestral village in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, according to a media report on Saturday.

Talking to Dawn Newspaper, the General Manager, public relations, of Pakistan International Airlines Abdul Hafeez said Khan's body was flown to Islamabad from London and then handed over to his family on Friday.

Khan's relatives drove body to Kotli in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, the daily reported. Funeral was held and Khan was buried in the evening, the daily said.

Khan, 28, stabbed and killed two people in London Bridge terrorist attack. He was later identified as a convicted terrorist who was jailed seven years ago over a plot to bomb the London Stock Exchange and build a terrorist training camp on land owned by his family in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

He had also discussed staging a Mumbai-style attack on the UK Parliament, and was described by the UK judge who sentenced him for terrorism offences in 2012 as an ongoing risk to the public with a "serious, long term venture in terrorism".

# UK election rivals face off for final time ahead of poll



Opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, left, shakes hands with Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson, centre, with debate moderator TV presenter Nick Robinson, right, during a head to head live Election Debate at the BBC TV studios in Maidstone, England on Friday. Britain's Brexit is one of the main issues for political parties and for voters, as the UK prepares for a General Election on December

AFP ■ LONDON

The two men vying to be British Prime Minister in next week's election exchanged trademark blows Friday over the familiar faultlines of Brexit and healthcare in the final head-to-head TV debate of

the month-old campaign.

In a lacklustre hour-long battle largely devoid of stand-out moments, Prime Minister Boris Johnson repeatedly criticised Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's failure to say if he supports Britain leaving the EU while talking up his agenda.

"We have a fantastic plan to get Brexit done," Johnson said, referring to a divorce deal he finalised with EU leaders in October.

"How can you get. A new deal from Brussels for Brexit, if you don't actually believe in it?" he added, referring to Corbyn's vow to remain neutral in a second EU referendum he wants to hold within six months.

The Labour leader is proposing to negotiate a softer form of Brexit to put up against remaining in the bloc in the vote. He said Johnson's vow to strike trade deals with both the European

Union and the United States next year were unrealistic, and that Britain's cherished national health service (NHS) was under threat. "What he will do is walk out of a relationship with the EU into a relationship with nobody," Corbyn said.

Corbyn has spent the campaign lagging in the polls and

was in need of a breakthrough moment, but often found himself on the defensive on Brexit and other issues.

A snap poll by YouGov found the debate, the second head-to-head between the pair, was a draw, but that those questioned found Corbyn more trustworthy.

"Given the Conservatives went into this debate in the lead, they will hope the lack of a knockout blow means they can maintain this until voting day," said Chris Curtis, YouGov's Political Research Manager.

Johnson called the snap election -- the third in Britain in nearly five years -- last month to try to get a parliamentary majority which would enable him to secure backing for his divorce deal.

Voting takes place next Thursday. The Britain Elects poll aggregator puts the Conservatives on 42 per cent, Labour on 33 per cent and the Liberal Democrats on 13 per-

# 629 Pakistani girls sold as brides to China

AP ■ LAHORE

629 girls and women from across Pakistan who were sold as brides to Chinese men and taken to China.

The list, obtained by The Associated Press, was compiled by Pakistani investigators determined to break up trafficking networks exploiting the country's poor and vulnerable.

The list gives the most concrete figure yet for the number of women caught up in the trafficking schemes since 2018.

But since the time it was put together in June, investigators' aggressive drive against the networks has largely ground to a halt. Officials with

knowledge of the investigations say that is because of pressure from Government officials fearful of hurting Pakistan's lucrative ties to Beijing.

The biggest case against traffickers has fallen apart. In October, a court in Faisalabad acquitted 31 Chinese nationals charged in connection with trafficking.

Several of the women who had initially been interviewed by police refused to testify because they were either threatened or bribed into silence, according to a court official and a police investigator familiar with the case. The two spoke on condition of anonymity because they feared retribution for speaking out.

# Thousands in Myanmar rally behind Suu Kyi ahead of Hague court date

AFP ■ NAYPYIDAW (MYANMAR)

Thousands rallied in support of Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar Saturday, on the eve of her departure for the UN's top court to defend Myanmar against charges of genocide against Rohingya Muslims.

The raucous rally in the capital Naypyidaw came as China's Foreign Minister arrived for a visit at Suu Kyi's invitation.

Analysts say Beijing's permanent seat on the UN Security Council and its veto vote - makes it a valuable ally as Myanmar faces intensifying scrutiny over its treatment of the Rohingya.

Once-lauded democracy champion Suu Kyi's shock decision to face the International Court of Justice (ICJ) next week to defend Myanmar

against charges it committed genocide against the Muslim minority risks further damaging her already tattered overseas reputation.

But domestically "The Lady" remains revered, and the resolve of her supporters has only hardened in the lead-up to the ICJ hearing scheduled for December 10-12.

"We are proud of her taking accountability. By going to The Hague to protect the nation's image," shouted prominent writer Htin Lin Oo into a microphone in front of a banner emblazoned with the words "We stand with our leader". "Our blood shall come together and unite us when it is important," he shouted to a cheering crowd, who hoisted colourful artwork of Suu Kyi in the air.

# Trump pulls back on designating Mexico cartels as 'terror' groups

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump said Friday he would not proceed with his stated plans to designate Mexican drug cartels as terror groups following a request from his counterpart Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

Trump called for a "war" on the cartels last month after the killings of nine women and children from a US-Mexican

Mormon community.

The case brought fresh attention to cartel violence in Mexico and leftist president Lopez Obrador's struggles to rein in bloodshed, but south of the border the US plans were seen as unwanted meddling.

Mexican officials asked for clarification on Trump's plans, and said they wanted to make progress on efforts to stem the flow of weapons and money

from the United States to criminal gangs in Mexico.

Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard had reacted more forcefully, saying: "Mexico will never allow any action that means a violation of its national sovereignty." While Trump said in a tweet Friday evening that "all necessary work has been completed to declare Mexican Cartels terrorist organizations," he said

# UN PEACEKEEPING

## No substitute for professional competence: India

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

India told a high-level event on peacekeeping that working in partnerships is key to successful peacekeeping, underlining that professional competence of those engaged in all aspects of this global enterprise cannot be substituted or compromised.

India along with Portugal, Senegal, Uruguay and Vietnam co-hosted the high-level event 'Improving peacekeeping performance: A year since UNSCR 2436' initiated by the US here Friday.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres thanked the US and the event's co-hosts, India, Portugal, Senegal, Uruguay and Vietnam, for convening the event and for their support to United Nations peacekeeping operations.

"India believes that even while broad participation in peacekeeping is important to enhance global solidarity, there can be no substitute for professional competence of those engaged in all aspects of this global enterprise," India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin said in his address at the event. "Working in partnerships is key to successful peacekeeping."

He stressed that guidelines require that the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System

(PCRS) should be the sole mechanism for the selection of a military or police unit for deployment.

"A diversity in terms of deployment needs is understandable, and some variations are inevitable. However, choices and selections need to be made from within the same spectrum of options," he said, adding that those not part of the PCRS are best avoided.

Akbaruddin also highlighted that in selection, units without caveats should have precedence over units pledged with caveats, "as these will not tie down the hands of Force Commander in operational decisions."

"In short, we need to have a 'selection policy' that is a natural extension of the PCRS to ensure that the most ready, capable, well-equipped and willing contingents are selected for deployment," he said.

He also stressed on the need for instances of under-performance to be assessed, saying such assessment needs to examine whether there were units available at higher levels in PCRS that were overlooked during selection; whether caveats have impacted performance; whether poor performance is due to lack of resources, including equipment; or whether the mandate, including guidelines, were not clear, resulting in unsatisfactory

# Saudis distance themselves from US naval base shooter

AFP ■ RIYADH

Saudi Arabia sought to distance itself Saturday from a student who carried out a fatal shooting at an American naval base, as it seeks to repair its image of being an exporter of Islamic extremism.

The Saudi military student reportedly condemned the US as a "nation of evil" before going on a rampage Friday at Naval Air Station Pensacola in Florida, killing three people and wounding eight.

The shooting marks a setback in the kingdom's efforts to shrug off its longstanding reputation for promoting religious extremism after the September 11, 2001 attacks in which 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudis.

The hashtag "Saudis stand with America" gained traction on social media after King Salman telephoned President Donald Trump to denounce the shooting as "heinous" and pledge cooperation with American officials to investigate the incident.

The king added in the phone call on Friday that the shooter, who was gunned down by police, "does not represent the Saudi people", a sentiment echoed by other officials.

"Like many other Saudi military personnel, I was trained in a US military base, and we used that valuable training to fight side by side with our American allies against terrorism and other threats,"

**HIMURJA**  
(H.P. GOVT. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)  
SHIMLA-171009

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the MNRE approved manufacturers / System Integrators under NSM of SPV Street Lights for the supply and installation of SPV Street Lights of different wattage ranges / mode of operation in Gram Panchayats. Govt. departments/ institutions and other beneficiaries of any kinds in H.P. on full cost basis. The tender documents No. HIMURJA (F-7) SPVSL/19-20- will be available for sale from 16-12-2019 to 01-01-2020 up to 5.00 PM and shall be received up to 2 PM on 02-01-2020 which will be opened on the same date at 3.00 PM in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who may like to be present. The cost of tender document is Rs. 15,000/- only. The tender documents can also be downloaded from the website of HIMURJA i.e. himurja.hp.gov.in. The cost of the documents in that case can be deposited along with the tender in the shape of demand draft in favour of Director, HIMURJA, Shimla Separately.

Document No.	Description	Tentative Qty.	Earnest Money
No. HIMURJA (F-7) SPVSL/19-20-	SPV Street Lighting Systems (LED TYPE)	10,000 Nos. (Tentatively)	36,00,000/-

**Terms and Conditions:-**

- (i) Tenders not submitted on prescribed format & in prescribed manner shall not be considered and will be rejected out-rightly.
- (ii) Tenders without Earnest Money Deposit will not be considered.
- (iii) The above quantity is tentative, which may increase. The earnest money is based upon the tentative quantity and in case the quantity is increased the firms will have to deposit the EMD accordingly.
- (iv) HIMURJA reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason. Conditional/ telegraphic tenders will not be accepted.
- (v) The tenderers should be manufacturer / System Integrator approved by MNRE under NSM who must have designed, manufactured, supplied, and tested SPV Lighting System in MNRE Programme to other Nodal Agencies/ Govt. Agencies/ Govt. departments for at least last three years and should have experience of installing 3000 Nos. Li-Ion SPV Street Lighting Systems (LED type).
- (vi) The bidder should have income tax / GST clearance, GST registration etc. as required under the rules.
- (vii) Other terms and conditions shall be as per tender documents.

**Executive Engineer (E)**  
HIMURJA, Urja Bhawan,  
Kasumpti, Shimla-171009

**WESTERN RAILWAY**

**BULK ADVERTISING RIGHTS AT VARIOUS STATIONS**

S. N.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Work and Location	Approx. Tender Value for 5 Years (in ₹)	EMD (in ₹)
1	CA_11_Bulk Station BCTM_2019 dtd. 04/12/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Mumbai Central (Main) & FOB for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	89,37,415/-	1,78,800/-
2	CA_11_Bulk Station DDR_FOB_2019 dtd. 04/12/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Dadar FOB for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	3,19,51,446/-	6,39,100/-
3	CA_11_Bulk Station DIC_FOB_2019 dtd. 27/11/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Dahisar FOB for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	21,04,137/-	42,100/-
4	CA_11_Bulk Station DIC_PF_2019 dtd. 27/11/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Dahisar Platform for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	63,15,983/-	1,26,400/-
5	CA_11_Bulk Station JOS_FOB_2019 dtd. 25/11/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Jogeshwan FOB for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	46,24,457/-	92,500/-
6	CA_11_Bulk Station JOS_PF_2019 dtd. 25/11/2019	Tender for Bulk Advertising Rights for Display of Advertisements at Jogeshwan Platform for a period of 5 years over Mumbai Division of Western Railway.	52,01,398/-	1,04,100/-

For above Tenders - Date and Time of Submission & Opening of Tender: Up to 15:00 hrs. on 02/01/2020 and Opening at 15:30 hrs. on the Same day. Website Where Tender and Bidding details Available: <http://www.irps.gov.in>

Like us on: [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [Twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

The Empowered Officer, TRRDA, PWD(PMGSY), 7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala, Tripura invites sealed tender(s) against press NleT No: 29/EO/TRRDA/2019-20 date: 29.11.2019.

For Construction/Upgradation of Road & CDs including LS Bridges of PMGSY Works,

1. **Package No: TR-04-213:** With Estimated cost (a) Construction: ₹ 525.73 Lakh (b) Maintenance: ₹ 19.08 Lakh (c) Earnest money: ₹ 10.90 lakh
2. **Package No: TR-04-224:** With Estimated cost: (a) Construction: ₹ 249.10 Lakh (b) Maintenance: ₹ 12.26 Lakh (c) Earnest money: ₹ 5.23 lakh
3. **Package No: TR-03-187:** With Estimated cost: (a) Construction: ₹ 701.30 Lakh (b) Maintenance: ₹ 35.84 Lakh (c) Earnest money: ₹ 14.74 lakh

**Time of completion-12 (twelve) months.** Last Date of dropping of tenders 19th December, 2019 up to 1500 hrs (the time settings fixed on the server & displayed at the top of the tender site).

For details please visit: [www.pmsgstenderstrp.gov.in](http://www.pmsgstenderstrp.gov.in)

Pre-bid meeting will be held on 6th December, 2019 at 1100 hrs. in the office of the Empowered Officer, TRRDA, PWD (PMGSY), 7th Block, 2nd Floor, Secretariat Building, Agartala, Tripura.

**Sd/-**  
**Empowered Officer**  
Tripura RRDA, PWD (PMGSY)  
7th Block, 2nd Floor,  
Secretariat Building, Agartala

ICA/C-1857/2019-20

দুখশুভ পৰিষ্কাৰ তিহুৱা গড়তে এককৰাৰ বাবহাৰযোগ্য প্ৰাৰ্থিক আৱ নয় ।

# Income tax cut under consideration: FM

## Govt working on more measures to boost economy, says Nirmala

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said the Government is working on more steps, including rationalisation of personal income tax rates, to revive the sagging economy.

The GDP growth slowed down to more than six-year low of 4.5 per cent in the second quarter of the current fiscal from 5 per cent recorded in the first quarter.

The Government has taken several measures during August and September to boost the economy, she said at the HT Leadership Summit here.

Besides, she said, the public sector banks have disbursed nearly ₹5 lakh crore without compromising on prudential norms in the last two months to boost consumption in the hinterland.

"So there are ways in which for giving stimulus for consumption. We are adopting a direct method and also the method through which we are spending on infrastructure, whose spillover can go to core industries labour and so on," she said.

Asked if there could be more measures announced to bolster economic activity, she said, "If I say yes, it will be



when and if I say yes it's also going to be back to me saying are you not too close to the budget. So I don't want to say

yes although I am wishing I can say. At the same time, I will not say no, because we are working on more."

When asked if the Government is considering rationalisation of the personal income tax rate for putting more money in the hands of people, the Finance Minister said, "One among many things that we are thinking of."

Following the reduction in corporate tax in September, there has been a growing demand for a slash in the personal income tax to buttress consumption.

In the biggest reduction in 28 years, the Government in

September slashed corporate tax rates up to 10 percentage points as it looked to pull the economy out of a six-year low growth with a ₹1.45 lakh crore tax break.

Base corporate tax for existing companies has been reduced to 22 per cent from 30 per cent, and to 15 per cent from 25 per cent for new manufacturing firms incorporated after October 1, 2019, and starting operations before March 31, 2023.

Assuring that there will be no harassment of taxpayers, Sitharaman said the intent of the government is to further simplify taxation systems

including removal of exemption. Citing the example of corporate tax, she said, "From now on, they're moving towards a greater simplified and exemption free. Therefore, has harassment-free therefore subjective interpretation free taxation regime."

Besides, she said the government has introduced faceless assessment of direct tax and soon this will be introduced in indirect tax to eliminate harassment.

On the Goods and Services Tax (GST) the Finance Minister said, the rate structure will have to be decided by the GST Council.

# Jaypee Infratech lenders to put on vote bids of NBCC, Suraksha simultaneously

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Homebuyers and lenders of Jaypee Infratech will vote simultaneously on bids of both state-owned NBCC Ltd and private sector firm Suraksha Realty to acquire the bankrupt realty firm, sources said.

In a meeting of financial creditors held here on Saturday, it was decided that the voting process will start on December 10 and end on December 16. Both the contenders were asked to submit their revised bids by 11 pm Saturday night, the sources said.

This is the third round of bidding process, which has been initiated on the direction of the apex court.

During the meeting of Committee of Creditors (CoC), sources said ICICI and Axis Bank opposed the decision to put both the resolution plans to vote at the same time as they wanted the bid of highest bidder (H1) to be the first.

However, lenders could not finalise on H1 and H2 (second highest bidder) and therefore decided to opt for simultaneous voting.

As many as 13 banks and over 23,000 homebuyers have voting rights in the CoC. Buyers have around 58 per cent votes. For a bid to be approved, 66 per cent votes are required.

If bids of both the parties are approved in the voting process, then winner will be decided on the basis of higher vote numbers, the sources said.

Homebuyers claim amounting to over ₹13,000 crore has been admitted by Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) Anuj Jain, while banks claim is worth ₹9,800 crore.

In the meeting, Suraksha Realty further improved its bid to acquire Jaypee Infratech by offering more land and upfront cash to lenders. It has increased upfront payment to lenders to ₹190 crore from ₹175 crore offered in its revised offer submitted on December 3. The land-debt swap deal has also been improved to 2,275 acre from 2,220 acre.

NBCC in its revised bid on December 3 had offered 1,526 acres of land to lenders.

# Startups will be key in becoming \$5 trillion economy, says Prabhu

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Startups are going to play a major role to make India a \$5 trillion economy, former Union Minister and BJP MP Suresh Prabhu said on Saturday.

"So, when we talk about \$5 trillion economy, it will be largely from the startups. It is inevitably bound to happen all

over the world, thankfully our prime minister realised it and had that vision to understand the changing economic scenario of the Indian economy," Prabhu said here at an event.

The economic growth will come from both the existing industries as well as from those companies that are going to come up in the future, he added.

# India should establish fast dispute redressal system for global investors: Justice Gavai

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Supreme Court judge Justice SBR Gavai on Saturday said that India should establish a dispute redressal system that should not be time-consuming to build confidence among international investors.

He was speaking at the global conference on international commercial arbitration

organised by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi. Extending his best wishes for the conference he said, "Such conferences would go a long way in solving the nitty-gritties, the problems that Indian arbitration system faces and also the provide solutions therefore."

He further added, India as a preferred arbitration destination.

# US unemployment rate back at 50-year low

Washington: The United States' headline unemployment rate fell by one-tenth of a percentage point in November to 3.5 per cent, matching the lowest level in a half century, while the number of new jobs added last month — 2,66,000 — far exceeded economists' expectations.

Those latest figures came from the Labour Department's monthly "The Employment Situation" report, released on Friday, Efe news reported.

Hiring was particularly strong in November in the

health care, leisure and hospitality and transportation and warehousing sectors.

The conclusion of an October strike by General Motors' workers also helped give a boost to the labour market last month.

The Labour Department's Bureau of Labour Statistics said non-farm payrolls grew by 2,66,000 last month and that job growth has averaged 1,80,000 a month so far in 2019, down from an average monthly gain of 2,23,000 last year.

## SEARCH FOR FEMALE GIRL



General public is hereby informed that this female namely Savita @ Kavita D/o Ram Prasad R/o A-227, Sangam Colony, Pandav Nagar, Delhi Age : 22 years, Height : 5', Complexion : Sallow, Face : Oval, Build : Thin, wearing blue colour suit, firozi colour salwar and hawai chapple in feet, has been missing since 07.11.2019 from her house. In this regard a case DD No. 19-A, dated 08.11.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Ranjit Nagar, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing female may kindly inform to the following:-  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Fax: 24368639, Tel.: 24368638/24368641  
SHO : P.S. Ranjit Nagar, Delhi Ph. : 011-25704008, 25704009

## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



General public is hereby informed that this girl namely Saloni D/o Rameshwar Orao R/o Gali No. 06, Kapil Vihar, Mukund Pur, Delhi Age : 14 years, Height : 5'2", Face : Round, Complexion : Wheatish, Build : Thin, wearing red colour frock, cream colour pajami and hawai chapple in feet, has been missing/ kidnapped since 15.11.2019 from the area of P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi. In this regard FIR No. 677/19 dated 16.11.2019 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following.  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Fax: 24368639, Tel.: 24368638/24368641  
SHO : P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi Ph. : 011-27811933, 27811934

## BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI

4th FLOOR JEEVAN TARA BUILDING PARLIAMENT STREET NEW DELHI - 110001  
OA No. 242/18 Date : 19.10.2019  
UCO BANK Versus APPLICANT  
DHARMENDRA SINGH KUSHWAHA & ORS. Versus DEFENDANTS  
TO, DEFENDANT  
1. DHARMENDRA SINGH KUSHWAHA  
2. RAJNI KUSHWAHA  
BOTHAT -A-1, SURBHI APARTMENT, 882/6, WARD NO. 6, MEHRAULI, NEW DELHI  
Whereas the above named applicant has/instituted a case for recovery of Rs. 13,65,254/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Sixty Five Thousand and Two Hundred and Fifty Four Only) against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 13.12.2019 at 10.30 A.M.  
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.  
By Order of this Tribunal,  
SECTION OFFICER, DRT-II, DELHI

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified body of a male namely Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, was found on 03.12.2019 at 08:30 AM at DDU Hospital, Hari Nagar, Delhi. He was admitted at DDU hospital vide MLC No. 11808/19 on 03.12.2019 however the doctors declared him dead on the same date. In this regard DD No. 19-A dated 03.12.2019 has been lodged at Police Station, Hari Nagar, New Delhi. Dead Body has been preserved in DDU Hospital mortuary for 72 hrs for identification. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:  
Name: Unknown, Age: About 30 Years, Face: Oval, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish, Build: Thin, ID Mark: Mole on forehead, Wearing: Off white T-Shirt and grey colour lower.  
If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.  
SHO  
Police Station, Hari Nagar, Delhi  
DP/8529/WD/19 Ph.: 011-28525719, 8750871128, 8368215758

## WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. : C 78/11/17/SLR/10/2019 dated 06/12/2019  
Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Western Railway, Mumbai Division, Mumbai Central, invites open e-tender, for leasing of SLR on single trip/round trip basis on payment of lumpsum rates for loading/unloading of parcels in specific trains for a period of 5 years. Leasing Contract of 3.904 tonnes space in SLRs Compartments of the trains mentioned below. (Period of Contract - 5 years).

Sr. No.	Train No.	From/To	RP (in ₹)	Sr. No.	Train No.	From/To	RP (in ₹)
01	19707-FSLR-I	BDTS-SGMR	15688	23	22953-FSLR-I	MMCT-ADI	3024
02	19707-FSLR-II	BDTS-SGMR	15688	24	22953-FSLR-II	MMCT-ADI	3024
03	19707-RSLR-I	BDTS-SGMR	15688	25	22975-FSLR-I	BDTS-RMR	16516
04	19045-FSLR-I	ST-CPR	25758	26	19015-FSLR-II	MMCT-PBR	2682
05	19045-FSLR-II	ST-CPR	25758	27	19015-FSLR-I	MMCT-PBR	2682
06	19045-RSLR-I	ST-CPR	25758	28	22951-FSLR-II	BDTS-GIMB	4586
07	19051-RSLR-I	BL-MFP	17500	29	22915-FSLR-I	BDTS-HSR	7442
08	19053-FSLR-I	ST-MFP	29708	30	22915-FSLR-II	BDTS-HSR	7442
09	19053-RSLR-I	ST-MFP	29708	31	12903-FSLR-I	MMCT-ASR	27235
10	12989-FSLR-I	DDR-AII	2745	32	12903-FSLR-II	MMCT-ASR	27235
11	12989-FSLR-II	DDR-AII	2745	33	12922-FSLR-II	ST-MMCT	6048
12	12490-FSLR-I	DDR-BKN	6649	34	12927-FSLR-I	MMCT-BRC	7770
13	12490-RSLR-I	DDR-BKN	6649	35	12927-FSLR-II	MMCT-BRC	7770
14	22947-FSLR-I	ST-BGP	26742	36	12995-FSLR-I	BDTS-AII	5610
15	22947-FSLR-II	ST-BGP	26742	37	12995-FSLR-II	BDTS-AII	5610
16	22947-RSLR-I	ST-BGP	26742	38	19115-FSLR-I	BDTS-BHUJ	11847
17	12911-FSLR-I	BL-HW	10063	39	19003-FSLR-I	BDTS-BSL	6734
18	12911-RSLR-I	BL-HW	10063	40	19003-FSLR-II	BDTS-BSL	6734
19	14708-FSLR-I	BDTS-BKN	8688	41	19003-RSLR-I	BDTS-BSL	6734
20	14708-FSLR-II	BDTS-BKN	8688	42	59441-FSLR-I	MMCT-ADI	9071
21	14708-RSLR-I	BDTS-BKN	8688	43	59441-FSLR-II	MMCT-ADI	9071
22	22923-FWLRRM	BDTS-JAM	9004				

Date & Time of Submission of Tender : Up to 30/12/2019 at 15:00 hrs. through online [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) only and Date & Time of Opening of Tender : Up to 30/12/2019 at 15:30 hrs.  
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## WESTERN RAILWAY

Advertised Tender Notice No. 187/E-Tender/STM/2019 Dated 04/12/2019 for tenders on E-procurement mode only, are invited by Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), Station Building, 1st Floor, Western Railway, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020 for Supply of the following Small Track Machines and Equipments as per relevant RDSO/Railways approved Drawings and specifications.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Short Description of Material For Manufacture & Supply of :	Value of Tender (Approx.) (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
1	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/267	Hydraulic Rail Tensor (Non infringing) 70 T Capacity	26,56,200/-	53,130/-
2	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/268	Hydraulic Rail Bender (Jim Crow)	3,12,000/-	6,240/-
3	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/269	Self Propelled Light Weight Motor Trolley (BG)	22,94,250/-	45,890/-
4	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/270	Powered Material Trolley	26,53,560/-	53,080/-
5	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/271	Weld Trimmer Power Pack Version	14,04,200/-	28,090/-
6	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/272	Rail Profile Weld Grinder	7,96,500/-	15,930/-
7	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/273	Abrasive Rail Cutter	23,75,991.36	47,520/-
8	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/274	Rail Cutting Wheel Abrasive Disc.	8,25,000/-	16,500/-
9	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/275	Rail Drilling Machine	12,93,516/-	25,880/-
10	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/276	Rail Cutting Machine Saw Type	12,78,648/-	25,580/-
11	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/277	Continuous Rail Thermometer	14,41,600/-	28,840/-
12	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/278	Electronic Toe Load Measuring Device	10,56,000/-	21,120/-
13	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/279	Hydraulic Track Jack 15T Capacity (Non Infringing Type)	6,71,500/-	13,430/-
14	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/280	Heavy Duty Hydraulic Extractor for Jammed ERCs (10T)	6,81,450/-	13,630/-
15	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/281	Hydraulic Sleeper	1,97,512/-	3,960/-
16	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/282	Box Type Gauge cum Level (BG) along with Spirit Level	3,00,150/-	6,010/-
17	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/283	Chamfering Kit (Manual)	5,50,000/-	11,000/-
18	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/284	Light Weight Rail (Mono) Cum Road Trolley	3,12,400/-	6,250/-
19	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/285	Gang/Worksite Remote Control Hooter	1,44,000/-	2,880/-
20	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/286	Magnetic Base Type Rail	1,31,100/-	2,630/-
21	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/287	Hydraulic Track Lifting cum Slewing Device (TRALIS) 15 TON Capacity	13,50,000/-	27,000/-
22	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/288	Motor Trolley Heavy Duty (Diesel) (BG) as per Specifications	18,00,000/-	36,000/-
23	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/289	a) PWI Kit Box (Model Kit) duly packed in Glass Fibre VIP, Safari or Similar Brief Case containing items as per list b) Check Rail Clearance gauge for Level Crossing duly Galvanised	4,02,608/-	8,060/-
24	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/290	Light weight Double ended Spanner	63,000/-	0 00
25	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/291	Jim Crow (Heavy Duty) Mechanical Type	3,15,000/-	6,300/-
26	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/292	Push Trolley (BG) Insulated with Umbrella	7,78,680/-	38,740/-
27	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/293	Rail Dolly (Insulated) with attachment for carrying sleepers	11,58,170/-	23,170/-
28	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/294	Dip Lorry (BG) (15 Tonne Capacity)	22,54,560/-	45,100/-
29	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/295	Mechanical Track Jack 15 tonne Lifting Capacity	16,06,237.50	32,130/-
30	WTR/S&C/TM/2019/296	Portable DC Welding Generator	30,40,919/-	60,820/-

Date and Time of Closing of Tender : For Sr. No. 1 to 10 - 31/12/2019, 11:00 Hrs. For Sr. No. 11 to 20 - 06/01/2020, 11:00 Hrs. and For Sr. No. 21 to 30 - 10/01/2020, 11:00 Hrs. Note : For detailed specification and Corrigendum if any, please visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
Like us on: [Facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

**Govt. of Bihar**  
**BIHAR LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, PATNA**  
**ANIMAL & FISHERIES RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**  
**Notice for Appointment of Consultant**

Bihar Livestock Development Agency, Dept. of Animal & Fisheries Resources, Govt. of Bihar invites applications for individual Sr. Consultant on Time based contract basis from candidates having the following qualifications and experiences under:

Qualification	Experience
B.V.Sc. & AH or equivalent/M.V.Sc with minimum 10 years of experience.	1. Candidate should have complete knowledge and adequate experience in Implementation of Various Livestock Development Programme & Scheme of Govt. Of Bihar & Govt. Of India. 2. The Consultant must have experience in Establishment and operation of Mega semen station such as supervisory capacity of construction of semen station, quarantine station, setting up of semen lab and QC Lab, health and feeding management of breeding bulls, budgeting, financial management and overall co-ordination.

The details Terms of Reference can be downloaded from the website [www.ahd.bih.nic.in](http://www.ahd.bih.nic.in). The last date for submission of the Application is 03.01.2020 till 3.00 PM.

The candidates who are meeting the requirements of qualifications and experience and are agreeable to the terms & conditions mentioned in the Terms of Reference are requested to submit their applications, along with bio data and copies of documents in support of their qualifications and experience, addressed to "The Project Director, Bihar Livestock Development Agency, Bihar Veterinary College Campus, PO. Bihar Veterinary College, Patna-800014".

BLDA reserves the right to annul the process of selection/appointment of individual consultant against this public notice at any time without assigning any reason.

**Project Director**  
Bihar Live Stock Development Agency  
PR. 11872 (Animal) 2019-20 बाल विवाह एवं दहेज से संबंधित सूचना डॉल क्रि नं. 18। पर दं।

**MAHARASHTRA STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LTD.**  
Prakashgad, 1st Floor, Plot No.9, Station Road, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400 051.  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/15- 2019-20**

Tenders are invited through e-Tendering in SRM System from the registered vendors for supply of following:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender
RFX No. 7000000785 SP/T-0512/1119- (Two Bid System) Procurement of 100MVA, 220/22-22KV, 3 Winding and 50MVA, 220/33KV Transformers along with New Uninhibited High Grade Mineral Insulating Oil for Augmentation Schemes under EHV PC O&M Zone, Vashi and Nagar Respective.	Rs. 1293.87 lakhs	30.12.2019 Up to 16:00 Hrs. 30.12.2019 at 15:00 Hrs.

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C)  
Tel. No. 022-26474211/022-26472131 Extn. 2493/2491.  
For further details visit our website <http://www.srm.tender.mahatransco.in>  
Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website [www.mahatransco.in](http://www.mahatransco.in). So bidders are requested to check the website.  
Sd/-  
DGIPR/2019/2020/3993 Executive Engineer (P&C)



Shirin Merchant at a dog training workshop in Delhi

# WHISPER TO YOUR DOG

Unruly, unhappy and aggressive pets can be a problem not just for the pet parents but also those around. **SHALINI SAKSENA** speaks with **SHIRIN MERCHANT**, the pet shrink, who busts myths and tells you how to understand what dogs are saying

*"Hello, is this the dog shrink?" the caller on the other end of the line demanded.*

*"Yes," dog shrink replied.*

*"You have to help me," the lady stated matter-of-factly. "Fendi is guarding the refrigerator and won't let us open it. If anyone goes close he gets very angry."*

*"Is there any reason he would need to guard it?" the shrink probed, her years of experience telling her that Fendi was the dog and not a visiting cousin.*

*It's his caviar. He loves it and doesn't want to share it with us."*

*A week after Fendi's owner called me, the shrink got another call.*

*"Hello, is this the dog shrink?" the lady drawled.*

*"Yes," the shrink sighed, knowing exactly who it was.*

*"We won't be needing your help," she said dismissively. "We have solved the problem."*

*"That's great!" the shrink replied, wondering what novel method of training they used to solve the problem. "What did you do?"*

*"It's simple," she said. "We bought him his own refrigerator. Now Fendi guards his own fridge and leaves ours alone. You may cancel our appointment. Thank you and good night."*

She was born into a family that had dogs. She grew up along with them. She has always loved animals, especially dogs. When she was in her early 20s, she met her mentor John Rogerson, who had come to India for a workshop. When she attended this session, with her pet, realising that it would change her life. She loved the session so much that she ended up meeting Rogerson, went to England to study and when she came back to India, she started her practice. Meet the country's dog shrink — Shirin Merchant.

What is a pet shrink or a dog behaviourist and how what he does is different from a vet? "Just like in the human world there are different professions, the same is true in the animal world. There is a dog nutritionist, a physiotherapist, a dog trainer and a vet who treats the animals and then there is the behaviourist. A behaviourist is a person who acts as a bridge between the pet and the humans and reduces the gap that exists between the species. He helps you to understand your pet and the problem the human is facing. A number of times the humans and the dog faces problems because they can't understand each other. Very often the pet parents have a problem because they can't understand what the dog wants since they don't speak dog language and the canine can't express what he is feeling since it is a dog. A behaviourist bridges the gap by explaining the canine behaviour and how to work around the problems to the pet parents. Typical issues that are faced by humans when it comes to their dog includes urinating inappropriately, destruction, fear and depression to name a few. He is a kind of a dog psychologist," Merchant explains.

She tells you that even though humans have been keeping pets for centuries, yet the need for a pet behaviourist has gone up. There is a reason for the same. "For centuries, we have been keeping dogs; for centuries villagers have been keeping dogs in the country. If one were to see villager with a dog, the pet will come when called, takes the cattle to the pastures, comes when it is hungry, walks for kilometers with the owner and doesn't need a leash. Yet the animal is the happiest. If you talk to a villager and mention trainer and behaviourist, he would have a blank look and want to know what the work would entail and that it is the most ridiculous profession under the sun. Today,

in the urban set-up, there are far more trainers and behaviourists than ever before. Yet we have more dogs that are abandoned and put up for adoption due to the pet's behaviour than ever before. This means that as pet parents, we are doing something that is seriously wrong.

"One of the reasons partly is why we keep a dog, to begin with. In the past, when people kept a dog, they were ready for it. Today, people keep a dog on a whim. 'I have a big house, let me keep a dog.' 'My child is lonely, let me get a dog. I want a bigger and fancier breed than my neighbour'. Research shows that we spend more time while looking for a car that we will buy and probably have only for three-four years than on an animal which will stay with them for more than 15 years. People don't give it much thought. They get the dog on a flimsy reason. Then they realise that the pet is far more of a responsibility. When they realise they can't cope and that is when the dog is put up for adoption. Also, there are so many people around them and they feel that they can be roped in to look after the dog," Merchant says.

Let's take the Husky. She tells you that there is a need to choose the right breed as well and this is not applicable to India. Everyone wants to keep a foreign dog. This is truer in the Indian scenario. Everyone wants an exotic looking dog. There is no denying that is a beautiful looking dog. "But it is not fit for the Indian weather. It is not just the coat. The Husky has a double coat to protect it from the freezing temperatures. I see the Husky from the point of view of what it was made to do. It was not bred to sit at home and taken for two walks on a leash. The Husky was made to pull the sleigh in the freezing temperature. If one can't give the environment in which it was supposed to be, there is a difference between a dog thriving and a dog surviving. When we choose a breed, we must choose what suits our environment and lifestyle. When people say that they want to keep a Dalmatian, I tell them no. The animal was made to run. The dog loves to run. It won't die, if it doesn't run, but then again the survive and thrive rule applies here as well," Merchant says.

She opines that one of the reasons why some dogs act up is because they don't get the environment that they are genetically bred for.



THERE ARE CERTAIN SIGNS THAT ONE CAN PICK UP WHEN THE DOG IS STRESSED. SLEEPING A LOT, SNIFFING THE GROUND, LICKING ITS PAWS, REFUSING TO EAT, YAWING A LOT, PANTING AND HYPER-ACTIVE BEHAVIOUR. LOOK FOR SITUATIONS THAT CAUSE STRESS AND ELIMINATE THEM

She tells you that people make the wrong choice when it comes to choosing the dog; they do so on the basis of how they look. "Some people say they want a small dog and keep a Beagle. But they forgot that the breed is a hound and needs twice the amount of mental exercise than most other dogs. We often refer to a dog having the best life ever since all he ever does is go for walks, eating, sleeping and having a little playtime. We have to understand that just because it is sleeping it is lucky. Dogs don't want this. These are working dogs and want to do something with their mind. When we don't give it this, it is just lying around. We don't give the dog a purpose to wake up everyday. Just like we plan our day," Merchant says.

If one has a dog, they already know what it loves. Take the dog for a drive, take it to meet the person they love. Day after, take it for an ice cream. Play a different game. This will make it want to wake up every day wanting to know what it will be doing that day. But don't do things that are not viable since they pet will be with you for years and years.

"Labradors love to swim. Take it to a place where they can do the same. Take the dog for a trek as a surprise. One can change the direction of the walk. Small things, just like we have in our lives that keeps us going. Not all pets requires the same kind of commitment. However, one has to be breed specific for certain dos and don'ts. If one has a sedentary lifestyle don't keep a dog that needs exercise. If you work from 8 am to 8 pm, don't get a dog at all. Dogs don't need a designer bed or a fancy home or money or aroma therapy baths. They need time from us, they want to play with us. The biggest dog give them time. Teach them manners, how to behave in the society and train it in a way that doesn't take away the trust it has put in you," Merchant says.

She doesn't agree that a dog should not be trained. Just like we teach a child to behave, they same way, we need to train the pet. "It is our responsibility to teach our pet manners. In order to train the pet, it has to be reward-based than aggressive tactics," Merchant says who doesn't mind when she is called the dog shrink.

She busts some myths. She tells you that it is not necessary for a dog to choose just one master and be loyal to him. "It is not true that a dog is loyal to just one person. If there are seven-eight, it depends who are invest-

ed in the dog's life. If all are invested, it will respond to all alike. But if there is only one person who feeds him, plays with him and trains him, it will be more invested in that person. The best part is that it doesn't affect the psyche of the dog. They are social animals and love to be with a larger group," Merchant says.

She tells you that aggression in dogs is due to certain situations since dogs are social animals. She tells you that Doberman is not necessarily an aggressive dog. It depends on his genetic make-up and how he has been trained. "I know and have come across many Dobermans who are the friendliest of the lot," Merchant says.

She tells you that dogs don't always understand everything that the human says. "They have been conditioned in a manner where they can pick up body language. They don't pick up just words, but cues and gestures as well and therefore some times they will come and nuzzle the human if the human is sad. But not all dogs will do the same, it may care less," Merchant says.

She points out that since each dog has its personality traits, there are certain points that one can pick up to understand what the dog wants or is feeling. "There are certain signs that one can pick up when the dog is stressed. Sleeping a lot, sniffing the ground, licking its paws, refusing to eat, yawning a lot, panting, hyper-active behaviour. These are some of the signs that one change in a dog's life. Look for situations that cause stress and then eliminate them," Merchant says.

In over two decades that Merchant has been a behaviourist, there was a case that was tough to handle. But it was more because of the human rather than the dog.

"A young girl had called saying that the dog had bitten off her face, her lip and the part of the thumb. Over the phone, the situation didn't sound very encouraging. But the lady kept insisting so I agreed to meet her. As we went through the consult. I found that the only time that the dog would bite was when the young person would hug the pet and disturb it when it was sleeping. The next week, the dog bit the girl again. I told her that she needed to change her behaviour. 'But she looks so cute while asleep' she said. Thankfully, daughter had got her mother who put her foot down. Luckily the daughter changed her behaviour and all was well, Merchant says.

## WANT TO LEARN DOG LANGUAGE? HERE'S HOW



**Professional Canine, Trainer Course**  
Have you always loved dogs and dreamed of a career working with them? This extensive course can help you turn your passion for pets into a profession.

**Professional Canine Behaviour Course**  
Have you ever wanted to help dogs that are struggling with fear, separation anxiety, toileting issues or even wondered what a dog's bark means? This course will teach you how to understand

canine behaviour better and how to help pet parents struggling with behaviour issues.

**Therapy Dog Course**  
Dogs have a way of cheering up anyone who is sad. If you have always wanted to spread some tail

wagging sunshine in this world, then Therapy Dog work maybe the happiest and most fulfilling work you will ever find in this world!

**Kenneling and Pet-sitting Course**  
Starting a dog kennel requires more than a place and an

affinity for dogs. A good kennel owner must have intricate knowledge of canine behaviour too. If you want to be known as the kennel that has the happiest, stress free dogs then this course will help you achieve that.

**Advanced Canine Aggression Course**  
Dog aggression is one of main problems faced by pet parents and dog behaviourists around the world. If you would like to understand and help biting dogs, then this course will show you

how to do it.  
**Understand Your Dog's Behaviour, Online Course**  
Want to learn dog training and behaviour from us but cannot travel? Online courses help you gain the knowledge.

# India look to seal series

Men in Blue will be eager to rectify bowling and fielding issues and wrap another series triumph

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

India will look for an improved show in the bowling and fielding departments to match their stupendous batting performance when they face the West Indies in the second game, eyeing to wrap up yet another T20 series here today.

In the last 13 months, India have played the West Indies in six T20Is with the hosts coming up trumps every single time.

A win today will not only help India seal their second series in the shortest format after beating Bangladesh 2-1 last month but also give them a chance to tests the fringe players as they continue their preparation for the T20 World Cup.

India pulled off their highest successful run chase in a T20I on Friday night as they chased down a challenging 207 for 5, posted by the Windies, in 18.4 overs.

If KL Rahul set the platform with a 40-ball 62, skipper Virat Kohli finished the job with a career-best 94 not out.

Rahul looked in sublime touch as he made a case for himself with his well-compiled half-century after being promoted to open in the absence of the injured Shikhar Dhawan.

The Karnataka batsman became the third fastest man to complete 1,000 runs in T20 internationals in 29 innings on way to his half-century and he will look to continue his good run.

Underfire Rishabh Pant too produced two big sixes before being



Indian skipper Virat Kohli, right, and his West Indian counterpart Kieron Pollard react during toss in 1st Twenty 20 game in Hyderabad ICC/Twitter

holed out at long off and the wicket-keeper batsman, who has come under the scanner for his inconsistent form with the bat and poor glove work, will look to grab such opportunities more often.

While the batting led by Kohli put up a good show, the bowlers found themselves at the receiving end of some power-hitting by Evin Lewis,

Shimron Hetmyer and captain Kieron Pollard.

Deepak Chahar, who was impressive in the preceding series against South Africa and Bangladesh, found the going tough as the West Indian batsman went after him. He took one wicket but gave away 54 runs and he will look to execute things better today.

Returning to the side's T20 setup, Bhuvneshwar Kumar went wicketless, bleeding 36 runs in his four overs but the weakest link in India's bowling seems to be Washington Sundar, who has failed to provide the breakthroughs, claiming just two wickets in his last six games.

The 20-year-old from Chennai got the stick from the Windies batsmen

and it remains to be seen if India sticks to the same bowling unit or brings in wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav.

In the fielding department too, India were far from impressive with Sundar and Rohit Sharma dropping a few catches apart from numerous misfields and the hosts will look to quickly pull up their socks.

The Windies, on the other hand, will be desperate to bounce back and keep the series alive but for that they will have to find a way to stop the Indian batsmen, led by Kohli.

The visiting team's bowlers appeared clueless as Kohli went on the overdrive in Hyderabad.

Pacer Keskrick Williams conceded 60 runs from 3.4 overs and would be lucky to keep a place in the playing XI on Sunday.

Skipper Kieron Pollard would want the experienced Jason Holder (46/0) and Sheldon Cottrell (1/24) to provide wickets in the initial overs to stymie a formidable Indian batting unit.

The visitors also gave away 23 runs in extras, an area which needs immediate attention if they have to put India under pressure.

The Windies captain admitted that his side failed to execute its plans properly and would hope for an improved performance if they have to take the series to the decider and avenge their 0-3 loss to the same opponent in their own backyard in August.



KL Rahul bats during India's nets session BCC/Twitter

## Relaxed KL wants to make most of opportunities

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Handed a chance to open the innings for India in the T20I series against the West Indies, star player KL Rahul said he is looking to make the most of the opportunities but doesn't want to worry about sealing his T20 World Cup berth.

The India team is continuing its preparations for next year's T20 World Cup and many players, whose places are not yet secured, are trying to impress the selectors with their performances against the West Indies.

Rahul, who was promoted as an opener in the absence of injured Shikhar Dhawan, grasped the chance with both hands by scoring a 40-ball 62 to help India record their highest successful run chase on Friday.

"It's (T20 World Cup) a long way honestly. I have got the opportunity to bat top of the order again after a couple of series, so looking forward to just making the best use of it," Rahul said at the post match press conference.

"Today was a good outing, good hit in the middle and hopefully I can continue the same thing without worrying about October next year. There are a lot of games before that."

The 27-year-old stylish batsman from Karnataka said despite both the teams scoring 200 plus runs, the wicket on offer at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium here wasn't the easiest wicket to bat.

"The wicket wasn't bad, both teams scored 200 plus and we chased it in 19 overs but it wasn't the easiest wicket to bat on," Rahul said.

India won the game by six wickets but they were far from impressive on the field with Rohit Sharma and Washington Sundar dropping a few catches.

Rahul said for a fielder it

## Bowlers lacked discipline & execution: Pollard

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

West Indies captain Kieron Pollard lauded his batsmen for putting up a good show but came down hard on the bowlers for failing to defend 200-plus score against India in the first T20.

"I think we batted pretty well. We scored above 200 runs which more often than not you take that. But discipline in bowling and execution let us down tonight," Pollard said at the post-match press conference.

"We gave 23 extras, 14 or 15 of those wide deliveries, so when you look at that, those were extra balls and extra overs. When you give a class team like India these many extra deliveries, you are destined for trouble."

"No balls are something we stress on in terms of non-negotiable and we bowled a couple of them tonight. It's something we need to look on."

It wasn't easy to pick the ball with low flood lights at the ground here.

"I don't think it's the dimensions of the ground, I think the lights are pretty low and sometimes you lose the ball in that light and that's what happened a couple of times," he said.

"We have played here before, we have played here for years so we knew what to expect. As a team we don't complain about things like these, it's not in our control."

## SINGLES

### TRAILBLAZER'S SATNAM FAILS DOPE TEST

**NEW DELHI:** Satnam Singh Bhamara, the first Indian player to be drafted into an NBA team in 2015, has been provisionally suspended by the National Anti-Doping Agency after he failed a dope test last month. The 23-year-old Punjab cager has failed an out-of-competition test conducted in Bangalore by NADA during the preparatory camp for the South Asian Games. He was provisionally suspended on November 19. The prohibited substance found from Bhamara's 'A' sample of his urine is not known. Bhamara, however, disputed the charge levelled against him and said that he "was and remains a clean" athlete. In a statement issued on Saturday, the 23-year-old Bhamara said he has requested the NADA for a hearing by its Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel and to decide his case within three months.

### LAUNCH OF NEW WC VENUE POSTPONED

**DOHA:** Qatar has postponed to next year the opening of Education City stadium, its second newly built venue for the 2022 football World Cup, FIFA said on Saturday. The venue was due to be inaugurated when it hosted the semi-final of the Club World Cup between Liverpool and an as yet undetermined side on December 18. But delays to the certification of the stadium by the authorities will mean that the fixture will instead be played at Khalifa International Stadium which was already due to host several Club World Cup fixtures. Education City will now be opened in 2020 although the world football governing body did not give an exact date.

### FAWAD RECALLED AFTER 10 YEARS

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan has recalled 34-year-old middle-order batsman Fawad Alam for the first time in 10 years for the Test series against Sri Lanka. Chief selector and head coach Misbah-ul-Haq said on Saturday that the left handed batsman was selected because of his recent prolific scoring in domestic cricket. The series, which is part of ICC's World Test Championship, starts at Rawalpindi next Wednesday. Karachi will host the second test from Dec. 19-23. Alam is one of the two changes Pakistan selectors have made from the 16-man squad that lost the two-Test matches against Australia. Alam has replaced Ifthikhar Ahmed while left arm fast bowler Usman Shinwari comes in in place of young fast bowler Mohammad Musa.

### PLAY CANCELLED IN DANGEROUS PITCH

**MELBOURNE:** Play was abandoned on Saturday during a domestic game due to a dangerous pitch at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, just weeks before it is due to host the traditional Boxing Day Test. A decision to call off play was made on day one of the Sheffield Shield clash between Victoria and Western Australia after several batsmen were hit by rising deliveries. It followed talks between the umpires and captains Peter Handscomb and Shaun Marsh. Marsh was among those to be battered multiple times by balls from fast bowlers that rose sharply and unexpectedly on the lively pitch. One that caught Marcus Stoinis in the ribs proved the final straw.

### ATK END NORTHEASTS UNBEATEN RUN

**GUWAHATI:** ATK reclaimed the top spot in the Indian Super League with an impressive 3-0 win over NorthEast United FC on Saturday. An early strike from David Williams (11th) and a brace from Roy Krishna (35th, 90+4) were enough for Antonio Habas' team to hand NorthEast their first defeat of the season. With Saturday's double strike, Krishna took his goal tally to six to become the leading goal scorer in the season. With their fourth win of the campaign, ATK have now 14 points from seven matches while NorthEast, who have 10 points, are at fourth spot. Today, Three points will be the top priority for a Hyderabad FC when they host FC Goa at the GMC Balayogi Athletic Stadium. Hyderabad with just four points from six games, can leapfrog a couple of teams if they manage to upset the Gaurs. AGENCIES

## The good work has just started: Stimac



Igor Stimac instructs during India's practice session IFT

**NEW DELHI:** It was in May earlier this year that Croatian Igor Stimac was appointed as the head coach of the Indian National Team and on Friday, he assessed his time in India till now and looked back at his tenure so far with the Blue Tigers in a live Q&A session on Facebook.

Stimac stated that "he already feels like home" in the country and stated that there is already a marked difference in the quality of football played by his side.

"We have just started our work in the last six months," he said. "There is a great difference now in the quality of our game and one can look at the statistics and facts to see it. For example, we now have seven players who can cover over 12,000 metres in a match, including 1,000 metres of sprints."

"We have had a great few games and some tough ones as well. The toughest games are where you are considered favourites and now I can easily say that India has become a team that is difficult to beat. We need to mature our game and continue putting in quality work in order to keep moving forward."

The Head Coach pointed out the improved defensive record of the Blue Tigers, citing the number of goals conceded in the first five FIFA World Cup 2022 qualifiers.

Stimac's tenure has seen a number of players take their senior team bows, with a significant portion of them establishing themselves as regular names on the Indian team sheet. The Croat shared his point of view on team selection and stressed on the importance of consistency in a player's performance.

"I do not see if a player is young or old — for me, it's either good or not good enough. The door is open to everyone. There are 11 players in the starting line-up & 23 on the team-sheet. The best performers will get a chance but they have to be consistent. The good performance needs to be maintained for the whole season and there needs to be a degree of continuity."

The Head Coach also shed light on the work being done off the pitch as well and spoke about the plans for the near future, including friendly matches for the national team in Europe. "Not many people know what we are working on when there are no games. I have dedicated myself a million percent into the job. It's not just about choosing 23 players and having training sessions," he said.

"A lot of work has been done in the last six months and so many meetings have taken place with everyone involved in the Indian football family. Preparing players is a long process. We are doing good work and it goes at a certain speed. However, other countries are also working and we need to speed up and all push together in the same direction. With our efforts, we can get there," he maintained. PNS

## Anderson, Bairstow back for SA tour

AFP ■ LONDON

James Anderson was recalled by England on Saturday for their upcoming tour of South Africa after recovering from a calf injury, while his fellow bowler Mark Wood and wicketkeeper Jonny Bairstow also returned to the squad.

The 37-year-old Anderson, England's all-time leading wicket-taker, last played internationally in the first Ashes Test against Australia at Edgbaston in August before pulling up after bowling only four overs.

Bairstow, who has played 69 Tests, was left out of the recent Test tour of New Zealand but was named in the 17-man squad.

Fast bowler Wood is also back in the fold after sitting out of the 2-2 Ashes draw with a knee injury and side strain suffered during England's victorious World Cup campaign.

"It is not predicted that Mark (Wood) will be available for selection for the earliest matches," said England national selector Ed Smith.

"However, he will travel with the team and continue his rehab work with the medical staff on tour."

"There is no exact date given for his return, but the medical team is working towards him becoming fully available for selection during the tour."

Smith confirmed that off-spinner Moeen Ali remains unavailable after asking to take a break from Test cricket.

The opening match of the four-Test series starts on December 26 at Centurion.

Uncapped seamer Saqib Mahmood missed out after being part of the squad in New Zealand.

**Squad:** Joe Root (capt), James Anderson, Jofra Archer, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Joe Denly, Jack Leach, Matthew Parkinson, Ollie Pope, Dominic Sibley, Ben Stokes, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood.

## 'My best year' ever: Hamilton

AFP ■ LONDON

Six-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton rates the 2019 season as "the best" of his decorated career, on and off the circuit.

The 34-year-old Mercedes driver reflected on his stunning season in Paris before Friday's FIA awards ceremony.

"It has been the best year I would say of my career. I am really proud of what we have achieved as a team," said Hamilton, who is now just one title shy of the record seven world championships held by Michael Schumacher.

The season concluded in Abu Dhabi last Sunday with Hamilton winning his 11th race of the campaign and the 84th of his career.

Despite his repeated brilliance behind the wheel he said it was his life off the track that had made 2019 all that more special.

"The season as a whole was as strong as the last I can remember. "More so from the outside, just being happier. "Happier in collaboration with the team, in terms of team work, the doors that I have opened in terms of doing fashion that I have been well received and accepted."

Hamilton has one year left on his contract with Mercedes before he has to decide whether to end his career with the German team or take up a new challenge at Ferrari.

## War erupts in AICF on Barua's charges

NAVIN UPADHYAY ■ NEW DELHI

A war has erupted in the All Indian Chess Federation (AICF) after its President PR Venketrama Raja on Saturday served a showcause notice on the Federation's all-powerful secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan for committing some technical irregularity in decision-making. Obviously, the Raja faction has hit back on Chauhan for siding with Grandmaster Dibyendu Barua in his crusade to clean up the affairs of West Bengal chess.

Barua had accused West Bengal chess association secretary Atanu Lahiri of engaging in corruption and diverting state fund for chess promotion to his (Lahiri's) company Global Chess. Barua had also accused Lahiri of banning several top players for criticizing his handling of the chess affairs.

While Chauhan sided with Barua and chess players, Raja formed three-member committee to probe Barua's charges. Interestingly, he kept Chauhan outside the committee though as per AICF constitution Secretary has to be part of all such committees.

Barua has objected to the composition of the probe committee contending that in-house committee can never fairly probe alleged misconduct of another office-bearer of the Federation. Incidentally, Lahiri is joint secretary of the AICF.

As apprehended by Barua and Chauhan, the three-member committee gave clean chit to Lahiri and authorized him to conduct the election of the state chess association. Barua approached the Kolkata High Court against the order. In a major setback to the AICF, the court appointed two administrators to conduct the elections.

Meanwhile, in another major embarrassment for the Raja faction of the AICF, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) found that Lahiri had submitted fake utilization certification of a national event organized by the state association. SAI found that the signature of the chartered account was forged. It asked the AICF to look into the matter and take appropriate action.

In view of the SAI directive, Raja referred the matter to the same committee which had given clean chit to Lahiri and also asked Chauhan to attend its meeting on December 5, Chauhan refused to attend the meeting, asked for setting up a new committee, and suggested that the AICF should file a FIR for faking the utilization certificate.

In his letter to Raja, Chauhan also pointed out that he had raised the issue of the forged utilization certificate in the past but nothing was done against Lahiri.

Irked by Chauhan's defiance, Raja had now acted against the Secretary, triggering a full-scale war within the AICF. Chauhan enjoys majority support in the Federation and could count on the backing of most leading chess players. He has convened a meeting of the general body of the Federation on December 22 when he could announce the date of the next election of the office bearers.

When contacted by The Pioneer, Chauhan said he would not comment on the development, but he can confirm that he has received a show cause letter from the President.

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TEMP. CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (E/M), U.P. JAL NIGAM, MORADABAD. SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE Letter No. 3469 / Nivida / 221 Dated: 06.12.2019**

E-Tenders are being invited for Construction of 02 Nos. Tubewell 350x200 mm dia 120 M deep by rig machine R.C. 600/27 in Amroha Reog. Water Supply Scheme Distt. Amroha on behalf of U.P. Jal Nigam. The tender document shall be available at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from dated 10.12.2019 at 10:00 am onwards interested contractor can download the above tender document and upload their tender duly filled in form dated 10.12.2019 to 19.12.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs in above e-procurement website. First cover (Technical) Shall be opened on dated 20.12.2019 at 11:30 am in the office of the Office of The Executive Engineer Temp. Construction Division (E/M), U.P. Jal Nigam, Moradabad in presence of indenting tenderers if any. Tender cost Rs. 2000.00+18% GST (Non-refundable) in form of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer Temp. Construction Division (E/M) U.P. Jal Nigam Moradabad will be uploaded with tender. Other terms and condition can also be seen on U.P. Jal Nigam website [www.upjn.org](http://www.upjn.org) and e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> in tender document.

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY	
TENDER NOTICE No. 32/19 dt. 06.12.19	
SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS e-Procurement Tender Notice	
56.19.5233	24 Fiber Armoured optical fiber cable
81.19.6088	Compressed Oxygen
30.19.2431	Lower spring beam
90.19.1164	M.S. Flats Steel Size 45X6 mm
90.19.1041A	I.S. Equal Leg Angles 40X40X6mm
3019.1257	Escorts shock absorbers
33.19.1331	Double Sealed window
30.19.3505	Dual flush valve

**Note:-Due dates of Tender Opening: S.Nos. 01 on 17.12.19 (has been postponed from 04.12.19 as per AT Notice No. 28/19). S.No.02 on 31.12.19; S.Nos. 03 to 05 on 02.01.2020; S.Nos. 06 to 08 on 08.01.20.**

Beside above mentioned tenders there are other tenders having value below Rs. 25 lakhs. For details, please visit Railway website above.

**Principal Chief Materials Manager/ A1977 Secunderabad**

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in> or [www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in)

# Vitality with Liverpool

Ox, Keita & Salah score on return as Reds go 11 points clear at the top

**AFP ■ LONDON**  
Rampant Liverpool beat Bournemouth 3-0 to lock down the Christmas number one spot ahead of Manchester derby as Jose Mourinho's Tottenham blitzed Burnley 5-0 to climb to fifth in table. Interim boss Duncan Ferguson lifted Everton's spirits, condemning Chelsea to their third Premier League defeat in four matches while bottom club Watford battled to a goalless draw against Crystal Palace.



Naby Keita, second left, celebrates Liverpool second goal against Bournemouth

Liverpool took advantage of playing before their closest rivals to widen the gap at the top of the table to 11 points, meaning they cannot be caught by December 25. Jurgen Klopp, mindful of a fixture pile-up for his side, made seven changes from the 5-2 midweek victory against Everton, with Sadio Mane dropping to the bench and

Alisson Becker back in goal following suspension. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain opened the scoring for the European champions in the 35th



minute after poking home Jordan Henderson's long ball, moments after Bournemouth defender Nathan Ake left the pitch injured. Liverpool made it 2-0 just before the break when Naby Keita played a fine one-two with Mohamed Salah and finished from close range,

with Keita turning provider for Salah in the 54th minute.

**SON STUNNER**

Spurs lost their first match under new boss Mourinho at Old Trafford in midweek but flew out of the blocks at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Saturday.

Harry Kane put them ahead with his 14th goal of the season in the fourth minute and Spurs doubled their lead when Lucas Moura tapped home at the far post following a goalmouth scramble.

Son Heung-min added a third with a brilliant solo effort shortly after the half-hour, running from deep in his own half before slotting past goalkeeper Nick Pope.

Kane made it 4-0 in the 54th minute with his second goal of the game and turned provider for Moussa Sissoko to score Spurs' fifth.

Spurs are still six points behind fourth-placed Chelsea but will fancy their chances of closing the gap on their London rivals, who are stumbling after a six-game winning run earlier in the season.

Everton made it a miserable day for Frank Lampard thanks to an early strike from Brazil forward Richarlison and two goals from England under-21 international Dominic Calvert-Lewin.

Mateo Kovacic scored his first Premier League goal to pull the score back to 2-1 but the Toffees wrapped up victory six minutes from time, Calvert-Lewin latching on to a loose ball in the box to finish underneath Kepa Arrizabalaga.

Watford, who appointed former Leicester boss Nigel Pearson as their new manager on Friday, were unable to force their second win of the season, drawing 0-0 with Crystal Palace.

# Inter-Roma play goalless draw

**AFP ■ MILAN**

Inter Milan were held to a goalless draw by Roma at the San Siro on Friday, leaving the way open for Italian champions Juventus to reclaim top spot in Serie A this weekend.

Antonio Conte's side have a two-point advantage on Juventus who play Lazio at the Stadio Olimpico.

The match in the San Siro had been overshadowed by a racism storm after Italian sports daily *Corriere dello Sport's* controversial "Black Friday" headline.

The front-page headline accompanied an article about the first Serie A meeting between former Manchester United teammates Romelu Lukaku and Chris Smalling.

On the pitch, defender Smalling and Gianluca Mancini stifled Inter's prolific strike duo Lukaku and Lautaro Martinez, who between them have scored 18 of their team's goals in 15 league games this season.

Conte's side proved toothless in attack against a well-organised Roma, failing to find the net for the first time this season, days before their Champions League clash against



Chris Smalling and Romelu Lukaku battle for ball possession



Barcelona. "The great merit of Roma is having stopped Lautaro-Lukaku," said coach Paulo Fonseca. Lukaku, Marcelo Brozovic and Matias Vecino all missed chances for the hosts as Roma snatched a precious point to move fourth and into the Champions League places.



Ramy Bensebaini scores Borussia M'gladbach first goal against Bayern Munich

# Gladbach comeback to beat Bayern 2-1

**AFP ■ BERLIN**

Bayern Munich dropped to sixth after Ramy Bensebaini's injury time penalty fired Bundesliga leaders Borussia Moenchengladbach to a 2-1 win over the reigning champions on Saturday.

A second straight league loss puts pressure on Hansi Flick, who has been put in charge until January and was tipped to see out the season as interim boss after winning his first five games.

Bayern, now seven points adrift in the title race, went ahead at Borussia Park when Ivan Perisic fired home just after the break, but defender Bensebaini headed Gladbach level with an hour gone.

The Algerian then struck his decisive stoppage-time penalty after Bayern's Javi Martinez was sent off for a second yellow card.

There were wild scenes of celebrations from home fans at the final whistle of a game Bayern dominated for long stretches.

Elsewhere, RB Leipzig stay second after their 3-1 home win against Hoffenheim as Timo Werner grabbed the opener, then netted a second-half penalty to leave the Germany striker with 15 league goals this season.

Midfielder Marcel Sabitzer scored Leipzig's late third goal before defender Erim Bicakcic pulled back a consolation goal for Hoffenheim just before the whistle.

Borussia Dortmund eased the pressure on coach Lucien Favre to go third with a 5-0 home romp against Fortuna Duesseldorf, who drop into the bottom three, as England winger Jadon Sancho and club captain Marco Reus both scored twice.

# Madrid go green in Espanyol win

**AFP ■ MADRID**

Real Madrid were without Eden Hazard and Gareth Bale on Saturday but Karim Benzema stepped up again to ensure they beat struggling Espanyol in La Liga.

Benzema scored one and set up another in a 2-0 win at the Santiago Bernabeu, where Madrid wore an all-green kit to show support for this week's Climate Summit in the city.

Victory means Zinedine Zidane's side move to the top of the table, for a few hours at least, before Barcelona play later at home to Real Mallorca. Espanyol, who have not won now in six league games, stay 19th.

An ankle injury is likely to rule Hazard out of the season's first Clasico on December 18 while Bale has a thigh problem and is also a concern ahead of that crunch game at Camp Nou.

But another excellent Benzema display will at least be of some consolation, after he teed up Raphael Varane before scoring his 15th goal this term to put Espanyol out of sight.

Increasingly it looks like the winner of the Clasico will spend the Christmas break first in the table, with the top two pulling away from the likes of Atletico Madrid, who drew again away at Villarreal on Friday night.



Raphael Varane celebrates after scoring

Sevilla, in third, are four points behind Real Madrid before they travel to Osasuna today.

The absence of Hazard and Bale meant Rodrygo came in on the right of the front three while Vinicius Junior was given a rare chance to stake a claim on the left.

Vinicius' last start came in the defeat to Mallorca on October 19 and the 19-year-old, who has been out of favour under Zidane, impressed with a daring and dynamic performance.

He may now be given another outing against Club Brugge in the Champions League on Wednesday, when Madrid are likely to rest key players given their qualification as runners-up is already guaranteed.



Narendra Modi Prime Minister

## INTERNATIONAL GITA MAHOTSAV

November 23 - December 10, 2019  
Kurukshetra, Haryana

### CLOSING CEREMONY

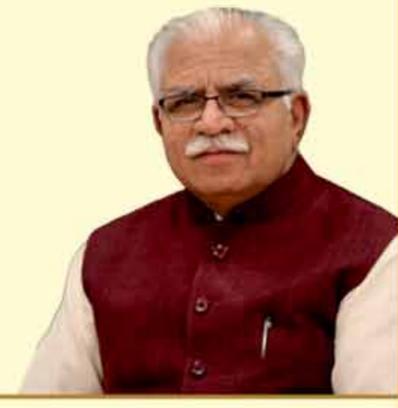
December 8, 2019

Chief Guest  
**Manohar Lal**  
Chief Minister, Haryana

Guests of Honour  
**Baby Rani Maurya**  
Governor of Uttarakhand

**Nilamber Acharya**  
Ambassador of Nepal to India

PROGRAMME		
9:00 AM	Jyotisar - The Birthplace of Gita	Gita Yajna Purnahuti
11:00 AM	Theme Park, Kurukshetra	Recital of Ashtadash Shloki Gita by 18,000 Students
11:00 AM	Purushottampura Baag, Brahma Sarovar	Cultural Programme by North Zone Cultural Centre
12:00 PM	Theme Park, Kurukshetra and Jyotisar Tirth	Global Gita Chanting
2:00 PM	In front of KDB Office (Departure Venue)	Gita Shobha Yatra
5:00 PM	Cultural Pandal, Mela Ground, Brahma Sarovar	Vrindavan Phoolon ki Holi - Cultural Performance & Performance by Renowned Punjabi Singer Satinder Sartaaaj
5:30 PM	Brahma Sarovar	Water Laser Show
6:00 PM	Purushottampura Baag, Brahma Sarovar	Gita Maha Aarti and Deepdaan



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Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana  
 www.prharyana.gov.in



# 'I went on long spiritual break'

**How has the year been?**  
I started the year with *Sonchiriya*. It was a matter of pride to be a part of a classic film. I feel that it is not only the best film by Abhishek Chaudhary, but also the best film of my career. Then *The Family Man* happened. It was again a wonderful project that took everyone by surprise. I never thought that a web series could

create such a buzz not only in India but abroad too. Then I was conferred with the Padma Shri. Getting awarded at the President's house was an overwhelming experience. I have made new fans. The year was wonderful and I couldn't have asked for more. It was filled with lots of joy and achievements.

**What made you say yes to *The Family Man*?**

I had so many offers for web series, but somehow any of them didn't sit well with me. I wanted to make my debut in the digital platform with something that is unique. When I was offered *The Family Man*, I felt that is something which is not there on any platform.

Also, there were young and modern directors on board — Raj Nidimoru and Krishna DK whom I really wanted to work with. I was actually waiting for a project like this to make my debut in the digital space.

**I HAD MANY OFFERS FOR WEB SERIES, BUT SOMEHOW ANY OF THEM DIDN'T SIT WELL WITH ME. I WANTED TO MAKE MY DEBUT IN THE DIGITAL PLATFORM WITH SOMETHING THAT IS UNIQUE. WHEN I WAS OFFERED THE FAMILY MAN, I FELT THAT THIS IS IT**

**Did you feel any difference in working in films and digital media?**

Definitely. When you are shooting 10 episodes, it is like shooting four-five films. It is not at all easy. A positive difference that I felt was that an actor gets a chance to explore dif-

ferent dimensions of his role which one can't do in films. This in itself is heartening. Having said that, it also throws a lot of challenges. If you are not able to give your 500 per cent, work for long hours and break your limitations then it is very difficult to survive in this space.

**You were awarded at the Asia Pacific Screen Awards, what was that for?**

It was the Best Actor award and I have won it for the second time. This time it was for my upcoming film *Bhonsale*. This year, I was the only Indian actor to have been nominated for the award. If someone is representing their country at such a big platform, it is a matter of pride and honour. You feel a sense of responsibility sitting in the hall and waiting. You are respected and regarded for your work so you not only feel good as an actor but also as a person.

**Apart from your work what else kept you busy this year?**

After completing the shoot for *The Family Man*, I took a long break from acting. It was a much needed

spiritual break. I went on a spiritual journey. I was always inclined towards spirituality but I was not getting time for it so this year I finally decided to make time for it. After these 10 months, I felt so relaxed and refreshed. I learnt meditation and other spiritual techniques. Now I back and I am shooting for *The Family Man Season 2*. After this I will be shooting for three films back to back which I can't talk much about right now. It was so heartening to see people waiting for me to get back to work.

**How do you pick and choose your projects?**

I go with my gut feeling. I read the script and if it's engaging enough, I go for it. I don't think too much about the amount of work that the director has done or look at the production house. I just go by the script.

**A best and worst moment in the industry.**

The best moment was when *Satya* (1998) got released. I don't think that anything else can be compared to that. It was the kind

of film which was not getting made back then. My character Bhiku Mahatre became such a rage.

My worst moments are those when I wanted to work but there were offers that I didn't like and I have to sit at home. But, then also I was not sitting idle. I was doing one thing or the other quite wisely.

**One change that you would like to see in the industry?**

There are many. I want this industry to become much more organised. The working hours should be thought upon and regulated. And there should be transparency in the distribution system.

**What are you looking forward to in 2020?**

I am looking forward to my films and my daughter's summer vacations. I want to more work because the 10-month break has given me ample time with myself and now I just want to dedicate myself to work.

**Talktime**  
MANOJ BAJPAYEE  
Having shown his acting skills in films like *Gangs of Wasypur* and *Aligarh*, Bajpayee made his digital debut with *The Family Man*. He speaks with Musba Hashmi about his 10-month break and expectations in 2020

# Colouring Delhi alive

MUSBA HASHMI speaks with YOGESH SAINI, the brain behind the beautiful paintings on the Capital's walls, about how he came up with the idea

Birds, trees, faces and what not. Once in a while we all must have walked past these beautiful paintings on walls and pillars under the flyovers of Delhi-NCR and wondered who made them and why? Meet Yogesh Saini, an engineer-turned-artist who founded the Delhi Street Art, an initiative that brings together artists and volunteers to clean and paint parts of the Capital.

Art always interested Saini and may be this was it that brought him back to his motherland.

"I was living in the US for over 20 years, but it was only around six and a half years back that I decided to return to Delhi. The reason to come back was primarily a personal one rather than professional. After returning back, I was looking for things that I can venture into in the country. I was always passionate about colours and art, but the idea struck me only when I was roaming in Lodhi Garden and thought that how the public places in our country, Delhi in particular, lacked colours. It all started with picking up the usual and boring garbage cans and giving them a new look, not only to draw more public attention towards them, but to also set an example that anything can be your canvas if you have an artistic mind," Saini tells you.

Since then Saini's team is not only painting and redoing different areas for the better in Delhi-NCR but in other cities too. "Till date we have beautified the walls of almost 15-20 cities in India. Mumbai, Bangalore, Pune, Bhopal, Shimla and Lucknow to name a few," he tells you.

The idea behind each and every painting is derived from its vicinity. "The walls that we pick ourselves we try to keep it relevant to its local context. Be it a school, a basti or any other public space, we just try to incorporate all the elements that are relevant to the audience of that place. If a particular community is living in a place we ask for their advice of what would they like to see on the walls and accordingly we paint it. If a client has given us a project then we play with his ideas and come up with designs," he says.

The type of colours and duration



Yogesh Saini

**THE WALLS THAT WE PICK OURSELVES, WE TRY TO KEEP IT RELEVANT TO ITS LOCAL CONTEXT. BE IT A SCHOOL, A BASTI OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC SPACE. WE INCORPORATE ALL THE ELEMENTS THAT ARE RELEVANT TO THE AUDIENCE OF THAT PLACE**



Colourful artwork in one of Delhi's basti

of completing the work depends upon the kind of walls that are being painted. The walls with simpler designs can be finished in a couple of days with a team of three to five people. Even the kind of colours and techniques depend on the type of design one wants to create. "All the paintings are hand-made only, but there are different techniques to paint. One can use rollers or com-

pressors or even utensils, depending upon the design one wants to make. Exterior wall paints have been extensively used in painting Delhi-NCR's walls. For metallic surfaces, oil pastels are widely used," Saini tells you.

However as easy as it may sound, there are certain challenges in everything one does. "I don't see them as challenges, but minor issues that need

to be tackled. Once we were painting a busy flyover in Ahmedabad, the challenge over there was running traffic all the time and the height was around 20 feet so we had to take a lot of safety measures as well. Then the other issue was during the day time the temperatures were high, therefore we had to complete a lot of work during the night itself. There are certain places where getting the access to becomes difficult, mainly in the slums. But, all of these are surmountable problems," he says.

Saini's work earned him Prime Minister Narendra Modi's praise too in one of the episodes of *Mann Ki Baat*. "It was surreal for us and came as a huge encouragement for the whole team. We never looked forward to any kind of awards or recognition and the Prime Minister's words of praise came as a surprise to us," he recalls.

Next big thing on Saini's cards is to paint the BIG FM's office in New Delhi and the whole team looks forward to it. "We are looking forward to this association. We will try to bring in the flavours of Delhi in BIG FM's New Delhi's office. We will try to showcase the heritage of the Capital on the walls and make it a colourful and pleasant space for the entire team," he says and tells you that there are other ongoing projects as well including the work in the jails and slums of Delhi and also some corporate projects too.

There is still a long way to go for Saini. Since many walls of Delhi-NCR has been painted, but not all, Saini thinks that the people should start giving a little bit more attention to the environment and should come forward and talk about the large scale need of beautifying the surroundings.

"We have construction projects that are lying since February. We have newly built flyovers where half the construction material is left behind by the contractors and no one is bothered about it. If only people start paying attention to even the smallest things in their surroundings, we can have a better future. Instead of questioning others, we have to start thinking that what can I do as an individual to improve my surroundings. Only this can make a difference in the near future," he says.

# 'People need to talk about air pollution'



Singer, song-writer and composer ROHAN SOLOMON just released a song about Delhi's pollution. He speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about why he chose to do so, his future projects and musical journey

**Why a song on Delhi's pollution?**

Why not. Our city is in a bad state. I just got back from the US and as soon as I walked out of the airport, I could smell the pollution. I've only been back one day and I can feel the wheezing creeping up in my lungs. We are in dire need of an ecological clean up. Every citizen must play their part by spreading the word and taking some action. The only way I know how to do that is by writing songs. More people need to be writing about this.

**Do you think a song would have an impact?**

There is definitely potential of a song having an impact on people. One can never know which song is going to click with people. Let's take a look at some examples. *Man in the mirror* by Michael Jackson and *Imagine* by John Lennon. These are two of the most powerful and meaningful songs in history. They both have a great message and managed to touch the hearts of millions of people. All it takes is the right message to connect with a person.

**How did your journey begin?**

I have been obsessed with music since I was three years old. I used to listen to a lot of Michael Jackson, Jackson 5 and Beatles records on my family's old LP player. I never knew how to sing or play any instrument at that time, but the music was always calming to me. At the age of 12, my cousin taught me a few chords on the piano and guitar and taught me the formula for chords. Once I knew that, it was pretty easy for me to figure out other chords and also translate those chords on to the guitar. I started on the piano first. I was around 13 by the time I wrote my first song. Around the age of 15, I finally got the courage to start playing my original to friends and family. I spoke to a teacher in my school and arranged to perform in the school assembly. I performed one of my originals and a cover as well and I received a standing ovation. The rush I felt that day on stage was amazing. I formed my band Cyanide in school itself and we continued to perform together all through college and even after that. Then I moved to New York and decided to pursue Music Production and Audio Engineering.

**Singer, composer, guitarist and sound engineer. What role suits with you best?**

That's really hard to say. I enjoy all those things. I could possibly answer what role suits me the least. It would probably be a guitarist. I'm a good rhythm guitarist, but never got the hang of playing fast shredding solos. But as far as composing, singing and engineering, am concerned, I'm a huge geek about all those things.

**Why shift to New York?**

I have always loved New York since the first time I visited it as a tourist. I'm a huge Broadway fan. I had decided, if I ever move to the US, it will be New York. In Late 2015, I decided that I wanted to go to school for Audio Engineering. I found a great programme. After finishing my course, I stayed on and got an internship at Engine Room Audio and eventually climbed up the ladder to become Production Manager. The life, the pace and the action in New York City are what kept me there.

**What kind of music do you listen to?**

I listen to multiple genres from pop, rock, country, metal, funk, even some hip hop and R&B. Some of my favourite artists are Michael Jackson, Hanson, Metallica, Foo Fighters, Daughtry, Vulfpeck and Zac Brown Band.

**You also made a new band. Why?**

Being in a band is what comes naturally to me. My band mates become my brothers and best friends for life. With Jeet and Cheilan, it just happened so naturally. We were already hanging out all the time, jamming in my apartment. One day, we just decided to jam in front of a microphone and the rest is history. It's the chemistry between band mates that gets the band started. I love writing songs and recording them.

**What are your future projects?**

I am super excited about starting a Music Production School in Delhi by the summer of 2020. As far as new music goes, there is definitely new music under production. But I can't reveal too much. But it will be something different. Something that I've never done before or any other local indie band has done either.

## WEEKLY NATTER

### TOP HONOURS FOR PEECEE

Actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas has built a strong body of work with her sheer hard work and dedication. Not only is she hailed as one of the top actors in Bollywood, but she is also a very global icon on the world map as well.

Celebrating her achievements the Marrakech International Film Festival has announced a prestigious honor for the multi-talented person that she is.

A tribute has been given to Priyanka Chopra Jonas at the mythical Jamaa El Fna Square in front of the people, a special venue where no award ceremony has happened earlier.

While the film festival celebrated the Indian cinema in 2012 and invited Bollywood celebrities, it is for the first time that an Indian celebrity has gotten honored individually. This is also the first time that a celebrity is given a tribute in front of 30,000 people. Talking about this milestone, Priyanka says: "It is such an honor to be recognised this year with a tribute on Jamaa El Fna square before the Moroccan public, who have always shown so much love and support throughout my career."

Three films of Priyanka — *Krish 3*, *Bajirao Mastani*, and *The Sky Is Pink* is part of the festival's line-up. *Krish 3* and *Bajirao Mastani* have also received the honor of public screening at the Jamaa El Fna square, which draws over 20,000 people every evening for a festival show.



### PANKAJ KAPUR JOINS SHAHID IN JERSEY

Ever since actor Shahid Kapoor announced his next film, his fans have been waiting with bated breath for the film's glimpses. The actor is prepping for his next — *Jersey* and will start shooting in Chandigarh. However, there is one more reason for fans to look forward to the film. Shahid Kapoor's father Pankaj Kapur has joined the cast of the film *Jersey*.

Pankaj will be playing one of the pivotal roles in the film that already has Shahid Kapoor & Mrunal Thakur as the lead couple, it will be very interesting to see father-son come together in such a film. Says a source: "Pankaj plays a mentor like figure in the film to Shahid, and is a strong pillar of support to Shahid's character during his unexpected comeback journey."

Talking about joining the film, Pankaj Kapur says: "I am very excited to be part of the film. *Jersey* is a very strong story and is driven by emotions. Working with Shahid has always been very interesting and I have always admired his ability to portray emotions beautifully."

Produced by Aman Gill and Dil Raju, the film is slated to release on August 28, 2020.



### NEW FILM ON CARDS FOR HUMA?

Well on her way to international stardom, Huma Qureshi has been making headlines ever since she landed a pivotal role in Zack Snyder's *Army Of The Dead*. All eyes have been on the gorgeous actress' next move after she achieved the commendable feat of being the only Indian talent on Film Independent's New Wave Actors' list. The actress most recently visited India Culture Lab. Ever since then, speculation is rife that Qureshi will soon be headlining a project that is premised around the LGBTQ community in India.

A fluid experimental space, India Culture Lab is a pro-LGBTQ community that cross-pollinates ideas and people to explore what it means to be modern and Indian. A few days ago, Huma was spotted with the Founder of the organisation, Parmesh Shahani. According to sources, the *Leila* actress was also seen interacting with the volunteers of the LGBTQ community and probed into their journeys. Her visit to them has sparked conjecture that she is prepping for her upcoming film.

As a result of Section 377 is read down by the Supreme Court of India, there has been a rise in the number of films based on love that was earlier considered unnatural. Going by the stunner's latest maneuver, it seems Huma is about to venture into a new genre.



# the pioneer agenda

It's a very big deal to me to remain the same person because I know all of this is going to be gone one day and I'm just going to have myself  
— Gina Carano



FROM THE INSIDE

## The business of karma

Your every good deed not only benefits another being, but also benefits your own spirit

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## Be the one in control

Instead of seeking God's help for the fulfillment of your aspirations, it is better take charge of yourself



## FOOD TRENDS 2020

# MINDFUL EATING, ghar ka khaana continue to rule

With the rapid proliferation of the F&B business across the country, millions of dollars riding on food enterprises, and several million people dependent on it for their livelihood, finding one's way through the maze of taste is serious business, writes RUSHINA MUNSHAW-GHILDIAL, as she maps the trends for an annual food trends report for 2020

The year 2019 was a year of unprecedented growth and digital disruption for the food industry. Digital technology drove how we ate all the time. It was the year in which more Indians ate more food "not" cooked in their homes than ever before! Whether you wanted Pizza, Biryani or Gobbhi Manchurian, or a regional favourite such as Rajasthani Lal Maas, Naga Pork or the Gujarati Undhiyu, getting food from a home chef's kitchen was easier than it has ever been, thanks to digital technology!

Even the way we eat at home changed — the culture of passing down recipes from one generation to the next is being replaced by online recipe sharing, consumer facing apps, DIY videos, and more.

Therefore, in a country where Mumbai responds to regional pop-ups enthusiastically while Delhi is nonchalant about the idea, and Indore is expanding its culinary wings while Kolkata is looking back at its culinary traditions, it's quite a challenge for businesses to identify concepts that have potential to succeed across our inherent diversity.

In such a scenario, food businesses can benefit from a resource that monitors changes in business and consumer expectations, identifies underlying themes that drive these changes, and helps separate the fads from the trends.

Over the past three years, I have found that putting together the annual Godrej Food Trends report requires everything from data analytics to pure intuition on the part of our core team. As a forecaster of trends, it is important that the report is able to differentiate fads from trends. The key distinction between the two is that while trends have the potential to exert long-term influence on the market, a fad is usually isolated, coming and going quickly.

Trends, therefore, don't exist in isolation. They are a sum of many things, often including altered classics, and can have much longer life cycles, sometimes being around for years, or even decades.

One of my favourite examples is our return to our roots. Over the last two iterations of the report, we described a growing movement of self-discovery in the Indian food industry. This desire to learn more about our diverse culinary culture and traditions began in 2018 with an initial exploration into Indian regional cuisines. In 2019, we went beyond the broad strokes of regional cuisines and took a deep dive into the micro-cuisines of India. We saw an explosion of conversations, events, products and dining experiences inspired by micro-cuisines from specific sub-regions, communities, and even family kitchens of India.

This inspired exploration into home kitchens brought the true custodians of Indian cuisine into the limelight as the food industry connected with nanis, dadis, mothers or home chefs as SMEs (Subject Matter Experts), or sources of inspiration and knowledge of our rich culinary diversity. This in turn drove a re-discovery of traditional ingredients, as ordinary vegetables became the new exotic and gharelu greens such as kele ke phool, bathua, tendli, lauki and tinda featured prominently on restaurant menus. Let me tell you, this trend has not shown no signs of ebbing. It continues to play in 2020.

That said, I must admit we don't always get it all right. While we are on target in a majority of cases, sometimes trends don't play out as anticipated. For instance, in 2019, we heard a lot of talk about millets driving a discovery of other indigenous grains, celebrated as a climate-smart choice for farmers and consumers, but

THIS DESIRE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR DIVERSE CULINARY CULTURE AND TRADITIONS BEGAN IN 2018 WITH AN INITIAL EXPLORATION INTO INDIAN REGIONAL CUISINES. IN 2019, WE WENT BEYOND THE BROAD STROKES OF REGIONAL CUISINES AND TOOK A DEEP DIVE INTO THE MICRO-CUISINES OF INDIA. THE TREND CONTINUES TO PLAY IN 2020

this trend did not map out as expected. The consumption of indigenous grains hasn't grown as significantly as the noise would suggest. What happened to all that hype? Do chefs and media influencers not put their money where their mouth is?

To answer all those questions, as we usher in the report's third year, the 2020 edition points at some interesting big trends (organised alphabetically) for the coming year:

**Continued commitment to provenance and mindful eating.** Powered by the growing demand for sustainable practices, consumers will continue to make active choices that help minimise their carbon footprint by supporting local/artisanal producers and eating seasonally.

**Deeper exploration of South-East Asian flavours.** In 2020, the restaurant industry will offer diners a greater variety of South-East Asian flavours through deeper explorations of the popular cuisines, along with specialist menus from previously unexplored regional and ethnic cuisines from the region.

**Emergence of the neighbourhood 'food-preneur'.** The growing demand for fresh, healthy, hygienic and familiar ghar ka khana, combined with the convenience of digital communications and payment platforms, will encourage many more traditional, regional and community cooks to start mini-enterprises from their home kitchens, offering limited daily specials to small communities of their fans.

**Keeping it real.** Fuelled by an ever-growing consumer demand for authenticity, 2020 will see a growth of dining experiences designed around real issues, real people, real ingredients, and real stories!

**Longing for ghar-ka-khana.** The decline in daily cooking at home, because of changing social dynamics and attitudes towards cooking, will see nostalgic diners ordering food that reminds them of their own ghar-ka-khana, more often than ever before!

**No-compromise convenience cooking.** A discerning consumer of 2020, experimenting with the latest health fads and lifestyle diets, can look forward to many more options for quickly and conveniently assembling personalised meals at home, with little or no compromises to their choices.

**Proliferation of desi flavours.** As an outcome of the persistent demand for all things indigenous, consumers should expect

to see a proliferation of desi flavours in everything from small plates to cocktails, and even desserts in 2020!

**Return to traditional fats.** The growing appreciation of the significance of our choice of cooking medium will inspire more consumers in 2020 to go with desi ghee and cold-pressed local seed oils over other options.

**Rise of the culinary explorer.** An evolving sense of social, financial and cultural independence among young people will drive a greater demand for aspirational, novel, and even exotic travel and dining experiences. These experiences will be inspired by exciting new cuisines from within and outside the country.

**Revival of culinary traditions.** Riding the ongoing wave of deeper exploration and discovery of our culinary heritage, food businesses and restaurants will find exciting new ways of packaging traditional food wisdom, knowledge, cookware, cooking techniques and food preparation methods to make it suitable for the demands of the modern dining experience.

"When it comes to food, Indians have always preferred ghar-ka-khana," says Sujit Patil, Vice President and Head, Corporate Brand and Communications, Godrej Industries Limited and associate companies, reviewing the key findings.

"The growth of technology is also shaping what we eat. It is not only giving a big boost to the food processing industry, but also enabling home chefs to become 'food-preneurs'."

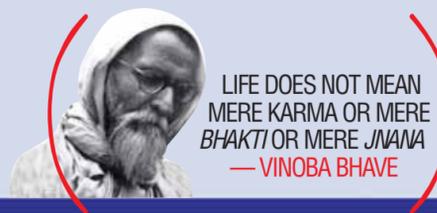
For Patil, as he says it, what is "heart-warming" about the findings is that they point to "the emergence of the neighbourhood food-preneur" in 2020, parallel to the revival of culinary traditions and a proliferation of desi flavours in everything, from small plates to cocktails, and even desserts. The emerging future happily rides on the past.

In fact, as you delve deeper, you will find that 2020 will continue to be the year of discovery and it will see us immersing deeper into our culinary diversity than ever before! The food industry will continue to draw inspiration from the home kitchen. Indian ingredients and flavours will dominate conversations, menus, beverages and even our desserts.

The year ahead will continue to reveal newer facets of the power of digital disruption. Every aspect of the industry will galvanise to deliver what consumers want and work to meet their needs. In an era of consumer hyper choice, the food producer will have to do more to stand out and seamlessly deliver exceptional service while at the same time ensuring food variety, quality and integrity, transparency and sustainability.

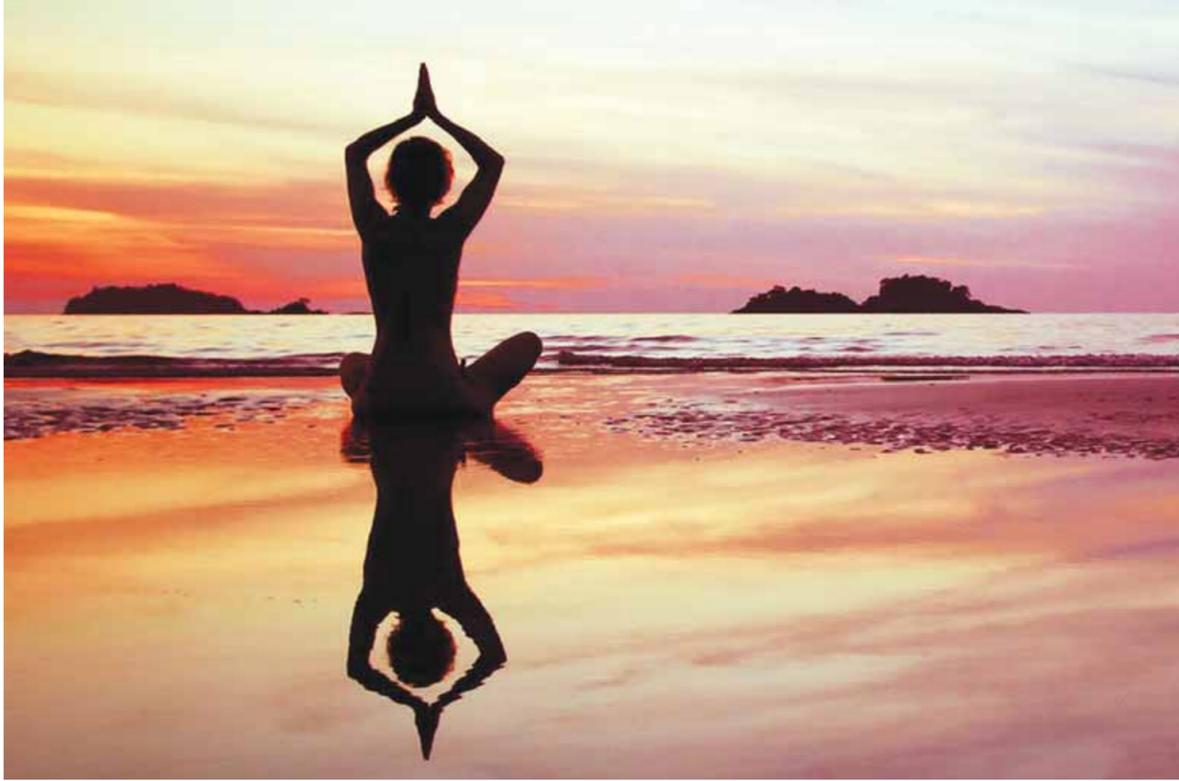
— The author is a food writer and Managing Director, A Perfect Bite Consulting LLP. She has authored the Godrej Food Trends Report since its inception in 2018





# THE BUSINESS OF KARMA

The business of karma is viewed differently by different people, showing a change in attitude as you walk through each successive door of realisation, writes HINGORI



There's one form of wealth we don't often talk about, the one that follows you to the other side of the light — karma.

You know you have tuned into the concept of karma when the realisation dawns upon you that you owe a debt to every life form that served you in any way: plants, animals, your parents, your teachers, everyone. Our karmic record is analogous to a balance sheet, where every positive deed accounts for credit and every negative deed we perform adds to our debt. These debts and credits fructify in our present life or future ones determining the quality of our lives, allowing us to repay debts and savour the credits.

When you delve deeper into the concept, really start performing good deeds, you feel good about it. The spirit within finds it easier to connect with the physical-self because it finally sees itself being benefited as all the accrued positive karma overshadows the negative. That would result in the physical-self experiencing many more, good times than tough ones in the fructification of that accumulated karma in this life and future ones.

Deeper still into this concept, you stop seeing it as generosity on your part or a profit venture for yourself. You consider it to be more of an opportunity you were given, something to be grateful for. Yes, show gratitude for the chance to be kind and generous.

Finally, when you have fully understood this business, you begin to view karma objectively. Say for example, you feed a hundred homeless one day, you will realise it was in their destiny to eat that meal and some way or the other it would have been provided for. If it hadn't been you, someone else would have fed them, making you just the medium through which their destiny was fulfilled and nothing more. At this point you realise that the credit for this karma is not yours for the taking. It works the same way for negative karma as well, that is, the guilt too is not yours to shoulder, destiny has a plan to play out, and in that, you are only a pawn.

The question arises then, are acts of positive karma really acts of selfishness? Well the answer is yes. Your every good deed benefits another but also benefits your own spirit. And yet, this

**YOUR EVERY GOOD DEED BENEFITS ANOTHER BUT ALSO BENEFITS YOUR OWN SPIRIT. AND YET, THIS IS ONE ACT OF SELFISHNESS YOU SHOULD ENCOURAGE AND PROPAGATE. BECAUSE WITHIN THIS SELFISHNESS IS SELFLESSNESS AND VICE VERSA**

is one act of selfishness you should encourage and propagate. Because within this selfishness is selflessness and the selflessness is selfishness.

And just when you feel you have reached the very core of this concept and understood the business, you realise that it was all a façade under the veil of *maya*, the physical world. When you lift that veil and look at karma, you now see it not as acts of generosity but as an act of necessity. It stops being an act of selfishness and becomes just a plain habit. And that habitual karma though helps others as designed to, stops affecting the spirit, it becomes an unselfish act so to say, and such an act in Hindi is called *Niswarth Seva*. You are no longer the doer, you have risen above karma.

This also brings us to a poignant question — is there an easier formula for diluting doer-ship?

Do not take ownership of any of your actions! Since, they were acts of destiny (even though they were a fructification of our earlier deeds), you do not need to hold yourself responsible for what has been programmed to happen. It is the fruit, not the root. You need to take the 'I' away from the

deeds. Be detached from it as it is not of your initiation. You are only a witness to the act, so why become the owner? Most evolved souls have stated that what they do, they do in the name of the Supreme Consciousness. Some may have called it 'Father', others used the term 'God', but none of them claimed that they as individuals were the doers. At an advanced thought process, they identified with the Supreme and their 'I' became the 'I' of oneness with the whole. "In the name of the Father..." Krishna used the 'I' in context to *aham brahmasmi* or 'I am that'. The eternal truth is that in every form lies the same God particle and each of you is the God above (God knows why above). Realising divinity within yourself is enlightenment. Or at least a giant step towards it!

But the toughest task of all is to get detached from one's own body, identity, personality and *jivatma*. This is the second stage after having detached from one's desires, pleasures, family and commercial attachments.

Achieving the above requires the kind of purpose and perseverance displayed by Buddha and other saints of that stature. This can be achieved in parts, over a period of several lives. The effort must be a sustained one.

It is a common thought that anything impossible to achieve is unproductive to try. But the lives of great people and their experiences prove this to be redundant.

We need not compete with the prophets and saints, but even they evolved in stages and took several lives to step outside the circle of *maya*.

Most of the spiritual teachings are easy to listen, and to some extent understand, but difficult to accomplish. So, if you can give up taking ownership of all your actions, including the good ones, you have a chance to attain spiritual heights.

To conclude, if you can give up ownership of karma, do it. If you can't, take the easier path and just plaster your negative karmas with an overload of positive ones, so that in relative comparison they are much less and you can have a better life or lives in the future. This is solely because our destiny is created by our previously accumulated karmas. The form of storage is called *samskars*.

If you don't care for either of these methods you can carry on and be as nice as you can as there is hope. I do hope that at the end of this article, you will find that a part of this resonates. If so, the purpose is accomplished.

If you see reason that good karma is worth your investment of time, money and inclination, then several life forms will be benefitted.

The writer is the author of *Hingori Sutras* series of spiritual books



**HIDDEN SOULS**  
PRAMOD PATHAK

## The strength of character



There is an old saying: when wealth is lost nothing is lost; when health is lost something is lost; when character is lost everything is lost. The saying needs some elaboration as the context has changed. It was coined when wealth was not the be all and end all of everything. But we are in the commerce age, where wealth is everything, gotten from whatever means. How to relate the relevance of the saying to the modern times is what would be baffling to many or may be most. But there is relevance, only one needs to probe a little deep. So, as the saying goes when wealth is lost nothing is lost because it can be regained by using health and character. But when health is lost something is lost because the weakening of the health will make things difficult for people to recover wealth. Yet, since character is there, sincere efforts can still help in getting back what is lost at least to some extent. But when character is lost, nothing will come back as it is the character that gives the drive. Let us look at the present political scenario. What is happening may leave even the most ardent of the optimists with serious doubts about the future of the country. Political scenario has left a lot to be desired. It is not just about the recent happenings in the elections to the few state assemblies that went to polls. We need not go back very far. Just remember what happened in Karnataka sometime back? You decide, but if one word that can aptly describe the entire story — it is character. It was conspicuously absent. More recently Maharashtra or even Haryana. And what is happening in Jharkhand. The incidents will put even the most shameless to shame. Shame, yes people in politics have thrown the very idea of shame to the winds. A politician in one party today does not find favour there, goes to another party, succeeds and may even change over to some other party to gain a position of power or may be for something in cash or kind. Where is the Indian politics heading for? Disaster? Chaos? Whatever, but portends are ominous. How to explain what is happening? Logic cannot explain. Reason has no answer with values and morality virtually becoming extinct in politics the scenario can only be described as a precursor to anarchy. There is a rather elaborate description of these times in the *Uttar Ramayana* section of *Ram Charit Manas*. All one needs is to read the dialogue between Kagabhushundi and Garuda on how things will be in Kalyug. It is so vividly described that futurologists like Alvin Toffler may appear naïve. The dialogue has also been very neatly summed up in a very popular song from a Bollywood hit of the early seventies starring the thespian Dilip Kumar in the lead role. Relevant portion of the song is being paraphrased here. The song says that an era called Kalyug will come in which all undesirable things will happen. There will be black money and blackhearts. Thieves and pickpockets will be rich and respected whereas the righteous will be miserable. Those who will be greedy and sinful will be called saintly. And the real clincher is that there will be proclamation of righteousness and religiosity everywhere but there will be no shame. How vivid and accurate. There cannot be a better description of these times.

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## I am because of Me

Personal accountability is the single most important driver of leadership. It is what sets apart great leaders from talented managers, says APURVA PUROHIT



When we began our journey of understanding the art of leadership viewed from the battlefield so to speak, we saw how much we could adapt from a role that many of us have already been playing for several years now, that of child readers. As parents, we dole out discipline and love in equal measure to help our children become better individuals and while doing so we also teach them to deal with the big, bad world with courage and fortitude. These are valuable leadership lessons to manage teams too. We learnt of the power that comes with listening to those around us, and how implementation can be facilitated and goals achieved by a truly clear mind that has its priorities set correctly. We discussed the importance of being curious and asking questions, of making hard choices and of persevering through the trying times that all of us have faced sometime or the other in our lives. We made note of some of the common biases that leaders fall for—a pro-strategy bias and a negative skew against implementation, and the dangers of subjective measurement metrics. Lastly, we spoke

of clearly defining and sustaining values, promoting genuine trust amongst teams, unfailingly keeping commitments and using all these as building blocks to create empowering and engaging cultures.

But, the single most important driver of leadership in my opinion is personal accountability, and I say this loudly because I have seen too many talented managers unable to evolve to great leaders, only because this particular characteristic was missing in their make-up.

When a child is very young, and while playing, loses her ball, she comes to her mother and happily says, 'Mama, I lost the ball'. Note the use of words. The child believes that the ball lost itself all on its own. And consequently it doesn't upset her. She believes her mother will take care of the situation and indeed the doting parent rushes out to the play area, scrambling around for the lost ball. However, when this same child grows up a little bit and loses the same ball, this time she returns crying, 'Mama, I lost the ball'. It's a complete turnaround of both syntax and associated emotion. This time,

not only does the child feel terrible about losing the ball, but also for the first time in her life admits that it was her fault that the ball got lost. Several studies on developmental psychology indicate that this is the point in the child's growth (usually around the age of six) when the transition to adulthood truly begins. Because that's the behaviour that adults are expected to demonstrate, to take responsibility for their actions and the consequences thereof! To whit—personal accountability. 'I lost the ball. The ball didn't lose itself of its own volition. Neither did some malignant universal force direct its disappearance. It was me and only me.'

The reason I am highlighting this issue of accountability so vigorously is that most people struggle to accept onus, especially in negative situations. Despite being grown up, they morph back into that preschooler who happily says the ball disappeared through no fault of hers. This fundamental attribution error makes us prone to patting ourselves on our backs when things go right, but also just as swiftly blaming the external situation around us when things go wrong. Sales targets not met? Must be the bad economic conditions. Marriage failing? It was because our *kundalis* didn't match. Child turning out to be a brat? Surely it's all the company he's been keeping at school. And before we know it, we start blaming everything but ourselves for the shortcomings and disappointments that our lives are inevitably littered with. For it is the easier route to take, and certainly far more preferable than seeing our own errors reflected in the mirror of our benighted circumstances.

I see this happen all the time. Inevitably people outsource their lives to their circumstances or to other people around them by refusing to take culpability for anything that happens to them. Essentially admitting that not they, but someone else is responsible for their successes and failures.

Apurva Purohit is the author of *Lady, You're the Boss*

## What should a soul do?

Souls have in them a huge potential even while they are intrinsically small. This is the beauty of the cosmic design, says AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

Lord Krishna describes us, souls, as His parts in the Geeta. (15.7) And we always remain so, that is, unchanged small souls. There is no mention anywhere in our scriptures that we, souls, ever become different or bigger. We eternally remain unchanged. (2.23-24)

The smallness of the soul is indicative of its very limited powers. All a soul can do is to desire, decide and enjoy or suffer as a consequence. Everything else is done by the material nature (3.27); our bodies are also parts of the material nature. If it wasn't so, no one will ever become sick or die for that matter; we will tell our bodies to follow our dictate. We can try to keep our bodies fit but the control over our bodies is not with us. We in fact are quite helpless not only with regard to the state of our bodies but in many other matters as well. Aren't we controlled by the results of our past deeds, which manifest periodically as good luck or bad luck? Our being small is part of the cosmic design. Imagine some soul becoming powerful somehow intrinsically. What chaos he or she is likely to cause; he or she may even challenge God. Therefore, this possibility does not exist.

However, this does not mean that we, souls, are helpless in the ultimate sense, because that will make the cosmic design defective. God has mercifully empowered me to write spiritual texts; He provides the needed information to me. (15.15) Therefore, a wise soul does the logical thing, that is to take shelter of God, who is open to such surrender. Rather, He encourages us to do so. (18.62) Then, our deficiency of being



small disappears. Small souls are able to perform unbelievable feats. Imagine Tulsidas writing such voluminous spiritual texts like *Ram Charit Manas*!

How do we get started on this all important surrender to God? In this also God helps; He communicates His instructions. As soon as a soul takes a material body, it is automatically covered by the three modes of the material nature, which are goodness, passion and darkness. This can be understood by an example of a man covered by a cloth made up of three different types of materials. The material representing goodness is light and mostly transparent; the material representing passion is slightly thicker and opaque; and darkness is almost dark. God has no problem piercing this cover; He is everywhere to begin with. The difficulty lies on the soul's ability to communicate to his brain. This cover stands in the way.

What should we do to get over this difficulty? The composition of the cover around us has to be made more transparent with greater goodness, less

passion and very little darkness. How this can be done is covered in the fourteenth chapter of the Geeta. There is another way, which Lord uses for those sincere souls, who are very keen on hearing from God; He finds many ways like a medium or He gives us a dream with the right information. Similarly, wise souls do spiritual activities while they are changing the relative proportions of the three modes. This endears us to God, who, then, takes the direct route of communication. By the way, God has no difficulty in receiving our messages; nothing can come in His way.

So let us get started on taking full benefit of this facility of getting help from the omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent God, if not started already. I have managed to get started on getting God's guidance, help, various shaktis (strengths), protection, bliss, peace, support and forgiveness. We all can do so and will, then, never be handicapped by our inherent smallness."

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

# The idea of instant justice

It's time to fix the rot in the criminal justice system to stem the rising demand for wanton killing of rapists-killers. Further laxity will make Nov 6 Hyderabad encounter an epitome of a parallel justice delivery system



SWARN KUMAR ANAND

*If the misery of the poor be caused not by the laws of nature, but by our institutions, great is our sin.*

— Charles Darwin, *Voyage of the Beagle*

The vagaries of the human mind seen in the binary of crime and punishment in the past fortnight — the rape-murder of a veterinarian in Hyderabad and the immolation of a rape survivor in Unnao in one side, and the encounter killing of all the four accused on the same crime spot on the outskirts of Hyderabad on the other — are so complex that for a concerned citizen speaking up is difficult, but keeping silence is impossible.

Violence against women is not a new phenomenon; it is existent in varying intensity in all societies, patriarchal or matriarchal. In India, after every few years, we witness paroxysms of public outrage over ghastly rape incidents, triggering demands for an effective criminal justice system. The narratives always ensue in across-the-board support for amendments to make laws more stringent, but the sluggish implementation keeps drawing people's ire. Nevertheless, the public outrage has rarely precipitated into the redressal of grievances by trigger-happy policemen as was seen in Hyderabad.

However, rather than going into the veracity of the claims of "fake" or "genuine" encounter in which four men accused of raping and killing the vet were shot dead during

the recreation of the crime scene in the wee hours of November 6, it is more pertinent to study why the extrajudicial killings have gained so much traction among the common people. The assessment is warranted all the more so because many of those singing the praises of the police believe the cops had taken vengeance on the rapists-murderers by shooting them in cold blood. The fortune of the Cyberabad Police, which had taken brickbats for initial delays in the filing FIR over the jurisdiction issue, has turned around with this "heroic" act in the eyes of the commoners.

Seen in this perspective, for those living in the ivory towers, it is imperative to acknowledge the reasons for the euphoria over the encounter deaths, rather than resting their case just by blaming the cops and the "mass hysteria". Whether genuine or fake, the encounter deaths reflect the rot in grievance redressal mechanism as the elation among people points to their belief that such encounter killings will serve the purported purposes of the criminal justice system: First, by punishing the wrongdoer; second, as deterrence for potential criminals; and third, by delivering speedy justice without the rigmarole of the unending procedure. The long seven years wait for the execution of Nirbhaya's rapists-killers is a case in point for them.

Therefore, terming the jubilation over the encounter killing of rapists-immolators as perversion is pregnant with the

possibilities of misunderstanding the ground situation. Social reality is not shaped by those legal codes which are divorced from the desires and demands of the people. It is vital for the lawmakers and enforcement agencies to understand that the perceptions of justice or injustice are always coloured by the values and interests of the particular society. The Cyberabad Police did what the irate people were looking from the criminal justice system that has failed to deliver to the satisfaction of the aggrieved.

It points to dangerous outlook. If people push for extrajudicial killings for swift justice, it means they have lost trust in the criminal justice system. Credible institutions are the foundations of a strong democracy. If one institution usurps the role of another, it will lead to anarchy and loss of accountability. Police can't be the end process in the criminal justice system; it rests with the court of law. But if justice is delayed or denied, it is natural, though unlawful, for the outraged mass to seek alternative methods.

It's high time we fixed the rot in the criminal justice system in order to stem the rising demand for wanton killing of rapists-killers, otherwise, the vacuum will be filled by unwanted and unaccountable elements. Any further laxity will make the Hyderabad encounter an epitome of a parallel justice delivery system.

*(The writer is Associate Editor & News Editor, The Pioneer)*

# Ayodhya verdict: A way forward

The announcement of judgment went off peacefully without a single incident of communal tension or violence speaks volume about the administrative capacity of Indian state and astuteness of political class; however, one has to concede that this 'peace' has rested on the magnanimity of a section of the majoritarian community with 'its move forward approach' and 'fear-stricken tolerance' of the Muslim community

There are three crucial questions that have arisen following the November 9, 2019, Supreme Court verdict on clutches of writ petitions challenging the 2010 Allahabad High Court judgment on "land title of disputed structure of 2.77 acre" belonging to Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid (hereby Ayodhya matter). One, whether the unanimous decision of the SC on the Ayodhya matter strictly meets the test of legal jurisprudence, (i.e. whether verdict is based purely on the balance of evidence, which was produced in the court), constitutional morality and justice? Second, whether the judgment interfered with the matter of "faith/religious belief" of people and thus compromised the principle of secular governance? Third, whether judgment, given the historicity of emotional contestation attached with the Ayodhya matter spanning over more than 400 years, has succeeded in securing "social peace" and in healing the "wounded self" of both Hindu and Muslim communities?

The critics have slammed the judgment on all three indexes and concluded that the SC verdict has legalised the "rule of majoritarianism" and paved the way for the construction of Ram Mandir despite the fact that the weight of evidence was in favour of Muslim party. However such conclusions are simplistic and extreme reading of the judgment arising primarily from the current political context of Hindutava. A reality of specific political context is one thing; however demonstrating that judgment has primarily flowed from this political reality is another thing. The critics fall short on the second option.

I believe that the judgment meets the test of all three criteria. The strength of judgment lies in its unanimity and its inclusive approach that combines the judicious balance of law, constitutional practice of secularism, legal history of case, constitutional notion of justice, practical wisdom and Indian tradition of providing

context specific solution with its inherent flexibility and ambiguity required to manage its enormous social diversities. It is misnomer to think that judgment is based on a priori consideration of majoritarian faith and has ignored the legal scrutiny of evidences.

What has been found puzzling is that while on the one hand (a) the court recognised the damage to the Babri mosque in 1934, placement of idols of Ram Lalla in 1949 in the Sanctum sanctorum of the mosque and its eventual demolition in 1992 as grave violation of law and rejected the contention of Hindu party and ASI's archaeological evidence that the mosque was built by destroying a temple, though the judgment mentioned that the mosque was built on the ruins of a temple-like structure; on the other (b) it handed over the possession of entire disputed structure of 2.77 acre to Bhagwan Sri Ram Lalla Virajman (BSRV). However for the court, (a) and (b) are not inter related; they are separate matter to be investigated separately. In this specific judgment, the SC was seized with matter of "title deeds of land" only. Its judgment has no implication on the ongoing criminal trials against people who were charged with vandalising and conspiracy to destroy Babri mosque.

While awarding the possession of entire disputed land to BSRV, the SC relied upon historically evolved legal tradition of considering deity/idol as "juristic person" on the basis of continuation of tradition of worship and offering prayer to such idea/form of divinity without necessarily being manifested into the form of physical idol, which was agreed by the Muslim party. This recognition of BSRV as juristic person was combined with scrutiny of evidences which

demonstrated that unlike the Hindu party, which demonstrated the continuation of worship and prayer in the outer courtyard of mosque and their assertion of right to offer worship mixed with a few incidents of offering prayer in the inner courtyard of the mosque, the Muslim party neither demonstrated the continuation of prayer between 1526 and 1858, nor succeeded in establishing their exclusive claim over inner courtyard of the mosque, nor contested the exclusive claim of Hindus in outer courtyard. Hence the Muslim party failed to qualify the principle of adverse possession.

The court, therefore, on the basis of "principle of preponderance of probability" awarded the entire disputed structure to BSRV with a consideration that iron bifurcation between inner courtyard and outer courtyard was merely an administrative arrangement by the Colonial power in 1857-1858 to maintain the amity and peace, which does not take away the fact that the entire disputed structure was essentially one compact piece of land. The court then invoke the Article 142 to instruct the Central/State Governments to grant 5 acre to Muslim party at prominent place in Ayodhya in order to do justice to the loss of structure of the mosque.

The judgment has been criticised from the point of view that it dilutes and compromises the principle of secularism to an extent that it has interfered with matter of faith as evident from its directives to the Central Government to constitute a trust for construction of temple and a grant of

land to construct mosque. It is said that it is not a business of secular state to construct a place of worship.

I think this criticism is not fair and merely reflects a "panic reading" of judgment within the context of perceived Hindutava threat to the secular edifice of Indian governing structure. Rather the judgment not only repeatedly upheld the principle of secularism in terms of its equal and just treatment of all religions with equal freedom to practice their religious belief but closely follows the specific tradition of secular governance in India where the state and the court has historically dealt with "secular" aspect of religious activities (such as regulating administrative management and finances of places of worship). The court has in unmet number of cases has reserved its right to define what it constitutes the "essential of religion". In this specific matter, the court has been confined to deliberate over secular aspect of faith: the issue of land titles.

Second, it has only given directives to Central Government to establish a "trust", the composition of which is yet to finalise, to facilitate the construction of temple over undisputed structure without stating or implying that expenditure for such construction would be borne out of the Government exchequer. It may be noted here that while the Central Government constituted a trust to reconstruct Somnath Mandir in early 1950s, the trust raised money from people to complete the reconstruction. On the other hand, the court directed the State Government to allot 5 acre of land to UP Sunni Central Waqf Board, the main litigant in the case, as "just compensation" to the loss of structure of Babri mosque without underlining that mosque will be reconstructed with public fund. Thus in both instances, the court merely upheld the secular tradition of governance.

The announcement of judgment went off peacefully



ANWAR ALAM

without a single incident of communal tension or violence speaks volume about the administrative capacity of Indian state and astuteness of political class; however one has to concede that this "fragile peace" has rested on the magnanimity of a section of the majoritarian community with "its move forward approach" and "fear stricken tolerance" of the Muslim community.

Nonetheless, the judgment has potential to achieve a durable "social peace" between the two communities if the following conditions are met: (a) The Government must reign in the fringe extremist section of majoritarian community to celebrate the day as 'victory day' in future; (b) the Muslim community must not file pleas for review of the judgment as it has potential to further vitiate the national atmosphere; (c) The Muslim community must not see this judgment as a part of bundle of Government's (perceived) anti-Muslim actions: incidence of lynching, cow politics, abolition and criminalisation of instant triple talaq, abolition of Article 370 and downgrading of Jammu & Kashmir to UT, the threat of NRC, threat of Uniform Civil Code, etc, rather a result of legal scrutiny with faith in Indian judicial system, and (d) the Government must build the conducive political climate in which minorities could live with sense of security, trust and liberty.

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# Let's fight for right to life & dignity of rape survivors

Considering the social stigma attached to rape, it needs great courage and determination for the victim to take legal recourse for justice. Therefore, if a rape survivor decides to fight it out despite all odds, she becomes a saviour for other victims. Such women should be given state protection, particularly a foolproof financial support in her pursuit of justice

Crime against women, particularly sexual assault, is on the upsurge. The recent appalling incidents testify that despite a mass protest against the 2012 Nirbhaya gang-rape and the subsequent enforcement of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 (Nirbhaya Act), nothing much has changed.

The audacity with which the accused executed the brutal rape and gruesome murder of a 26-year-old veterinary doctor on Hyderabad outskirts compels us to contemplate on what is wrong with us as a society. Implementation of stringent laws has failed to curb the barbarity. Reports show that rape, in most cases, is not the first offense of the perpetrators. As their crimes often go unregistered, they repeat it and their cruelty increases with each repetition of the act. A psychoanalyst has pointed out that those who repeat the crime, especially related to sexual assault, do it as an act of their right. And whenever a woman objects, they react as if their right is being curtailed by that woman.

Shiv Kumar Yadav, the

Uber Cab driver, who was sentenced life-term for raping a 27-year old woman executive in 2013, exemplifies how a pervert keeps on repeating his crime when it goes unregistered. Investigation into the case revealed that Yadav had tried to molest many women of his village but since no complaint was registered officially no action was taken against him. In 2012 he was arrested for allegedly raping a bar dancer, but was acquitted for lack of evidence. A little courage and prompt legal action could have saved innocent from falling prey to the predator.

Due to social stigma attached to rape, many women prefer to keep quiet and this silence is exploited by the perpetrators. In an incident in April 2019 in Alwara, a woman, travelling with her husband on a bike, was waylaid and gang-raped, while her husband was brutally tortured. The accused took multiple videos of their heinous act and uploaded it on social networking sites. It was only after the video went viral that the couple lodged a complaint on May 4. The audacity of the criminals shows that

there is no fear of law. But why is it so? Since majority of the sexual assault victims do not register their complaints, the rapists do not appear in news stories and thus go undetected. Thus it's really important to register every rape case.

Registering the crime, however, doesn't put an end to the misery of a woman. In fact it initiates a life-long struggle. Even if a woman, overcoming all the social and psychological barriers, registers her complaint, she faces legal harassment. Apart from the traumatic and unsympathetic medical examinations, she has to face inappropriate questions and indecent remarks. Her character is brutally assassinated. She is often pressurised to withdraw her complaint and even receives life threats from the influential and powerful perpetrators and their accomplices. Some do succumb to the family pressure and popular Indian thinking "jo hona tha so ho gaya".

But the way an 18-year old girl showed exemplary courage by registering a case in Delhi Police station on April 16, 2019 against her parents, who had accepted a bribe from the

accused (two rich property dealers who abducted and raped her) to compel her to withdraw her statement in the court is praiseworthy. The girl claimed that the accused had offered a hefty amount of ₹20 lakh and had even paid an advance of ₹5 lakh (which she had even deposited in the police station) to her parents to withdraw the case. Despite being poor and struggling to arrange money to fight the case against the perpetrators, she chose to stand by her dignity.

It reminds us of another incident where a 17-year old survivor of a gang-rape, in spite of receiving multiple threats, decided to file case against a powerful MLA of the ruling party in Uttar Pradesh. While acting on their threat, the brother of the MLA along with some goons, severely beat up her father and humiliated him in hospital, who later succumbed to his injuries. When her complaint went unnoticed, the Unnao girl tried to immolate herself in front of Uttar Pradesh Assembly, which drew public attention. She knew about the consequences when she decided to file an FIR against such a powerful MLA, but nevertheless

she decided to fight on.

Had these girls preferred to keep silence and not file case against the rapists, many others could have been a victim of their lust. And who knows how many victims have remained silent!

Thus fast-track court and legal reforms alone cannot help. What we desperately need at this moment is to get rape registered. The culprits need to be exposed. But this is not possible unless the stigma associated with rape is removed. The stigma is so ingrained in our culture that while we can easily identify ourselves as a victim of robbery or any other crime we do hesitate even to confide in our families about rape or sexual assault.

It does take immense courage to come out of the closet and expose the culprits while realising the consequences. Thus the courage a woman shows in registering a case of rape against her perpetrators should not be seen as just an urge to punish the culprits. It's her fight for her self-respect and dignity. In the process of exposing the perverts she saves innumerable women from being harmed by

them. Thus the perception of society needs to be changed. A rape survivor should not be looked down upon just as a helpless woman. Prying eyes and social exclusion is not what she deserves. Instead she should be seen as a warrior who has enough courage to fight against injustice and as "savior of modesty" of a lot of other women.

While we acknowledge the physical courage exhibited by the brave hearts who save many lives from the clutches of death, a woman who has been courageous enough to conquer all psychological, social, economic and political barriers in exposing the perpetrators and thus protecting many lives from being harmed by the perverts also deserves to be honoured with bravery award for upholding moral courage. Recognition and respect alone can change our conditioned perceptions.

However besides moral support and encouragement what the survivors need is financial independence and security. The Government should ensure a policy to rehabilitate these women through respectable Government jobs according to their qualifications

and abilities to enable them to continue their fight. They should be given duty leave to attend the court proceedings and additional financial assistance to afford lawyer's fees. The Government must provide security to the survivors in case there is any threat.

True, unless society changes its perception, the stigma associated with rape will continue haunting the survivors and any financial assistance cannot compensate their ordeal. But a secure job can at least lighten their additional miseries related to career and finance. As the crime against women is not just a legal problem but a socio-political and psychological one, it becomes a collective responsibility of society to rehabilitate the survivors. However, it's the perpetrators who should be compelled to share the responsibility of generating financial aid for the survivors. Resources can be generated by confiscating the properties of the perpetrators once their guilt is proven.

*(Anish Gupta and Aaleya Giri teach Economics and English respectively at the University of Delhi)*



ANISH GUPTA



AALEYA GIRI



TO GO FROM MORTAL TO BUDDHA, YOU HAVE TO PUT AN END TO KARMA, NURTURE YOUR AWARENESS, AND ACCEPT WHAT LIFE BRINGS —BODHDHARMA

**YOUR WEEK AHEAD**

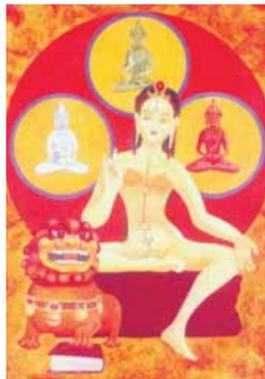
MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

The week looks good for you. Your health is likely to take a turn for the better. You will be in a cheerful and positive mood. Mostly, you are very conscious of health and devote a good time in looking after your well-being. There are things that you can actively do to groom yourself — taking a massage, going to spa and joining a gym is on the card. Career-wise, you are sparkling with new ideas. Promotion or starting a new project/job is likely to happen. Your productive level will be very high and being efficient will pay off. Your submissive attitude will play a great role in enhancing your career this week. Your relationship with your family is going strong. You may need to do what it takes to find balance in your personal and professional life.

**Lucky number 13**  
**Lucky colour Maroon**  
**Lucky day Wednesday**



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

Living in the moment and to listen to your body is the first condition to being in a state of good health. Temptations, confusions and disorganisation will disorient. You are overwhelmed and this energy carries the warning that you need to focus. On the career front, you have all the means and ability to achieve your goals. So aim high and you will go far. A new connection at the workplace could prove in your favour this week. Those looking for employment, you are going to find it very soon. You may expect a job call from a distant city, travel is likely. You need to be a little careful in money matters this week. Relationship wise, an existing relationship is going to take a turn for the better. Singles, a new relationship is likely to appear soon.

**Lucky number 12**  
**Lucky colour Brown**  
**Lucky day Thursday**



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

This week you will be all charged up and ready for action. Good news is in the offing. When you have a positive self-image, you value and respect your body. You will feel good about living a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Pamper yourself with spa and grooming. On the professional front, now is the time to go independent. Do your homework well. You have the resources and you can make your business work. Make sure to put in the time and effort it requires. Your determination, perseverance are your greatest assets which will take you ahead in your career. On the personal front, it is never too late to change any pattern of behaviour, and with enough effort, you can change the way you think, feel, and act.

**Lucky number 11**  
**Lucky colour Golden**  
**Lucky day Monday**



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

You need some quick changes in your routine as the situation has changed and you have to fulfill the needs of the present state that you are in. Expectant mothers may need to undergo a medical examination to clear some doubts for a stress-free time ahead. Be honest with yourselves and review what best action should be taken. On the career front, those seeking a job, know that you have the skill set to find it. If you're already employed, and there is room for upward mobility. Do not hesitate to negotiate for what you are worth. If there is no room for a raise then you should give serious thought to finding something with high scope. On the personal front, things will speed up in the relationship. There may be good news of childbirth, conception, marriage or engagement.

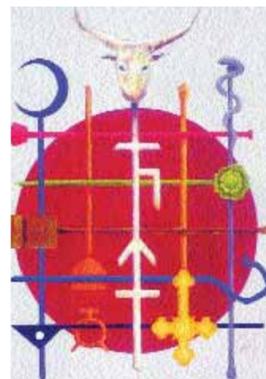
**Lucky number 7**  
**Lucky colour White**  
**Lucky day Monday**



**VRIGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

You would be in the pink of your health this week. This will be a time of peace, joy, and prosperity for you and to deepen your spiritual growth. Celebrate these good feelings and share them with your friends and loved ones in whatever way you can. On the career front, if you are seeking employment, you will be hired into a new position that tests your skills and is demanding. Those who are already employed may be saddled with far more responsibility. Don't hesitate to request assistance from supervisors with prioritising. You have the knowledge, strength, and inspiration needed to meet your challenges. On a personal level, you are enthusiastic and very romantic in your relations. If you are single, it's very likely that a new romance is on the horizon.

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour Yellow**  
**Lucky day Sunday**



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

This week things are likely to go well. You will feel loved, cared for, and content. This is a good time to enjoy good health. Air, water, fire, earth, and ether (space) the balance of these five elements in life will make life worth living. You are likely to be a motivator and inspiring for many. You need a well-deserved rest and relaxation, after a hectic work schedule that has had you busy. On the career front, a sudden hike in salary or reputation is foreseen. There may be switch over of job, promotion in the existing job, transfer or some different portfolio is assigned which could turn out to be in your favour. On the personal front, you may plan a vacation with your partner to an exotic place. The time flies with happy note leaving you rejuvenated and rejoiced.

**Lucky number 20**  
**Lucky colour Grey**  
**Lucky day Friday**



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

Stress may cause health problems. Pay attention to diet, exercise and sleep. Stay positive. You will find depth and wisdom in solitude. You may look at a new belief system in search of the meaning of life. On the career front, you will share cordial relations with colleagues, friends and even seniors this week. For those in business, this is a good time to bring in desirable changes. Be a good listener, trust your instincts and connect with your innermost desires. This is also a good time to start a new venture/project. On the personal front, you will make new friends and a friendship may turn into a loving relationship. You will reach a good understanding with others. Make a deeper commitment in love to strengthen the bond.

**Lucky number 2**  
**Lucky colour Green**  
**Lucky day Friday**



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

Hectic work schedule and day to day challenges could take a toll on your health. Take time out for yourself. You need to bring balance in your professional and personal life. Time management and discipline is the first bet to beat the fast pace of life. Professionally, anxiety, fear and tension could bring your efficiency down. There is a fear of lay off, office politics and survival in the rat race. Keep all your financial documents up to date. You may be questioned or interrogated in this week. A key decision will work as a foundation on which the rest of your life may be set. Relationship wise, you are working with your heart and not the mind. Those who are committed, there are chances that things are not moving smoothly. You will realise that it is better to move away from an unhealthy relationship.

**Lucky number 16**  
**Lucky colour Orange**  
**Lucky day Tuesday**



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

Those who are having physical problems, remember that things do not always have to be the way they are right now. Pay attention to diet, exercise, and make time for rest. A trusted health counsellor can get you moving along the right course. Career-wise, this is the time when many projects are realised, especially those that are profitable to you. Business dealings will be fruitful. If you are in self-made business or job, people will evaluate your work and accept your views and products. Those who are in export and import business are likely to engage in good networking this week. On the personal front, this is the time for completion. You have worked hard, and you deserve all the accolades that are coming your way.

**Lucky number 3**  
**Lucky colour Sky Blue**  
**Lucky day Thursday**



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

You will put an end to certain bad habits that you may be harbouring. Expect some distress as you make this transition. Physical exercise is important, but do not overdo it. You will find some spiritual truths that hold promise and are beneficial for you. Professionally, you may be moving to a new position or a new set of responsibilities. You will be optimistic, upbeat, and hopeful about your future. You are likely to be able to pay off debts and perhaps, share your wealth with those less fortunate. On the personal front, it would be good to strike a balance with yourself. You are passionate and energetic and have a charming persona. Love is in the air. A fiery affair or new relationship is on the cards.

**Lucky number 8**  
**Lucky colour Red**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

Your health will be good this week and mood elated. Your determination and will power will give you strength and put you in the right direction where you can live a disciplined life. Avoid alcohol, junk and spicy food. Routine exercises, morning walk and planned diet will work wonders for you. Career-wise, this is a rewarding week. It is the right time to get close to an influential person. You could establish your strength in your career. If you are in partnership business, there are fair chances that you will all work for selfless motives. People will listen to you and respect your views. On the personal front, some arguments, conflicts may cause bitterness in your existing relationship. Your aggression, anger will take a toll. You need to relax and think with a cool mind.

**Lucky number 5**  
**Lucky colour Indigo**  
**Lucky day Saturday**



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

This is a good week for your emotional and physical well-being. Your positive approach to things will be of great help. Those waiting for test results, know that the news will be good. You are getting ready to enter new realms in your spiritual exploration. This is a good week career-wise and with your charm and intelligence you will realise all your ambitions. You need a break and some perspective. Perhaps the time has come to start looking for another position. Your psychological insight is excellent and you can better understand what motivate others and what their needs are. However, this is not a good time for investments. You will find stability in existing relations. Those close to you are full of concern and love; it would be wise to enjoy the moment.

**Lucky number 9**  
**Lucky colour Magenta**  
**Lucky day Sunday**

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**ASTROTURF**

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

God helps those who help themselves

I am God loving. I pray every morning before I set out for work, and again before I retire for the day. Yet, my life has gone through unwanted twists and turns every now and then. Why have my prayers gone un-responded so far? What am I lacking? Tell me, what corrections do I need to make. When does my life stabilise? With these questions in mind, someone recently sought my guidance.

Well, God or no God, how does it matter? If at all there is a God, He would be involuntarily doing His rounds. He doesn't need our seeking or prompting for coming into play. He, in His own glory would be available in equal proportion to all and sundry. It, therefore, becomes difficult to digest that he would selectively listen to your prayers and grant wishes to your asking. Even if there is no God, how does it matter. For, life will still continue to move on. So, instead of looking for seeking God's help, somewhere out at a distance, for fulfillment of desires, better take charge of yourself, and consciously try to get better empowered.

Having said that, let me make it clear that the relevance of the concept of

God still holds good. Even if He doesn't grant your wishes, pursuing the belief does certainly help firm up your own faith element. That helps you carry on the task in hand in all strength. Also, it keeps you centred.

But all said and done, at the end of the day, you need to take charge of yourself, and consciously works towards the desired destination. Know it in clear terms that life as such doesn't have an easy go. In a world, where everyone is born unique, each manifesting varying mind-traits and desire-trends, it becomes a natural breeding ground for conflict of perceptions and interests. Evidently, therefore, you are bound to contend with competing interests and contrarian forces. Braving all such challenges ahead intelligently, you need to put in wholesome quality efforts to score success. That, however, would not come about, unless you consciously identify and acknowledge your inherent fault lines, address them, and also optimise your potential. But, for which, you will fail to put in your best foot forward. Also, you need to keep an eye on prevailing environmental conditions to intelligently sail through all odds com-



ing in the way.

That makes it incumbent upon you to live consciously. You have so far gone ahead with the usual flow of life, carrying the hope that being a believer, God will help you sail through. So, you have gone through intermittent bouts of success and failures. It's time now to make you aware of your potential and weaknesses. Jupiter firmly placed in the *lagna* makes you a well-meaning and creative person. The *lagna* lord Mars in the 3rd house grants you with the courage necessary to spiritedly carry on the task in hand. Moon, well aligned to Uranus points to your innovative, inventive, and insightful mind, worth coming out with out of box independent ideas. Moon again, placed favourably to Mercury grants you with excellent communicative skills.

Your habits and attitudes, however, often play spoil sport with your strength side. Your *lagna* sign Aries makes you aggressive, impulsive, impatient, intolerant, and domineering, who may not like to play a second fiddle to any. You carry the tendency to jump into action without applying proper forethoughts, and with obvious consequences. It's only when you land into problem that you are forced to apply your mind when you

may emerge as the best crisis manager also. Moon occupying Sagittarius sign makes you undiplomatic and tactless. Mars well aligned to Uranus makes you self-willed and overconfident, but its opposition to Moon, and also ill-disposed off to the Sun, makes you temperamental, angry and irritable person. You may flare up on the slightest provocation, when you may temporarily lose all sense of reasons and direction. The Sun opposite Saturn brings in a sense of fear and insecurity, which in turn, brings in a sense of inertia. So, often your initiatives as also response to a situation gets delayed, and with obvious consequences. If that would not be enough, the Sun placed adverse to Jupiter brings in a swaggering ego, which binds you to self-defined beliefs and perceptions, not open to look beyond for a reality check either. It becomes difficult for you to digest, if ever things don't move your expected lines, when you get unnerved beyond due. And the result is there to see.

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