

Rewind 2019



SHOW TIME

Not a patch on the original



DABANGG 3
*ing: Salman Khan, Sonakshi Sinha, Kichcha Sudeep, Saiee Manjrekar, Arbaaz Khan, Pramod Khanna
Rated: 6/10

A lot is always expected when the film has Salman Khan. The audience expects him to be OTT and better himself with each of his projects. This is more so when it comes to the *Dabangg* series that began in 2010. In these nine years, people have come to expect that Bhai will not only be better with each of the sequences.

This means that each film has to have better action, better songs, better story, better item number and most importantly a better Salman Khan who will show his swagger that will appeal to the masses. One of course, can't forget that Bhai has to take off his shirt!

Dabangg 3 manages to deliver on some count and on some counts it fails miserably.

Let's see the good first. The item song — *Munna badnaam hua* — will definitely bring

back the reverse song to which Malaika Arora had taken a patent. Salman Khan's hand continues to down the baddies with just a single punch. His signature Chulbul Pandey grin is still there. The other good is that he has lost weight and the leaner meaner look is good. Even Sonakshi Sinha has lost weight and looks good. Pramod Khanna who stepped into Vinod Khanna's shoes as Prajapati Pandey makes one nostalgic.

What is not good is Kichcha Sudeep as the villain. He is not a patch on Sonu Sood. Then there is a back story that drags for almost half hour; it film could have done without it.

The other songs in the movie are not worth humming. There are some glaring bloopers. We all know that Pandey's relationship only got better towards the very end of *Dabangg*. Here, they show that the two are best buddies in the back story. One can't have glaring mistakes in a *Dabangg* franchise.

Sadly, this one is not a patch on the original. Is there a *Dabangg 4*? Maybe.

— Shalini Saksena

Kaafir: A ZEE5 original Series starring Dia Mirza and Mohit Raina is based on a true story and it encompasses the journey of a young Pakistani mother who comes to India under unusual circumstances and is unable to go back home. The series revolves around the relationship between this woman, accused of militancy, and her lawyer who makes her justice his sole objective.



Auto Shankar: Auto Shankar a Tamil Original Series starring Sarath Appani, Selvapandian, Rajesh Dev, Vasudha and others. The story is based on horrifying true incidents that happened between 1985-1995 in Chennai, still remembered as Once upon a time in Madras.

Barot House: Again a ZEE5 original film starring Amit Sadh, Manjari Fadnis, and Aaryan Menghji. Inspired by real-life events, the story revolves around the loving Barot family whose happiness is short-lived after their daughter is found brutally murdered in the house, under mysterious circumstances.



Hope you tuned in

The Final Call: A ZEE5 original thriller series starring Arjun Rampal, Neeraj Kabi, Javed Jaffrey, Sakshi Tanwar, Anupriya Goenka and Vipin Sharma. When Captain Karan Sachdev, the pilot of Skyline flight 502, decides to end his life by committing suicide, he puts the lives of over 250 passengers in danger. Airline officer Kiran Mirza, along with the ATS team, swing into action to save the passengers on board.

Mere Dad Ki Dulhan: Introducing a progressive content, the show revolves around an unconventional father-daughter duo in a relatable coming-of-age story, where a daughter is on a mission to find a companion for her single father. The hits for the show, which garnered maximum impression, was the comeback of Shweta Tiwari after three years on Indian TV. Another feather on the cap of the show was the fresh pair of veterans — Varun Badola and Shweta Tiwari, along with the introduction of the talented debutante Anjali Tatrari.



Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein: Another clutter breaking show, Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein, successfully made its way for its concept driven content, which portrayed the story of a hearing-impaired boy named Yogi. What makes Yogi unique is not his hearing impairment, but his normalcy in maneuvering life's daily humdrums enthusiastically,

with a smile on his face. The hit for the show was coupling veteran actors — Sulbha Arya, Sudhir Pandey, Kiran Karmarkar, Swati Shah with fresh faces- Mudit Nayar, Simran Pareenja and Debattama Saha.

Brooklyn Nine-Nine: The show that put Comedy Central on the top of the charts, is one of the best shows of streaming on the channel. Packed with a truckload of laughter and bag full of fun, the police department of the 99th precinct won our hearts. Amy and Jonah's beautiful wedding gave all the fans the moment they were waiting for. With a new season coming up soon, there is so much more this show has to offer to its fans.



The Big Bang Theory: While it all started with the four geeky scientists arguing about their credibility, it ended with Howard as a father, Sheldon winning the Nobel prize, penny announcing she's pregnant and Raj breaking up with his fiancé. But finds someone he can reignite his romantic side with as the iconic broken elevator is finally fixed! Airing on Comedy Central, the show has broken the record of the longest running sitcom and won our hearts with their unusual charm.

Suits: Giving us countless memories and also a royal wedding, the show has been a delight for the fans of all age groups. With characters that

will remind you of people from your own workplace, Mike and Harvey showcased a friendship we all crave for in our lives. While it broke our hearts when Meghan left the show to get married, her becoming a member of the Royal family made us equally happy and a little hopeful of seeing her again in the finale. Though the final season that aired on Colors Infinity did not include her, it gave us the wedding we all anticipated every season since the beginning.

Friends: The iconic show that started 25 years ago, is still loved across ages. The show that has earned the love of millions around the globe, celebrated its 25th anniversary with Comedy Central India. No matter who you are, you'll always find a part of you that resembles with either of the six famous friends. Whether it is Joey's love for food, Chandler's jokes, Rachel's fashion or Monica's cleaning OCD. We all have a friend or friends just like them whom we can never let go.

Batwoman: The much-awaited show premiered on Colors Infinity right after the international premier and created a buzz around it. The show garnered positive reviews and a fan following like no other new show on television. After the infamous vigilante hero, Batman, takes off, Kate Kane, his cousin returns and takes over. She becomes the symbol of hope as Batwoman for the citizens of Gotham.



NEW FACES ON BLOCK

Kamna Pathak who plays Rajesh, wife of daroga Hattu Singh in Hattu Ki Ultan Paltan.



Sarika Bahroliya, who plays Gudiya in &TV's Gudiya Humari Sabhi Pe Bhari.



Megha Ray who plays Kajal in Zee TV's Dil Yeh Ziddi Hai.


Daina Khan, who plays Shayra in Colors TV's Bahu Begum.




Nimrit Kaur Ahluwalia, who plays Meher in Colors TV's Choti Sarraarni



Chahat Tewani, who plays Kesari in Colors TV's Kesari Nandan.



DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA



SASHAKTI
OUR SELF-DEFENCE INITIATIVE


6TH SELF DEFENCE TECHNIQUE TRAINING WINTER CAMP-2019-20
(PARTICIPATION IS FREE OF COST)

| Sl. | VENUE | DATE & TIME OF SELF DEFENCE TRAINING PROGRAMME (EXCEPT SUNDAY) | DATE & TIME OF NUKKAD NATAK/ STREET PLAY PROGRAMME AND HIMMAT APP WORKSHOP | DATE & TIME OF GENDER SENSITISATION PROGRAMME AND SHORT FILM KOMAL (NirbhEEK) | DATE & TIME OF REGISTRATION (EXCEPT SUNDAY AND GH) |
|-----|--|--|--|---|--|
| 1. | Gyan Mandir Public School, E-Block, Naraina Vihar, New Delhi-110028 | | 01.01.2020 11.15 am | 02.01.2020 11.30 am | |
| 2. | DPPS, B-4, Block Safdarjung Enclave Delhi-110029 | 31.12.2019 to 10.01.2020 | 02.01.2020 11.15 am | 03.01.2020 11.30 am | 21.12.2019 to 30.12.2019 |
| 3. | Bal Mandir Sr. Sec. School, Defence Enclave Vikas Marg Delhi -110092 | 09.00 am to 11.00 am | 03.01.2020 11.15 am | 06.01.2020 11.30 am | 10.00 am to 04.00 pm |
| 4. | Green View Public School, Dwarka Vihar, Kakrola Road Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043 | | 06.01.2020 11.15 am | 07.01.2020 11.30 am | |


The participant must bring a recent photograph & a copy of any Govt. issued photo ID (preferably Aadhaar Card/Election Card) at the time of registration at respective venue

For further details
Call 011-26527699
Register online at www.spuwac.com

E-mail us at:
dcp.spuwc@delhipolice.gov.in
Women Helpline : 1091




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Helpline Against Obscene Calls 1096

Our Women Safety Initiatives

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in | Write to: CP, Delhi at P.O. Box. No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 112

TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090

Jamia students continue anti-CAA stir

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Scores of students of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) on Saturday staged a demonstration yet again outside the university campus against the controversial Citizen Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC). The protesters were joined by women, JMI alumni and local residents.

On Saturday morning at JMI, the demonstration was started by woman and girls students of the university outside their campus gate and later they were joined by several other students of the university as well as alumni. The protesters were seen chanting slogans such as "ladke lenge azadi" (get independence after fighting) and 'Inquilab Zindabad'.

As protesting crowd swelled by minutes, the women students specifically asked them not to use abusive or unparliamentary language during the protest. JMI has been at the forefront of the protest against the citizenship law.

"Students of Jamia are in favour of peaceful protest and they don't have intention to do any violence. The protest is there for last one week. Our protest will continue in peace-



Protesters hold placards during a demonstration against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) outside Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi on Saturday

ful manner till the Centre Government revokes the CAA," said a student of Jamia.

"Our struggle will continue till the act is taken back. We, with help of locals in the area are managing traffic. We are also demanding action against police personnel who brutally lathi charged innocent students," said a PHD scholar in

Jamia. Shaheen Abdulla, a journalism student in JMI said that we are protesting peacefully but we, including women, were attacked by police with tear gases and lathis and now remembering the police brutality we faced we won't step down until and unless there is action against police and revo-

cation of the CAA. "A joined committee of students and some university faculty has been formed and no political leader is in our protest. The joined committee member ensures the streets are clean and traffic flow is smooth. We have initiated the protest against the CAA and we will continue if it takes another four years,"

said Shaheen. Participating in the protest, a 76-year-old woman, Nafiz Ikram said, "You all are leading a movement against what is wrong. Don't step back. Don't get scared of police. You are the real police who are fighting to protect our Constitution".

A protester, who had come from Bihar to join the protest, said, "The rich have proof of their identity or they will procure it somehow. How will the labourers and workers, who migrate from UP and Bihar, manage to get the proof?"

Students also took out a march against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019. Some former students of the university came to the spot with their children.

"I am with students of this country. What happened at Jamia Millia last week was unpardonable. My son is here carrying a poster and I want my son to grow up in a secular nation and not a biased country," said an alumnus, who had brought his five-year-old son to the protest venue.

On Sunday, the police had entered the varsity campus to look for 'outsiders' who were involved in violence and arson during a protest against the CAA, a few metres away from the campus.

Bhim Army chief arrested Sent to 14-day judicial custody

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI



The Delhi Police on Saturday arrested Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar and 15 others in connection with the violence that took place in Daryaganj in Old Delhi on Friday evening during a protest against the newly introduced Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA). Police said that they have also arrested 11 people in connection with the violence at Seemapuri.

All 27 accused were on Saturday produced before a local court which has sent them to 14-days judicial custody. The court also denied bail to all the accused.

Bhim Army, a political outfit, had organised a march from Jama Masjid to Jantar Mantar on Friday against the new Citizenship Law, despite not having permission from police. On Friday evening, after security personnel tried to detain Chandra Shekhar during the march, he surfaced inside the mosque. He had given the Delhi police a slip to reach the mosque.

"He came outside Jama Masjid early on Saturday and was detained. He was arrested later. After being detained, Chandra Shekhar was kept at the Crime Branch office in Chanakypuri since he said he was unwell. He was later handed over to the central district police," said a senior police official.

"Following his arrest, he was taken to a hospital for a medical check-up and will be produced in a court. Police suspect he instigated the crowd which turned violent near Delhi Gate and burnt a car," said a police official.

Meanwhile, Delhi Police have also arrested 15 men in connection with the violence in Daryaganj and they have been charged with rioting and using force to deter policemen from doing duty.

The accused have been identified as Ashfaq, Irfauddin, Abbas, Athar, Atif, Shabbir Ahmad, Danish Malik, Rehan Khan, Haider Ali, Zaid, Furkan, Danish, Shamsheer Shan, Mohd Ali and Aamir. Police said that they were produced in court today which has sent them to 14 days judicial custody.

The protesters marching towards Jantar Mantar from Jama Masjid were stopped by police and paramilitary personnel near Delhi Gate, after which they turned violent and set a car on fire and damaged a few other vehicles. Police resorted to lathi-charge and used a water cannon to control the situation.

On Friday, Aazad had urged his supporters to carry on

the protest against the contentious law peacefully. "Those who are indulging in violence are not our people. Our peaceful protest continues at the historic Jama Masjid. Ambedkarites do not indulge in violence," he had tweeted.

In Northeast Delhi, 11 people have been arrested for allegedly hurling stones during a protest in Seemapuri against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in which an additional deputy commissioner of police was injured, police said on Saturday.

Police said that the Additional DCP, Shahdara district, Rohit Rajbir Singh suffered minor injuries in the incident and he is fine now.

"Five outsiders' from neighbouring areas were detained in connection with the incident and later they were arrested. It is suspected that they had come with an intention to create mischief. Six more were arrested by police for rioting," said a police official.

DELHI WAQF BOARD TO GIVE ₹5.5L EACH TO KIN OF THOSE KILLED DURING ANTI-CAA PROTESTS

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Waqf Board on Saturday announced that it will give a financial assistance of ₹5.5 lakh each to the families of those killed during violent protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. Board chairman Amanatullah Khan, also an AAP MLA, in a Facebook post claimed that several people were killed in Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka's Mangalore during protests against the CAA and NRC, due to 'police bullets'. He sought details of the people killed in the protests, saying their 'sacrifices' will not be futile.

City Govt signs MoU with HP for water supply

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

To meet its water demands, the Delhi Government on Saturday signed an Inter-State cooperation MoU with the Himachal Pradesh Government. The MoU states that the Government of Himachal Pradesh will provide regular daily supply of 368 cusecs from November to February and 268 cusecs from March to June every year.



Government official said after creation of the upstream storages the supply shall be upgraded to 421 cusecs

throughout the year. According to Government officials, there are places in Himachal where a lot of snow fall is happening for quite some years and therefore exploring the opportunities of snow harvesting for the first time and this particular project also incentivises our activities that we can think of even protecting or harvesting more and more water in different forms available.

The MoU was signed by

Dr RN Batta, Secretary Himachal Pradesh and Manisha Saxena, Principal Secretary (Urban Development) while Delhi Jal Board, CEO Nikhil Kumar was there.

Nikhil Kumar, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), DJB said, "As we all know, without water there can be no life and with the growing population trend, water scarcity is a challenging issue for the entire country. Water is one resource which is finite and irreplace-

able, keeping that in mind; I feel that the MoU that we are signing today will be a trend setter as far as the country is concerned." "We are very appreciative of the initiatives and efforts taken by the Himachal Government in it. Further, this can set a benchmark for other states in the country to come together and try and formalise such understanding and agreements where excess and surplus water can be exchanged."

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

CONGRATULATIONS KARAWAL NAGAR!

MODERNIZATION WORK BEGINS OF 'BUND DRAIN'

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY

Sunday, 22 December 2019 at 4pm

Pusta Number 3, Sonia Vihar, Delhi

Chief Guest:

ARVIND KEJRIWAL
Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour:

SATYENDAR JAIN
Irrigation and Flood Control Minister, Delhi



DECADES-LONG BOUNDARY ISSUE

India, China agree to maintain peace

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sharing a disputed boundary for decades, India and China on Saturday agreed to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas and stressed on approaching the boundary issue from the strategic perspective of bilateral ties.

The two sides also resolved to intensify efforts to achieve fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary or Line of Actual Control (LAC) question during the talks between National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi here.

They held parleys under the Special Representatives framework. This was the 22nd round of talks to resolve the disputed boundary of more than 3,500 km LAC stretching from Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand to Arunachal Pradesh in the east.

The Ministry of External Affairs later said the talks were constructive with focus on taking forward bilateral developmental partnership. There was consensus that both sides should respect each other's sensitivities and concerns, the Ministry said in a statement. Wang arrived here on Friday for the talks.

Both sides agreed that it is important to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas and underlined the importance of approaching the boundary issue from strategic perspective of India-China ties, it said. The two sides agreed that early settlement of boundary issue serves fundamental interests of both countries, the Ministry said. Officials said various dimensions of the boundary issue were discussed at the talks.

It is the first high-level visit from China to India after Prime



Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held the second informal summit in Mamallapuram in October as well as after New Delhi pulled out of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Doval and Wang are the designated Special Representatives of the two countries for the boundary talks.

Wang was to visit India for the talks in September but the trip was postponed then.

The India-China border dispute covers 3,488-km-long Line of Actual Control. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of southern Tibet while India contests it.

Both sides have been asserting that pending the final resolution of the boundary issue, it is necessary to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

India and China fought a war in 1962 and the subsequent years have not seen any major conflagration along the LAC. However, transgressions take place by the Chinese Army claiming the specified sector to be in China. The Indian Army has repeatedly prevented such transgressions leading to a stand-off with the Chinese Army in Doklam near Sikkim in 2017.

Army Chief General Bipin

Rawat had said on Friday here India is optimistic that the situation along the LAC will further improve with the two armies actively working to reduce and manage troop confrontations after the Doklam face-off in 2017.

The first informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at Wuhan in April 2018 had led to "strategic guidance" to the two militaries to actively defuse troop confrontations during patrolling in accordance with existing protocols and mechanisms.

"Post Wuhan, the strategic guidance from the highest-level and understanding of the nuances of the working mechanism at the functional level has enabled management of challenges along the LAC," said Rawat on Friday.

The statement came even as the eighth edition of the "Hand-in-Hand" exercise between the Indian and Chinese armies, a confidence-building measure, concluded at Umroi in Meghalaya on Friday.

"The exercise was aimed at practicing joint drills of counter-terrorism operations in a semi-urban terrain under the UN mandate. The two armies have gained from each other's expertise and experience in conduct of counter-terror and company-level operations. Troops of both the contingents departed on a healthy note of mutual informal respect and goodwill."

Bilateral border tensions have certainly reduced since the 73-day face-off in Doklam as both the countries have evolved mechanisms, especially at battalion commander-level, to ensure there are lesser confrontations along the LAC stretching from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh.

TO BEAT PAK IN NARRATIVE WARFARE

Armed forces need unified PR command: Cyber Security chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's cyber security chief on Saturday said the separate public relations wings of the three Armed forces are "going in different ways" and made a strong pitch for a unified PR command for the three services. Pakistan is ahead of India in this aspect as its Director General Inter Services Public Relations (DG-ISPR) serves as the spokesperson for the Pakistan Armed Forces.

National Cyber Security

Coordinator Lieutenant General Rajesh Pant (retd) said the unified PR command was needed to ensure an upper hand in the narrative warfare with Pakistan, which, he opined, has "got its act together" through its Director General Inter Services Public Relations (DG-ISPR).

"When are we going to have our own equivalent of the DGISPR because the (Indian armed forces) services have their own PRs and they are going in different ways? Somebody at the national level

now has to look at the narrative warfare and how to implement it in various domains," he said.

Talking about the Director General Inter Services Public Relations (DGISPR), which serves as the spokesperson for the Pakistan Armed Forces, Pant said the neighbouring country got its act together in narrative warfare through the agency.

"What we are finding from the other side — from the western border — that since the time they have created the

DGISPR, they have got their act together," he said here at a seminar.

According to official Twitter handle @OfficialDGISPR, Major General Asif Ghafoor is serving the post since December 2016.

Lt Gen (Retd) Rajesh Pant added, "When they (DGISPR) conduct a narrative warfare, let's say in the case of Kashmir, the message they send to Europe is that human rights are being infringed."

While when they engage

with Islamic nations they tell them that Islam is under threat, noted Pant, adding, "What they told the southeast Asia is that there is a regional instability," said Pant adding "So, they seem to have got their act together."

It is important to clarify what the three services of Indian armed forces imply and mean by 'information warfare', he said. "They should come out with the definition because now they are using the terms - as you are aware - like 'narrative warfare'," he said.

ED attaches land valued at ₹77.7L belonging to wildlife smuggler under PMLA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached a land measuring 11.5752 decimal (5042 sq.ft.) in Kolkata valuing ₹77.7 lakhs under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) belonging to a notorious smuggler of wildlife Supradip Guha in a case related to illegal trading and smuggling of Wildlife in Eastern India. In a first of its kind case, the ED had attached three chimpanzees, four marmosets and other precious birds of Indian and foreign origin from his premises. At present, Guha is absconding and a look out circular has been issued for him.

"Accused Guha a resident of Baguiati, Kolkata was involved in large scale illegal trade of wild life in West Bengal since long," it said in a statement. The ED said its probe found Guha was "running an organised wildlife smuggling racket". He is a clever criminal and recorded contradictory statements before the customs authorities and wildlife authorities to evade action from both the departments, it alleged.

According to the ED, seven animals are valued at ₹81 lakh, with each chimpanzee worth ₹25 lakh and a

marmoset, a species of small long-tailed South American monkeys, about ₹1.5 lakh.

ED sources said that investigation was initiated under PMLA on receipt of information from the Wild Life Department of West Bengal regarding seizure of prohibited Wildlife under Indian Wildlife protection Act 1972.

Investigation also revealed that the accused had also procured fake transportation certificate for illegally transporting scheduled and protected Indian Birds for which a separate FIR No. 86/2019 was registered against him by PS North Bidhannagar of WB Police.

Investigations under PMLA revealed that accused Supradip Guha had deposited illegally earned money into 8 bank accounts owned by him in his name and in the name of his family member and his firms. Investigation also revealed that the accused was running an organised racket dealing in illegal wild life trade and the proceeds of crime so earned by him run into more than three crores. The agency said the first-of-its-kind attachment under the PMLA "enabled" the zoo authorities to retain the animals as the smuggler was making attempts to take them away.

Jaishankar on 2-day visit to Iran; to meet counterpart, Rouhani

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Days after the US provided a rare exemption to India from sanctions on the Chabahar port, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar will on Sunday embark on a two-day visit to Iran, where he will co-chair the 19th Joint Commission Meeting with his Iranian counterpart, Javed Zarif. Jaishankar is also expected to call upon Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, the external affairs ministry said on Saturday.

The meeting comes days after the US exemption to India from sanctions on the Chabahar port in Iran as Washington said it recognised that the strategic project was a lifeline for war-torn Afghanistan to get humanitarian supplies from India.

The Chabahar port -- jointly being developed by India, Iran and Afghanistan -- is considered a gateway to golden opportunities for trade with central Asian nations by the three countries. It is located on the Indian Ocean in the Sistan and Baluchestan province of Iran.

Jaishankar will also be visiting Oman from December 23 to 25 at the invitation of Omani Foreign Minister Yousuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, the External Affairs

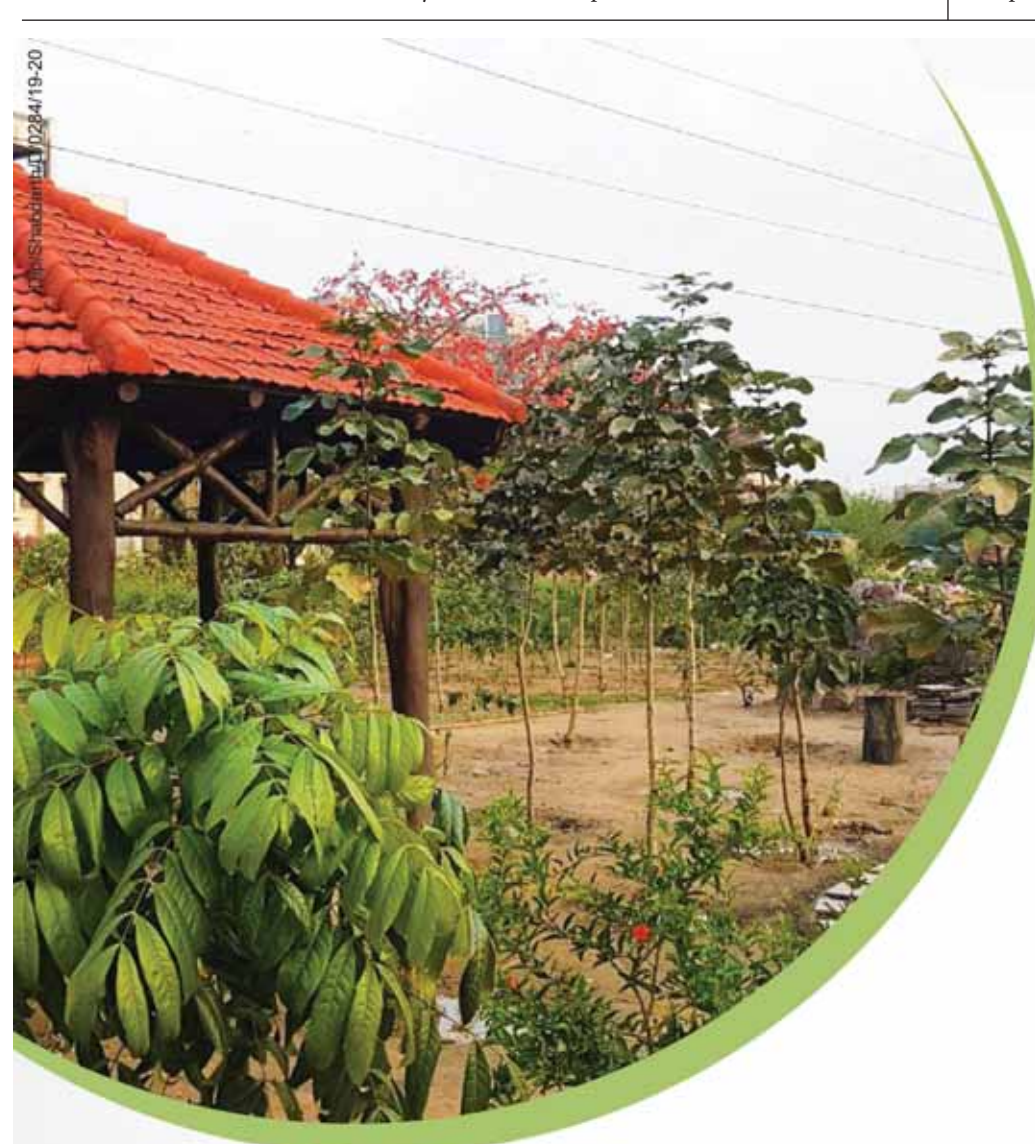


Ministry said in another statement.

"During his visit, EAM, in addition to meeting his counterpart, will hold meetings with other ministers to discuss matters of mutual interest. An agreement for cooperation in the field of maritime transport will be signed during the visit. EAM will also interact with the Indian community in Muscat during the visit," the statement said.

This will be Jaishankar's first visit to Oman after the second term of the Modi government began in May. "The visit is in pursuit of India's objective of enhanced engagement with the Gulf region, which is in India's extended neighbourhood."

It will provide an opportunity to hold in-depth discussions with the political leadership on a wide range of bilateral, regional and global issues and will advance India's growing engagement with Oman and the region," the statement said.



INAUGURATION OF MITRAON CITY FOREST (Area: 88 acres)

on Sunday, 22nd December, 2019 at 11:00am
Mitraon, Kair Road, Najafgarh, New Delhi

Chief Guest:

Kailash Gahlot

Environment, Forests and Wildlife Minister, Delhi

Another city forest for Delhi to improve the environment of Delhi

Host to diverse Floral and Faunal species of Delhi
Will provide first-hand experience to visitors about the natural vegetation and bio diversity in Delhi





POWERPUFF GIRLS

MUSBA HASHMI meets young crusaders from Jharkhand and Rajasthan who have been making a difference in their respective villages with their body of work defying age barriers. Their fight is against age-old contentious issues like child marriage, casteism, illiteracy and child labour. A report

At an age as young as 13, when most girls tend to live in a make-belief world, where everything is sweet and nice, two little warriors decided to initiate a fight against the evils in the society. Meet Arti Kumari and Champa Kumari who feared none and raised their voice against the villains like casteism, child marriage, child labour and illiteracy, that are there in the society since time immemorial.

Hailing from Raipura in Alwar, Rajasthan, Arti is a Class VII student and the second eldest of the four siblings in the family. Her father is a *jawaan* in the Army and is posted in the conflict areas of Kashmir.

Arti's village comprises of many families from backward castes and tribes. The access to social spaces and village infrastructure depends very much on the caste of the person. Arti's family belongs to a higher caste, and therefore is economically and socially more comfortable than many in the community.

Despite the fact that Arti has never faced any discrimination, her zeal to take up the issue of casteism at such a young age amazes everyone. "How can you decide how to treat another person based on their caste? This isn't even something they choose for themselves," she asks passionately.

To eradicate this evil practice, Arti started interacting with the people from the lower castes. But this didn't sit well with many people in her village, not even her family. "My mother used to ask me what I was doing and that the whole village will boycott me, but I told her that they too are human and there is nothing to avoid them. Gradually, my family understood what I was doing, but I had to go through a lot of resistance from the villagers who used to ask my parents whether I am in my senses or not," she tells you.

Not only this, Arti took a step ahead by having a meal in the house of one such family on the occasion of Makar Sankranti.

The other thing that kept disturbing Arti was that none of the children from lower castes or the Banjara community went to school. "Initially, it never bothered me. But after I was told about the opportunities that open up when you get educated, I started wondering, 'How would the future for these children be, without education?'" she tells you. This thought made Arti and other children determined to work to change the situation. As a result, today, all 96 children in her village are enrolled in schools around the area.

When Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) started its work here in 2015, every third child in the village was either out-of-school, or not enrolled. Many children worked in the stone quarries for a meager sum of money. The area is also considered to be a source point for child trafficking. Lured by traffickers disguised as contractors, many poor families agree to send their children to work in cities. As a result, many children end up trafficked for illegal purposes.

The Banjara community, a historically nomadic

tribe, lives on the outskirts of the village, ranking the lowest in the societal hierarchy. None of the Banjara children from here ever went to school until 2015.

Guided by the activists, Arti along with other children, tried to understand the rights children have. They were astonished to see how the rights of many children around them were violated regularly. This was especially common in the case of children from the Banjara and other low-caste communities. This realisation made the group ready to take the matter into their own hands.

Driven with the motivation to change the situation of children, Arti contested the Bal Panchayat elections and became an elected member.

"Along with other children, I used to organise rallies, door-to-door campaigns, and personal meetings with parents, highlighting the consequences of ill-practices like child marriage, child labour, and abuse and exploitation of children. However, initially all of them used to drive us away, showing no interest of engaging into any kind of conversation. But, I kept trying until the day they agreed to sit and talk," she says.

Arti and the other members of the Bal Panchayat also played a pivotal role in stopping child marriages happening in their village with the support of village elders and activists.

Among all the challenges, the biggest challenge was to convince the Banjara community people to send their children to school. "Who will take the cattle out for grazing?" "Who will go earn for the family?" "Will the children from the upper caste even talk to our children?" Questions like these hounded the Bal Panchayat members.

Therefore, the group changed their strategy. They started regularly engaging the Banjara children in sports and playing with them. "When we first went to the community, they showed no interest of talking to us. They used to say *hamare bachchon ko bigad degi yeh ladki* and various other things. That time, I felt like giving up. It felt bad because what we were doing was for their own good but still we had to hear such bad things that demotivated us. In this phase of time, what kept us going was the words of BBA activists. They told us that fighting evil is not as easy as it seems and that this was just a small portion of it.

"We started visiting the community regularly. We tried conversing with the children but all went in vain. The parents gave strict instructions to the children to not indulge in any talks with us. Then we started playing games amongst each other. This lured the Banjara children and gradually we earned their trust. We developed a deeper relationship with them. We then were able to convince the children about the importance of education and play. And eventually, both the parents and the children agreed to go to school," she tells you.

The Bal Panchayat also had a Banjara boy elected as the *sarpanch* (head), which was groundbreaking. Arti, as the secretary of the council, continued focusing on regularisation of education for children from the Banjara community. The group



Arti Kumari

I AM HAPPY TO SEE THAT SOME AMOUNT OF EMPOWERMENT HAS COME TO THE GIRL CHILD. TODAY, ANY GIRL GOING TO SCHOOL DOESN'T NEED TO BE ESCORTED FROM HOME — ARTI KUMARI

also campaigned against caste-based discrimination, and for improving the quality of education and infrastructure in their schools.

Arti has also spoken fearlessly against the caste system and reservations on many platforms like rallies and campaigns at the village level. She debates that reservations should be on the basis of one's economic condition, and the benefits should percolate down to the ones who need it the most.

The Gram Panchayat also recognises this Bal Panchayat and thus acts swiftly on children's concerns. Due to their impact, the Block Development Officer and other administrative officials also cooperate with them.

They have collectively been able to contribute to the village's development tremendously, especially the condition of schools. Improved attendance of enrolled children in school owing to regular teachers, improved meals, better student-teacher ratio, and better play grounds have been some of the major achievements of this collaboration.

At this point, the challenge for this group of resolute children is to get the route of an open drain adjacent to their school diverted. The drain overflows during the rains and spews waste around the school and on the play ground, making it inaccessible, and also creating foul smells.

"We have already communicated about this to the Gram Panchayat, and they have told us that they will act on this soon," Arti says, with a twinkle in her eyes that speaks of the confidence these kids have in themselves.

There is a lot many changes that Arti hopes to see in the girls of her village. "I would want that the girls should feel empowered. Though, the change has come. Earlier, these girls never went to the school without a companion. So if one was absent from the school, the other will not go as well. Most of them preferred staying back at their homes. But now, none of them wants to miss the school. Even if someone is absent, the other will go by her own. This is the change that I would like to see on a larger scale that the girls should come forward and stand for their rights," she says.

While Arti is much wiser than her age, Champa, a resident of Jhandar village, is no less. She is the Vice President of National Maha Bal Panchayat. She has also won the prestigious Diana Award for her work against child marriages in mica-mining areas of Jharkhand and was felicitated by Dropdi Murmuat, Jharkhand Governor at Raj Bhawan in Ranchi.

Champa Kumari was once a school dropout and used to go to mines to collect mica as her education was never the priority of her family. In the year 2016, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation intervened in Champa's village with the aim to put an end to evil practices like child marriages, child labour, child trafficking and all forms of child exploitation as well as ensuring 100 per cent enrolment of children in school.

"Like me, there were a lot of children in my area who were taken to the mines to collect mica by their parents. Their age was never a concern for the par-



Champa Kumari

ents. Even children as young as eight years were involved in the work. Once the parents thought that the child is big enough to become a helping hand, they would take them to work," she says.

Being a child who had been into mica mining, she understands how hazardous it is and all she wanted was to stop other children from falling prey to such jobs.

Apart from being a mica hub, her village practises child marriage as a tradition, but Champa wanted to put an end to this. Therefore, with the intervention of Champa Kumari and other members of Bal Panchayat two child marriages were foiled in her village.

"I got to know about the marriage through some villagers. A 12-year-old girl was being married off to a man much older to her. I went there along with other members of the Bal Panchayat and we stopped that horrendous act. It was difficult to convince the parents to not marry their daughter in one go, but after multiple attempts we were able to save the girl," she says. In her village, girls aged between 12-14 are usually married to boys between 18-19 years of age.

The whole village stood against Champa, but the young heart had no plans of backtracking. "My parents told me not to intervene in such matters. The villagers used to call us names for not abiding by the so called laws of the village. But *maine kabhi himmat nahin haari*. I told me parents that the way I was rescued from child labour, it is my responsibility to help others and somehow they were convinced and supported my decision," she tells you.

The largest impact of Champa's efforts that could be seen is the reduction rate of child marriages in her village. She has become a catalyst of change not only in her village, but in the nearby villages as well.

There are many children like Champa who are dedicated to making child friendly nation through developing the collective leadership by children themselves using democratic process across India.

India look to end on high

Men in Blue search for 10th consecutive bilateral series win against Windies in decider today

PTI ■ CUTTACK

India have everything going their way as they head into the third and final ODI against West Indies at the Barabati stadium today eyeing a 10th straight bilateral series win over the Caribbean side.

The West Indies took the home side by surprise in the opening ODI in Chennai to go one-up in the three-match series. But India, riding an all-round display, came back strongly to restore parity in the second match.

Barring a rare duck from skipper Virat Kohli, the Indian top-order fired in unison at Visakhapatnam, before hat-trick hero Kuldeep Yadav sliced through the West Indies line-up for a comprehensive 107-run victory.

Three days after his blazing 159, Rohit Sharma stood just nine runs short of eclipsing former Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya's 22-year-old record of being the highest run-scorer as an opener across all the formats.

K L Rahul also struck a sublime century in a 220-run opening stand to firmly stake his claim as a long-term opener for India.

Then the duo of Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant chipped in with brisk knocks, and they would like to end the year on a positive note.

In bowling, Delhi pacer Navdeep Saini is in line to make his ODI debut in the absence of the injured Deepak Chahar, who was ruled out of the match with a lower back problem.

The fielding, though, has failed to match the high standards India have set in recent years.

While Iyer's effort to dismiss Shimron Hetmyer was eye-catching, Chahar dropped a sitter off Nicholas Pooran and graced Shai Hope for a duck at the slip cordon, something that attracted Kohli's attention.

The pitch at Barabati is going to be similar to the one in Visakhapatnam, offering plenty of runs.

The left-right combination of Hetmyer and Hope plotted India's downfall in Chennai and had it not been for a brilliant throw from Iyer to run out the former in Vizag, the Windies would have put up a strong fight in the second ODI.

Hetmyer, who struck a career-best 139 in Chennai, was over the moon and danced in excitement after being bought for ₹7.75 crore by Delhi Capitals in the IPL auction. His teammate Sheldon Cottrell also took home a hefty paycheck after the left-arm pacer was bought for ₹8.5 crore by Kings XI Punjab, and the Windies duo will



Indian captain Virat Kohli, center, gestures during a training session ahead of final ODI between Indian and West Indies at Barabati stadium in Cuttack AP

be bolstered by that. Hope, who is second only to Rohit in the run chart this year, will look to make a statement after the wicketkeeper-batsman went unsold at the auction.

Kieron Pollard's team had no hesitation in chasing after winning the toss in the first two ODIs but come today, the teams will be thinking twice before bowling second keeping the dew factor in mind.

The West Indies, at the same time, will be keen to end a 13-year long wait to win against India in a bilateral ODI series. While the hosts, who lost to Australia 2-3 in their last bilateral series in March, will have their reputation at stake.

They have not lost two consecutive bilateral ODI series at home in the last 15 years. The last time an ODI was played here more than two years ago, India had pipped England by 15 runs while defending an imposing 382.

Series outcome won't influence WI path

PTI ■ CUTTACK

West Indies head coach Phil Simmons feels his team's "best show" may not be enough to beat India in the series-decider but the outcome of the game won't "influence" the direction the Caribbean outfit has taken under his guidance.

Simmons, a former player, was reappointed as West Indies coach in October.

"I think all the guys know we want to play our best tomorrow (on Sunday) and even though we play our best,



Windies players chat during team's practice session at Barabati stadium PTI

we might not win," Simmons said on the eve of the match. The gulf between the two sides has progressively

widened in the last decade or so as the West Indies, barring their 3-0 sweep over Afghanistan last month, have

gone without a win in 16 bilateral ODI series since August 2014.

"The thing is we are trying to build something and the game tomorrow (on Sunday) does not influence the direction in which we are going... But we are trying to build something and will continue to be in direction we are going."

However there's a positivity in the camp with their top-ranked batsman in the ICC ODI rankings, Shai Hope in fine form along with Shimron Hetmyer.

SINGLES

FIORENTINA FIRES MANAGER MONTELLA

FLORENCE: Fiorentina announced on Saturday that they had fired coach Vincenzo Montella with the club struggling in 14th in Serie A. "Vincenzo Montella has been relieved of his duties as head coach of the first team," club announced on its website. "The decision was taken following long & detailed analysis of the team's performances and results." The club promised a new coach would be announced "in next few days".

PATTINSON TO PLAY IN BOXING DAY TEST

MELBOURNE: Australia head coach Justin Langer has all but confirmed that right-arm pacer James Pattinson will feature in the playing XI for the second Test against New Zealand beginning Boxing Day at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). "I am really looking forward to seeing Patto bowl and bowl well in this Boxing Day Test, which is his home ground as well," cricket.com.au quoted Langer.

FC GOA EYE TOP SPOT IN ISL

MARGAO: FC Goa will be out to reclaim their spot at the top of ISL when they take on Odisha FC today. Goa are currently in second spot with 15 points from eight games, while Odisha are seventh with nine points. It will be an interesting tussle in the middle of the park between two sets of technically-proficient players. Goa are coming off a confidence-boosting 2-1 win over ATK in the previous game.

JEREMY SMASHES YOUTH WORLD RECORD

DOHA: Youth Olympic Gold medalist weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga went on a record-breaking spree, claiming three world marks in a remarkable performance, on the way to a Silver in the men's 67kg category at the 6th Qatar Int'l Cup. In a power-packed performance, the 17-year-old smashed his own Youth World and Asian record in snatch, clean and jerk and total lift with an effort of 306kg (140kg+166kg) to win the Silver medal. Jeremy broke 27 records in total all under his name, combining national and international marks.

HARINDER WINS HCL-SRFI INDIA TOUR

MUMBAI: Indian squash player Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu clinched the men's title while Hana Ramadan of Egypt won the women's crown in the third leg of the HCL-SRFI India Tour. Harinder defeated Tomotaka Endo of Japan 3-0 in a match that lasted for 30 minutes, while Hana beat England's Lucy Turmel 3-1 in the women's final.

MARTINEZ WINS WBC FLYWEIGHT CROWN

LOS ANGELES: Mexico's Julio Cesar Martinez stopped Nicaragua's Cristofer Rosales in the ninth round to win the vacant World Boxing Council flyweight title. Martinez improved to 15-1 with his 12th victory inside the distance while Rosales fell to 29-5 with the loss at Phoenix, Arizona. After dropping his 2015 pro debut, Martinez has won 15 fights in a row, although he needed two tries to claim the WBC flyweight crown.

PCB ROPES IN CURATOR ATKINSON

KARACHI: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has hired the services of experienced curator Andy Atkinson to review the state of pitches in the country and help local curators prepare sporting pitches. The PCB in its bid to improve its cricket structure will also revamp the National Cricket Academy in Lahore and turn it into a high-performance center. AGENCIES



Abid Ali celebrates with Shan Masood after scoring hundred AP

Openers put Pak on top

AFP ■ KARACHI

Abid Ali and Shan Masood became only the third opening pair for Pakistan to hit centuries in the same innings as Pakistan turned the tables on Sri Lanka in the second and final Test in Karachi on Saturday.

Abid, nicknamed "legend" in Pakistan's dressing room, hit 174 for his second hundred in as many Tests — becoming the first Pakistani and ninth batsman overall to score two centuries in his first two Tests.

When the third day's play ended Pakistan were in a strong position with 395-2, having an overall lead of 315 after conceding an 80-run lead in the first innings.

Skipper Azhar Ali was unbeaten on 57 —

his first fifty in 14 innings — and Babar Azam on 22 not out.

It was a day of batsmen's dominance as Pakistan added 338 runs after resuming at 57-0 on a National stadium pitch which dried up to help batting.

Masood blasted 135 for his second century in 19th Test as the duo put on 278 for the opening wicket, just 20 short of equalling the highest opening stand for Pakistan of 298.

Masood batted for nearly five hours for his 135, which included three sixes and seven fours. Abid struck 21 boundaries and a six in his 398-minute batting.

Abid, 32, completed his century with a sweep off-spinner Lasith Embuldeniya for two to follow his 109 in the drawn first Test in Rawalpindi — his debut.

HIGHEST OPENING STANDS FOR PAK

| Score | Partners | Opp | Venue | Season |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----|------------|---------|
| 298 | Aamer Sohail/Njaz Ahmed | WI | Karachi | 1997-98 |
| 278 | Abid Ali/Shan Masood | SL | Karachi | 2019-20 |
| 249 | Abdul Kadir/Khalid Ibadulla | AUS | Karachi | 1964-65 |
| 219 | Imran Nazir/Mohd Wasim | WI | Bridgetown | 1999-00 |
| 215 | Azhar Ali/Sami Aslam | WI | Dubai | 2016-17 |

FAISEL FEATURES

I know my game really well now: Iyer

PTI ■ CUTTACK

Shreyas Iyer on Saturday said he was flamboyant but not responsible in the beginning of his career, a far cry from the present day matured man who is displaying both in equal measure while solving India's number four conundrum.

The 25-year-old is gradually settling into the critical number four position in a team that has struggled to find one for the longest time.

The Mumbaier showed his worth with half centuries in the first two ODIs against the West Indies.

"I think that comes with maturity and responsibility. I was a flamboyant player when I started playing first-class cricket. I never used to take responsibility. I just used to back my instincts and go with the flow," Iyer told reporters.

"Lately, I've realised that once you play at the highest level, you got to take that maturity to another stage. I can even play strokes and I



can even nudge the ball and take single, so I know my game really well right now and I can play accordingly."

Asked about his sedate 88-ball 70, which he scored in the series opener on a day the top-order failed, he said, "You have to play according to what the team demands. And that's what I did the other day. The team didn't demand me to score big shots at that time, we just needed a big partnership."

"We just needed the scoreboard to keep going. And that's what I did I and I feel that whatever the situation demands, you got to play accordingly. And I'm really happy about what I did in the first game."

Three days later, batting at number five, Iyer was at his explosive best as he smashed a 32-ball 53 to consolidate India's innings in Visakhapatnam.

"I batted at No 5 in the previous ODI. I'm flexible that way. It's just that you got to play according to the situation and what the team demands. And that's what I did. And I know that I can play in both flows."

Nikhata selected for boxing trials of Olympic qualifiers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Nikhata Zareen was on Saturday named among the Indian women boxers who will participate in the two-day trials scheduled for the Olympic qualifiers to be held at the Indira Gandhi Stadium from December 27.

After the selection committee meeting, Nikhata from Telangana was handed the fourth spot in the 51 kg category which already has the six-time World Champion MC Mary Kom, RSPB's Jyoti Gulia and Haryana's Ritu Grewal as other contenders.

Mary Kom has been ranked one, Nikhata was given a second ranking, while Jyoti and Ritu have been ranked third and fourth respectively.

According to the Boxing Federation of India (BFI), boxers ranked 1 and 4 will fight and boxers ranked 2 and 3 will play against each other.

"The winners of each bout will make it to the final trial match

and the winners here in each of the 5 categories will then be selected to be part of the Indian Team to participate in the Olympic Qualifiers — Asia & Oceania in Wuhan from February 3-14, 2020," BFI said.

Given the criteria, Nikhata will take on Jyoti, while Mary Kom will face Ritu with the winner of the two bouts set to face-off in a final trial match which will decide who makes it to the Indian team for the Olympic qualifiers.

In other weight categories, Sonia (RSPB) will lock horns with former World championship Silver medalist Sonia Lather (RSPB), while Sakshi (Haryana) clashes with Manisha (Haryana) in 57kg.

In 60kg, former World champion L Sarita Devi (AIP) has been pitted against Shashi Chopra (Punjab) and Simranjit Kaur (Haryana) and Simranjit Kaur (Punjab) is set to fight Pavitra (RSPB).

In 69kg, two-time world championship Bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain (Assam) will face Anjali (Delhi), while Lalita (Rajasthan)

Gujarat Giants win Big Bout Indian Boxing League

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gujarat Giants, led by skipper Amit Panghal, pulled off a come-from-behind 4-3 victory over Punjab Panthers in a high-voltage final to win the inaugural Big Bout Indian Boxing League on Saturday.

Darshana Doot (women's 51kg) and Youth Olympic Games Gold medalist Abdulmalik Khalakov (57kg) scored well-crafted victories to put Panthers 2-0 ahead, but the Ashish Kulheria (69kg) and Panghal (52kg) hauled the Giants back on

track in the pulsating final.

The spirited and efficient Sonia Lather's split verdict win against legendary Sarita Devi in the classic women's 60kg bout took the Panthers one victory away from the crown.

But the Giants' heavyweight import from Scotland, Scott Forrest dished out a gutsy show to take the contest into the final bout of the boxing extravaganza.

Ashish Kumar then beat Yashpal in the climactic 75kg battle as Gujarat Giants took home the winners' trophy.

takes on Meena Rani (RSPB). In 75kg, Asian Games Bronze medalist Pooja Rani will square off against Indira KA from Kerala, while former world championship Silver medalist Saweety Boora takes on Nupur in an all-Haryana

bout. Among men boxers, Vikash Krishan, who returned to amateur fold after a stint in professional boxing by winning a Gold at South Asian Games, will also appear in the trials.

'Indian pace attack is world's best'



Mohd Shami celebrates after taking wicket PTI

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

South African pace great Dale Steyn on Saturday rated the current Indian fast bowling unit as the best in world cricket.

Steyn, who was bought by Royal Challengers Bangalore at the 2020 IPL auction, responded to a variety of questions during an interactive session with his fans on social networking site Twitter.

When a user asked which bowling line-up he feels is currently the best in the world, Steyn said India.

The 36-year-old, who is looking forward to the IPL's upcoming edition, was reminded about his battle with the legendary Sachin Tendulkar in 2010. He termed the dual with the Indian great as "haunting".

Steyn, who has played

92 matches in the IPL, is just four short of reaching 100 wickets in the T20 league.

Asked about his best bowling effort, he picked the 7-51 against India in Nagpur in 2010.

When asked if South Africa have a chance against England with the new coaching staff, he sounded optimistic.

"Big chance... England weren't convincing in New Zealand, that's not to say they are not good. I'm just saying they didn't look the part. Under Bouch (head coach Mark Boucher) I feel we have it covered, but it's going to be exciting," said Steyn, whose favourite fast bowler at the moment is Pat Cummins, who became the most expensive foreign buy in IPL history.

Steyn, who has played

Curran excited to pick Dhoni, Fleming's brains

PTI ■ CHENNAI

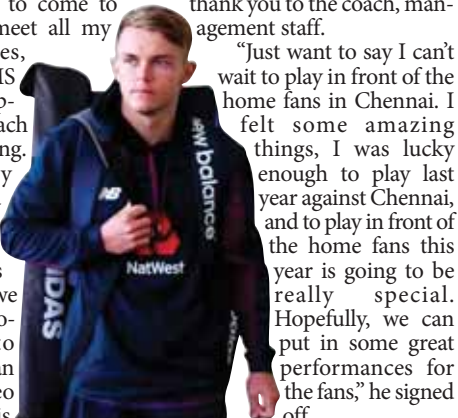
England all-rounder Sam Curran is looking at his entry into the Chennai Super Kings setup as an "opportunity to pick the brains" of seasoned captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and coach Stephen Fleming.

"Can't wait to come to Chennai and meet all my new teammates, playing under MS Dhoni our captain and our coach Stephen Fleming. It's obviously going to be a great opportunity for me to pick their brains and, hopefully, we can bring the trophy home to Chennai," Curran said in a video uploaded by his new franchise.

Curran had a fairly successful outing for Kings XI Punjab in the last edition and is now looking forward to turn out for three-time winners CSK.

"Super excited to be joining the Chennai Super Kings for next season of IPL. A massive thank you to the coach, management staff."

"Just want to say I can't wait to play in front of the home fans in Chennai. I felt some amazing things, I was lucky enough to play last year against Chennai, and to play in front of the home fans this year is going to be a really special. Hopefully, we can put in some great performances for the fans," he signed off.



Master takes on apprentice

Lampard's young brigade visit White Hart Lane to take on 'Special One' Mourinho's Spurs

Tottenham vs Chelsea
Live from 10:00pm IST
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1

AFP ■ LONDON

Frank Lampard insists he doesn't want to emulate Jose Mourinho's unique style as the Chelsea manager plots to out-wit his old boss in today's crucial clash at Tottenham.

Lampard's first Premier League meeting with Mourinho is the headline act in a fascinating derby that will determine which of the London rivals spends Christmas Day in the top four.

Spurs manager Mourinho played a key role in Lampard's emergence as one of Chelsea's all-time greats during their time together at Stamford Bridge.

Yet while Mourinho's managerial credentials are well established after winning a host of trophies during his glittering 19-year career, Lampard is still carving out a name for himself in the coaching world.

The former England midfielder is in just his second season as a manager after leaving Championship side Derby to take charge at Chelsea in July.

Lampard acknowledges Mourinho was a big influence on him as a player but, now he is in the dug-out, he will follow his own path rather than copy the Portuguese coach.

Asked to name the most important lesson he took from working with Mourinho, Lampard said: "There's not one thing, no; he's obviously a good manager with loads of good attributes.

"But there's not one specif-



ic thing I learned working under him, and I wouldn't strive to be a clone or anything. "I'm happy to go up against Jose; for me to play under him, he was a big influence in my

career." Lampard and Mourinho remain on good terms from their Chelsea days — the Tottenham manager promising a "big hug" when they meet

before kick-off and talking of his "love" for the 41-year-old. But that didn't stop the student admitting beating his old teacher in such an important game would be a memorable

Jan, Eriksen to stay at Spurs?

AFP ■ LONDON

Tottenham manager Jose Mourinho hopes Jan Vertonghen and Christian Eriksen will follow Toby Alderweireld's lead to extend their stays at Spurs beyond the end of the season.

Alderweireld ended long-running speculation over his future by signing a new contract till 2023 on Friday.

Vertonghen and Eriksen have just over six months left on their deals.

"When I arrived, we had three top players potentially leaving, now we have two top players potentially leaving," Mourinho told Sky Sports.

"If I was Jan or Christian, I would stay. They have been here for such a long time, they are living the life of the club in the past four, five years, the transition from White Hart Lane to

the best stadium in the world.

"The perspectives of the future, the vision of the club, if I was them, I would say I want to be part of the next thing."

Alderweireld and Vertonghen have remained regulars since Mourinho took charge a month ago, but Eriksen has started just once, in a dead rubber Champions League tie at Bayern Munich.

"The only thing I will say about Christian is that I want him to sign a new contract," added Mourinho.

"The most important thing is what Toby said. I couldn't be happier anywhere else. That is fantastic.

"It helps that since I've arrived he's played every minute of every game, probably. He probably feels like he's going to play under me, he's going to be first choice, and maybe that helps."

moment.

Chelsea were 12 points ahead of Tottenham when Mourinho replaced the sacked Mauricio Pochettino in November.

That gap is now down to just three after Mourinho masterminded an immediate Tottenham revival with four wins from his five league games.

In contrast, Chelsea are experiencing the first major blip of Lampard's reign after four defeats in their last five league matches.

Mourinho's impact at Tottenham has surprised some who claimed he was finished as a top manager after his last two jobs with Chelsea and United ended in acrimonious circum-

stances.

But the 56-year-old never doubted his ability to get Tottenham back on track and now he wants to underline their resurgence with a statement win against Chelsea.

"When we arrived we were 12 points behind, we were closer to the bottom than the top," Mourinho said.

"But of course we knew where we belong and we knew it was a question of time to leave this awful position and to have an approach."

"We know we can end this year in the top four. But this is not just between us and Chelsea. Manchester United are involved, Wolves are involved. Every point is crucial."



Ancelotti joins Toffees

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Everton appointed Carlo Ancelotti as the Toffees' new manager on a four-and-a-half year deal on Saturday in a major coup for a club mired in the bottom half of the Premier League table.

Ancelotti, 60, watched Saturday's 0-0 draw with Arsenal from the stands at Goodison Park. He will take charge for the first time on Boxing Day for visit of Burnley.

The three-time Champions League winning coach was sacked by Napoli earlier this month but comes with a trophy-laden CV from spells at a clutch of Europe's top clubs, including Juventus, AC Milan, Chelsea, Paris Saint-Germain, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich.

Ancelotti has won league titles in four different countries. However, his immediate task will be just to steer Everton away from the relegation zone as they sit just four points above the drop zone in 15th and could drop closer to the foot of the table by the end of the weekend.

"This is a great club with a rich history and a very passionate fan base," Ancelotti said in a club statement.

"There is a clear vision from the owner and the board

to deliver success and trophies.

"That is something that appeals to me as a manager and I am thrilled at the prospect of being able to work with everybody at the club to help make that vision a reality."

Caretaker manager Duncan Ferguson was rewarded for taking five points from three tough games against Chelsea, Manchester United and Arsenal with a role in Ancelotti's backroom team.

"It's fantastic for the club, a guy of that pedigree coming here," Ferguson told BT Sport. "I cannot wait to start working with him and I'm sure I'll learn a lot."

Ancelotti was full of praise for Ferguson's short time in charge and believes by taking points from three of the Premier League's traditional top six, Everton's squad has shown what it is capable of.

"I have seen from the performances in the last two weeks that the players are capable of so much," added Ancelotti.

"The work Duncan has done is a great credit to him. Strong organisation, strong discipline and the right motivation are some of the key ingredients in football and I'm pleased that he will be part of my backroom team moving forward."

Barca end 2019 on top

BARCELONA: Barcelona go into the brief Spanish winter break on top of La Liga after a glittering show from Lionel Messi helped the defending champions beat Alaves 4-1 on Saturday.

Real Madrid, who drew 0-0 in Barcelona in the midweek Clasico, can draw level top on 39 points but behind on goal difference if they win at home to Atletico Bilbao today.

Seville are assured third place over Christmas on 34 points after their 2-0 win in Mallorca.

French star Antoine Griezmann put Barca ahead with a lovely snapshot from outside the area after a slick exchange with Messi on 14 minutes.

Messi had already had a better strike ruled out by a harsh VAR decision, while Mochican-haired Chilean forward Arturo Vidal had tried a dramatic overhead effort that the Alaves 'keeper just about stopped with his feet.

Vidal bagged a second just before half-time when put into open space on the right as Barcelona overwhelmed the visitors, but they should have gone into the break more than 2-0 ahead.

Pere Pons pulled one back on 56 minute for Alaves with neither Gerard Pique nor the returning Samuel Umtiti on hand as his header flew home from close range.

Even with four defenders around him, Messi was unstoppable on 69 minutes as he unleashed a trademark left foot strike from outside the box.

The goal illustrated why the diminutive attacker recently won a sixth Ballon d'Or.

A sweetly-struck Luis Suarez penalty made it 4-1 on 75 minutes.

AFP



Pep 'best coach in world'



Real Madrid players train ahead of La Liga clash against Athletic Bilbao RMFC/Twitter

AFP ■ MADRID

Zinedine Zidane insisted on Saturday his key aim this season is to win La Liga with Real Madrid, but admitted they faced a thrilling challenge trying to outwit Pep Guardiola and Manchester City, who they meet in the last 16 of the Champions League.

Zidane, who has won three Champions Leagues as a coach, compared to Guardiola's two, described the Catalan as "the best coach in the world."

The two sides meet in Madrid on February 26 before heading to Manchester for the second leg on March 17.

"It'll be fabulous to play against him (Guardiola)," said Zidane, speaking ahead of Real's game against Athletic Bilbao today, their final Liga match ahead of the winter break.

"I respected him as a player and

now as a coach. He's the top coach in the world and has proved it throughout his career."

Guardiola coached Barcelona to the 2009 and 2011 Champions League titles. He went on to win plaudits at Bayern Munich and City with domestic championships but has failed to land a third Champions League title.

"So it'll be a pleasure for me and a pleasure for all of us to come up against him and his team," said Zidane.

Real can level with Barcelona on 39 points on top of liga with win over seventh placed Athletic Bilbao today.

"Bilbao is another rival and a different proposition. We will play them with all our energy, it's the last game of the year."

"The league is our priority and we will fight for it all the way," he said.

Everton, Arsenal fail to impress

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

Carlo Ancelotti and Mikel Arteta were shown the huge jobs that lie ahead as managers of Everton and Arsenal respectively as they watched their new sides play out a drab 0-0 draw at Goodison Park on Saturday.

Ancelotti was confirmed as the Toffees new boss on the morning of the match, 24 hours after Arteta took charge of Arsenal.

Both new managers were in the stands with Duncan Ferguson and Freddie Ljungberg in temporary charge for the final time.

And the lack of confidence of two sides struggling at the wrong end of the table was obvious in a match completely devoid of quality.

A point edges Arsenal into ninth, but the Gunners have now won just once in their last 13 games in all competitions.

Everton move up to 15th, but are only four points clear of the relegation zone.

Ljungberg named a youthful Arsenal side with 19-year-old Emile Smith Rowe starting for the first time in the Premier League alongside Reiss Nelson and teenagers Gabriel Martinelli and Bukayo Saka.

Mesut Ozil, Alexandre Lacazette and Nicolas Pepe were among those left out by the Swede, who won just one of his six matches in caretaker charge.



"We had a very young side out there because I wanted energy and I wanted to give them chances," said Ljungberg.

"I thought we could have won the game with the chances we had, but I loved the spirit we saw and that's what you need in the Premier League."

Unlike Ferguson, Ljungberg's future under Arteta has not been clarified, but he hopes to remain as part of the coaching staff.

"I've been told by the club they want me to stay but I will have a meeting with Mikel tomorrow and hopefully it's a good one."

Neither side managed a shot on target before the break, but Arsenal had the better chances in the second half.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang was denied by a fine save from Jordan Pickford as he pounced on Callum Chambers' flick on from a corner before the Gunners' captain fired too close to the England number one with his next effort.

Ljungberg's final decision of his caretaker spell was a brave one as he replaced Aubameyang 13 minutes from time as Lacazette was finally called on from the bench.

However, the focus was again snatched by Ferguson's substitutions as for the second straight week he replaced a substitute.

Moise Kean was the victim of his impatience at Old Trafford last weekend as the Italian international was hooked after just 18 minutes.

This time it was Kean who was introduced for Cenk Tosun, who had come on early in the game for the injured Alex Iwobi.

But Kean could not make himself a hero by scoring his first Everton goal as Arsenal held out for a first clean sheet in 15 games.

TRAU, Real Kashmir search maiden win

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

TRAU FC will host Real Kashmir FC in a crucial I-League match in Imphal today.

TRAU is at the bottom of the 11 team league, having lost all their first three matches, conceding six goals while RKFC have a point after one match.

The Snow Leopards drew against East Bengal 1-1 in their tournament opener at Kalyani and are at the ninth spot.

Real Kashmir were supposed to play their first home match in Srinagar at the TRC ground on December 12.

But due to heavy snowfall that forced closing of the Srinagar airport, their successive home games against Gokulam Kerala FC (Dec 12) and Churchill Brothers (Dec 15) were postponed.



Despite heavy snowfall and a long gap in between matches due to postponement of matches, Real Kashmir have practiced at their home, the TRC Ground and are confident of bagging three points against their opponents, who are

debutants in the league. TRAU's technical director Douglas de Silva, a former star with Mohun Bagan and East Bengal, is under pressure to deliver after the team lost their first three matches under the Brazilian's supervision.

TRAU vs Real Kashmir
Live from 2:00pm IST
D SPORT

Kashmir's Scottish coach David Robertson summed up the mood in the visitors camp aptly when he said ahead of the game, "We are excited and ready to go. We are disappointed not to have played more but my team is hungry and ready to get playing again.

"Our preparation has been very good and with the long break, it gave us time to recover from injury and work on certain things. But overall we can't wait to take the field."

Nigerian attacker Princewill Emeka, the TRAU captain, did not deny in his pre-game chat however that the team is under pressure to deliver at home. He said, "The results need to change. We can't afford to lose more points.

Leipzig keep 1st place in Germany

AFP ■ LEIPZIG

RB Leipzig will go into the Bundesliga winter break in first place after coming from behind to claim a 3-1 home win against Augsburg on Saturday.

The German league starts a four-week winter break on Sunday and Leipzig's hard-fought home win left them three points clear.

Borussia Moenchengladbach can draw level on 34 points if they beat Hertha Berlin.

Leipzig fell behind at home after just eight minutes when Augsburg's top-scoring forward Florian Niederlechner stabbed home a cross.

However, Leipzig battered the visitors' goal and their 16th attempt finally went in when midfielder Konrad Laimer curled his shot inside the top corner on 68 minutes.

The hosts took the lead with ten minutes to go when Czech forward



Patrik Schick headed home his third goal in as many games after he was left unmarked at the far post.

Danish striker Yussuf Poulsen grabbed Leipzig's third goal in the 89th minute when he converted a pass from Timo Werner.

Elsewhere, Dutch teenager Joshua Zirkzee continued his dream scoring run for Bayern Munich by giving the defending champions a late lead in their 2-0 win at home to Wolfsburg.

Having scored on his Bundesliga debut in their 3-1 midweek win at Freiburg, Zirkzee, 18, fired home a Thomas Muller pass with his first touch after coming off the bench at the Allianz Arena.

Germany winger Serge Gnabry then added a second goal just before the final whistle to seal the three points which leaves Bayern third.

The defender came at a price, however, as winger Javi Martinez had to be helped off.

Schalke are fifth after their 2-2 draw at home to Freiburg, who converted two second-half penalties.

They level on 30 points with Borussia Dortmund, who crashed 2-1 defeat at Hoffenheim on Friday.



Acting was the only option'

■ What is your role in *The Wedding Guest*?

The film is a two-hander which means that there is Radhika Apte's character and Dev Patel's character. I have hired this character to go and kidnap my girlfriend from her arranged mar-

riage in Pakistan and bring her down to India.

■ Would you say that it is a kind of fun movie?

No, I wouldn't say that it is a fun film. It is more of a meditative and a slow film.

■ What made you take up acting?

Actually, there was no choice. I was not good at anything else. My parents wanted me to do take up something else. I told them this is (acting) what I wanted to do. That I loved it.

■ You were in Atlanta, did your internship and even worked there. What made you come to India?

I got tired of acting. I wanted to travel around, live in an ashram and walk around the Himalayas. It was a typical post-college experience.

■ From theatre to films how has the journey been thus far?

Like any journey. One foot in front of the other. Sometimes a

Talktime

JIM SARBH

He made his debut in 2016, playing Khalil in *Neerja* and then went on to do films like *Sanju*, *Padmaavat* and *The Wedding Guest* that premiered on *PriveHD*.

He speaks with Shalini Saxena about his journey and what is keeping him busy

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE I WANT TO WORK WITH. IT IS A LONG LIST, ALMOST ENDLESS. SOME OF THE DIRECTORS THAT I WOULD LOVE TO WORK WITH ARE VIKRAMADITYA MOTWANE, NEERAJ GHAYWAN AND LIJO JOSE PELLISSERY

beautiful valley, sometimes good, sometimes you are just walking through muck.

■ Would you agree that *Padmaavat* changed your career graph?

Yes. Because the film did so well more people saw it and consequently I got more roles.

■ History says that Malik Kafur was a great General. In the movie the role is somewhat diluted. What made you take up the role?

The movie is *Padmaavat* it was not called Malik Kafur. If the movie was titled Malik Kafur, it would have gone into the depths of his history. Since he is just a supporting character, the story is about someone else, the amount of reference there is to him is totally fine.

■ Do you have a checklist while taking up a project?

No. I don't have one. It depends on the script, on the platform, on the director and the project. There is no one particular thing that drives the decision. It depends on how everything comes together.

■ Is there a list of people whom you would love to work with?

There are a lot of people with whom I want to work with. It is a long list, it is almost endless. Some of the directors that I would love to work are Vikramaditya Motwane (known for *Bhavesch Joshi*), Neeraj Ghaywan (known for *Masaan*), Lijo Jose Pellissery (recipient of the Best Director Award at the 48th Kerala State Film Awards for *Ee.Ma.Yau*) to name a few.

■ Is there a role that you would say no to?

There are several roles that I would turn down. For example, a one-dimensional paedophile. It just depends on the story and not the role per se. A completely one-dimensional person, Muslim character in a story that is populated mostly by Hindus, I would say no to such roles.

■ What are the other projects that you are working one?

There are two plays, one is *Constellations* that opened on November 21, 2019 NCPA, Mumbai. The other is *Sea Wall* that opens on December 1, 2019 again at NCPA. Then there is *Taish*. There are some projects that are opening and some that I am in talks with.

Destination: 10 for 2020

With the Indian traveller traversing the world, here is a list of the most happening places to go to next year

Indians travelled the world in 2019. The New Year is not going to be any different. Foreign destinations that people have marked on their calendar are as follows.

MILWAUKEE, WI, US

The host of next year's Democratic National Convention, Milwaukee makes it to the top of the trending list. This historic gem on the shores of Lake Michigan often slips under the radar but has a terrific bar and restaurant scene and fascinating cultural attractions that include a Calatrava-designed art museum. And with over 105 miles of scenic bike lanes, it's easy to see why Milwaukee is experiencing an upsurge in interest among guests.

Marathon each year. MotoGP is scheduled to return in March next year.

SUNBURY, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

A short drive northwest of Melbourne, the suburb of Sunbury is a popular spot with savvy locals thanks to its wildlife, wineries and Victorian-era architecture. Its biggest claim to fame is as the birthplace of cricket's most sought-after trophy — The Ashes. In 2020, Sunbury looks to attract cricket fans from near and far as Melbourne will be hosting the ICC T20 World Cup.

ROMANIA

Romania, with its pristine hills and ancient rural villages, is the perfect destination for anyone looking for something off-the-beaten-track. The country has some of the best preserved virgin forests in Europe and, according to the 2018 Environmental Performance Index, ranks 15th globally when it comes to ecosystem vitality.

BILBAO, SPAIN

Bilbao's transformation from rust belt city to flourishing culture hub is truly remarkable. The city's Frank Gehry-designed Guggenheim Museum put Bilbao on the map when it opened back in 1997. Visitors to the area are rewarded with a lively dining scene, breathtaking architecture and an unforgettable cityscape.

BURIRAM, THAILAND

The rural province of Buriram is home to some of Thailand's most treasured Khmer relics. Its best known monument is the incredible Phnom Rung complex which is comparable in grandeur to its much more famous Cambodian neighbour, Angkor Wat. In addition to ancient ruins, the province has also become a sporting hotspot: 2018 saw the inaugural MotoGP motor racing event at the Chang International Circuit which also plays host to the Buriram



time tour routes throughout Xi'an with highlights including nighttime markets and performances.

EUGENE, OR, US

This medium-sized city in the Pacific Northwest punches above its weight: many multinational businesses were launched in Eugene and the city has made a name for itself as a culinary hub in Oregon. Thanks to the surrounding natural beauty, Eugene has long attracted eco-conscious newcomers many of whom have helped make the city a hub for the organic food industry. This green city is also a track and field destination, and will welcome athletes and spectators when it hosts national qualifying trials in summer 2020.



LUXEMBOURG

This diminutive European country packs a lot into its small landmass — the city of Luxembourg was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994 thanks to its enchanting historic core, dramatically perched on a cliff top. Beyond the city itself, the country's forested hills are home to medieval castles, rocky gorges, charming villages and superb vineyards.

GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

Often overlooked, Mexico's second city is steadily gaining the recognition it deserves. Guadalajara operates at a less frantic pace than Mexico City yet it has a wealth of attractions to

reward visitors — from its colonial architecture in the hipster Chapultepec neighborhood to an impressive selection of festivals and museums. Guadalajara's green credentials are also worth noting: the local government has embarked on an initiative that encourages cyclists and pedestrians to reclaim public spaces normally dominated by cars.

MAASTRICHT, NETHERLANDS

Maastricht, a Dutch city with a wealth of historic buildings — more than any Dutch city outside Amsterdam. With its Roman history and a warren of narrow streets, Maastricht is also home to numerous museums and in March 2020 will play host to one of the world's largest art fairs — TEFAF Maastricht.

Courtesy: Airbnb



'It was amazing to co-sing with Salman Khan'

Singer-composer PAYAL DEV, who has sung *Yoon Karke* in *Dabangg 3* speaks with SHALINI SAKSENA about why she took up composing and the challenges that come with it

■ Are you a composer or a singer first?

This is a tough question to answer since I am both. But I began my career as a singer, so a singer first. I have recently taken up composing.

■ Why take up composing then?

I didn't realise that when I was taking down my voice notes and tunes and recording them I was in fact composing. It was not because I was thinking of turning to composing music. I was being appreciated for my singing. But if you see the artists today, almost everyone is a singer but there are few very few women composers. I just tried my hand at it and found that I was good at it. It adds to my accomplishments. It also gives me an opportunity to showcase my talent in another field as well.

■ Do you think that it is important for artists to have a holistic approach towards music?

Definitely. If you are a composer yourself, one can understand what the composer wants when you are singing for someone else. I have turned to penning my words. I am trying my hand at being a lyricist. I work long hours to explore where else I can excel. Each singer should not only sing but also try their hand at different aspects of their craft.

■ How did your song *Tum Hi Aana* from *Marjaavaan* happen?

Like I said earlier, I used to record my voice notes. Everyone is releasing singles. I too wanted to try my hand at it. I had released *Sajna Ve*; it was my first song as a composer. In fact, Salman *bhai* (Khan) had told me that whenever I will release the song, he would share it and he did. It was such a great feeling. The song was much appreciated so I decided to do another song — *Tum Hi Aana*. But at that time, the tune and the style was very different. While I was in the process of recording it, Kunal *bhai*, a dear friend, was there and so was Zubin. I ran the tune by them. They loved it and convinced me to do it for a film. The *mukhda* was recorded then and there. Kunal wrote the lyrics in a day. That is how composing for *Tum Hi Aana* happened and went to *Marjaavaan*.

■ How did the *Dabangg 3* song happen?

I had worked with Sajid-Wajid before on a project *Welcome to New York*. I did one song with them. When I was recording the song I knew it was picturised on Salman *bhai* and Sonakshi Sinha. One didn't have to be genius to guess for which movie the song was for. Wajid had approached me. We recorded the song and sent it to Salman *bhai* who loved it.

■ The song has been sung by Salman Khan.

Yes. I am co-singing *Yu Karke* with him. It was great to work with him. I had only dreamt of meeting him but with this song, I got the opportunity to work with him. I had sung a song *Saansain Hui Dhuun Dhuun* for *Race 3* as well.

■ What are the challenges you face while composing?

I don't compose music on the spot. I take my time. However, there are times when the inspiration strikes and music happens on the spot.

■ Is it tough to sing for other composers?

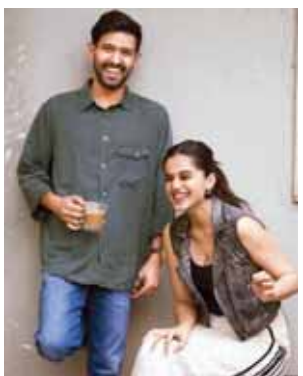
It is not always easy to fill the demand of the composers. It is important to be in the composer's shoes to understand what he wants. Some composers make you feel at home, working with them is easy. Others are tough since they put pressure which then makes it difficult to understand what they want.



WEEKLY NATTER

TAAPSEE AND VIKRANT TO STAR IN HASEEN DILLRUBA

Ac filmmaker Aanand L Rai and Eros International are known for bringing unconventional stories to the silver screen along with interesting casting. The master storyteller has pioneered the art of telling small-town stories with his Midas touch. He is yet again ready to present another one of his masterpieces to the audience with his next production *Haseen Dillrub* along with producer Himanshu Sharma.



The film will bring actor Taapsee Pannu and Vikrant Massey on screen for the first time in this gripping story written by *Manmarziyaan* writer Kanika Dhillon.

Adding melody to this mystery, the music of the film will be composed by the supremely talented Amit Trivedi.

Producer of the film, Aanand L Rai says: "Haseen Dillrub is a murder mystery within a twisted love story, a genre we have not explored before. Really looking forward to entertain and engage the audience with this edgy script."

Sunil Lulla, Managing Director — Eros International Media Ltd says: "Unlike other thriller genres, Haseen Dillrub is not just edgy. It's a perfect blend of entertainment and something which will cater to larger masses. I am glad to be associated with this film."

Producer Himanshu Sharma says: "Always excited to bring something new to the audience, Haseen Dillrub is an edge of the seat entertainer. Kanika Dhillon and Vinil Mathew are out to bring something very exciting and thrilling."

The movie will release on September 18, 2020.

GABRU GETS A MAKEOVER

Any movie's good music can win the hearts of the fans even before the film hits the theatres and the makers of the upcoming film *Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan*, know this very well. Therefore, ready to present music lovers a treat with their film, the popular 2011 Punjabi track *Gabru* is going to be part of the film.



The makers of the film have bought the rights to make a new version of the hit track for the much-anticipated family entertainer of 2020. By the strong cast of the film, it already looks like a game-changer for the genre of family entertainment in Bollywood.

This version of *Gabru*, which was originally done by Yo Yo Honey Singh, will be made by my ace music producer Tanishk Bagchi. The song will match to the contemporary music aesthetics of the millenials and is bound to make everyone dance to its tunes once again!

Directed by Hitesh Kewalya, the film will release on February 2, 2020.

SONU SOOD IS MY MENTOR: LAKSHYA

Model Lakshya Chaudhary has already created waves in the world of fashion with his ramp walks for all the big designers in the industry. However, he is not just someone who has a ramp walks to his credit. 19-year-old Lakshya Chaudhary also holds the title of the youngest Mr India in the history of the coveted pageant, after being crowned as India's official representative in the Mr Grand International Pageant.

The actor has bagged a film alongside actor Sonu Sood and is already planning on taking acting classes to master the art. Talking about his journey, Lakshya says: "I love what I do and fashion is my calling. I am glad that I could prove myself at the important junctures in my journey. Yes, being the youngest Mr India has got me the kind experience in terms of how the industry works, but I am eager to know more."



While he is tight lipped about his films, the young achiever is learning the tricks of the trade from actor Sonu Sood and has bagged his first film in the southern film agency. "It's great to start a career from the South, like Sonu sir had done. He helped me get my first Tamil film, which I will start soon. He is kind and often tells me how I should focus on building a career in films. His journey is exemplary to me. He is someone who never had a Godfather in Bollywood but still made it on his own. He is not just popular in Bollywood but in Punjab cinema and south films. That makes him so inspirational," says Lakshya.

Don't ever give up.
Never ever listen to
anyone, when they try to
discourage you,
because they do that,
believe me!
— Mariah Carey



FROM THE INSIDE

Path to spiritual awakening

Tap into your spiritual consciousness to experience all-consciousness, love, peace, unity, bliss and freedom from fear

2



CHANGE 4

No shortcut to fixing issues

Instead of expecting external intervention, better put in conscious efforts to make necessary amends

The variety of lentils available in India has the potential to make our everyday food much more nutritious and bring a wider flavour profile to our plate, writes SANGEETA KHANNA



Lentils and pakodas

If you have lived in a metro city all your life, you are most likely to have missed some of the best choices in food. The glut of imported vegetables and fruits in urban markets make for a good eye-wash and most of us are aware of this already. The day the urban markets start stocking wild purslane and wild fiddle head fern in season, we would know our choices have improved. We don't realise how much we can control the food system and the market just by making the right choices and being aware in the first place. We end up consuming a very narrow range of produce even though there is a vast variety available and remains undervalued. For example, India is the leading manufacturer of lentils and we still need to import lentils from other countries because most of us consume only two to three types of lentils as staples and a large variety of lentils remain undervalued.

Just think of the lentils you can recognise by taste and if all you can come up with is *kali dal* and *peeli dal* and may be *sambar*, you need to educate yourself better. The amazing variety of lentils available in India has a potential to make our everyday food much more nutritious and bring a wider flavour profile to our plate.

In fact, the awareness about the variety of real foods and ingredients available around us can be instrumental in bringing a desired change in our own health management and the environment of the planet. The regional variety of foods within the country is mind boggling and when I see people lugging gluten free flours from the west, I wonder when and how would we market our millets better. Recently, when I moved to Dehradun, I was most excited about the local seasonal vegetables, lentils and

beans I now have access to. But when I heard a Maharashtrian neighbour lamenting about the unavailability of *moth* lentils in the town and another Keralite neighbour complain about how difficult it was to bring *ragi* flour from her native place, I figured it was time to introduce them to local produce as replacements. I took them to the *kirana* shop across the road and introduced them to the *naurangi dal* and *mandue ka atta*. In the bargain, I made friends with the *kirana* shop owner, who got me local hemp seeds. This kind of personal connect with ingredients wouldn't have been possible at the supermarket a couple of kilometres away. Ah, we surely need to realign our food compass a little bit to see clearly.

I am reminded of a story my grandmother used to tell me when I was little. It is a story of a little birdie who used to go searching for lentil grits in the *chakki* of each home and how she once tried to pick a lentil and half of the split lentil got stuck in the *chakki*. The birdie lamented about how she didn't get enough food for her *pardes* (foreign) travel. It was possibly a migratory bird who needed all the food for the long distance travel and the hand operated stone-mill in the homes was the best place to pick on them. Several folk tales and ancient sayings had lentils as a central theme in India. This just goes to say that lentils have been an important part of our food system.

Interestingly, the hand-operated stone mill has been instrumental in the ways lentils have been used in India, the largest producer and consumer of lentils on earth. In fact, the black lentil or *urad dal* and black chickpeas or black gram are native to India and have been used in various ways since the time recorded. *Mung* beans have been known to have originat-

ed from black lentils, hence the genus of both remains the same, that is *vigna mungo*. Various other lentils came to India through spice routes and other trade routes and have become naturalised ever since. The most interesting occurrence of the readiness with which Indians adapted each lentil to suit the palate and gut both, as some of these lentils were not tasty, most of them not easily digestible, some had a very hard seed coat and some were hard to crack.

The hand-operated *chakki* came handy to process the lentils in the most usable form. The traditional domestic *chakki* used to have small wooden pegs to adjust to the size of grain or lentil being milled and if the lentils needed to be split or ground into flour to make *besan* or *sattu*. In many small town homes till about four decades ago, the *besan* or *sattu* used to be made fresh whenever needed, much like we use the mixer or coffee grinder today.

There were byproducts of the stone grinding process and those were never wasted. While the husk or bran went to cattle feed, the grits were used to make different types of steamed dumplings or deep fried *pakodas* or the sun dried *badis* that were flavour bombs to be added to curries. While women of the house had to handle all this milling, sorting, winnowing, *badi* making and sun drying and then cooking as well, they found ways to entertain and bond over these chores.

In fact stone grinders and cooking techniques from different regions of the country give a fair idea of how the kitchen gadgets and ways of cooking have evolved with the kind of produce in a specific geographic region. For instance, in the mountain state of Uttarakhand, the variety of lentils and beans is quite huge but most of them are hard to grind and take hours to cook. In

the mountains, high altitude also plays a role in cooking time. The harder the lentils, the more difficult they are to digest. This is also the reason the most popular lentil recipes of Uttarakhand are well adjusted to their hardness, cooking time and digestibility.

Lentil recipes like *Phanu*, *Chainsu*, *Dubka* and *Ras* are elaborate Uttarakhand recipes where the lentils are first roasted and then cooked whole or after grinding them in a stone grinder. These dishes are slow cooked in iron utensils for long hours to make them most nutritious and warming for the locals, where they don't get a lot of produce to cook with. In the mountains, where the lentils and beans are rain fed crops along with some coarse varieties of rice and millets, lentils become the mainstay of nutrition for everyone. Even the seasonal or foraged vegetables are greens are preserved in the form of sun dried lentil cakes or *badis*.

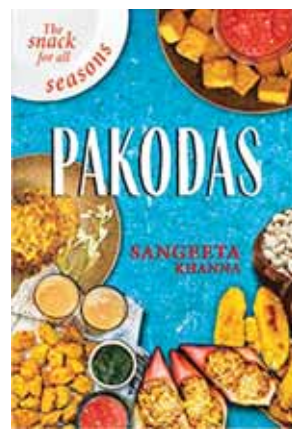
The stone grinders in the southern states are more adapted for the ways the lentils are processed before cooking. To make the lentils digestible and suited for the warm climate, they are soaked and ground into a wet paste before fermenting them in most cases. The stone grinders for wet grinding are in fact a genius design that allows efficient use of manual force to make smooth paste of soaked lentils and even grains and spices etc. For splitting the lentils, there were the *chakki* type stone grinders in southern India in the olden times and that explains the evolution of some of the lentil *vadas* that are made with coarsely ground mixed lentils, initially made with the grits that was a byproduct of splitting the lentils. Even the watery *rasam* and chunky *sambar*, cooked with a lot of vegetables and tamarind, are examples of lentil recipes adapted to suit local ingredients and warmer climate of the south.

Rajasthan and Gujarat use the maximum amount of lentils for the variety of snacks and main course dishes they cook with lentils, majorly the black gram. The recipes from these regions are often rich with fats and spices but very well adjusted to the climate, cooking methods and digestibility.

In modern times, in the last 4 decades to be specific, the electric mixer grinders have revolutionised the way we cook and the per capita consumption of lentils has increased manifold. Of course, the production has also increased, but the ease of grinding the lentils has made it much easier for the home cook. That is one of the reasons why every North Indian family makes *idli* and *dosa* at home now and making the *dal vada* at home is as easy as the *pyaz ke pakode*. Even the South Indian stone grinders have transformed to electrically operated sleek machines and making traditional foods using lentils and grains has become easier for everyone.

My book on *pakodas*, the quintessential snack made mostly with lentils has recipes using many different lentils and even grains, tubers and even fruits. Many of these *pakoda* family snacks are shallow fried and even steamed and that indicates that the traditional recipes have evolved with human nutrition being the central point even if the taste buds ruled to decide the flavours. The book on *pakodas* celebrates the diversity in Indian food with some recipes with wild and foraged greens and even some medicinal *pakoda* recipes that were part of the everyday food repertoire in every household earlier.

The writer is an author, a food and nutrition consultant, and develops recipes and products for the industry. Her book *Pakodas: The Snack for All Seasons* came out in August this year



Pakodas

The Snack for All Seasons

The book explores the regional *pakoda* variants that are deep fried, shallow fried and even steamed or poached in water. There are *pakodas* made of lentils, cereals, millets, roots, shoots, leaves and even flowers, some are made of wild foraged herbs and some even medicinal.

Such is the rich heritage of Indian cuisine that each geographical region with a specific set of produce has a bunch of special *pakodas* or deep fried foods that are absolutely healthy if made the right way.

The book also offers tips and tricks, methods to make the *pakodas* in healthier way, using the right kind of cooking fats, the appropriate frying temperature, as well as the most suitable utensils to make *pakodas*.





IF YOU WANT OTHERS TO BE HAPPY, PRACTICE COMPASSION.
IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY, PRACTICE COMPASSION.
—DALAI LAMA

HIDDENSOULS
PRAMOD PATHAK

Happiness: A Vedantic view



The word *Vedanta* means the “end of the Vedas”. In the literal sense this denotes the final knowledge or the ultimate *Vidya*. The *Vedas* are our oldest scriptural texts that have been claimed as the most ancient of the books of knowledge. These are compiled into four volumes, each having two parts. The first part of each *Veda* deals with the mundane subjects of means and ends or worldly gains. The second part, called *Upanishads*, are directed towards spiritual knowledge and address the serious seeker who is looking for self-knowledge that leads to realisation of the ultimate reality and thus leaves nothing to be desired or achieved. It is the knowledge that helps in acquiring self-actualisation. The basic purpose of *Vedanta* or the *Upanishads* is to help man search for the eternal that is the source of truth and joy. Happiness, thus, is the product of realisation of truth. Happiness, according to the Vedantic view, does not lie outside a person but is within that person. It is the very nature of man. But it is ignorance of that essentially happy nature which is the cause of all dissatisfaction and unease. The *Vedanta* thus helps a man lift that veil of ignorance and reveals the source of all happiness to him. Happiness is essentially embedded in human nature and is the *vedantic* goal of life. *Vedanta* shows how happiness lies within and the study of *Vedanta* is a journey towards reaching a deep understanding of one’s own true nature. It teaches how without going anywhere or seeking anything from the outside one can attain total fulfillment. *Vedanta* gives the knowledge of *Brahman* or the ultimate reality. The very name *Brahman* suggests that the questing spirit in man is due to the activity of God and the aspiration to realise God is in fact derived from God. The knowledge of self is what leads to the knowledge of God and this knowledge is the road to the eternal happiness or bliss. These are times when happiness is being sold as a commodity and people are actually paying a price to buy happiness, which is but a mythical concept. Real happiness cannot be found externally, it has to be realised within. The mystic Indian poet saint Kabir Das has explained this very appropriately in his famous couplet which can be paraphrased in one sentence as follows — Just as the fragrance of a flower lies within so also is the essence of human happiness inside the man, yet he acts like the musk deer searching for the musk in the grass where the aroma from the musk within it has spread. This ignorance is the root cause of the futile search for happiness outside. Happiness cannot be found. It has to be realised. It is a state of mind. The *Vedantic* view tries to emphasise this approach to happiness by suggesting that linking happiness to external objects would always be a failed exercise. This truth can also be understood by the simple marginal utility theory of economics. The wisdom of *Vedanta* lies in this eternal truth that linking happiness to outside is a prescription for unhappiness. Indian civilisation and culture has survived the ravages of time because it is based on the solid foundation of the wisdom stored in the *Vedanta*. The search for happiness outside is *trishna* or intense craving for something. It will never lead to contentment. Real happiness can only come from within.

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PATH TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Only when we tap into our spiritual consciousness, do we experience all-consciousness, love, peace, unity, bliss and freedom from fear, writes SANT RAJINDER SINGH



There is another ocean, far greater than the physical waters of this earth. An ocean that is far more permanent than the seas. It is an ocean that offers not only refreshing waters to bathe the body, but also refreshing waters to nourish the soul. It is the ocean of spiritual consciousness, of God, waiting to be tapped within each of us. It lies within, waiting to be discovered. It is there for everyone who seeks it.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS?

Spiritual consciousness is to be conscious of the soul and God within us. Most of us are aware of our body, of the thoughts passing through our mind, and the world around us. This is called body consciousness or physical consciousness. But we are much more than our body and mind. We are actually a soul, a conscious entity which inhabits the body.

The soul is part of God and is the power that enlivens the body. This consciousness at the level of soul, independent of our body and mind, is what is termed spiritual consciousness. When we tap into our spiritual consciousness, we experience the qualities of spiritual consciousness — all-consciousness, love, peace, unity, bliss and freedom from fear. Let us look at each of these.

QUALITIES OF SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Love: Anyone who has experienced

spiritual consciousness has spoken of divine love. The love we think of as love is but a reflection of a much higher love. It is an all-embracing, fulfilling, satisfying love that pulls close to its heart all that exists. It embraces each of us equally, and is an unconditional love — one that does not see our outer differences. We may lose the love of everyone in the world, but we are sustained by a much higher and more permanent love—the divine love of God embracing us from within.

When we tap into our spiritual consciousness, we not only experience love ourselves, but we expand in our own capacity to love others.

All-Consciousness: Another aspect of spiritual consciousness is that of all-consciousness or wisdom. God is all-knowing, all-aware. If we want to get a small glimpse of how this is possible, we need only look to our technology as it exists today. If we look at the Internet, we find that all information is available to us by logging onto different sites. The server that hosts all the sites is a storehouse of all the information on all the sites. By logging on we access all the information we want. God is like a giant server that hosts all our individual souls or websites. Thus, all knowledge about us is known to God. God is also able to simultaneously know what is happening to each of us at every second at the same time. When we tap into that spiritual consciousness, we too attain access to all-consciousness.

WE CAN ATTAIN SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS BY FOCUSING OUR ATTENTION WITHIN THROUGH A PROCESS CALLED MEDITATION. THROUGH MEDITATION, WE CAN ATTAIN A SENSE OF UNITY, AND WITH ALL THE LOVE, WE CAN EXPERIENCE PEACE AND BLISS

knows no death, no suffering, and no pain. We find an eternal region of all joy and bliss. If we wish to experience true peace in our life, we need to look within. Peace begins within us.

Unity: At physical level, all we see is physical differences. When we develop a spiritual consciousness, we experience that the same Light of God is within each person. We are all united at the level of soul. When we reach that level of awareness, we start to see all living beings as one big family of the Creator. We no longer differentiate between people based on form and custom. We recognise that there is beauty in diversity. We start treating all people with love and respect, because we know that their very core is the same essence of which we are made.

Bliss: Bliss is a state of pure ecstasy and joy. Any happiness we experience in this world is only a fraction of the joy we experience when we merge in the ocean of spiritual consciousness. There are no adequate words to describe the bliss. We can only imagine at our level what it is like to multiply our greatest bliss by a million-fold.

Total bliss is ours when we enter into a state of spiritual consciousness. We also bring that bliss when our attention returns to physical consciousness. Thus, it is possible to pass through times of trials and tribulations at the physical level, while the soul is experiencing bliss within. It is like a potter who shapes clay. From the outside, the clay pot may be beaten and shaped by the potter, but the potter supports the pot with his or her hand from within. Similarly, the bliss we experience from merging with the ocean of spiritual consciousness stays with us to withstand the stormy seas of life.

HOW TO ATTAIN SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS?

We can attain spiritual consciousness by focusing our attention within through a process called meditation. We contact our true nature, our soul, and discover that it is one with God, the source of divine love. Only then can we find all the treasures of divinity available to us. We gain all-consciousness and find ourselves free from fear. Through meditation, we can attain a sense of unity and with all the love, we can experience peace and bliss.

Just as the ocean has been there for people of all ages, so is the spiritual ocean of love within us. Meditation is the first step. This technique is available to all those who wish to learn it. It is a free gift of God like air and sunlight. It can be practiced as a science — in which we can experiment in the laboratory of our own body.

The writer is a spiritual leader

Freedom from Fear: What is it that most of us fear the most? Most people fear death. They think of death as the end of their existence. Little do people realise that death is just a transition from this physical world to another realm of existence. It is only by raising our consciousness to a spiritual level that we discover that we exist at the level of the soul even without the physical body. This body is but a covering over the soul. If we can raise our consciousness, we can discover our true identity. By attaining spiritual consciousness, we can become fearless.

Peace: In this world, we are faced with much turmoil, conflict, pain, disease, and suffering. Few live out life without passing through moments of stress and pain. But in the spiritual realms within, all is peace.

The reason we lack peace in this world is due to our ego and desires. The world offers countless temptations, distractions, and attractions. Our soul is overshadowed by our mind, which is attracted to the outer world. When it begins to desire things of this world that are temporary, it is headed for disappointment. Nothing material in this world is lasting. It is all transitory. Only the soul and God are eternal. The moment we pin our hopes on something perishable, we have set ourselves up for disappointment and pain when we lose it.

The only true peace is available when we rise to a level of spiritual consciousness. Then we enter a realm that

Celebrating Jesus Christ

Jesus stands for the truth and truth is omnipresent. He is present here, and right now, in the hearts of those who love him, says ACHARYA PRASHANT TRIPATHI



Jesus is not a mere mortal. Jesus is the source of light; the root of all flowers and beauty. In one form, he disappears. In another, he arises, again. Jesus or Truth is omnipresent. Prophets don’t come and go; they live forever. Going back into the past to look for them is the tragedy of the living. A lot gets missed out on what is available right now because of the mind’s tendency to think that it must be similar to how it once appeared in time. Jesus will keep sending his message. He is present here and right now, in the hearts of those who love him.

THE BIBLE & JESUS

The Bible looks at man as he is, and not as he ought to be or as he imagines himself to be. It look at man as he exists in flesh and blood, in anger and angst, in regret and rage, in desire and death; and to this man the Bible says: ‘See and acknowledge that you are living a life of incompleteness.’

A PATIENT MUST KNOW THAT HE IS SICK

The one who is lost in limitations must know and accept (and continuously remember) that he is lost. If he continues to be ignorant and keeps imagining himself as a complete one, then his limitations will continue to exist. That’s why Bible continuously reminds the man that he is sick.

There is no point talking of completeness as an abstraction, or even as a concept, and believing in it, because in actuality, it is not the case. Every sense, every feeling, every thought that mankind points towards incompleteness. Man continuously seeks more, and wants to get rid of the stuff that he does not want. Bible describes both. It says that man is limited, he is guilty, he is a sinner, he is ignorant; and secondly, that if he follows Jesus, he can be led to the Father.

RESPOND TO HIS CALL

You come to Jesus only when the Jesus within you calls. Jesus will never tell you

what to do. He will never be a provider or instructor of action. Instead, he will be the illuminator. He will help remove the obstacles that come in the way of light, so you can see better. And when you see better, then you know for yourself what path to follow.

THE PATH AHEAD

Your path cannot be the same as somebody else’s path. There is no formula or a general method. What applies to the others may not be suitable for you. You are what you are because you are programmed, brought up and conditioned in your own way. The right action, must necessarily, be different for different people.

Jesus says: “What is right for you, depends on, what you take yourself to be. Your way towards home, depends on, how badly you have lost yourself — depends on, where you think you are. There can be no, one general way or one general right action.”

REMEMBER THE CRUCIFIXION AND REPENT

Live by his word. Remember his crucifixion; because if you forget the crucifixion, you will also forget your immediate reality. The immediate reality is important. Christianity asks man to repent. The word repent is quite subtle with meaning. It means ‘to go back, to return to home.’

Man is born a wanderer, a homeless recluse — somebody who has a continuous thirst to return to the home, but the thirst finds expression in a million ways except a direct one; and that is why repentance is very useful as a tool. It helps man remember that he is indeed incomplete as he is.

Godliness within oneself must be unabashed in its love towards Jesus; but that which is not godly within a man, also must look at Jesus and repent. It must stay rooted, and true to the facts.

The writer is a spiritual leader and founder, Advait Foundation

The quest for real sukha

Sukha is often confused with material gains. Real sukha must have shanti (peace) as its integral part, says AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

In Hindi, the word *sukha* is used very loosely, whereas in Sanskrit it has a special meaning. *Sukha-suvidha* in Hindi indicates comforts, facilities, and so on. The word *ananda* is lot closer to what *sukha* really is. This word comes from *sat-chit-ananda* — a Sanskrit description of a soul. Real *sukha* must have *shanti* (peace) as its integral part. Without *shanti* where is *sukha*, asks Lord Krishna. (*Bhagavad Geeta* 2.66) Subsequently, wherever this word has been used in the *Geeta*, it means this *sukha*, not *sukha-suvidha* used in Hindi.

In English, the word happiness is used for *sukha*, and the word happiness is defined as a feeling or showing pleasure; pleased. Here the emphasis is on pleasure like sense enjoyment. There is no reference to a peaceful state. Happiness index, calculated for different countries has housing, income, work, education, safety, etc. However, happiness is person specific. These factors are conducive for becoming peaceful but individuals have to still make personal efforts to be happy. This is where spirituality comes in, when we identify ourselves as souls, and act accordingly. A soul being part of God must connect with God and that is where peace comes from. The word peace is defined as a state of being calm. This is close but the real peace comes from a good connection with God, as explained in the same verse quoted above. Peace comes from faith in God and God consciousness as a result of it. Without this knowledge, people get bemused and do not seek real *sukha*. It is no wonder that they do not get satisfaction and keep on looking for more of the same pleasures. This is because such pleasures are like insatiable fire; more one tries to satisfy the self more intense they become. There is another



big problem with the false sense of *sukha*; people make big mistakes when enjoying that. Personally speaking, all my big mistakes were made when I was relatively *sukhi* in the conventional sense, when I felt that I could do no wrong, and could enjoy unlimitedly.

Lord Krishna has spoken about the real *sukha* in many verses of the *Geeta*. Happiness is a boon. In the state of peaceful enjoyment, all sufferings end soon, because the intelligence of such a person is firmly established. In a state of having real spiritually intelligence, one transcends the feeling of material suffering. (2.65)

The Lord speaks in great details about who can be happy. A self-controlled person, who is not too attached with the fruits of his karma lives happily. (5.13) A person, having consciousness unattached to external sense objects, enjoys that happiness within, which is extraordinary. He having consciousness linked to the *Brahman*, experiences eternal bliss. (5.21) Here the Lord has clarified that such *sukha* is

unlimited and does not repel after some time. One, who is capable of tolerating the urge caused by lust and anger prior to leaving the body, he is a true yogi; he is a happy person. (5.23) Beyond the senses, there is unlimited bliss, which can be experienced through the intelligence. (6.21)

God also clarifies about who cannot be happy. Bereft of real knowledge, a doubter who has no faith perishes. For the doubter, there is neither happiness in this world nor beyond. (4.40) Then, there is happiness in different modes, but they all bind. In the mode of goodness, this binds with knowledge and attachment for such happiness. In the mode of passion, one is bound to acts, that is, gets attached with them. In the mode of darkness, one is bound to carelessness, laziness and steep.

Therefore, it will be wise to seek the real *sukha*, and not chase after illusory *sukha* or happiness; one will have a high quality of life.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

Brexit: The final journey under Johnson

Boris Johnson has romped home in the parliamentary election with 365 seats in the 650-member House against the Labour Party's 203 seats. The Labour Party, under James Corbyn, lost its heartlands, and the Liberal Democrats' surge failed to materialise. This helped Johnson-led Conservative Party to clinch a historic victory, only seen last in the 1980s during the era of Margaret Thatcher. For the Labour, this was its worst defeat since the 1930s. Whereas the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP) won 48 and the Liberal Democrats got 11 seats. When Johnson took over the mantle of the party, the Conservatives were about to be crushed in between the Brexit imbroglio and the Liberal Democrats, leaving behind a terribly chaotic Labour Party under Corbyn. But then, with the election result, he pulled off an extraordinary political manoeuvre of sort. On the other hand, as the Conservatives crushed the Labour's red wall in the North and in the Midlands, the traditional party bastions, it could safely be concluded that the British voters have categorically rejected the leadership of Corbyn and his ultra-left agenda. The man and his party credentials were viewed even by their hardcore supporters as unpatriotic and profligate. Therefore, it is time now for Corbyn and his party to decide whether to continue moving on the left-wing path to annihilation or reclaim the centre to occupy the power corridors once again.

Now what lies ahead for Corbyn and his Labour Party? After the shocking election debacle, his party has claimed it won the argument and dismissed those who voted against it as morally inferior. Now, the Labour MPs and their supporters are likely to fight for an alternative brand of leadership as he has already signalled that he is not going to be the party face in future elections.



Pro-Brexit demonstrators hold banners outside Parliament in London on December 20, 2019

Johnson, a leader known for failing to redeem his promises, has eventually won the trust of millions of ordinary voters who would have never extended such mandate to a Tory establishment. So it is really intriguing how Johnson would respond to the changing political understanding of his countrymen. Today he encounters troubles from many fronts, but for the Conservative grassroots, he is the only hero and stalwart they have been looking for.

Britain's national discourse and narratives in the post-Johnson victory are worrying signals. First of all, Britain will be out of the EU by the end of January. However the reality is that either the UK can main-

tain the close economic relations with the EU on which Britain's prosperity relies on or the Britons can opt for a low-cost regulation that Johnson's financiers look for. But unfortunately the Britons can't go for both. Second, the Scottish nationalists have indicated that they are in full control of their turf. Since they are pro-independence and pro-EU, their revitalisation may soon drag Britain to a future referendum for Scotland's separation from the UK. Third, as the post-Brexit analysts have already predicted recession in the country, it would be a Herculean task for Johnson's big promise on public spending. Fourth, Johnson has to

navigate a deeply divided party. During his campaign, he projected a no-deal exit from the EU as a potential threat to gain support from the future negotiations. While doing this, he intentionally pushed aside many pro-Europeans within his party, many of whom either will resign from the Government or will be replaced. Fifth, another puzzle for the international community is to see whether Johnson would be able to deliver to those traditional Labour supporters who offered their support to him. Sixth, the National Health Service is on its knees with more than 100,000 vacancies. The Prime Minister has promised 50,000 more nurses,

6,000 more doctors, etc. But once the immigration system is tightened, it would deter foreign workers to fill these vacancies. Again as the PM has vowed not to raise income tax, national insurance or VAT, he is simply narrowing all possible means to gather funds for the Treasury and the NHS. Seventh, gimmicks, half-truths and tall promises showered by Johnson would not be able to rescue the criminal justice system of Britain. As per the Conservative manifesto, 20,000 police officers are due on the roads. But sadly this figure is 1000 less than the 21,000 made redundant since the year 2010. In fact, a strong and effective police force is the demand of

the day to tackle the new knife-crime epidemic in some major cities of the country. Eighth, he has to seriously focus on climate emergency as green campaigners urge that the Johnson Government could introduce the ban on diesel and petrol cars by 2030, instead of 2040. Also his administration must deliver on the de-carbonising the homes and other buildings soon. These all could be crucial to alleviate harmful emissions that are fast engulfing Britain. Ninth, another issue that could bother the new Tory establishment is the winning of more nationalist MPs in Northern Ireland. They want a United Ireland while the Unionists want Northern Ireland to remain as a part of the UK territory. This could open a Pandora's Box for Johnson. Finally, a new trade deal with the US might be a tough task for London as Donald Trump is unpredictable, and he may switch sides at any time as per his convenience.

Johnson's election slogan, "Get Brexit done" means much more to his voters and other Britons. It simply indicates that the UK leaves the EU in a smooth manner but Johnson said that "It is fair to say that you are getting Brexit done because you are coming out of the EU and you are coming out of the legal order of the EU". All that what has been promised by Johnson is a cumbersome process. Even some naysayers say, "In sum, the political culture of Britain, as we have known for generations, is earmarked for demolition. Anyone who has tried, however ineffectually, to scrutinise Johnson's plans or hold him to account will reap the coming authoritarian whirlwind. Trump will no doubt represent himself as this revolution's enabler and he will be right. But Johnson may well outdo even his mentor: Britain, after all, lacks the protection of a written Constitution. A resilient human spirit that

hopes for the best and adapts to circumstances looks sadly inadequate for what is now in prospect (Witney 2019). If this is what is evinced by the Johnson administration, then Britain will witness doom in the post-Brexit period. Barring all these negative vibes, he must not forget the fact that this mandate is given to him and his grand old Conservatives to rescue the country from the Brexit gloom and a radical labour regime led by Corbyn. Many of the strong labour bases offer support to Johnson not to see an uncertain and unruly establishment at 10-Downing Street, but just to come out of the confusion and chaos that the country has been undergoing since the referendum of June 2016.

Truly, Brexit is a rare point of unity and convergence for the rest of the 27 members of the EU, but this could expose the faultlines among them as well. It's not at all clear how unitedly they could fight the challenges left behind by the departure of Britain from the group. Also, while negotiating new trade deals with Britain, the members of the EU will face difficult trade-offs as they want close economic ties with the country, but with conflicting interests of varying degrees.

What lies ahead is a daunting task not only for Johnson but also for his Conservative Party. It's a historic mandate for the party and its leadership. Britain needs a clear strategy and pathway to deal with a post-Brexit scenario. However self-destructive convulsions of British politics fomented by the Conservatives, the socialists and the ultra-nationalists around exiting the EU would no way retain the monumental reputation that the country has built over centuries. It's a testing time for Johnson. Moment has come for him to demonstrate not just leadership but statesmanship.

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)

It's a testing time for Johnson. Moment has come for him to demonstrate not just leadership but statesmanship



MAKHAN SAINIA

PERSPECTIVE

Management of land can stop farmers' suicide

Land is the precious resource for any country, more so for India because India is a tropical country with largely monsoon dependent agricultural economy where over 70 per cent of the people depend on agriculture for their livelihood.

Land is a finite resource while natural resources can vary according to uses or misuses over a period. Hence, whenever and wherever there is unsound management of land, it is reflected in decline in production of all the natural resources and allied functioning of ecosystems like riparian ecosystem, grassland ecosystem, forest and soil ecosystem.

Hence, the management of land in India requires careful husbandry, but unfortunately over the years, the land management has never received the attention it deserves.

A land resource department under the Rural Ministry exists, but land being the State subject, technical policies regulating the land use are being dealt at the level of States, which are mostly engaged with short-term needs and generally do not concentrate on long-term policies of the management of land on a sustainable basis.

Sustainability is not a part of 5-year cycle of the electoral need. Land-related institutions are distributed at the Central and State Government's levels but these are fragmented and scattered. This results into short-term measures to address the pressing needs like law & order, land distribution, consolidation, digitisation of land record mapping.

There is no denial that these things are most important in the short run, but strategies for sustainable management of

land are not in place. There is no institution to take care of long-term sustainable management of land resources and to take measures to rejuvenate the land to increase its productivity on a sustainable basis. Land use boards in the States are non starter.

Most of the suicides have occurred in areas of cash crops like cotton and sugarcane, which is high input, high output gambling, not based on principle of sustained and resilient high yield.

Manifestation of these is reflected into many of our woes and maladies. Gradual decline of productivity of land has largely led to farmers' suicide. Besides host of other factors, the main factor being attributed to a large number of such suicides is sickness of our soil, steep decline in groundwater table, deteriorating discharge of rivers and flooding due to mismanagement of land in the catchment and riparian areas.

These are pointers to poor land husbandry. In the nutshell, by and large Indian soil is sick and requires revamping of policy, institutions, and policy instruments. Besides, the absence of integration and harmonisation of the land use policy with other sectors of economy leads to counterproductive measures like cultivation of potato on the slopes of Himalayas, encroachment in the flood plain areas. These lands are suitable only for specific tree species but we hardly find any landscape with trees in these areas.

Farmers' suicide has become a matter of serious concern for the Supreme Court of India. The court observed, "It is not possible for the court to grant compensation every

time a farmer commits suicide." The court also frowned upon the lack of seriousness on the part of Governments to address the core issues.

The use to land is determined by its owners, farmers, Government, institutions and other user agencies according to their own perception of needs, understanding and available information. This in turn leads to environmental pollution and neglect resulting into poverty and related problems. Application of input like nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) cannot substitute for natural trace elements that can give us a wholesome perfect nutrition in their crops.

Besides, indebtedness, decline in water table, failure of conservation measures, drought, flood and pest infestation are a few reasons for the spate of farmers' suicide. Increasing quantity of inputs with continuously decreasing uncertain output and risk due to climate change in the rainfed areas makes agriculture less resilient and more risk prone. The factors that matter most in soil management is regular supply of humus and maintenance of soil fertility which is fundamental basis of human, plants and animal health.

The action of compost is not due to supply of plant nutrient, but its biological reaction, which has the effect of modifying soil microflora. Role of microbes around root zone of plants in soil in maintaining fertility of the soil is seldom appreciated; widespread application of herbicide and pesticide kill the microbes.

Dr Terosse Wiesner, Science Counsellor to US President John F Kennedy, had said, "Use of pesticides is more

dangerous than atomic fallout." We are rightly appalled by the genetic effects of radiation. How microorganism in the soil is truly engines of life? How microbes control ecological balance of nature, how humans and technology is disrupting. It is very often not a part of our education. Life on earth is much more than plants and animals. The overwhelming majority of life on earth is microbial. Association of trees with soil environment is seldom a part of our biology education in schools, much less at primary level to widen our understanding of environment and change in attitude and aptitude of our young inquisitive minds.

How then we could be indifferent to the same effects of farm chemicals used freely in the environment. The toxic farm chemicals are radiomimetic in that they ape the character of radiation. No doubt how the incidence of cancer is rising in India particularly in States like Punjab, where pesticide is used indiscriminately. It has been rightly said by Alan N Edison that modern technology owes ecology an apology.

Agroforestry-agrohorticulture, Silvopastoral system for sustainable resilient agriculture is an answer to efficient land management. Further, the issue of conservation, management and development of land resources assumes significance in a situation where as much as about 174 million hectare or approximately 53 per cent of geographical area of the country is estimated to be affected by various problems of soil erosion and land degradation. Out of the total problem area, about 83

per cent suffers from water and wind erosion and rest suffers from problems like- water logging, alkalinity, salinity, shifting cultivation.

An estimate shows that about 6,000 million tonnes of top soil is lost annually from original site. If present trend is allowed to continue, about one third of arable land of our country will be lost within 20 years.

From various studies, it is established beyond doubt that much glorified agricultural development results in high production growth. Massive food production, several times increase in yield and increase in per capita food availability have not made farming attractive to potential farmers. The ratio of agriculture population to general population is going down. The National Commission on Agriculture, 1976, also called for an integrated development approach for building a forward looking, dynamic diversified agriculture with livestock, fisheries and forestry.

The commission has warned against indiscriminate interference with ecological balance in the quest of increasing food production.

In this context, it is emphasised that trees which are the only natural means of sustaining and increasing the productivity of the land is missing in most of the landscapes that are required to be restored on an perennials. Hence, there is a dire need to push the programme of agro and farm forestry with utmost seriousness to check the fast deterioration of soil and water resources. It is reiterated that there is no other natural means other than the trees or the perennial vegetation that can restore

the nutrient, carbon and nitrogen recycle. Century back someone observed that the relationship between agriculture and forest is like husband and wife: dark, stern and strong but protecting and cherishing; agriculture, bland, benignant and bountiful, may be described as wife.

The trees protect the agriculture in absence of which agriculture pines and languishes and becomes barren and unfruitful. But unfortunately land use patterns are an expression of deep political, economic and cultural structure; they do not change when an ecologist or a forester sounds the alarm that a country is losing its resource base.

Agroforestry programme in shape of wind and shelter belts can restore or even improve soil fertility. The problem is that scientific data on actual changes taking place in soil fertility is scarce. Again there is no good substitute for local scientific research. The main question to be resolved is the rate at which the soil loss is taking place.

Decline in soil fertility reduces the gross value of the crop and livestock activities but the farm land is taken out of production even when the net value of farm output becomes negative.

The Ministry of Agriculture had constituted a committee of experts to prepare the draft outline of National Land Use Policy to fulfill the socio-economic objective of the country. The committee recommended that all existing legislations in the primary production sector as well as non-agricultural sector dealing with land resources should be reviewed to deter-

mine that no conflicting provisions exist.

Efforts should be made to bring out a single legislation to ensure protection, optimum management and continued productivity of available land resources while meeting increasing demands from various sectors. Land is a subject of State list of schedule-7 of the Constitution of India and the importance of such a comprehensive, single legislation was emphasised at several occasions by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

It has become imperative that we should have an effective land use policy and institution to watch the health of our land. A few important recommendations of this policy could be:

1) A committee of experts should be constituted to prepare a draft outline of national land use policy in order to bring out a single legislation to ensure protection, optimum management and continued productivity of available land resources.

2) Efforts should be made to ensure a healthy debate through people's participation in implementation of the soil and water conservation Act.

3) Land Acquisition Act should be given a relook and non-scientific exploitation of groundwater be stopped.

4) Land requirement norms for different development schemes should be evolved.

5) Steep slopes, flood plain and fragile water-shed should be reserved for trees, grass and perennial vegetation.

(The author is former Indian Forest Service officer)



BKP SINHA



EVERYTHING HAS ITS WONDERS, EVEN DARKNESS AND SILENCE, AND I LEARN, WHATEVER STATE I MAY BE IN, THEREIN TO BE CONTENT
— HELEN KELLER



YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

Health remains good but you still need to be vigilant. Maintain a positive mind-set and things will come easily to you. In professional life, your talent will help you distance yourself from difficulties and you will feel more optimistic than usual. Work wise, you will obtain the confidence you have always dreamt of. New opportunities in terms of a new venture or projects are indicated. For a few of the Arians, you will decide to leave a job that is no longer working for your betterment. It is a great time for socialising because of your increased popularity and charisma. You are likely to have an open and honest communication with your partner. The discussions you have now will be of a serious nature.

Lucky number 21
Lucky colour Peach
Lucky day Tuesday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

Health remains good this week. Those of you with a persisting health issue, share your health concerns with others. You may find some solution to your problem. It is a very positive new beginning, especially, on the work front. If you have had a difficult time in the recent past, then know that things are likely get better very soon. The new possibilities in this week will escalate your chance of making new discoveries and attracting new admirers. Some of you may expect a good news of promotion. In the field of romance, you will probably want to nurture and protect your partner. Most of all you will want to give them kindness, love and affection. Someone will call you out of the blue or you will plan a reunion with a lover or an admirer.

Lucky number 31
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Wednesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Your health will show improvement. This week you will find yourself in a more psychic and intuitive phase, so it is important that you trust your instincts. At work, your mind is likely to be very active. Make sure to communicate your thoughts to the others. Fine tune your goals and make clear plans and strategies to attain your objectives. This is a good time to discuss your plans with the others, because you will get good feedback and support. There is a possibility that you may become a victim of confusion. This might lead to insecurity. Just keep in mind that the bad time shall pass. Expect a slight delay in your travel plans. Romance is blooming. You are likely to take your relationship to the next level. Those who are single may have to wait for some more time.

Lucky number 20
Lucky colour Sky Blue
Lucky day Friday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week your health will be at its best. Despite your busy schedule, you will take time out to relax and rejuvenate. If suffering from health problems, then it is likely that you will find a way to your recovery. The cards indicate that the people around you will appreciate you and your efforts, and notice the quality of your work. Keep doing what you are doing as you are on the right track. You will have a lot of luck in investments. Property dealings are likely to be resolved. This week will bring peace and harmony to your life. This is a great time to relax with loved ones or party with friends. Your loving mood will make you more attractive than usual. Studies and exams should go well, especially in technical areas like the sciences, computers and mathematics.

Lucky number 10
Lucky colour Camel brown
Lucky day Sunday



VRIGO Aug 23-Sep 22

After a bad health phase, this week brings you a big relief in terms of positive health. You will be able to revive the inner child like energy and will be active the entire week. On the professional front, you will be able to fulfill your long term ambition this week. Whatever you put your mind to should lead to a lasting results. People around would look up to you for a sound advice. You need to have a profound vision and a vigilant analysis of all the plans and strategies which will enable you to move towards success. Socialising and your love life will benefit from extra charisma and intellectual attractiveness. You may find yourself taking care of family matters such as insurances and wills. You can be confident about making commitments.

Lucky number 13
Lucky colour Turquoise
Lucky day Friday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week brings quick thinking, decisiveness and a influential communication style. It is an apt time for debates, asking for favours and public speaking. You can expect positive reactions and valuable assistance to your propositions. The forceful nature of your communication makes it a perfect time to defend yourself and your loved ones. Those in academics, this is a good time for studying and appearing for exams. Good concentration and attention to detail means you will not make mistakes. This is also a good time to make important decisions, conduct negotiations and business dealings. Your romance appears to be a little disturbed this week. Try to keep a two-way communication with your partner to avoid any misunderstandings.

Lucky number 30
Lucky colour Green
Lucky day Thursday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Things will get better for those who are facing ailments. On the work front, your innovative spirit will help you expand your horizons and attain new goals. Later this week, you can expect an exciting news. Stimulating conversations will lead to a business deal. Some of you may face competition at work. Keep a watchful eye as someone will try to frame you at work for something serious. This is a good time to be with your partner, friends and family. You will have an enjoyable time going to parties, places of relaxation, entertainment and amusement. New friendships would be formed or a significant new romance may begin. Your new charm will fetch you popularity, and win over dates for you. Romance is in the air.

Lucky number 12
Lucky colour White
Lucky day Monday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

This week your health will be good. Try not to get into ego conflicts and retreat to a safe place where you can develop your creative, spiritual and generous nature. You will be smart and optimistic at work and accomplish all your incomplete tasks. You can expect some exciting opportunities coming your way later this week. Wait for some news on domestic front will make you feel frustrated. Love life looks satisfying. You will maintain harmony in your relationships and will have a greater ability to express your love and affection towards your partner. Travelling to far off destination to meet someone is on the cards. Those who are considering investments, must think and discuss with those close to you before taking any action.

Lucky number 11
Lucky colour Pink
Lucky day Monday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

You will enjoy a good health. Continue with your meditation and yoga routine, as it will keep you connected to your soul. Those dealing with health issues, need to get a bit serious and take proper treatment. Your ability of quick thinking and determination will make this week an apt time to prepare long term plan on work front. Networking with some promising contacts will allow you to make a change. You will have a better mental energy and concentration, and this will help you succeed in studies or researches. Do not worry about taking risks, as this week, luck is in your favour. You can expect some exciting news in your love life. You are likely postpone your travel plans to another day.

Lucky number 14
Lucky colour Brown
Lucky day Wednesday



CANCER June 21-July 22

Be careful while exercising as you might suffer an injury or sprain. At work, you will be professional and follow the company policies. Travel due to business commitments is on the cards. On this trip, you are likely to make new friends and admirers. You will have a lot of work on your plate. Dedication towards task is important, but overstressing yourself may prove counterproductive. Do not hesitate to ask for help, if needed. On your personal front, the week indicates love, harmony and friendship. This is a good time to relax and have fun with loved ones. Your loving and friendly mood will make you popular. This is an excellent time for dating because your charm and beauty will attract genuine, honest love.

Lucky number 22
Lucky colour Grey
Lucky day Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Continue with your daily exercise or yoga routine. If you have not yet started, then start fresh now. You will feel driven to succeed at something with your strong sense of purpose and initiative. With the immense amount of courage and fighting spirit, you face all the challenges without any frown. This week you are able to finish a lot of work in a short period of time. It is a favourable time for business matters and negotiations. Financial situations are not good, so avoid spending lavishly. You may find yourself to be more emotional and sensitive than usual. This is a great time to talk about relationship issues because you will be in touch with your true feelings. You will know how people are feeling and will be more sympathetic and nurturing than normal.

Lucky number 10
Lucky colour Silver
Lucky day Saturday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

Your emotional well-being will decide the state of your health. It is important that you assess your feelings. Channelise your energy in the right track and you will find yourself in the pink of health. In your professional life, you are clear about your goals and what you have to do to achieve those goals. A stimulating time, filled with opportunities, puts your determination and ambition a notch higher. Business dealings and negotiations are favoured, especially for long-term investments and real estate. This is the right time to make long term strategies. The cards indicate a sharp focus on your relationship. Be sensitive and passionate towards your partner. A short trip will prove beneficial because you will meet a new admirer, who shares the same mind-set.

Lucky number 28
Lucky colour Orange
Lucky day Tuesday

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ASTROTURF

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

No shortcuts to fixing problems

A couple of months back someone called me to check on longevity prospects of one of his friends he had brought seeking astrological advice. "Why?" I questioned. "His kidney is malfunctioning and has to undergo dialysis twice a week." He answered.

I immediately recalled that the man in question had come to me a couple of years back with two straight questions: "Sir, I am a lawyer by profession. Many astrologers said that I am a genius. Yet, every now and then, my career goes for a toss. I have heard a lot about you. Kindly perform a *puja* that saves me from such an ordeal and ensures success. Also, some astrologers have warned me that I may face serious health issues close to 45 years of age. Please do conduct *puja* that would help me build my immunity level and save it from failing ever. Don't worry about the cost."

Well, I agree that you are extraordinarily intelligent, with very good communicative skills. But that alone would not suffice. You need to look within, figure out inherent habits and attitudes that stand in way of your positives from blooming out in full. Acknowledge and address them without further loss of

time. I am afraid, no *puja* mediated by a *pundit* can penetrate your inner mind space to let you rise above your limitations. Remember, there is no quick fix solution to problems of mind genesis, as habits die hard. But you can help yourself by exercising freewill option, which enjoins upon you with the capacity to guide your actions by choice and discrimination. Instead of expecting external intervention, better take charge of yourself, and put in conscious efforts to make necessary amends. In terms of your health, better consult a doctor and have regular health check-up. Regulate your food. Do necessary physical exercise. Here again, it is difficult to digest that trying to appease some hypothetical God existent in the higher realms of cosmos, could help change your physiological conditions.

I could make out that with his hardened attitude and delusional mind, he won't easily digest my advisory. Later, I was given to understand that he went after so called sorcerers and got tantric *pujas* conducted. He also engaged *pundits* and got many *pujas* done. But to what effect? Let us now look at his astrological pointers.



Towards the positive, wisdom-oriented Jupiter conjunct intellectually ordained Uranus, extends beneficial aspect to intelligence signifying Mercury. This planetary alignment is indicative of his extraordinary talent. He may have clarity in vision and thought over such subjects he pays attention, which he could present with exactitude because of his excellent communicative ability.

All this gets compromised because of many negative inherent traits. The first marker is his *lagna* sign Aries. That points to his aggressive, impulsive, irritable, hot headed, abrasive, intolerant, and impatient nature. He wishes to live in a demanding mode, often to his whims and fancies. He may jump into action without applying proper forethought, and with obvious consequences. *Lagna* lord Mars in the 8th house identified with difficulties, read together with *lagna* sub-lord Venus occupying the 12th house, makes him vulnerable to self-undoing acts. So, he remains susceptible to become a victim of his own making. *Lagna* lord Mars, identity-signifying the Sun, and mind-signifying Moon, all placed in fixed signs accounts for his hardened attitude. *Lagna* lord Mars conjunct Neptune and also square to both the Sun and Moon makes him temperamental.

Both the luminaries the Sun and Moon locked in adverse formation to mischievous Neptune have him stuck in his self-delusional beliefs and perceptions, and not open to listening or counsel. The Sun placed adverse to Venus makes him emotionally too much sensitive and touchy. He may get over exercised even on trivial issues, over which he may keep unnecessarily mulling for long. Venus ill-placed to Neptune tempts him to get rich quick even if it means getting into murky deals, which may often tell upon his reputation.

In terms of health, the 6th sub-lord Saturn in the 12th occupying the *nakshatra* owned by Mercury the 6th lord makes him vulnerable to long drawn serious health issues, calling for medical intervention. The Sun distanced from Venus by 45 degrees made him vulnerable to kidney related issues around that age, and so it happened with him. But because of his delusional perception, he failed to take pre-emptive measures. The result is there to see.

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