

**OPINION 8**  
UNFULFILLED GOALS

**WORLD 11**  
CAB REFLECTS INDIA'S MALA FIDE INTENT: PAK

**AVENUES 14**  
PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS ARE MUST

LUCKNOW, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11, 2019; PAGES 16 3



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ARSENAL BEAT WEST HAM IN PL CLASH 15 SPORT

## CAB fury engulfs N-E

Protesters clash with police at many places; market set on fire; 48-hr Net ban in Tripura



Demonstrators burn tyres during a strike called by All Assam Students' Union and the North East Students' Organisation in protest against the Citizenship Amendment Bill, in Guwahati, on Tuesday

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) in the Lok Sabha, the North-East on Tuesday erupted over the proposed law. Police and protesters clashed at several places and the Government enforced a 48-hour Internet ban in Tripura. A day before the Bill is tabled in the Rajya Sabha, normal life was paralysed in Assam's Brahmaputra Valley during the shutdown, led by the All Assam Students' Union and the North East Students' Organisation (NESO). The strike by AASU and NESO coincided with the bandh called by Leftist outfits, including the SFI, DYFI, AIDWA, AISF and AISA. Protesters took out huge processions in different areas of

Guwahati against the proposed legislation.

Agitators engaged in scuffle with security forces near the Secretariat and Assembly buildings in Assam when they were prevented from moving forward, according to the police. In Dibrugarh district, bandh supporters clashed with CISF personnel and three protesters sustained injuries as they tried to prevent workers of Oil India Ltd (OIL) from entering their offices in Dulaijan.

The protesters also blocked railway tracks leading train services across Assam getting affected. The bandh also forced

the universities to shelve and reschedule examinations. The strike, however, had little impact in Bengali-dominated Barak Valley.

In Tripura, agitators participating in a bandh called by the NESO, set a market, mostly owned by non-tribals, on fire in Dhalai district, according to the police.

However, no one sustained injuries in the incident and the blaze at Manughat market was doused.

While security forces have been deployed in the market, the incident has triggered fear among the non-tribals who owned most of the shops,

## JD(U), Sena in two minds over Citizenship Bill

Sena sets condition: Clarify concerns for our support; JD(U)'s Prashant, Verma ask party to oppose Bill

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day before the Rajya Sabha is scheduled to take up the contentious Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), the Shiv Sena and the Janata Dal(U) appeared to be caught in a dilemma over supporting the Bill in the Upper House.

While Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said the Shiv Sena won't back the CAB in the Rajya Sabha till there is clarity on the party's queries posed in the Lok Sabha, JD(U) leaders Prashant Kishor and Pawan Varma have asked Nitish to rethink the party's support to the Bill in the Rajya Sabha, which has set aside 6 hours for a debate on it.

"Disappointed to see JD(U) supporting CAB that discriminates right of citizenship on

according to police officials.

The bandh threw normal life out of gear in Dhalai, West Tripura and Khowai districts with residents remaining indoors while attendance in offices remained thin, accord-



the basis of religion. It's incongruous with the party's constitution that carries the word secular thrice on the very first page and the leadership that is supposedly guided by Gandhian ideals", said JD(U) vice president Prashant Kishor.

Another senior JD(U) leader and former diplomat Pawan Varma echoed similar views saying,

Continued on Page 7

ing to reports. Train services in the entire State of Tripura came to a complete halt and vehicular movement was also hit.

Continued on Page 7

## Convicts to hang on same date they raped Nirbhaya?

Shifting of convict to Tihar jail fuels speculation about Dec 16 execution

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

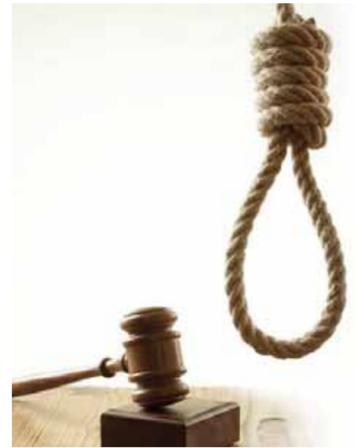
The shifting of Pawan Kumar Gupta — one of the convicts in the December 2012 Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case in a moving bus in Delhi — from Mandoli Jail in North east Delhi to Tihar jail has fueled speculation that the four convicts will be hanged on December 16, the seventh anniversary of the ghastly incident.

Sources said preparations are going on to hang the convicts once President Ram Nath Kovind turns down the mercy plea. Earlier Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who is also the Minister for Department of Justice, is reported to have rejected the mercy petition of one of the accused Vinay Sharma.

However, officials were tight lipped whether the convicts would be hanged on the death anniversary of Nirbhaya to send a strong message. Gupta, who was lodged in the Mandoli Jail, was shifted to Tihar recently, Director General (Prison) Sandeep Goel said. Gupta is lodged in Jail No. 2 of Tihar, where two other convicts in the case — Mukesh Singh and Akshay — are also lodged, while Vinay Sharma is in Jail No. 4 of Tihar, another jail official said. Vinay Sharma, a former assistant at Sirifort gymnasium is in Jail No. 4 of Tihar, a jail official said.

A minor who was said to have tortured Nirbhaya the most was, however, let off after he served his sentence in a juvenile remand home.

Ram Singh the leader of the gang, who had raped and



pulled out the organs of the hapless girl, was found dead in his cell.

"Nirbhaya", meaning fearless, is the changed name of the 23-year-old physiotherapy intern, who was raped and brutalised in a moving bus in south Delhi by six persons, including the bus driver, conductors and helpers, on December 16, 2012.

After receiving treatment in New Delhi for a few days, she was transferred to the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore, where she succumbed to her injuries on December 29, 2012.

All the accused in the case, including a juvenile, were arrested and charged with sexual assault and murder. One of them, Singh, died in police custody. The rest went on trial in a fast-track court. The juvenile was convicted of rape and murder and given the maximum sentence of three years' imprisonment in a reform facility.

On September 10, 2013, the four remaining adult

accused were found guilty of rape and murder and three days later, sentenced to death by hanging. On March 13, 2014, the Delhi High Court upheld the guilty verdict and the death sentences.

## Sengar's fate to be decided on Dec 16 as rape verdict reserved

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A reserved verdict for next week in the case of alleged kidnapping and rape of a woman by expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in Unnao in 2017.

During in-camera proceedings, District Judge Dharmesh Sharma reserved the judgment for December 16 after hearing final arguments by the CBI and the accused in the case. The judge heard the case on a day-to-day basis from August 5 after it was transferred to Delhi from a court in Lucknow on Supreme Court's directions.

The woman was allegedly kidnapped and raped by Sengar in 2017 when she was a minor. The court has also framed charges against co-accused Shashi Singh in the case. Sengar was expelled from the BJP in August 2019.

The court had on August 9 framed charges against the MLA and Singh under Sections 120 b (criminal conspiracy), 363 (kidnapping), 366 (kidnapping or inducing a woman to compel for marriage), 376 (rape) and other sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

On July 28 this year, the car in which the victim was travelling was hit by a truck and she was severely injured. The woman's two aunts were killed in the accident and her family had alleged foul play.

Her father was allegedly framed in an illegal arms case and arrested on April 3, 2018. He died in judicial custody a few days later, on April 9.

Continued on Page 7

## US panel seeks ban on Shah; India asks who're you

US body asks Trump Admin to slap sanction on India's HM for Citizenship Bill

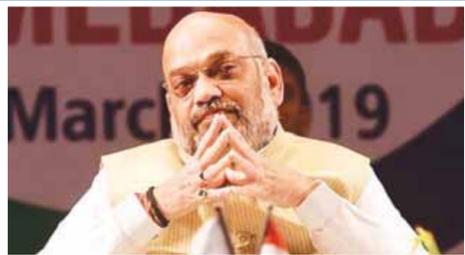
PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The US Government panel on religious freedom has slammed the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), inviting strong protest from India.

The US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) said the CAB is a dangerous turn in the wrong direction and asked the US administration to consider imposing sanctions against Home Minister Amit Shah and other principal Indian leadership if the Bill with the "religious criterion" is enacted into a law.

The USCIRF is an independent, bipartisan federal Government entity established by the US Congress to analyse and report on threats to religious freedom abroad. The USCIRF on its website says it makes foreign policy recommendations to the President, the Secretary of State and Congress intended to deter religious persecution and promote freedom of religion and belief.

Taking exception to



USCIRF statement, India on Tuesday said it was "regrettable" that the entity, which has no locus standi on the issue, has chosen to be guided by its "prejudices and biases" on the matter.

Rejecting comments by the USCIRF, Ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said here the position articulated by the commission was not surprising given its past record.

"It is, however, regrettable that the body has chosen to be guided only by its prejudices and biases on a matter on which it clearly has little knowledge and no locus standi," he asserted. Around a decade

back, the USCIRF had also favoured denying of tourist visa to Narendra Modi, the then Chief Minister of Gujarat.

In its statement, the USCIRF said, "CAB is a dangerous turn in the wrong direction; it runs counter to India's rich history of secular pluralism and the Indian Constitution, which guarantees equality before the law regardless of faith," adding that it was deeply troubled over the passage of the Bill in the Lok Sabha.

Kumar asserted that every nation, including the US, has the right to enumerate and validate its citizenry, and to exer-

cise the prerogative through various policies.

He said the statement on the Bill is "neither accurate nor warranted," adding the Bill provides expedited consideration for Indian citizenship to persecuted religious minorities already in India from certain contiguous countries.

He said the proposed legislation seeks to address their current difficulties and meet their basic human rights and that such an initiative should not be criticised by those who are genuinely committed to religious freedom.

"The CAB does not affect the existing avenues available to all communities interested in seeking citizenship from doing so. The recent record of granting such citizenship would bear out the Government of India's objectivity in that regard," Kumar said.

"Neither the CAB nor the National Register of Citizens (NRC) process seeks to strip citizenship from any Indian citizen of any faith. Suggestions to that effect are motivated and unjustified," Kumar said.

## Anglo-Indians' nomination to LS, Assemblies done away with

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Members of the SC and ST community will enjoy the benefit of reservation in the Lok Sabha and Assemblies for another 10 years, though the Government decided not to extend the same existing privilege to the Anglo-Indian community.

The Lok Sabha passed a Constitution amendment bill on Tuesday. The Opposition slammed the Government for not extending the benefit to the Anglo-Indian community.

Replying to the concerns of the MPs, Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said as per the correct definition and latest Census, as of now, there are only 296 members of the Anglo-Indian community, with a maximum of 124 in Kerala.

Continued on Page 7

## BHU Prof Feroz transferred from faculty of SVDV to Sanskrit Dept

PTI ■ VARANASI

BHU professor Feroz Khan, whose appointment as a teacher in the faculty of Sanskrit Vidya Dharam Vigyan (SVDV) led to protests by some university students, resigned from his post and joined the Sanskrit department of Faculty of Arts in BHU, sources said on Tuesday. SVDV Faculty Dean Bindeswari Prasad Mishra confirmed the news.

This comes amid protest by students against his appointment at SVDV last month. The students had boycotted his classes and staged a dharna outside the vice-chancellor's office, claiming that only a Hindu can train them in religious rituals. They had said that Feroz is free to teach Sanskrit elsewhere.

Continued on Page 7

# TMC-Governor feud spreads from Bengal to RS

SAUGAR SENGUPTA/PNS ■ KOLKATA/NEW DELHI

The sharp differences between West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee echoed in Parliament on Tuesday, deepening the bitter conflict that has brought the State Raj Bhavan and Writers' Building face-to-face on day-to-day basis.

The Trinamool Congress MPs on Tuesday raised slogans against the Governor and staged a walkout in the Rajya Sabha complaining against the Governor's conduct.

On his part, Dhankhar again slammed the ruling outfit and accused it of implicating the Governor's office in

"dirty State politics." "I am greatly pained at the behaviour and conduct of the Government," the Governor said referring to his alleged delay in signing the SC/ST Commission Bill passed by the State Assembly.

A "dirty politics is being played by them ... as if the Governor is sitting on the Bill ... which is not so," said Dhankhar, adding that before giving his assent to a Bill he had every right to know about it.

"They are taking mileage out of this issue by involving my name ... but what can I do if they move at the pace of a bullock cart," said the Governor, adding "my only request is don't make me a political tool."



Earlier the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her displeasure over the delay on part of the Governor in giving clearance to the Bill. She reportedly told her confidants how the Governor is making inordinate delay in giving his assent to the Bill.

"Already SC-ST laws are in place in 12 States," said Mamata, asking "why is he stopping the Bill is not clear to me? Why the Bill is not being signed? Why it has been left like that though all requisite information has been provided to the Governor?"

Slamming Dhankhar, TMC MP Derek O'Brien said, "The WB Governor has withheld the legislation that was cleared by the West Bengal

Assembly. This is an insult to the Constitution, West Bengal Assembly, both Dalit and tribal communities and the people of West Bengal."

The TMC is now demanding that the Narendra Modi Government should call back the Governor, he said adding, "The Governor's house has turned into a local shakha of the RSS."

TMC Rajya Sabha member Sukhendu Shekhar Roy said, "Everyday he is attacking the State Government on one pretext or the other... while he has taken an oath to abide by the Constitution he is not doing so. Rather he is acting like a BJP agent and working in that interest. We want this Governor to be withdrawn

from Bengal."

In the Assembly too, the TMC MLAs on Tuesday staged a protest against the delay the Governor's sign to the Bill. Party MLA Seuli Saha said, "I being a member of the SC community feel humiliated and so I am protesting here at the Assembly House."

In the meantime taking the conflict between the Raj Bhavan and Secretariat to a new height, the State Government is bringing another Bill that would further clip the wings of the Governor. Accordingly, the Chancellor, who is also the Governor of the State, will no longer decide on who will represent him in the universities.

Continued on Page 7

# No alternative to hard work: Yogi SIT to go for DNA matching

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath stressed on the need for hard work saying it makes a person invaluable, and reminded that there was no alternative to hard work. He was addressing the concluding function of MP Shiksha Parishad Founder's Week in Gorakhpur on Tuesday.

"After setting a goal, hard work put in to achieve it makes it invaluable. In relatively backward eastern UP, Maharana Shiksha Parishad was established by Mahant Digvijay Nathji in 1932. Its current success is the result of hard work of people associated with it. Along with education, children are also taught about values and nationalism," he said.

The Chief Minister further said that through the Parishad during British rule, Mahant Digvijay Nath ignited the light of education in the region.

"Whenever a self-respecting society becomes aware of protecting its honour and the future of its coming generations, no power can rule it for long. Getting freedom is not enough but it is important to build a strong and powerful nation while knowing the value of freedom," said he.

Yogi claimed that the credit of establishing the first edu-



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor Anandiben Patel at a programme in Gorakhpur on Tuesday

cational institute for women in private sector went to MP Shiksha Parishad. "The institute was initially established by Mahant Digvijay Nathji and was taken forward by Gurudev Mahant Avidyanathji. The objectives of the Parishad was to spread education, promote the idea and expansion of health services, mainly in areas where the government reach

was lacking or limited," he said. In her address, Governor Anandiben Patel said education should be made useful for children. "From class 1 to class 8, stress should be on discipline and self-realisation. Teachers should think about health, meal, sports and ways to increase interest of the kids in studies," she said.

"In order to check if

school or college-going girls are anemic or not, haemoglobin test should be conducted. Everyone is worried about a girl's marriage but none about her health," Patel added.

"No one has time for sports. Everyone wants to become a doctor and engineer but for this, you have to keep in good health. Our standard of education and research

should be of international level. Today, 60 to 80 per cent of girls get gold medals. You must give a thought to water conservation," she said.

The Governor pointed out as crores of children do not get two square meals, food should not be wasted. Children adopt good or bad habits since early age, as it gives them good values from the beginning."

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed to conduct a probe into the mysterious death of a student of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in Mainpuri, will match the DNA samples of a dozen suspects with the swab of the victim collected during her post-mortem. The SIT collected blood samples of the suspects on Monday and sent the same to Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Lucknow to go ahead with the DNA matching.

The SIT earlier had already collected blood samples of five suspects, including two teachers and three students. Of the new suspects, three are related to victim's kin while eight are the kin of JNV staff members. Sources said that questions were also raised as to why the SIT took blood samples of victim's kin.

The SIT also went ahead with the polygraphy test of two teachers and reportedly found contradictions in the answers to their queries. The polygraphy test of three students could not be conducted as they had to go back to Mainpuri to appear in some examination.

Now, the SIT will go ahead with polygraphy test on them and teachers will again be made to undergo a lie detector test.

It may be mentioned that

not available there.

Sources said that the FSL in Agra sent the report and handed over the slide to Mainpuri police on November 15 last, but local cops allegedly tried to save the bigwigs involved in the killing and did not take cognisance of the findings. They even tried to wrap up the investigation terming it a case of suicide, the sources said.

**DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**  
 VIBHUTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW-226 010  
 Phones: 0522-4918502, 4918510, Fax: 0522-4918506 Website: www.drmlims.ac.in  
 Ref. No. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2019-20/ 4648- Date: 10.12.2019

**e-TENDER NOTICE**  
 On-line offers are invited through e-tendering from Manufacturer / Direct Importers / Authorized distributors for the supply of Various Medical Equipments like Fibreoptic Bronchoscope, Scrub Unit and High End Doppler Ultrasound with Shear wave Elastography etc.  
 For more details like Name of Equipments, Tender cost, Earnest Money Deposit, Date of submission and opening of tender etc., you may please visit the e-tender portal [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in). The above details will be available on our website [www.drmlims.ac.in](http://www.drmlims.ac.in) also for reference only. The offer will be accepted On-Line only on e-tender portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in tender documents. Any amendment will be uploaded only on the e-tender portal [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in).  
**Director**

## Riot victims killed

Muzaffarnagar (PTI) An elderly man and his son, who were victims of the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots, died after the bike in which they were travelling got hit by a car in Punjab, police said.

The incident took place on Monday when Saleem and his son Mohsin were returning home from Patiala after selling clothes there, they added. Police said the father-son duo were in the clothing business and lived in a room in Shahpur town in Muzaffarnagar district after being displaced from their native village of Kadda.

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**CLASSIFIEDS**

### NOTICE

Lost my Migration certificate of M. Sc. Roll no 1176 year 2012 issued by Dept. of environmental science, Baba Bhinrao Ambedkar University Lko. Kaushambi Tiwari, Mob.: 9258522220, R/o K89 B Aashiana, Lucknow.

### NOTICE

I, Sanjay Srivastava R/o E-29/30, Sarvodaya Nagar, Indira Nagar, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh-226016, have changed the name of my son from 'Yash Chandra' to 'Yash Chandra Srivastava' for all future purposes.

### NOTICE

I Sayyad Monis S/o Sayyad Ali Ahmad, Resident of H.No. 297/148 Shahganj, Lucknow, U.P. declares that my mother's name is inadvertently entered as 'Umme Salma' in my High School registration form. Her correct name is Parveen Jahan and is known as in all purpose.

### NOTICE

Be it known to all that I have changed my name Shaheen Bano Siddiqui to Shaheen Bano in future she should be known as Shaheen Bano W/o Mohd Jabbar Siddiqui. 385/302 Fazalinagar Sahadatganj, L.K.O.

### NOTICE

I, Army No. JC-696271 K Rank- Sub/Nt. Shekh Istak Unit 2 TT Wing AMC Centre & College Lucknow. In my service record my wife name mentioned as NASEEM BANU where as her correct name as per Adhar Card & Pan Card is NASEEM SHEKH, her name should be corrected in service records.

# CAB India's tryst with bigotry: Priyanka

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra attacked the Union government over Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, terming it 'India's tryst with bigotry and narrow-minded exclusion'. The bill was passed in the Lok Sabha around Monday night and would now be introduced in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Vadra's remarks came after the CAB was passed in Lok Sabha with 311 members favouring it and 80 voting against it.

"Last night at midnight, India's tryst with bigotry and narrow-minded exclusion was confirmed as the CAB was passed in Lok Sabha. Our forefathers gave their life and blood for our freedom," she said in a tweet, recalling her great-grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru's speech on the midnight of August 14-15, 1947, when India rang in its Independence.

"In India's hard-fought freedom is enshrined the right to equality and the right to freedom of religion," she tweeted. "Our constitution, our citizenship, our dreams of a strong and unified India belong to all of us. We will fight against this government's agenda to systematically destroy our constitution and undo the fundamental premise on which our country was built with all



our might," Priyanka said in another tweet.

Meanwhile, Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Kumar Lallu led party workers and staged a dharna at GPO to protest the introduction of CAB. Terming the bill 'Sanghi Samvidhan', Lallu claimed that Congress leaders and workers would fight from Parliament to streets, and not allow the BJP to saffronise Indian Constitution.

The agitating Congress workers later burnt the copy of the bill as a mark of protest. Leaders who participated in the protest included Congress Legislative Party leader Aradhana Mishra 'Mona', Vinod Mishra, Sanjay Bajpayee, Maroof Khan, Rajesh Shukla, Mukesh Singh Chauhan and three dozen others.

CAB seeks to provide Indian citizenship to non-Muslim refugees coming from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, facing religious persecution. The bill was passed in Lok Sabha after a heated debate a little past-midnight on Monday.

## Azam slams Centre for passage of CAB in LS

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party MP Azam Khan slammed the BJP-led NDA government for the passage of Citizenship Amendment Bill, terming it discriminatory. He alleged that the law would be used to target and harass Muslims.

"In democracy, only heads are counted, not brains. The bill was passed by Lok Sabha on the strength of brute majority of the BJP. Even as the government failed to cite reason for rushing with an important legislation, the bill was passed," Khan said in Rampur on Tuesday.

Calling for reconsideration of the bill before it is introduced in Rajya Sabha for debate and passage, Khan said it should be referred to a select committee of Parliament for wider consultation as the new law would have far-reaching consequences.

"The government should pay heed to the voice of the opposition if there is logic and rationality in their arguments," Khan said.

He alleged that Muslims were being punished for their



love for the country as they preferred to stay in India after partition of the country in 1947.

He said that only Muslims had the option of migrating to Pakistan, but they were now being targeted and their patriotism was being questioned.

## UP Police personnel to be equipped with modern technology

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With public outcry over safety of women getting shriller, UP Police responded by deciding to equip the personnel with state-of-the-art technology. To ensure safer atmosphere for women, the DGP headquarters decided that personnel attached to anti-Romeo squads and traffic police will be given 25,000 body-worn cameras. Besides, investigators will also be provided post-mortem kits and 5,000 tablets along with 15,000 desktops with better access to Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).

The decisions were approved by DGP OP Singh and will be completed during the current fiscal year.

In fact, the Lucknow police have already started identifying 'dark spots' in the city and areas where women are prone to be targeted by sexual offenders.

Time and again, the UP Police personnel have found

themselves on the wrong end of the stick in terms of lack of proper equipment. Videos of cops mimicking staccato of gunshots during encounter owing to jammed sidearms were one of the many incidents that led the country to suspect that the world's largest police force was in immediate need of a thorough overhaul.

Another video that had viewers in split surfaced earlier this year. It showed constables using batons as dummy horses during an emergency drill at Mirzapur Police Lines.

Besides, rising number of cases from the state where rape or molestation survivors chose to commit suicide citing police inaction also spurred public angst and sullied the image of the police.

Police departments in other states like Kerala and Karnataka have equipped their sentinels with body-worn cameras and other equipment to ensure better policing and faster resolution of cases.



Congressmen protesting against Citizenship (Amendment) Bill at Gandhi statue in Lucknow on Tuesday

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
 Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/General, Hazratganj, DRM Office, Lucknow for & on behalf of President of India, invites open Tender through online (e-tendering) for the following work:

e-Tender N.I.T. No.	943-Sr.DEE-NR-LKO-3* Call Dated 10.12.2019
Name of work	Repair/rehabilitation and commissioning of multi ductable split air conditioner installed at PRS & ITL/Varanasi. (For three years)
Approx. Cost	₹5,33,854.00 (Rs. Five Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Four Only)
Earnest Money	₹10,700.00 (Rs. Ten Thousand and Seven Hundred only)
Completion Period	Three Years.
Last Date & Time of Submission & opening of e-Tender	07.01.2020 upto 15:00 hrs. & opening on the same day at 15:30 hrs. in office of Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), Northern Railway, Hazratganj, Lucknow.
Validity of offer	45 Days from the date of opening of the Tender.
Northern Railway Website	Additional relevant information may be checked on the website <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>
Tender Cost	₹1,000/- (Rs. One Thousand only)
Technical eligibility Criteria	Tenderer shall have a valid Electrical Contractor's License issued in the name of the firm by State Government and shall furnish/attach all the particulars of the Electrical license along with their offer.

Note: Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bid upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored/rejected.  
 943-Sr.DEE-NR-LKO-3\* Call Dated 10.12.2019 3942/19  
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**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
 Tender No. CORE-G-COMP-AMC19-20-21-M Dt. 06.12.2019

(i) Name of work with its location and completion period:- Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract of computers, printers, peripherals and LAN installed at GM/CORE, Headquarter Office, Allahabad.

(ii) Completion period 24 months.

(iii) Approximate cost of the work Rs. 6,10,039.94/- (Rupees Six lakhs Ten thousand and thirty nine and ninety four paise) Only.

(iv) Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 12,200/- (Twelve thousand Two hundred) only.

(v) Due date and opening of tender 02.01.2020 upto 15.00 hrs. for submission of tender through [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and the tender shall be opened online using IREPS portal any time of the same day after closing of tender.

(vi) Website particulars [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) (where details have been uploaded).

(vii) Office Address Office of Dy. General Manager, Central Organisation for Railway Electrification, 1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Allahabad - 211001.

(viii) Eligibility criteria For eligibility criteria and other conditions & details please go through the tender document available at website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

Tender without earnest money will be summarily rejected.  
**NOTE: Only e-Bid shall be accepted against above tender**  
 Dy. GM/CORE/ALLAHABAD  
 For and on behalf of President of India  
 PR/134/19 (FA) "Serving Customers with a Smile"

**MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI**  
 On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel, Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli is inviting open e-tender notice no. MCF/RBL/Operation of CNC Press Break M/c/2019-20/C416 Date: 06.12.2019, based on single packet system through IREPS portal [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for the under mentioned work:- Description of work: Operation of CNC Press Break Machine for bending of Side Frame upper web & lower web as per scope of work. Approx. Value: ₹ 11,17,139.63, EMD: ₹ 22,400.00, Cost of Tender document: ₹ 2,000.00 only. Quantity of work: 356 C/Set, Completion period of work: 04 Months or earlier - Period of submission of tender document: From 13.12.2019 to 27.12.2019 - Date & time of closing of Tender: 27.12.2019 at 11.45 hrs. - Date & time of opening of Tender: 27.12.2019 at 12.00 hrs. - Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & conditions are available at IREPS website: [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) in tender document.  
 -Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel

S.N.	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Due Date
01	15386077B	Supply, Testing Commissioning & Prove out of Sky Lift	1 Nos.	23.12.2019
02	3105185017B	Auxiliary Items for Smart Switch Board cabinet for LHB AC Coaches	1 Set	20.12.2019
03	04190033	Set of Bracket for LHB Coaches	2680 Set	23.12.2019
04	03190112	Centre Ceiling Profile Lx4600 MM	25335 Kg.	18.12.2019
05	06190045	Supply and Application of Adhesion Promoting Primer (ETCH Primer)	60000 Litre	20.12.2019
06	03191042	Seat and Berth Set for LWACCW Compatible with LWACCN	163 Set	23.12.2019
07	12190520	Cross Section	600 Nos.	30.12.2019
08	3112185011B	Anti roll bar Assembly	200 Nos.	30.12.2019
09	03190094B	Set of Door Frame Panels for LHB Coaches	525 Set	26.12.2019
10	12195011	Primary Rubber Stop Assembly	6400 Nos.	02.01.2020
11	12190036A	Anti Roll bar Bracket	11887 Nos.	27.12.2019
12	12190045A	Longitudinal stop end plate	4923 Nos.	27.12.2019
13	04190355	Electro-Pneumatic Pressurized Flushing system for BG Coaches	4800 Set	30.12.2019
14	05190735	Set of Switch plate assembly along with mobile charging socket for LWACCN Coaches	450 Set	31.12.2019
15	03191061	Set of Chair Angle for LHB GS	250 Set	25.12.2019
16	04190060	HPL Sheet 3 x 1220 x 2440 MM	11265 Nos.	31.12.2019
17	12190533	Pin bracket for bogie body connection	2400 Nos.	06.01.2020
18	04190061	HPL Sheet 1.2 x 1220 x 2440 MM	1968 Nos.	31.12.2019
19	04270494	HPL Sheet 1.2 x 1220 x 2440 MM	49536 Nos.	06.01.2020
20	04195005	Furnishing of RAJDHANI Rake (Set) with World Class Interiors	2 Set	03.01.2020

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**Serving Customers With a Smile**

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# Man killed after tiff over liquor consumption; brother arrested

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Police on Tuesday claimed to have worked out a murder case in which Dilip Kumar Rawat of Maal was killed on December 4 night and his body found near Sainik Farm in Ganga Kheda area on December 6. There were injury marks on his neck and throat.



Deceased's motorcycle and a blood-stained knife used in the murder were found few yards away from the spot. Those arrested were identified as Dinesh Kumar and Radhey Shyam Rawat. Kumar is the elder brother of the deceased while Rawat his cousin. The motive for murder was said to be anger. The

brother said the deceased used to quarrel with his brother and his sister-in-law, and used filthy language for her due to which she felt humiliated.

Dinesh told investigating officer Shailesh Singh that the deceased was an alcoholic. He said he and his wife wanted him to quit drinking. The

deceased would be furious and use cuss words whenever he was asked to stop consuming liquor. Dileep had a big fight with his brother and wife on December 1. The deceased beat up his brother and did not spare his wife either. He threatened to dispose of his property if they continue to asked him to stop consuming liquor.

Disgusting with Dileep's behaviour and decided to teach him a lesson. He decided to eliminate his younger brother and conspired with Radhey Shyam. Both consumed liquor and called the deceased for drinks on December 4 evening, assuring him patch-up with his family. The trio then went to a dense forest cover in Ganga

Kheda and stopped the bike at an isolated place. Dileep was later attacked with a knife in which he sustained grievous injuries. The duo dumped the knife into a ditch and the body into the nearby canal.

Dinesh Kumar went to Maal police station to lodge a complaint saying his brother had gone missing.

The police took the help of electronic surveillance and informers. The investigation officer found Dinesh Kumar to be a suspect in the murder of his brother. He was picked up for interrogation. Later, Radhey Shyam was also quizzed. Dinesh said he bought the knife from a market in Maal to kill his brother.

# Fraudster lands in police net

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Police on Tuesday arrested a person for using fake documents to facilitate PAN cards, Aadhaar cards, voter IDs, and passports to gullible clients after getting huge sum of money from them.

He was identified as Ashok Kumar Bajpai, a resident of Itaunja presently living in Blue Garden Apartment on Rana Pratap Marg under Hazratganj police station.

The police said Ashok used to introduce himself as Tara Chandra to his clients to

keep his identity a secret. The police claimed that Ashok got over Rs 1 crore from his clients for getting them fake documents.

The police said the fraud was exposed after an NRI lodged a complaint with the Hazratganj police last week, naming Bajpai, who got his passport renewed through fraudulent means. The police nabbed him on Tuesday morning while he was trying to escape from his apartment.

Meanwhile, the police claimed to have arrested two persons for duping a youth on

the pretext of facilitating him a job as an officer in Indian Oil Corporation. They were identified as Rajdeep Chakravarty, a native of Bangladesh presently living in Gudamba, and Pulok Bose, also of Gudamba. The Indian Oil Corporation officials lodged a complaint regarding them last week. They were picked up for interrogation and were arrested after they admitted to their crime.

Meanwhile, a 50-year old man, identified as Dinesh Mishra of Priyadarshini Colony on Sitapur Road under

Madiaon police station, was killed in a road accident in Faizullah Nagar in Madiaon area. He was knocked down by a speeding vehicle around 5.30 am. The errant driver sped off in his four-wheeler. Dinesh's brother told the police that he was returning home after his duty hours. On his way, he met with the accident while crossing the road.

He was rushed to KGMU Trauma Center where he succumbed to injuries during treatment. The deceased was a security guard who worked with a private security agency.

## DEFENCE EXPO

# Open meat shops to be closed from Dec 15 to Feb 8

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The open meat shops functioning illegally across the city will be closed from December 15 to February 8 (2020) in view of the Defence Expo.

Municipal Commissioner Indramani Tripathi said there are around 150 such shops in the city.

"The step is being taken because an air show will be organised under the Defence Expo and we are trying to make sure there is no menace as far as birds are concerned. When the animals are slaughtering in the open, several birds like eagles and crows hover around the place to feed on the waste thrown around. Such a situation can create a nuisance when it comes to air shows," he added.

On why the illegal meat shops are being allowed to thrive, the Municipal Commissioner said LMC no longer gave licences to meat shops as it is now under the jurisdiction of Food Safety and Drug Administration

(FSDA).

Meanwhile, he pointed out that they had started colour coding of vending zones and colouring of theas, as per the instructions of the District Magistrate.

District Magistrate Abhishek Prakash had issued instructions that the vendors had to be designated their own areas in which they should operate to prevent the traffic chaos which occurs because of the snarls.

The DM had also given instructions that the registrations of mobile vehicles and ice-cream shops should be carried out and places identified for them so that these vendors do not encroach upon the roads. The Municipal Commissioner said that for the first time, the registration of mobile food vehicles had begun and these vehicles will now have to pay LMC a sum of Rs 23,000 annually.

"We have also started counting the ice-cream vendors in various parts of the city," he added.

# Zoo in search of funds for food supply to inmates

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Lucknow zoo is seeking the help of corporate sector for lending them funds for the food of inmates. Zoo director RK Singh said they have held several meetings in this regard in the past and will do so in future because if they receive extra funds, they will be able to divert the money of the trust to development works.

"The carnivores — tigers, leopards and cats — consume about 250 kg of meat everyday. We spend over Rs 30 lakh per month on food itself," he pointed out. He said they contacted several people and called for meetings and they were able to get Rs 2-5 lakh, but no big amount came their way. He said there have been instances when organisations promised big amounts but backed out at the eleventh hour.

Singh said if the expenses on food are saved, they can use a major chunk on development works. "We spend the maximum amount (around Rs 6 crore) on salaries while over Rs 3 crore is spent on the food of zoo inmates and Rs 1-

**A HIPPO EATS 25 KG OF GREEN FODDER EVERY DAY AND THERE ARE THREE OF THEM IN THE ZOO. THERE ARE SIX LIONS AND THEY EAT SIX DAYS A WEEK WHILE THEY ARE MADE TO SKIP THEIR MEALS FOR A DAY**

1.5 crore on repair and restoration works annually," he pointed out. The zoo has a total of 1,077 inmates, including over 40 carnivores. Singh said that the food pattern changes during the winters and the inmates are given vitamins and seasonal fruits. The birds and monkeys are served eggs.

He said that the big eaters are lions among carnivores and hippos among herbivores. "A hippo eats 25 kg of green fodder every day and there are three of them in the zoo. There are six lions and they eat six days a week while they are made to skip their meals for a day," he added.

# Former LU prof was nominated for Nobel Prize twice in 1980's

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Late Prof MP Khare from the Chemistry department of Lucknow University was nominated for the Nobel Prize twice in the 1980s. The current head of the Chemistry department, Naveen Khare, told *The Pioneer* said that MP Khare was nominated for his work in 'Natural Product Chemistry' and 'Carbohydrate Chemistry'.

"He studied the synthesis of carbohydrate molecule in plants. He had been trained under Noble laureate Prof Rhineshine from the United Kingdom and he researched the same work which was Phyto Chemistry of Indian medicinal plants under the Noble laureate. He went to the United Kingdom as the post-doc fellow after which he joined Lucknow University," Khare said. He said TN Srivastava was yet another legend who was a pioneer in the Organo-Metall Chemistry, a major branch of Chemistry.

"Prof AB Sen was a great teacher and great researcher from our department. The Chemistry department absorbed faculty from all over the country — for example the renowned Prof Kulkarni from Mumbai joined our department," he said. He admitted that they were the largest department in terms of number of students and faculty.



Prof MP Khare (1935 - 1990)

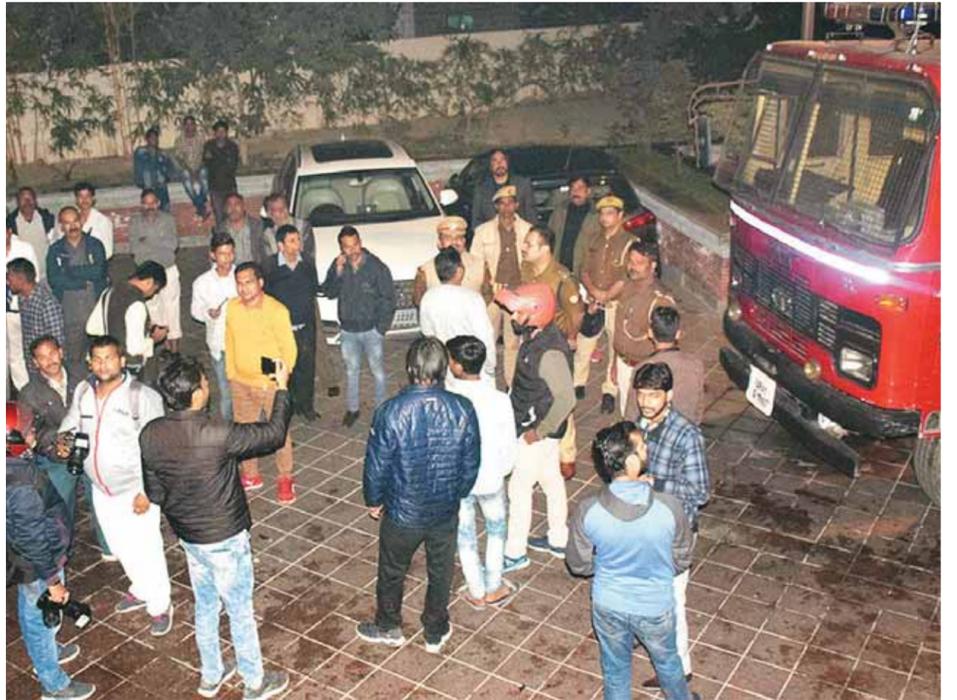
both Biology Mathematics streams and there are 450 students in undergraduate and 230 in post-graduate classes. Asked if it is true that with the passage of time, the standard has come down, he said that it was not the case. "If you look at the recent past, there has been a jump in the data of published work up to 60 per cent, which holds true for all the Science

departments of Lucknow University. The standard has remained high at the department and we still have students coming from Delhi and Mumbai," he added.

He said there are two courses run at the department — one being Pharmaceutical Chemistry and the other a PG course in Chemistry. "Every year, we take around 90 students for Chemistry and hence at one time, there are 180 students in the Chemistry department and 80 in Pharmaceutical Chemistry," he pointed out.

The department came into existence in the 1927. The first head of the department was Prof PS McMahon, FNI, who was also one of the founder-members of Indian Science Congress. The department has been lucky in having on its roll a distinguished staff such as Prof SH Zaheer, Prof GS Siddhu (who later rose to the chair of CSIR director-general), Prof AC Chatterjee and Prof SN Shukla to name a few.

In 2001, the department was given the DST-FIST grant. This grant was used to procure the Perkin Elmer FTIR instrument, which is for the use of faculty members as well as other researchers. A well equipped Wi-Fi LAN setup has been generated to be utilised by the faculty, research scholars and PG students of the department.



Residents of Jopling Road got the scare of their life when the 13th floor of Shalimar Grand caught fire on Tuesday evening. Chief fire officer VK Singh said there was no casualty reported in the incident. "The building caught fire in the evening and there was a lot of smoke billowing out," he said. Singh said that the building follows all the safety norms and they are conducting a probe to ascertain the cause of fire. "Prime facie, the fire was caused due to a short-circuit," he said

# Deteriorating law, order has sullied UP's image: Akhilesh

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged that deteriorating law and order had sullied the image of Uttar Pradesh at the global arena and charged that the was the result of carelessness of the BJP government.

In a statement issued in Lucknow on Tuesday, the former Chief Minister alleged that women across the state were insecure due to the insensitivity and indifference of UP Police. Akhilesh said it was ironic that despite a long list of 'tough decisions' by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, there had been no let-up in heinous crime against women in the state. He further said the morale of criminals was so high that women were being burnt alive after gang-rape.

The SP chief said that people of the state had become used to the flurry of decisions by the BJP regime after incident of heinous crime against women.

He said that in recent decisions, the government announced setting up of fast-track courts, directed police to escort women to homes and zero tolerance to crimes, but all these steps had proved to be a damp squib.



"Its naive to expect from the police to provide security to women during night, as they have failed in discharging their duty even during day hours," said the SP chief.

Akhilesh said that despite direction from the Chief Minister, Mobile Police Helpline '181' in Badaun, refused to rescue a victim of eve-teasing offering that their vehicle had no fuel. The SP chief said that crimes against women could be curbed only with effective security and social environment of resistance was created.

He said the BJP government could never ensure safety and security of women as the ruling party itself was aggressively pursuing divisive policies both at the Centre and state.



Members of Janata Dal (United) staging dharna over deteriorating law and order situation in Lucknow on Tuesday

**FORM NO. V**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, LUCKNOW**  
 Office of the Recovery Office, Debts Recovery Tribunal  
 600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir,  
 Hazratganj, Lucknow-226007  
 (Jurisdiction- Part of U.P. and Uttarakhand)  
 (SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY & APPEARANCE BY PUBLICATION)  
 O. A. No. 1152 / 2018 Date: 16.11.2019  
 (Summons to Defendants Under Sub-Section 19(3), of  
 The Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial  
 Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 & 13 of the Debt's  
 Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 1152 OF 2018**  
**Andhra Bank** .....Applicant  
**Versus**  
**Sri Rakesh Kapoor, Proprietor of M/s Jai Maa Sharda Flex**  
 .....Defendants  
**To,**  
**Shri Rakesh Kapoor, Proprietor of M/s Jai Maa Sharda**  
**Flex, Office at Shop No. 5 LGF, KSM Tower, Old Shardari**  
**Khera, Alambagh, Lucknow - 226005 and Resident of**  
**87, New Ganeshganj, Lucknow - 226018. ....Defendants**  
 In the above noted application, you are required to file reply  
 in paper book form in two sets along with the documents and  
 affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized  
 agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy  
 of the same on the application or his counsel/duly  
 authorized agent after publication of the summons and  
 thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 15.01.2020 at  
 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and  
 decided in your absence.  
 Registrar  
 Debts Recovery Tribunal  
 Lucknow

**FORM NO. V**  
**BEFORE THE DEBT'S RECOVERY TRIBUNAL,**  
**UTTAR PRADESH AT LUCKNOW**  
 600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007  
 (Area of Jurisdiction-Part of Uttar Pradesh)  
 (SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY & APPEARANCE BY PUBLICATION)  
**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 1675 OF 2018** Date: 07.10.2019  
 (Summons to Defendants Under Sub-Section 19(3), of  
 The Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial  
 Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 & 13 of the Debt's  
 Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)  
**Andhra Bank** .....Applicant  
**Versus**  
**M/s Manu Associates and Others**  
 .....Defendants  
**To,**  
**M/s Manu Associates,**  
**A proprietorship concern having its office at C-14,**  
**Vrindavan Vihar, Gausaha Road, Balakganj,**  
**Lucknow, (U.P.) - 226003**  
**2. Sri Niraj Gupta S/o Late Surendra Nath Gupta**  
**Resident of C-14, Vrindavan Vihar, Gausaha Road,**  
**Balakganj, Lucknow, (U.P.) - 226003**  
**3. Sri Amit Srivastava S/o Sri Prem Srivastava**  
**Resident of House No.- 356/267/8, Alamgar,**  
**Pail Tiraha, Lucknow - 226017**  
 .....Defendants  
 In the above noted application, you are required to file reply  
 in paper book form in two sets along with the documents and  
 affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized  
 agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy  
 of the same on the application or his counsel/duly  
 authorized agent after publication of the summons and  
 thereafter writing 30 days from the date of service of the  
 summons and thereafter, to appear before this Tribunal on  
 17.12.2019 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall  
 be heard and decided in your absence.  
 Registrar  
 Debts Recovery Tribunal  
 Lucknow

**Ministry of Women and Child Development invites the brightest of Indian minds to join POSHAN Abhiyaan to help us achieve improvement in nutritional status of women, children and adolescent girls. Apply for following positions within 21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.**

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II	Consultant (Financial Management), Consultant (Procurement)	Rs. 60,000/-
III	Accountant	Rs. 30,000/-
IV	Project Officer (On Deputation/Contract)	Pay Level-8 (Grade Pay : Rs. 4800/-). In case of contract, last drawn pay minus pension

**Details of vacancy are available in the Ministry's website [www.wed.nic.in](http://www.wed.nic.in)**

dwvp 46101 / 11 / 0008 / 1920



# DETENTION OF J&K LEADERS UT admn to take call: Shah

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

Maintaining that the Centre has no intention to keep any leader in Kashmir under custody even for one more day but it was for the local administration of Jammu & Kashmir to take a call on their release, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday pointed out that the Government doesn't want to emulate the Congress that had kept Feroz Abdullah's father in jail for 11 years. He asserted that the Centre would not interfere in the process.

He said all leaders should be concerned about political leaders in the Valley, he is also concerned but if leaders are more worried about people of Kashmir it will send a better message.

Responding to the question by Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir and detention of political leaders, Shah underlined that the situation is completely normal in the Valley. "99.5 per cent students of Class XI class sat for exams there, but for Adhir Ranjan ji this is not normalcy, seven lakh people availed OPD services in Srinagar, Section 144 removed from everywhere. But for Adhir ji only parameter for normalcy is political activity,"



Earlier, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy, responding to a supplementary question by Sridhar Kotagiri, said stone pelting incidents have decreased substantially in 2019

Amit Shah said all leaders should be concerned about political leaders in the Valley, he is also concerned but if leaders are more worried about people of Kashmir it will send a better message

Responding to the question by Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir and detention of political leaders, Shah underlined that the situation is completely normal in the Valley

99.5 per cent students of Class XI class sat for exams there, but for Adhir Ranjan ji this is not normalcy, seven lakh people availed OPD services in Srinagar, Section 144 removed from everywhere. But for Adhir ji only parameter for normalcy is political activity, Home Minister said

Taking on the Congress, Shah said, Feroz Abdullah is in custody for six months but the Congress had kept his father in custody for 11 years

Taking on the Congress, Shah said, Feroz Abdullah is in custody for six months but the Congress had kept his father in custody for 11 years.

"Feroz Abdullah's father was kept in jail for 11 years by the Congress. We don't want to follow them and as soon as the administration decides, they will be released," he said.

"..It is for local adminis-

tration to decide when political leaders will be released. We don't want to keep anyone (leaders) in jail even for a day more than that is required. As and when the local administration feels the time is appropriate, they will be released. There will be no interference from our side," Shah said.

Earlier, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy, responding to a supple-

mentary question by Sridhar Kotagiri, said stone pelting incidents have decreased substantially in 2019.

In 2018, 802 such incidents were reported which reduced to 544 in 2019, while only 190 stone pelting incidents were reported since August 5, Reddy said, adding all leading English, Urdu newspapers and TV channels are working in the Valley.

## Concerned over 'fundamental freedom' of people, says EU

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The European Union (EU) on Tuesday said it was concerned over restrictions on "fundamental freedom" of people in Kashmir and called for steps like restoration of communication network and essential services to bring back normalcy in the Valley.

European Union's Ambassador to India Ugo Astuto also said Pakistan must take action against terror groups operating from its soil, including by choking their financial support, and ensuring compliance of steps recommended by anti-terror watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

Astuto, at a media brief-

ing, said the European Union's position has been that India and Pakistan should resolve all issues through dialogue.

"Pakistan must take action against militants and terrorists, including against those involved in financing and supporting the terror groups," he said. On Kashmir, he said the European Union understands India's security concerns, but insisted that steps should be taken to restore normalcy in the Valley, adding the bloc's views on the matter remained unchanged since August.

## Abrogation of Article 370 unconstitutional, people of J&K bypassed: Petitioners to SC

NEW DELHI: The Centre's decision to abrogate provisions of Article 370 was "unconstitutional" since people of Jammu & Kashmir were "bypassed" and any proposal for altering the constitutional status of the erstwhile State should emanate from the citizens there, one of the petitioners said in the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

A five-judge Constitution Bench headed by Justice NV Ramana, which commenced hearing on batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the Centre's decision, was told by the petitioner that it was violative of the Constitution as orders were passed in "disregard of consent" of people of J&K.

Provisions of Article 370, which gave special status to the erstwhile State of J&K, was abrogated by Centre on August 5. A number of petitions have been filed in the matter, including that of private individuals, lawyers, activists and political parties and they have also challenged the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019, which splits J&K into two Union Territories — J&K and Ladakh.

## Cong welcomes Sena's stand on CAB Bill in RS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday said it welcomed the Shiv Sena's decision to reconsider its stand on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha after voting in favour in the Lok Sabha, and stated that as an alliance partner, it could not ask the Maharashtra party to alter its position on the issue. Earlier, in the day, Shiv Sena president and Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray said he would not back the Bill in the Rajya Sabha till there was clarity on questions raised by his party in the Lok Sabha.

"We are cognisant of the fact that ideologically we are different and we respect that diversity. Therefore, the alliance in Maharashtra is premised on a specific situation. I don't think that the Shiv Sena has asked us to give up our ideological position and we do not expect them to do so, and these are the realities of real politics. To tell them not to stay true to their ideology is not correct. If the Shiv Sena is thinking of changing its stand on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha based on the fact that it is against the Constitution and is hurting its



The CAB is an attack on the Indian constitution. Anyone who supports it is attacking and attempting to destroy the foundation of our nation

RAHUL GANDHI

Last night at midnight, India's trust with bigotry and narrow minded exclusion was confirmed as the CAB was passed in the Lok Sabha. Our forefathers gave their lifeblood for our freedom

PRIYANKA GANDHI

basic tenets, then we welcome it," Congress spokesperson Manish Tiwari said.

He also said not only the Congress, but all the nationalistic forces in the country will support the Shiv Sena. Tewari clarified that while the Congress had no problems with giving shelter to those being discriminated against in the neighbouring countries, but said the party demands a comprehensive and inclusive refugee law. He also asked the Government to come clean on its border policy.

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi slammed the Government over the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Bill, saying it was an "attack on the Indian Constitution". "The CAB is an attack on the Indian constitution. Anyone who supports it is attacking and attempting to destroy the foundation of our

nation," said Rahul. Priyanka said, "India's trust with bigotry and narrow minded exclusion" was confirmed as the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha at midnight. "Last night at midnight, India's trust with bigotry and narrow minded exclusion was confirmed as the CAB was passed in the Lok Sabha. Our forefathers gave their lifeblood for our freedom," she said in a tweet, recalling her great-grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru's speech on the midnight of August 14-15, 1947, when India rang in its Independence.

In that hard fought freedom is enshrined the right to equality, and the right to freedom of religion, Priyanka Gandhi said. "Our constitution, our citizenship, our dreams of a strong and unified India belongs to all of us," she said in another tweet.

"We will fight against this Government's agenda to systematically destroy our constitution and undo the fundamental premise on which our country was built with all our might," she added. The sharp criticism of the opposition party came after the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha on Monday with 311 members favouring it and 80 voting against it. The bill will now be tabled in the Rajya Sabha for its nod on Wednesday.

Congress' chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the Bill was an anathema to India's constitutional democracy. "It's an attack on soul of India. 72 years earlier, India was partitioned by the British, Savarkar's and Jinnah's sinister thought and approach. Descendants of the philosophy seek to partition our foundational values once again," he said in a tweet.

## INSHORT

### 2 LOK SABHA MEMBERS DEMAND BAN ON PANIPAT

**New Delhi:** Two Lok Sabha members from Rajasthan demanded a ban on Bollywood film Panipat, claiming it shows Bharatpur's Maharaja Surajmal in poor light by twisting historical facts. Raising the issue during the Zero Hour in the House, Rashtriya Loktantrik Party's Hamunna Beniwal said sentiments of people in Rajasthan and Haryana have been hurt by the movie.

### ₹15.13 CRORE RAISED FROM AUCTION: MIN

**New Delhi:** The Culture Ministry informed Parliament that ₹15.13 crore were raised from the auction of mementos and gifts presented to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last five years. In an answer to a query in the Rajya Sabha, Culture Minister Prahlad Patel said the money had been raised during three auctions — February 18-20, 2015, January 27-April 1, 2019 and September 14-October 24, 2019. The proceeds were given to the Namami Gange project of the Union Government, he said.

### WITHDRAWAL OF ₹2,000: MIN SAYS DON'T WORRY

**New Delhi:** Dismissing reports that Government is set to withdraw ₹2,000 note, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur said there was no need to worry about it. "This is real worry (about demonetisation) which has surfaced now. I think you should not worry about it," Thakur told RS replying to a question on Government's plan to withdraw ₹2,000 note in future.

### PREZ FLAGS CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN

**New Delhi:** President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday flagged the recent incidents of violence against women in the country, saying such heinous crimes force people to think whether the society has lived up to the cherished universal vision of equal rights for all.

## NIRBHAYA GANGRAPE-MURDER CASE

# Convict moves SC seeking review of death penalty

PNS/PTI ■ NEW DELHI

One of the four convicts, Akshya Kumar Singh, moved the Supreme Court on Tuesday seeking review of its 2017 judgement handing down death penalty to all of them in the sensational Nirbhaya gangrape and murder case.

Strangely, among others he not only talked about the health risks such as rising pollution level in Delhi but also about the life span of human beings in present age saying there was no reason to continue with the death penalty. His plea also maintained "executions only kill criminal, not the crime."

"Life is going short to short, then why death penalty? When age is reducing, it is mentioned in our 'Ved', 'Purans' and 'Upanishads' that in the age of 'Satyug' people lived the life of thousand years. In the age of

Executions only kill criminal, not the crime, he said in plea

'Dwapar' they used to live for hundreds of the years, but not in 'Kalyug', in this era, age of human beings have reduced much. It has now come to 50 to 60 years, and rarely do we listen of a person who is the age of 100 years.

"Very few people reach up to the age of 80-90 years. This is almost a very true analysis. When we look around us then we come to the conclusion, more or less this analysis is true when a person faces the stark realities of life and passes through the adverse situation, then he is no better than a dead body," it said.

The 23-year-old paramedic student was brutally gangraped

on the intervening night of December 16-17, 2012, inside a running bus in South Delhi by six persons and severely assaulted before being thrown out on the road. She succumbed to injuries on December 29, 2012, at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore.

"The state must not simply execute people to prove that it is attacking terror or violence against women. It must persistently work towards systematic reforms to bring about change. Executions only kill the criminal, not the crime..." the review plea said.

The top court, in July 9 last year, had dismissed the review pleas by Mukesh (30), Pawan Gupta (23) and Vinay Sharma (24) in the case, saying no grounds have been made out by them for review of the 2017 verdict. Akshya had not filed his review plea.

## Max lawmakers facing criminal cases against women from BJP: ADR

This is followed by Congress (16) and YSRCP (7)

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The number of Lok Sabha MPs with cases related to crimes against women has increased from two in 2009 to 19 in 2019.

According to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), the BJP has the highest number of 21 lawmakers facing cases related to crime against women, followed by the Congress (16) and YSRCP (7).

As per the report, the number of Lok Sabha election candidates with cases of crimes against women went up from 38 to 126, an increase of 231 per cent, during the period. "There are three MPs and six MLAs who have declared cases related to rape... In the last five years, recognised parties have given tickets to 41 candidates who declared cases related to rape," an ADR report said.

In the past five years, the BJP gave tickets to 66 candidates facing cases of crime against women to contest Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Assemblies elections. The

Congress fielded 46 such candidates and Bahujan Samaj Party 40.

The ADR said it analysed 4,822 out of 4,896 election affidavits of current MPs (759) and MLAs (4063).

The number of Lok Sabha election candidates with cases of crimes against women went up from 38 to 126, an increase of 231 per cent, during the period, the report said.

West Bengal reported the highest number of MPs/MLAs (16) who declared cases of crimes against women, followed by Odisha and Maharashtra with 12 MPs/MLAs each.

"In the last five years, a total of 572 such candidates contested in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and assembly elections. None of these candidates have been convicted," the report read.

As many as 410 candidates were given tickets by recognised political parties. 89 of them were nominated for Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha elections, it said.

"In the last five years, Maharashtra reported the highest number of candidates (84) followed by Bihar (75) who were given tickets by political parties even though they have declared cases of crime against women in their affidavits," the report said.

## PM-Kisan dues to be transferred only to Aadhaar-linked bank ac/s

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The fourth instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-Kisan) due this month will be transferred only to Aadhaar-authenticated bank accounts of eligible farmers. This will be the first time since the launch of this scheme in February that the Government insists on the mandatory condition of Aadhaar seeding.

In a reply to the Lok Sabha,

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the mandatory requirement of Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries' data continues to be applicable for release of all instalments falling due with effect from December 1, 2019, onward. The instalment for the December 2019 to March 2020 will be transferred to Aadhaar-authenticated bank accounts at one go for this month.

Under the PM Kisan Samman Yojna, the

Government is providing income support of ₹6,000 per year to all farmer families in the country, paid in instalments of ₹2,000 every four months. The amount is directly transferred into the bank accounts of beneficiaries. As per the Agriculture Ministry's data, the total numbers of beneficiaries are more than 7.6 crore farmer families.

Aadhaar was made optional for availing the first instalment (December 2018-March 2019)

**Under PM Kisan Samman Yojna, Government is providing income support of ₹6,000 per year to all farmer families in the country, paid in instalments of ₹2,000 every four months**

except for farmers of Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu & Kashmir who have been exempted till March 2020. However, Aadhaar number was mandated for getting the second tranche of money. Due to delay in Aadhaar seeding, the condition was relaxed for till November 30 for availing both second and third instalments.

## For 2nd week, onion still above ₹100/kg

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

For the second week in a row, onion prices on Tuesday stayed above the ₹100 per kg mark, as Government efforts to cool the rates seem to be taking more time than expected. The rates were as high as ₹165 a kg in Panaji, while the average of 114 major cities in the country came to over ₹100.

As per the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs, onion prices started to climb from September and have averaged over ₹100 per kg since November 25. Onion, which is an essential ingredient in many food preparations, is a politically sensitive item and its high prices have been a cause of defeat for many Governments in the past.

According to the data, onion prices are ruling at ₹96 per kg in the national capital, ₹102 per kg in Mumbai, ₹100

in Chennai and ₹140 per kg in Kolkata. Onions are being sold at ₹160 per kg in Thiruvananthapuram, Kozhikode, Mayabunder, and at ₹150 per kg in Tirupati, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Palakkad.

In Bengaluru, Wayanad, Ramanathapuram and Port Blair, the rates stood at ₹140 per kg. Onion prices prevailed at ₹120 per kg in Gurugram, Jagdalpur, Behrampur, Purulia, Malda, Itanagar, Agartala, Puducherry, Dindigul, Tirunelveli and Dharmapuri. In Amritsar, Surat, Jabalpur, Darbhanga, Sambalpur, Balasore and Gangtok, onion prices were Rs 110 per kg.

Onion rates are

₹100 per kg in Chandigarh, Shimla, Mandi, Srinagar, Jammu, Ludhiana, Gorakhpur, Haridwar, Ahmedabad, Patna, Cuttack, Jeypure, Kharagpur, Raiganj, Shillong and Tiruchirappalli.

Last month, Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister attributed the rise in prices to a 26 per cent decline in domestic production during kharif and late-kharif seasons because of late monsoon followed by excess rains in major producing States such as

Maharashtra and Karnataka. The Minister has been maintaining that the Government has taken all possible steps to rein in prices such as imposing a ban on exports and allowing imports of 1.2 lakh tonnes to boost supply.

The Centre has also put restrictions on quantities of onions to be stocked by retailers and wholesalers. On Monday, the Centre further reduced the stock holding limit for onion to 2 tonnes from 5 tonnes for retail traders.



CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT BILL

Sonowal welcomes passage of Bill

**Guwahati:** Amid widespread protest over the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Assam, State Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Tuesday welcomed its passage in the Lok Sabha describing it as a "historic moment".

Himanta Biswa Sarma, the convener of the North-East Democratic Alliance (NEDA), complimented Union Home Minister Amit Shah saying it "shall be inscribed in gold as a day of bold reform to correct a fallacy of many decades."

The Bill was passed by the

Lower House of Parliament on Monday night as the ruling BJP enjoys a majority there. It will be introduced in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

"The passage of the Bill in Lok Sabha is a historic moment for us all. It will not only give relief to six persecuted minority communities from three neighbouring countries but will also pave the way for constitutional safeguards to the indigenous people of Assam," Sonowal tweeted.

The Bill seeks to give Indian citizenship to members of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities, who have come from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, till December 31, 2014, facing religious persecution there.

He also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah "for fulfilling a long-standing commitment of India and for taking everyone along and ensuring protection for all

indigenous people".

Sarma who is also the finance, health and PWD minister of the State, tweeted that the Bill will go down in "history as a glorious historical correction of a blunder committed by the Nehru-Liaquat Pact! Posterity will owe it to PM Sri @narendramodi for this giant step".

The then Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and his Pakistani counterpart Liaquat Ali Khan signed an agreement, known as the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, in 1950 to protect the minority communities in their respective countries.

Sarma thanked the Union Home Minister for tearing "into the opposition as he made an inspired speech while replying on the CAB in the Lok Sabha". The Chief Minister had also tweeted on Monday that the CAB is not only for Assam but for the entire country and a section is "maligned the image of the state by spreading misinform-

ation that only Assam will have to again bear the burden of illegal immigrants". Sonowal had urged BJP workers to stay vigilant and check the spread of misinformation, engage in discussions and deliberations with the public to remove any doubts regarding the Bill so that they are not misled.

Protests against the Bill have erupted across Assam - barring the three districts of Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi in Barak Valley where the majority of the people are Hindu Bengalis hailing from Bangladesh and are expected to benefit from the CAB.

The North East Students' Organisation (NESO), backed by various other bodies and political parties, has called an 11-hour bandh from 5 am against the Bill on Tuesday.

Indigenous people of the Northeastern states are scared that the entry of these people will endanger their identity and livelihood. **PTI**

Kerala CM slams CAB

**Thiruvananthapuram:** The Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) passed by Parliament in 'unusual haste' was an 'attack' on the secular and democratic character of the country, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said on Tuesday.

The Constitution of India guarantees the right to citizenship for all Indians, irrespective of their religion, caste, language, culture, gender or profession and this very right is being made void by the CAB, Vijayan said in a statement here.

The move to decide citizenship on the basis of religion amounts to rejection of the Constitution, he said.

This was an exercise to divide people on communal lines, he said.

"The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha with unusual haste and tenacity," he said.

"Muslims, who have immigrated from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan are being excluded. The discrimination on the basis of religion

and preferential granting of rights is a denial of natural justice," Vijayan said.

The bill mentions that people belonging to six religious groups from three neighbouring countries can be granted citizenship.

These two clauses must be withdrawn, the Chief Minister said.

It is not unknown to the Sangh Parivar that India houses refugees from Sri Lanka in addition to the three aforementioned countries, he said.

"The CAB serves the communal policies of the sangh parivar and their devious plans to establish a non-secular state. The articles of the Constitution that relate to citizenship and fundamental rights are being violated here. India belongs to Indians of all kinds. Efforts to undermine this fact will only take our country backward," he said.

"It will destroy our hard-fought freedom and we must not let that happen," he said. **PTI**

Politics behind Govt's decision to introduce it: Pilot

**Jaipur:** Deputy Chief Minister of Rajasthan Sachin Pilot on Tuesday alleged that politics is behind the Government's decision to introduce the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill.

He claimed that the bill is an attempt to divert people's attention from issues like unemployment and slow economic growth.

The bill seeks to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955, in order to grant Indian nationality to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians who come to India after facing religious persecution in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan even if they don't possess proper documents.

It was passed in the Lok Sabha a little past midnight on Monday after a heated debate that lasted over seven hours. It will now be tabled in the Rajya

Sabha on Wednesday.

"There is politics somewhere behind introducing the bill. It is not written in the Constitution that there should be discrimination on the basis of religion. The Congress has opposed the bill in principle and the party's stand is clear that religion should not be the ground for (granting) citizenship," Pilot, who is also the Rajasthan Congress chief, told reporters here.

"Amendments to the Citizenship Act have been made in the past as well but it is the first time that it is being opposed in parts of the country," he said.

The government's decision to introduce the bill was met with protests in northeastern States with most student unions and regional political parties opposing it. **PTI**

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION, U.P. JAL NIGAM, SANT KABIR NAGAR**  
Letter No. 1154/M-12/287  
Date : 09/12/2019  
**SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE**  
Online percentage rate basis e-tenders in two bid system for Construction of Over Head Tank, laying and jointing of Rising main Jhuria Water Supply schemes of District-Sant Kabir Nagar are hereby invited on behalf of Chairman U.P. Jal Nigam from the reputed contractors having requisite work experience. Interested contractors may view & download tender document from 16.12.2019 and upload their tender duly filled online on e-procurement website [www.jn.upscdc.gov.in](http://www.jn.upscdc.gov.in) latest by 21.12.2019 upto 17:00 Hrs. Uploaded tender will be opened on 23.12.2019 at 12:30 Hrs.

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, 13<sup>TH</sup> DIVISION (E&M), U.P. JAL NIGAM, LUCKNOW**  
Letter No.: 1947/M-6/444 dated :- 05-12-2019  
**Short Term Tender Notice**  
Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam invites sealed tenders for Supply of Pea Gravel in District Lucknow from bidders having relevant experience and registered in class-II supplier in U.P. Jal Nigam for group 21 (Pea gravel) and above in Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam in Construction of Tubewells. Interested contractors may purchase tender document between 16-12-2019 to 19-12-2019 at the office of Superintending Engineer and 23rd Circle, U.P. Jal Nigam, Lucknow, office of Executive Engineer, 13th Division (E&M) U.P. Jal Nigam, Lucknow and Office of Project Manager IVth Const. Unit (E&M) U.P. Jal Nigam, Lucknow on office timings and submitted their tender latest by 21-12-2019 upto 15:00 hrs. Received tenders are opened on 21-12-2019 at 15:30 hrs in the office of Executive Engineer, 13th Division (E&M), U.P. Jal Nigam Lucknow. The non refundable cost of tender document is Rs. 1000.00+12% GST and other details of tender will be available on U.P. Jal Nigam website [www.jn.upscdc.gov.in](http://www.jn.upscdc.gov.in)

**बिहार स्टेट मिल्क को-ऑपरेटिव फेडरेशन लिमिटेड**  
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सूचना : (0612) 2228953, 2224083, 2228347, 2220387,   
फैक्स : 2224017, E-mail: [marketingcomfed@gmail.com](mailto:marketingcomfed@gmail.com)

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पशु आहार कारखाना, रॉयी के लिए कच्चे सामग्रियों की आपूर्ति हेतु निबंधित आपूर्तिकर्ता या निर्माताओं से मुहरबंद निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। नये आपूर्तिकर्ता जो इस संस्था को कच्चे सामग्रियों की आपूर्ति करना चाहते हैं अपना आवेदन, पैर नम्बर एवं जी0एस0टी0 नं0 की छायाप्रति एवं ₹0 5500/- का ड्राफ्ट (जिसमें ₹0 5000/- सिक्युरिटी मनी एवं ₹0 500/-रजिस्ट्रेशन हेतु है) उपरोक्त पते पर भेजकर निबंधन भी करा सकते हैं। सामग्रियों का विवरण एवं शर्तों की जानकारी के लिये निविदा प्रपत्र हमारे वेबसाइट [www.sudha.coop](http://www.sudha.coop) से डाउनलोड (download) किया जा सकता है। निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 01.01.2020 के संख्या 5.00 बजे तक है। प्राप्त निविदाएं दिनांक 03.01.2020 को 10.30 बजे प्रातः काल उपस्थित निविदादाताओं के समक्ष इस कार्यालय में खोली जायेगी।  
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**TENDER NOTICE**  
MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bids from Service Provider through e-tendering:

Tender specification Number	Particulars	Tender Fee including GST (in Rs.)	Approximate Tender Value (Rs. Cr.)	Date of Pre-Bid Conference	Date of opening of Tender
MD/MK/04/653	Outsourcing of Manpower required for Miscellaneous Works under the Jurisdiction of MPMKVVCL, Bhopal	10000.00	313.50	21.12.19 03:30 PM	02.01.20 03:30 PM
MD/MK/04/654	Outsourcing of Spot Meter Reading, Bill Printing and Distribution for LT Consumers of connected Load upto 10KW in selected Circle under the jurisdiction of MPMKVVCL, Bhopal (Lot 1-12)	2000.00 (Per Lot)	85.08	23.12.19 03:30 PM	04.01.20 03:30 PM

Other details are available on Company Website <https://portal.mpcz.in> & <https://mptenders.gov.in> //SAVE ELECTRICITY//  
M.P. Madhyam/96123/2019 CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)

It will dilute Art 371F in long run: Bhaichung

PTI ■ GANGTOK

Footballer-turned-politician Bhaichung Bhutia on Tuesday expressed disappointment that Sikkim was not excluded from the ambit of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, unlike several other northeastern States. Bhutia, also working president of Hamro Sikkim Party, expressed his fears that the legislation will dilute special provisions of the Himalayan state that it enjoys under Article 371F of the Constitution.

He also urged the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha-led government to press for implementation Inner Line Permit in the state and quit the NDA in protest against the passage of the Bill.

The legislation, that seeks to grant Indian citizenship to religious minorities of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh who are fleeing persecution there, was passed in the Lok Sabha with 311-80 votes.

"We are deeply disappointed with the CAB. The Bill has not excluded Sikkim compared to other North-East states like Nagaland, Meghalaya and a few others.



Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Kumar Lallu along with party workers burn copies of the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) during a protest at GPO in Lucknow on Tuesday **PTI**

It is aimed at pushing Hindutva: Guj activists

**Ahmedabad:** Some activists from Gujarat have criticised the passage of the contentious Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in Lok Sabha, saying the proposed law will sharpen a communal divide while its real objective is to take forward the agenda of Hindutva.

The bill seeks to provide Indian citizenship to non-Muslim migrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh and

Afghanistan facing religious persecution in those countries.

"While the Citizenship Amendment Bill's stated purpose is to offer refuge to persecuted minorities from neighbouring countries, it only applies to a small, very specific group of minorities and countries. It conveniently omits Ahmadis from Pakistan, Rohingyas from Myanmar, and Tamils from Sri Lanka," stated

a letter signed by Dev Desai and 230 other activists cum citizens of NGO ANHAD.

"This bill is not about protecting refugees, but is instead intended simply to advance the agenda of Hindutva. In turn, the law will inflame passions, and sharpen communal divisions all over the country, particularly in Bengal, Assam, and other States of the North East," it said. **PTI**

Same view not always possible: NCP on Sena backing CAB

**Mumbai:** With its Maharashtra alliance partner Shiv Sena backing the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha, the NCP on Tuesday said the two are different parties and it is not possible always for them to hold the same view on all issues.

NCP chief spokesperson Nawab Malik, however, said the parties are committed to ensure that no injustice is meted to anyone on the grounds of religion, caste, language and region in Maharashtra.

Maharashtra Congress general secretary Sachin Sawant also said that though the Shiv Sena has backed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB) in the Lok Sabha, it was hopeful the Uddhav Thackeray-led party will stick to the common minimum programme (CMP) while governing the state.

The Sharad Pawar-led party earlier said the CAB is "anti-constitutional" and the



BJP-led Union Government is pushing it only for political benefits.

The Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress formed Government in Maharashtra last month after the Thackeray-led party severed its ties with the BJP.

In the CMP formulated before government formation, the Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress mentioned that issues regarding constitutional provisions and having a bearing on the state and national secular fabric will have to be discussed among them, and only then any of the three parties can

decide on its position.

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

"We are two different parties. We reached an agreement on certain issues when it comes to governance in the state. Two allies from Bihar too have taken a different stance on some issues," Malik said.

He was apparently referring to the ruling JD(U) and BJP in Bihar holding different views on the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir.

The BJP supported it, while the JD(U) was against its scrapping. **PTI**

Tough task ahead for BSY as he works on Cabinet expansion

**Bengaluru:** As Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa prepares for Cabinet expansion after his fourth month old Government retained a majority in the Karnataka assembly by sweeping the bypolls, developments on Tuesday indicated that he has a tough task ahead.

The ruling BJP on Monday had swept the by-elections, winning 12 of the total of 15 seats. Yediyurappa on Tuesday said he would soon hold discussions with the central leadership on cabinet expansion.

"In another three to four days I will go to Delhi to meet Amit Shah (BJP National President) and Prime Minister (Narendra Modi), when they decide we will do it (Cabinet expansion)," Yediyurappa said here.

"As I had given an assurance that those who had resigned and came out of (Congress and JD(S)) and won the bypolls, making them Ministers is our responsibility, I have accepted it and will execute it hundred per cent," he told reporters.

Eleven of the 13 disqualified legislators, who successfully contested the bypolls on BJP tickets, are

expected to become Ministers soon.

However, Cabinet expansion will not be an easy task as Yediyurappa will have to strike a balance by accommodating the victorious disqualified legislators as he had promised and also make place for old guards, upset at being "neglected" in the first round of the induction exercise.

He also has to give adequate representation to various castes and regions in his cabinet that already has eight Lingayats, including the CM, three Vokkaligas, three from Scheduled Caste, two OBCs, one Scheduled Tribe and a Brahmin.

Region-wise, Bengaluru Urban, with four Ministers and Belagavi and Shivamogga, with two each, have a larger share in the Ministry.

Including the Chief Minister, there are currently 18 ministers in the cabinet, whose sanctioned strength is 34.

With indications about cabinet expansions on the cards, several ministerial aspirants, both old and newly-elected, have met Chief Minister to push their case, party sources said. **PTI**



A police officer distributes pamphlets among the college students during the launch of 'Kavalan SOS' (Police SOS) smartphone application by Chennai police on Tuesday **PTI**

TRIPLE MURDER CASE Calcutta HC rejects Mukul Roy bail plea

PNS ■ KOLKATA

Senior BJP leader from Bengal Mukul Roy on Tuesday suffered a major blow after the Calcutta High Court rejected his plea for anticipatory bail in a triple-murder case in which his name has figured in a supplementary charge-sheet.

The case refers to the murder of three brothers Dhanu Sheikh, Katun Sheikh and Turuk Sheikh — all CPI(M) members — from Luvpur in Birbhum district at the house of former TMC MLA Manirul Islam.

In the original charge-sheet of the 9-year-old case Roy's name had however not figured.

The Court while rejecting the plea said it was doing so on technical grounds as the bail application was erro-

neous. "This means that the bail has not been rejected on merit," sources close to Roy said adding the BJP would consider further steps.

The original case implicates Islam a former Forward Bloc leader who joined the TMC post 2011 when the party came to power and subsequently he joined the BJP early this year.

The CPI(M) alleges that the murders were orchestrated at Islam's house who had called five brothers for a compromise but got three of them hacked to death.

The remaining two brothers fled with their lives and later lodged FIRs. But sustained torture of the family forced it to flee the village and take shelter in the neighbouring district of Murshidabad.

Somalia, Yemen beckon Indian fishermen

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI:

Indian Ocean, a battleground between the fishermen of Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka over the rights to fish in region marked as International Maritime Boundary Line has the solution to the decades old political problem. The 'unexplored' sea shores of Somalia and Yemen could be the solution India and Sri Lanka are waiting for, according to marine specialists and diplomats.

Prof A Ramachandran, vice chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS) and an internationally respected industrial marine specialist says that the coastlines of Somalia and Yemen remain underutilised.

"Because of the lack of interest among Somalian fishermen to take the initiative to venture out to the exclusive economic zone of this country,

what is happening is that the region is experiencing large scale poaching in the form of unauthorised fishing. Fisheries resources in Somalia remain untapped due to a host of reasons," Prof Ramachandran told *The Pioneer*.

He also pointed out that coastlines of Somalia and Yemen and virgin areas. "Fish is not very much relished in these countries," said Prof Ramachandran.

Since these countries were not very much into fishing, the untapped marine wealth in the form of fish products could be harnessed by entrepreneurs from India. "Our fishermen, especially those from Tamil Nadu and Kerala, are skilled in fishing in these regions. The area offers immense potential for our fishermen," he said.

What makes the Somalian and Yemen coast unique is the presence of large stock of tuna, lobster, sardine, mackerel, cuttle fish and several other species

which enjoy big demand in global market, said the vice-chancellor.

Since both Somalia and Yemen are not fully equipped for deep sea fishing and do not have modern infrastructure for storing and processing the catch, there is a big potential for Indian entrepreneurs as well as fishermen, pointed out Prof Ramachandran and Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe, secretary general, Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), an inter-governmental organisation engaged in strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean region through its 22 member States and nine dialogue partners.

Dr Nokwe, a medical doctor-turned-career diplomat said there was big scope for a win-win situation for all the stake holders viz India, Yemen, Somalia the entrepreneurs and the fishermen if such a cooperation materialises. "We in

IORA are willing to play a major role in facilitating such a cooperation between these three countries to develop such an international venture. Indian entrepreneurs have the technology while the fishermen are skilled. This would go a long way in the economic development of all stake holders," said Dr Nokwe.

Jaya Palayan, founder, South Indian Fishermen Federation, said the suggestion sounded fine. "But we need to ensure the safety of our fishermen from the marauding pirates of Somalia, who made that country an infamous entity because of hijacking of ships and other marine vessels," said Palayan, a marine engineer turned fisherman activist.

A representative from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI), an industry body involved in the Blue Economy also expressed his apprehension over the threats posed by the Somalian pirates.

# Honour killing not rape-murder

Bihar woman, whose charred body was found in Buxar, was victim of honour killing

**Patna:** The recent recovery of a young woman's charred body in Buxar district of Bihar, which had triggered speculation of murder after rape, turned out to be a case of honour killing and the main accused the father of the victim has been arrested, a top police official claimed on Tuesday.



nobody was coming forward with a missing report which could give us a clue", Rathi told PTI over phone.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Shahabad Range, Rakesh Rathi said that Mahendra Gupta, a retired Army man and resident of Dinara in Bhabhua the headquarter of Kaimur district was arrested Tuesday afternoon, a day after the victim was identified by her mother and brother.

He also said Gupta, who had been hiding since he killed his daughter on the night of December 2, had confessed that the cartridge found close to the body was fired from his weapon and that he had set the body ablaze after pulling the trigger on his child.

"After the recovery of the woman's body in Itarhi police station area of Buxar last week, we were facing the problem of ascertaining her identity since the corpse was charred and

Subsequently, the brother and mother of the woman were picked up for interrogation and shown the sandals and the toe ring worn by the deceased. "They confirmed it

belonged to their elder daughter. They also said that her father had been seething with rage since her elopement, his fury getting worse by taunts of neighbours and he had been vowing that once caught, he will not spare her", the DIG said.

The body was found in the fields in a village under Itarhi police station on December 3 and, coming close on the heels of the rape and murder of a young veterinary doctor in Hyderabad, had fueled speculation that it was a case of a similar nature.

# Countdown begins for launch of RISAT-2BR1

PTI ■ CHENNAI

The countdown began on Tuesday for the launch of India's radar imaging earth observation satellite RISAT-2BR1 on board PSLV-C48 from its spaceport of Sriharikota, ISRO said.

The workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, on its 50th mission, PSLV-C48, is scheduled to lift off from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, about 130 km from here at 3.25 PM on Wednesday, the Indian Space Research Organisation said.

Wednesday's launch will mark a significant milestone for the space agency as it would be the 50th flight of the PSLV and also the 75th vehicle mission from Sriharikota. The 628 kg satellite, meant for applications in various fields like agriculture, forestry and disaster management support, will carry nine customer satellites, including one each from Israel, Italy, Japan and six from the United States.

ISRO said the countdown for RISAT-2BR1 began at 4.40 PM on Tuesday. The space agency said the satellites are being launched under a commercial arrangement with NewSpace India Ltd. The mission life of RISAT-2BR1 is five years, ISRO said. RISAT-2BR1 follows the successful launch of RISAT-2B in May 22.



Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle 'PSLV-C48' ahead of its launch tomorrow, in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday. The launch vehicle will be carrying radar imaging earth observation satellite RISAT-2BR1 along with nine foreign satellites.

# Over 1,500 rape cases in Kerala till Sept this year

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Over 1,500 rape cases have been registered in Kerala so far this year, according to police statistics.

The numbers have been revealed at a time when there is a Nationwide uproar over increasing crimes against women after the recent killing of two young women in Hyderabad and Unnao in Uttar Pradesh respectively.

In Hyderabad, a young veterinarian was gang-raped, killed and set on fire by four men, while in Unnao a rape victim died after being set

ablaze by her attackers. According to the police's crime records bureau, a total of 10,516 cases of atrocities against women have been reported up to September this year, of which 1,537 were rapes.

Though there is a slight dip in the number of rape cases this year compared to the 2,015 last year (provisional figures), it could go up when the cases in the rest of the months are taken into consideration.

Besides the rape cases, a total of 3,351 molestation, 167 kidnapping and abduction, 309 eve-teasing cases, four dowry



deaths and 2,019 cases of cruelty by husbands and relatives have also been reported in the first nine months this year, it said.

A total of 2,003 and 1,656 rape cases had been reported in Kerala in 2017 and 2016 respectively, it added.

# TMC-Governor feud...

**From Page 1**  
Furthermore, the Chancellor will have to pass the recommendation of Search Committee (for the appointment of the Vice Chancellor) report in its first tabling.

The Governor and Chief Minister have been at loggerheads ever since the former defied the State Government's advice and personally went to Jadavpur University on September 19 to rescue Union Minister Babul Supriyo who was gheraoed by the students for more than five hours.

The State Government has also been protesting the Governor's repeated "interference" in administrative affairs by suo motu organising administrative meetings in districts. The Chief Minister has gone on record alleging "the Centre and through him the Governor is running a parallel administration in Bengal."

indicating the intensity of the conflict between the two top personalities in the State, Mamata and Dhankar came face to face at the State Assembly but refused to greet each other or acknowledge each other's presence.

A few days later the Governor on his own visited the State Assembly after intimidating Speaker Biman Banerjee only to find the VVIP gate closed. Not a single functionary, including the Speaker or Parliamentary Affairs Minister, was present to receive him. Similarly, the Governor was not received either by the Vice Chancellor or the Registrar at the Calcutta University where he visited as the Chancellor of the institution a few days ago. The Governor reacted by alleging that the educational institutions of the State were being polluted by politics. The incidents were taken up by the Governor

in Delhi where he recently alleged that "democracy in Bengal is in peril," reminding how the Ministers of the State were continuously making derogatory statements against his office. In the Rajya Sabha, when TMC members rushed into the well and shouted slogans against the Governor, an agitated Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said Parliament's image was "going down" due to such conduct.

The question of delay by the Governor in giving assent to the Bill concerning the formation of SC and ST Commission in West Bengal was raised by TMC MP Saugata Roy in the Lok Sabha during the debate on the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Sixth Amendment) Bill, 2019 related to extending the quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in legislatures for 10 years. This Government is talking about reservation to SC-ST but injustice is being done to Dalits in West Bengal, Roy alleged.

# Uddhav directs admin to prepare guidelines for swift usage of Nirbhaya funds

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Taking serious cognisance of non-utilisation of funds by the previous Government under the Nirbhaya Fund, Maharashtra's new Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday directed the State administration to prepare guidelines for utilising the money allocated to the State under the Nirbhaya Fund.

Speaking at a meeting of senior State police officers at the office of Director General of Police (DGP) here, Uddhav said: "It is a serious matter that the State has not utilised the funds allotted to it under the Nirbhaya Fund during the last few years. We have to look at ways to utilise the funds quickly. For the purpose, there is a need for preparing guidelines to utilise the funds allocated under the Nirbhaya fund."

At the meeting, the chief

minister directed the senior State police officers to initiate action against the culprits behind the sexual atrocities on women.

"Sternest action needs to be taken against the accused perpetrating sexual crimes on women... We will provide whatever facilities needed for making the police force efficient. The police force in its khaki dress should contribute to strengthening the Government. You should work in such a manner that people should respect the police force," Uddhav said, adding that the State Government would look into the issues like housing, health issues and duty hours of the police force.

At the meeting, the chief minister interacted with the Police Commissioners of Pune, Thane, Aurgangad, Nagpur, Nashik and Navi Mumbai and

Development (MWCD) on July 19, 2019.

While Maharashtra was allocated ₹ 45.84 crore Cyber Crime Prevention agency Women & Children (CCPWC) ₹ 45.84 crore during 2017-18, it was allocated a total of ₹ 144.65 crore for a period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 under One Stop Centre Scheme. Similarly, it was allocated ₹ 6.27 crore under Universalisation of Women Helpline during 2015-16. Maharashtra has not utilised any money under any of these heads of the Nirbhaya Fund. Under two other heads - safety city projects in eight cities and strengthening of forensic science laboratories, Maharashtra was allocated ₹ 874.7 crore and ₹ 268.5 crore during 2018-19 respectively. However, according to the MWCD note, the Centre has not yet received utilisation certificates from Maharashtra.

The Nirbhaya Fund Framework provides for a non-lapsable corpus fund for safety and security of women to be administered by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of the Government of India. Further, it provides for an Empowered Committee (EC) of officers chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) to appraise and recommend proposals to be funded under this framework.

Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) has been funded under the Framework of Nirbhaya Fund to support States and Union Territories (UTs) for their Victim Compensation Scheme. The CVCF is a one-time grant of top-up funds to the States/UTs subsequent to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court. Funds were released to States/UTs in 2016-17.

# CAB FURY...

Educational institutions, banks, commercial establishments and markets were closed while public and private vehicles were off the roads in most places of Arunachal Pradesh as part of the strike called by the All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union (AAPSU). Attendance in Government offices was almost nil during the bandh which began at 5 am. The All Manipur Students' Union (AMSU) observed a total shutdown in Arunachal Pradesh from 3 am to 6 pm, with the outfit warning that it would intensify its agitation if the Bill was not withdrawn. Incidents of tyre burning and vandalism of vehicles were reported in Meghalaya capital Shillong and additional police and CRPF forces have been deployed in sensitive areas. The Citizenship Amendment Bill piloted by Home Minister Amit Shah was passed by the Lok Sabha with an overwhelming majority on Monday night.

According to the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019, non-Muslim minorities, who fled religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan and moved to the country before December 31, 2014, will be accorded Indian citizenship.

However, the Bill has exempted tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura, as included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, and areas covered under the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system, notified under Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873. The ILP is an official travel document issued by the Centre to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period. It is obligatory for Indian citizens from outside the protected States to obtain a permit for entering into the protected State.

He said that the ILP will also be invoked in Manipur and similar protection will be given in other N-E States, implying that those granted citizenship under CAB will not be allowed to settle there. Shah has asserted that the

# CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Modi Government was committed to protecting the customs and culture of the Northeastern States in an effort to assuage concerns that the proposed law will hurt their distinct identity and alter regional demography.

**JD(U), SENA...**  
"I urge Shri Nitish Kumar to reconsider support to the CAB in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill is unconstitutional, discriminatory, and against the unity and harmony of the country, apart from being against the secular principles of the JDU. Gandhiji would have strongly disapproved it," he said.

The Congress welcomed the Shiv Sena's decision to reconsider its stand on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha after voting in favour in the Lok Sabha, and stated that as an alliance partner, it could not ask the Maharashtra party to alter its position on the issue.

The Opposition party slammed the Government after the passage of the Bill in the Lok Sabha, with former party chief Rahul Gandhi saying the proposed legislation is an attack on the Constitution and anyone who supports it is attempting to destroy the foundation of the country, while Priyanka Gandhi said, "India's trust with bigotry and narrow-minded exclusion" was confirmed as the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha at midnight.

The BJP is confident that the proposed legislation will be passed by the House with a comfortable majority as sources in the BJP-led NDA said they would get near 124-130 votes in the Upper House which has an effective strength of 240 members.

Opposition ranks have been boosted by the decision of the six-member Telangana Rashtra Samithi, which has often backed the Modi Government on its key legislative agenda, to oppose the Bill.

Opposition is set to give a good fight to the BJP if the Shiv Sena does a turn around and back out after putting its weight behind the Government in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. The Maharashtra party with a history of pursuing 'hard Hindutva' has three members in the Rajya Sabha.

BJP's allies AIADMK, JD(U) and Akali Dal has 11, six and three members respectively in the Upper House, besides regional parties like the BJD with seven MPs, and YSR Congress and the TDP with 2 each are backing the Bill. The BJP has 83 members in Rajya Sabha.

Seven independents and nominated members besides a number of regional parties with one member each will back the Bill, BJP floor managers said. The Opposition camp includes Congress, TMC, BSP, Samajwadi Party, DMK, RJLD, the Left, NCP and the TRS with 46, 13, four, nine, five, four, six, four and six members respectively, totalling 97. The support of Shiv Sena, Aam Aadmi Party and some smaller parties may take it near 110. RS member Amar Singh who is not keeping well may not attend the House for health or other reasons.

**BHU PROF...**  
The BHU administration had come out in Khan's support, saying his appointment was made in accordance with the BHU Act and the guidelines issued by the University Grants Commission.

The university had in a public statement even said that Khan was the "best" among all candidates. A frustrated Khan had even appeared for an interview on Friday in the university's Ayurveda department.

The interview was held in secrecy in a guest house in view of the fear of protests by students. Ten candidates, including Khan, were to appear for the interview but only eight turned up.

that Khan had ranked at the top of the merit list.

Khan had earlier applied for the job in the Ayurveda and Arts faculties, along with the Sanskrit faculty. He was appointed to the Sanskrit faculty which triggered protests by students who were unwilling to accept a Muslim as their teacher.

The students of the Sanskrit Vidya Dharma Vigyan (SVDV) Department had been on protest since November 7 and on November 24, the retired professors of the BHU had also expressed their support for the students. On Monday, the protesting students had told the university proctor that if Khan is not suspended with immediate effect, they will not only boycott the upcoming semester exams but also start a fast unto death. A Sanskrit professor was also reportedly attacked by students for supporting Khan.

# SENGAR'S FATE...

The local court here has framed murder and other charges against the MLA, his brother Atul and nine others in the case. The apex court had on August 1 transferred all five cases registered in connection with the Unnao rape incident from a Lucknow court in Uttar Pradesh to the court in Delhi with directions to hold trial on daily basis and completing it within 45-days. During the trial in the rape case which was held in-camera, thirteen prosecution witnesses and nine defence witnesses were examined. A special court was also held at AIIMS hospital here to record the statement of the rape survivor, who was admitted there after she was air-lifted from a hospital in Lucknow. The woman and her family is provided CRPF security as per the apex court's orders. They have now been shifted to a rented accommodation in the national capital with the assistance of the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW).

# ANGLO-INDIANS'...

However, he said the doors are not shut and the matter to grant Anglo-Indians nomination would be considered later.

The reservation for SCs, STs and Anglo-Indians given for the past 70 years in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was due to end on January 25, 2020. The reservation for Anglo-Indians in the form of "nomination" is set to expire on January 25 next year as the Bill does not extend the facility to the community. The Bill was passed with 352 members voting in favour and none against it. Since it was a Constitution Amendment Bill, the voting took place through division. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was present in the House when members voted for the measure.

Though Congress and TMC MPs said there are lakhs of Anglo-Indian members living in India, BJP MPs pointed out that those who have paternal lineage of British people who lived here before Independence are only come under this category. Hibi Eden (Cong) claimed that Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad was "misleading" the House that the country was left with 296 Anglo Indians and demanded that the reservation for them should continue. "In my constituency (Ernakulam) there are 20,000 people of this community (Anglo Indian)," he said, adding that the entire community contributed a lot to the progress of the country.

There are 84 members from the Scheduled Caste and 47 from the Scheduled Tribe communities in Parliament. In State assemblies across India, there are 614 SC members and 554 ST members. "Although the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have made considerable progress in the last 70 years, the reasons which weighed with the Constituent Assembly in making provisions with regard to the aforesaid reservation of seats have not yet ceased to exist," said the statement of objects of the Bill.

# Shops closed in J&K districts

**Srinagar:** Most of the shops were shut in Srinagar on Tuesday due to a shutdown called by the separatists on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, officials said. Shops, fuel stations and other business establishments were shut in several areas of the city, they added. The shutdown was intense in the Downtown (old city) areas, the officials

said. Public transport was less, but private cars and auto-rickshaws were plying, unhindered they added. There were reports of shutdown in certain areas of the other districts of the valley, the officials said. The schools in Kashmir were shut after the Government announced the winter vacations from Tuesday till February 22, 2020.

**OFFICE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
LIFT IRRIGATION DIVISION, GORAKHPUR**  
**PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE NO-02/EE/2019-20**

This is to inform that the auction of unserviceable/survey reported/equipment/material will be made on dated 08.01.2020 at Chaudhary Charan Singh inspection house tubewell colony, near railway station road, Gorakhpur at 11.00 AM as per following terms & condition. 4. The auction will be done on as is where is basis. 5. Unserviceable machine and equipments/material for auction are available at Doharhat Sahayak Pump Canal, Turipura, Ballia head. The prescribed application form and conditions for participation in the auction will be available from 16.12.2019 to 05.01.2020 on any working day in the office of Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, 10 No. Boring, Lachchhipur, Gorakhpur. Application fees will not be refundable.

Sl. No.	Name of Unserviceable Machine and equipment/items	Name of Pump Canal Head, where items are Available	Quantity	Reserve Price (in Lac)	Cost of Application Form (in Rs.)	Date of Auction	Security Deposit (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	Stop Regulator gate	Doharhat Sahayak Pump Canal, Turipura, Ballia	6 No				
2	Iron nails off size		17185	10.86+GST	225.00+GST	08.01.2020	1,00,000.00
3	GI. wire creat		10	No			
4	M.S. pipe clamp 6" dia		1300	No			
5	Sign board		5	No			
6	Steel gate		3	No			
7	M.S. flange Nipple 4X2' Long		9	No			
8	M.S. flange Nipple 4x4' Long		2	No			
9	Annealed wire 20 SWG		18602	Kg			
10	Fire bricks		845	No			
11	Stone boiler		328	m <sup>3</sup>			
12	Stone blast		157.15	m <sup>3</sup>			
13	Dala Grille		25	m <sup>3</sup>			
14	Soket 2.5" dia		50	No			
15	C.I. Reflex valve 3" dia		5	No			
16	GI. bend 2" dia		34	No			
17	C.I. Reflex valve 2.5" dia		5	No			
18	M.S. flange without thread 4" dia		40	No			
19	GI. bend 3" dia		14	No			
20	M.S. flange 6" dia		32	No			
21	C.I. reflex valve		4	No			
22	C.I. flange 8" dia		13	No			
23	Bolt without nut 3/4"x4.5"		196	Kg			
24	D-clamp		498	No			
25	M.S. Nut Bolt 7/8"x4"		91	Kg			
26	M.S. Nut Bolt 7/8"x4.5"		91	Kg			
27	M.S. Nut Bolt 1"x4"		219	Kg			
28	M.S. Nut Bolt 3/4"x3.5"		202.5	Kg			
29	Power bim plastic		25	No			

The main condition of the auction will be:  
1. The Executive Engineer, L.I.D. Gorakhpur have to right to cancel the auction without any reason. 2. It is compulsory to present certified photocopy of GSTIN number when buying prescribed auction application form. 3. The auction will be made in presence of the committee constituted. 4. The auction will be done on as is where is basis. 5. Inspection of material to be auctioned can be done on the dated 16.12.2019 to 05.01.2020 (10:00 am to 3:00 pm) on any working day at the above sites. 6. All materials are old and Unserviceable. It is compulsory to be lifted the auctioned material from the site within one month from the date of issuing office order. 7. Complete application form, photo identity card, PAN Card, character certificate, Security deposit and other records will be submitted on the auction date. 8. The highest bidder will be required to deposit 25% of bid value as Demand Draft in 3 working day otherwise Security deposit will be forfeited. 9. Auction will be approved by capable officer of Department/Government. Information will send after approving Auction from capable officer for due 75% amount deposit within one week. 10. Security deposit will be deposited in form of demand draft which is in favor of Executive Engineer, Lift Irrigation Division, Gorakhpur, before participation in auction. No other medium will be acceptable. 11. In case of auction date is declared a holiday, auction will take on next working day. 12. Any kind of legal dispute will be under Gorakhpur district court. UP 146285 Date 5.12.2019  
ललित कृष्ण शर्मा  
Executive Engineer  
Lift Irrigation Division, Gorakhpur

## Anxiety in the N-E

The sub-nationalism of ethnic groups and the fear of influx may just deflate Hindu-dominant nationalism



The problem with identity politics is that it thrives on resentment and insecurities of social groups, fragmenting them further instead of galvanising them into a cohesive social structure. The manipulative politics of extremism feeds off mutual anxieties, creating an entirely different context of relevance that does not depend on governance. So the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), 2019, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on the strength of the numbers of the ruling dispensation, is a deeply unsettling piece of

legislation as it pits all kinds of otherness versus each other. This is the reason why there's a huge unrest in the North-east with indigenous groups fearing the influx of Hindu refugees from neighbouring Islamic countries that the Bill enables would swamp their culture and economy as it has historically. There have been torchlight vigils, students have taken to the streets in massive numbers and the 12-hour bandh has stalled all North-eastern States. This despite assurances that the Bill would not be applicable to Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram where the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system exists and those tribal regions of Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura which are governed under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution. The Bill proposes to grant Indian citizenship to fleeing Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Christians and Parsis, who are residents of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh and are persecuted there. It does not reference other neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka, Myanmar or China from where refugees could come in but predicated it solely on the championship of the post-Partition Hindus, namely those left in Pakistan and Bangladesh. So it excludes persecuted Muslim sects from the same countries, the Shias and Ahmadiyas. In other words, non-Muslim immigrants would not face deportation and Muslims would, making religion a key criterion for asylum. It also proposes to reduce the mandated 11 years of residence in India for eligibility to six years, thereby hastening the cooption of Hindu refugees into the mainstream. The BJP wants to neutralise the Muslim infiltration in border States, encouraged by votebank politics of past years, with a Hindu influx and effect a demographic change. But this nationalist spiel, in turn, threatens locals, particularly in Assam.

Ethnic Assamese groups have consistently raised concerns about the Bill being contradictory to the spirit of the Assam Accord and the just-released National Register of Citizens (NRC) list. They argue that the Bill granting citizenship to Hindu refugees from across the border till the cutoff year of 2014 would swamp Ahom identity and the right of indigenous people over their land, opportunities and resources. Truth be told, the BJP has been pushing the citizenship Bill so that lakhs of Hindu families left out of the NRC would automatically be rehabilitated here. For the Assamese, any facilitation of Bengali Hindu immigrants is a remnant of the colonial legacy that saw Bengali civil servants and businesses take over the socio-economic matrix. For a long time, till 1876, Bengali was the operable language in the State. By virtue of territorial contiguity, the Bengali-dominance meant a continuous infusion of Bengalis, exacerbated by the Partition and then the 1971 Bangladesh war. So even if their tribal pockets are protected, the Assamese fear that if Bengali-speaking illegal immigrants, especially those in the Barak Valley, are granted citizenship, they would outnumber the locals, as it has happened in Tripura where Hindu Bengalis have edged out indigenous people from even claiming the political space. The royal scion of Tripura, Pradyot Manikya Debbarma, has been spearheading the cause of the tribals. In fact, the BJP may be playing down the dissent in Assam but language and cultural pride of the Assamese have led to emotion-driven mass movements. Let not anyone forget the *Bongal Kheda* or the organised ethnic cleansing of Bengali Hindus that originated in the late 1940s and continued into the 1960s. The turbulence saw significant property damage, ethnic policing, street violence, conversion of Bengali-medium schools into Assamese and attacks on Bengali students in educational institutions. Similarly, the Mizos, who have struggled to establish their supremacy in power structures, are fearing a massive influx by Buddhist Chakmas. In turn, the Chakmas fear they could be denied citizenship under NRC and with Mizoram exempted from the CAB, protectionist permits would mean that they would be displaced despite being settlers for decades and have to move to other States. With discriminatory attacks, there will be large-scale internal displacement of people for which nobody has any answers. The sub-nationalism of ethnic groups may just take the wind off the sails of Hindu-dominant nationalism.

## Shut out Russia

Is the World Anti-Doping Agency's decision to ban its athletes from international competition justified?



Vladimir Putin is not a happy man. In fact, the Russian President is extremely angry. This because the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has decided to ban all athletes competing under the Russian flag for four years. This is an unprecedented punishment as the ban will cover all major competitions, including the Olympics and the football World Cup. In the case of the latter, even if Russia qualifies for the 2022 World Cup, the athletes will not be allowed to represent their nation. And while Russian athletes, who can

prove that they did not submit to what WADA called a systematic State-sponsored doping regime, can represent themselves at global competitions, they cannot do so under the Russian tricolour. President Putin described this as proof of a global anti-Russian campaign. But was WADA justified? Yes, thanks to Grigory Rodchenkov, the former head of the Moscow anti-doping laboratory, who called out how Russian spies were tampering with results and even managing to break open and reseal apparently "untamperable" urine sample bottles. So the case was strong. This systematic tampering has been going on for years and was apparently part of an attempt by the Russian authorities to paint the nation as a sporting superpower, much like it was done in the days of the Soviet Union. Some Western analysts say that the ban doesn't go far enough with some athletes, who apparently gained from the doping regime but were never caught and were still able to compete, albeit under the Olympic flag. If the Russian team qualifies for the World Cup in Qatar, a workaround will be found. Incidentally, this ban does not apply to tournaments not classified as "major" like the Euro 2020 football championship, where the Russian city of St Petersburg will host some matches and the team has qualified.

All said and done, the sports world has to continue to crack down on drug cheats. The drugs that some athletes use are getting more and more advanced and is easy to hide. Moreover, in a technological arms race between drugs and detection, the latter is losing. Was Russia just a bit stupid that it got caught? Would such a punishment ever be imposed on a Western nation? These are questions that need some answering. But for now, this is not final as Russia has said that it will appeal against this decision at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

## Unfulfilled goals

The best tribute to Gujral, who appreciated the need for India to blend development efforts with environmental protection, will be to revisit the findings of the GREEN India 2047 project



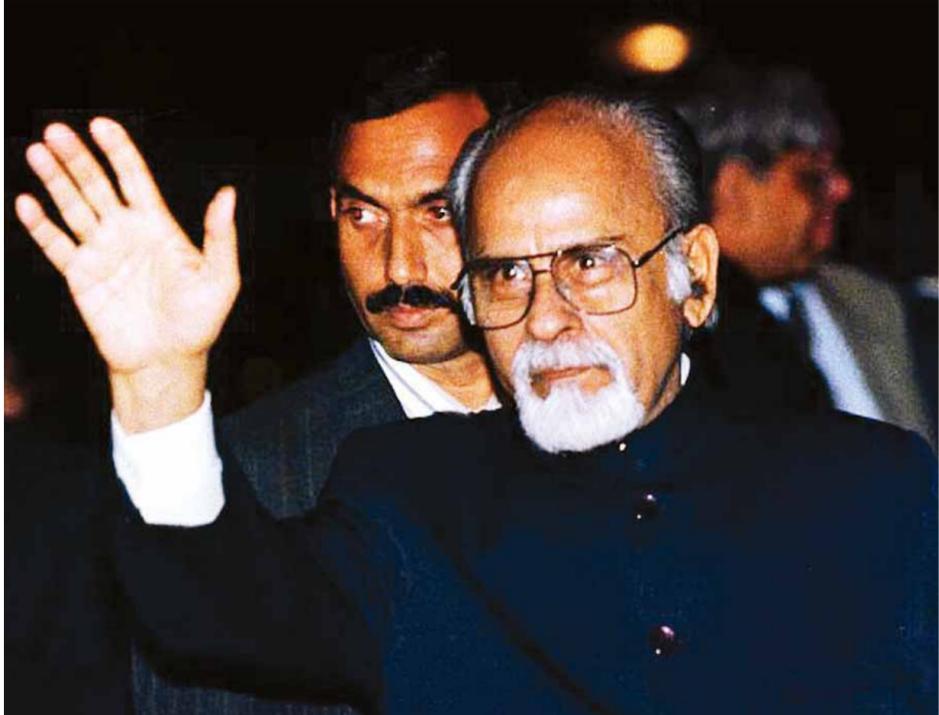
RK PACHAURI

It was last week that some events and television programmes were organised to mark the 100th birth anniversary of IK Gujral, who served as the 12th Prime Minister of India from April 1997 to March 1998. Those who have voiced their tributes and eulogies for this humane and gentlemanly leader have highlighted not only Gujral's vision in the field of international affairs but also his qualities as a steadfast friend to those who got to know him. Gujral was not only an intellectual who knew a great deal about subjects that political leaders generally do not read about, but he was also a person who expressed his opinions without fear or favour. It is not well-known that Gujral *saheb* was a person who held environmental issues close to his heart and fully appreciated the need for this country to blend development efforts with environmental protection.

It was in 1995 that The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) launched a major project called GREEN India 2047 in preparation for the celebration of 50 years of India's independence in 1997. This project, which was the effort of almost three dozen researchers working for almost two years, estimated and documented the damage that Indian society had imposed on the country's natural resources and its environmental quality. It further projected what could happen with business as usual 50 years into the future, that is when India reaches 100 years of independence in 2047. A brief presentation on this project was made before Gujral early in August 1997 at Vigyan Bhavan, during which he also assembled a number of members of his Council of Ministers. At the end of the presentation, which provided startling facts and figures, Gujral *saheb* stated that this presentation "should jolt us into action."

At that stage, the media, too, reported on the stark facts and the disturbing trends which had been in evidence during the first 50 years of India's independence. One particular editorial in a leading newspaper carried the title as "Filthy at Fifty." Much of the media coverage, which undoubtedly supported efforts to inform the Indian public, was clearly the result of the attention provided by the then Prime Minister to the analysis and realities presented to him.

Today it would be useful to revisit some of the findings of the GREEN India 2047 project, perhaps as a salute to Gujral's appreciation of the fact that India cannot develop without due attention to its natural resources and ecosystems, which not only support human life but a range of biodiversity that this country is blessed with. The truth is that in a range of vital resources, there has been rapid degradation as a result of so-called development. Some important facts need reflection even as 1997 is now 22 years



behind us. Even today, almost two-third of India's population lives in rural areas and while several leaders have highlighted the growth of India's population as one factor which imposes a larger and larger footprint on the country's natural resources, we have really not come to grips with what would constitute a sustainable level of population growth and consumption. India's population, which was 336 million in 1947, was estimated as 953 million in 1997. And today, we are 1.3 billion mindlessly pursuing Western consumption patterns, which impose a heavy burden on the country's natural resources.

In this respect, the provision of infrastructure and wherewithal for universal literacy and education have been lacking. So, too, the provision of adequate healthcare facilities in several parts of the country, which would have promoted different fertility decisions. At the same time, the consumerist culture, which Gandhiji was totally against, has not only afflicted the growing urban population but has also percolated to our rural areas.

Besides, as it happens, historically, industrial development has been centered around chemicals and fertilisers, paper, cement, power generation and aluminium, which are resource-

“ THE PROJECT ESTIMATED AND DOCUMENTED THE DAMAGE THAT INDIAN SOCIETY HAD IMPOSED ON THE COUNTRY'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. IT ALSO PROJECTED WHAT COULD HAPPEN WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL 50 YEARS INTO THE FUTURE, THAT IS WHEN INDIA REACHES 100 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE ”

intensive and polluting.

If we look at specific elements of natural resources, water, as is universally accepted, would be heavily stressed in several parts of the country because of the impacts of climate change. It is now clear that with increased warming of temperatures, we would not only see persistent and more serious droughts but also the effects of extreme precipitation events in different parts of the country. In several cases even those areas, which are drought-prone during most of the year, would see heavy precipitation events in some seasons. These would lead to recurrent floods with loss of lives and property.

During Gujral's intervention, after the presentation that was made before him, he stated, "Thus, we have come to a stage when there are two lifestyles. The elite in the country can drink water out of a bottle; the common man can drink municipal water; and the worst, the slum dwellers can drink untreated river water. This is the picture that is emerging. Therefore, when we look at the coming 50 years — we are now at the golden jubilee of our independence — we must ask: Is this the lifestyle we are thinking of? Is this the life that we are offering to our people? Is this the future of our

children? And when I say children, I do not mean children only of the elite. The child living in the slum, the child who is walking and sleeping on the street, what future are we offering him?"

Sadly, many of the projections that were made in this project and presented to the then Prime Minister have only become more threatening. Whether it is the air quality, chemical and toxic pollution of our groundwater, dumping of waste in our rivers, thinning of forests and the huge mountains of solid waste being generated not only by our cities but by our rural areas as well, the outlook for 2047 looks grim and frightening.

While we have widespread opportunities, the inertia in our system is pushing us in the direction of business as usual. There is, therefore, a dire need for Indian society to shift gears and move towards a path of sustainable development. That would not only be a fitting tribute to Gujral but a reassurance for our children living a secure existence devoid of the growing risks from human-induced climate change and the catastrophic destruction of our natural resources.

(The writer is former chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2002-15)

## SOUNDBITE

The last thing he (Dhoni) will want is to impose himself on an Indian team, having known him. He is wanting to take a break but he is going to play the IPL.



India coach —Ravi Shastri

I wasn't a household name. I was known by my character's name or the guy who spoke very fast. I was also known as the 'monologue guy.'



Actor —Kartik Aaryan

Citizenship Bill is a part of the RSS's Hindu Rashtra design of expansionism propagated by the fascist Modi Government.



Pakistan Prime Minister —Imran Khan

It is regrettable that the USCIRF has chosen to be guided only by its prejudices on a matter (Citizenship Amendment Bill) on which it has no *locus standi*.



MEA Spokesperson —Raveesh Kumar

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Task cut out

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Yediyurappa again" (December 10). With the BJP winning 12 of the 15 seats in the Karnataka Assembly bypolls, Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa has not only ensured stability to its Government but has dealt a heavy blow to the Opposition, particularly the Congress and Janata Dal (Secular), who were hoping to stage a comeback. However, Yediyurappa has his task cut out. He must focus on delivering a corruption-free Government and work towards inclusive development in the State.

Gajendra  
Via email

### Address the root issue

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "No more tears please" (December 9). Although the common man has been heavily hit by the high prices of onions and everyone has been groaning about the Government's inability to get the bulk back within their reach, it would be wrong to

put the entire blame on the Government.

Much of the crop was destroyed due to unseasonal rains in key onion-growing regions in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan that left the year's kharif crop damaged. But it is also true that the Government failed to take stock of the situation at the right

time. It could have ordered the import of onions right at the time when an increase was reported. Instead, it chose to wait for prices to spiral. It is now that we have ordered the import of onions from Egypt, Afghanistan and Turkey.

The way forward for us should be to find possible solutions to increase the production

of onions and one of the measures could be to increase the area under onion cultivation across the country.

Onions are the staple food for millions of Indians, the poorest of whom often make meals of wheat-rolled roti, green chilli and this vegetable.

Devendra Khurana  
Bhopal

### CAB: A violation of the Constitution

This refers to the report, "LS clears CAB amid pitched battle" (December 10). It is sad that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is working on an amendment that could worsen the religious divide in the country. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill (CAB) and the National Register of Citizens both will have serious Constitutional and social implications, eroding the secular fabric of the country. In effect, the amendment to the CAB, when it is adopted by both Houses, will grant citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians while shutting the doors for Muslims.

There is no doubt that the population of Hindus has seen a drastic decline over the past several decades in countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh due to the discriminatory measures adopted against them. It is also true of the North-eastern States, especially Assam, where the influx from across the border has been very high. It goes without saying that in nature and spirit, Indian secularism and its treatment of Islam have been far more liberal than in the neighbouring coun-



tries. That said, one sincerely hopes the Bill, when it is passed, would undergo changes that are not inimical to the basic goals of the framers of the Constitution. Of course, we have the right to frame strict laws in regard to immigrants.

JS Acharya  
Hyderabad

### Business as usual

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "Murder most foul" (December 10). The fire in New Delhi's Sadar Bazar, that claimed the lives of 43 labourers, was an accident waiting to happen. Most industrial activities in the country are not regulated and function in utter violation of labour, safety and environment laws. That such a cavalier set-up was functioning uninterrupted speaks volumes about how lethargic our system has become.

If the proceedings in the Uphaar case are anything to go by, one can very well imagine the time the courts will take to decide on this case. Moreover, one does not even know if the punishment will be exemplary. The fund relief announced by the Government for the victims in the Azad Mandi fire does not matter. The owner of the factory and its manager have also been arrested. The real test, however, will be if we can amend safety laws.

Sahil Agrawal  
Kolkata

Send your feedback to:  
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

**FIRST COLUMN**

## EVs are the next big thing

Improved battery technology and concerns over climate change are set to make electric vehicles the dominant force in the automobile space



PANKAJ M MUNJAL

The increased use of Electric Vehicles (EVs) is the first major game-changing revolution sweeping the automobile industry ever since the internal combustion engine changed the sector's dynamics. Powered by improved battery technology and made extremely relevant by growing concerns over climate change, EVs are slowly but steadily moving towards becoming the dominant force in the automobile space. In 2018, the global sale of plug-in vehicles reached 2.1 million units, which constituted a 64 per cent increase over the previous year. Of this, 69 per cent were all-electric models while 31 per cent were plug-in hybrids, indicating that the consumer is increasingly preferring pure EVs. Electric bicycles (e-cycles) are another category that is fast catching the public's imagination globally. According to a recent report by a leading market research organisation, the global e-cycle market is expected to touch \$21 billion by 2024, growing at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 12.5 per cent between 2019 and 2024.

Interestingly, a bulk of this growth in the EV category is coming from China, which accounted for more than 50 per cent of global sales. It is the Scandinavian countries, however, that lead the way when it comes to adoption of EVs. In Norway, a whopping 40 per cent of new car sales in 2018 comprised EVs while in Iceland it stood at 17.5 per cent and in Sweden 7.2 per cent. In India, the Government has already provided a major boost to the EV sector by announcing major investment goals for realising the objective of creating requisite charging infrastructure for them. The last Budget also announced significant income tax breaks for people buying EVs. As the transport sector globally tilts towards them, a great amount of churning is expected to take place in the automobile industry, which is currently dominated by internal combustion engine-powered vehicles.

An increasing shift to alternative energy is transforming different aspects of the automotive industry. With EVs clearly emerging as the future of the industry, automobile sector players are already expected to invest billions of dollars in this emerging technology. With EVs becoming a reality sooner than it was expected, investing in this technology will be key for all major players to stay relevant. Currently, the EV divisions of most automobile manufacturers form a minuscule part of their overall businesses. Most manufacturers have just one or two variants of EVs in place. However, as this is likely to change in the near future, the next 10 years will be very critical for conventional automobile manufacturers. It is not that the automobile technology has not witnessed any transformation in a century. However, the transformation was ushered by continuing development of existing technology. A shift to EVs, however, marks a complete change in automobile technology as well as major disruption in the automobile ecosystem. For example, automotive parts manufacturers are likely to be hit since EVs use fewer parts than other vehicles.

The coming years will witness a huge boost in Research & Development (R&D) in the EV sector as an increasing number of conventional car manufacturers work overtime to improve their EV technology. The battery supply issues, need for fast-charging batteries as well as long distance charging concerns need to be addressed now. Most R&D efforts in the automobile sector are, therefore, expected to focus on improving battery performance and reducing battery costs to make EVs more affordable. The e-cycle space is also likely to witness a greater churning and growth. The bulkier lead-acid batteries have already made way for much lighter nickel-cadmium and lithium-ion batteries that have made newer models much more viable and acceptable to the end consumer. Newer emerging trends in the e-cycle space include luxury folding e-bikes and high-tech bikes with smartphone integration.

With much-improved battery lives, e-cycles offer a highly sustainable and effective solution to the air pollution-cum-traffic congestion woes of countries like India. E-cycles launched in the country are already offering a viable, versatile and eco-friendly alternative to motorised bikes. These e-cycles come with substantial battery life and can easily be pedalled back manually in case of loss of battery. Interestingly, most path-breaking innovation in battery technology is coming from startups and not from established automobile players which also indicates that the latter might have to fight harder for survival.

Another interesting shift might be observed in the global centres of automobile manufacturing. With countries like China and India giving a major policy push to EVs, a lot of automobile manufacturing is likely to shift to these countries over the next 20 years. The next Detroit might as well emerge in one of these countries.

The emergence of EVs in a big way also gives a shot in the arm to the alternative fuel sector in general. An increasing yearning for a carbon-neutral world has prompted greater work in the direction of making a basket of clean fuels workable. An ethanol-powered bike has already been launched in India. The decline of fossil fuels in general and a shift towards a greener economy will, therefore, provide a boost to biofuels as well as solar energy.

(The writer is Chairman & MD of a major motor company)

**WHEN WILL FAROOQ ABDULLAH AND TWO OTHER FORMER CHIEF MINISTERS AND POLITICIANS OF KASHMIR BE RELEASED FROM PRISON? —SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER ADHIR RANJAN CHAUDHARY**



**SHEIKH ABDULLAH WAS KEPT IN JAIL FOR 11 YEARS BY CONGRESS, WE WON'T FOLLOW THEM. ONCE THE ADMINISTRATION DECIDES, THEY WILL BE RELEASED. —UNION HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH**

# Take it into account

While standard accounting norms like IFRS are about creating a level global playing field, the freedom to differentiate each economy through reporting is also vital



HIMA BINDU KOTA

The world is witnessing an integration of economies like never before. At the same time, political and economic volatility has also increased manifold and no country is immune to the resultant turmoil. Another consequence of this global economic integration is the rise of multinationals with transnational operations and subsidiaries in numerous countries and access to financial markets worldwide.

More than one-third of all financial transactions occur across borders and that number is expected to grow as the search for diversification and better investment opportunities expands. Different accounting standards mean different models. For example, a company may recognise profits under one set of national accounting norms and losses under another, which could ultimately have an impact on its reported financial performance and position. Without common accounting standards, cross-border activities were complicated in the past that resulted in adding cost, complexity and risk for both companies and investors using those financial statements to make economic decisions. In such an integrated but impulsive world economy, it is important to have a common business language that can help understand and compare businesses. Financial reporting is an important way through which companies communicate with external stakeholders and standardisation of such reporting processes worldwide to bring about uniformity is more valuable today than ever before.

With a view to improve corporate governance and increase free flow of capital across the globe, in 2001, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) developed the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), a set of high-quality common accounting rules established to bring about consistency, transparency, reliability and comparability in the financial statements worldwide. They define the types of transactions with financial impact, their maintenance and reporting. This goal of a single set of high-quality global accounting standards is being supported by several nations, including G20 countries, several professional accounting organisations and investors worldwide.

IFRS norms support the three pillars of transparency, accountability and efficiency. Transparency in financial statements is brought about by improving the comparability and the quality of financial information internationally, thereby improving the decision-making capability of investors and other external stakeholders. As a source of globally-comparable information, IFRS norms are also of vital importance to regulators around the world. By reducing the information asymmetry between the providers and users of capital, they boost accountability. Improving capital allocation by helping investors to identify opportunities and risks across the world, these standards contribute towards better economic efficiency. The usage of IFRS has become quite widespread with approximately 120 nations partially requiring these standards for their domestic listed companies. However, as many as 90 countries have fully conformed with IFRS as promulgated by the IASB and include a statement, acknowledging such conformity in their audit reports. Even those countries that don't apply the standards directly, like China, closely follow the rules that the IASB has established over the decades. According to a 2018 IFRS Foundation report, 27,000 domestically-listed companies on 88 major stock exchanges in the world use the standards. India's convergence with

WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND INCREASE FREE FLOW OF CAPITAL ACROSS THE GLOBE, IN 2001, THE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD DEVELOPED THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS. A SET OF HIGH-QUALITY COMMON ACCOUNTING RULES ESTABLISHED TO BRING ABOUT CONSISTENCY, TRANSPARENCY, RELIABILITY AND COMPARABILITY IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WORLDWIDE. THEY DEFINE THE TYPES OF TRANSACTIONS WITH FINANCIAL IMPACT, THEIR MAINTENANCE AND REPORTING



IFRS started with its commitment to the momentum of growth in the G-20 summit held in 2009, following which the Ministry of Corporate Affairs formulated an action plan to implement the convergence of Indian Accounting Standards with International Financial Reporting Standards from April 2011.

However, after initial glitches, from 2016, India has implemented a new framework of the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) that are based on and seek to substantially converge with IFRS, although not fully adopt them. Leasing, revenue recognition, foreign currency convertible bonds, current vs non-current liabilities, bargain purchases are among the areas where India has deviated from IFRS.

According to the Ind AS, from April 1, 2016, adoption of these standards has been compulsory for companies with a net worth upward of ₹500 crore, which later expanded to every listed company from accounting period beginning on or after April 1, 2017. Even unlisted companies with a net worth greater than or equal to ₹250 crore but less than ₹500 crore came under its purview. Once any company starts following Ind AS, either voluntarily or on mandate, it cannot revert to its old accounting method. As on date, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has notified 41 standards. Fair value and accurate reporting are given more importance, while computing financial statements in the new accounting standards and substance are recognised to reflect the most current picture of financials. It has also changed how the key financials such as revenue, net profit, book value, operating profit, goodwill and return on equity are computed. For instance, under the old rules, excise duty was deducted from sales. Conversely, as per the Ind AS, excise duty is now treated as a tax on manufacturing activity. Therefore, it is assumed to be a part of revenue, which thereby, increases the revenue of companies but depresses oper-

ating margin, without, however, affecting Earnings per share (EPS).

Several studies have been conducted worldwide to examine the usefulness of IFRS in realising the three pillars of transparency, accountability and efficiency and to help economic decision-makers and stakeholders alike to make informed decisions. In Germany, the impact of IFRS adoption was studied during 1998 to 2002 by Hung and Subramanyam where they concluded that the value of total assets and equity and variability of net earnings are significantly higher under IFRS compared to the German Accounting Standards. However, changes in financial ratios were not supported by their study.

Agca and Aktas conducted a pre and post-adoption study on impacts on financial ratios of 147 listed firms on the Istanbul stock exchange during 2004-2005 and found out that ratios that were majorly affected were the current and net asset turnover ratios. In contrast to other individual surveys by country, analysts Callao and Jarne, conducted two studies comparing results in Spain and the United Kingdom (UK).

The results revealed that the quantitative impact on financial ratios is significant in both countries and that it is higher in the UK. Blanchette, Racicot and Girard, in their research, examined various financial ratios of liquidity, leverage, coverage and profitability and their impact on the adoption of IFRS in companies operating in Canada and did not find any difference. Although survey results showed differences in means, medians and volatility in most financial ratios of companies but statistical significance could not be established in many cases. When they specifically evaluated their results by groups of companies who adopted IFRS at different dates, no significant variations were found in their results.

Arouri researched the IFRS impacts on return on equity (ROE) and value rel-

evancy over 40 French listed firms in 2004 utilising the longitudinal analysis and found that ROE and net income are increased by decrease inequity value due to the concept of fair valuation. Also, they did not observe any evidence of improvement in transparency and value relevance. In India, Achalapathi and Bhanu Sireesha studied several firms and showed that IFRS adoption has led to an increase in most of the liquidity, profitability and valuation ratios, which were statistically significant and were able to conclude that an opportunity for capital maintenance and protection against failure risk may have been provided to companies due to the transition to IFRS. Although standardisation and harmonisation of financial reporting is important in this globalised world, complete integration may not be possible as there is an increasing focus among different stakeholders on the future. Therefore, in an environment that is highly volatile and ever-changing, it is rather difficult for companies to make accurate predictions. Thus, more flexibility is needed in this area and the possibilities of standardisation become limited. Besides, non-financial aspects, like Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development Goals, have started to play a major role in company reporting, the informative value of which may vary greatly from one industry to another and one country to another. The individual characteristics of each firm and their complex value chains must be taken into account here, as well as the industry, sector and country-specific requirements. Adequate flexibility is vital for coherent, stringent and appropriately-structured reporting. While standard accounting norms are all about creating a level global playing field, adequate freedom to differentiate each economy through our reporting is also vital.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

# Time for collective introspection

Society should strongly support the victims of rape and not blame or shame them. The moral fabric of the country is tearing up slowly and this needs to stop. Boys must be taught to respect women by their parents at an early stage



KALYANI SHANKAR

In William Shakespeare's famous drama *Julius Caesar*, Cassius, a nobleman, speaking with his friend, Brutus confides in the latter that in the best interests of the public, Julius Caesar must be stopped from becoming the monarch of Rome. Cassius tells him, "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings." How apt is this quotation today! The solution to the increasing number of rapes and atrocities on women lies with us not elsewhere. This was my intro while writing about the Nirbhaya rape case.

Unfortunately, since then, despite public outrage, rape and molestation cases have been on the rise and they have become more violent. The recent Telangana rape-murder case and the burning of the Unnao rape victim and her subsequent death in a hospital, show that nothing has changed. Delhi is now considered the rape capital of the world. Foreign countries like the US and the UK have sent advisories to tourists travelling to India. In these countries too, there are crimes and rapes but by and large, the public is aware that the "big brother" is watching and the perpetrators will be caught sooner or later.

Sadly, this is not the case in India as criminals seem to have no fear of the authorities.

The public outrage following these unfortunate incidents is huge, as it should be. Asha Devi, mother of Nirbhaya, went on record and vented her frustration over the fact that her

daughter's rapists had still not been given capital punishment after all these years. In the meantime, there have been many high-profile rape cases allegedly involving some politicians and gurus.

However, the way some parliamentarians clapped their hands in support of the police encounter of the four alleged rapists in Telangana and the public support for the extrajudicial killings reveals the frustration of the people with the county's criminal justice system which takes years to mete out punishment.

But many apprehend that police encounters often end up thwarting justice and are often misused as a quick-fix by the security establishment under public pressure.

After the Nirbhaya incident, The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 was amended and is held as one of the most concrete steps taken by the Government to curb violence against

women. After the Telangana and Unnao incidents there has been clamour for even more stringent punishments. The question is, do we need more laws?

In reality, what is needed is stringent implementation of the existing laws by the police, Government, law enforcement agencies and awareness campaigns by women's organisations. The cases drag on for years. In the meanwhile, the perpetrators get emboldened and attack infants, children, girls, women and even grandmothers, to satiate their lust. Many women still do not go to the police to report these incidents for lack of faith in the criminal justice system.

The spate of atrocities against girls/women is indeed a wake up call for the judiciary. The State Governments and the High Courts (HCs) must support the Centre's proposal to set up 1,000 special courts to fast-track nearly 1.67 lakh rape cases,

of which the maximum crimes were those involving hapless children. It is also important to note that the conviction rate is a dismal 32 per cent and the other perpetrators are roaming free.

Poor investigation and shoddy case build-up by agencies result in culprits getting away scot-free. In short, there are failings in the entire criminal justice system. The police are not prompt in dealing with rape cases, the prosecution fails to get the perpetrators convicted and the courts do not have enough judges to take up cases.

The Centre and States need to address the issue of women's safety on a war footing as the public has lost confidence in the system. It is a sad commentary that despite the Supreme Court's observations that judicial reforms were needed urgently, the Government is dragging its feet on it.

Archaic laws need to be amended. It is appalling that when a toddler

is raped and is unable to give evidence, the culprits go scot-free because the mother's evidence is considered secondary. How can a two-year-old child give evidence of rape? The onus of proof should not lie with the victim. It is this kind of incongruity within the legal system which needs to be addressed.

Last, but not the least, there is need to change the mindset of the public. Society should strongly support the victims of rape and not blame or shame them. The moral fabric of the country is tearing up slowly and this needs to stop. Boys should be taught to respect women in a country where the *Shakti* (divine feminine creative power) cult is still relevant.

We should introspect in the aftermath of Hyderabad and Unnao incidents and put the fear of God in the minds of perpetrators and provide justice to the victims.

(The writer is a senior journalist)



**FOREIGN EYE**



**BRING YOUTH TO THE FOREFRONT**

Sri Lanka, while dealing effectively with any nation trying to interfere in its internal affairs, needs to change its goals on Universal Declaration of Human Rights issues, and as the 2019 theme says bring our creative, enterprising, imaginative youth to the front and centre of key human rights issues, including decision-making and poverty alleviation.

(Courtesy: Daily Mirror)

# Passenger vehicle sales slip into negative territory in Nov

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Domestic passenger vehicle sales slipped into negative territory once again in November after registering a slight recovery in the preceding month, as muted demand conditions forced companies to reduce their dispatches to dealers. According to data released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), passenger vehicle (PV) sales declined 0.84 per cent to 2,63,773 units in November from 2,66,000 units in the year-ago period.

The PV sales figure would have been much lower during the period under consideration, if it had not been aided by the utility vehicle segment, which saw despatches grow by 32.7 per cent to 92,739 units in November as compared with 69,884 units a year-ago. Domestic car sales were down 10.83 per cent to 1,60,306 units as against 1,79,783 units in the year-ago period while van sales were down 34.32 per cent to 16,333 units as compared to 16,333 in November 2018.

"Challenges continue in the passenger vehicle segment. We have to remember that the current numbers are on a comparatively low base of last November," SIAM Director



General Rajesh Menon told reporters here. New launches in the utility vehicle segment has helped prop up sales in October and November, he added. PV sales had risen marginally in October aided by positive festive season sentiment and introduction of new models in utility vehicle space, just about managing to snap 11 continuous months of decline in sales.

However, vehicle sales across categories remained in the negative territory for over a year now. Menon said, sales in PV sector would in all probability continue in the slow lane during the remaining months of the ongoing fiscal. He added that SIAM was in talks with the government to introduce BS-VI fuel across the country from February itself in order to push the sales of BS-VI emission norms compliant models. As of now the government has

kept April 1, 2020 as the date of introducing upgraded fuel across the country. The BS-VI fuel is available currently in only the NCR region.

Total two-wheeler sales in November fell 14.27 per cent to 14,10,939 units compared to 16,45,783 units in the year-ago month. Motorcycle sales last month were down 14.87 per cent to 8,93,538 units as against 10,49,651 units a year earlier. Similarly, scooter sales last month declined 11.83 per cent to 4,59,851 units as compared with 5,21,542 units in November 2018. Commercial vehicle sales were down 14.98 per cent to 61,907 units in November, SIAM said.

"It is worrisome that commercial vehicles and two wheelers sales continue to be in the negative zone. Commercial vehicle segment continue to suffer because of low demand

in the infrastructure sector while two wheelers sales remain muted due to low demand in the rural areas," Menon said.

In the PV segment, Maruti Suzuki India reported a 3.31 per cent decline in its November sales at 1,39,133 units. Hyundai Motor India witnessed a 2.04 per cent increase at 44,600 units, while Mahindra & Mahindra reported a fall of 9.62 per cent to 14,633 units during the month.

In the two-wheeler category, Hero MotoCorp posted a 15.81 per cent drop in sales at 1,91,222 units in November. In the revised MNP process, the Unique Porting Code (UPC) will be generated only when the subscriber is eligible to port-out his mobile number," TRAI said. From December 16, 2019, the revised MNP process will be in place and mobile subscribers can generate the Unique Porting Code and avail the mobile number porting process, it added. Laying down the rules for the new process, TRAI said a positive validation of various conditions will determine generation of the Unique Porting Code.

# TRAI issues public notice on revised MNP process

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom regulator TRAI on Tuesday issued a public notice on the revised mobile number portability process, which is slated to make the porting process fast and simple from December 16. The new process, which comes with conditions for generation of Unique Porting Code (UPC), entails three working days' timeline for port out requests within a service area, and five working days for requests for port out from one circle to another.

There is no change in the porting timelines for the corporate mobile connections, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) said. "TRAI has revised the Mobile Number Portability (MNP) process...In the revised MNP process, the Unique Porting Code (UPC) will be generated only when the subscriber is eligible to port-out his mobile number," TRAI said. From December 16, 2019, the revised MNP process will be in place and mobile subscribers can generate the Unique Porting Code and avail the mobile number porting process, it added. Laying down the rules for the new process, TRAI said a positive validation of various conditions will determine generation of the Unique Porting Code.

# Sensex tumbles nearly 250 pts

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices spiralled Blower on Tuesday, dragged by widespread selling in bank, energy and IT stocks, as investors booked profit at higher levels amid lacklustre macro and global cues. The 30-share BSE Sensex, after a positive opening, lost momentum throughout the session. It finally closed 247.55 points or 0.61 per cent lower at 40,239.88.

On similar lines, the 50-crip NSE Nifty fell 80.70 points or 0.68 per cent to finish at 11,856.80. Participants were eager to take money off the table amid lack of positive news on the growth front, while global cues were weak due to the US-China tensions, traders said. Yes Bank was the biggest loser in the Sensex pack with 10.05 per cent decline, followed by PowerGrid, IndusInd Bank, NTPC, ITC, TCS, Axis Bank, Hero MotoCorp, M&M and HCL Tech, which lost up to 2.66 per cent. On the other hand, Bajaj Finance, HUL, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and Bajaj Auto gained up to 1.06 per cent. "Selling in domestic market accentuated today as investors turned more cautious over double whammy of inflationary pressure and weak growth. Another factor which

is impacting market is the likelihood of maintenance of status quo on rates by both US Fed and ECB. Given domestic premium valuation of key indices, market is highly susceptible for near term volatility," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. All the BSE sectoral indices finished in the red.

BSE Utilities took the biggest hit with 2.16 per cent fall, followed by power (1.83 per cent), oil & gas (1.73 per cent), metal (1.38 per cent), basic materials (1.27 per cent), IT (1.18 per cent), Teck (1.12 per cent) and FMCG (1.11 per cent) and energy (1.02 per cent). BSE Auto declined 0.79 per cent after industry data showed that domestic passenger vehicle sales slipped into the negative territory once again in November due to muted demand conditions.

According to data released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), passenger vehicle (PV) sales declined 0.84 per cent to 2,63,773 units in November from 2,66,000 units in the year-ago period. Meanwhile, the rupee appreciated by 11 paise to trade at 70.93 against the US dollar (intra-day). Brent futures, the global oil benchmark, slipped 0.33 per cent to USD 64.04 per barrel.

# Honda launches BS-VI compliant City, price starts at ₹9.91 lakh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

New Delhi (PTI): Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL) on Tuesday introduced BS-VI compliant version of its premium sedan Honda City priced between Rs 9.91 lakh and Rs 14.31 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). Petrol version of the BS-VI compliant Honda City is available in both manual and automatic transmissions, while diesel version will be introduced subsequently. HCIL said in a statement. The company said it has introduced Digipad 2.0 — an advanced infotainment system, in V, VX and ZX variants of the car, which now comes with 17.7 cm advanced touchscreen audio, video and navigation system with smartphone connectivity through Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Commenting on the introduction, HCIL Senior Vice President & Director, Marketing and Sales Rajesh Goel said, "The launch of BS-VI Honda City will be followed by sequential introduction of BS-VI versions of other models in our line-up."

Honda is committed to bring its latest and advanced environment friendly technologies to the Indian market in line with the policy framework of the government, he added. The company has been selling BS-VI compliant Honda CR-V Petrol and Honda Civic Petrol since October 2018 and March 2019 respectively, it added.

## NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11950.50	11953.20	11844.70	11856.80	-80.70
BAFINANCE	3950.00	3995.00	3945.50	3994.50	49.65
HINDUNILVR	2014.90	2041.60	2011.00	2030.20	22.05
CPIA	450.60	454.95	449.50	452.80	4.90
EIGHERMOT	21128.00	21365.50	20952.90	21210.00	212.85
BHARTIARTL	445.45	451.00	443.25	449.65	3.80
ICICIBANK	526.05	530.25	524.70	529.75	3.25
HDFCBANK	1251.00	1253.65	1245.10	1250.10	7.15
GRASIM	766.00	782.00	764.70	760.40	4.30
KOTAKBANK	1665.00	1665.95	1651.05	1673.75	4.50
TITAN	1175.10	1192.10	1172.90	1180.00	1.95
SUNPHARMA	429.60	435.75	425.30	427.60	0.60
BAJAJ-AUTO	3230.00	3240.00	3211.25	3229.00	3.45
BAJAJFINSV	8910.00	8993.00	8879.00	8935.00	6.00
LT	1277.00	1284.00	1267.15	1276.85	0.85
HINDALCO	198.70	200.60	197.70	198.75	-0.10
BRITANNIA	3066.05	3075.00	3042.10	3056.15	-2.25
MARUTI	7019.00	7048.95	6950.00	6982.15	-12.60
TATAMOTORS	162.15	163.25	159.05	160.10	-0.40
RELIANCE	1572.05	1573.60	1554.15	1564.90	-7.70
INFY	713.00	718.50	710.00	713.45	-3.80
DREDDY2	2908.75	2908.75	2877.50	2892.65	-16.40
NESTLEIND	1424.00	1424.95	14031.70	14091.10	-86.10
ASIANPAINT	1726.00	1732.00	1709.00	1715.00	-11.35
UPL	565.30	572.70	553.60	559.50	-4.05
TECHM	749.95	749.95	737.30	744.90	-5.45
ONGC	126.48	128.30	124.90	125.25	-1.05
HDFC	2318.50	2332.90	2288.15	2288.55	-22.85
WIPRO	240.40	240.40	237.10	237.90	-2.50
TATASTEEL	405.00	409.60	400.20	402.35	-4.35
SBIN	317.20	322.65	312.25	313.20	-3.50
M&M	514.60	514.85	503.75	507.35	-6.30
VEDL	143.20	143.30	140.80	140.85	-1.75
HCLTECH	552.05	554.90	541.00	544.50	-7.55
IOC	125.50	126.50	121.85	123.20	-2.30
ADANIPORTS	373.90	375.85	366.05	366.70	-6.90
INFRATEL	259.00	259.00	252.15	255.40	-5.00
TCS	2060.00	2060.85	2003.25	2016.25	-44.20
HEROMOTOCO	400.00	406.10	392.00	392.00	-54.75
NTPC	112.50	113.15	109.70	110.10	-2.60
COALINDIA	192.00	192.45	186.55	187.00	-4.65
AXISBANK	731.00	734.80	714.00	714.00	-17.80
INDUSINDBK	1460.00	1461.70	1408.60	1412.20	-37.80
ULTRACEMCO	4160.00	4165.25	4031.20	4040.00	-111.45
POWERGRID	187.95	187.95	182.20	182.75	-5.20
BJPL	49.90	50.70	48.20	48.55	-14.50
JSWSTEEL	256.30	259.10	250.30	251.15	-7.70
GAIL	115.90	116.60	110.45	111.10	-5.10
ZEE	285.85	288.10	268.90	269.65	-14.50
YESBANK	54.80	56.35	48.55	50.40	-5.85

## NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27786.45	27857.05	27430.00	27463.65	-294.40
NIACL	133.35	145.20	133.15	140.60	8.60
IBULHSGFIN	261.00	277.60	259.30	270.10	11.35
IDEA	6.25	6.85	6.15	6.60	0.10
SRLIFE	950.00	968.00	947.00	949.10	7.10
NMDC	109.85	111.35	109.15	110.05	0.70
DIVISLAB	1810.10	1821.60	1795.40	1812.50	0.80
BIOCIN	288.95	290.25	283.00	290.00	5.70
CADILAH	219.45	221.15	216.20	219.00	0.45
DFCL	256.50	265.55	247.75	247.15	-2.90
INDIGO	1327.40	1340.50	1324.15	1326.95	-0.85
L&T	114.50	115.50	112.40	114.30	-0.10
SHRECEM	20330.00	20333.25	19950.00	20300.00	-21.15
PEL	111.65	113.00	110.55	111.50	-0.15
MARICO	339.95	340.95	335.50	340.00	-0.75
HDFCLIFE	577.15	586.50	569.05	570.10	-1.50
BERGEPAINT	500.00	500.00	492.70	496.00	-1.45
PAGEIND	21999.90	22150.00	21775.00	21855.60	-82.35
NHPC	23.85	23.95	23.60	23.80	-0.10
PIDILITIND	1327.35	1331.80	1317.50	1318.85	-8.25
ASHOKLEY	77.20	77.70	76.15	76.85	-0.50
MCDOWELL-N	588.25	601.00	582.00	582.20	-3.85
PETRONET	272.00	274.70	270.55	270.80	-1.85
LUPIN	758.15	759.40	747.30	745.45	-5.50
ICICIPRULI	492.00	502.15	483.70	486.00	-3.65
SIEMENS	1478.00	1488.85	1460.00	1463.00	-11.80
CONCOR	1473.50	1480.10	1450.10	1454.50	-12.30
BANKBARODA	560.00	563.45	551.40	552.60	-6.65
BANKBAND	97.75	98.05	95.20	95.70	-1.25
HINDZINC	209.65	210.45	206.00	206.15	-2.90
DABUR	463.65	464.90	455.00	458.50	-6.85
BOSCHLTD	15265.00	15320.00	14905.00	14994.95	-223.45
SRTANSRFP	1083.00	1090.00	1068.55	1075.70	-17.70
GODREJCP	661.55	665.00	645.05	646.40	-11.65
PNB	60.70	61.10	59.40	59.65	-1.15
HAVELLS	658.35	658.35	645.10	645.75	-12.65
MOTHERSUMI	134.00	134.30	130.75	131.80	-2.60
UBL	1231.00	1232.00	1200.00	1200.00	-23.60
AMBAJUCEM	199.90	200.35	195.30	195.60	-4.10
OFSS	2943.40	2963.95	2891.20	2891.00	-61.00
ICIGI	1366.00	1385.00	1341.25	1341.25	-29.90
PEL	1649.00	1665.00	1601.10	1608.30	-39.50
DMAT	1788.00	1790.00	1732.10	1736.60	-48.50
BAJAJHLDNG	3381.00	3410.00	3378.00	3395.00	-85.50
ACC	1475.00	1478.70	1432.40	1435.90	-37.95
PGH	11435.40	11435.40	11162.00	11170.05	-301.00
GICRE	242.50	252.80	235.10	235.30	-6.95
HINDPETRO	268.40	269.75	260.00	260.85	-8.05
HDFCAMC	2966.00	3030.00	2834.00	2892.00	-92.20
BANDHANBNK	542.95	550.00	516.10	523.70	-19.50
AUROPHARMA	449.60	450.35	430.00	430.15	-18.15

## BSE 500

Script	Open	High	Low	LTP
MAHINDRCE	154.10	160.00	146.60	148.45
YESBANK	55.30	56.30	49.30	50.55
IBULHSGFIN	260.80	277.50	259.20	260.65
HDFCAMC	2960.00	3028.25	2834.00	2890.90
SBIN	317.75	322.50	312.30	313.45
THERMAX	983.85	1012.00	983.85	990.75
ZEEL	288.40	288.40	268.80	270.60
RBLBANK	327.25	334.20	317.75	320.75
RELIANCE	1571.90	1574.80	1554.25	1562.20
MARUTI	7010.00	7051.50	6907.00	6977.00
TCS	2063.40	2063.55	2005.00	2012.50
HDFCLIFE	578.95	586.65	569.00	570.80
HDFC	2319.00	2332.75	2288.15	2294.70
IDEA	6.23	6.83	6.19	6.56
TATAMOTORS	162.20	163.25	159.00	

# CAB reflects India's mala fide intent: Pak

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan on Tuesday said India's "regressive and discriminatory" Citizenship (Amendment) Bill reflects its "malafide intent" to interfere in the affairs of neighbouring countries based on religion, with Prime Minister Imran Khan describing the proposed legislation as a "design of expansionism".

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

immigrants but given Indian citizenship.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill or CAB was passed in the Lok Sabha with 311 members favouring it and 80 voting against it a little past midnight on Monday. It will now be tabled in the Rajya Sabha for its nod.

Prime Minister Khan took to Twitter to strongly condemn the Bill.

He said that the Citizenship Bill "violates all norms of international human rights law and bilateral agreements with Pakistan".

"It is part of the RSS Hindu Rashtra design of expansionism," he said.

Earlier, the Foreign Office

(FO) in a statement said: "We condemn the legislation as regressive and discriminatory, which is in violation of all relevant international conventions and norms, and a glaring attempt by India to interfere in the neighbouring countries with malafide intent".

It said that the law "is premised on a falsehood and is in complete violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international covenants on elimination of all forms of discrimination based on religion or belief".

"The Lok Sabha legislation is also in complete contravention of various bilateral agreements between

Pakistan and India, particularly the one concerning security and rights of minorities in the respective countries," the statement said.

In New Delhi, the Ministry of External Affairs said the Bill provides expedited consideration for Indian citizenship to persecuted religious minorities already in India from certain contiguous countries.

"It seeks to address their current difficulties and meet their basic human rights. Such an initiative should be welcomed, not criticised by those who are genuinely committed to religious freedom," it said.

"The CAB does not affect the existing avenues available to all communities interested in

seeking citizenship from doing so. The recent record of granting such citizenship would bear out the Government of India's objectivity on the matter," it added.

The FO, however, said the latest legislation by the Indian government was another major step towards the realisation of the concept of "Hindu Rashtra, idealised and relentlessly pursued by the right-wing Hindu leaders for several decades".

The law is driven by a toxic mix of an extremist "Hindutva ideology and hegemonic ambitions" in the region and is also a clear manifestation of interference in the internal matters of neighbouring countries based on religion, which

Pakistan rejects completely, the FO said.

"Equally reprehensible are India's pretensions of casting itself as homeland for minorities allegedly persecuted in the neighbouring countries," it said.

The Foreign Office said India's action in Kashmir has affected 8 million people and it further displayed the government's policies.

The legislation has "exposed the hollowness of the claims to secularism and democracy. Pushed by the majoritarian agenda, it has revealed to the world the RSS-BJP exclusivist mentality and the true extent of their animus against the Muslims," the statement said.

# Suu Kyi told to stop genocide in UN court hearing

AFP ■ THE HAGUE

Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi faced calls for Myanmar to "stop the genocide" of Rohingya Muslims as she personally led her country's defence at the UN's top court on Tuesday.

Suu Kyi, whose silence about the plight of the Rohingya has tarnished her reputation as a rights icon, sat through graphic accounts of murder and rape in the wood-paneled courtroom in The Hague. Rights groups have criticised her decision to represent Myanmar at the International Court of Justice against accusations by the west African state of The Gambia that it has breached the 1948 Genocide Convention.

Around 740,000 Rohingya fled to neighbouring Bangladesh after a bloody crackdown by the Myanmar military in 2017 that UN investigators have already described as genocide.

"This is very much a dispute between Gambia and Myanmar," Gambian Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou told the judges of the court, which was set up in 1946 to resolve disputes between UN member states.

"All that The Gambia asks is that you tell Myanmar to stop these senseless killings, to stop these acts of barbarity that continue to shock our collective conscience, to stop this genocide of its own people."

Tambadou, a former prosecutor at the tribunal into the Rwanda's 1994 genocide, said Myanmar's military operation involved "mass murder, mass rape and mass torture, children being burned alive in their homes and places of worship."

The Gambia is seeking

emergency measures to prevent further harm to the Rohingya, pending a wider case at the ICJ which could take years.

Suu Kyi listened to accounts by The Gambia's lawyers of Rohingya victims, including a mother whose one-year-old son was beaten to death and an eight-month-pregnant woman who was stamped on and then repeatedly raped.

Wearing traditional Burmese dress, the 74-year-old did not speak to waiting media after arriving at the court's turreted Peace Palace headquarters in a motorcade with a police escort.

A group of some 50 Rohingya protesters gathered outside the gates of the ICJ for the hearing, carrying banners saying: "Say yes to Rohingya, justice delayed is justice denied" and "Stop Burma military attack Rohingya."

"Today is the start for our right to justice," said Mohammed Harun, 49, who travelled from London for the hearings. "It's international justice day for Rohingya," he told AFP. A small group of Suu Kyi supporters also unfurled a banner outside the court with the Myanmar leader's face on it saying: "We love you, we stand with you!" "Suu Kyi is the only person who can solve this problem," supporter Swe Swe Aye, 47, told AFP.

"We are not denying that the Rohingya people suffered, but we are denying, like Suu Kyi, that there was a genocide in Myanmar."

Thousands of people have also turned out in Suu Kyi's support in Myanmar in recent weeks since she announced that she would personally lead the southeast Asian nation's case at the court.

# Chile military plane disappears with 38 aboard

AFP ■ SANTIAGO

A Chilean military plane with 38 people aboard has gone missing after it took off from the country's south for a base in Antarctica and is presumed to have crashed, authorities have said.

Seventeen of those on board the C-130 aircraft were crew and the others were passengers, Chile's air force said Monday.

The plane is believed to have crashed and "all national and international air and maritime means available in the area are continuing the search (for survivors) in the sector where communications were lost with the aircraft," it added in a statement Tuesday.

The four-engine aircraft took off Monday at 4:55 pm (19:55 GMT) from an airbase in the southern city of Punta Arenas and contact was lost at 6:13 pm.

The air force said conditions for flying were good and that it was in contact with the families of those on board, many of whom were traveling to carry out logistical support tasks at the country's largest Antarctic base Eduardo Frei.

Personnel were also being transferred to inspect the base's floating fuel supply pipeline and undertake anti-corrosive treatment of the facility.

The air force also said that of the passengers on board, 15 were from its ranks, three

were from the army, there were two people from a private construction company, and a Chile university official.

The plane did have an emergency positioning system, but it did not appear to be working during the early morning search, said Eduardo Mosquera, Commander of the Fourth Air Brigade.

President Sebastian Pinera, whose country is witnessing its worst civil unrest in decades, tweeted he would fly to Punta Arenas with Interior Minister Gonzalo Blumel.

Once there, they would meet up with Defense Minister Alberto Espina to monitor the search and rescue mission, which was underway using aircraft and navy vessels.

The plane went missing in Drake Passage — a key maritime route between South America and Antarctica frequently hit by some of the world's worst weather. However, conditions were fine for flying on Monday, Chile's air force said.

The plane's disappearance is the latest incident in a country where Chileans have for nearly two months protested social and economic inequality, as well as an entrenched political elite.

The nearly two-month crisis and its violent demonstrations have led to 26 deaths and more than 12,000 injuries, according to the Organization of American States.



Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi and Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou (left) listen to judges in the court room of the International Court of Justice for the first day of three days of hearings in The Hague, Netherlands, on Tuesday. Aung San Suu Kyi will represent Myanmar in a case filed by Gambia at the ICJ, the United Nations' highest court, accusing Myanmar of genocide in its campaign against the Rohingya Muslim minority.

# Cambodia dismayed over US curbs for corruption, logging

AP ■ PHNOM PENH

The Cambodian government expressed "strong dismay" Tuesday over a US Treasury decision to sanction two businessmen suspected of corruption and illegal logging. A Foreign Ministry statement said the sanctions were based on groundless accusations.

"The Executive Order is an ambush against the ongoing efforts to restore trust and confidence between Cambodia and the United States," the statement said.

It defended both of the influential businessmen and former officials targeted by the sanctions, which freeze their US-based assets and ban doing business with them.

The ministry "expressed strong dismay over the arbitrary designation" of the Cambodian citizens.

It said Kim had made a "great contribution" to the country's peace, stability and social order.

Pheap has "played an active role in supporting Cambodia's socio-economic development," it said.

The US Treasury

Department said it had designated Try Pheap and 11 companies owned or controlled by him for sanctions for alleged graft and illegal logging.

The companies engage in various businesses including tourism, real estate development and energy.

It said Pheap, who has been an advisor to Prime Minister Hun Sen, has built up a vast illegal logging network that purchases protection from government officials and the military and export lumber to Vietnam, China, Russia and European countries.

Pheap has responded to past corruption allegations in Facebook postings saying his businesses are all legal and abide by the law.

The Treasury Department also designated former Gen. Kun Kim, three of his relatives and their family businesses for sanctions for allegedly engaging in corruption and illegal extraction of natural resources.

Kim is a longtime associate and supporter of Hun Sen and now is the senior minister for veterans' affairs. The businesses and people cited in the announcement also are

involved in rubber plantations and financial and security services.

Treasury Secretary Stephen Mnuchin said the sanctions, announced Monday on International Corruption Day, targeted people and entities based in Latvia, Serbia, Venezuela, Hong Kong and Cambodia suspected of illicit activities that "undermine the foundations of stable, secure and functioning societies."

The human rights group Global Witness welcomed the Treasury Department's announcement, saying both Pheap and Kim are suspected of serious human rights and environmental abuses.

"As Hun Sen's supporters have accumulated more and more wealth and impunity, their incentive to help him cling to power has increased," Patrick Alley, director of Global Witness, said in a statement.

"Accountability for those sustaining the corrupt dictatorship that is oppressing Cambodians on a daily basis is long overdue," he said.

Hun Sen has been prime minister since 1985. Critics say he has kept his hold on power

by rewarding cronies and family members and allowing them to plunder the country's forests and farmlands.

The Treasury statement cites a Chinese resort development project in Koh Kong, on the scenic southern coast, that involved land seizures carried out by armed soldiers.

In late 2017, Cambodia's Supreme Court ordered the main opposition party dissolved on the unsupported pretext that it conspired with the United States to overthrow Prime Minister Hun Sen's government.

That move was seen as a government effort to ensure his ruling Cambodian People's Party won a July 2018 general election. It ended up sweeping all 125 National Assembly seats.

Because they considered the elections neither free nor fair, some Western nations applied diplomatic sanctions against Hun Sen's government.

The European Union is considering withdrawing preferential tariff privileges from Cambodia. That would be a blow to its economy, which is powered by garment exports.

# South Korea says North's recent test was of rocket engine

AP ■ SEOUL

South Korea's defence minister said Tuesday that North Korea's recent unspecified weapons test was of a rocket engine, amid speculation the North was making preliminary steps toward a prohibited long-range rocket launch.

Defense Minister Jeong Kyeong-doo said during a visit to Sydney on Tuesday that Seoul expressed its "deep concerns" over the engine test and North Korea's recent ballistic missile launches into the sea, according to his office in Seoul.

It was the first official outside assessment of what North Korea called "a very important test" at its Tongchang-ri rocket launch site. The North's Academy of National Defense Science said Sunday the test will have "an important effect on changing the strategic position" of North Korea.

Jeong didn't elaborate on what the engine test was for but urged North Korea to stop "acts that escalate military tensions." Many experts say the reported test indicates North Korea is preparing to launch a satellite-carrying rocket in a

disguised test of long-range missile technology amid faltering US-led diplomacy on ending the North Korean nuclear crisis.

The diplomacy has been stalemated for months, with North Korea pressing the United States to make concessions by year's end. North Korea has hinted at abandoning diplomacy and resuming nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests, if the US fails to meet that deadline.

Experts say North Korea will likely opt for a satellite liftoff, instead of an ICBM launch, because it can repeat its argument that it has a sovereign right to a peaceful space development and draw support from China and Russia. Also, President Donald Trump has touted the North's moratorium on ICBM and nuclear tests as his major foreign policy achievement. In past months, North Korea launched a slew of short-range missiles and other weapons off its east coast into the sea. South Korea and parts of Japan would be within the range of those weapons, which don't pose a direct threat to the mainland US.

# Mortal remains of 14 Indians to be flown from Sudan

PTI ■ KHARTOUM

The mortal remains of 14 Indians identified so far after the horrific fire tragedy at a ceramics factory here last week will be sent to India from Tuesday, according to the Indian mission here.

The Indian Embassy, citing reports, had earlier said that 18 Indians were among 23 people killed and over 130 injured in the LPG tanker blast that destroyed the Seela Ceramic Factory on December 3 in Khartoum, the Sudanese capital.

Sixteen Indians were missing after the incident.

The Indian Embassy here has also published on its Twitter account the names of Indians whose charred bodies have till now been identified.

"In regard to the Indian casualties in the Ceramics factory fire in Khartoum, the Embassy has expedited the identification and completion of medico-legal formalities for the 14 identified bodies," the Embassy tweeted on Monday.

"The mortal remains will be sent to India from tomorrow (Tuesday) onwards, it said. Earlier, it tweeted that DNA was being collected for the identification of the deceased for profiling and matching.

"All the families have been informed and have been requested to send consent letters to receive the mortal remains," it added.

The embassy published the list of the 14 Indians on Twitter, out of which two were from Haryana, three from Bihar, three from Rajasthan, three from Uttar Pradesh, two from Tamil Nadu and one from Puducherry.

Pradeep Kumar and Pawan Kumar were from Haryana, Nitish Mishra, Niraj Kumar Singh and Amit Kumar Tiwari were from Bihar, Ravindra Kumar Maan, Jaideep and Kailsh Kajla were from Rajasthan, Mohit Kumar, Pradeep Kumar Verma and Harinath Rajbhar were from Uttar Pradesh, Ramakrishana Ramalingam and Jayakumar Selvaraju were from Tamil Nadu and Venkatachalam Chidambaram hailed from Puducherry.

The External Affairs Ministry (MEA) on Friday said that eight Indians were undergoing treatment in hospitals, while 11 were either unidentified or missing.

MEA Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said a total of 58 Indians were working in the factory at the time of the blast and 33 were safe.

According to a statement issued by the Sudanese government last week, the blast in a gas tanker triggered the fire.

"Preliminary observations indicate a lack of necessary safety measures and equipment at the factory, in addition to random storage of flammable materials," it said.

# Pressured at home, Ethiopia PM picks up Nobel Peace Prize

AFP ■ OSLO

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed will collect his Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo on Tuesday, but as ethnic violence rises at home he has kept festivities and meetings with the media to a minimum.

Hailed as a modern, reformist leader, Abiy's decision to skip all events with the press has dismayed his Norwegian hosts.

Africa's youngest leader at just 43, he is to receive the prestigious award at a ceremony in Oslo City Hall at 1:00 pm (12:00 GMT), attended by the royal family and Norwegian public figures.

The Nobel Committee announced in October it was honouring Abiy for his efforts to resolve the long-running conflict with neighbouring Eritrea. On July 9, 2018, following a historic meeting in

Eritrea's capital Asmara, Abiy and Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki formally ended a 20-year-old stalemate between their countries in the wake of the 1998-2000 border conflict.

That was just three months after Abiy took office.

During the whip-fast rapprochement that followed, embassies reopened, flights resumed and meetings were held across the region.

Abiy's actions sparked optimism on a continent marred by violence, and he went on to play an important mediation role in the Sudan crisis and attempted to revive a fragile peace deal in South Sudan.

In stark contrast to his authoritarian predecessors, the early days of his mandate also saw a wave of democracy-boosting measures in Ethiopia, as he lifted the state of emergency, released dissidents from jail, apologised for state bru-

talities and welcomed home exiled armed groups.

He also established a national reconciliation committee and lifted a ban on some political parties.

Abiy's reforms and visions lifted hopes far beyond his country's borders, but the "Abiymania" hype has faded somewhat and he is now facing major challenges.

His vow to hold the first "free, fair and democratic" elections since 2005 in May could be threatened by ethnic violence. Less than two weeks after the Nobel announcement in October, anti-Abiy protests left 86 people dead.

"The situation in Ethiopia has... new challenges but without challenges there is no way that we can do something new," Abiy told Norwegian broadcaster NRK on his arrival in Oslo.

"We consider those chal-

lenges as a great opportunity to do something positive."

Ahead of the elections, experts say the Ethiopian leader may now have to shift his attention away from the peace process.

The regime of Isaias Afwerki, the only president Eritrea has ever known since independence, has given no sign of any kind of political opening.

The land border between the two nations is once again closed, and the question of border demarcations remains unresolved.

Faced with these challenges, Abiy has considerably shortened the traditional Nobel programme: he will only stay in Oslo for a day and a half, compared to more than three days for most laureates.

And perhaps more importantly, the former officer and ex-intelligence chief has chosen

to forego any events where the media could ask him questions.

The traditional press conference held by the laureate on the eve of the ceremony has been stricken from the programme, and instead of fielding questions after meeting with Norway's prime minister Abiy will merely make a statement.

Also gone are individual interviews with the media, and a question-and-answer session with youngsters under the aegis of Save The Children.

The head of the Nobel Institute, Olav Njolstad, called the decision "highly problematic." "It's linked to the situation in his country and his personality: he's religious (Pentecostal) and does not want to put himself in the spotlight," Njolstad told AFP.

"In the eyes of the (Nobel) Committee, a free press and freedom of expression are essential conditions for a last-

ing peace in a democracy, and so it's strange for a Peace Prize laureate to not want to speak to the press," he added.

Abiy's entourage said it was "quite challenging" for a sitting leader to spend several days at such an event, especially when "domestic issues are pressing and warrant attention."

"(On) a personal level, the humble disposition of the Prime Minister rooted in our cultural context is not in alignment with the very public nature of the Nobel award," his press secretary Billene Seyoum said.

The Nobel Peace Prize consists of a diploma, a gold medal and a cheque for nine million Swedish kronor (850,000 euros, \$945,000).

The other Nobel prizes for literature, physics, chemistry, medicine and economics will also be handed over on Tuesday, but in Stockholm.

# Ready to record statement from hospital bed in treason trial: Musharraf

PTI ■ LAHORE

Pakistan's ailing former dictator Gen (ret'd) Pervez Musharraf has informed a court here that he is ready to record his statement from a hospital bed in Dubai for treatment of a rare medical condition, recorded a video message from his hospital bed in which he said that he was ready to record his statement in the case.

"A judicial commission can come here and hear me out. It must see my health condition and make a decision. The commission, with my lawyer, must then be heard in the court," Musharraf added.

Musharraf has maintained that owing to his deteriorating health, multiple life-threatening ailments and of his aged mother, he is unable to return to Pakistan.

During Tuesday's proceedings, the high court questioned how former the former president's actions in 2007 fall under the ambit of Article 6 of

the Constitution. According to Article 6, any person who abrogates or subverts or suspends or holds in abeyance, or attempts or conspires to abrogate or subvert or suspend or hold in abeyance, the Constitution by use of force or show of force or by any other unconstitutional means shall be guilty of high treason.

A person found guilty of high treason as defined in Article 6 of the Constitution, could be punished with death or life imprisonment.

Musharraf became Pakistan's first Army chief to be charged with treason when he was indicted on March 31, 2014. He pleaded not guilty to five charges and dismissed them as being politically motivated.

While adjourning the case till December 17, the Lahore High Court on Tuesday directed Additional Attorney General

Ishtiaq A Khan to discuss the matter with the interior secretary on whether the formal military ruler imposing emergency in 2007 amounts to the abrogation of the Constitution.

The court further asked whether the complaint could be withdrawn at this stage and sought the interior secretary's opinion on how the act falls under Article 6.

On November 29, the Islamabad High Court (IHC), while hearing a petition of the interior ministry, had restrained the special court from announcing its verdict in the Musharraf's treason case which it was to hand down on November 29.

In a two-page brief order, the IHC asked the special court to hear pleas of all sides and decide the case "in accordance with the law" while directing the government to form a new prosecution team for the case by December 5.

shooting a dramatic police hunt with hundreds of officers and two helicopters chasing him. The man turned the gun on himself inside the vehicle as police were about to capture him in a village just northwest of Ostrava, regional police chief Tomas Kuzel said.

"We identified the gunman using hospital cameras. We deployed two helicopters, identified his car... and when one helicopter descended over the car, he shot himself in the head," Kuzel told reporters.

Interior Minister Jan Hamacek said the man died despite resuscitation efforts.

Police said the gunman had used a "short firearm" in the attack, which took place shortly after 0600 GMT.

"As far as we know, the man is not in our database of legal gun owners," Kuzel said, adding there was no indication that he had an accomplice.

The public Czech Radio identified the killer as a builder from the nearby Opava district.

His boss, named as Ales Zygula, told the radio station that the attacker had "decided he was seriously ill and that no one wanted to treat him".

# Gunman kills himself after Czech hospital rampage

AFP ■ PRAGUE

Prior to his death, police had urged "maximum possible caution" as they tweeted pictures of the man who had thick black hair and was wearing a red and black jacket and trainers.

Babis described the shooting as "a catastrophe".

"It's something we're not used to in our country," the populist billionaire added.

"I absolutely don't understand the motive of this young man." The prime minister has cancelled a two-day trip to Estonia scheduled to start Tuesday afternoon.

President Milos Zeman also expressed his condolences.

"I'm with you in my heart, I'm thinking of you in these tragic hours," he said in a tweet posted by his spokesman.

Gun rampages are rare in this EU member country of 10.7 million people.

In 2015, a restaurant guest in the southeastern town of Uhersky Brod shot dead seven men and a woman before committing suicide. In March this year, a patient at a Prague hospital shot two fellow patients after an argument in a room. One of the men died.

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# 'Afghan war can end if Pak denies safe heaven to Taliban'

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The war in Afghanistan would end in a few weeks if Pakistan denied the Taliban safe heaven, a top US Senator has said, urging the Trump administration that it should start negotiations with Islamabad rather than the Afghan insurgents to stop the deadly conflict.

The comments by Republican Senator Lindsay Graham came amid reports that the US has resumed talks with the Taliban in Qatar on Saturday, three months after President Donald Trump abruptly halted diplomatic efforts that could end America's longest war. Pakistan is said to be assisting the US in reopening the talks with the Taliban.

"As to negotiating with the Taliban, I think we got this wrong. I think what we should do is start negotiating with Pakistan. If Pakistan denied the Taliban safe haven in Pakistan, the war in Afghanistan would end in a matter of weeks," Graham, the senior Senator from South Carolina said in an interview to Fox Channel on Monday.

In September, President Trump called the year-long negotiation efforts "dead" and withdrew an invitation to the insurgents to join secret talks at his retreat at Camp David after the killing of an American soldier in Kabul. Graham also said that he wants to change the "behaviour" of Pakistan.

"So, I want to try to get Pakistan to change their behaviour through a free trade agreement tied to security performances, then talk to the Taliban. I want as much leverage over the Taliban as possible to end this war," he said.

President Trump is keen to end the deadly war in Afghanistan that has claimed the lives of hundreds of American soldiers over the past 18 years.

Trump made a surprise visit to the Bagram Airfield, the largest US military base in Afghanistan late last month and met American soldiers. During the visit, Trump said the Taliban "wants to make a deal".



New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern (left) meets first responders in Whakatane, New Zealand, on Tuesday as a volcanic island in New Zealand erupted Monday in a tower of ash and steam while dozens of tourists were exploring the moon-like surface, killing multiple people and leaving many more missing. AP

# Heroism, devastation after deadly N. Zealand volcano eruption

AFP ■ WHAKATANE

Tales of heroism, devastation and horrifying injuries emerged Tuesday after New Zealand's smouldering White Island volcano exploded, killing an estimated 14 people and turning what should have been an intrepid day trip into a nightmare.

The number of confirmed fatalities rose to six Tuesday night after an injured person died in an Auckland hospital, police said.

Eight more people were presumed dead after Monday's eruption, while dozens of others injured were being treated in hospital burns units across the country. Among the 47 people caught on the island during the sudden blast were tourists from Australia, the United States, Britain, China, Germany and Malaysia, as well as local tour guides.

As relatives of the missing faced an agonising wait to discover the fate of their loved ones, police said conditions remained too dangerous for recovery teams to set foot on the volcano.

Amid questions about how tourists were allowed on the island, police said they were opening an investigation into the circumstances of the deaths and injuries — but they backtracked on suggestions it could lead to criminal charges.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern praised the crews of four rescue helicopters for

landing on the island soon after the eruption.

"Those pilots made an incredibly brave decision under extraordinarily dangerous circumstances in an attempt to get people out," she told reporters.

Intensive care paramedic Russell Clark was among those dispatched by helicopter to the volcano, which sits semi-submerged 50 kilometres (30 miles) out to sea.

He was confronted by an "overwhelming" and "shocking" scene of devastation.

"We didn't find any survivors," he told TVNZ, recalling a dust-covered helicopter grounded with its rotor blades damaged.

"It was like... I've seen the 'Chernobyl' mini-series and it was just everything was just blanketed in ash.

"I can only imagine what it was like for the people there at the time — they had nowhere to go and an absolutely terrible experience for them." New Zealander Geoff Hopkins' tour boat was leaving the island when a huge plume burst from the volcano — at what scientists said was supersonic speed — followed by a "menacing" cloud of grey ash. Despite the danger, Hopkins said the boat moved closer to the shore after seeing survivors jump from the island into the sea to escape.

"I don't think there was anyone that came off who wasn't badly burnt," he told the New Zealand Herald, describing how victims screamed and

went into shock as fellow tourists tried to tend to their blistered skin.

Top New Zealand health official Pete Watson said 27 of the 34 survivors were being treated for burns to more than 71 percent of their bodies.

"It's important not to underestimate the gravity of the injuries suffered," he said.

After an initial rush, concerns about further eruptions, poisonous gases and choking ash stalled efforts to recover bodies.

The risks were underscored Tuesday when a large-but-harmless 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck to the east of the disaster zone.

Ardern said New Zealanders were mourning alongside those from overseas whose nationals were caught up in the disaster.

"To those who have lost or are missing family and friends, we share in your unfathomable grief and in your sorrow," the prime minister said, just months after managing another national crisis during Christchurch's deadly twin mosque attacks.

Many of the victims are believed to be Australian and Prime Minister Scott Morrison warned his compatriots to brace for the worst.

He said there were fears that three of the five dead were Australian, and another eight citizens were unaccounted for.

"This is a very, very hard

day for a lot of Australian families whose loved ones have been caught up in this terrible, terrible tragedy," he told reporters in Sydney.

The Malaysian government said one of its citizens had died and two British women were confirmed among those injured.

With the island off-limits, Adelaide man Brian Dallow was anxiously awaiting news about his son Gavin, daughter-in-law Lisa, and her daughter Zoe Hosking, 15.

"All we know at the moment is they were on the island and they're been confirmed as missing," he told AFP.

"As far as we know they didn't get back on the ship." The eruption at White Island — also known as Whakaari — occurred on Monday afternoon, spewing a thick plume of white ash 3.6 kilometres (12,000 feet) into the sky.

At the time, visitors included a group of more than 30 from a Royal Caribbean cruise ship, the Ovation of the Seas, which left Sydney on a 12-day voyage last week.

The island in the picturesque Bay of Plenty attracts more than 17,000 visitors every year and is marketed as an experience for the adventurous traveller.

But the volcano's threat level had been raised in recent days, leading to questions about whether tour groups should have been allowed to visit.

# Algerian court convicts 2 ex-PMs for corruption

AP ■ ALGIERS (ALGERIA)

Police surrounded the courthouse.

Ouyahia was sentenced to 15 years in prison and USD 16,000 in fines. Sellal was sentenced to 12 years in prison and USD 8,000 in fines. The men, who deny wrongdoing, have 10 days to appeal.

Both served under Bouteflika. Protesters rose up against Bouteflika earlier this year — in part because of anger at corruption.

Four other former government ministers and businessmen were also convicted in the case, which focused on a car manufacturing corruption scandal, allegedly involving huge bribes, inflated invoices and dodgy loans. Bouteflika's former campaign manager was acquitted.

Unusually, the trial was televised, as authorities sought

to show the public that they are taking protesters' concerns about corruption, transparency and accountability seriously.

Thursday's presidential election loomed over the trial. Algerian authorities are hoping the trial will help convince the public that they are serious about reforming themselves — and persuade people to go out and vote.

Algeria's peaceful, 9-month-old protest movement dismisses the election as a sham because it's organized by the existing power structure. Protesters want a whole new political system instead.

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# Russia probe shows FBI 'attempted overthrow' of government: Trump

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump has welcomed a new report from the Justice Department inspector general on the origins of the investigation into Russia's interference in the US election, saying it showed FBI officials attempted "an overthrow of the government" by investigating his 2016 presidential campaign.

Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz's lengthy report issued Monday said that FBI

agents were not motivated by political bias in deciding to open investigations into Trump campaign associates and aides during 2016 as part of the probe into Russia's election interference.

The inspector general, however, found numerous procedural errors in the handling of the probe, which placed members of Trump's election team under surveillance over their Russian contacts.

Reacting to the report, Trump said, "This was an over-

throw of the government. This was an attempted overthrow."

"A lot of people who were in on it, and they got caught. They got caught red-handed," Trump told reporters on Monday at the White House soon after Horowitz released the report on FBI investigations.

Trump alleged that they fabricated evidence and they lied to the courts, and they did all sorts of things to have it go their way.

"This was something that

can never allow to happen again," he said.

"The report, actually — and especially when you look into it, and the details of the report — are far worse than anything I would have even imagined. What they were doing and what they would have done if I didn't make a certain move — a certain move that was a very important move because it would have been even worse if that's possible. And they might have been able to succeed," he said.

# Duterte to end martial law in Philippine south

AP ■ MANILA (PHILIPPINES)

President Rodrigo Duterte has decided to end more than two years of martial law in the southern Philippines after government forces considerably weakened Islamic militant groups there with the capture and killing of their leaders, his spokesman said Tuesday.

Duterte placed the Mindanao region under martial law after hundreds of local militants aligned with the Islamic State group and backed by foreign fighters occupied buildings, a commercial district and communities in Marawi city starting May 23, 2017, in the worst security crisis Duterte has faced.

Troops quelled the disas-

trous siege after five months of intense airstrikes and ground offensives with the help of American and Australian surveillance aircraft, but congress approved an extension of martial law in Mindanao three times after Duterte warned that militants continued to recruit fighters and plot attacks.

Duterte decided not to further extend martial law, which expires at the end of the year, after his defense and security advisers provided an assessment that "the terrorist and extremist rebellion" has been weakened with the losses of the militants' leaders and a drop in crime in the region, presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo said.

"The palace is confident

on the capability of our security forces in maintaining the peace and security of Mindanao without extending martial law," Panelo said in a statement.

"The people of Mindanao are assured that any incipient major threat in the region would be nipped in the bud."

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has told Duterte that Muslim militants can no longer carry out an attack like the siege on Marawi, which left more than 1,000 mostly militants dead, along with troops and civilians, and turned the mosque-studded city's commercial and residential areas into a wasteland of burned and pockmarked buildings and houses.

Troops have also made

significant progress in efforts to defeat the decades-old communist insurgency in the region, Lorenzana said.

The attack reinforced fears that the Islamic State group was gaining a foothold in Southeast Asia despite its battle defeats in Iraq and Syria. Opposition politicians argued Duterte's martial law was unconstitutional because it is an "extreme measure" that can only be imposed when an actual rebellion against the government exists. They also feared the move could be a prelude for Duterte to declare martial law throughout the Philippines.

Foreign governments have also expressed concern, but Lorenzana said the martial law imposed in Mindanao was "mild" compared to the

state of martial rule declared by authoritarian leader Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines in the 1970s.

The Marcos-era martial law was characterised by widespread human rights violations and alleged plunder of state coffers. Lorenzana said businessmen were reluctant to invest in the south because of martial law.

Suicide bombings by Islamic State group-linked militants have rocked the southern province of Sulu this year, including the first one staged by a Filipino militant, but Lorenzana expressed confidence that government forces "can maintain the peace and order there and improve it further, make it more peaceful, without martial law."

# China says detained Canadians treated in 'civilised way'

AFP ■ BEIJING

China defended on Tuesday its year-long detention of two Canadians after Ottawa accused Beijing of "arbitrarily" arresting the men in what was widely seen as retaliation for the arrest of a Huawei executive.

Former diplomat Michael Kovrig and businessman Michael Spavor have been languishing in China's opaque legal system since they were apprehended on December 10, 2018, just nine days after the arrest of Huawei chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou.

Canadian Foreign Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne said Kovrig and Spavor have not had access to lawyers and

have been denied contact with their families since they were "arbitrarily detained".

"These two Canadians are and will remain our absolute priority. We will continue to work tirelessly to secure their immediate release and to stand up for them as a government and as Canadians," Champagne said in a statement Monday.

The Chinese embassy in Ottawa said it had lodged an official protest with Canada and expressed "strong dissatisfaction" over Champagne's "irresponsible statement".

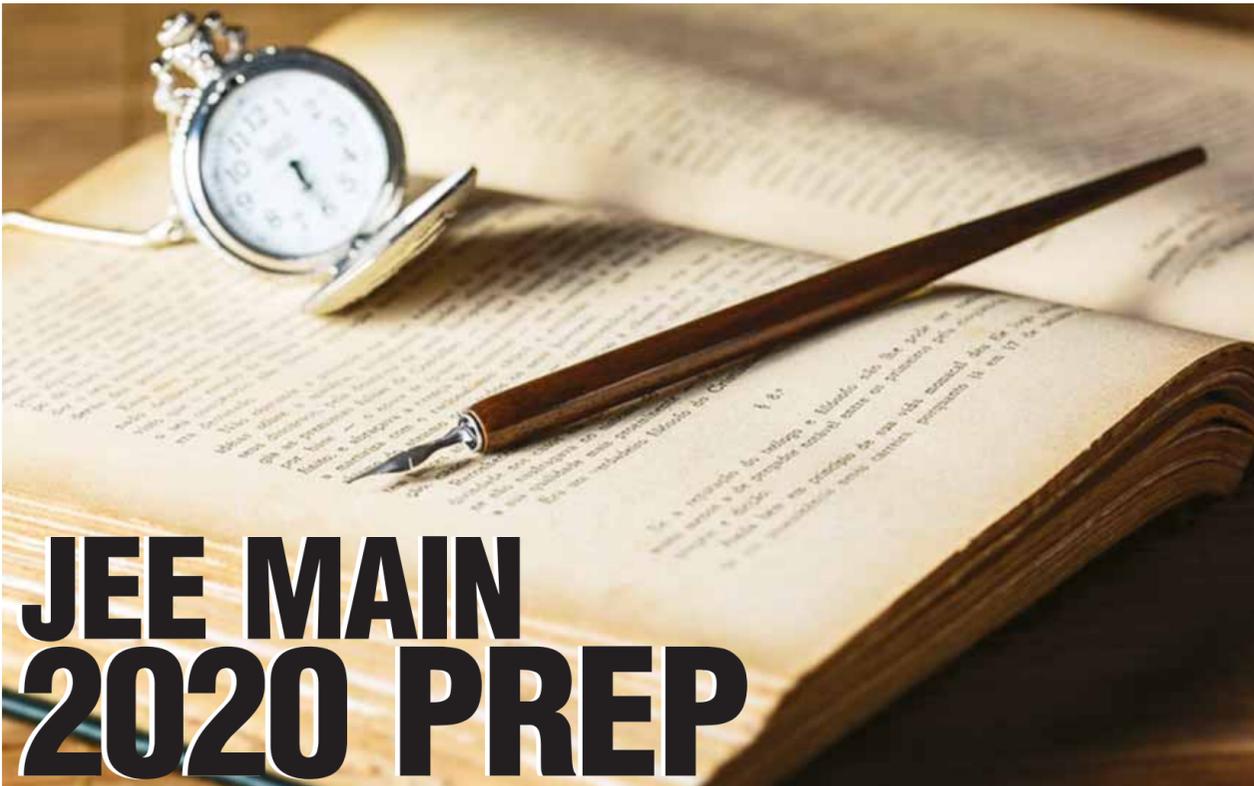
Spavor and Kovrig, who were formally detained in May, have endured hours of interrogation, according to people familiar with the matter.

Messages and photos from family are read out loud to the two Canadians by embassy officials, before they are handed to Chinese authorities — who may or may not give them to the two men, the sources said.

A former Canadian ambassador said Kovrig is held in a cell with 20 inmates while Spavor is with 18 other people.

"Their conditions are good. China's judicial department strictly enforces the law and handles the case in a civilised way," Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a regular press briefing Tuesday.

Kovrig and Spavor are suspected of gathering state secrets.



# JEE MAIN 2020 PREP

With less than a month left for the exam, AKHAND SWAROOP PANDIT shares last minute tips for the aspirants that may help them

For centuries, Indian parents have been urging their children to grow up as doctors, engineers or architects. From as early as Class VIII, they put their heart and soul into convincing their kids to either take up engineering or go for MBBS. And that's how most students get enrolled themselves for the drilling coaching classes and end up making Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) their life goal. Once this practice starts, struggles, challenges, failures, and achievements naturally follow.

Every year, thousands of candidates apply for JEE and give their best to secure a seat in one of the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). However, now that times have changed and so did JEE Main 2020 exam patterns, aspirants should be extremely mindful before moving on to the preparations stage. The latest changes introduced by the National Testing Agency (NTA),

that every JEE aspirant should look into, are as follows:

- From now on, candidates who wish to apply for BPlanning courses will be required to give a separate exam. JEE Main 2020 will be conducted in three sections: Paper I for BArch/BE, Paper II for BArch and Paper III for BPlanning. This gives them the choice to appear for anyone or two or all three paper.

- When it comes to BE/ BArch paper, there will be 75 questions in total as compared to 90. Each section will now have five questions less, which is, an aspirant will need to solve 25 questions instead of 30.
- Similarly, Paper II for BArch will have a total of 77 questions. In the drawing test, candidates will now require to solve two questions instead of three. While Part I and Part II of this paper will be computer based, Part III will involve pen and paper.

Scanning these latest changes in the JEE Main 2020 pattern will give a clear picture of how to pre-

**Don't spend much time on one topic, study at least 2-3, side by side. Doing so will help you stay engaged and maintain the momentum instead of getting bored and losing interest**

pare, accordingly.

Here's a list of carefully-picked pointers that will certainly help you prepare well for the upcoming JEE, and even crack it in one go.

- Prepare a daily time table and smartly allocate days for each topic. Always remember not to spend much time on one topic and rather study at least two-three top-

ics, side by side. Doing so will help you stay engaged and maintain the momentum instead of getting bored and gradually losing out interest. Apart from doing regular revisions, fix a day, for instance, Sunday for revising the work done in the past week.

- Practice solving more and more questions rather than mugging up the theory part, again and again. As part of regular revision practice, prepare a list of 50-60 standard questions that should cover all the relevant topics and practice them rigorously.

- Divide the syllabus into Class XI and Class XII topics. It is always advisable to start your preparations with a lower level (Class XI) then gradually proceed to a higher level (Class XII) to make your base stronger, which will further help you in better understanding of the higher-level subjects. Remember, JEE will comprise a right mix of both levels. Prepare accordingly!

- Carefully analyse the question papers of last 10-15 years of both JEE and AIEEE. Doing so will give you a clear idea of which topics should be given the maximum weightage. Never forget to cover those topics that are being asked almost every year.

This shows the level of importance they carry. For instance, a candidate should never miss out topics such as thermodynamics, organic chemistry, calculus, complex numbers, coordinate geometry, among others. Most essentially, revise them at least two-three times on a regular basis.

- Last, never break your sleeping pattern as it may affect your health and make you feel lethargic all day. Maintaining a disciplined sleep cycle will enable you to stay active and focused during exam hours. And remember the mantra: Study, solve, eat, sleep and repeat.

The writer is Founder-CEO, Catalyst Group, Online Learning Platform

## 'Important to know your passion to select course'

Choosing the right career path is integral to our life as it leads to greater chances of success and fulfillment in the long run, says DR NARENDRA SHYAMSUKHA

The lacklustre performance amongst the current working class is leading to greater lay-offs and more firing than hiring, creating inflation in the economy. Here it is more than just monetary gains that are at stake - we are turning out to be a veritable army of robots, failing to add passion to our work. Here, choosing the right career path is integral, as it leads to greater chances of success and fulfillment. Here it is important to follow your passion and inner-calling for the following reasons:

**Enhanced concentration:** There's no denying the fact that your perception and attitude towards your work decides your level of concentration you can put on it. When you bag the position of your dreams, you'll ensure that you stand up to the post. This would require enhanced levels of concentration that you would give, happily without creating a strain on your thought-process. The chances of making mistakes would steadily decrease as you would pay closer attention, naturally.

**Passion and willingness:** Work done with passion and love more often than not leads to greatness. All the great leaders in the world have been driven by passion, in order to achieve bigger things.

**Willingness and passion convey better attention towards works and the results it shall bring.** With a passion for work come hope and the want to achieve. Your fire to achieve remains intact and in fact, it grows to the betterment of you and the business.

**Evaluation of your skills:** Listless jobs do nothing for your skill set as it constantly bogs you down, decreasing your productivity to the greatest extent. Here you need to have a job that reinforces your hunger, while helping you evolve your skill sets and acumen. With your passion being turned into occupation, you have a better chance at evaluating your skills and figuring out new ways to improve.

**Job satisfaction:** Love and passion nurture an individual from a novice to an expert. Hence, job satisfaction is one of the important factors that people are less acquainted with. With job dissatisfaction decreases the onus to create an impact and grow - hampering work life balance. As you follow your passion, you shall see a difference in your approach. You will feel happy getting up in the morning and will



Dr Narendra Shyamsukha  
Founder & Chairman, ICA Edu Skills

look forward to going to your workplace. With a satisfying approach towards your job ensures employers satisfaction. Here, you would achieve excellence as you would actively participate in measures to improve your skills.

**Scope of growth:** The more you stifle yourself in the wrong fit, the more you're miserable, thereby decreasing productivity significantly. With having a passion, you look forward to completing tasks that would help the organization grow as well as develop your position. The joy of working for something you love remains unmatched as you take pride in creating newer opportunities. It will provide you new avenues to grow and continue providing the best to the organization as well as position.

**Excellence:** Have you ever seen excellence being achieved through dissent and dissatisfaction? Excellence is what every organization requires, where there is no space for half-hearted attempt. Vocational training and constant skilling come of great use, as they help you improve upon your skills and unlock newer potentials. There are some institutes that help in arming people with the right skills to improve and enhance your career. They have already established its position as a pioneer of in-hands, real-time guidance in Accounts, Finance and Taxation Training nationwide, offering a vast range of skill training programmes.

It is widely accepted, "Personalities are seldom born, they are forged". In order to achieve unprecedented success, one always has to take the road less travelled. Although, the case with the modern day student is entirely different. Students do not want to take the tough path and have conveniently adopted 'follow the herd' mentality.

Sadly, most of them are 'marks' centric and not 'skill' centric. Marks would enable students to enter colleges of their choice but serve very little purpose beyond that. The present generation has forgotten that each of them is unique and has different abilities. In their exuberance to get ahead in the race, they often overlook their own aptitudes and interests. Getting good marks, admission

into a college to finally end up with a job that does not match his natural abilities is a sad tale of many a students.

The modern-day student lacks the ability to co-op with the stress that comes with the decision to travel the unknown terrain. Students today are suffering from stress related problems as they are never taught the art of managing stress in the schooling years.

This is one of the major drawbacks in the system of education in our country. The curriculum has missed out on major life skills subjects like anger management, stress management, confidence and self-esteem building, fighting peer pressure, addiction etc. This leads to catastrophic aftermaths later in the college life.

## MINDIT

In a survey, over twenty thousand teenage students were asked questions related to stress. Almost 45% of them admitted that they feel stressed almost all the time. The major reason behind the stress was the pressure from family, teachers, peers and school. Students today are vulnerable than ever as with the increasing competition, their ability to handle the pressure has not enhanced. It is same like sending a warrior to battle in a war without weapons and armour. It is but natural that he will fail 99% of the time.

People need to understand that a power

packed life skills training programme in schools and colleges is the need of the hour and should be made mandatory in all the states. We as a Nation cannot afford to squander this precious time as we are currently one of the youngest Nations in the world. Preparing students to tackle the obstacles they face in their life is of paramount importance and should not be delayed any further.

With Life Skills Training, students will develop competence, confidence and maturity. As a result, during the crucial interviews and selection drives, they would

not hesitate to stand-out and be noticed. When an individual wins the inner battle, the battle outside would look puny and feeble. Studies have shown that with programmes like 'happiness drive' and 'anger management', students have transformed greatly as these kinds of programmes touch the often untouched areas in one's personality. After the training, students develop a positive perception towards life and see life from a new and broader perspective.

Students also develop creativity and curiosity that indeed are the biggest teachers in the World. When students are curious and happy, they find the key to their problems by themselves as they get a sudden surge of zest in them.

The students of today are the torch bearers of the India of tomorrow. After graduation, they must have more than just a degree in their quiver. Arming them with the necessary life skills is crucial to enable them to cope with post school environment, handle stress better, be more social and be more employable. Need for such success skills can not be overemphasised, they are critical to happiness and success. Life is competitive and unless children are empowered with these essential skills they would not be able to stand apart in a crowd. Therefore, there is a dire need to prepare them for the life ahead by giving them a much needed platform.

The writer is Col (Retd) Dinesh Mudri, Director of TWIN WIN Academy, Bengaluru



The Strathclyde Business School is delighted to be able to offer a number of Masters Scholarships for International students starting their studies in 2020. Candidates for all Full Time MSc programmes in Glasgow will be automatically considered for these scholarships so no separate scholarship application is necessary.

**Number:** 40  
**Value:** £7000  
**Eligibility:** The Scholarships will be awarded on merit, rather than financial need, to candidates who demonstrate in their Masters Programme application excellent academic performance (current and/or previously gained); any relevant extra-curricular or professional experience and career development and who will contribute to the overall academic, cultural and experiential profile of the programme cohort.

For more information - <https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/strathclydebusinessschools-scholarships> or contact [sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk](mailto:sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk)

**Application deadline:** July 31, 2020.

The University of Sheffield, UK is delighted to offer 125 International PG Taught Merit Scholarships in 2020.

Each scholarship is a competitive award worth 25% of the original tuition fee. The scholarships are available to all new international (non-EU) students who meet the eligibility criteria.

**Eligibility:** Your programme must commence at the University of Sheffield in September 2020. You must receive an offer for a course studied in full at the University of Sheffield. Masters programmes split between the University of Sheffield and a partner institution are not eligible to apply for a scholarship.

For tuition fee purposes you must be self-funded and required to pay the overseas tuition fee. Anyone studying a Masters/integrated PhD programme is eligible for a merit scholarship in the Masters element of the programme only.

For more visit: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/scholarships/postgraduate-international-merit-postgraduate-scholarship>

**Application deadline:** It is 13:00 (UK time) on Monday May 4, 2020.

### ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING AT BRAHM WORKS

Location: Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279528](http://internshala.com/i/2279528)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT WORKEK

Location: Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹8,000-₹15,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279530](http://internshala.com/i/2279530)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### GRAPHIC DESIGN AT DIGION

Location: Bengaluru  
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279538](http://internshala.com/i/2279538)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### COUNSELLING AT ESTERO NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Location: Delhi  
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279542](http://internshala.com/i/2279542)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### CIVIL ENGINEERING AT ELEVENX CONSULTANCY

Location: Delhi  
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279543](http://internshala.com/i/2279543)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT ALNOURISH HEALTHY FOODS

Location: Delhi, Gurugram  
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹20,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279545](http://internshala.com/i/2279545)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

### VIDEO EDITING AT P2C SOLUTIONS INDIA

Location - Work From Home  
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month  
Link: [internshala.com/i/2279549](http://internshala.com/i/2279549)  
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

## STUDY ABROAD

### 'Permanent residency is an attraction for students'

Statistics say that Canada and Australia are preferred study destinations, over the US, for students. ROHIT SETHI lists reasons for the same

There are numerous reasons why Indian students are preferring to go to Australia and Canada for their higher studies.

**Post-study work permit:** Many countries don't offer the option of a post-study work permit to students, Australia and Canada do. Foreign students in Australia can apply for a post-study work visa if they have studied for two years or more in the country. Similarly, Canada gives a work permit for three years to students on the completion of a Master's degree from a Canadian university. The country also allows this permit to students pursuing a minimum of eight-month diploma from any community college, however, the visa tenure is different in such case. Adding to the inflow of Indian students to Canada is the Study Direct Stream programme introduced last year.

**Safety and affordability:** Australia and Canada offer a safe study environment to foreign students. The residents of these countries are kind to foreigners and strongly support cultural diversity. Apart from safety, studying in Australia and Canada is also

more affordable as compared to the US, be it in terms of the cost of living, tuition fees etc.

**Multitude of courses:** Reputed universities in Australia and Canada are famous for offering a vast range of courses. From Science, Technology, Engineering and Math courses to management programmes, these two countries offer several options to students, basis their personal interest and expertise. Students are also opting for unconventional and specialized areas of study, in addition to popular mainstream courses.

**Permanent residency:** In many cases, students continue to stay back and seek employment in Australia and Canada after the completion of their studies, before applying for Permanent Residency. The best part: They don't have to go through a lot of hassle. The approval process is smooth and takes little time. Canada's newly reformed Express Entry programme has also drastically streamlined the approval process for foreign students looking to seek permanent residency in the country.

These two countries are expected to pull in more students from the country in the near future as well.

The writer is director, ESS Global (Study Abroad Consultant)



## IN BRIEF

### GIS CLUB WITH ESRI TECHNOLOGY

The Scottish High International School has announced the launch of India's first ever GIS Club in a school. Through this launch, it aims to educate and train the future professionals around the dynamics of GIS technology and how it can be used for better understanding of various subjects including IT, Science, History, Civics, and Literature apart from Geography.

The programme provides hands on experience for students to learn Esri StoryMaps and use Esri technology in research and learning. In 2017 and 2019, students from Scottish High Schools also won awards in Esri India StoryMaps Contest using Esri's ArcGIS technology. Students have also presented their work to distinguished audience in the Esri India User Conference.

### AUC PARTNERS WITH BRAINGAIN ACADEMY

The American University in Cairo (AUC) in Egypt, has exclusively collaborated with BrainGain Academy, for its 10-day winter programme — *Discover Egypt: A Historical and Cultural Learning Adventure*. The programme is inviting applications for its 10-day programme from January 11-24, 2020 at the campus of the American University in Cairo. The

short course will offer an immersive experience. With this archaeological adventure, participants will explore Egypt's history and ancient civilizations and walk through the past, while experiencing the present in the streets of the magical city of Cairo. The deadline for accepting applications is December 20, 2019.

Harjiv Singh, founder-CEO, BrainGain

Global said: "We are happy to collaborate with AUC for this unique programme. The goal is to provide students with a valuable historical and archaeological academic experience while immersing students in an authentic learning environment. Such programmes provide cultural and educational experience and we are glad that we have partnered with AUC."

### PG IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

The FLAME University has developed a unique model of creating next generation of high impact innovators and entrepreneurs. The curriculum is designed by renowned faculty, industry practitioners and innovation experts. Programme participants will get an opportunity to interact and learn from advisors and mentors like Hari Menon, Rupen Jhaveri, Manish Chokhani, Saras D. Sarasvathy, Prasanna Krishnamoorthy and more.

The four-module programme provides an opportunity to work on live

start-up projects over the first two modules followed by incubation of new ventures either individually or in groups in the second half of the program. The program is practice and outcome focused. Participants learn and practice decision-making frameworks such as effectuation and lean start-up that have helped established entrepreneurs succeed.

Participants will be given exposure to exponential technologies that will include AI/ML, Blockchain, Robotics, IoT and AR/VR.

# Become a problem solver

An integrated approach has to be taken and courses like design thinking and creative problem solving, have to be offered in MBA programmes as a core subject which will help students think holistically, says DR RAMAKRISHNAN RAMAN



If one ponders about the job that a middle level and a senior manager does in any organisation, then it would be evident that they solve problems and try ensuring that those problems do not occur again. One of the critical skills that a manager must have is the ability to solve problems. The issues can be related to process or people or procedures — but solving them needs creative thinking and excellent people management skills.

In an MBA programme which is offered by many Indian B-schools, faculties are usually arranged in functional silos, where specialised knowledge—such as finance, accounting, operations and HR is taught in specialised courses by subject-specific technical experts. But when it comes to the real-world scenario, complex problem solving is integrative, and it cuts across these silos. This means that all departments are responsible for helping students become better problem solvers, but none of them owns

the challenge and takes the lead in addressing it. Consequently, a typical b-school doesn't teach complex problem solving as part of the core curriculum or provide the opportunity to practice and get feedback on it. Hence an integrative approach has to be taken and subjects like Design Thinking and Creative Problem solving, have to be offered as a core subject which helps students to integrate and think holistically.

B-schools must ensure that problem solving becomes an integral part of the MBA programme and must equip the students with skills related to problem-solving. There are several theoretical approaches which give insight about several methods to solve problems in a structured manner. While imparting this 'knowledge' the students must also be trained in tools and technologies that can help them approach, understand and solve problems in a better fashion. Today every organisation has a large amount

**B-SCHOOLS MUST ENSURE THAT PROBLEM-SOLVING BECOMES AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MBA PROGRAMME AND MUST EQUIP THE STUDENTS WITH RELATED SKILLS. THERE ARE SEVERAL THEORETICAL APPROACHES WHICH GIVE INSIGHT ABOUT SEVERAL METHODS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN A STRUCTURED MANNER**

of unstructured data available at disposal. Using this data can help in understanding the root cause of many issues that the organisation are grappling. Analysis of this data and correlating it with the problems can bring a different perspective to the organisations. If this skill is imparted to a management graduate, then, their employability quotient would increase by many folds.

Many managers go with their gut feeling when they face a problem which needs an immediate solution. Whenever one depends only on the gut, then the answer might go wrong in the long run. Hence ability to quickly look at the available data and analyse it to get some insights can help in solving the problem in a better fashion. This is a key aspect which must be ingrained in the students while they pursue their MBA degree.

In the present VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambi-

guity) world problem-solving is in demand. It's considered the top skill for success at management consulting firms and it's increasingly desired for everyone, not just MBA graduates. A case-based curriculum that is followed by some premium B Schools in the country orients the students towards problems solving in real-time. With the internet and access to it via mobile a lot of data that is available at disposal for the graduates while they join the workforce. Hence there is no point in making the graduates cram up mundane stuff; instead, they must be made to learn on how to apply the concepts to solve real-time practical problems. By ensuring that problem-solving becomes the default in all subjects offered at the MBA level, the next generation managers will be well equipped to innovate and bring innovative solutions to perennial problems.

The writer is Director, Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**  
**A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special**  
— Nelson Mandela

**ECG TECHNOLOGY**

The Delhi Paramedical and Management Institute (DPMI) invites applications for admissions to its full time Diploma in Electrocardiogram Technology (ECG) programme.

This course provides syllabus that combines theory and practice, covering important background on the anatomy and physiology of the heart and chest, electrical conduction system of the heart and basic ECG interpretation.

**Duration:** One year  
**Eligibility:** This diploma course has been thoughtfully designed for those who have recently passed Class XII from any recognised board and wants to work in Health industry can enroll for these courses.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.dpmiindia.com](http://www.dpmiindia.com) or the application forms & brochure may be obtained from admission office of Delhi Paramedical & Management Institute, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi.  
**Last date to apply:** August 28, 2020.

**HOTEL MANAGEMENT**

Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management invites applicants for admissions to its under graduate programmes and a post graduates programmes in Hotel Management.

**Duration:** Three years for BSc; two years for MSc.  
**Eligibility:** Candidates must have passed Class XII from a recognised central/state board or from a recognised university. Selection will be based on the personal interview and for MSc in Hotel Management applicants must complete their graduation from a recognised university.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.lbihm.com](http://www.lbihm.com) or the admission forms can be obtained by filling the institute's application form and paying nominal fee of ₹400 in cash or ₹450 via demand draft in favour of



Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management (LBIIHM), payable at New Delhi.

**Last date to apply:** December 29, 2019.

**MSC PROGRAMME**

JK Business School (JKBS) invites applications for admissions to its AICTE approved PGDM programme.

**Duration:** Two years  
**Eligibility:** Graduate in any discipline from a recognised university with minimum 50 per cent score is eligible to apply for the PGDM programme. Candidates appearing in the final examination 2019 can also apply.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.jkbschool.org](http://www.jkbschool.org).  
**Last date to apply:** January 31, 2020.

**UG PROGRAMMES**

The Indian Institute of Art and Design (IIAD) in collaboration with Kingston School of Art, London invites applications for admissions to its undergraduate programmes in Fashion Design, Fashion Business Management, Communication Design and Interior Architecture & Design. It also offers post-graduate programmes in Fashion Design and Fashion Business Management.

The institute offers these programmes through its creative studio-based education and strives to groom the next generation of designers and design thinkers at its state-of-the-art campus in New Delhi.

**How to apply:** Log on to [www.iiad.edu.in](http://www.iiad.edu.in) or contact +91 98713 83633, +91 11 4138 0000.

## 'Adopt creative teaching approach'

There is need to develop innovative ways of learning for differently-abled children, says MAHJABEEN YUSUFI

Learning is the process of gaining knowledge or skill. But how do we accomplish this with children who are unable to learn in traditional ways.

Well, the answer to that is innovation! Innovative methods; titrated to the needs of each child will help optimise the learning process. Now let us look at some of the challenges encountered.

Do you remember sitting for a three-hour long movie and waiting for the interval to stretch your legs? Well, whittle that down to a 40-minute session; and you have a child who is edgy, restless and fidgety. What that child needs; is an interval. Tasks like 'erase the board', 'take a peek out the window', 'have a sip of water and join us' can be given to the child. These two-minute intermittent breaks will calm the surge of restiveness and help with sitting tolerance.

For many children rote learning has been an integral and safe tool, hence any digression into abstract territory may ruffle them. Have you tried making sense of a Jackson Pollock? I can! Making sense of abstract nuances can be a difficult task for those children



who think only in black and white.

Simple tasks like 'make a sentence' will leave them parroting back the excerpt from the lesson. Tell them 'Don't think about the table as you read it in the text, look at your table; is it big, blue, messy, wooden? Now make a sentence.'

Encourage role play where they learn to challenge and improve. Turn that abstract thinking into something concrete. 'Circle your friend like the Earth does the sun', 'Put your hand on the speaker and feel the vibration of sound'. Engage all their senses and create

a 5D learning experience.

Another area is attention. I sometimes think of that picture in picture television. Where do I focus my attention? That can be a daily reality for many children. What we need to do is tone down the learning space. No cluttered desks, no engaging in intrusive and tangent talk. Train the child to build tolerance by waiting for a stipulated time at the end of each class for expression and dialogue.

You may also encounter impulsive and sometimes destructive behaviour. Can you imagine having to dodge a projectile in

class while teaching because the child was not happy with a B. A behaviour modification chart will go a long way to repair unfitting behaviour. Being firm with bad behaviour is just as important as rewarding good behaviour. A rewards chart with takeaways like 'you can wear coloured clothes once you collect your stars', 'library privileges card' will help motivate appropriate behaviour.

Adopt a creative approach. Reverse roles in class, as a teacher you hand in your work and ask them to correct it. Let them hold the reins for a while scanning through your flawed work. This is not only an excellent tool for revision but it humanises the authority figure and shows the children that adults too make mistakes.

At the end of the day you need to respect every child. Steer clear of discrediting syntax. They might not understand semantics but they are fluent in body language. A simple pat on the back will show them that you care.

The writer is Teacher, The Aditya Birla Integrated School

## Digital Delhi Conclave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIIT-Delhi) organised the inaugural, day-long Digital Delhi Conclave on the topic of IT and Health for all at its campus. The event saw the participation from a cross-section of IT and health related specialists from the academic, industry and the civil society related to the theme of sustainable development and health in Delhi. Participants included doctors and media researchers from various institutions such as AIIMS, WISH foundation, DBT/Wellcome Trust India as well as representatives from the field of media and health sector including Save the Children, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The idea behind the conclave was to create a public platform to discuss the evolution of information technology and its implications for sustainable development of the national capital region. "As an institution recognised for its cutting-edge research and teaching in information technology, we are very well placed to initiate the discussion on how the rise of information technology can play a role in the sustainable development of Delhi and the NCR region. Moreover, as a public institution, located in the heart of this bustling India's largest metropolis, we see our role as an agenda-setter for issues of AI and IT and how they relate to the key sustainable development goals (SDGs) for our shared future," said Dr Aasim Khan, Assistant Professor (SSH), IIIT-Delhi and the convener for the event.

The event kicked off with a conclave debate on the topic of IT and future of healthcare, where student teams debated some of the most significant questions relating to social and data challenges facing India's healthcare sector. This was followed by a workshop on scientific communication which participation from both within and beyond IIIT-Delhi. The latter part of the conclave saw thought leaders, scientists, innovators, social scientists and science communicators engage in a lively discussion including on the theme of big data and the potential to revive our health sector through partnerships across silos.

## Go for right date



The date on which a business should be launched or *mahuratis* to be done, should be decided on the basis of the personal year number of the person as well his destiny number.

The date which we fix should vibrate harmoniously with both personal year number (actual age of a person on that date) and the destiny number (the total of date + month + year).

For example, a person's name is Raj Kumar. He wants to launch his business on December 15, 2019. His date of birth is May 15, 1990. To find his personal year, subtract the date of birth from the date of launching of business. In this case, it will be 15.12.2019 — 15.05.1990 = 29+.

So, this person will be running in the 30th year and shall continue till his next birthday. Therefore, personal year will be, 30=3+0=3.

Psychic Number (date of the birth), 15=1+5=6  
Destiny number (date + month + year) = 1+5+5+1+9+9+0=30=3+0=3  
So, we have to see the



J.C. CHAUDHRY

relationship of destiny number (3) with personal year number (3).

As they are in harmony with each other so this date can be fixed for launch of business and will prove as a good date.

If the date is not harmonious then, some other date can be fixed.

Each number vibrates with different frequency.

The writer is a renowned entrepreneur, motivational speaker and numerologist

## Leadership change in Cambridge University Press

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ratnesh Jha, the Managing Director of Cambridge University Press India and South Asia, is standing down to pursue other career opportunities.

During his six years with Cambridge, Ratnesh has played an important role in the Press's success in India, developing innovative publishing and digital solutions, responding to changing needs from teachers and learners, putting in place a team which has generated strong growth, and laying the foundations for further expansion.

Managing Director for the Press's Education Group, Rod Smith, said: "Ratnesh has helped build Cambridge's profile with Government, industry bodies and school

chains and under his leadership our teams have had a powerful and positive impact on education in this region."

Govindan Talian Veedu will take over the role from Ratnesh. Govindan will move from his current post as the Press's Regional Director for English and Education in the Asean region and North East Asia, where he has built an impressive track-record in driving sustained growth, building effective teams and long-lasting relationships with customers.

Chief Executive of Cambridge University Press, Peter Phillips said: "Ratnesh has been a huge asset to the Press in India and South Asia. While we're sorry he's moving on, we wish him success in his future career."

## 12th convocation at IMS

The 12th convocation of the IMS Engineering College on the National Highway was completed with grandeur. In which titles and certificates were distributed to 840 students — graduates and undergraduates. The convocation was inaugurated jointly by the chief guest Dr Omkar Rai, Professor Vinay Kumar Pathak, IMS College Society's Rakesh Chharia by lighting the wreath and lamp on Maa Saraswati.

Significantly, in his address Professor Mukherjee, Director of IMS College, presented the



Dignitaries present at the event

brilliant placement in the International Outreach Programme, Culture of Innovation, among the major achievements of the college in his

address, mainly awarding degrees to 840 students. Eight students were awarded various medals and cash prizes.

During this, Chief Guest Dr Onkar Singh said that India is in a phase of IT revolution after Green and White Revolution. Experienced entrepreneurs, efficient youth power, the government has developed an eco system which can revolutionise IT with entrepreneurship and start-up. Today's young generation and startups can achieve very good status and can take the country to some level.

## Academic excellence award for Ryan

The Ryan International Group of Institutions was awarded the Most Promising School with Academic Excellence Awards at the Indo Arab Leaders Summit and Awards 2019 in Dubai. The award was given by Market Research Company, Worldwide Achiever for outstanding contributions in the field of education. Ryan Pinto, CEO of Ryan International Group of Institutions received the award.

On this occasion, HE Dr Mohammad Saeed Al-Kindi (Former Minister, Environment and Water,

United Arab Emirates), Vipul (Consul General of India, Dubai) and Asian Games Gold medalist wrestler Padma Shri Bajrang Punia were present as the chief guests.

While addressing the audience Vipul said: "Technology has become a part of our life. Through these investments, both countries can be beneficial for each other. Technology is evolving in the field of teaching as well, online learning apps are the best example of it. Nowadays, students are also taking the help of technology for studying."

# Gunners end barren run

Arsenal relieved as worst winless streak since 1977 ends at West Ham



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, front right, celebrates after scoring his side's third goal during the match.

AFP ■ LONDON

Arsenal caretaker manager Freddie Ljungberg believes a weight has been lifted off his players' shoulders after a three-goal blitz in nine second-half minutes beat West Ham 3-1 on Monday to end the Gunners' worst winless run in 42 years.

Another miserable night for the Swede seemed in store when the visitors trailed at half-time to Angelo Ogbonna's deflected header.

However, Arsenal suddenly sparked into life after Gabriel

Martinelli scored his first Premier League goal as Nicolas Pepe finally started to deliver on his club record £72 million fee by curling home a brilliant second, before crossing for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang to secure all three points.

"It means so much for the players. They have been living under enormous pressure and you see it in their performances," said Ljungberg.

"You can see the players have been a bit low and you see in the dressing room the relief and how happy they are."

A first win in 10 games in all

competitions lifts Arsenal up to ninth and cuts the gap on fourth-placed Chelsea to seven points in the battle for Champions League qualification next season.

Ljungberg reacted to taking just one point from his opening two games in temporary charge against lowly Norwich and Brighton by making five changes with Martinelli and Pepe among those coming into the side.

Pepe's inability to make an impact has been one of the major reasons for Arsenal's struggles, but the Ivorian looked a new player after

curling home his first Premier League goal from open play 24 minutes from time.

"Nicolas is an amazing football player, but it is not easy to come from the French league into the Premier League and adjust straight away," added Ljungberg.

"It was an amazing goal and he'll get better and better."

## 'WEST HAM 'DOMINATED FOR 60 MINUTES'

Not much had improved in Ljungberg's first two games since replacing the sacked Unai Emery

and it was the same tame and lifeless Arsenal for the first hour against a West Ham side that have won just once in their last 11 games.

"I think we dominated the game for 60 minutes and after that in 10 minutes we lose the game," said West Ham manager Manuel Pellegrini, who is under increasing pressure as his side sit just one point above the relegation zone.

Another home defeat means the Hammers have taken just one point from their last five games at the London Stadium and the home side were booed off at full-time.

"You understand the boos because the last five games we played here we didn't win," added Pellegrini. "You cannot concede three goals in every game."

In a first half of precious little good football it was fitting the opener arrived in scrappy fashion as Ogbonna's attempted header came off his shoulder and deflected off Martinelli to wrong-foot Bernd Leno in the Arsenal goal.

But one moment changed the course of the game when Sead Kolasinac burst down the left and crossed low for Martinelli to slot home his eighth goal of the season after impressing in the League Cup and Europa League.

Suddenly the confidence which Emery and Ljungberg bemoaned had drained away from their players in recent times was restored, none more so than in Pepe, who cut inside onto his favoured left foot and curled into the top corner.

Pepe then turned provider for Aubameyang to slide in for his 13th goal of the campaign.

"At half-time, Freddie told us to play with a higher tempo," said Aubameyang.

"We have the quality in the squad, and if we believe in ourselves, we can go forward and win games. We will take this second half as an example for the rest of the season."

# Sindhu ready to defend Tour Finals crown



PV Sindhu in action during match. BWF

PTI ■ GUANGZHOU

Enduring a rough patch since reclaiming the world championship gold, ace Indian shuttler P V Sindhu would be eager to turnaround her fortunes when she begins her title defence at the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals here on Wednesday.

Sindhu registered her career's biggest triumph at the World Championship in Basel, Switzerland in August, but since then the Indian looked awfully out of form.

The Olympic Silver medalist, who had reached the finals of Indonesia Open Super 750 tournament in July, made two first-round exits at Korea Open and Fuzhou China Open and went down in the second round in three events — China Open Super 1000, Denmark Open Super 750 and Hong Kong Open Super 500.

Her only quarterfinal finish was at the USD 750,000 French Open.

Only the top 8 on the BWF

Race to Guangzhou Rankings qualifies for the World Tour Finals and Sindhu ended the year at the 15th spot but still made it to the women's singles field by virtue of being the world champion.

Despite the recent dip in form, all eyes will be on Sindhu as she has the reputation of producing her best in major events. The Indian had taken a break after the Hong Kong Open to be in the best shape for the World Finals, where she has twice reached the summit clash in 2017 and 2018.

This time, Sindhu has been placed in group A alongside Chinese duo of Chen Yu Fei and He Bing Jiao and Japan's Akane Yamaguchi, while Group B consists of the rest four shuttlers — Taiwanese Tai Tzu Ying, Thai duo of Ratchanok Intanon and Busanan Ongbamrunphan and Japan's Nozomi Okuhara.

Sindhu will open her campaign against Akane Yamaguchi, who has claimed two titles at Indonesia and Japan before a hip problem saw her make four straight first round exits.

However, the Japanese showed signs of regaining her form with semifinal finishes at French Open, Hong Kong Open and Korea Masters.

The world no 6 Indian has a healthy 10-6 head-to-head record against Yamaguchi but she lost to the Japanese in the last two meetings.

Against Chen Yu Fei too, Sindhu enjoys a 6-3 record but the Chinese has been in rampaging form this season, having won all six of her finals, including the All England Championships.

Sindhu, however, lost nine times to He Bing Jiao with four of them coming in their last four encounters.

The Chinese won the Korea Open, besides finishing runner-ups at India Open and Badminton Asia Championships.

# India end SAG on top

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

India ended its South Asian Games campaign with a best-ever medal haul of 312, continuing its undisputed domination in the regional multi-sporting event by finishing on top for the 13th time in a row here on Tuesday.

India collected 174 Gold, 93 Silver and 45 Bronze after ten days of competitions in the 13th edition to surpass the 309 (189 Gold, 90 Silver and 30 Bronze) it had won in the previous edition in Guwahati and Shillong in 2016.

But the number of Gold India won this time was 15 less than the 2016 edition. India had sent 487 athletes in this edition.

The 2016 edition, however, had 263 medal events and a total of 789 medals on offer while this edition has 338 medal events and 1014 total medals.

Hosts Nepal stood a distant second with 206 medals (51 Gold, 60 Silver and 95 Bronze) while Sri Lanka was third with 251 medals (40 Gold, 83 Silver and 128 Bronze).

India has topped the medal tally of every South Asian Games since its inception in 1984.

On the concluding day on Tuesday, India added 18 medals (15 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze) with the boxers fetching six Gold and 1 Silver.

Indian cagers also fetched both the men's and women's basketball Gold by defeating Sri Lanka (101-62) and hosts Nepal (127-46) in their respective summit clashes.

In squash, India won a Gold and a Silver in the women's and men's team events respectively.

The day belonged to the Indian boxers who brought home a rich haul of 12 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze.

Reigning Commonwealth Games Gold medallist Vikas Krishan (men's 69kg) and 2014 Commonwealth Games Bronze medallist Pinki Rani (women's 51kg) guided India to six more Gold medals.

From among men, Sparsh Kumar (52kg), Narendra (+91kg) were the other boxers who bagged the yellow metal while Sonia Lather (57kg) and Manju Baboriya (64kg) contributed to India's Gold medal tally among women.

All the women boxers in action won a gold. Former World Championships Silver medallist Sonia Lather (57kg) hardly broke a sweat and easily dominated her final bout against Sri Lanka's Krismi Ayoma Dulanj Lankapurayalage 5-0 to finish on the top podium.

# Consecutive WCs in India makes sense: FIH CEO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The decision to award hosting rights of the men's hockey World Cup to India for the second consecutive time in 2023 was purely based on merit, world body (FIH) CEO Thierry Weil said on Tuesday.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) CEO Thierry Weil said that the decision of giving it to India instead of Malaysia, completely makes sense, considering the financial viability of the sport in a country like India.

"I am coming from another sport which is football, where whenever we organised a World Cup, we have been extremely criticised to have created white elephants," Weil said in a tele-conference with Indian journalists from Lausanne.

"So, in that sense I am extremely happy that we as a sport have decided to re-use venue like Bhubaneswar for the second time because there was a lot of effort and investment went in to build this venue, which currently to my knowledge is the best venue we have," he said.

India will, thus, become the first country to stage four men's Hockey World Cups after having hosted the showpiece in 1982 (Mumbai), 2010 (New Delhi) and 2018 (Bhubaneswar). The Netherlands had hosted three men's tournaments.



Indian players celebrate after end of India's campaign in Olympic qualifiers. HI/Twitter

"The bid was an open one. There were quite a lot of good bidders, including Malaysia. Actually it was decided taking into factor India's commercial relevance and high financial contribution. FIH needs financial revenues. India did an extremely good job of putting everything on table," Weil said.

"Some of the countries that bid didn't have infrastructure and needed huge investments. We made the decisions which make complete sense and completely viable for our sport."

Weil said FIH needs revenue to keep its flagship event, the Pro League lasting for a long time and India's introduction in the second edition of the league will be big plus for the sport.

"Having a country like India in the sport makes a huge difference to be honest because with the size and population of the country and with the hockey lovers in India, it's definitely a big plus."

"But we know we have to increase hockey around the world, we need to do more development and more development you need more revenue and the way to generate revenue is to have a country like India a part of the sport," he said.

FIH CEO believes that Pro League will help them sell the product showcasing best of hockey from top teams.

"I am convinced that the major purpose of the Pro League is to have more home games and showcasing

the best of hockey against two top teams.

"I totally believe and it is the mission of the FIH along with participating nations is to sell this product and make people understand it's not just another friendly game but the result of this game can lead a team to be the best team in a year, next to Olympics."

India will make its debut in the Pro League against the Netherlands at Bhubaneswar in January next year.

The FIH CEO also informed their plans of introducing quite a few changes from the second edition of the Pro League, including abolishing the year-end grand finale and also introducing relegation system in future.

"We have done two things. First of all not just because of the Olympics we changed the number of travels but also for the welfare of the players. We have also decided to not have a grand finale at the end of the season and shorten the league."

"This has been done for two reasons - one is to give the national teams 6 to 8 weeks to prepare for the Olympics. But I myself feel there is no better way to prepare than play at the Pro League 6 months ahead of the Olympics," Weil said.

"We should stick to the league system where at the end of the season the team which has collected most points will win the league," Weil said.

# Baby piles on Delhi's miseries

PTI ■ THUMBAA (KERALA)

Skipper Sachin Baby grinded a listless Delhi attack to hit 155 as Kerala gained complete control, first by posting a mammoth 525 for 9 and then removing the two opposition openers here on the second day of their Ranji Trophy group A campaign.

Left-hander Baby, carried on the good work done on the opening day by centurion Robin Uthappa and Ponnann Rahul (97), as his 274-ball knock had 13 hits to the fence.

His innings was the primary reason that Kerala went past the 500-run mark as a tired Delhi side lost both its openers - Anuj Rawat cleaned by off-spinner Jalaj Saxena and Kunal Chandela (1) edging one to Mohammed Azharuddeen behind stumps



Puducherry left-arm spinner Sagar P Updesh. PTI

off pacer Sandeep Warrier. Skipper Dhruv Shorey and his deputy Nitish Rana were at the crease and the only other specialist batsman on the side is left-handed Jonty Sidhu.

Delhi will first look at a score of 376 to avoid follow-on and take it from there. However it looks an uphill task at the moment in the manner the match has panned out so far.

After looking pedestrian on opening day, Delhi bowling seemed to have found its mojo back for a brief period when Vishnu Vinod (5) and Azhar (15) were dismissed in quick succession reducing Kerala to 310 for 5.

Just when it seemed Delhi would do well to restrict the hosts under 375, Baby and Salman Nizar (77 off 144 balls) added 156 runs at a decent pace to gain the momentum.

Delhi's specialist — debutant leg-break bowler Tejas Baroka (3/128 in 30 overs), offie Shivam Sharma (2/112 in 34 overs) and orthodox slow left-arm Vikas Mishra (1/107 in 34 overs) had the ignominy of conceding 100 runs each.

Baby had 13 hits to the fence while Nizar hit nine fours and two sixes.

Once Nizar was out, Baby shielded the tail beautifully as another 31 invaluable runs were added with Karaparambil Monish (9) which took the score closer to 500.



Robert Lewandowski celebrates after scoring against Tottenham. AP/File Picture

# Bayern look for home comforts Bundesliga giants will aim to create history as Spurs braced for revenge

AFP ■ MUNICH

Bayern Munich are already through to the Champions League last 16 as group winners, but interim coach Hansi Flick wants his side to beat Tottenham today to boost their confidence after back-to-back defeats.

"We need a win in front of our fans and we want to show them a good performance. That's why tomorrow is an important step for us," said Flick, who has been put in charge as caretaker coach until January.

If Bayern beat Jose Mourinho's Tottenham they will become the first German club to win all six Champions League

group-stage matches.

"We'll try all we can to win at home," said Flick, who ruled out resting any of his stars despite the game being a dead rubber with Spurs guaranteed to finish second in Group B behind Bayern. "We're going in the right direction, but we have to be critical with ourselves."

"We haven't made the most of our chances in the last two games."

Flick confirmed French midfielder Corentin Tolisso will miss the game with injury.

While despite scoring 27 goals in 22 games so far this season, Poland striker Robert Lewandowski has failed to score in his last two matches.

# Mulani shines as Mumbai on verge of taking innings lead

PTI ■ VADODARA

Domestic giants Mumbai are on the cusp of getting a first-innings lead after reducing Baroda to 301/9 despite a valiant unbeaten 100 by their opener Kedar Devdhar.

Resuming on their overnight score of 362/8, Mumbai added 69 runs to their tally, as their innings folded up at 431.

For Mumbai, spinner Shams Mulani shone with both the bat and ball, as his 89 helped them cross the 400-run mark.

Mulani, who was unbeaten on 56, added 33 runs to his score and eventually fell at 89.

He hammered 11 fours and two sixes in his 141-ball knock.

Mulani played responsibly with the tail-enders Shashank Attarde (22) and Tushar Deshpande (18 not out), and was the last man to be dismissed, as he missed what could have been a terrific 100.

For Baroda, opener Kedar Devdhar (154 not out) staged a lone battle as Mulani (5-99) ran through their batting line up.

Devdhar was the cynosure of eyes at the Reliance Stadium here, as he took the Mumbai attack to cleaners on the second day of the four-day game.

Devdhar has struck 20 fours and a six in his 184-ball stay at the crease so far.

It will be an uphill task for Baroda if they want to go past Mumbai's first innings total.

Devdhar got support only from Vishnu Solanki (48) at the top, as the other opener Aditya Waghmode (2), Deepak Hooda (24), skipper Krunal Pandya (1) and Yusuf Pathan (2) fell cheaply.

Wicket-keeper Viraj Bhosale (27) played his part as he supported Devdhar, but the stumper failed to convert his start.

Once the ninth wicket fell, Baby decided to declare, rightfully denying Delhi's shoddy bowling attack of getting the opposition all-out.

PTI ■ MUMBAI

# SERIES DECIDER

## India face Windies in winner-takes-it-all contest at Wankhede

India will have to address the many inadequacies laid bare by a resolute West Indies in the second T20 International when the two teams made up of power-hitters square off in what promises to be an enthralling series-finale here today.

The rubber is locked 1-1 after two-time world champions West Indies turned on the style in the second T20 International in Thiruvananthapuram following a Virat Kohli special in the lung-opener in Hyderabad.

For India, the focus will once again be on young guns like off-spinner Washington Sundar and under-fire wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant.

The spotlight on Pant, especially, has been obsessive and it is expected to be no different when the team takes the field at the Wankhede Stadium.

As for Sundar, it would be interesting to see whether the team management persists with him or gives chinaman bowler Kuldeep Yadav a game.

Sundar has taken only three wickets in the last five T20s that he has played (two against West Indies and three against Bangladesh) and leaked 144 runs in 23 overs that he bowled.

He also ended up wicket-less in the two T20 Internationals against South Africa.

Sundar's fielding is another aspect about which skipper Virat Kohli would be worried. In the last game, he dropped a sitter for Lendl Simmons, whose 45-ball 67 laid the foundation of the West Indies' eight-wicket triumph.

Kuldeep last played a T20 against New Zealand in Hamilton back in February. He warmed the benches in the first two games.

For Pant also things are only getting tougher. The focus on him has been unrelenting and it won't be easy for him to regain the early form that made him seem like Mahendra Singh Dhoni's heir apparent.

Coming in at No.4, Pant made scores of 33 not out, 18, 6, 27, 19, 4 in the last seven T20s that he featured in.

His last T20 fifty came against West Indies in August, in Providence. With the likes of Sanju Samson wait-



Rohit Sharma, top left, Kuldeep Yadav, right, Ravindra Jadeja, front left, Deepak Chahar, right, warmup during a training session

AP/File Picture

India vs Windies  
Live from 7:00pm IST  
STAR SPORTS 1 NETWORK

ing in the wings, Pant will have to come good sooner than later.

But in overall analysis, India's batting has never been a problem. Opener Rohit Sharma, who had a rare-twin failure, would be raring to go before his home crowd.

K L Rahul and skipper Kohli are also among the runs. Shivam Dube, who slammed his maiden T20 fifty, showed he can hit towering sixes and he would want to perform before his home crowd and so Shreyas Iyer.

However, bowling is a slight concern. A profligate pace duo of Deepak Chahar and Bhuvneshwar Kumar leaked runs in the first two matches. Chahar had a memorable series

against Bangladesh but has not managed to repeat the show this time around. With Mohammed Shami around, Chahar will have to step up.

Also, India's fielding was way below par. The dropped catches and several mis-fields prompted Kohli to say if the performance does not improve, no score would be enough.

The hosts are also good chase-masters but will need to learn how to defend targets.

On the other hand, West Indies will also fancy their chances to clinch the series after the terrific comeback.

Their top-order batsmen, particularly Simmons, are in splendid form. Also the likes of Evin Lewis, Nicholas

Pooran and Shimron Hetmyer are among the runs and they will look to continue the form.

Add to it, the firepower of Brandon King, Jason Holder and skipper Kieron Pollard, the West Indies can look unbeatable on their day.

Even their bowlers, including pacer Sheldon Cottrell, are among the wickets. Along with Cottrell, Kesrick Williams, leg-spinner Hayden Walsh Jr and Holder, will have to bowl in the right areas to stem the flow of runs.

The West Indies also have fond memories of playing T20s at the Wankhede as in the 2016 ICC World Cup semi-final, they defeated India and went on to win the title.

### SQUADS

India: Virat Kohli (c), Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Manish Pandey, Shreyas Iyer, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Deepak Chahar, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Shami, Sanju Samson.

West Indies: Kieron Pollard (captain), Fabian Allen, Brandon King, Denesh Ramdin, Sheldon Cottrell, Evin Lewis, Sherfane Rutherford, Shimron Hetmyer, Khary Pierre, Lendl Simmons, Jason Holder, Hayden Walsh Jr, Keemo Paul, Kesrick Williams.

## 'WC is long way away, let's focus on present'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Indian team might be treating every bilateral T20 assignment as an audition for next year's World Cup but vice-captain Rohit Sharma prefers to focus on the present instead of losing sleep over a marquee event, which is still 10 months away.

India will lock horns with two-time world T20 champions in the series-deciding third match here even as the efforts to find the right combination for the marquee event continue.

"See, I don't want to keep saying that we are trying to build a squad for the (T20)World Cup. It is still a long, long way ahead. We just need to focus on winning the series and that will keep us in good state, moving forward," Rohit said on Tuesday ahead of the series-finale.

"If we keep winning games, keep doing the right things on the field, the composition of the team will take care (of itself)," Rohit added.

The stylish batsman then gave his rationale for why he wants to take one series at a time.

"We are playing against a quality team and hereafter Sri Lanka is coming, then we go to New Zealand and thereafter there are a lot of T20s to focus on. If we focus on the present, that will help us more than anything else."

"Right now, we need to see what are the mistakes we are making so that when we come out and play every fresh game, we look like a different side."

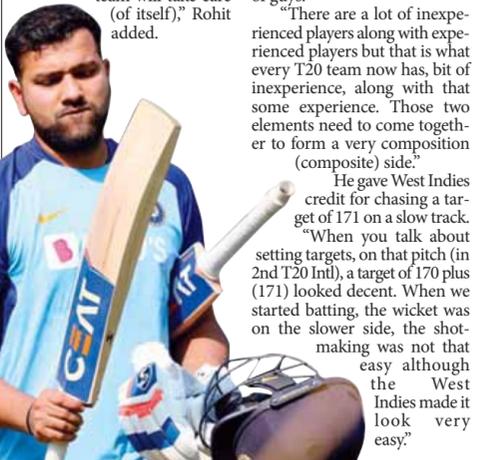
Talk about chasing, Rohit agreed that India has been better while batting second compared to defending totals as one found out in the first two games in Hyderabad (won while chasing) and Thiruvananthapuram (lost while defending).

"Yes, of late our chasing has been good compared to posting targets. It was a good target that we posted but again it's a new set of guys."

"There are a lot of inexperienced players along with experienced players but that is what every T20 team now has, bit of inexperience, along with that some experience. Those two elements need to come together to form a very composition (composite) side."

He gave West Indies credit for chasing a target of 171 on a slow track.

"When you talk about setting targets, on that pitch (in 2nd T20 Intl), a target of 170 plus (171) looked decent. When we started batting, the wicket was on the slower side, the shot-making was not that easy although the West Indies made it look very easy."



## Pollard's IPL experience will benefit WI

PTI ■ MUMBAI

West Indies coach Phil Simmons on Tuesday said the team would be banking heavily on skipper Kieron Pollard in the series-deciding third T20 International against India as his understanding of the pitch due to IPL exposure will be "invaluable" for the bowlers.

Pollard has played a lot at the Wankhede Stadium as he has been part of the Mumbai Indians IPL squad and Simmons said his experience will help the visiting bowlers.

"(Kieron) Pollard has played a lot at this venue, the others have not played that much. I think the experience which they have got from here is invaluable and especially the captain (Pollard), as he has been here for 10 years," Simmons said in the pre-match press conference here.

"He knows things inside out and that will definitely help our bowlers mainly, there are a few youngsters in this format. It will definitely help," he added.

There have been lot of dropped catches from both the sides and Simmons said there should be no excuses for fielding lapses.

"You will not win games if you drop them. The players will have to tell you if it is the lights or whether it is their execution or their position," he said.

"...I do not like excuses. I think if you drop a catch it is your fault. You can blame the lights but I think we just have to keep working hard so we do not drop any," he added.

Pollard replaced Jason Holder as the captain of the ODI team, while he replaced Carlos Brathwaite to become skipper of the T20 side and Simmons said



Pollard looks on during training

AP he has been doing well in the twin roles.

"I didn't have Jason (Holder) a lot in the ODIs when I was there (as a coach) before. Kieron (Pollard) is proactive with all the

## 'Pollard is a smart thinker'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rohit Sharma has seen a capable leader in Kieron Pollard from close quarters and believes that his longtime Mumbai Indians teammate has been responsible for a transformed West Indies side in white ball format.

Rohit termed the West Indies captain as a "smart thinker of the game."

"I know Pollard really well and he has a great knowledge about the game. I know as a leader what he would be expecting from the team. Under his leadership, it is a different team that we are seeing now, so yes, we have to be at our best when

we play them," said Rohit.

"He (Pollard) is a very smart player, smart thinker and he has been the captain of the team. When it comes to Mumbai (Indians), he has always been part of the leadership group and last year when I wasn't available for one game, he captained MI. So, he has always been part of the leadership group and I know how he thinks."

Rohit agreed that the Caribbeans are unpredictable as a side.

"They are very unpredictable as a team, you never know what they can come up with on a given day, like we saw the other day," said Rohit.

players. He lets them know exactly what he wants from them. He's been good in the

sense that they know that he'll give everything for the team," Simmons said.

World Cup but the enigmatic former captain would "never impose himself" on the team.

In a soon-to-be-telecast interview on 'India Today' channel, Shastri was asked

about the much-specified future of Dhoni, who has been on a sabbatical ever since India's semifinal exit from the ODI World Cup in England earlier this year.

"That (Dhoni) guy is a legend. The last thing he will want is to impose himself on an Indian team, having known him."

He is wanting to take a break but he is going to play the IPL," Shastri said on the show 'The Inspiration'.

Asked if he isn't ruling out a comeback by the 38-year-old, Shastri answered, "The amount of sport he has played... If he puts himself in contention... If he feels after the IPL that 'I am good enough to play for India, don't mess around with that.'"

Dhoni, after maintaining a stoic silence on his future plans for months, had recently stated that, "Don't ask anything till January."

## Don't mess with Mahi



Ravi Shastri and Mahendra Singh Dhoni in a file picture

AFP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India coach Ravi Shastri says none can "mess around with" Mahendra Singh Dhoni if he decides to be in contention for next year's T20

World Cup but the enigmatic former captain would "never impose himself" on the team.

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## It's an emotional moment: Azhar on return of Test cricket to Pak



Pakistan skipper Azhar Ali with his Sri Lankan counterpart Dimuth Karunaratne pose with trophy before start of Test series

PTI ■ RAWALPINDI

The return of Test cricket to Pakistani soil is an emotional occasion, captain Azhar Ali said on Tuesday but that will not come in the way of his team's efforts to make amends for a disastrous tour of Australia.

Pakistani players will play Test cricket at home after a gap

of 10 years when they take on Sri Lanka in a two-Test series starting here today.

"All the players are very emotional about this Test series. It is great to be back to our home grounds and I just hope that Test cricket returns regularly to Pakistan now," Azhar told a media conference.

Azhar also conceded that the series is a make-or-break situation for his team it has not been playing well in Test cricket for some time now. Pakistan lost 0-2 to Australia.

"It is unacceptable the way we lost in Australia. The last two series in South Africa and Australia have been tough for

### No more int'l cricket at neutral venues

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan will no longer look for neutral venues to stage home international cricket matches.

"The onus will be on the other teams to tell us why they can't play in Pakistan," Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Ehsan Mani told the Associated Press on Tuesday.

"Our default position will remain that Pakistan is safe. We play cricket in Pakistan (and if) you want to play against Pakistan you have to come to Pakistan."

"It's only logical that cricket comes home," Mani said.

We know how important this series is.

"We need to turn to reverse our results and get back on the winning track as there is a lot of pride in Pakistan cricket and we need to win back the confidence of the fans," he said.

The under-pressure Pakistan skipper also made it clear that Sri Lanka would be a tough side to beat even in home conditions.

"Sri Lanka has always been a tough team because they play disciplined cricket. We also have to play disciplined cricket in every department. Test cricket demands disciplined cricket. You can't win a test in one session but you can lose a test in one session. So one has

### PCB invite CA for Test series

PTI ■ KARACHI

The Pakistan Cricket Board is trying to convince Cricket Australia to send its national team for a Test series in Pakistan in 2022, according to its CEO Wasim Khan.

"Cricket Australia has agreed in principle to play three Tests in Pakistan's home series. Obviously, we are doing everything to ensure Australia agrees to play in Pakistan in 2022 and it is an ongoing process," Khan told reporters.

He added that under the new Future Tours Program, whenever Pakistan and Australia play a bilateral series it will include three Tests.

Australia has not toured Pakistan since 1998, forcing the 1992 World Cup champions to conduct their home series' at neutral venues, including Sri Lanka, England, and UAE.

to be disciplined to beat Sri Lanka at home or away," he said.

"We have to rely on our bowling attack. Yasir Shah didn't do well in Australia but he has won many matches and I think he will return to his old self in this series. We have confidence in our attack and we are backing them," he added.

There is a forecast of rain here on the second and third days of the match.

Azhar said one can't say for certain how much time is required to rebuild the team.

"We have never kept patience and we don't give the rebuilding process time. I think these players have a lot of potential and they will soon come out of their comfort zone once they play under different conditions. We have to keep patience instead of calling for changes," he asserted.

Mickey's presence is big advantage: Karunaratne



Micky Arthur explains some batting techniques to Niroshan Dickwella

AP

## Mickey's presence is big advantage: Karunaratne

PTI ■ RAWALPINDI

Sri Lankan Test skipper Dimuth Karunaratne feels the presence of former Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur in their camp will be a "big advantage" when his side take on Azhar Ali's men.

"Mickey is with us and previously he was the coach of the Pakistan team as well so it is a positive thing for us that he knows the Pakistan team very closely and that has given us a lot of confidence for this series," he said on the eve of the match.

However, the skipper said the onus will be on the his players to execute plans properly.

"His presence is a big advantage to us as he knows each and every player very closely. How they think. How they prepare.

But we have to do things right in the middle and implement our plans properly."

"Our bowlers have to bowl in the right areas to every batsman and we have to also apply ourselves in batting and fielding. Pakistan has never been an easy side to beat at home. The good thing is we know their game well having played regularly against them in gome or UAE," he said.

He added that playing in Pakistan for the first time serves as a motivation for him to do well in the series.

"I am in Pakistan for the first time and that is also a motivation for me to do well as I have played against them at home and in UAE. But this will be a different experience for me and most of our guys who are playing here for the first time," he said.