

LANDMARK 5 INDIA, CHINA AGREE TO MAINTAIN PEACE  
WORLD 7 ICC TO PROBE 'WAR CRIMES' IN PALESTINIAN AREAS  
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LUCKNOW, SUNDAY DECEMBER 22, 2019; PAGES 12-4 ₹3



# sunday pioneer

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**USUALSUSPECTS**  
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

## Bottled up feeling triggered CAA stir

The term 'tyranny of distance' has come to define what is peddled as news, what is regarded as important and what is relegated to a footnote. In simple terms, it means that happenings in the metros — and more specifically, Delhi — is accorded exceptional treatment while those in the hinterland gets pushed to the margins. There is also a regional bias: North India and the Hindi belt gets more attention than the rest of the country. For example, the quantum of coverage of elections in Uttar Pradesh and, maybe, Bihar is disproportionate.

This particular feature of what is disseminated as news and what determines the hierarchy of news has a large bearing on how the recent wave of protests against the changes in the Citizenship Act and a yet-to-be-defined National Register of Citizens is being perceived.

Chronology may serve as an important guide. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill cleared its final parliamentary hurdle on the evening of December 11, 2019. Even while the debate was underway in Parliament there were protests against the CAB in different parts of Assam and the North-East. Although the protests were by and large peaceful, they were also anticipated. Even during the sittings of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the CAB in 2018, the most vocal opposition to the measure had come from civil society groups in Assam, Meghalaya and even Arunachal Pradesh. Their concerns centred broadly on two themes: The reality of demographic change triggered by the influx from East Pakistan/Bangladesh and concerns over the cultural and linguistic identities of the region. Many of these concerns were addressed by the exemptions to the CAB in the modified legislation passed by Parliament. However, some misgivings persisted although the attempts by some radical leaders to exploit these to created civil unrest were firmly nipped in the bud. Today, Assam and the North-East are gradually returning to normal. Last week there was even a large pro-CAB rally in Assam organised by Assam's Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma.

## Triple talaq, Article 370, apex court verdict for construction of Ram temple among other issues have triggered this explosion

However, the protests took a very different turn on December 13 when the epicentre shifted to West Bengal. There are suggestions that this wave of protests were either instigated or organised by the Trinamool Congress. However, even if it is conceded that the role of the TMC was tangential and the protests were either spontaneous or stemmed from community organisations, some features were clear. Beginning from December 13 when crowds blocked the streets in and around Kolkata after the Friday prayers, the protests became large Muslim in character. This was also the pattern on the next two days when mobs in the districts vandalised railway property and burnt more than a dozen buses plying on the highways. The police response to the attacks was either feeble or non-existent and it was soon clear that the TMC had little control over the crowds. Anecdotal evidence suggests that a large part of the crowds that engaged in vandalism was made up of Muslims who had settled in the areas over the past two decades.

Whether the protests in West Bengal was the trigger for the next round of protests in Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia and the Aligarh Muslim University is still uncertain. My guess is that the same networks that operated in West Bengal got to work in these two institutions that are predominantly Muslim in character. However, while the administration in West Bengal chose to not confront the protesters, the Delhi Police went overboard and probably overdid things, quite impervious to the fact that everything gets filmed these days and is disproportionately covered by the media. That being the case, the police action in Jamia became the focus for a larger mobilisation that now included liberals, Left radicals and sundry others looking for a stick to beat the Government with.

This shift is important to note. What began as a Muslim protest and still remains essentially a Muslim protest against its growing political irrelevance under the Narendra Modi dispensation was embellished by the inclusion of all those who were smarting from the devastating defeat in the general elections of 2019. It is interesting to note that the notables and media activists who have taken the lead in fanning the flames and conferring respectability to a sectarian uprising are exactly those who were in the forefront of the anti-Modi campaign during the general election. There is no difference and no new social groups have been added to the protesters.

Where the liberals and Left activists are in short supply as in Kanpur, Gorakhpur and Mangalore — note, all the areas located in States where the BJP controls State Governments — the protests have been concentrated in Muslim areas. This is not to suggest that the Government's response should only be dictated by political calculations. However, it is best to also acknowledge the real nature of the protests. It is principally one community taking out its anger on a State that it is detached from emotionally and politically. It is also prudent to also recognise that the Citizenship Act changes or even the fear of a future NRC constitute the only grievance. There is a bottled up feeling inside the Muslim community over its helplessness to thwart the changes in the Muslim Personal Law after the Triple Talaq legislation, the abrogation of Kashmir's special status and the Supreme Court's sanction for the construction of the Ram temple. All these issues have come together in the past week to trigger this explosion.

How the Government proposes to tackle this volatile situation is worth a serious consideration. There are also issues centred on any future NRC that warrants rigorous exploration. However, any approach cannot ignore the grim and awkward reality of India's largest minority group having taken to the streets, expressing anger at their loss of their strategic importance in national life. This is a matter between the Government and the Muslim community; the liberals are incidental extras, those Lenin once dubbed the 'useful idiots.'

# Citizenship stir toll at 15 in UP

Police post torched in Kanpur, 57 cops receive gunshot injuries; internet curbs extended in 15 dists till Monday



A vehicle torched by protesters during a demonstration against the Citizenship Amendment Act, in Kanpur on Saturday. PTI

**PNS ■ LUCKNOW**

The death toll in continuing clashes during protests in Uttar Pradesh against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) rose to 15, including an eight-year-old, on Saturday even as violence erupted in Rampur and Kanpur. The Yogi Adityanath Government, for its part, initiated the process of identifying those guilty of damaging public property in Lucknow and tasked four Additional District Magistrates with the disposal of cases related to the losses.

UP DGP, OP Singh, reiterated that the police did not open fire anywhere in the State and claimed all deaths were due to cross-firing between the

protesters. "Women and children were used as shields by the protesters. If anyone died due to our fire we will conduct a judicial enquiry and take action. But nothing happened from our side," the DGP said. IG (Law and Order) Praveen Kumar said over 260 policemen were also injured, of whom 57 received gunshot wounds. "Since December 10, when the protests erupted in the State, 705 people have been arrested and around 4,500 persons were released after preventive arrest. Fifteen casualties have happened," he said.

Politics over the CAA, however, continued with the Trinamool Congress announcing the visit of a four-member party delegation to meet the

families of those who were killed in violence that broke out during the protest in Lucknow.

The Home Department extended internet restrictions till Monday noon in 15 districts of Lucknow, Saharanpur, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Agra, Aligarh, Bareilly, Mau, Azamgarh, Agra, Sambhal, Kanpur, Unnao, Moradabad, and Prayagraj. In 12 other districts where internet was stopped, a decision to further restrict the services would be taken by respective District Magistrates.

The bandobast and UP CM's renewed appeal for peace notwithstanding, protesters set ablaze Yatimkhana police post in Kanpur and indulged

in heavy brickbatting, leading to injuries to many people including policemen. Police used cancharge and tear gas to chase them away. Clashes were also reported from Rampur district.

Samajwadi Party MLA Amitabh Bajpai and former MLAs and SP leader Kamlesh Tewari have been arrested as a precautionary measure and their vehicles have also been seized. On the composition of protesters, the UP DGP said, "I myself saw women and young girls present during protests at Parivartan Chowk in Lucknow and asked them to go. A child died in a stampede in Varanasi where children were present with the protesters when police lathi charged them. These children do not know what citizenship is and they were present with stones."

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## Sonia, RaGa to sit on dharna at Rajghat today

New Delhi: On a day when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to address a rally in Ramliila Maidan on Sunday, the Congress will stage a silent protest (satyagrah dharna) at Rajghat against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC). Congress president Sonia Gandhi along with Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and other senior leaders will participate in the "satyagrah dharna" till the evening. **PNS**

## Rail, traffic disruption, vandalism mark Bihar Bandh called by RJD



Protesters take part in a demonstration against NRC and Citizenship Amendment Act in Patna on Saturday. PTI

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

After Uttar Pradesh, it was Bihar's turn to witness large-scale vandalism and disruption of rail and road traffic on Saturday. Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supporters blocked roads and disrupted movement of trains at different places in the State during the "Bihar Bandh" call given by it against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC). West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya were relatively peaceful.

Hundreds of RJD supporters — among whom children of not more than 10-15 years of age and some of the agitators in their underwear — could also be seen carrying bamboo sticks and party flags. The bandh supporters gathered at bus stands, railway tracks and other vantage points

in all districts of the State since the crack of dawn, unfazed by the winter fog and chilly winds. They sat down on railway tracks and blocked bus terminuses at various places to enforce the day-long bandh.

In Patna, the protesters reached Dak Bungalow "chowraha" (intersection) and blocked traffic while raising anti-Government slogans. The supporters also pelted stones at Government buses, breaking glass windows.

The protesters smashed windshields of taxis and three-wheelers and damaged cycle-rickshaws that plied on the roads in defiance of the call for the shutdown in Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur and outskirts of Patna. Schools, colleges and most government offices remained closed as it was a Saturday.

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## Support pours in for Act: Over 1K 'academics' sign statement

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**

As many as 1,100 academicians and research scholars from various universities across India and abroad as well as prominent persons released a statement in support of the amended Citizenship Act on Saturday.

The signatories to the statement include Rajya Sabha member Swapan Dasgupta, IIM Shillong Chairman Shishir Bajoria, Nalanda University Vice-Chancellor Sunaina Singh, JNU professor Ainal Hasan, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies Senior Fellow Abhijit Iyer-Mitra and journalist Kanchan Gupta.

The statement comes in the midst of countryside protests against the new citizenship law. **Turn to Page 4**

## BJP plans outreach to expose 'Opp lies'

Will contact over 3 cr families, hold rallies in every dist over next 10 days

**PNS ■ NEW DELHI**

Against the backdrop of a nationwide protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), the BJP on Saturday announced a massive public outreach to expose the "lies" spread by Opposition parties and apprise the people of the details about the legislation. The BJP will contact over 3 crore families and hold rallies in every district over the next 10 days.

The decision was taken in a meeting chaired by BJP working president JP Nadda and convened to formulate the party's strategy over the issue

amid protests in various parts of the country against the new provision in the Citizenship Act and the proposed creation of a National Register of Citizens.

Party general secretary Bhupender Yadav told reporters that the BJP within next 10 days will contact more than three crore families, organise rallies in every district and hold over 250 Press conferences across the country to inform masses about the new law.

The new law seeks to give citizenship to minorities from three neighbouring countries, who arrived in India before December 2014 due to religious persecution. He also accused Opposition parties, especially the Congress, of spreading misinformation in a bid to disturb peace across the country during recent protests which have claimed several lives.

## 27 arrested for Daryaganj, Seemapuri violence in Delhi

Capital sees many demonstrations, students protest outside Jamia

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**

The national Capital on Saturday witnessed multiple peaceful protests throughout the day. The situation in Old Delhi and Seemapuri areas which were hit by violence during protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) saw heavy deployment of security personnel in the area.

Thousands of students of Jamia Millia Islamia on Saturday staged a demonstration yet again outside the campus. The protesters were joined



Protesters hold placards as they raise slogans during a demonstration against the CAA outside Jamia Millia Islamia in New Delhi on Saturday. Ranjan Dirri / Pioneer

by women, Jamia alumni and local residents. Some protests against the CAA were also observed at India Gate, Jantar Mantar and Rajghat.

The Delhi Police also arrested 27 people in connection with the violence that took place in Daryaganj and

Seemapuri areas. Police has arrested 16 people, including Bhim Army chief Chandra Shekhar, in connection with the violence that took place in Daryaganj on Friday evening and 11 were arrested from Seemapuri. **Turn to Page 4**

## HC orders re-postmortem of 4 Hyd vet rape-murder accused

**PNS ■ HYDERABAD**

The Telangana High Court on Saturday directed the State Government to hold a re-postmortem on the bodies of the four accused who were killed in an alleged encounter on December 6 in the veterinarian's gang-rape and murder case. The HC set December 23 as the deadline for the conduct of the second autopsy and submission of the report to the Registrar General of the High Court.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice RS Chauhan and Justice A Abbashek Reddy directed Telanganas Principal Secretary,



Medical and Health Department, to request the Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi to constitute a medical team with three expert forensic specialists to conduct the second post-mortem. While it asked the State Government to video-graph the entire process, it advised the doctors to express

an independent view on the basis of the evidence collected by them.

The bodies of the four accused are currently preserved in the State-run Gandhi Hospital here as per earlier orders of the High Court, following the filing of some PILs alleging extra-judicial killing of the men and claiming it was a fake encounter among others. The medical Superintendent of Gandhi Hospital Dr Shrawan Kumar told the High Court that the dead bodies of the accused were 50 per cent decomposed and would be decomposed completely in another week's time. **Turn to Page 4**

## Rapist-killer of Ranchi's Nirbhaya gets death

**MRTIUANJAY KUMAR ■ RANCHI**

Ranchi's Nirbhaya, a 19-year-old engineering student, who was brutally raped and killed by a "serial killer" in 2016, finally got justice on Saturday as a Special Court of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) awarded death sentence to the killer Rahul Raj. The court also imposed a fine of ₹20,000 on the convict.

After escaping from investigating agencies for two and a half years, Raj was arrested by the CBI and after a 19-month of hearing, the special CBI court on Saturday sentenced him to death. The accused



Rahul Raj being taken away from a Special CBI court in Ranchi on Saturday. Vinay Murmu / Pioneer

Rahul Kumar alias Rahul Raj was produced in the court and the Judge announced his verdict in the presence of the accused. Special CBI Judge AK Mishra convicted Raj on Friday. **Turn to Page 4**

## CAPSULE

**UDDHAV WAIVES FARM LOANS OF UP TO ₹2L**  
Nagpur: The Maharashtra Govt announced a loan waiver of up to ₹2 lakh for farmers, with a cut off date of September 30, 2019.

**PM REVIEWS MINISTERS' WORK IN LAST 6 MONTHS**  
New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Saturday asked Ministers and bureaucrats to formulate various sectoral policies, including those of infrastructure and agriculture, of international standards.

**NORTH INDIA REELS UNDER COLD WAVE**  
New Delhi: Intense cold wave conditions gripped north India, including Kashmir where snowfall in the upper reaches of the valley marked the beginning of "Chillai-Kalan" — the 40-day period of harshest winter.

# CM Yogi calls on Governor

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath called on Governor Anandiben Patel on Saturday, possibly to brief her in detail about the ongoing protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

However, a government communiqué issued on Saturday evening termed the meeting as a courtesy call.

So far 16 persons have lost their lives in violent clashes over the CAA across the state. Earlier, Yogi summoned DGP OP Singh and Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Awanish Kumar Awasthi to get first hand information about the ongoing protests, before heading to meet the Governor.

On Friday night, the Chief Minister had held a high-level meeting on law and order and directed top officials to take stern action against troublemakers.

Yogi has been keeping a close tab on the situation and



has cancelled all his programmes outside Lucknow.

In a tweet, the chief minister posted, "No one indulging in violence will be spared and

every citizen will be provided security."

Earlier, Yogi made it clear to violent protesters that the government would confiscate

their properties and auction them to compensate for the losses incurred during arson and violence in several parts of the state.

# BJP to launch info campaign on changes in citizenship law

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

After three days of violent demonstrations against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens in two dozen districts of Uttar Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party announced a damage control exercise on Saturday.

Party leaders with help from Muslim religious leaders would launch an awareness campaign to counter the misinformation campaign by opposition parties and clear the confusion over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, particularly among Muslims.

BJP state president Swatantra Dev Singh met a large number of Muslim clerics and leaders of various Muslims outfits and explained that the CAA had nothing to do with citizenship of Indians, including Muslims.

Singh said that a vicious campaign had been launched by vested interests to spread confusion and create uncertainty among people.

He said the CAA was drafted after consultations and it would not impact any Indian citizen irrespective of his/her religion.

The BJP leader told Muslim leaders that the CAA was enacted by the Union government only for facilitating the process of granting citizenship to minority communities like Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Christian and Parsi, who were persecuted on religious grounds and forced to migrate to India from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

Singh appealed to Muslims to not be swayed by misleading

campaign of opposition parties as they were busy spreading confusion and misleading the community over the citizenship issue. He charged that these parties deprived Muslims of basic necessities and engaged them in flimsy issues during the last 70 years.

Urging Muslims to maintain peace, the BJP state chief said during the National Democratic Alliance government headed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 2003, former finance minister who later became prime minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, had demanded suitable amendment in the Citizenship Act for granting citizenship to Hindu refugees from Bangladesh.

He said that the same Congress was now speaking in a different tone only for narrow political ends.

After meeting the BJP leader, prominent Shia cleric Maulana Kalbe Jawwad said that there was no threat to Muslims from the CAA.

The Maulana said that in case somebody had a query or confusion, they must consult a lawyer or expert before protesting against the law.

"Only political parties will reap dividends due to the violence caused by protests against the law and Muslims will be the losers. The parties want to inflict maximum damage to Muslims so that they get the community's sympathy and support," he said.

Maulana Jawwad said that he along with several other clerics would launch an awareness campaign among the community on the new citizenship law.

# Congress takes centre stage in protest against CAA in UP

## SP, BSP missing in action

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Even as Uttar Pradesh and several other parts of the country are in turmoil over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens, two major regional players, Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party, seem to be missing in action.

Far from taking a firm stand on both issues and taking to streets to register protest, the stir by the two parties has been confined to social media and Twitter.

"Both parties seem to be in limbo ever since they parted company after the May 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Samajwadi Party announced state-wide demonstrations at district headquarters but it was more for media consumption than reaching out to people they claim to represent," said a political analyst.

The inaction of the SP and the BSP has left the Congress to try and fend off the Bharatiya Janata Party's attacks, in which the grand old party appears to be failing miserably due to discord between its senior leaders and a weak organisational base in UP.

Though the Congress has managed to occupy political centre stage at the national level in spearheading the agitation in Delhi, its presence in Uttar Pradesh has so far been negligible.

A cleric associated with an influential Islamic seminary

# BJP govt suppressing people's voice against CAA: Priyanka

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra once again targeted the Bharatiya Janata Party government on Saturday, accusing it of being dictatorial and suppressing people's voice against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also condemned the arrest of students, intellectuals, journalists and social workers across the country and termed it as a means to crush their voice. "The NRC and the CAA are against the Indian Constitution and the citizens of the country would not allow any such attack," she said.

Priyanka, who is in-charge of party affairs in Uttar Pradesh where a maximum 16 deaths have been reported during protests against the

said that Muslims of the state would most likely align with the Congress in the 2022 Assembly elections as only Congress could fight the BJP and oppose the CAA and the NRC.

"With the Babri masjid issue settled, the two regional parties are left with no emotive issues to reach out to Muslims and the NRC is beyond their territorial capability as they are



'The NRC and the CAA are against the Indian Constitution and the citizens of the country would not allow any such attack'

CAA, also appealed to the people to follow the path of non-violence and truth to protect the Constitution.

She said the Congress firmly believed on the path shown by Mahatma Gandhi in which there was no place for vandalism or violence.

Meanwhile in Lucknow, UP Congress chief Ajay Kumar 'Lallu' tried to seek an audience with Governor Anandiben Patel to submit a memorandum demanding her intervention in getting the CAA withdrawn and direction to the government to stop harassing innocent people demonstrating peacefully

confined to one state while the battle against the CAA and the NRC is going to be a long one and only the Congress is competent to lead the battle," the cleric opined.

The cleric further pointed out, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP president and Union Home Minister Amit Shah and other BJP leaders are constantly targeting the Congress, which has helped the

against the amended citizenship law.

However, Lallu failed to get appointment on Saturday.

A Congress delegation comprising Vinod Mishra, Maroof Khan, Vinod Mishra, Mukesh Singh Chauhan and other leaders also visited various hospitals of the city to enquire about those injured in the protest against the CAA and extend the party's support to them.

The delegation also demanded compensation for the families of those who died during protests against CAA across the state, including two youths in Lucknow.

latter in gaining centre stage once again."

Meanwhile, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday reiterated that his party was against the CAA and would continue to oppose the legislation.

He asked party cadres to go to the people and explain them the stand of the party against the CAA and persuade them to maintain peace and harmony.

# Roll back CAA, NRC: Mayawati

Lucknow (PNS): Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Saturday asked the Centre to give up its "stubborn stand" on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens and rollback the decisions. "Now that voices opposed to the CAA and the NRC have started coming from within the NDA (National Democratic Alliance), the Union government should give up its stubborn stand and withdraw its decisions," Mayawati tweeted in Hindi on Saturday.

"Also, it is an appeal to protesters to express their opposition in a peaceful manner," the BSP chief asserted.

In view of continued protests against the amended citizenship law, Mayawati has said that her party does not believe in vandalism and has urged party cadre to oppose the new legislation through posts/emails and by submitting memorandum.



Earlier on Wednesday, a delegation led by BSP national general secretary Satish Chandra Mishra had met President Ram Nath Kovind and urged him to get the law withdrawn and order a judicial probe into last Sunday's police action in Jamia Millia Islamia campus. The delegation alleged that the CAA was against Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.



नीलामी सूचना

27.12.2019, अपराह्न 03:00 बजे कार्यालय महानिरीक्षक निबन्धन, उ०प्र० शिविर, लखनऊ, विश्वास काम्लेक्स, विश्वास खण्ड-३, गोमतीनगर, लखनऊ निप्रयोज्य वाहन :- यू०पी० ७०-यू-१०८६ (महिन्दा जीप) नीलामी, सिक्योरिटी रू० ५,०००/- नगद/आई०पी० सिंह एण्ड सन्स

NOTICE

Be it known that in my Highschool & Intermediate Mark sheet my father name recorded as Siraj Ahmad, Full name of my father is Siraj Ahmad Khan. Both Name are one and same person. Shahrulkh Khan S/o Siraj Ahmad Khan, R/o 602/1952/26, Awadh Enclave Colony, Near Jamiatul Mominat Madrasa, Begariya, Dubagga, Kakori, Lucknow.

# 50 troublemakers identified through video footage in Gorakhpur: Police

Gorakhpur (PTI): Police on Saturday released photographs of around 50 people allegedly involved in protest against the amended citizenship law after the Juma namaz (Friday prayers) here.

The police said the troublemakers had been identified on the basis of video footage.

"Around 50 people involved in the violence have been identified through video footage and their pictures will be put up at all crossroads and major spots," Kotwali Circle Officer VP Singh told reporters here. He said whosoever would give information about them would be awarded.

"Around 30 people were detained but five to six among them have been freed. We don't want to arrest or take action against any innocent person but culprits will not be spared," he said.

"Our cyber cell are going through the video footage of

CCTV cameras and continuously identifying people, places, and houses from where stones were pelted," said Singh. He added that FIR against over 950 unknown and 26 named persons were lodged in Kotwali police station. "As many as 22 people have been arrested so far for their roles in yesterday's violence," Singh said.

Later in the evening, people near Madina Masjid area gathered outside Kotwali police station demanding release of three Muslim youths, who were picked up by police from a shop for their alleged role in the violence. This prompted shopkeepers to keep their shops closed for the day. The Jama Masjid's imam Maulana Abdul Jalil Mazahiri spoke to the senior superintendent of police, seeking to convince him that the youths were not among from the offenders. He said they would be set free if they were not involved in violence.



Police personnel conduct a flag march during the ongoing protest against Citizenship (Amendment) Act in Mathura on Saturday

# Two killed in road accident

Banda (PTI): Two youths died after being hit by a truck in Hamirpur district. Police said Rahul Sahu (22) and Ramji Misra (25) were riding on a motorcycle when they were hit by an unidentified truck on Raath turn near Kuchacha village under City Kotwali area on Friday night. Both died on the spot.

**CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION**  
1, NAWAB YUSUF ROAD, CIVIL LINES, ALLAHABAD-211001

E-Tender Notice No. : CORE/S/02195014A Date: 18.12.2019  
E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Controller of Stores, Central Organization Railway Electrification, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil lines Allahabad-211001 invites following E-TENDER:-

E-Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Earnest Money (₹)	Tender Due Date
CORE/S/02195014A	21.6/30.24MVA, 110KV/27KV, 50HZ single Phase ONAN/ONAF type Traction Power Transformer alongwith all accessories required for its commissioning as per packing list and as per RDSO's Specification No. ET/IPS/118 (10/93) with A and C slip No 1 to 11 (10/2016) or latest.	20 Nos.	₹ 33,98,400/-	15.01.2020

Note:(1) The complete information of above E-Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website i.e. <http://ireps.gov.in>. Only E-Bids shall be accepted against above Tender. The e-bids may be submitted before 11.00 hrs on tender opening date.

(2) Procurement Policy: Bulk purchase will be made only from those firms, who are approved by RDSO for the tendered item.

(3) In case of any technical difficulty, helpdesk of CRIS/New Delhi may be approached. The Telephone numbers are:- 011-24105180, 24102855, 24100746, 24671469. CONTROLLER OF STORES/CORE/ALLAHABAD FOR & ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA

PR/147/2019/ANU "Serving Customers with a Smile"

Notice Inviting e-Tender  
No.SSA/Esstt/SPL-TRG/Sikhon-Puthi/LP and UP/452/2019/10799 Date :21.12.2019

Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission (Samgra Shiksha), Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process from reputed offset printing presses having Web Offset Machine/ Sheet Offset Machine for printing and supply of Sikhon Puthi-LP and UP.

To participate in this tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II (minimum) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> by themselves.

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>, with proof of payment of non refundable tender fee of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized/Scheduled Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/- Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

Notice Inviting e-Tender  
No.SSA/Esstt/Spl.Trig/Evaluation Workbook/LP&UP/454/2019/10800 Date :21.12.2019

Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission (Samagra Shiksha), Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process from reputed Manufacturer of Exercise Book for supply of Evaluation Workbook LP and UP.

To participate in this tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II (minimum) and have to register in the portal <https://assamtenders.gov.in> by themselves.

The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website <https://assamtenders.gov.in>, with proof of payment of non refundable tender fee of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule.

Sd/- Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY** Notification No. 144/2019

**Important Notice for Rail Passenger**

It is notified for the information of the general public that the Terminal change of the following trains from Varanasi to Manduadhil will be under :-

**Terminating trains**

S. Train No.	From	To	Arr. Time at Varanasi	By. passing timing of Lohta Station	Arr. Time at Manduadhil Station	J.C.O.
1 14258	New Delhi	Varanasi	04:35	04:00	04:50	01.01.20
2 12165	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Varanasi	07:10	06:50	07:30	02.01.20
3 11107	Gwalior	Varanasi	10:50	10:27	11:05	01.01.20
4 21107	Khajuraho	Varanasi	10:50	10:27	11:05	03.01.20
5 19057	Udhana	Varanasi	01:15/01:25	--	01:40	03.01.20

**Originating trains :-**

S. Train No.	From	To	Dep. Time at Varanasi	Dep. Time ex Manduadhil Station	By Passing timing of Lohta Station	J.C.O.
1 14257	Varanasi	New Delhi	13:45	13:30	13:57	02.01.20
2 12166	Varanasi	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	20:20	20:00	20:32	03.01.20
3 11108	Varanasi	Gwalior	16:40	16:30	16:52	02.01.20
4 21108	Varanasi	Khajuraho	16:40	16:30	16:52	04.01.20
5 19058	Varanasi	Udhana	05:05/05:15	04:50	--	05.01.20

Note : 1 - Timings of remaining stations will be same. 2. Crew and Guard of NR and NCR will work upto Manduadhil in the above trains. 3. The revised number of 14257 BSB-NDLS will be 15127 and 14258 NDLS-BSB will be 15128. The revised number will be effective from 02.04.2020.

CPRO-T/65 Dy. COM/Coaching  
About any passenger amenity complaint SMS on Mob. No. 09794845955  
"Pass Level Crossings Safely"

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not own any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Lucknow only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

# Police use force to quell protest

PIIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Police on Saturday used mild force to disperse the gathering of protesters near Akbari Gate in Chowk. The protesters had gathered there to hold a demonstration against the alleged police excesses and arrest of several people on the charge of their involvement in the Thursday violence.

A large number of people, including women, assembled near Akbari Gate around 11 am to hold a demonstration against police atrocities. The protest remained peaceful till 3 pm after which the protesters started shouting anti-government slogans on seeing a police team approach them. Sources said only mild force was used to disperse the protesters to prevent the situation going out of control. There were no reports of injuries or damage to the property.



Senior police officers conducting a route march near Akbari Gate on Saturday

Pioneer

However, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kalanidhi Naithani denied using any force against the protesters and said the police only arrested those who were suspected to be involved in violence. He refused to speak on the involvement of outsiders in the December 19 violence. Police spokesman AK Dwivedi said that 88 persons were arrested till Saturday and the number could increase to over 300. Reports said senior police officers were patrolling in sensitive areas of Old City to take stock of the situation and to avert any untoward incident. Cops also maintained contacts with religious leaders in a bid to convince

them to make an appeal to people to give up violence and help the police restore peace. Director-General of Police (DGP) OP Singh, along with senior officers, held a marathon meeting at Hussainabad police outpost in the afternoon to chalk out a strategy to restore normalcy in the city at the earliest. A police spokesman said that the search operation was on till late Saturday evening to arrest the rioters. He added the night patrolling had been intensified while incharges of police stations across the state capital have also been directed to strengthen the picket

duty to bringing the normalcy, he further added and said number of arrest will likely to go up. The spokesman said that effort is made to ensure the innocent persons would not be victimized. He denied the door to door searches. The police sought cooperation of the people to restore peace.

# Sunny day respite for residents

PIIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Sunny skies brought in some relief to residents on Saturday though the chill made a comeback in the evening. The state capital recorded the maximum temperature at 20.3 degree Celsius, which was four notches below normal. The minimum temperature at 7.1 degree Celsius was a couple of notches below normal.



The chill was back in the evening on Saturday and people were seen around bonfires at various points

Pioneer

There is a forecast for dense fog and cold day conditions in isolated parts of the state while in Lucknow, shallow to moderate fog is likely in the morning with mainly clear sky later in the day. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be around 22 degree Celsius and 7 degree Celsius, respectively. Weather is likely to be dry and shallow with moderate fog expected at few places over the state. There is warning of cold day conditions and dense fog at isolated places over the state.

The state. There is warning of cold day conditions and dense fog at isolated places over the state.

**IDBI BANK POSSESSION NOTICE**

Regional Office (Central U.P.), 2nd Floor, Virendra Smriti Building, 15/54-B, Civil Lines, Kanpur-208001  
Branch Office: Katiyan Guest House Compound-1, Hakim Tola, Unnao- 209801

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-borrower/Guarantor and owner of the property	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Symbolic Possession	Description of the Property	Amount Ow'd (as mentioned in the notice w/s 13(2))
1.	Borrower: Shri Ajay Pratap Singh and Smt Satyawati Singh	16.03.2019	18.12.2019	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Plot No-F-52 (KAPS ENCLAVE), Village - Purnaini Khasra no. 962, 963 and 988 Pargana Mohaliganj and District Lucknow, Bounded: East: 9.00 mts wide road, West: Other Land, North: Plot No F-53, South: Park, together with all buildings and structure thereon and all plant and machinery attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth	Rs. 17,97,246.00 (+ as on 30.09.2018) + interest & other charges/ expenses w.e.t. 01.10.2018

Date : 22.12.2019 Place : Kanpur Authorized officer, IDBI Bank Ltd

# 18-year-old girl sets self ablaze over family dispute, dies

PIIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

An 18-year-old girl set herself afire after getting drenched in kerosene, possibly over a family dispute in Gudamba on Saturday. Hearing her shrieks, victim's mother and neighbours somehow put out the flames and rushed her to a hospital with 90 per cent burns. Later, she succumbed at the hospital.

The victim was a class VIII dropout, who was said to be suffering from acute depression. Her father is a semi-skilled worker and presently works at a construction site. At the time of the incident, he was out of town. Her mother Kamla informed the police about the incident but failed to explain as to why the girl took the extreme step.

After preliminary probe, the police said her family members spoke of a dispute in the family as the most plausible motive. On Friday night, the victim's siblings had a fight with their mother.

Investigating officer AK Gaur said a case was registered at Gudamba police station in the afternoon following a complaint lodged by the mother of the deceased.

# Oldest city church lies amid ruins

PIIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The oldest church in the city lies amid the ruins is the Residency. Historians say when officers of the British regime were posted at Lucknow, they first set up a church at Madaon, but there is no trace of it now. The next church they set up was at the Residency in Lucknow which was completely destroyed in the First War of Independence in 1857.

The buildings at the Residency which were destroyed in the mutiny could not be rebuilt because the destruction was massive.

A senior official from the Archaeological Survey of India said that many British officers who stayed in this church during the time of mutiny wrote about their memoirs, which have been documented and are extensively in the public domain.

"It was called the St Mary's Church, the Church of England. It was a gothic building constructed in 1830 and was used as a granary. However, it was later shifted because it was much exposed and there was danger from nearby buildings where the Indian soldiers were stationed," he said. The ASI official said that the

### CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN



church was the weakest point in the defence in the entire Residency and it was what really troubled Brigadier Inglis during the time of mutiny. "This building was used as a cover to build pits to receive the dead in the morning," he added. Noted Lucknow chronicler Yogesh Praveen said it remains one of the oldest churches in the state capital. "The

Britishers later built many churches in densely-populated areas for the purpose of converting people to Christianity," he said.

He pointed out that a number of these Christians then settled near what is called Sibtainabad Imambada. "Many of them used to hold their prayers in front of the Imambada and many of the descendants of these families are still living in the same compound," he pointed out. Praveen said the church which was established in Aliganj was also one of the oldest, though there are no traces. Later, the churches which came up in the city were mainly in the Cantonment area. Giving interesting details about the church at the Residency, he said there still exists a large graveyard which has some independent graves and a mass grave. "The mutineers had completely laid siege to the Residency, so much so that no food was allowed in. However, the Britishers managed to sneak out and join the forces near the Gomti river, close to what is now the Moti Mahal Lawns. They also called forces from near Machhi Bhawan at KGmu, advising to meet them at the same point and the rest is history," he said.

# I used to pedal my way to LU: Farrukh Jaffar

PIIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Well-known freedom fighter SM Jaffar and his wife Farrukh Jaffar (actress) have been former students of Lucknow University. Interestingly, while SM Jaffar was the head of students' union in 1942, Farrukh joined the university to make an earning since her husband was always in jail owing to his active participation in freedom movement campaigns. Daughter Shaheen Ahmad, who is the principal of a local school, said her father was appointed head of the students union at Lucknow University on the recommendation of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

"My father was very much influenced by the philosophies of Subhas Chandra Bose. When he was heading the students' union at Lucknow University, Dr Sarojini Naidu came to meet him in the presence. Former President Shankar Dayal Sharma was a librarian at Lucknow University at that time," she recalled. Shaheen said because her father was always moving in and out of jails and there was no proper earnings for the family, her mother joined the Lucknow University.

87-year-old Farrukh Jaffar, who is known for her work in 'Umrroo Jaan' and 'PeepLi Live', while talking about her LU stint, said she used to pedal her way to the university. "I completed BA from Lucknow University with Sociology, Urdu and Civics," she said. She added that she would pedal her way to the university while wearing a gharaara, which was in vogue in those times.

"Remember whenever the female students walked, there would be several comments from male students and whenever we used to stop and look back, they used to say 'mud mud ke na dekh mud mud ke'. Once I fell down from my bicycle in the university, but I was least concerned about whether I got hurt or not; I was more concerned that there should be no comments passed on me," she recalled. Farrukh, who also got noticed for her work in 'Swades', said she chose a career in radio and films after completing her education. SM Jaffar later joined a national daily on the insistence of his friend Feroze Gandhi. "He was disillusioned with politics in the Congress party and stuck to his career in journalism," Shaheen said.

**ALLAHABAD BANK**  
विश्वास की परम्परा A tradition of trust

STRESSED ASSET MANAGEMENT BRANCH,  
1st Floor, Main Branch Bldg, Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001, Phone No. 0522-2288988, 2287514

**NOTICE OF SALE E-AUCTION**

Notice under Section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act -2002 read with Rule 6 (2) and for Rule 8(6) and/or Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002

Auction No. ALB/ISAMBL/SARFAESI/2019-2009 Dated: 21/12/2019

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Allahabad Bank has taken constructive possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, AS IS WHATEVER THERE IS" basis for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said properties/ies. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided by the Service Provider - <https://www.allahabadbank.auctiontigger.net>. Physical Possession of properties is not available at present.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrower(s)/Proprietor/ Partners/Director(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Details of Immovable property (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of)	Dt of Demand Notice	a) Reserve Price
1.	1. M/s Rohtas Projects Limited, (Borrower) Flat No. 2, First Floor, F-50 B, Madhu Vihar Ext, Patparganj, New Delhi-110092 Through Shri Pankaj Rastogi, Corp. Office: 27/18, Raja Ram Mohan Rai Marg, Lucknow.	1. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Rooms at ground floor in block B measuring 985 sq. ft. in Rohtas Apartments construction on Khasra plot of land 114 & 115 together with proportionate undivided share in the land measuring about 28.16 sqmt. Out of total land measuring area of 6386.11 sq. mt. of Khasra plot no 114 and 115 situated at Islamnagar, Lucknow in the name of Rohtas Projects Ltd. Bounded: North : Passage, South : Pathway, East: Parking, West: Pathway.	08.05.2019	1.a) Rs. 39,60,000/-
	2. Shri Pankaj Rastogi S/o Jawahar Lal Rastogi, R/o-14/1 Madan Mohan Malviya Marg, Lucknow-226001, (Managing Director & Guarantor)	2. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Unit No LGF-09 measuring 34.75 sq. mt. on Lower Ground Floor alongwith proportionate undivided share in land measuring 21.14 sq. mt. constructed on properties bearing 27/18, 2, Faizabad Road, Lucknow at Landmark Arcade in the name of Mrs. Meeta Rastogi W/o Mr. Pankaj Rastogi. Bounded: North : Passage, South : Pathway, East: Corridor, West: Shop no 11, West: Unit No 411, East: Unit No 410B.	17.07.2019	b) Rs. 3,96,000/-
	3. Shri Piyush Rastogi (Director & Guarantor) S/o Laxmi Chand Rastogi, R/o-14/1 Madan Mohan Malviya Marg, Lucknow-226001.	3. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Unit No LGF-10 measuring 21.93 sq. mt. on Lower Ground Floor along with proportionate undivided share in land measuring 13.34 sq. mt. Situated at 27/18, 2, Faizabad Road, Lucknow at Landmark Arcade in the name of Mrs. Meeta Rastogi W/o Mr. Pankaj Rastogi. Bounded: North: Corridor, South: Soil filling, East: Corridor, West: Shop no 09.	08.05.2019	2.a) Rs. 23,00,000/-
	4. Shri Paresh Rastogi (Director & Guarantor) S/o Laxmi Chand Rastogi, R/o- Flat No. 803, Rohatas Court, Gokhley Marg Lucknow-226001	4. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Unit No LGF-10A on second floor measuring 29.27 sq. mt. super area constructed on properties bearing No 10 along with proportionate undivided share in land measuring 7.32 sq. mt., situated at Rana Pratap Marg at 'K' Trident in the name of Mr Paresh Rastogi S/o Shri Lakshmi Chandra Rastogi. Bounded: North: Unit No 411/Corridor, South: 410B /Open to sky, West: Unit No 411, East: Unit No 410B.	08.05.2019	b) Rs. 2,30,000/-
	5. Shri Deepak Rastogi (Guarantor) S/o Shri Narendra Kumar Rastogi, R/o-14/1 Jopling Road, Lucknow-226001.	5. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Flat No 304 on the third floor super area 1177 sq. ft. at Rohtas Vihar Apartment, Jopling Road, Lucknow in the name of Mrs. Rohtas Properties. Bounded: North: House of Mrs. Biswas, South : House of Mr Arun Lal, East: Jopling Road, West: Gokhley Vihar Marg.	08.05.2019	3.a) Rs. 15,50,000/-
	6. M/s Rohtas Properties, (Guarantor) 27/18 Raja Ram Mohan Rai Marg, Lucknow-226001. Regd. Office: 67, Halwasiya Market, Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001.	6. All that part & parcel of the property consisting of Unit No 304 on the third floor super area 1177 sq. ft. at Rohtas Vihar Apartment, Jopling Road, Lucknow in the name of Mrs. Rohtas Properties. Bounded: North: House of Mrs. Biswas, South : House of Mr Arun Lal, East: Jopling Road, West: Gokhley Vihar Marg.	08.05.2019	b) Rs. 1,55,000/-
	7. Smt. Neeli Rastogi (Guarantor) W/o Shri Paresh Rastogi, R/o- Flat No. 803, Rohatas Court, Gokhley Marg Lucknow-226001.			4.a) Rs. 25,80,000/-
	8. Smt. Meeta Rastogi (Guarantor) W/o Shri Pankaj Rastogi, R/o-14/1 Madan Mohan Malviya Marg, Lucknow-226001			b) Rs. 2,58,000/-
				5.a) Rs. 50,30,000/-
				b) Rs. 5,03,000/-
				c) A/c No.2178148387
				IFSC-ALLAO210062
				d) Rs. 10,00,-

Last Date & time for Submission of Process compliance Form with EMD : 13.01.2020 up to 5.00 P.M.  
Date and Time of e-Auction : On 16.01.2020 at 11.00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

For further details and Terms & Conditions, contact:  
Authorized Officer, Mr. K.K. Verma,  
Ph:0522-2288988,  
i. <https://www.allahabadbank.in>  
ii. <https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>  
iii. <https://www.allahabadbank.auctiontigger.net>

THE BORROWER(S)/GUARANTOR(S) ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED ABOUT THE SALE NOTICE UNDER THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002  
(Head Office, 2, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata-700011)

Place -Lucknow- Date :21.12.2019 Authorized Officer, Allahabad Bank

**Bank of Baroda DEMAND NOTICE**

Notice U/S 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

Whereas the Undersigned being the Authorised officer of Bank of Baroda issued Demand Notices U/S 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 to the Borrowers and Guarantors herein below mentioned, Consequent upon the dispatch of such Notices Through Post and returned back undelivered from the Guarantors/Borrowers address, Through this Publication they are hereby called upon to reply the amount within 60 Days from this date of Publication of said notice falling which the bank will take the possession of the moveable/immovable Property and will sell it through the process in exercise of powers, Conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 8 & 9 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. We further invite your attention to sub section (8) of section 13 of the said Act in terms of Which you may redeem the secured assets, if the amount of dues together with all costs, Charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is tendered by you. at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction / inviting quotations / tender / private / treaty Please notice that after publication of the notice as above, You right to Redeem the secured assets will not be available. The Borrowers / Guarantors in Particular and the public in general are hereby CAUTIONED not to deal with the moveable / immovable property and any dealing with the moveable / immovable property mentioned below will be Subject to the charge of the Bank of Baroda for the Outstanding Amount and interest thereon and charges.

Sl. no.	Name of Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Mortgage Property	Amount Dues	Date of demand Notice
<b>Branch:- Vrindavan Yojna, Lucknow</b>				
1.	M/s A M Enterprises (Prop-Sri Anees Mohammad, Haider Mirza Road, Golaganj, Lucknow, Sri Anees Mohammad S/o Mohammad Lateef R/o 418, E Block, Campbell Road, Azad Nagar, Lucknow-226003	Plot/House No 4 & 5 which are part of Khasra No 692, Salempur Patoura, Pargana-Kakori, Dist-Lucknow in the name of Sri Mohammad Rafikul Islam alias Bablu S/o Sri Maqsood Ali, Bounded- East: 15 ft wide Road, West: Others Land, North: Sellers Land, South: Sellers Land	Rs. 1170091/- + int & other charges from 01.06.2019	07.12.2019
2.	M/s Gauri Enterprises Partners: 1. Sri Pramod Kumar Srivastava 2. Smt Nupur Srivastava, R/o 519-A, Unity City, Bahadurpur, Kalyanpur, Lucknow	Equitable Mortgage of House no E-1435, Type-EWS, Sector-H, Jankipuram Yojna, Lucknow measuring 30.00 sqmtr situated at Jankipuram Yojna in the name of Smt Nupur Srivastava, Bounded- East- H No 1434, West- H No 1436, North- 7.50 mtr Road, South- H No 1441	Rs. 1121178.80/- + int & other charges from 01.08.2019	07.12.2019
3.	M/s J S Enterprises Prop-Smt. Ruhil Anees, R/o House No 162/200, Maulviganj, Aminabad, Lucknow-226018	Plot/House No 4 & 5 which are part of Khasra No 692/200, Maulviganj, Pargana-Kakori, Dist-Lucknow in the name of Sri Mohammad Rafikul Islam alias Bablu S/o Sri Maqsood Ali, Bounded- East: 15 ft wide Road, West: Others Land, North: Sellers Land, South: Sellers Land	Rs. 939750/- + int & other charges from 01.12.2019	07.12.2019
4.	M/s SA Traders, Prop: Shamshad Ali R/o House No 7A/344, Vrindavan Yojna, Raebareilly Road, Lucknow	Equitable Mortgage of house on plot no 19B/352, Sector 19B, Vrindavan Yojna-4, Lucknow measuring 40.74 Sq Mtr situated at Vrindavan Yojna-4 in the name of Shamshad Ali S/o Lal Mohammad, Bounded- East- Plot No 19B/353, West-Plot No 19B/351, North-Plot No 19B/345, South- 9 Mtrs wide Road	Rs. 488562.20/- + int & other charges from 01.10.2019	07.12.2019
5.	Ms. Sita Devi D/o Late Mr. Nandlal, Mrs. Geeta Devi W/o Late Mr. Nandlal, R/o 16B, R/G Apartment, 12-B, Vrindavan Yojna, Teilbagh, Lucknow	Equitable Mortgage of LIG House No E-4/1617, Sector O, Mansarovar Yojna, Kanpur Road, Lucknow measuring 38.30 sq mtr in the name of Ms Sita Devi D/o Late Sri Nandlal, Bounded- East- H No E-4/1616, West- H No E-4/1618, North- H No E-4/1604, South- 9.00 Mtr wide Road	Rs. 3062295.10/- + int & other charges from 01.09.2019	07.12.2019
6.	M/s Surabhi Enterprises, Prop: Mrs. Surabhi Srivastava, R/o C-995, Sec B-4, Mahanagar, Near Sony Service Centre, Lucknow	Equitable Mortgage of Shop No 107 LGF, China Bazar Road, Ward-Jagdish Chandra Bose Marg, Ansal City Centre, Hazratganj, Lucknow measuring 37.00 sq ft (3.438 Sq Mtr) situated at Ansal City Centre in the name of Vineet Srivastava S/o Vijay Kumar Srivastava, Bounded-East- Corridor, West- Shop No 92 LGF, North- Shop No 106 LGF, South- Shop No 108 LGF	Rs. 719076.50/- + int & other charges from 01.10.2019	07.12.2019
7.	M/s VK Enterprises Prop. Mr. Vineet Kumar, R/o C-995, Sec B-4, Mahanagar, Near Sony Service Centre, Lucknow	Equitable Mortgage of Shop No 39 LGF, China Bazar Road, Ward-Jagdish Chandra Bose Marg, Ansal City Centre, Hazratganj, Lucknow measuring 37.00 sq ft (3.438 Sq Mtr) situated at Ansal City Centre in the name of Vineet Srivastava S/o Vijay Kumar Srivastava, Bounded-East- Shop No 52 LGF, West- Corridor, North- Shop No 40 LGF, South- Shop No 38 LGF	Rs. 715076.70/- + int & other charges from 01.10.2019	07.12.2019
8.	Sri Niyaz Hashmi S/o Sri Khaleel Hashmi, 596/DK-075/043, Faridpur, Deepthi Kheda, Grinva School, Lucknow-226003	1. In case of Vehicle - Following details to be filled Vehicle Make Company MAHINDRA Model of Vehicle TUV 300 T8 Vehicle Registration No. UP-32 KF-5923 RTO Registration No.	Rs. 953811.09/- + int & other charges from 01.10.2019	01.10.2019

Date - 21.12.2019, Place - Lucknow Authorized Officer Bank of Baroda

**CITY BRIEFS**

**NEW COURSE**

Indira Gandhi National Open University has launched a new academic programme, PG Certificate in Medical Management of CBRNE Disasters (PGCMDM). IGNOU, in collaboration with Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and active support from Integrated Defence Staff (IDS), has developed the 6-month programme for MBBS doctors. Regional director Manorama Singh said after completing the programme, the learner should be able to comprehend the parameters, enormity and complexity of CBRNE threat from a medical perspective and describe the

impact of chemical, radiological, biological, explosive and nuclear agents on human health. The eligibility is MBBS (recognised by MCI). Only Indian citizens will be considered and the programme fee is Rs 5,500. The programme can complete the programme in maximum two years.

**ALUMNI MEET**

Jaipuria Institute of Management organised its 20th annual alumni meet in Lucknow city on Saturday. The theme of the event was musical nights and the dress code was fusion. The programme began with a welcome speech by JIM director Kavita Pathak, who highlighted various initiatives taken by the institute. A musical night was also organised and various cultural programmes were a highlight of the event.

**U. P. Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited Obra Thermal Power Station, OBRA, Sonbhadra, TIME EXTENSION**  
Tender ID : 2019\_RVUNL\_403974\_1 This office tender no. 29/O&MMC-V/TMD/BT/PS/2019-20 for the work of "Annual running maintenance of Main Boiler for unit no. 12 & 13, (2x200MW) BT/PS, Obra". is hereby extended as below : Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> 03.01.2020 Upto 17:00 hrs. Last Date and Time For Submission of Hardcopy of : 04.01.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs. Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : (Part-I) 07.01.2020 At (16:00 hrs.) All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain the unchanged.

**U. P. Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited Obra Thermal Power Station, OBRA, Sonbhadra, TIME EXTENSION**  
Tender ID : 2019\_RVUNL\_404135\_1 This office tender no. 30/O&MMC-V/BMD/BT/PS/2019-20 for the work of "Cleaning of Oil Gun and Routine checking of Boiler of 2x200MW, BT/PS, Obra". is hereby extended as below : Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> 03.01.2020 Upto 17:00 hrs. Last Date and Time For Submission of Hardcopy of : 04.01.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs. Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : (Part-I) 07.01.2020 At (16:00 hrs.) All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain the unchanged.

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER O&MMC-V, BT/PS, OBRA.**  
No. 331, Date 21.12.2019, SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION

**U. P. Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited Obra Thermal Power Station, OBRA, Sonbhadra, Extension Notice**  
e-Tender No. 09/SE-IBT/PS/BMD-I/19-20 NAME OF WORK The work for annual running breakdown maintenance of Insulation and refractory of Unit No. 9, 10 and 11, 3x200MW, BT/PS, Obra, Distt. Sonbhadra (U.P.). Tender No. T-09/SE-IBT/PS/BMD-I/2019-20, Estimated Cost of Work : Rs 3.30 (Rs. Three Lac Thirty Thousand only). Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> 01.01.2020 up to 18:00 Hrs. Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> 01.01.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs. Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : 03.01.2020 up to 16:00 Hrs. Place of Opening of e-Bids : Office of Superintending Engi-neer Operation & Mechanical Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station Obra - Sonbhadra, Address for Communication : SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER O&MMC-I, BT/PS, OBRA - Sonbhadra, U.P. - 231219. E-mail Address : se.ommc\_1.btps.obra@uprvnl.org Bid Document Cost : Rs. 500.00+ 90.00 (GST) = Rs. 590.00 Earnest Money : Rs. 6600.00 (Rs. Six Thousand Six Hundred only) NOTE: The tender documents shall not be sold. Tender specification is available on <http://etender.up.nic.in>. Tender will be accepted online only. Extension e-Tender No. 11/

**SE-I/BT/PS/BMD-I/19-20 NAME OF WORK** Annual Break Down Maintenance work of Rectification & Alignment of Economizer & Re-Heater Coils for Unit No. 9, 10 and 11, 3x200MW, BT/PS, Obra. Tender No. T-11/SE-IBT/PS/BMD-I/2019-20, Estimated Cost of Work : Rs 6.27 (Rs. Six Lac Twenty Seven Thousand only). Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> : 01.01.2020 up to 18:00 Hrs. Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> : 01.01.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs. Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : 03.01.2020 up to 16:00 Hrs. Place of Opening of e-Bids : Office of Superintending Engineer Operation & Mechanical Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station Obra - Sonbhadra, Address for Communication: SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER O&MMC-I, BT/PS, OBRA. No. 328, Date 21.12.2019, SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION

**SCHOOLSCAN**



**CMS STUDENTS WINS FIRST PRIZE**

Vaishnavi Shukla, a class VII student of City Montessori School, Aliganj Campus I, won the first prize in an inter-school dance competition. She was awarded 'Lucknow Ratna Samman' for her performance in the competition, which was organised under the aegis of Kamla Films and Broadcasters in which students of various noted schools of Lucknow participated and showcased their dancing skills.

**U. P. Raja Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited Obra Thermal Power Station, OBRA, Sonbhadra, TIME EXTENSION**  
TENDER ID 2019\_RVUNL\_403578\_1 This office tender no. T-28/O&MMC-V/BMD/BT/PS/2019-20 for the work of "Work of Boiler Pressure part during boiler breakdown maintenance of unit no. 12 & 13, 2x200 MW, BT/PS, Obra", is hereby extended below : SI. No. 1, Description Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website : Original Date / Time 03.12.2019 Upto 18.00 Hrs., First Ext. Date / Time 16.12.2019 Upto 18.00 Hrs., Second Ext. Date / Time 27.12.2019 Upto 18.00 Hrs., SI.No. 2, Description Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website : Original Date / Time 04.12.2019 Upto 17.00 Hrs., First Ext. Date / Time 17.12.2019 Upto 17.00 Hrs., Second Ext. Date / Time 28.12.2019 Upto 17.00 Hrs., SI.No. 3, Description Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids, Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website. Part-I : 06.12.2019 Upto 16.00 Hrs., Part-II : To be intimated later on website. First Ext. Date / Time Part-I : 18.12.2019 Upto 16.00 Hrs., Part-II : To be intimated later on website. Second Ext. Date / Time Part-I : 30.12.2019 Upto 16.00 Hrs., Part-II : To be intimated later on website. Other Terms and condition will remain the same.

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER O&MMC-V, BT/PS, OBRA.**  
No. 332, Date 21.12.2019, SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION

**मध्योक्त विद्युत वितरण निगम लिमिटेड, प्रधान कार्यालय- 4 ए, गोखले मार्ग, लखनऊ। निविदा प्रकाशन सूचना (ई-निविदा)** ओहोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निर्धारित समय में आपूर्ति में सक्षम प्रतिष्ठित निविदाकर्ताओं से निम्नलिखित सामग्री की आपूर्ति हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से मुद्रणन्य निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदाकर्ता द्वारा निविदा त्रुटि का न्यूनतम 20 प्रतिशत मात्रा हेतु प्रस्ताव देना होगा एवं उसी अनुपात में धरोहर धनराशि जमा करनी होगी -

**अल्पकालिक निविदा विशिष्ट संश्लेषण/2462/2019 (परिवर्तनीय, आधार तिथि 01.11.2019) सामग्री का विवरण** 9.0 Meter Steel Tubular Poles (SP-33) इकाई नग मात्रा 2000 धरोहर राशि (रु०) 2,17,000.00 निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 07.01.2020, 13:00 बजे निविदा के प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 08.01.2020, 14:00 बजे निविदा का शुल्क- रु० 7,080.00 निविदा विशिष्ट संश्लेषण/2463/2019 (परिवर्तनीय, आधार तिथि 01.11.2019) सामग्री का विवरण Supply of Fresh Transformer Oil इकाई किलो लीटर मात्रा 3665 धरोहर राशि (रु०) 22,59,000/- निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 21.01.2020 : 13:00 बजे निविदा के प्रथम भाग खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 22.01.2020 : 13:30 बजे निविदा का शुल्क- रु० 11,800.00 निविदा शुल्क को आरटीसी/एनपीएसए/एनईओएफ/टीओ के माध्यम से तथा धरोहर राशि आरटीसी/एनपीएसए/एनईओएफ/टीओ या बैंक गारण्टी के माध्यम से जमा किया जाना है जिनकी स्कैन्ड कापी निविदा प्रपत्रों के साथ ई-टेंडर वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर अपलोड करनी होगी। उक्त निविदाओं के सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं निविदा प्रपत्र उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ई-टेंडर वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध कराई जायेगी।

**अधीक्षक अभियन्ता (सापूर्णा-प्रथम) मॉडिफिकेशन, 4-ए, गोखले मार्ग, लखनऊ पत्रांक-248 दिनांक 21.12.2019 मॉडिफिकेशन/1912/हेल्थलाईन नं०-18001800440/1912 "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाये, बल्व की जगह एलईओ डीओ लगाये"**

**Heritage bylaws for 34 monuments**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has sent the detailed mapping of over 34 monuments in Lucknow circle to the National Monument Authority for framing of heritage bylaws. The Central government had amended the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 in 2010 to include certain newer sub-sections. One of the major amendments is the provision of Heritage Bylaws for Prohibited and Regulated Area for each centrally-protected monument. In 2011, through a gazette notification dated August 23 2011, the Centre notified Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Framing of Heritage Bylaws and other functions of the Competent Authority) Rules 2011. In Lucknow the heritage bylaws have been made only for Shahajnaf. A senior official of ASI said they had sent the mapping of Sikandarbagh, Shahajnaf, several cemeteries, Maqbara Saadat Ali Khan and etc for the purpose of heritage bylaws.

"The area outside Asafi Imambara and Rumi Darwaza have yet to be mapped," the official said. He added that after the bylaws were drafted, they would be put in the public domain. "In this way, people can come to know which is the protected and prohibited area of the monument and constructions around these areas can thus be regulated," he added.

**कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, दक्षिण खलने की तिथि विस्तार सूचना** इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा संख्या - 74 & 78/ SE/ EDCB/ 2019-20 री-टेंडर आमंत्रित करते हुए खलने की तिथि अपरिहार्य कारणों वशा अग्रिम दिनांक 28.12.2019 तक तिथि तिस्तार की जाती है। विस्तृत जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> एवं <https://dvnl.org> पर उपलब्ध रहेगी। (शीलेन्द्र कुमार) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बांदा। पत्रांक 1836/ विद्योविभा/बी/पी-1 (प्रकाशन) / निविदा / 2019-20 / 74 / 78, दिनांक - 21.12.2019 "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाये"

**उपरोध पावर ट्रान्स्मिशन कोरपोरेशन लिमिटेड, ई-निविदा संख्या 133 (विद्योविभा/प्रोल/2019-20)** ओहोहस्ताक्षरकाले द्वारा अनुमोदी ठेकेदार/फर्मों से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु अलग-अलग सोलनर ई-निविदाएं दो भागों में ई-टेंडरिंग वेब साइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। ई-निविदा के प्रथम भाग में धरोहर धनराशि व वैधता, तकनीकी एवं अनुभव सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र, व्यावसायिक व अन्य शर्तें आदि एवं दूसरे भाग में दूर व वाणिज्यिक नियम एवं शर्तें प्रदान करनी होगी। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य, धरोहर धनराशि एवं जीएआरटीओ पंजीकरण प्रमाण-पत्र आवेदन प्रपत्र के साथ संलग्न करते हुए इनकी Scanned copy upload करना अनिवार्य है। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं धरोहर धनराशि, जो कि अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल-प्रथम, लखनऊ के खाला संख्या 24/0802/190005438, I.F.S. Code-PUN0691100 पत्रांक नेशनल बैंक, लखनऊ के खाले में RTGS/NEFT के माध्यम से स्थानांतरित कर 28.12.2019 तक संस्था के बैंक खाते में जमा करना अनिवार्य है। ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर निविदा प्रपत्रों के साथ स्व प्रामाणित PAN एवं GST पंजीकरण प्रमाण-पत्र की प्रति प्रथम भाग के साथ लगाना अनिवार्य होगा। वांछित धरोहर धनराशि एवं अन्य प्रपत्र पूर्ण तथा उचित/स्वीकार्य योग्य न होने पर द्वितीय भाग को नहीं खोला जायेगा। ई-निविदाओं का विवरण- निविदा सं०, कार्यों का नाम, धरोहर धनराशि, खुलने की तिथि व समय प्रमार्श: निम्नानुसार है- (1) 133-वि.पा.म. (प्र.ज./2019-20, विद्युत वितरण खाण्ड-प्रथम, लखनऊ के अंतर्गत एनएलएसडीसी/एल व पावर प्लान मंडल की गणना 2020 के राष्ट्रीय एवं पर सजावट सम्बन्धी कार्य, धरोहर धनराशि रु० 1,500.00, निविदा दिनांक 09.01.2020 को 16.00 बजे तक ई-टेंडरिंग वेब साइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) पर अपलोड की जा सकती है। भाग-1 खुलने की तिथि 10.01.2020, समय 14.00 बजे के उपरान्त एवं भाग-2 (माइंस पार्सई) खुलने की तिथि तदनुसार ई-वेबसाइट पर सूचित की जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य रु० 236/-मात्र (रु० 200.00+G.S.T.@ 18% अतिरिक्त) ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर खोली जायेगी। विस्तृत जानकारी एवं अन्य संशोधनों आदि के सम्बन्ध में सूचना एवं निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) देखी जा सकती है। कृपया विस्तृत जानकारी, डाउनलोड करने के दिनांक तक निविदा प्रपत्र के सम्बन्ध में ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) देखी जा सकती है। बैंक लिस्टेड फर्म एवं ऐसी फर्मों जिनके विरुद्ध कोई सार्वजनिक/सीडोआई/जांच चल रही है अथवा लिखित है उनकी निविदाएं स्वीकार नहीं की जायेगी। ओहोहस्ताक्षरकाले को बिना कोई कारण बताये किसी भी ई-निविदा अथवा सभी ई-निविदाओं को अस्वीकार/निष्कांत करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित है। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल-प्रथम, उपरोध पावर ट्रान्स्मिशन कोरपोरेशन लिमिटेड, खाला सं०-111 से 114, नू-तल, पारेणन नगर, विद्युति खाण्ड-11, गौरीशान नगर, लखनऊ पत्रांक-2407 दिनांक-21.12.2019 "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाये"

**Census of India-2021: Training imparted to master trainers**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

As many as 248 state master trainers were trained at the 6-day residential training on 'Census of India-2021', which was organised at Deen Dayal Upadhyaya State Institute of Rural Development in Bakshi-Ka-Talab. The training programme was conducted by SIRD-UP with the support of DCO-UP. The valedictory session was held on Saturday. The session was presided over by director-general of DDUSIRD-UP L Venkateshwari.

While addressing the participants, director of DCO-UP Narendran Shankar Pandey said that the Indian census has a rich tradition and enjoys the reputation of being one of the best in the world. He pointed out that the first census in India was conducted in the year 1872.

"In 1881, a census was taken for the entire country simultaneously. Since then, census has been conducted every ten years without a break. Thus, the 'Census of India 2021' will be 16th in this unbroken series since 1872 and eighth after independence. It is through the mis-

sonary zeal and dedication of enumerators and supervisors that the great historical tradition of conducting the census uninterrupted has been maintained in spite of several adversities like wars, epidemics, natural calamities, political unrest," he said.

He further pointed out that the participation in the Census by the people of India is a true reflection of the national spirit of unity in diversity. He said that in legal provision and rights of enumerators and supervisors, there are some legal provisions that govern the conduct of census. Addressing to the master trainers, assistant registrar general Gopal Agrawal stated that the National Population Register (NPR) of all the usual residents in the country was created in 2010. "The field work in NPR data collection was undertaken along with 'House Listing and Housing Census-2010'. The electronic database of more than 119 crore usual residences of the country has already been created under NPR in English as well as in regional languages by collecting specif-

ic information. As per decision of the Central government, the NPR database has been updated during 2015-16 in all states and union territories, except for Assam and Meghalaya," he added.

Venkateshwari stated that population enumeration provides valuable information about the land and its people at a given point of time. "The census data is frequently required to develop sound policies and programmes aimed at fostering the welfare of the country and its people. This data source has become indispensable for effective and efficient public administration besides serving the needs of scholars, businessmen, industrialists, planners and electoral authorities etc. Therefore, census has become a regular feature in progressive countries, whatever be their size and political set-up. It is conducted at regular intervals for fulfilling well-defined objectives. One of the essential features of population enumeration is that each person is enumerated and their individual particulars are collected at a well-defined point of time," he said.

**27 ARRESTED...**

"Police had detained five outsiders from the neighbouring areas of Seemapuri. Subsequently, they were arrested. Six more persons were also arrested on charges of rioting, causing damage to public property and using force to deter police personnel from performing their duty," said the senior police official. Police said all the 27 accused were produced in court and the court has sent them to 14 days judicial custody.

On Saturday, the area surrounding Jama Masjid, where a large number of protesters gathered on Friday evening, was also quiet and businesses ran as usual. Manish Seth, secretary of Daryaganj Traders' Association, said all shops in the area opened on Saturday morning and there's no unrest. He said police have been keeping a tight vigil.

A bookseller near Delhi Gate, where a car was burned on Friday evening as protesters turned violent, also lamented the ill-effects of the contentious citizenship law, saying people were not to be blamed for the agitations. "If I tell you I will take away your home tomorrow, and you know I am capable of doing it, will you sit quietly? Violence is not the answer to anything, but you cannot expect people to not be upset when their future is uncertain," he said.

Meanwhile in Seemapuri, where the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Rohit Rajbir Singh suffered minor injuries after protesters turned violent on Friday, police said that they arrested 11 people for the violence. A senior police officer from Shahdara district said situation was under control in the area. "Delhi Police personnel have dominated the area and are conducting flag marches since Friday evening to ensure that no untoward incident is reported," the police officer said. In order to ensure that the situation remained under control, the police conducted flag marches in northeast Delhi and appealed to the locals to maintain peace. Senior police officers also interacted with the locals. The police also reached out to the members of the peace committees in the area in order to maintain law and order. Stone-pelting and incidents of violence were reported from Daryaganj in Old Delhi and Seemapuri in northeast part of the national capital on Friday. On Friday, a clash between police and protesters had ensued in Daryaganj, prompting police to use water cannon on the agitators, some of whom had turned violent and set ablaze a car.

**CITIZENSHIP STIR...**

"Of the 75 districts in the State, one-fourth has been affected where thousands collected after namaz and defied the law. We had contacted religious leaders and they had promised that there would be peace but still protesters gathered and indulged in violence and at some places they fired with illegal weapons. After this, the police had no option but to resort to lathi charge and lob tear gas shells to disperse the unruly mob," the DGP said.

Warning that those who indulged in violence would not be let off, Singh said innocents have nothing to worry as arrests would be done only after proper enquiry.

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Noting that there is a role of 'outsiders' in the violence across UP, the DGP said members of political parties and NGOs were also be present in the protests. Asked about the possibility of the role of Bangladeshi nationals, Singh said investigations were on and the police was probing every angle

**RAIL, TRAFFIC...**

Patna ADG HQ, Jitendra Kumar, said, "As per compiled information from 38 districts in connection with today's 'Bihar Bandh' (called by RJD led alliance), there were 1,550 preventive arrests. 14 cases were registered in which 13 arrests were made."

Tejashwi Yadav, leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly and heir apparent of RJD supreme Lalu Prasad, marched in a large procession from the party office in Bir Chand Patel Marg to Dak Bungalow crossing. In Hajipur (Vaishali), Jehanabad, Brah and Darbhanga, the supporters blocked the national highway and the Mahatma Gandhi Setu road bridge over the Ganga which connects Patna to north Bihar. Movement of trains in Darbhanga and Kaimur were disrupted.

In Muzaffarpur, the largest north Bihar town, RJD and Congress leaders sat on highways, major road and railway crossings to enforce the bandh. Reports of the bandh disrupting normal business and vehicular traffic have been received from Munger, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Jehanabad and Nawada as well. In Arrah, bandh supporters clashed with the police for preventing them from forcing vehicles to stop and shops to close. Train services were affected after RJD activists squatted on railway tracks in Araria, Ara and East Champaran districts. The other 'mahagathbandhan' (grand alliance) parties — the Congress, the Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular), the Vikashil Insaan Party and the Rashtriya Lok Samata Party — too extended their support to the bandh call.

**RAPID-KILLER...**

In this case, CBI had filed a charge sheet against the accused on September 19 this year. Charges were framed against Raj on October 25, 2019. The case had triggered huge protests in the Capital city. Joined by students of other engineering colleges and locals, the protests termed the victim as "Rancho's Nirbhaya".

Judge, Mishra said in his judgment, "Rahul Kumar alias Rahul Raj convicted on the basis of charge sheet, documents, witnesses and the arguments submitted by the CBI in the rape and murder of the engineering student. He said that Raj was found guilty under sections 302, 376, 449 and 201 of IPC for raping, murdering and erasing evidence.

**HC ORDERS...**

The court directed the special investigation team appointed by the State Government to preserve evidence of weapons used by the police and those allegedly used by the accused during the course of encounter. The bullets used, the log reports containing the details of the vehicles used and the details of the number of police personnel who took part in the encounter have also been seized.

The Bench further directed that the State Government should make all arrangements for the air travel of the medical team from AIIMS, for their accommodation and other facilities which would enable them to efficiently dis-

charge the duty assigned to them.

On Friday, the Advocate General of Telangana argued the bodies of the four were already subjected to post-mortem as per the guidelines of the Supreme Court and hence there was no necessity for passing any order for a re-postmortem.

However, the amicus curiae D Prakash Reddy had contended the bodies were preserved under the directions of the High Court to consider the necessity of second post-mortem and the Supreme Court also endorsed it.

The Supreme Court last week appointed a three-member Inquiry Commission headed by former apex court judge VS Sirpurkar to inquire into the circumstances leading to the encounter killing of the four accused in the gang-rape and murder of the veterinarian.

The commission, also including former Bombay High Court judge Rekha Sondur Baldota and ex-CBI director DR Karthikeyan, will submit its report to the Supreme Court in six months. The four accused were arrested on November 29 for allegedly raping and killing the woman veterinarian by smothering her and later burning her body.

Later on December 6, they were gunned down by police at Chattanpalli when they were taken to the site of offence for the reconstruction of the scene of crime as part of the investigation, near the culvert where the charred remains of the 25-year-old veterinarian were found on November 28.

**STATEMENT OF...**

The signatories to the statement congratulated Parliament for "standing up for forgotten minorities", "upholding the civilisational ethos of India" and "providing a haven for those fleeing religious persecution".

The act fulfilled the long-standing demand of providing refuge to persecuted religious minorities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, the statement said. Ever since the failure of the Liaquat-Nehru Pact of 1950, various leaders and political parties such as the Congress, CPI(M) etc., cutting across the ideological spectrum, had demanded grant of citizenship to religious minorities from Pakistan and Bangladesh, who mostly belonged to the Dalit castes, it added.

"We also note with satisfaction that the concerns of the North-eastern States have been heard and are being addressed appropriately. We believe that CAA is in perfect sync with the secular Constitution of India as it does not prevent any person of any religion from any country seeking Indian citizenship," the statement said.

Nor did it change the criteria of citizenship in any way; merely providing a special expedited redress, under special circumstances, for minorities fleeing religious persecution from three specific countries i.e Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, it added.

"It does not in any way prevent Ahmadis, Hazaras, Baloch or any other denominations and ethnicities, from these same three countries, seeking citizenship through regular processes," the statement said.

CBI, the Government pleader said based on the forensic report, a charge sheet was filed in the Court accusing Raj for committing the rape and murder incident. "During the speedy trial, the CBI recorded the statement of 30 witnesses in just 16 days. No witnesses were produced on behalf of the accused in this case of murder and rape," said Prasad.

**SUPPORT POURS...**

Students from various universities have also joined the agitation. In the statement, the signatories appealed to every section of the society "to exercise restraint and refuse to fall into the trap of propaganda, communalism and anarchism".

"We also note with deep anguish that an atmosphere of fear and paranoia is being created in the country through deliberate obfuscation and fear-mongering, leading to violence in several parts of the country," the statement said.

Two weeks ago, over 1,000 scientists and scholars had signed a petition demanding that the Citizenship Amendment Bill in its current form be withdrawn, with noted academician Pratap Bhanu Mehta saying the legislation will transform India into an "unconstitutional ethnoocracy".

The petition had come after the Lok Sabha had passed the Bill and before it was passed in the Rajya Sabha. Later, 600 artists, writers, academicians, former judges and former bureaucrats had urged the Government to withdraw the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, terming it as "discriminatory, divisive" and violative of the secular principles enshrined in the Constitution.

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DECADES-LONG BOUNDARY ISSUE

# India, China agree to maintain peace

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

The two sides also resolved to intensify efforts to achieve fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary or Line of Actual Control (LAC) question during the talks between the two nations. The talks between the two nations' security advisors (NSA) Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi were held in Mamallapuram in October as well as after New Delhi pulled out of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Doval and Wang are the designated Special Representatives of the two countries for the boundary talks.

Wang was to visit India for the talks in September but the trip was postponed then. The India-China border dispute covers 3,488-km-long Line of Actual Control. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of southern Tibet while India contests it.

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

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

It is the first high-level visit from China to India after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at Wuhan in April 2018 had led to "strategic guidance" to the two militaries to actively defuse troop confrontations during patrolling in accordance with existing protocols and mechanisms.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TO BEAT PAK IN NARRATIVE WARFARE

# Armed forces need unified PR command: Cyber Security chief

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

National Cyber Security

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Jaishankar on 2-day visit to Iran: To meet counterpart, Rouhani

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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



Ministry said in another statement.

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

This will be Jaishankar's first visit to Oman after the second term of the Modi government began in May. "The visit is in pursuit of India's objective of enhanced engagement with the Gulf region, which is in India's extended neighbourhood. It will provide an opportunity to hold in-depth discussions with the political leadership on a wide range of bilateral, regional and global issues and will advance India's growing engagement with Oman and the region," the statement said.

# Press Association condemns 'attack' on scribes during protests

New Delhi: The Press Association, a leading body of journalists, on Saturday strongly condemned "attack and unnecessary harassment" of journalists during coverage of protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act.

In a statement, the Association said, it was also concerned over incidents of burning of media OB vans during the protests and appealed to all sections to realise the need of a free and fair press and the importance of media during incidents of national importance.

The Association said attack on journalists on their line of duty in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Kerala, Karnataka and Punjab is an assault on media freedom. It urged authorities concerned to ensure full security to the media in the discharge of their duties as the Fourth Estate.

The statement, issued by Association president Jaishankar Gupta and general secretary CK Nayak, said it has taken a serious note of the detention of Omar Rashid, a journalist of The Hindu in Lucknow, detention of seven scribes in Mangalore and attack on a reporter and a video journalist of Mathrubhumi News - Arun Shankar and Vaisakh - in Delhi when they were doing their duties.

ANI Reporter Ujjwal Roy and Cameraperson Sarabjeet Singh were assaulted while covering protests near Jamia Millia Islamia, it said.

Earlier, two journalists — Dinesh R and Wasim Sayeed of Asianet News, a prominent Malayalam news channel — were also attacked in the national capital during the coverage of the protests by Jamia Millia Islamia students against

the Citizenship Amendment Act.

Wasim was seriously injured during stone-pelting and had to be admitted to a hospital, the Association said.

Also an attempt was made to allegedly manhandle a video journalist of Zee News, Jaideep, camera of a news channel was damaged while another's was taken but not returned as yet, it said, adding journalists were attacked in Sambhal and media OB vans were torched in Lucknow too.

In a separate incident, armed men shot dead electronic media journalist, Jobanpreet Singh and Gurchet Singh, working for a vernacular daily in Moga in Punjab.

The Association is anguished over such incidents and demands speedy investigation to deter perpetrators of such crimes, the statement said. PTI

# Tight security for PM's rally: CCTV on all routes leading to venue, snipers atop buildings

New Delhi: Elaborate security arrangements have been made for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally on Sunday at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan, which is a little over a kilometre away from Old Delhi's Daryaganj that was hit by violence on Friday during the protest against the amended Citizenship Act.

According to sources, senior officials remained in huddle till 5 am on Saturday to discuss the security arrangements. In the meeting, among other things, it was decided that social media should be monitored to stop rumour-mongering, especially in the wake of ongoing protests against the contentious legislation.

Checking of vehicles has been stepped up on border areas to ensure that "unscrupulous" elements do not enter the national capital to disrupt the rally, sources said.

A multilevel security arrangement will be in place on

Sunday, with CCTV surveillance of all the routes leading to the venue and snipers being positioned atop buildings to ensure security, they said.

The Delhi Police is in close touch with the SPG and the Bharatiya Janata Party for the security arrangements during the programme. The Delhi BJP has also deployed volunteers as part of its security arrangements for the rally.

In a statement, senior BJP leader Vijay Goel said preparations for the rally, which is being organised to thank PM Modi for giving ownership rights to 40 lakh residents of 1731 unauthorised colonies, are in full swing.

A total of 11 lakh signatures by residents of unauthorised colonies will be handed over to Prime Minister Modi as a thank you gesture, he said.

Goel, the convenor of arrangements at the venue, said more than two lakh people are

expected to attend the rally which will be dominated by youths and women.

Cutouts of PM Modi, BJP president and Home Minister Amit Shah and Working President JP Nadda have been put up around Ramlila Maidan.

"This rally will also symbolise that after winning seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi, the BJP is in full-swing in preparations for Delhi Legislative Assembly elections as well," Goel said.

He said that LED screens have been installed at several places. Outside the premises, people from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh will be playing dhol.

The BJP has majorly focused on unauthorised colonies in this rally because this will become a big issue in upcoming Delhi elections. A tableau of unauthorised colony has been installed too. PTI

# Sharad Pawar silent on whether Ajit will become Dy CM

Pune: NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday kept mum on whether senior party leader and his nephew Ajit Pawar would become deputy chief minister in the Maha Vikas Aghadi in Maharashtra.

Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray would soon take decision on cabinet expansion, Pawar said at a press conference here.

Asked about Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut's reported statement that Ajit Pawar would become deputy CM in the Shiv Sena-Congress-NCP government is expanded, the NCP chief refused to make any clarification. "I have read Raut's statement. But I am the president of my party, so I know who will take oath in the expansion," he said cryptically.

The state Anti-Corruption Bureau reiterated before the High Court on Friday that it found no evidence against Ajit Pawar in an alleged irrigation scam. Amid a deadlock over government formation after Assembly elections, Ajit had sprung a surprise and joined BJP-led government as deputy chief minister last month, but the government lasted for only 80 hours. When asked if it was taking longer than usual for cabinet expansion, Sharad Pawar replied in negative. "We are running an alliance government and we have already made allotment of portfolios. The chief minister may announce expansion after the winter session of Assembly (which ended on Saturday)," he said. PTI

# 10 adivasis diagnosed with Kala-azar in WB village

Balurghat (South Dinajpur): At least 10 people of an adivasi village in South Dinajpur district's Kushmandi block have been infected with Kala-azar, officials said.

Kala-azar is a form of the disease leishmaniasis marked by emaciation, anaemia, fever, and enlargement of the liver and spleen.

The disease is caused by the bite of infected female phlebotomine sandflies, an official said. The health department has started spraying insecticides in the village in an effort to stop the disease from spreading.

"Workers of the health department have started visiting village to give medicines to the infected persons and their families," the Block Medical Officer of Health (BMOH) of Kushmandi, Amit Das, said.

They have also started an awareness camp in the village, he said.

"We are keeping a close watch on the families," the Block Development Officer (BDO) of Kushmandi, Saipa Lama, said. A total of 46 families live in the adivasi village which is known as Namviyle. PTI



Jadavpur, Presidency and other college and university students break the barricade in front of State BJP headquarters during their protest rally against CAA (Citizen Amendment Act) and NRC in Kolkata on Saturday. PTI

# Govt committed to overall development of Vidarbha: Maha CM

Nagpur: Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said his Government was determined to bring about overall development of Vidarbha, with focus on farmers by giving impetus to cotton, rice and orange production in the region.

He said projects like the Nagpur-Mumbai Samruddhi Expressway, MIHAN, cancer institute in Chandrapur as well as wildlife and tourism initiatives will be speeded up.

Thackeray said the state government will take steps to bring investment in the Multi-modal International Cargo Hub and Airport at Nagpur (MIHAN).

State minister Subhash Desai said 'krishi prakriya kendra' would be set up to increase rice production in Vidarbha.

Rice is grown over large areas in Gondia, Bhandara, Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts in the region.

He said cotton production would be give a fillip by developing a "farm to fibre, fibre to fabric and fabric to fashion" chain.

Small scale industries will be given priority in cotton processing units by giving them financial assistance in a phase-wise manner over three years, he added.

Similarly, a special programme will be implemented to increase orange production, the minister said.

Speaking on irrigation projects, he said, "Work on 123 irrigation projects (in Vidarbha) are in progress, including six big ones under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. All pending irrigation projects will be completed by 2022, including Gosikhurd."

Gosikhurd is an earthfill dam on Wainganga river in Bhandara district in Vidarbha. PTI

# Two get life term, one acquitted in 2007 twin bomb blasts in Faizabad court

Faizabad (UP): A special anti-terror court has sentenced two persons to life imprisonment for their alleged roles in the November 2007 twin blast case in the district court premises here in which five people were killed and 24 were injured.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Ashok Kumar, heading the special court set up under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, pronounced the quantum of sentence amid tight security in the special courtroom in the Faizabad jail.

"The special court sentenced two persons to life imprisonment and acquitted one on Friday in the 2007 district court serial blast case," Faizabad Bar Association president Vijay Bahadur Singh told PTI on Saturday.

The two who were sentenced are tariq Quasim and Mohammad Akhtar while the third accused in the case, Sajjad Ur Rahman, was acquitted due to lack of evidence.

A fourth accused, Khalid Mujahid, had died in the police custody under suspicious conditions.

Twelve years ago on November 23, 2007, the Faizabad district court had been rocked by two simultaneous bomb blasts in which five people, including a lawyer, were killed and 24 others were injured, seven of them critically.

The case was lodged on the complaint of erstwhile Faizabad Bar Association secretary Mansur Ilahi and the case was probed by the anti-terrorist squad of Uttar Pradesh police.

The police had nabbed four persons for their alleged involvement in the case. It had sent up three of them, barring one who died in police custody, for the trial in the case. The trial in the case was held in a courtroom in Faizabad jail premises as the Faizabad district bar association had decided neither to represent any of the accused in the blast case, nor let any other lawyer represent them. PTI

# AASU accuses Modi, Shah & Sonowal of misleading people

## 5 held for 'recreating' attack on railway tracks in Bengal

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

All Assam Students Union (AASU) on Saturday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal of misleading people that their identity, language and land are secure though Bangladeshis are being settled here through the contentious legislation.

AASU chief advisor Samujjal Bhattacharya speaking at an anti-CAA women's rally here claimed that the three leaders are misleading the people of Assam "with their unique formula of assuring to protect the indigenous people and at the same time bring in Bangladeshis here through the CAA."

"We don't understand their (BJP's) peculiar formula. On the one hand they say the language, identity and land of the Assamese people are secure, on



the other hand they will bring in Bangladeshis here through the CAA threatening the very existence of the indigenous people," he said.

AASU president Dipanka Kumar Nath said the Modi government is misleading and creating confusion among the people to keep those Bangladeshis who entered the State till December 2014 using

the CAA when the Assam Accord of 1985 said that all those who came in after Bangladesh independence on March 26, 1971 will have to leave.

"Through the Assam Accord we have on behalf of the country already taken the burden of illegal foreigners on our small State. Because of CAA now, we cannot take the

additional burden till December 2014," he added.

"We have given the illegal migrants all facilities in Assam so far, but we cannot allow them to contest elections in our state," he said.

Bhattacharya referred to Sonowal claiming that only a negligible number of refugees from Bangladesh in Assam will be benefited by the amended Citizenship Act and said, "If the number is negligible then let him (Sonowal) tell Modi and Shah to take them from Assam and settle them in Gujarat. Being a small number, those people can be taken in one train only from Guwahati railway station."

On the different number of illegal Bangladeshis here and in the country provided by the government, he said Assam Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's figure is five lakh in Assam, when former Union

Home Minister Indrajit Gupta had informed Parliament in 2004 that one crore migrants were in the country. The Union Minister of State for home Jaiprakash Jaiswal had said the figure was 1.2 crore.

AASU general secretary Luringyoti Gogoi addressing the rally claimed that the Modi Government has brought the Citizenship Amendment Act with a "communal agenda."

"The Act is disastrous as the settlement of large number of Bangladeshis in Assam will change the demographic pattern here affecting the existence of Assamese people, besides wiping out our Assamese language with Bengali. The Bangladeshis will encroach our land, take away our jobs and political right," he said, adding "We will not accept even one more Bangladeshi — either Hindu or Muslim in Assam".

**Baharampur:** The police has arrested five persons when they were trying to recreate a scene of attack wearing skull-caps and lungs in an empty train in West Bengal's Murshidabad district, where railway stations and trains were torched in protest against the amended citizenship law.

The accused pelted stones on a train on trial near Lalbagh railway station and video-recorded the purported 'attack', a senior police officer said on Saturday.

"Local people caught the accused and handed them over to us. Subsequently, they have been arrested," he said. The accused were locally

known as activists of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the students wing of RSS.

A case has been initiated against the accused for allegedly being involved in damaging railway property.

"They were produced before a court on Friday. Two of them were remanded to police custody, while the other three were sent to judicial custody," the police officer said.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had on Thursday claimed that she had received inputs that the BJP is allegedly buying skullcaps for its cadres, who are wearing

them while vandalising public properties to malign a particular community.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had told a poll rally in Jharkhand that, "People who are setting fire (to property) can be seen on TV... They can be identified by the clothes they are wearing."

The State had witnessed violence and arson from December 13 to 17 during protests against the new citizenship law.

Agitators attacked Railway properties in many districts and vandalised them during the protests against the amended Citizenship Act in the State. **PTI**

## Curfew in Mangaluru relaxed with situation peaceful

**Bengaluru/Mangaluru:** Curfew was relaxed in Mangaluru on Saturday with the situation in the city which was rocked by violent protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act leaving two dead in police firing, peaceful.

The situation in Bengaluru and other parts of the state, where prohibitory orders were in place, was also peaceful with no major protests taking place.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, who visited Mangaluru to assess the situation on Saturday, said an inquiry will be conducted into the violence that rocked the coastal city, as he announced relaxation in the curfew clamped.

"Every one wants the curfew to be revoked. I have discussed with officials and the Home minister today from 3 pm to 6 pm it will be relaxed, during the night curfew will

continue. Tomorrow curfew will be lifted during the entire day time, but it will be imposed in the night," Yediyurappa told reporters.

"On Monday the curfew will be revoked, but section 144 (order banning assembly of more than four people) will continue," he said, adding that people can celebrate Christmas or any other Hindu-Muslim festivities without any disturbance.

Despite prohibitory orders demonstrations had turned violent in Mangaluru on Thursday, following which police had initially clamped curfew in parts of the city until Friday night, and later extended it to the entire Mangaluru commissionerate limits till December 22 midnight.

The Chief Minister met the family members of two persons who were killed in the firing, and also held a meeting with

representatives of Christian and Muslim communities, political leaders and officials.

Yediyurappa appealed for peace and said he has instructed the district administration to provide compensation to the families of those dead as per the provisions of law.

Noting that attempts by protesters to take the law into their hands by laying a siege to the building where firearms were stored led to "untoward incidents", Yediyurappa said "Home Minister and I will discuss on what kind of inquiry should be conducted... And we will get the inquiry done."

CPI Rajya Sabha MP from Kerala Binoy Viswam and some party activists who staged a protest here against the CAA on Saturday defying curfew, were detained, police said.

Two people were killed in police firing on Thursday as the protest against the CAA had turned violent. **PTI**

## Kerala Govt takes steps to bring back students from State stranded in Mangaluru: CM

**Thiruvananthapuram:** The Kerala Government on Saturday initiated steps to bring back students from the State stranded in Mangaluru in neighbouring Karnataka in view of the curfew declared there following the widespread violence during the protest against the Citizenship Amendment Act.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the state government was in touch with its Karnataka counterpart to ensure the safe return of the students, who are studying in colleges in Mangaluru.

"Steps are being taken to bring the students from Kerala back to home safely from Mangalore (Mangaluru). The Government of Kerala is in touch with the Karnataka Government," Vijayan said in his Facebook post. He also directed the State Government



officials concerned to coordinate with the office of the Karnataka police chief in this regard.

Meanwhile, the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation said it operated five additional services to bring back those stranded in Mangaluru, bordering northern Kerala.

Violence had rocked Mangaluru during the anti-CAA protests, leaving two dead in police firing on Thursday, prompting authorities to restrict entry to the coastal city in the neighbouring State. **PTI**

## Pro-CAA human chain in Pune

**Pune:** A human chain was formed in support of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in Pune in Maharashtra on Saturday evening.

Several organisations took part in the event held on Jangli Maharaj Road.

The participants held placards with slogans like 'India Supports CAA', 'Padhai Karo', 'Patharbaaji Nah!' 'Stop Hinduphobia', 'Atithi deo bhava', 'Country First', written on them, and also shouted slogans.

In recent days, Pune had witnessed protests opposing the new citizenship law that grants Indian citizenship to non-Muslim immigrants escaping religious persecution from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Over the last few days, protesters have fought pitched battles with police in some major cities of the country, including Delhi. **PTI**

## Maha should also refuse CAA implementation, says Sharad Pawar

**Pune:** NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday said that like eight other States, Maharashtra should also refuse implementation of the new citizenship law, which he feared would hurt the religious and social harmony of India.

Dubbing the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC) "ploys" by the Centre to "divert attention" from serious issues plaguing the country, Pawar expressed apprehension that the Centre might dismiss the State Governments opposing the new citizenship law.

The NCP is a ruling constituent, along with the Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government headed by the Shiv Sena. The former Union minister said his party had opposed the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill when it came up for passage in Parliament.

"Eight states, including Bihar, which is ruled by an NDA ally, have refused to implement the law and Maharashtra should also take a similar stand," he said in response to a query.

"But if the states oppose the Union Government's order, there is a likelihood that it may dismiss these state governments," Pawar added.

Besides Bihar, states of Kerala, Punjab, West Bengal and Rajasthan had opposed the CAA implementation. Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray of the Sena had last Sunday said that implementation of the CAA will be dependent upon the ruling of the supreme court.

"We are checking legality of the new law. Some people have challenged the CAA in the Supreme Court. We are waiting to find out whether the new act fits the framework of Constitution or not," he had said. **PTI**

## India summons Malaysian diplomat to lodge protest

**MALAYSIA'S COMMENT ILL-INFORMED, FACTUALLY INACCURATE, SAYS MEA**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after strongly rebutting Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad's criticism of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) saying his comments were ill-informed and "factually inaccurate," New Delhi on Saturday summoned the Charge d'Affaires of Malaysian Embassy here to formally lodge its protest. Malaysia was also asked to take a long-term and strategic view of relations between the two countries.

Reacting to the Malaysian Prime Minister's remarks, India said such comments are not in sync with established diplomatic practice of non-interference in any country's internal affairs.

The Charged Affaires was summoned to the External Affairs Ministry and he was conveyed India's anguish over Mohammad's comments, official sources

said.

It was also conveyed that such remarks are both ill-informed and insensitive, the sources said, adding Malaysia was asked to take a long-term and strategic view of the relations between the two countries.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Kuala Lumpur Summit 2019 on Friday, the Malaysian Prime Minister questioned the "necessity" of the Citizenship Act, when Indians have "lived together for 70 years," according to media reports.

"I am sorry to see that India, which claims to be a secular State, now is taking action to deprive some Muslims of their citizenship," the Malaysian Prime Minister was quoted as saying.

"If we do that here, I do not know what will happen. There will be chaos and instability, and everybody will suffer," he added.

Soon after these comments, India on Friday had said the Citizenship (Amendment) Act is "a matter entirely internal to India" and does not impact the status of any citizen, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Friday adding the



remarks were "factually inaccurate."

"According to media reports, Malaysia's Prime Minister has yet again remarked on a matter that is entirely internal to India.

CAA provides for citizenship through naturalisation to be fast-tracked for non-citizens who are persecuted minorities from three countries," the MEA said in a

statement.

"The CAA doesn't impact the status of any Indian citizen or deprive any Indian of any faith of her/his citizenship. Malaysian PM's remark is factually inaccurate. We call upon Malaysia to refrain from commenting on internal developments in India, without the right understanding of facts," the statement read.

India highlighted that the matter is entirely "internal" to India and asked Malaysia to "refrain from commenting without the right understanding of facts".

The statement said the CAA provides for fast-tracked citizenship for non-citizens from persecuted minorities from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan. "The act does not impact in any manner on the status of any citizen of India, or deprive any Indian of any faith of her or his citizenship," it said. The Malaysia Prime Minister had earlier criticized abrogation of Article 370 giving special status to Jammu & Kashmir and said at the Un General Assembly in September that Kashmir had been "invaded and occupied." New Delhi had strongly reacted to these observations.

## Cong silent protest today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

On a day when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to address a rally in Ramlila Maidan on Sunday, the Congress will stage a silent protest (satyagrah dharna) at Rajhat against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Sources in the Congress said that party president Sonia Gandhi along with Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and other senior leaders are likely to participate in the 'satyagrah dharna' till the evening.

Sources in the Congress said that the dharna is scheduled to be held from 2 pm to 8 pm. The decision to hold protest in the city was taken after Congress General Secretary (Organisation) K.C. Venugopal, party general secretaries Priyanka and Jyotiraditya Scindia among others met at the party headquarters on Saturday evening. The sources, however, said the party was yet to get permission for holding the protest at Rajhat — a memo-

rial to Mahatma Gandhi. Earlier in the day, Congress Core Group met at Sonia's residence to discuss the ongoing protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act. During the meeting, the party leaders discussed the crackdown on the anti-CAA protesters across the country.

The meeting has been called a day after Sonia attacked the Narendra Modi-led NDA Government of 'brutal repression' against students, youth and citizens protesting against the Citizenship law. In a video message, Sonia said that the Congress expresses deep concern and anguish on the use of force against students and citizens of the country and stands in solidarity with them.

"In a democracy, people have the right to raise their voice against wrong decisions and policies of the government and register their concerns... The BJP Government has shown utter disregard for people's voices and chosen to use brute force to suppress dissent," she said. Earlier, Priyanka accused

the BJP Government of using dictatorial measures to suppress the voice of people as she condemned arrest of students, intellectuals, journalists and social workers protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and a possible NRC. The NRC and the new citizenship law were against the Constitution of India, she said in a statement.

The people of the country would not allow any such attack on the Constitution but the government was bent upon using force and violence against protesters, she added.

"Illegal arrests of students, intellectuals, social workers, lawyers and journalists in all parts of the country is reprehensible. No one knows where the police is taking the people after arresting them throughout the country, including the State of Uttar Pradesh," she said.

Priyanka also appealed to the protesters to follow the "non-violence and truth as propagated by Mahatma Gandhi" to protect the Constitution.

## 'Chillai-Kalan' begins with snowfall in valley

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Chillai-Kalan, the 40-day period of harshest winter in Kashmir, began on Saturday with the upper reaches of the valley receiving snowfall, Meteorological Department officials said.

These 40 days are when the chances of snowfall are the highest and the maximum temperature drops considerably. Chillai-Kalan began on a wet note as the upper reaches of the valley received snowfall. The snowfall began early on Friday and continued through the night, the officials said.

The ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir received 5 cm of snowfall and the mercury settled at a low of minus 9.6 degrees Celsius last night, they said. Pahalgam, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra in south Kashmir, received 21 cm of snowfall and recorded a minimum temperature of minus 3 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund in south Kashmir received 38.5 cm of snowfall and the mercury settled at a low of minus zero degrees Celsius. There are reports of other areas in the upper reaches of the valley receiving snowfall, the MeT



department said.

The weather in most plains, including Srinagar, remained largely dry during the night after fresh snowfall earlier in the day on Friday, it said. The city recorded a low of minus 0.4 degree Celsius last night, it added.

Leh district of Ladakh recorded a low of minus 9.5 degrees Celsius on Friday night, while Drass registered a low of minus 6 degrees Celsius, the officials said. The MeT office has forecast mainly dry weather for the week ahead. Chillai-Kalan will end on January 31. The cold wave, however, continues even after that in Kashmir with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khur'd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

## Two Pakistani soldiers killed along LoC in J-K

**Srinagar:** At least two Pakistani soldiers were reportedly killed on Saturday as Indian Army retaliated "effectively and befittingly" to the ceasefire violation by Pakistan along the Line of Control in Akhnoor and Sunderbani sectors of J&K, defence

sources said.

They said Pakistani troops fired on forward posts in Khour and Pallanwalla areas of Akhnoor sector here, violating the ceasefire in the wee hours, prompting strong retaliation by the Indian Army.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER LUCKNOW CIRCLE, P.W.D, LUCKNOW									
Letter No. 7975/523(1)श्री-लखनऊ/2019-20 Dated: 19-12-2019									
Short Term, E-Tender Notice									
The S.E. Lucknow Circle, U.P.P.W.D. on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids online from the eligible and approved Contractors registered in Road work with UP P.W.D. class 'A, B & C'. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.									
Sl. No.	Dist.	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lakhs)	Tender + Statutory Charges	Time of completion	Address of Executive Engineer of the Executing work	Address of Superintending Engineer	Address of Chief Engineer
1	Lucknow	Construction of 4x3m box culvert at Existing Barrel No. 7 on Lohya Path, Gomti Barrage to Khuram nagar at Ring road via Left Bundh of Kharali Nala in Lucknow District	71.10	5.50	2360.00	3 Months	Construction Division-1, P.W.D. Lucknow.	Lucknow circle P.W.D. Lucknow.	Chief Engineer Central Zone P.W.D., Lucknow.
<p>The Rate adopted in the boq are excluding GST Taxes, Cost of Bid Document :- as per column 6 (non-refundable) To be deposited in the account of UP e-tender online Account through e-tender portal.</p> <p><b>Bid Security (EMD):</b> Bids must be accompanied with security of the amount specified for the work in the table as per column-5. Bid security will be deposited in the account of UP e-tender online Account through e-tender portal.</p> <p>Bids can be downloaded online from date <b>24.12.2019 at 9:00 AM to 03.01.2020 at 12:00 Noon</b> and bid can be submitted online on or before <b>03.01.2020 at 12:00 Noon</b>. The technical bids will be opened online on date <b>04.01.2020 at 12:30 PM</b>. According to the provisions of Government Order no. 1/2018/3070/78-2-2018/42 (22) Date 03-01-2018 after opening of the technical and financial bids, the bidder has to submit original documents personally in department/office. In the event of non-submission of original documents by the bidder, the appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the provisions of G.O. All terms &amp; conditions can be seen on website <a href="http://etender.up.nic.co.in">http://etender.up.nic.co.in</a></p> <p>(A.K. Singh) Executive Engineer Construction Division No.1, P.W.D. Lucknow</p> <p>(J.K. Banga) Superintending Engineer Lucknow Circle, P.W.D., Lucknow</p> <p>For on behalf of Governor of UP</p> <p>UP 146836 Date 20.12.2019 रिजिपान वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.upgov.nic.in">www.upgov.nic.in</a> पर उलखव है।</p>									

OFFICE OF THE SUPRINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, Lucknow Circle Lucknow							
Address :- Near Vikas Bhawan, Sarvodaya Nagar, Lucknow.							
E-Procurement Notice							
Letter No.: 4493/RED/Tender/File No- /2019-20/J.E.(T)/Raebareilly Dated: 17.12.2019							
1. THE SUPRINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT Lucknow Circle, Lucknow on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids through e-tendering system from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP RED, in appropriate class A and B as the case may be. <b>The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works.</b>							
Sl. No.	Name of work as per table.	Total Work cost (InLakh) (excluding GST)	Bid Security (EMD) to be deposited in account as mentioned below	Cost of Bid document including GST in rupees to be deposited in account as mentioned below	Period of completion including rainy season		
1	Raebareilly	145.40	2.91	3500.00	09 माह		
<p>3. Date of availability of Bid documents on website From : 26.12.2019 to 25.01.2020</p> <p>4. <b>Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement</b> : 25.01.2020 up to 12.00 Noon</p> <p>5. Date of opening of bids through e-procurement : 25.01.2020 at 12.30 pm</p> <p>6. The Employer has right to issue addendum/corrigendum as per TB clause-10 on-line which will not be published in any news paper. All prospective bidders are advised to keep regular watch and visit e-tender portal regularly.</p> <p>For further details please log on to <a href="https://etender.up.nic.in">https://etender.up.nic.in</a> and download the bid document.</p> <p>UP.146778, Date: 19-12-19</p> <p>रिजिपान वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.upgov.nic.in">www.upgov.nic.in</a> पर उलखव है।</p> <p>SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT LUCKNOW CIRCLE,LUCKNOW For and on behalf of Governor of UP</p>							

# Sanders, Warren come out in support of Jayapal

PTI ■ WASHINGTON



Senator Bernie Sanders



Senator Elizabeth Warren

Leading Democratic presidential aspirants – Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren – and two other US lawmakers have come out in support of Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, who claims External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar cancelled his meeting with a Congressional committee as she was invited to be a part of that group.

Jaishankar refused to meet Jayapal who introduced a Congressional resolution on Kashmir urging India to lift all the restrictions in Jammu and Kashmir imposed after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5.

"I am aware of that (Congressional) resolution. I don't think it's a fair understanding of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, or a fair characterisation of what the government of India is doing. And I have no interest in meeting (Jayapal)," Jaishankar told a group of Indian reporters here on Thursday.

"I have an interest in meeting people who are objective and open to discussion but not the people who already made up their minds," Jaishankar said in response to a question.

Senators Sanders, Warren and other lawmakers tweeted on Friday to express their support for Jayapal, accusing Jaishankar and India of trying to silence the voice of a US lawmaker.

"Shutting out US lawmakers who are standing up for human rights is what we expect from authoritarian regimes – not the government of India. Jayapal is right. She must not be excluded for being outspoken about the unacceptable crackdown on Kashmiris and Muslims," said Sanders, who was the first Democratic presidential candidate to oppose India's abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The US and India have an

important partnership – but our partnership can only succeed if it is rooted in honest dialogue and shared respect for religious pluralism, democracy, and human rights," Warren said in a tweet.

She said the "efforts to silence" Jayapal "are deeply troubling".

India has defended the restrictions in Kashmir on the grounds that they were imposed to prevent Pakistan from creating more mischief through proxies and terrorists following the abrogation of Article 370 which ended the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

"It's wrong for any foreign government to tell Congress what members are allowed in meetings on Capitol Hill," Kamala Harris, who dropped out of the Democratic presidential race early this month said in a tweet.

The first US Senator of Indian-origin, Harris said she stood with Jayapal.

"I'm glad her colleagues in the House did too," she said, responding to a news report in *The Washington Post* which said that Jaishankar refused to attend a meeting of House Foreign Affairs Committee because Jayapal was also scheduled to attend that meeting along with other lawmakers.

"No foreign government

should dictate who is or isn't allowed into meetings on Capitol Hill," Congressman Jim McGovern said in a tweet.

"I stand with" Jayapal and "applaud" Congressman Eliot Engel, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee "and others for doing the same," he said.

"The partnership between the US and India must be grounded in open, honest conversation between friends," McGovern said.

Earlier, *The Washington Post* reported that Jaishankar "abruptly cancelled a meeting with senior members of Congress this week after US lawmakers refused demands to exclude" Jayapal from the meeting.

"This only furthers the idea that the Indian government isn't willing to listen to any dissent at all. The seriousness of this moment should've been a reason for a conversation, not dictating who's in the meeting, which seems very petty," Jayapal was quoted as saying by the leading American daily.

However, eminent Indian-American Bharat Barai, who has engaged with Jayapal in the past on her Kashmir resolution, said the Democratic Congresswoman "with ulterior motives" tried to force herself into the meeting between

Jaishankar and leadership of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of which she is not a member.

"Reality is that she is not part of House Foreign Affairs Committee. She is a highly biased person. My feeling is that she wanted to indulge in a heated argument with Jaishankar and then go to *The Washington Post* and get propaganda out of it," Barai told PTI.

Barai, a major fund raiser, has been in close communication with Jayapal and her office over the past few months on the issue of Kashmir resolution.

Barai said Jaishankar took the right call in "not falling into the trap" being laid out by Jayapal and members of the "so-called progressive group".

"She is not even a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, leave alone part of the HFAC leadership," he said, adding that the meeting was sought with the leadership of House Foreign Affairs Committee.

"Does (US) Secretary (of State) (Mike) Pompeo meet every Indian parliamentarian when he goes to India? At the most, he will meet those MPs who handle foreign relations committee," Barai said.

"Her position on Kashmir issue is well known. She has already made up her mind, which she is not willing to change," he asserted.

Another Indian-American, who requested anonymity, said it was not India which put conditions for the meeting but the House Foreign Affairs Committee that insisted on unilaterally bringing in a non-member.

"No Foreign Minister of any independent country should be pressured into meeting such politicians with their own agendas," he said.

"A distorted narrative" is being put out by some about Jaishankar's meeting with the US Congress, he said.

## Muslim professor in Pak sentenced to death on blasphemy charges

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

A Muslim professor was sentenced to death on Saturday by a Pakistani court for a blasphemous Facebook post, according to a media report.

Junaid Hafeez, who was a visiting lecturer at the Department of English Literature of the Bahauddin Zakariya University (BZU) in Multan city of Punjab Province, was booked on blasphemy charges and was arrested by police on March 13, 2013.

The trial of the case started in 2014 and Hafeez has been lodged in a high-security ward of New Central Jail in Multan.

Additional Sessions Judge Kashif Qayyum sentenced Hafeez to death and imposed a fine of Rs 0.5 million under Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), the *Dawn News* reported. Hafeez's lawyer, Rashid Rehman, was shot dead in May 2014 in his office.

His parents had earlier this year appealed to former chief justice Asif Saeed Khosa to look into their son's case. They sought justice for their son, fearing for his mental and physical health, the daily said.

They had said their son had been languishing in solitary confinement in a cell of the Central Jail, Multan, for the last six years on the false charge of blasphemy.

"Due to transfer of many judges, delaying tactics of prosecution witnesses, and difficulties finding adequate legal counsel for the defence because of the sensitive nature of the case, our son continues to await justice in a fabricated case," Junaid's parents had said in a written appeal to the chief justice.

Blasphemy is a hugely sensitive issue in Pakistan, with even unproven allegations often prompting mob violence. Anyone convicted, or even just accused, of insulting Islam, risks a violent and bloody death at the hands of vigilantes.

Rights groups have said the blasphemy laws are routinely abused to seek vengeance and settle personal scores.

## ICC to probe 'war crimes' in Palestinian territories

AFP ■ THE HAGUE

The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor has said she wanted to open a full investigation into alleged war crimes in the Palestinian territories, sparking a furious reaction from Israel and condemnation from the United States.

The Palestinians welcomed the move by the ICC as a "long overdue step" following a nearly five-year preliminary probe by the prosecutor into the situation since the 2014 war in Gaza.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the decision made the Hague-based court, which Israel has refused to sign up to since its creation in 2002, a "political tool" against the Jewish state.

"I am satisfied that there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation into the situation in Palestine," ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said in a statement on Friday.

"In brief, I am satisfied that war crimes have been or are being committed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip," she added, without specifying the perpetrators of the alleged crimes.

She said that before opening a full probe, she would ask the ICC to rule on the territory over which it has jurisdiction because of the "unique and highly contested legal and factual issues attaching to this situation."

"Specifically, I have sought

confirmation that the 'territory' over which the Court may exercise its jurisdiction, and which I may subject to investigation, comprises the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza."

The prosecutor added however that she did not require any authorisation from judges to open a probe as there had been a referral from the Palestinians, who joined the court in 2015.

"We firmly oppose this and any other action that seeks to target Israel unfairly," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said of Washington's top ally in the region.

"We do not believe the Palestinians qualify as a sovereign state, and they therefore are not qualified to obtain full membership, or participate as a state in international organisations, entities, or conferences, including the ICC."

The issue is highly sensitive, with former White House national security adviser John Bolton threatening last year to arrest ICC judges if they moved against Israel or the United States.

Both countries have refused to sign up to the court, which was set up in 2002 to be the only global tribunal trying the world's worst crimes, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Bensouda launched a preliminary probe in January 2015 into allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity in

Israel and the Palestinian territories, in the wake of the 2014 Gaza war.

A full ICC investigation could possibly lead to charges against individuals. States cannot be charged by the ICC.

"Palestine welcomes this step as a long overdue step to move the process forward towards an investigation, after nearly five long and difficult years of preliminary examination," the Palestinian statement said.

Netanyahu however lashed out at what he called a "dark day for truth and justice".

"The ICC prosecutor's decision has turned the International Criminal Court into a political tool to delegitimise the State of Israel," he said.

The ICC's preliminary investigation has looked at the 2014 war which left 2,251 dead on the Palestinian side, the majority civilians, and 74 on the Israeli side, most of them soldiers. It has also looked at violence near the Israel-Gaza border in 2018.

Earlier this month, the ICC prosecutor refused to press charges over a deadly 2010 Israeli raid on a flotilla bringing aid to Gaza, and urged that probe to be shut.

Nine Turkish citizens died in May 2010 when Israeli marines stormed the Mavi Marmara, among eight ships trying to break a naval blockade of the Gaza Strip. One more died in hospital in 2014.

## Challenged by China and Russia, US builds force for future space wars

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

The United States has met a mounting 21st century strategic challenge from Russia and China with the creation of a full-fledged US Space Force within the Department of Defence.

Acting on an ambition by President Donald Trump that had met resistance at first, the White House signalled its determination to not cede superiority in a Star Wars-like future of killer satellites and satellite-killer weapons.

Trump made the Space Force's creation real with the signing of the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, which set the initial budget for a Pentagon force that will stand equally with the military's five other branches.

"Going to be a lot of things happening in space, because space is the world's newest warfighting domain," Trump told members of the military gathered for the signing. The Space Force will be the sixth formal force of the US military, after the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard.

"Our reliance on space-based capabilities has grown dramatically, and today outer space has evolved into a warfighting domain of its own," said Secretary of Defense Mark Esper on Friday.

"Maintaining American dominance in that domain is now the mission of the United States Space Force," Esper compared the Space Force's creation to the landmark creation of a separate US Air Force in 1947, hived off from the Army after World War II in recognition that aerial war fighting was indeed a separate domain that

would be important in the future.

Now that recognition is extended to space, a crucial venue for both military spy and communications satellites which will be targeted by adversaries in any conflict, and the possibility of outer-space launch platforms for destructive weapons.

The Defense Intelligence Agency warned in a report early this year that China and Russia have both developed "robust and capable" space services for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

"China and Russia, in particular, are developing a variety of means to exploit perceived US reliance on space-based systems and challenge the US position in space," it said.

China already demonstrated it could shoot down a satellite with a ground-based missile in 2007.

"Both states are developing jamming and cyberspace capabilities, directed energy weapons, on-orbit capabilities, and ground-based antisatellite missiles that can achieve a range of reversible to non-reversible effects," it said.

Iran and North Korea, too, are increasingly able to extend their military activities into space, jamming the communications of adversaries and developing ballistic missile technologies, it noted.

China and Russia have the perception "that space represents an (American) Achilles heel and that this is an asymmetric advantage for them to then take on the United States' power," Steve Kitay, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy, said in August. "Space will not be an Achilles

heel" for the US, he said.

The new organisation builds on the US Space Command already operating under the Air Force following its creation in August.

Like the Marines, which operate within the umbrella of the Navy, the Space Force will continue to be under the Air Force. Space Command will continue on, focused on war fighting – much like the Pentagon's regional commands like CentCom – while the Space Force will encompass broader missions like training, procurement, long-term planning and other functions.

The Space Force will be comprised of about 16,000 air force and civilian personnel, some already taking part in the Space Command, according to Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett. It will have its own uniform, shoulder patches and even, eventually, its own song, just as the US Army and Navy have their own.

"The US Space Force will protect America's national interests by its singular focus on space. The United States has the best space acumen in the world," Barrett said.

"It's a different sort of portfolio than what we might be thinking of when we generally think about warfighting machines," she said.

Leading the Space Force will be Air Force General Jay Raymond, who currently runs SpaceCom.

"With the establishment of the United States Space force, we're elevating space commensurate with its importance to our national security and the security of our allies and our partners," said Raymond.

## Transport strikes disrupt Christmas travel in France

Paris (AP): French travelers and tourists were struggling on Saturday to get to their destinations as the Christmas season ramped up amid continuing strikes against the government's plans to raise the retirement age to 64. Train travel problems were slightly eased on Saturday with a plan from rail authority SNCF to inform passengers several days in advance and propose ticket exchanges. Still, only half of the high-speed trains were running and regional trains, including in the Paris region, remained severely disrupted.

In the French capital, eight of the 14 metro lines were closed and many others were running erratically. In Paris' Saint-Lazare train station, serving western France, Jean Baptiste Beudon was relieved to see his train was not canceled. "We got confirmation two or three days before the departure, but we were still worried to have our train," he told The Associate Press. Aurelie Lecerf, travelling with her children, said: "We arrived here at six o'clock this morning to get a train. The last one was full but we should get the next one."

Millions of French are expected to travel in the next few days for Christmas family reunions. Many have sought alternative modes of transport, using car-sharing services or bus companies, which have seen a surge in reservations. Most transport unions have called for the strikes to continue during the holidays, as talks between the prime minister and labor leaders failed to reach a compromise this week. Recent polls show a majority of French still support the strikes over fears they will have to work longer in return for lower pensions – but a majority are also in favor of the suspension of the protest during the Christmas holidays.

## Australia battles 'catastrophic' wildfires

AP ■ PERTH

Australia's most populous state was paralysed by "catastrophic" fire conditions on Saturday amid soaring temperatures, while one person died as wildfires also ravaged the country's southeast, officials said.

"Catastrophic fire conditions are as bad as it gets," New South Wales Rural Fire Services Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons told reporters.

"Given we have a landscape with so much active fire burning, you have a recipe for very serious concern and a very dangerous day."

Areas in western Sydney were forecast to hit 47 degrees Celsius. Cooler air was expected to move through New South Wales late Saturday, although authorities warned that strong winds could push fires in dangerous new directions.

New South Wales is in a seven-day state of emergency, with around 2,000 firefighters battling 100 wildfires.

Two firefighters died on Thursday battling blazing southwest of Sydney. Geoffrey



A home stands as smoke from the Grose Valley fire rises in the distance in Bilpin, west of Sydney, on Saturday. AP

Keaton, 32, and Andrew O'Dwyer, 36, were in a truck convoy southwest of Sydney when a tree fell and caused their vehicle to roll off the road.

Authorities confirmed on Saturday that one person died and 15 homes were destroyed in South Australia as a wildfire ravaged the Adelaide Hills on Friday, just 40 kilometers from the state capital of Adelaide.

Another person was critically injured after fighting to save his home from the fires.

That follows the death of a 24-year-old man in a road crash in South Australia on Friday, which sparked a fire in the area of the Murraylands.

Authorities said 23 firefighters and several police have also suffered injuries, as more than 40,000 hectares burned

across South Australia.

"It is going to be a real scene of devastation, especially for those people in the Adelaide Hills who have been most affected," South Australia Premier Steven Marshall said.

"We know that in addition to the buildings and vehicles lost, there are very significant losses in terms of livestock, animals, crops, vineyards."

The annual Australian fire season, which peaks during the Southern Hemisphere summer, started early after an unusually warm and dry winter. Around 3 million hectares of land has burned nationwide during a torrid past few months, with nine people killed and more than 800 homes destroyed.

The devastation has put pressure on Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who has received criticism for going on a family vacation in Hawaii during the wildfire crisis. He apologised on Friday for any offense "caused to any of the many Australians affected by the terrible bushfires by my taking leave with family at this time."

Morrison cut short his

vacation and returned home on Saturday night. He is due to visit the New South Wales Rural Fire Service headquarters on Sunday.

Debate has reignited on whether Morrison's conservative government has taken enough action on climate change. Australia is the world's largest exporter of coal and liquefied natural gas.

Fatih Biroli, International Energy Agency executive director, believes Australia has missed opportunities to mitigate the impact of coal.

"I find the Australian energy debate far too emotional, far too nervous and far too hot. It is hotter than the climate change itself," he told *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*.

Protesters on Thursday camped outside Morrison's Sydney residence demanding urgent action on climate change.

Morrison, who critics have deemed a climate change skeptic, conceded earlier this month that "climate change along with many other factors" has contributed to the wildfires.



Pope Francis delivers his message on the occasion of his Christmas greetings to Vatican employees, in the Pope Paul VI Hall, at the Vatican, on Saturday. AP

his recent synod on the Amazon, which called for the ordination of married men as priests, and what they considered pagan worship of an Amazonian statue of a pregnant woman that was featured during the meeting. Francis has defended his outlook and priorities as a reflection of the Gospel, and the axiom that the true tradition of the church is one of a continuous, discerned path of change.

## Trump signs \$1.4 trillion in spending, avoids shutdown

West Palm Beach (AP): President Donald Trump has signed off nearly USD 1.4 trillion in spending that will keep the government funded through September 30, dodging the possibility of a shutdown ahead of what's expected to be a contentious election season. White House deputy press secretary Judd Deere said Trump signed the legislation on Friday aboard Air Force One as he travelled to his Mar-a-Lago resort, where he will be

celebrating Christmas and New Year's. The spending measures, which will add roughly USD 400 billion to the deficit over 10 years, include money for the president's US-Mexico border fence, pay raises for military and civilian federal workers, and federal funding for election security grants. The massive spending measures were made public earlier this week and headed off a repeat of last year's 35-day partial government shutdown.

SHOW TIME

# Not a patch on the original



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Rewind 2019

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



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

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



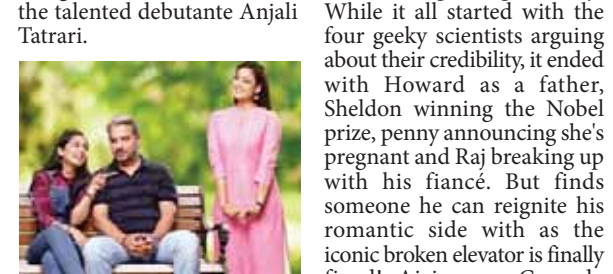
# Hope you tuned in

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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



## NEW FACES ON BLOCK



**Kamna Pathak** who plays Rajesh, wife of daroga Happu Singh in Happu Ki Ultan Patlan.



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



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



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

# 'Karishma was my grandfather's favourite'

Celebrating the 100 episodes of *The Kapil Sharma Show*, the upcoming weekend will see Bollywood's eminent superstars and the cast of *Good Newwz* — Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor, Diljit Dosanjh, and Kiara Advani taking the entertainment quotient of the show a few notches higher. While all the other actors have experienced the show previously, Kareena however marked her presence for the very first time. Being a first timer, Kareena ensured a heavy dose of laughter with a comebacks and confessions.

In a candid conversation Kapil mentioned that Raj Kapoor sir was very fond of mangoes and used to keep them hidden in a room — did Kareena manage to get her hands on them? To which Kareena went down the memory lane recalling how her grandfather used to keep the mangoes locked in his room and didn't give them to anyone. She shared: "We used to try to get our hands on these mangoes secretly, but we never got an opportunity. My grandfather was so particular that he used to keep the mangoes in the cabinets and lock them (laughs). But



Karishma always managed to get the mangoes. In fact, Karishma was my grandfather's favorite grandchild. He used to dote on her and was obsessed with her. I used to try and get my hands on Karishma's share and hide in the garden and eat it."

Continuing the conversation Kareena further added: "Whenever Karisma used to

ask him for mangoes he used to say *lo beta lo lo*" Akshay couldn't resist himself and passed a quirky comment: "Maybe that's why she is addressed as Lolo (laughs)" to which Kareena replied, "I think I need to definitely check this with my mom on this."

Further in the conversation Kapil revealed that Taimur Ali Khan's doctor and his daughter's doctor was the same.

## Vighnaharta Ganesh completes 600 episodes

Sony Entertainment Television's *Vighnaharta Ganesh* has made its mark in the minds of the viewers through its mythological content engaging the people in pure devotion. Audiences have showered their love on the show since its inception and it isn't surprising at all that the show has completed the new milestone of 600 episodes and the team decided to celebrate it with cutting a cake with the entire cast and crew of the show.

The show is among the most popular television shows and has been approved by all parents and grandparents for their kids as a source of mythological learning. The current track of the show revolves around one of the biggest fables of India, that is Ramayana and actors like Arun Mandela, Vishal Kotian can be seen in various characters of Ramayana. The upcoming track would tell the story of Ayyappa and Sabrimala temple. Lord Ayyappa was born from Shiva and Mohini (avatar of Shiva) to kill Mahisasur's sister Mahishi.

As Malkhan Singh, Akanksha Puri and Nishkarsh Dixit continues to impress the audiences through their life-like depiction of Shiva, Parvati and Ganesh respectively, expressed their thorough gratitude for the love the show has been getting. The entire cast was seen



celebrating as they gathered together for the cake cutting. Malkhan Singh aka Shiva said: "It feels great that the show has been able to get so much love from the audience and I would like to thank everyone for their support. This milestone feels big but as we shot together it never feels like it has been so long. There is a great bonding among all the actors and the crew and we are working our best to deliver the world-class to the audience."

Adding on to Malkhan, Akanksha Puri aka Parvati said: "We share a great bond amongst ourselves and the cast and crew has now become a family. The show has achieved a big honor of completing 600 episodes. For us it's a start and we see a long journey ahead."

## Dabangg 3 cast on TKSS

Completing its 100 episodes with a bang this week, *The Kapil Sharma Show* promises biggest laughter riot with blockbuster Bollywood celebs Salman Khan, Sonakshi Sinha, Prabhudeva, Sai Majrekar, Sudeep Kichcha and Arbaaz Khan. While in conversation with Kapil Sharma, cast of *Dabangg 3* will be seen having a ball promoting their upcoming release *Dabangg 3* and playing show's popular game 'Ke Bhaail Crorepati'. Salman Khan will take the show's energy a notch higher as he will be seen grooving on his recently released popular song 'Munna Badnam'.

As he heard the song's interesting title, Kapil asked about how this song came into being. Recalling the incident Arbaaz narrates, "We were looking for an item song for *Dabangg 3* like we had *Munni Badnam* in *Dabangg 1* and *Fevicol* in *Dabangg 2*. We were on a hunt to find a tod for *Munni Badnam* to put in *Dabangg 3*. Salman called me at 1:30am in the night asking to rush and meet him. He said he got the perfect solution (tod) for *Munni Badnam*." After having an hour's conversation with Arbaaz Salaman spilled the beans on his masterpiece. Arbaaz adds, "Salman said *Munna Badnam* is the perfect song and we should go for this. Initially, I objected his idea saying we can brainstorm more and come up with some original rather than curating the older one."

Arbaaz mentioned that he was convinced for the title when Salman promised him that they will keep the song only if the outcome turns out well. He adds, "The idea was shared with Lalit ji as he sang *Munni Badnam* and as a second option Sajid Wajid was also given a chance. Both the songs turned out very beautifully but Sajid Wajid's song was finally selected for the movie. After *Munni Badnam* in *Dabangg 1*, *Fevicol* in *Dabangg 2*, *Munna Badnam* seemed perfect in *Dabangg 3*."

## TELLYTALE

### NEW SHOW



In 1992, a storm descended on India's financial circle, when the biggest securities scam was exposed by financial journalist Sucheta Dalal. *Scam 1992 - The Harshad Mehta Story* is the tale of a seminal moment in a seminal decade in Indian history. Applause Entertainment, the content studio from the Aditya Birla group is creating this white-collar-crime financial thriller, based on Debashish Basu and Sucheta Dalal's best-selling book *The Scam*. The series is being directed by National Award winning director Hansal Mehta and is produced by Studio Next for Applause Entertainment.

Celebrated theatre and movie actor Pratik Gandhi, who is known for his work in Gujarati theatre and cinema, portrays the role of one of the most controversial stock brokers of all times — Harshad Mehta. Shreya Dhanwanthary, who has been in the news for her performance in recent shows like *The Family Man* and *The Reunion*, will be seen playing the role of the fierce journalist and whistle-blower Sucheta Dalal.

The protagonist Harshad Mehta actually entered the stock market by chance in the late 70s. He had a natural gift for speculation and entrepreneurship, and an eye for loopholes. This ingenuity coupled with brash self-confidence made him the Big Bull of BSE — often called 'Amitabh Bachchan' or 'Einstein' of the stock market. Soon Harshad became the common man's hero, and his clients were investing less in the stocks and more in Harshad himself.

Ace casting director, Mukesh Chhabra along with Hansal Mehta discovered the talented Pratik Gandhi for this character. The series boasts over 30 featured parts representing colourful, real life characters played by actors like Satish Kaushik, Anant Mahadevan, Rajat Kapoor, Nikhil Divvedi, K K Raina, Lalit Parimoo and many others. The book has been brilliantly adapted by screenplay and dialogue writers Sumit Purohit, Saurav Dey, Vaibhav Vishal and Karan Vyas.

### WEDDING BELLS

Wedding bells ahead in Sony SAB's *Aladdin: NaamTohSunahoga*. A new woman has entered Aladdin's life. This highly revered show is set to witness a grand union between Aladdin and Queen of Misr, Sultana Adaya, played by the immensely talented, Pal John. While the beloved duo of Sony SAB, Aladdin(Siddharth Nigam) and Yasmine(Avneet Kaur), were seen coming

closer to each other, the journey of Alasmine has taken a shocking turn. The upcoming episodes reveal Aladdin's decision to marry Sultana Adaya and Yasmine's reaction to it. Recently, the viewers witnessed Alasminelakashqnama as Prince Ali finally revealed his true identity as Aladdin to the love of his life, Yasmine. The duo post their reunion, joined hands to get Ginoo(RaashulTandon) back from Zafar's (Aamir Dalvi) control. While they successfully turn Ginoo to his good old self, things take a rather serious turn as Baghdad is hit with a violent snow storm.

Aladdin and his toli find out that the only way to save Baghdad was to find a device which will help divert the snow storm and the only person who has the device is the Queen of Misr, SultanaAdaya. On a quest to save Baghdad, Aladdin, Zafar, Yasmine



and the entire toll reach Misr and as they enter the palace, Ali is mistaken as the Sultan of Misr. Sultana Adaya fascinated by Ali, announces that he will indeed be her Sultan and announces their marriage. The story takes a jaw dropping twist as Ali agrees to the proposal in front of Yasmine.

### GAUTAM TO BE SEEN IN BHAKHARWADI

*Bhakhawadi*, the slice of life show of Sony SAB will soon be witnessing the entry of a new man in Gayatri and Abhishek's life. The show continues to gain immense appreciation and support for its relatable and gripping storyline essayed by a phenomenal star cast. Adding to this star cast will be the television heart-throb and immensely talented Gautam Rode. Bhakhawadi will mark Gautam's debut in the comedy genre.

Gautam will be essaying the role of Abhijeet, a businessman with a 7 year old son. Abhijeet is a humble man with a charming personality. Whoever meets him, is taken in by his endearing and modest nature. Being a single parent, his only priority is his child's happiness, which makes him take the decision to re-marry someday, so that his child has a mother.

Thrilled about his entry in the show, Gautam Rode said, "I really like the show, Bhakhawadi on Sony SAB as it is different from what goes on television these days. I like the writing, the screenplay and the storyline of this show. I am also fond of both Paresh (Ganatra) bhai and Deven (Bhojani) bhai. Secondly, J.D. (Majethia) bhai and Aatish (Kapadia) bhai are like



family to me, as my first television show, *Baa Bahu aur Baby* was with them. So, one day as we were chatting, I expressed my liking towards *Bhakhawadi* and just a few days back I received a call from them for the role of Abhijeet in the show. I really liked the character and the track and hence agreed to it."

Gautam further added, "My role Abhijeet is a special appearance in the show and he is a perfect guy who will be loved by everyone from kids to young girls to elderly people."

### WALK DOWN THE MEMORY LANE

The legendary singer Kishore Kumar was an evergreen personality who will be always remembered for his mesmerising



songs. Sony Entertainment Television's most loved singing reality show *Indian Idol Season 11* will be giving a tribute to the late Kishore Kumar this weekend. The upcoming episode of the show will see Kishore Kumar's wife Leena Chandavarkar and his son Amit and Sumit Kumar having amazing time revisiting Kishore Kumar's memories when they will be listening our top Indian Idol contestants.

The rockstar of the show Rishabh Chaturvedi performed on songs *Aise na mujhe tum dekho* and *Aake seedhi lagi dil pe*. His performance made everyone go gaga over him. The special judges Amit kumar couldn't stop praising Rishabh for singing both the songs so beautifully especially the second song *Aake seedhi lagi dil pe* as it has to be sung in two voices. He also told this song had to sung as a duet with Lata ji and Late Kishore Kumar but because of some emergency Lata ji couldn't make it. Then Kishore Kumar only suggested that I can sing in a voice of a lady and that's how Kishore da gave one of the most iconic songs of his life.





# POWERPUFF GIRLS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The other thing that kept disturbing Arti was that none of the children from lower castes or the Banjara community went to school. "Initially, it never bothered me. But after I was told about the opportunities that open up when you get educated, I started wondering, 'How would the future for these children be, without education?'" she tells you.

This thought made Arti and other children determined to work to change the situation. As a result, today, all 96 children in her village are enrolled in schools around the area.

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

The Banjara community, a historically nomadic

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Arti Kumari

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Champa Kumari

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# India look to end on high

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

PTI ■ CUTTACK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

AP

be bolstered by that.

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

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

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

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

## Series outcome won't influence WI path

PTI ■ CUTTACK

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

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

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



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

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

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

gone without a win in 16 bilateral ODI series since August 2014. "The thing is we are trying to build something and the game tomorrow (on Sunday) does not influence the direction in which we are going... But we are trying to build something and will continue to be in direction we are going."

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



Abid Ali celebrates with Shan Masood after scoring hundred AP

## Openers put Pak on top

AFP ■ KARACHI

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

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

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

Skipper Azhar Ali was unbeaten on 57 —

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

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

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

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

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

## I know my game really well now: Iyer

PTI ■ CUTTACK

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

## 'Indian pace attack is world's best'



Mohd Shami celebrates after taking wicket PTI

PTI ■ JOHANNESBURG

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

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

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

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

Steyn, who has played

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

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

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

"Big chance... England weren't convincing in New Zealand, that's not to say they are not good. I'm just saying they didn't look the part. Under Boucher (head coach Mark Boucher) I feel we have it covered, but it's going to be exciting," said Steyn.

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

AFP ■ HOFFENHEIM

## Season of giving

BVB gift Hoffenheim win with late collapse

Reus ruled out until January with a muscular problem Dortmund coach Lucien Favre named Goetze in attack.

The hosts made four changes from the midweek victory at Union Berlin, a first win in five games, as Norway's Havard Nordtveit made his first start for the club in more than a year at centre-back.

Dortmund led after 16 minutes of play as Achraf Hakimi found acres of space down the right wing.

The Morocco wing-back, on loan from Real Madrid, pulled back a low cross into the box and Goetze tapped home from short range despite Sebastian Rudy's goal-line efforts.

With six minutes left of the half Thorgan Hazard was denied a chance to double Dortmund's lead following a superb Oliver Baumann save.

Despite Dortmund dominating the game and having

## Roma solidify CL push

MILAN: Aleksandar Kolarov scored a magnificent free-kick as Roma bolstered their Champions League credentials in Italy with a 4-1 victory away to Fiorentina on Friday.

Edin Dzeko's seventh goal of the season put Roma ahead on 19 minutes in Florence against a side without a win at home since October 6.

Former Manchester City defender Kolarov curled in a terrific 20-yard strike to double Roma's lead before Milan Badelj pulled one back just past the half-hour.

Roma ensured they put some pressure on local rivals Lazio as Lorenzo Pellegrini's first-time effort from a Dzeko lay-off restored their two-goal cushion on 73 minutes.

The Bosnian forward then released Nicolò Zaniolo just inside the Fiorentina half, allowing the Italy international to sweep in a late fourth after a long run.

Paulo Fonseca's Roma have lost just once in Serie A since late September and a fourth win in five moved them six points clear of Cagliari in the race for the final Champions League spot.

## Curran excited to pick Dhoni, Fleming's brains

PTI ■ CHENNAI

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

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

new franchise.

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

"Super excited to be joining the Chennai Super Kings for next season of IPL. A massive thank you to the coach, management staff. "Just want to say I can't wait to play in front of the home fans in Chennai. I felt some amazing things, I was lucky enough to play last year against Chennai, and to play in front of the home fans this year is going to be really special. Hopefully, we can put in some great performances for the fans," he signed off.

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

FAISAL FEATURES

# Master takes on apprentice

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

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

AFP ■ LONDON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"But there's not one specific thing I learned working under him, and I wouldn't strive to be a clone or anything.



"I'm happy to go up against Jose; for me to play under him, he was a big influence in my career."

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

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

## Jan, Eriksen to stay at Spurs?

AFP ■ LONDON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The only thing I will say about Christian is that I want him to sign a new contract," added Mourinho. "The most important thing is what Toby said. I couldn't be happier anywhere else. That is fantastic."

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

moment.

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

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

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

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

stances.

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

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

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

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



## Ancelotti joins Toffees

AFP ■ LIVERPOOL

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

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

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

Ancelotti has won league titles in four different countries.

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

"This is a great club with a rich history and a very passionate fan base," Ancelotti said in a club statement. "There is a clear vision from the owner and the board

to deliver success and trophies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Barca end 2019 on top

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Pep 'best coach in world'



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

AFP ■ MADRID

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

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

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

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

"I respected him as a player and

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

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

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

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

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

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



Real Madrid vs Bilbao  
Live from 1:30am IST  
FACEBOOK

## TRAU, Real Kashmir search maiden win

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

## Leipzig keep 1st place in Germany

AFP ■ LEIPZIG

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

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

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

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

However, Leipzig battered the visitors' goal and their 16th attempt finally went in when midfielder Konrad Laimer curled his shot inside the top corner on 88 minutes.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Acting was the only option'

## What is your role in The Wedding Guest?

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

## Talktime

JIM SARBH

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

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

riage in Pakistan and bring her down to India.

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

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

## What made you take up acting?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Would you agree that Padmaavat changed your career graph?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## What are the other projects that you are working on?

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

# Destination: 10 for 2020

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

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

## MILWAUKEE, WI, US

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

## BILBAO, SPAIN

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

## BURIRAM, THAILAND

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

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

## SUNBURY, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

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

## ROMANIA

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

## XI'AN, CHINA

Often cited as one of the birthplaces of Chinese civilisation, Xi'an is best known as the home of the terracotta warriors — a vast collection of prehistoric clay soldiers discovered by local farmers in 1974. Today, the capital of China's western Shaanxi province is a major culinary melting pot while its numerous historical monuments have earned it the nickname 'China's outdoor museum'. The ancient city plans a new offering in 2020: a tourism programme that will introduce 30 night-



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

## EUGENE, OR, US

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



## LUXEMBOURG

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

## GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

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

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

## MAASTRICHT, NETHERLANDS

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

Courtesy: Airbnb

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

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

## Are you a composer or a singer first?

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

## Why take up composing then?

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

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

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

## How did your song Tum Hi Aana from Marjaavaan happen?

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

## How did the Dabangg 3 song happen?

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

## The song has been sung by Salman Khan.

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

## What are the challenges you face while composing?

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

## Is it tough to sing for other composers?

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



# WEEKLY NATTER

## TAAPSEE AND VIKRANT TO STAR IN HASEEN DILLRUBA

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

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

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

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

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

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

The movie will release on September 18, 2020.



## GABRU GETS A MAKEOVER

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

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

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

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



## SONU SOOD IS MY MENTOR: LAKSHYA

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

The actor has bagged a film alongside actor Sonu Sood and is already planning on taking acting classes to master the art.

Talking about his journey, Lakshya says: "I love what I do and fashion is my calling. I am glad that I could prove myself at the important junctures in my journey. Yes, being the youngest Mr India has got me the kind experience in terms of how the industry works, but I am eager to know more."

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



# agenda

the pioneer

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



FROM THE INSIDE

## Path to spiritual awakening

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

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CHANGE

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## No shortcut to fixing issues

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

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



# Lentils and pakodas

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

Just think of the lentils you can recognise by taste and if all you can come up with is *kali dal* and *peeli dal* and may be *sambar*, you need to educate yourself better. The amazing variety of lentils available in India has a potential to make our everyday food much more nutritious and bring a wider flavour profile to our plate. In fact, the awareness about the variety of real foods and ingredients available around us can be instrumental in bringing a desired change in our own health management and the environment of the planet. The regional variety of foods within the country is mind boggling and when I see people lugging gluten free flours from the west, I wonder when and how would we market our millets better. Recently, when I moved to Dehradun, I was most excited about the local seasonal vegetables, lentils and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

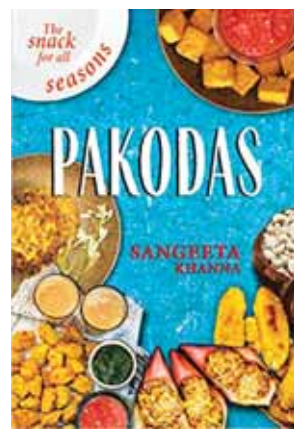
The stone grinders in the southern states are more adapted for the ways the lentils are processed before cooking. To make the lentils digestible and suited for the warm climate, they are soaked and ground into a wet paste before fermenting them in most cases. The stone grinders for wet grinding are in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

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

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

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

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



### Pakodas The Snack for All Seasons

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

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

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





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



**HIDDEN SOULS**  
PRAMOD PATHAK

## Happiness: A Vedantic view



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

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

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

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

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

### HOW TO ATTAIN SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS?

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

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

The writer is a spiritual leader

# PATH TO SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

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



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

### WHAT IS SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS?

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

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

### QUALITIES OF SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS

**Love:** Anyone who has experienced

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Celebrating Jesus Christ

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



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

### THE BIBLE & JESUS

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

### A PATIENT MUST KNOW THAT HE IS SICK

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

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

### RESPOND TO HIS CALL

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

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

### THE PATH AHEAD

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

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

### REMEMBER THE CRUCIFIXION AND REPENT

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

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

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

The writer is a spiritual leader and founder, Advait Foundation

## The quest for real sukha

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

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

In English, the word happiness is used for *sukha*, and the word happiness is defined as a feeling or showing pleasure; pleased. Here the emphasis is on pleasure like sense enjoyment. There is no reference to a peaceful state. Happiness index, calculated for different countries has housing, income, work, education, safety, etc. However, happiness is person specific. These factors are conducive for becoming peaceful but individuals have to still make personal efforts to be happy. This is where spirituality comes in, when we identify ourselves as souls, and act accordingly. A soul being part of God must connect with God and that is where peace comes from. The word peace is defined as a state of being calm. This is close but the real peace comes from a good connection with God, as explained in the same verse quoted above. Peace comes from faith in God and God consciousness as a result of it.

Without this knowledge, people get bemused and do not seek real *sukha*. It is no wonder that they do not get satisfaction and keep on looking for more of the same pleasures. This is because such pleasures are like insatiable fire; more one tries to satisfy the self more intense they become. There is another



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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Brexit: The final journey under Johnson

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

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



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

AP

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The writer is an expert on international affairs)

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



MAKHAN SAINIA

## PERSPECTIVE

# Management of land can stop farmers' suicide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In this context, it is emphasised that trees which are the only natural means of sustaining and increasing the productivity of the land is missing in most of the landscapes that are required to be restored on an perennials. Hence, there is a dire need to push the programme of agro and farm forestry with utmost seriousness to check the fast deterioration of soil and water resources.

It is reiterated that there is no other natural means other than the trees or the perennial vegetation that can restore

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

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

Agroforestry programme in shape of wind and shelter belts can restore or even improve soil fertility. The problem is that scientific data on actual changes taking place in soil fertility is scarce.

Again there is no good substitute for local scientific research. The main question to be resolved is the rate at which the soil loss is taking place.

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

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

mine that no conflicting provisions exist.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The author is former Indian Forest Service officer)



BKP SINHA



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

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



**ARIES** March 21-April 19

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

**Lucky number 21**  
**Lucky colour** Peach  
**Lucky day** Tuesday



**LEO** July 23-Aug 22

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

**Lucky number 31**  
**Lucky colour** Red  
**Lucky day** Wednesday



**SAGITTARIUS** Nov 22-Dec 21

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

**Lucky number 20**  
**Lucky colour** Sky Blue  
**Lucky day** Friday



**TAURUS** April 20-May 20

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

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour** Camel brown  
**Lucky day** Sunday



**VIRGO** Aug 23-Sep 22

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

**Lucky number 13**  
**Lucky colour** Turquoise  
**Lucky day** Friday



**CAPRICORN** Dec 22-Jan 19

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

**Lucky number 30**  
**Lucky colour** Green  
**Lucky day** Thursday



**GEMINI** May 21-June 20

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

**Lucky number 12**  
**Lucky colour** White  
**Lucky day** Monday



**LIBRA** Sep 23-Oct 22

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

**Lucky number 11**  
**Lucky colour** Pink  
**Lucky day** Monday



**AQUARIUS** Jan 20-Feb 18

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

**Lucky number 14**  
**Lucky colour** Brown  
**Lucky day** Wednesday



**CANCER** June 21-July 22

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

**Lucky number 22**  
**Lucky colour** Grey  
**Lucky day** Friday



**SCORPIO** Oct 23-Nov 21

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

**Lucky number 10**  
**Lucky colour** Silver  
**Lucky day** Saturday



**PISCES** Feb 19-March 20

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

**Lucky number 28**  
**Lucky colour** Orange  
**Lucky day** Tuesday

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**ASTROTURF**

BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

# No shortcuts to fixing problems

A couple of months back someone called me to check on longevity prospects of one of his friends he had brought seeking astrological advice. "Why?" I questioned. "His kidney is malfunctioning and has to undergo dialysis twice a week." He answered. I immediately recalled that the man in question had come to me a couple of years back with two straight questions: "Sir, I am a lawyer by profession. Many astrologers said that I am a genius. Yet, every now and then, my career goes for a toss. I have heard a lot about you. Kindly perform a puja that saves me from such an ordeal and ensures success. Also, some astrologers have warned me that I may face serious health issues close to 45 years of age. Please do conduct puja that would help me build my immunity level and save it from failing ever. Don't worry about the cost."

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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