

OPINION 8
UNFULFILLED GOALS

WORLD 12
FBI WAS JUSTIFIED IN PROBING TRUMP-RUSSIA: FED WATCHDOG

AVENUES 13
PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS ARE MUST

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the pioneer



ARSENAL BEAT WEST HAM IN PL CLASH
15 SPORT

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CAB fury engulfs N-E

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



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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) in the Lok Sabha, the North-East on Tuesday erupted over the proposed law. Police and protesters clashed at several places and the

Government enforced a 48-hour Internet ban in Tripura. A day before the Bill is tabled in the Rajya Sabha, normal life was paralysed in Assam's Brahmaputra Valley during the shutdown, led by the All Assam Students' Union and the North East Students' Organisation (NESO).

The strike by AASU and NESO coincided with the bandh called by Leftist outfits, including the SFI, DYFI, AIDWA, AISF and AISA. Protesters took out huge processions in different areas of

Continued on Page 4

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

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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



"Disappointed to see JD(U) supporting CAB that discriminates right of citizenship on the basis of religion. It's incongruous with the party's constitution that carries the word secular thrice on the very first page and the leadership that is supposedly guided by Gandhian

Continued on Page 4

High voltage campaigning ends for 3rd phase of Assembly polls

State readies for polling in 17 constituencies on Dec 12

PNS ■ RANCHI

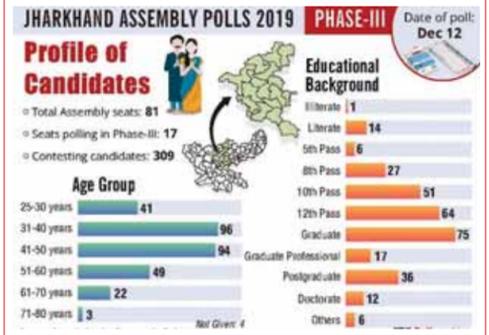
High voltage campaigning for the third phase of State Assembly elections ended on Tuesday with bigwigs, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Congress president Rahul Gandhi, trying to woo voters in Jharkhand. State administration has made elaborate security arrangements and taken several steps for voters' convenience ahead of the polls.

The third phase is very important for all political parties as several urban areas including the State Capital will go to poll on Thursday. Five out of 17 constituencies, going to polls on Thursday will have polling from 7 am to 5 pm, while rest 12 constituencies will have polling between 7 am and 3 pm. According to ECI, Ranchi, Hatia, Kanke, Ramgarh and Barkattha seats will have polling from 7 am to 5 pm, while other 12 seats will have normal polling schedule.

Chief Electoral Officer, Jharkhand, Vinay Kumar Choubey, said that polling personnel and polling agents are to be present at the polling station one and a half hours before the start of polling. After this, action of Mock Poll will be done. The voting process will



Chief Minister Raghubar Das interacts with villagers during an election campaign ahead of the third phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections at Ormanjhi in Ranchi on Tuesday



begin after Mock Poll. In the Assembly seats for which the voting time is 3 pm and 5 pm, all the voters present till that time will be able to vote.

Continued on Page 4

अबकी बार **65** पार

मोदी

ने बढ़ाया झारखण्ड का मान-सम्मान

भ्रष्टाचार और वंशवाद के खिलाफ निर्णायक जंग के लिए

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कमल का बटन दबाएं भाजपा को जिताएं

LAST DAY OF CAMPAIGNING

Ichargarh: Candidates toil hard in padyatras

Security beefed up on bordering areas

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Candidates toiled hard in padyatras and interacted with voters during the last day of campaigning for Ichagarh Assembly seat in the neighbouring Seraikela-Kharsawan district under Ranchi parliamentary constituency.

The constituency, which is witnessing contest between BJP's sitting MLA Sadhu Charan Mahato, JMM's Sabita Mahato, AJSU's Hare Lal Mahato and Independent Arvind Kumar Singh saw most of the candidates undertaking



JMM candidate from Ichagarh constituency Sabita Mahto, along with party supporters, during an election campaign roadshow ahead of 3rd phase of State Assembly polls on Tuesday

election campaigning. "I am grateful for the support I am getting. Our Government will give to every poor ₹3 lakh for construction of house, our Government will

provide free education to girls till they continue education," said Sabita Mahato while interacting voters. Significantly, Sabita's husband and former Jharkhand

deputy CM Sudhir Mahato had represented Ichagarh in 1990 and 2005 and had died in January 2014 due to massive heart attack at Ghatshila in East Singhbhum.

Sitting MLA, Sadhu Charan Mahato conducted padyatra in Khukru haat in Chandil block of the Ichagarh assembly constituency. "People are with us. In my tenure I have constructed 450 km of road, 500 minor ponds and provided electricity in 175 villages," said Sadhu Charan Mahato while interacting with villagers at Chandil.

Incidentally, UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath and Union textile minister Smriti Irani had campaigned for Sadhu Charan Mahato earlier this month. AJSU's Hare Lal Mahato a debutante in assembly elections today conducted padyatras in Chilgu panchayat of Chandil under Ichagarh assembly and has planned a massive bike rally in different blocks of Ichagarh assembly constituency tomorrow.

Independent candidate and three times MLA (1995, 2000 and 2009), Arvind Singh alias Malkhan Singh addressed village meetings at Nimdihi and Kapali today.

"You all know what has happened to you in the last five years. I do not need to tell much about myself. Even after losing election I was with you and will continue to be with you in future," said Arvind Singh.

Significantly, Arvind had won as an Independent in 1995 and on BJP ticket in 2001 and on JMM ticket in 2009. "I am confident of my victory people are themselves coming out in my support after being cheated by the sitting MLA who had promised to arrange compensation for being displaced for Subarnarekha Multi-purpose Project and also assured of job. But nothing has happened. There is a huge anti-incumbency against sitting MLA," said Arvind Singh. Incidentally, Ichagarh with 2.92 lakh voters and 337 polling booth will go to polls on December 2.

Meanwhile, security has been beefed up in bordering areas of Seraikela-Kharsawan district.

Ahead of PM visit: 3 km radius of Barwadda airport declared 'no flying zone'

PNS ■ BOKARO

Deputy Commissioner Dhanbad Amit Kumar has declared three km radius of Barwadda Airport as a no-flying zone on 12 December ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit.

PM's election rally is scheduled to be held at Barwadda Airport in Dhanbad on 12 December, his helicopter will land at the airport at Barwadda hence the perimeter of 3 km is declared as no flying zone, said Kumar.

Ahead of PM's visit entry of heavy vehicles will be banned in the city from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on that day. In order to maintain law and order, a traffic map has been prepared for traffic operations, informed Kishor Kaushal Senior Superintendent of Police Dhanbad.

All types of heavy vehicles will ply from Shakti Chowk to Rajganj Road. While from Kisan Chowk towards Nirankari Chowk, all other

types of vehicles would be banned except the vehicles going to be participating in the rally, said the SSP.

"Heavy vehicles will be operated from Govindpur and Baliaapur via Balaji Petrol Pump and from Matkuria it will be banned (except for vehicles participating in the rally)," added SSP. Except for the vehicle participating in the rally, communication of heavy vehicles will be banned from New Delhi to Dhanasar, from Binod Bihari Chowk to the airport, he informed. The entrance and parking of the administrative, press and VIP vehicles will be at Birsra Munda Stadium (from Memco turn towards Birsra Chowk), he said.

While the parking of vehicles participating in the rally will be in Dr. JK Sinha school grounds and on the side of the road, on the side of the road from Memco More to Goal Building, on the side of the road from Nirankari Chowk to Birsra Munda Chowk, he informed.

Political campaigning songs of Hindi cinema

ABHIJIT ROY

These days political fever is in full swing in the entire State for Assembly elections in Jharkhand. For this, there is a strong trial among all political parties. With an aim to make this election process in five stages more exciting among the public, the political parties are all basing the tunes of popular film songs of their time. The purpose of making these songs may have been something but there is no denial that the voters are being entertained very well. Needless to say, our Hindi films in this course too not lagging behind. There were many movies from the 60s and 70s that have attempted to speed up campaigning through songs.

Probably this tradition of campaigning through songs has started in Hindi films since 1969. In the same year, for the first time in the film Aashu Ban Gaye Phool, directed by filmmaker Satyen Bose, a song in the voice of Kishore Kumar, whose lyrics were Election mein Maalik ke ladke khade hain, arey inhen kam na samjho. The song was composed by music director Laxmikant Pyarelal, written by lyricist Taj Bhopali. Starred by Ashok Kumar, Pran, Dev Mukherjee, Alka Krishna, the film was produced by Ashok Kumar's younger brother and character actor Anoop Kumar.

In the same year, a song came in the voice of Kishore Kumar, Lata Mangeshkar in the superbhit film Apna Desh. Superstar Rajesh Khanna and Mumtaz starrer Apna Desh had a chartbuster song Sun Ri Champa Sun Tara, Koi Jeeta Koi Hara. The following year, in 1973, filmmaker Hrishikesh Mukherjee's superbhit film Namak Haram, had a song (Wo Jhutha hai vote na usko dena) played on actor Asrani

in the voice of the late singer Kishore Kumar. The song was also a big hit in its time. Apparently, these two songs, composed under the musical direction of RD Burman, were also written by the popular lyricist Anand Bakshi.

In the year 1974, Manmohan Desai's film Roti's song, Yeh jo public hai sab janti hai, even though the song in the film was not done in the backdrop of the election, but the lyrics of the song definitely tells that the politicians may try a million but they cannot hide its reality from the public. In this series, the song written and directed by Gulzar for Aandhi, Salaam Kijiye haali Janab aye hain, yeh panch saalon ka dene hisaab laye hain, how can be forgotten.

The song sung by Mohammed Rafi, Bhupendra Singh and Amit Kumar, was shot on character actors Harish Magan and Robert instead of the lead actors Sanjeev Kumar, Omprakash in the film. The film, which came in the era of Emergency, did not get much success at that time, but after the Emergency was lifted, the then Central Government approved the film to be shown on Doordarshan.

Filmmaker Vijay Anand's film Jaan Hazir Hai also featured a song to show the disputes between the public and the leader. Songs written by Shailee Shailendra, son of popular lyricist Shailendra, Bhakke Phoot Jayenge, Chakke Choot Jayenge was sung by Amit Kumar and Manhar Udhas. Jayakumar Parte, who had long collaborated with music composer duo Kalyanji Anandji, composed the music for the film, which was shot on Shekhar Kapoor and Prem Kishan. The writer is a senior HR executive in a private firm.

CSIR Integrated Skill Training Programme kicks off at NML

PNS ■ JAMSHEDPUR

Inaugural function of the Professional Training Programme (PTP) on Experimental Techniques in Iron and Steelmaking (ETIS 2019) was organised by CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur at Lecture Hall of CSIR-NML.

The economy growth and infrastructure development of a country goes hand-in-hand with the steel utilization and capacity creation. The growing environmental awareness and depletion of good quality raw materials imposes new and challenging task for the steel sectors. As the field of ferrous metallurgy is given lesser prominence in recent times, it is required to know the exper-



Inaugural function of the Professional Training Programme (PTP) on Experimental Techniques in Iron and Steelmaking (ETIS 2019) was organised by CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur at Lecture Hall of CSIR-NML.

imental techniques in the field of iron and steel, that enable to face the challenges in the near future.

Keeping this objective CSIR-NML organized this training programme. ETIS is being conducted at CSIR-NML for the second consecutive

time, after ETIS 2017. The main objective of this training programme is to refresh & enhance knowledge in experimental aspects of iron & steel-making processes. This training programme is organised under CSIR-Integrated Skill Training Initiative.

The programme was formally inaugurated by Dr. Indranil Chattoraj, Director CSIR-NML, Jamshedpur. Dr. Chattoraj welcomed the participants and appreciated delegates for coming to CSIR-NML to attend this four-day professional training programme (PTP) during 10-13 December 2019. He mentioned that it's a good opportunity for the delegates to have close interaction with the scientists and carry out collaboration programme for R & D activities in future. He also talked about the major environment related challenges that Iron & steel industries are facing. He also highlighted about the facilities that CSIR-NML is providing and encouraged the delegates to explore the laborato-

ry. Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Sr. Principal Scientist & Head, Metal Extraction Recycling (MER) Division, outlined the structure of the technical sessions of this training programme that includes classroom lectures, group discussions, demonstrations and hands-on experiments followed by laboratory visit.

Dr. Mita Tarafder, Chief Scientist & Head, Research Planning & Business Development (RPBD) Division was deliberating on the importance of training programme which was not only for enhancing technical knowledge but for developing interactions between R&D laboratory, industry & academics. She also gave a brief introduction of

CSIR and its laboratories. She highlighted about the various training programme that CSIR-NML is organizing in the financial year 2019-2020 under the banner of CSIR integrated skill training initiative. The Inaugural programme was concluded after the introduction of participants. Each participant shared their thoughts about the training program during the self-introduction session.

Inaugural program was concluded by formal vote of thanks by Dr. SK Pal, Sr. Principal Scientist and Co-ordinator of training programme ETIS 2019. It was mentioned that this training is a small initiative of CSIR-NML for developing the long term relation for technological intervention to this sector.

CRPF jawan shoots seniors Assistant Commandant, ASI killed, two injured

PNS ■ BERMO

In what appears to be a mutual dispute between CRPF personnel, who came to Gomia from Sukma in Chhattisgarh on Monday night, an Assistant Commandant and an ASI were killed and two jawans were injured in firing incident at Gomia.

Sources said that around 9.30 pm on Monday night, there was a lot of heated argument of words among CRPF personnel. At this stage, a CRPF jawan Deependra Yadav of the unit shot himself after firing on two CRPF officials, including Assistant Commandant, Sahul Arsan B and ASI Purnand Bhuiyan, sources added.

An atmosphere of chaos ensued due to the incident. ASP Umesh Kumar said that how the incident happened has not been known. According to reports, the incident took place near Kurknao within limits of Naxal-affected Chatrochhatti police station area under Gomia block of Bermo sub-division.

The dead have been identified as an Assistant



Commandant, Sahul Arsan B and ASI, Purnanand Bhuiya of CRPF 226 battalion, while the injured include Harishchandra Gokai and Dependra Yadav.

The injured CRPF personal are being treated first at Gomia Ardir Hospital then sent them to Medica Ranchi.

According to SDPO, Bermo Anjani Anjan, the CRPF team has stayed in two schools in Kurknao. Among them, one contingent stayed in High school and the other in a middle school.

Police sources said that it was not yet clear who fired on whom. "Weapons of the killed

jawans will be checked to ascertain whether they had retaliated or not. Further details of the incident were awaited. Police have also recovered three weapons, which included AK-47 from the spot," said the SDPO.

Constables Deependra Yadav and Harichandra Gokai were injured in the incident. They have been admitted in Medica and their condition was found to be stable. The personnel belonged to CRPF's 226th battalion. They were deployed for election duty in Bokaro, an inquiry has been ordered into the incident, added Anjan.

Ranchiites fasten belts to enjoy nature during winter vacations

SHRISHTI SINHA ■ RANCHI

With winter holidays approaching and the city witnesses a nip of cold in the air, denizens of the Capital city have started planning their winter vacations. According to travel agencies and tourists, there are dozens of destinations where people from Ranchi go on vacations. However, some of the favourite tourist destinations of the Capital City residents include Munnar (Kerala), Thar Desert (Rajasthan), Goa and Port Blair.

"Munnar is a hill station located in Kerala where one may claim to get the finest tea. The beauty of this place is incomparable, with its wide stretches of tea plantation; the entire place is shrouded in greenery making it the ideal place to escape the city life," said Manesh Mukherjee, director of Jai Travels.

The best way to get here is to take a flight from Ranchi to Cochin and then take the road to Munnar. The flight averages at 20,000, train on the other hand costs around 1,000 only taking 2 days.

"Some of my favorite places were the Mattupetty dam, where we had a picnic amidst nature, the Pothomedu view point 3 kms from there. We went trekking in the forest. An evening spent trekking in the forest should definitely be on the itinerary and I'd recommend a copy of Wordsworth too. Tea Museum is definitely a place tea lovers should not miss out on. The museum depicts tea through the years from the rudimentary tea roller to the fully automated tea factory. We stood in line for hours after the visit to buy the finest tea that Munnar supposedly has," Vrinda Shah, who went with her family of five for a trip of the South.

Rajasthan is another place in the country to visit exquisite monuments and castles to experience a wholesome history of the country.



"The recommended route would be, taking a flight from Ranchi to Jaipur which would average at 5,000 or a train that would cost 1,000 but take almost 1.5 days. From Jaipur which has the Amber Palace and Hawa Mahal as must visits, via road, Ajmer is only 2.5 hours away. In Ajmer, one encounters the Islamic culture, some places to witness Muslim architecture would be Ajmer Sharif Dragah, Taragarh Fort and Akbari fort. After the visit to Ajmer, Chittorgarh is just a 4 hours journey to visit the famous Kumbalgarh fort and Udaipur which only 2.5 hours away. Udaipur homes the largest palace of Rajasthan, City Palace. A stay of two days at each place will guarantee the best experience," said, Vijay Kumar, Director of Trippers World Holidays.

Goa, the party capital is the ultimate place to relax and unwind. It is famous for its beaches, the popular ones being Calangute, Baga and Plaolem. The flight from Ranchi costs around 8,000 and train is at 1,000 only but takes two days. Stay options around this time can be expensive but ensure that your hotel is near all the experiences you want from the trip.

"There is always the an option to visit Goa Velha instead which is good for sight-seeing and has monuments like the Basilica of Bom Jesus

and the domed Church of St. Cajetan. One can visit the beaches instead where you can enjoy here are spas and yoga retreats, in north. And in case you want both, opt for the package of three nights which includes sightseeing of both north and south Goa, the price starts at 15,000 due to the increased demand," said, Vijay Kumar, Director of Trippers World Holidays.

"Port Blair is the Capital city of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It becomes one of the best places to plan a vacation in, being the gateway to several beautiful islands like Havelock Island, the biggest island there. Also, Islands like Ross Island and Viper Island are must visits. Chidiya Tapu is where you go for the sunset," said Muskan Khan, who had been to the place with her family of seven last year.

To reach Port Blair, a ship can be taken from Kolkata, Vishakapatnam or Chennai or a direct flight from Chennai. The flight price can rise up to 25,000 in season. The ships only set sail three or four times a month both to and fro. The voyage takes up to 3-4 days and fare ranges from 2,000 - 10,000. Cellular jail (Kala Pani) is a must visit given its sorrowful history which used to be a colonial jail but has been converted into a museum is open for tourists. Combine with this the light and sound show for the full experience.

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, गुमला का कार्यालय, गुमला (वाहन कोषांग)

निर्वाचन अत्यायक प्रेस-विज्ञप्ति

गुमला जिला अन्तर्गत विधान सभा निर्वाचन, 2019 में प्रयुक्त सभी प्रकार के वाहन के वाहन मालिकों को इस प्रेस विज्ञप्ति के माध्यम से सूचित किया जाता है कि वाहन की क्षतिपूर्ति भुगतान हेतु वाहन का लॉग-बुक, ऑनर-बुक, बैंक पासबुक एवं आधार कार्ड की छाया प्रति के साथ दिनांक 15.12.2019 तक वाहन कोषांग, गुमला को उपलब्ध कराना सुनिश्चित करें, ताकि ससमय क्षतिपूर्ति राशि भुगतान की कार्रवाई की जा सके।

हो/-
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी -सह-उपायुक्त, गुमला

PR222642 (Election)19-20*D

झारखंड सरकार

झारखंड भू-संपदा नियामक प्राधिकार

प्रथम तल्ला, सिविल सर्विसेज ऑफिसर्स इन्स्टीट्यूट, दीनदयाल नगर, राँची-834008
दूरभाष-0651 2360170

प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

दिनांक- 10.12.2019

पत्र संख्या- 741

निदेशानुसार सूचित करना है कि झारखण्ड भू-संपदा नियामक प्राधिकार में भू-संपदा से सम्बन्धित इस वाद के विचारण के क्रम में प्रतिवादी को स्प्रीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से भेजी हुई तालिका अप्राप्त रहने के कारण इस वाद का निपटारा होने में कठिनाई हो रही है। ऐसी स्थिति में निम्न कॉलम में अंकित प्रतिवादी को समाचार पत्र के माध्यम से सूचित किया जाता है कि वे विचारण की तिथि को प्राधिकार में उपस्थित होकर अपना पक्ष रखें अन्यथा भू-संपदा (विनियमन एवं विकास) अधिनियम 2016 के सुसंगत धाराओं के अंतर्गत कार्रवाई की जायेगी।

क्र०	प्रतिवादी का नाम	पता	केस सं०	विचारण की तिथि व समय
1	Braj Balav Sahay	Director, M/s Sukh Samridhi Construction Pvt. Ltd. Yuraj Complex, Deputy Para, Near Kutchery Chowk, P.O-GPO Main, Ranchi-834001	JHARERA/ COMPLAINT/ 113/2019	21.01.2020 11:30 बजे

हो/-
मुख्य प्रशासनिक पदाधिकारी
झारखंड भू-संपदा नियामक प्राधिकार

PR 222638 Jharkhand Real Estate Regulatory Authority (19-20)_D

JMM frightened with public support in PM's rally: BJP

PNS ■ RANCHI

State BJP Spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo today said that Prime Minister and other prominent leaders' rallies across the State are drawing huge crowd as they are getting immense public support. "This has frightened the JMM and the leaders are wary of their defeat. The JMM has written to the CEO today that the PM's rallies have been deliberately fixed in such a way that Hemant Soren's rallies get disturbed. The allegation is ridiculous and the JMM is looking for excuses for its defeat. The Prime Minister is the Prime Minister of the country and not of a particular party. And his security is paramount. At the time of the Prime Minister's visit, the rule to make a particular zone a no fly zone has been there for a long time. The



same happened during the UPA regime. But then BJP leaders did not complain about it because for them the Prime Minister was the Prime Minister of the country and not of any particular party. As a matter of fact, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha is convinced that the public is going to finish it in the elections, so it is already looking for excuses for its defeat. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha should avoid such petty politics," said Shahdeo.

BJP snubs RaGa for corruption remark

PNS ■ RANCHI

BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra has condemned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for accusing Chief Minister Raghubar Das as most corrupt person. Patra said that remark of Congress scion is not against Raghubar Das but on entire State. The BJP leader demanded apology from Rahul Gandhi in this connection.

The BJP leader said that Rahul Gandhi should introspect before uttering such remarks. Patra said, "Rahul Gandhi and his mother Sonia Gandhi are out on bail in connection with the ₹5,000 crore embezzlement case involving the National Herald. Coming out on a bond from jail, these leaders are reaching out to Jharkhand celebrating their bail. Recently, Congress leader P. Chidambaram too Ranchi after coming out of jail reached Jharkhand to celebrate his bail. Rahul Gandhi has the habit of first issuing fact less charges and later apologises in court,



BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra, Ranchi Mayor Asha Lakra and Prem Mital during a press conference at BJP media centre in Ranchi on Tuesday
Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

which is proven track record." Patra said that it has been 19 years since Jharkhand became a separate State. First the Congress along with RJD and JMM used Jharkhand as a pasture. "This State was used as an ATM machine. An inde-

pendent Madhu Koda was made the Chief Minister and carried scams with a gun in the form of corruption on his shoulder. This is the character of the Congress," added Patra. Patra said that there was a Government of five years

development. The BJP gave an impeccable Government under the leadership of Chief Minister Raghubar Das. It was a Government of public participation. Referring to the results of the Karnataka by-election, Patra said that the

results came in Karnataka and the tremors of the earthquake reached the Maha Milwati alliance in Jharkhand. The people have rejected the Mahamilavati alliance. Stability will win and the Grand Alliance will lose. Patra

described the passage of Citizen Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha as historic moment.

He said that this historic decision was hanging. "We had promised that this time we will bring this Bill and the BJP has fulfilled its promise," added Patra. He taunted those opposing this bill and said that this Bill is not against any religion. Home Minister Amit Shah said that the right of no one has been taken away but the right has been given. Patra said that Congress and Pakistan speak the same language.

"After the passage of this bill in the Lok Sabha this morning, a statement came from Pakistan that it would be a blow to India's secularism. This was also the language of the Congress," added Patra. He asked why the Congress and Pakistan speak each other's language. "When there is an air strike, Pakistan says that nothing has happened and the Congress asks for evidence. CAB is neither against the constitution nor the acrimony on secularism," he said.

Dec 12 may decide political fate of AJSU

Sudesh Mahto aims to reclaim his throne in Silli

PNS ■ RANCHI

The third phase of polling in 17 Assembly constituencies on December 12 is set to be one of the most crucial tests for the AJSU Party — a phase of polls that may decide the fate of the long term BJP-ally-turned-competitor in Jharkhand's politics, say political experts.

Former Deputy Chief Minister Sudesh Mahto-led AJSU Party has been a part of the ruling coalition since the bifurcation of Bihar in November 2000. In 2014, the party contested the elections as an ally of BJP and it was because of AJSU Party's six MLAs that BJP managed to form a Government here. However, over the years, the party's senior leadership has had its share of differences with the policies and decisions of BJP. Mahto openly criticized the BJP's efforts to make changes to the tenancy laws in Jharkhand despite his MLAs being a part of the treasury bench dominated by BJP leaders.

Cut to 2019, AJSU Party has fielded candidates in all 52 of 81 constituencies after severing ties with the elder brother in the coalition. And the creator of the party is set to contest from Silli constituency in the third phase of polls. The party has fielded candidates in all the 17 constituencies going to polls on December 12. Mahto, who shared the dais with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during election rallies in 2014, has now emerged as one of the staunch critics of the ruling Government here.

With the slogan of 'Abki Baar Gaon Ki Sarkar (This time Government of village)' — an apparent jibe at BJP's popular slogan Abki Bar Modi Sarkar — the



AJSU party Chief Sudesh Kumar Mahto (Centre) along with party supporters, during a road show ahead of 3rd phase of State Assembly polls at Sonahatu under Silli constituency on Tuesday
Ratan Lal | Pioneer

party Supremo aims to earn a stronger position in the Legislative Assembly here. However, his track record has been similar to that of Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (JVM) chief and first Chief Minister of Jharkhand Babul Marandi — he has not won an election since 2009. Silli, said to be the root of the party where Mahto is looked up to for reasons beyond politics, will witness a contest between Mahto and sitting Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) legislator Seema Devi.

"This election may either make AJSU Party stronger, with a larger share of seats, or leave it as one of the weaker partners of a coalition Government that comes to power," said Pankaj Prasun, Director,

Central Institute of Political Research and Analysis (CIPRA).

The party has fielded a political greenhorn Shalini Gupta against BJP's Koderma legislator Neera Yadav. It has fielded Ramjeet Ganju from Kanke, Harelal Mahto from Ichagarh, Pradeep Kumar Mehta from Barkatta, Nirmal Mahto from Mandu and Roshanlal Choudhary from important Barkagaon constituency. Choudhary is up against former Congress minister Yogendra Saw's daughter Amba Prasad in Barkagaon. On the other hand, Bharat Kanshi of AJSU Party is set to challenge former party cadre and now BJP MLA Naveen Jaiswal in Hatia constituency.

Ranchi has highest number of third gender voters

PNS ■ RANCHI

Ranchi Assembly seat has highest number of registered third gender voters. In Ranchi Assembly seat, the third gender voters are 33, which is much more than four other Assembly constituencies under Ranchi district. Followed by Hatia Assembly seat where third gender voters' number is 23. In Kanke there are five third gender voters, two each in Khijri and Silli Assembly segment respectively.

Though the Ranchi has highest number of third gender voters, the number of third gender voters has come down to 86 from 90 in 17 Assembly constituencies going to poll in third phase of election scheduled on December 12.

The total electorates in 17 constituencies is 56, 18, 267 which has gone up to 1,16,938 from 55,01,329 after new names were added in the new voter list prepared after October 12. Gender wise, the male voters is 29,37,976 while number of female voters is 26,02,638. Assembly wise the highest



Ranchi DC Rai Mahimapat Ray along with SSP Anish Gupta, during a press conference at Collectorate in Ranchi on Tuesday
Ratan Lal | Pioneer

number of voters is in Hatia Assembly seat where total number of voters is 4,46,372, followed by Kanke where total electorates number is 4,14,012. In Ranchi Assembly seat the number of electorates is 3,46,765. Khijri 3,34,640 voters. The least number of electorates is in Silli where number of electorates is 2,05,648.

Ranchi Deputy Commissioner Rai Mahimapat Ray has asked voters to exercise their franchise in large numbers. Ray said, "As per Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines all commercial institutions have been asked to grant leave to their employees so that they can participate in the biggest festival of democ-

cracy." Rai further said, "Those commercial institutions who fail to give leave to their employees on Election Day action will be initiated against the owners or proprietors of the commercial institutions."

The DC claimed that all arrangement has been made for fair and peaceful election will 90 per cent polling slips have been dispatched. "Those voters who have not received their polling slips they can collect their slips from the polling booths," added Rai. In five Assembly constituencies under Ranchi district, voting will be held from 7 am to 5 pm in Ranchi, Hatia and Kanke while in Khijri and Silli the voting will be from 7 am to 3 pm.

'Deprivation taking toll on mental health of soldiers'

Substance abuse escalating aggression

SAURAV ROY/PNS ■ RANCHI/DALTONGANJ

The fratricide incident in Bokaro wherein a CRPF Jawan shot dead two of his senior officers under the influence of alcohol on Monday should not be written off as a stray incident, say psychiatrists who have for years treated soldiers deployed in combat zones. Such incidents, they fear, might only be the tip of an iceberg — widespread and severe mental health concerns among security personnel deployed in sensitive zones.

"Substance abuse, deprivation of domestic pleasures and conjugal bliss, lack of leaves and a culture that forces every soldier to always agree to their boss are some of the reasons plaguing security personnel in India," said Dr. Nishant Goyal, Assistant Professor at Central Institute of Psychiatry (CIP), Ranchi. CIP runs a fortnightly clinic for army

personnel and regularly conducts mental health awareness camps for Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Jawans. "Since soldiers have easy access to cheap alcohol, many of them develop a dependency on it. This substance dependency often escalates their mental health problems," said Goyal.

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Jawan who shot dead an Assistant Commandant and an Assistant Sub-Inspector of his own battalion on Monday in Bokaro was in an inebriated condition when the incident occurred, CRPF officials have said. Dr. Amarnath Sah, the Chief Medical Officer for CRPF in Jharkhand, said that the CRPF runs special stress management and counseling sessions for its Jawans. "One of the major issues most Jawans have is lack of holidays and pressure from family to spend time at home," said Sah, who is one of the doctors in the stress management team of CRPF.

In early 2019, a mental health assessment tool used by the CRPF in Jharkhand to study the mental health of Jawans showed that 32 of 1,000 Jawans tested had

IN EARLY 2019, A MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT TOOL USED BY THE CRPF IN JHARKHAND TO STUDY THE MENTAL HEALTH OF JAWANS SHOWED THAT 32 OF 1,000 JAWANS TESTED HAD SOME OR THE OTHER PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

some or the other psychiatric disorder. Besides, in 2018, a Government data highlighted that suicides and illnesses

caused 24 times more deaths in paramilitary soldiers than on-duty incidents.

A soldier in CRPF has 38 days of leave per annum — 18 casual leaves and 20 compensatory leaves. There is an addition of one Earned Leave (EL) every 11 days of work. However, a common complaint by soldiers is denial of leaves by their bosses.

IG CRPF Sanjay Anand Latkar does not see leave issue as the major driving force behind the gory scenes that are erupting on security base camps now. Latkar said, "Lack of tolerance and spontaneous reactions cause such incidents. Personal behaviour and character too play important role in how a soldier may react in a situation."

The access to Internet and awareness about their rights — related to leaves and other privileges — might also be making the soldiers unhappy about not getting what they are entitled for due to additional hours of work, said Dr. Goyal. Commandant of 134 battalion of CRPF in Daltonganj, A D Sharma said "Some of the younger cops often lack patience and react with aggression."

Set standards for school education: CS

PNS ■ RANCHI

Chief Secretary Dr DK Tiwari on Tuesday asked Education department officials to set standards for school education in State so that grading of schools can be done as per the parameter. Speaking at the State level school enhancement programme here on Tuesday the CS said that the standard of teachers' performance should also be there.

Describing the portal related to the certification of government schools and the careers of students after the 10th and 12th as a remarkable innovation, he said that despite all this, quality education is the aim. The responsibility of the Education Department is also how to improve education in schools and for that, try to overcome the training of teachers and other deficiencies in time, he said.

The CS said on the whole ensure of the Education Department to ultimately ensure an educated child. He said that he himself is the son of a teacher and studied in a government school. He knows how valuable the role of government schools is in the education world. He said that the quality of education was once questioned in the government schools of England. Then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher connected schools with the quality of teach-



Chief Secretary DK Tiwari speaking at the state level school promotion programme in Ranchi on Tuesday
Pioneer photo

ing and its standard performance. Schools started receiving grants based on performance. The schools and teachers who do better start getting more value. The competition started to get more and more value and school education started moving towards ideal level. He said that this model is not applicable here at the moment, but it is necessary that teachers set a standard of every school themselves.

Stressing on the need to develop local role models in the field of school education, the Chief

Secretary said that with this every student, teacher and parent will be able to establish identity. He said that a leader school has been envisaged in every block only. A school with educational environment in which all students want to study and parents want to teach.

Let one school compete well with another, he said, calling upon teachers and education officers from across the State to move forward in this direction. He emphasized on the need to constantly refine the education department's career portal as per the needs of the times. He said that mere gathering of degrees cannot be the standard of education. Education has to be the basis of employment and social rationale. He emphasized on teaching by a sharp student from every school by adopting his junior student and said that it can get wide benefits.

Principal Secretary of School Education department AP Singh said that the department is working on the scheme of betterment and promotion of good teachers in future. Emphasizing on improving the level of education with his performance, he said that now the student-teacher ratio has also improved.

During the programme, the CS unveiled a book on school certification and felicitated officials and teachers of schools that have performed well.

हर झारखण्ड वासी के लिए कांग्रेस ने ली है सौगंध

आ रही है कांग्रेस

किसानों के 2 लाख रुपये तक के सभी कृषि ऋण माफ	धान के लिए 2500 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य	हर परिवार के एक व्यक्ति को नौकरी
बेरोजगार युवा को बेरोजगारी भत्ता	छात्राओं को विश्व विद्यालय स्तर तक शिक्षा नि:शुल्क	महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए 24x7 हेल्पलाइन कॉल सेंटर
राशन कार्ड का आधार लिंक न होने से कोई भी पीडीएस से बाहर नहीं	आवास अधिकार का कानून पास करके प्रत्येक परिवार को घर	घर के लिए जमीन भी नहीं है, तो उन्हें जमीन और घर दोनों दिए जायेंगे
10 हजार से कम आय वाले परिवार की बालिका को नि:शुल्क साइकिल	प्रत्येक घर को 24 घंटे बिजली	वरिष्ठ नागरिकों की पेंशन दोगुना करके 1200 रुपये प्रतिमाह

बनाएंगे बुलंद झारखण्ड **कांग्रेस को वोट दें।**

Police nab hardcore criminal, recover arms

PNS ■ GARHWHA
In a joint raid conducted by the Dhurki and Chiniya police on Monday night, a hardcore criminal was arrested from Sarki village under Chiniya Police Station of the district with arms and ammunition. The criminal has been identified as Umesh Chaudhary, son of Yadunath Chaudhary of Sarki village. Acting on a tip-off, the

police team by Chiniya and Dhurki Police led by SDPO Manoj Mahto raided the house of Umesh and recovered semi automatic rifle, one magazine, 134 live bullets, nine electric detonators and one county-made grenade and arrested Umesh. "Umesh was previously involved in many criminal activities including shooting at former Maoist Uday Yadav and Pankaj Sahu recently," said

Garhwa SP Ashwani Kumar Sinha in a press conference on Tuesday. Bittan Yadav, a resident of Dol village of Chiniya police station area, was continuously committing criminal incidents in collaboration with Umesh Chaudhary, within a fortnight, the SP added. He said that police raids are on continuously to nab Bittan Yadav. Police sent him to judicial custody today.



Senior Congress leader Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia addresses an election campaign rally in support of party candidate from Hatia constituency Ajay Nath Shaddeo for the 3rd phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections at Ratu in Ranchi on Tuesday
Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

INBRIEF

STRESS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR AT SCS
A seminar was held at Surendranath Centenary School on "Stress Management" for class 10 & 12 students on Tuesday. Chandrasekhar Mahata, a trainer from the training and Placement Cell of Sarala Birla University gave tips to the children to deal with stress. He said that it is common for children to be stressed in this race of today's competition. But we can get success by changing this stress into positive stress he also added that not all stress are negative there are few which can be positive also the only thing is to understand the symptom of it. He discussed on the ₹5 to overcome the stress. Changing life style can also be helpful for us in dealing with stress.



SAVE TREES AND SAVE ENVIRONMENT
The students of Class I, of Delhi Public School Ranchi gave a presentation on 'Save Trees, Save Environment'. The purpose of the activity was to create awareness about the environment and nature. Planting more and more trees should be given massive attention rather than cutting down the trees for our own benefit. The students explained the relationship between human and trees and then the drawbacks of deforestation like global warming, air pollution, etc. They presented a small skit starting with a moral value. The focus was on how the wastes can be used for making useful products by the three R's technique.

DPS BOKARO SHINES IN COMPETITIONS
DPS Bokaro emerged the first runner's up in enQuest- an open quiz for school students organised by Bokaro Club Limited. Around 60 teams from different schools of state participated in the event. The team of Akshat Singh and Ayushmaan Dutta won the first runner's up prize bagging Rs. 4000 and a trophy each while the team of Rishi Divya Kirti and Akhil Anil received a trophy, certificate and cash prize of Rs 1000 each for reaching the finals. In the PowerPoint Presentation Competition organised in Rainbow Public School under the banner of Dr. Radhakrishnan Sahodaya School Complex the team comprising Tanu Shree and Ritul Kumar Singh bagged the second runners up position.



SAHARA EVOLS SHOWROOM INAUGURATED



A new showroom of Sahara Evols was inaugurated recently at Koderma. Sahar India family has ventured into automobile sector with Evols brand. The brand will serve as the largest electric vehicles segment in the country as the company is phase wise launching electric scooter, motorcycle, three-wheeler and cargo vehicles in 2 year and 3 year cities of the country.

WALMART EMPOWERS MSMEs
Walmart Inc. has launched Walmart Vridhii Supplier Development Program (Walmart Vridhii) to train and prepare 50,000 Indian small businesses to Make in India for global supply chains. Walmart Vridhii will actively work with India's micro-, small- and medium-size enterprises (MSMEs) to expand domestic capabilities and participate in the global economy. Suppliers who have the desire and potential to grow will get the tools they need through Walmart Vridhii. Over the next five years, MSMEs will receive in-person training, a feature unique to this program, as well as expert advice, access to Walmart's deep global experience and a network of peers and mentors in their local communities. Participants will be equipped for both online and offline growth, helping give them the tools to potentially become a part of the supply chains of Flipkart, Walmart Global Sourcing and Walmart India, or those of other domestic and international companies.

JD(U), Sena...

From Page 1
ideals," said JD(U) vice president Prashant Kishor. Another senior JD(U) leader and former diplomat Pavan Varma echoed similar views saying. "I urge Shri Nitish Kumar to reconsider support to the CAB in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill is unconstitutional, discriminatory, and against the unity and harmony of the country, apart from being against the secular principles of the JDU. Gandhiji would have strongly disapproved it," he said.

The Congress welcomed the Shiv Sena's decision to reconsider its stand on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha after voting in favour in the Lok Sabha, and stated that as an alliance partner, it could not ask the Maharashtra party to alter its position on the issue. The Opposition party slammed the Government after the passage of the Bill in the Lok Sabha, with former party chief Rahul Gandhi saying the proposed legislation is an attack on the Constitution and anyone who supports it is attempting to destroy the foundation of the country.



Civil Court lawyers stage a protest march against the murder of their colleague at Albert Ekka Chowk in Ranchi on Tuesday
Vinay Murmu | Pioneer

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

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Tuesday reserved verdict for next week in the case of alleged kidnapping and rape of a woman by expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in Unnao in 2017. During in-camera proceedings, District Judge Dharmesh Sharma reserved the judgment for December 16 after hearing final arguments by the CBI and the accused in the case. The judge heard the case on a day-to-day basis from August 5 after it was transferred to Delhi from a court in Lucknow on Supreme Court's directions. The woman was allegedly kidnapped and raped by Sengar in 2017 when she was a minor. The court has also framed charges against co-accused Shashi Singh in the case. Sengar was expelled from the BJP in August 2019. **PTI**

High voltage...

From Page 1
Under this, the Presiding Officers will give a slip with their signature to such voters and they will be allowed to vote, he said. According to ECI 56,18,267 voters will exercise their franchise in the third phase of polls. As many as 1,16,938 voters have been added to the electoral roll after October 12, when electoral roll was published. The number of male voters for third phase is 29,37,976, female voters is 26,80,205 and third gender voters is 86. The number of millennial voters in the third phase is 1,44,153, out of which 65,656 are males and 65,545 are females. The third gender millennial voters are 12 in the third phase. Meanwhile, CEO Vinay Kumar Chaubey said that dry day has been effected in districts where third phase of polling will

take place on December 12 from 3 PM on Tuesday for 48 hours. The districts include Koderma, Hazaribagh, Chatra, Ramgarh, Giridih, Bokaro, Ranchi and Seraikela-Kharsanwa. Dry Day has also become effective from 3 pm on December 10 in the border districts, including the above mentioned districts, for voting. He said that to ensure compliance of the dry day and necessary action, the necessary directions have been given to the District Election Officer-cum-Deputy Officers of the respective districts. Elaborate security arrangements have been made across the 17 constituencies where voting will take place. Several companies of Central Para Military Forces, Jharkhand Police, STF (Jharkhand Jagur) and SAP along with other forces have been stationed in naxal infested areas, officials said.

BHU Prof Firoz transferred from faculty of SVDV to Sanskrit Dept

Varanasi: BHU professor Feroze Khan, whose appointment as a teacher in the faculty of Sanskrit Vidya Dharam Vigyan (SVDV) led to protests by some university students, resigned from his post and joined the Sanskrit department of Faculty of Arts in BHU, sources said on Tuesday. SVDV Faculty Dean Bineswari Prasad Mishra confirmed the news. This comes amid protest by students against his appointment at SVDV last month. The students had boycotted his classes and staged a dharna outside the vice-chancellor's office, claiming that only a Hindu can train them in religious rituals. They had said that Feroz is free to teach Sanskrit elsewhere. **PTI**

CAB fury...

From Page 1
Guwahati against the proposed legislation. Agitators engaged in scuffle with security forces near the Secretariat and Assembly buildings in Assam

when they were prevented from moving forward, according to the police. In Dibrugarh district, bandh supporters clashed with CISF personnel and three protesters sustained injuries as they tried to prevent workers of Oil India Ltd (OIL) from entering their offices in Duliajan.



JMM general secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya, along with others, hands over a memorandum to CEO, Jharkhand Vinay Kumar Chaubey seeking ECI intervention in PM rallies' timings clashing with JMM executive president Hemant Soren's rallies during poll campaigning in Ranchi on Tuesday
Pioneer photo

कार्यालय जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, चतरा (स्वीय कोषांग)

अपील
चतरा जिला के सभी मतदाता गण, अपार हर्ष के साथ आप सभी को सादर सूचित किया जाता है कि 30 नवम्बर 2019 (शनिवार) को 27-चतरा विधानसभा में मतदान निर्धारित था तथा 12 दिसम्बर 2019 (गुरुवार) को 26-सिमरिया विधानसभा में सुबह 7 बजे से संध्या 3 बजे तक मतदान का समय निर्धारित है। शासनादेशित मताधिकार का प्रयोग हो, यह जिला प्रशासन के लक्ष्य के साथ-साथ हम सभी नागरिकों का संवैधानिक अधिकार और दायित्व भी है। विशेषकर युवा, बुजुर्ग, महिला और दिव्यांग मतदाताओं की मतदान में भागीदारी लोकतंत्र को और भी ज्यादा जीवंत और व्यापक बनाता है। निष्पक्ष, सद्भावनापूर्ण चुनाव और अधिकतम मताधिकार का प्रयोग चुनाव की सफलता और सार्थकता के लिए आवश्यक है। इस चुनाव में राग, द्वेष, लोभ-लालच से उपर उठकर हमसभी मतदातागण भारतीय लोकतंत्र को एक और नई उंचाई और मजबूती प्रदान करें। आईए, संकल्प ले हमसभी मतदातागण मतदान के दिन अपने-अपने मतदान केन्द्रों पर मताधिकार का प्रयोग कर लोकतंत्र के इस महापर्व को अविस्मरणीय बनायेंगे साथ ही समानतापूर्ण और सहभागितापूर्ण लोकतंत्र को सशक्त बनाने के लिए हमसब मिलकर कदम बढ़ावेंगे। **जिला प्रशासन के द्वारा मतदाताओं को मुफ्त हवाई यात्रा**
जिला प्रशासन, चतरा द्वारा मतदाता जागरूकता कार्यक्रम (स्वीप) के तहत जिले के 27-चतरा विधानसभा एवं 26-सिमरिया विधानसभा से एक-एक मतदाता का चयन लक्ष्मी ड्रॉ से किया जाएगा। चयनित मतदाताओं को शिमला आने एवं जाने का मुफ्त हवाई टिकट सहित शिमला भ्रमण का सुविधा मुहैया कराया जाएगा। सभी मतदाताओं से अपील है कि मतदान के दिन वे अपने अनिवार्य एवं नैतिक मताधिकार का प्रयोग कर लक्ष्मी ड्रॉ में सहभागी बनें।
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, चतरा।
PR 222645 (Election) 19-20 (D)

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, बोकारो (जिला निर्वाचन शाखा)

:- आदेश :-
विधान सभा निर्वाचन, 2019 के तहत बोकारो जिला में गोमिया (34) एवं बेरमो (35) विधान सभा क्षेत्र में दिनांक- 12.12.2019 तथा बोकारो (36) एवं चन्दनकियारी (37) विधान सभा क्षेत्र में दिनांक- 16.12.2019 को मतदान की तिथि निर्धारित है। लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा- 135 (ख) के तहत मतदान दिवस दिनांक- 12.12.2019 एवं 16.12.2019 को संबंधित क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक अवकाश कार्मिक प्रशासनिक सुधार तथा राजभाषा विभाग, रॉकी की अधिसूचना द्वारा घोषित किया गया है :-
1. किसी कारोबार, व्यवसाय, औद्योगिक उपकरण या किसी अन्य स्थापना में नियोजित प्रत्येक व्यक्ति जो लोकसभा या किसी राज्य के विधानसभा के लिए निर्वाचन में मतदान करने का हकदार है मतदान के दिन अवकाश मंजूर किया जायेगा।
2. उपधारा (1) के अनुसार अवकाश मंजूर किये जाने के कारण किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति की मजदूरी से कोई कटौती या उसमें कोई कमी नहीं की जायेगी। यदि ऐसा व्यक्ति इस आधार पर नियोजित किया जाता है कि उसे सामान्यतः किसी ऐसे दिन के लिए मजदूरी प्राप्त नहीं होगी के इस बात के होते हुए भी उसे ऐसे दिन के लिए वह मजदूरी प्रदत्त की जायेगी जो उस दिन उसे अवकाश मंजूर ना किये जाने की दशा में दी गयी होती।
3. यदि कोई नियोजक उपधारा (1) एवं उपधारा (2) के उपबंधों का उल्लंघन करेगा वह दण्डनीय होगा।
लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1951 की धारा- 135 (ख) के अंतर्गत बोकारो जिला में गोमिया (34) एवं बेरमो (35) विधान सभा क्षेत्र में दिनांक- 12.12.2019 तथा बोकारो (36) एवं चन्दनकियारी (37) विधान सभा क्षेत्र में दिनांक- 16.12.2019 को सार्वजनिक अवकाश घोषित की जाती है। बोकारो जिला के सभी व्यवसाय करने वाली / औद्योगिक प्रतिष्ठानों / सार्वजनिक उपकरणों एवं अन्य को निदेश है कि R.P.Act- 1951 की धारा- 135 (ख) के तहत सार्वजनिक अवकाश संबंधी अनुदेशों का दृढ़तापूर्वक अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करेंगे।
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी
-सह-
उपायुक्त, बोकारो।
PR 222632 Election(19-20)D

FORM No. 17 [See Regulation 35(1)]
IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
5TH FLOOR, PRAGATI SADAN, RRDA BUILDING, KUTCHERY CHOWK RANCHI - 834001 (Jharkhand)
RECOVERY PROCEEDING No. 735 of 2017
In case O.A. Case No. 140 of 2015 (UCO Bank, Bermo, Bokaro Vs Sri Jay Raj Kumar Saw)
NOTICE TO SHOW CAUSE WHY WARRANT OF ARREST SHOULD NOT ISSUED
(See Rule 73 of Second Schedule of Income Tax Act 1961, read with Secs. 28 and 29 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993) To,
1. Sri Jay Raj Kumar Saw, S/o Laxmi Prasad Saw, R/o Dhori Staff Quarter, P.O. Dhori, Phusro, Dist-Bokaro
Whereas the certificate holder bank UCO Bank, Bermo, Bokaro has made an application to this Tribunal for execution of Recovery Certificate by arrest and imprisonment of your person, you are hereby required to appear before this Tribunal on 26.12.2019 to show cause as to why you should not be committed to the civil prison in execution of the said Recovery Certificate.
Given under my hand and seal at Ranchi on this the 27th day of November, 2019
RECOVERY OFFICER
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Ranchi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY
(General Section)
KANKE, RANCHI-834006 (JHARKHAND)
91-651-2451115(Exch) -2451113(O), Fax: 91-651-2233668
E-mail: director@cipranchi.nic.in, Web: www.cipranchi.nic.in
File No.: 4793 Dated : 10.12.2019
Open Tender Notice-II (2019-20)
Sealed tenders are invited from resourceful, experienced and bonafide bidders who are technically sound and financially capable for the following work at Central Institute of Psychiatry, Kanke, Ranchi-834006.

Sl.No.	Description of Items / Services	Bid Security Amount
1.	Furnishing, supply, installation, testing, commissioning of Audio Visual system at B.Hill Hall of Teaching block of this institute	Rs. 50000/-
2.	Advanced Hardware and Software for fMRI	Rs. 100000/-
3.	CCTV Surveillance system	Rs. 25000/-
4.	Digital Radiography System with Single Detector for Whole Body Digital radiography	Rs. 100000/-
5.	High Definition Transcranial Direct Current Stimulator (HDtDCS) with hybrid EEG	Rs. 100000/-
6.	Items / commodities/civil work required for development of one conference room for academic and training activities and development One In Charge Room, One Sr. Consultant Room, 03 Nos. of Consultant Room at S. S. Raj Centre for Addiction Psychiatry of CIP	Rs. 50000/-
7.	Automated Elisa Analyzer	Rs. 25000/-

Note:- The last date of submission of tender is 01.01.2020 till 4.00 PM. The Details about above mentioned tender is available in our website i.e. www.cipranchi.nic.in and also in CPP Portal website i.e. at the URL eprocure.gov.in.
Sd/-
Director

कार्यालय, अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी-सह-अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी, सिमरिया (चतरा)।

-आदेश-
विधान सभा आम चुनाव-2019, 26-सिमरिया (अ0जा0) विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के लिए मतदान दिनांक-12.12.2019 को निर्धारित है। शांतिपूर्ण मतदान सम्पन्न कराने के निमित्त मैं दीपू कुमार, (झा0प्र0से0) अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी-सह-अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी, सिमरिया दण्डाधिकारी की धारा 144 के तहत प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए मतदान तिथि दिनांक-12.12.2019 के लिए पूरे 26-सिमरिया (अ0जा0) विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में निषेधाज्ञा लागू करता हूँ एवं आदेश देता हूँ कि:-
1. पूरे 26-सिमरिया (अ0जा0) विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में किसी प्रकार के घातक हथियार, आग्नेयास्त्र या विस्फोटक पदार्थ लाने एवं ले जाने पर प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है। यह निषेधाज्ञा (शस्त्र की परिभाषा के संबंध में भा0दण्ड0 की धारा 155 AA में स्पष्ट रूप से निर्दिष्ट है) सरकारी पदाधिकारी/कर्मचारी/पुलिस पदाधिकारी एवं कर्तव्य पर तैनात पुलिस बल पर नेपालियों द्वारा खुशी धारण करने तथा सिखों द्वारा कुपाल धारण करने पर लागू नहीं होगा।
2. मतदान तिथि को मतदान केन्द्र के 100 मीटर की दूरी में किसी भी राजनैतिक गतिविधि को प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
3. किसी भी मतदाता को डराने, लालच या अन्य प्रकार के कदाचार नहीं करेंगे।
4. अम्यर्थी / निर्वाचन अधिकर्ता को बड़ा धन राशि लेकर चलने पर प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
5. अम्यर्थी / निर्वाचन अधिकर्ता एवं पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं के लिए अनुमति प्राप्त वाहन को छोड़कर अन्य वाहनों के चालन पर प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
6. निजी छोटी वाहन, ऑटो रिक्शा, ई-रिक्शा, सेवा बस का चालन मतदाता स्वयं या अपने परिवार के साथ मतदान के लिए एवं सेवा बस यात्रियों के लिए होगी। किसी के प्रभाव में मतदाताओं को लाने या ले जाने का काम नहीं करेंगे।
7. मतदाताओं को मतदान केन्द्र तक लाने या ले जाने के लिए वाहनों का उपयोग करना प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
8. राजनीतिक कार्यकर्ताओं/पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं/जुलूस कार्यकर्ताओं जो 26-सिमरिया (अ0जा0) विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के नहीं हैं एवं उनका नाम इस निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के मतदाता सूची में दर्ज नहीं है, उनके भ्रमण को प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
9. किसी सार्वजनिक/सरकारी सम्पत्ति या किसी व्यक्तिगत सम्पत्ति पर नारा लिखना, पोस्टर पल्पेट साटना, झण्डा टांगना, सार्वजनिक सड़कों पर बैनर लगाना, होडिंग लगाना, तोरण द्वार लगाने, किसी प्रकार का आपत्तिजनक विधि-विरुद्ध संदेश, वॉटसएप/एसएमएस/फेसबुक/ट्विटर/इंस्टाग्राम/अन्य सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से आदान-प्रदान पर प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
10. अम्यर्थी को ऐसा कोई कार्य नहीं करना चाहिए जिससे किसी धर्म, सम्प्रदाय या जाति के लोगों की भावना को ठेस पहुँचे, या उनमें विद्वेष या तनाव पैदा हो, ऐसे कार्यों को प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
11. मत प्राप्त करने के लिए धार्मिक, साम्प्रदायिक या जातीय भावनाओं का सहारा नहीं लिया जाएगा।
12. किसी उम्मीदवार के व्यक्तिगत जीवन के ऐसे पहलुओं की आलोचना नहीं की जाएगी, जिनका संबंध उनके सार्वजनिक जीवन या क्रियाकलापों से न हो और न ही ऐसे आरोप लगाये, जिनकी सत्यता स्थापित न हुई हो।
13. मतदाताओं को रिश्वत या किसी प्रकार का पारितोषिक देना आदर्श आचार संहिता का उल्लंघन की श्रेणी में आयेगा इसे प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
14. मतदान केन्द्र में या उसके आस-पास विश्वरूल आचरण करना या मतदान केन्द्र के अधिकारियों के कार्य में बाधा डालना आदर्श आचार संहिता का उल्लंघन माना जायेगा, इसे प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
15. मतदाताओं का प्रतिरूपण करना अर्थात् गलत नाम से मतदान का प्रयास करना दण्डनीय है।
16. मतदान के दिन किसी उम्मीदवार द्वारा शराब एवं अन्य नशीली पेय पदार्थ किसी को पेश या वितरित करने से प्रतिबंधित किया जाता है।
यह आदेश तत्काल प्रभाव से लागू किया जाता है।
अनुमण्डल दण्डाधिकारी
-सह- अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी, सिमरिया।
PR 222650 (Election) 19-20 (D)

DETENTION OF J&K LEADERS

UT admn to take call: Shah

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

- Amit Shah said all leaders should be concerned about political leaders in the Valley, he is also concerned but if leaders are more worried about people of Kashmir it will send a better message
- Responding to the question by Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir and detention of political leaders, Shah underlined that the situation is completely normal in the Valley
- 99.5 per cent students of Class XI class sat for exams there, but for Adhir Ranjan ji this is not normalcy, seven lakh people availed OPD services in Srinagar, Section 144 removed from everywhere. But for Adhir ji only parameter for normalcy is political activity, Home Minister said
- Taking on the Congress, Shah said, Farooq Abdullah is in custody for six months but the Congress had kept his father in custody for 11 years

Taking on the Congress, Shah said, Farooq Abdullah is in custody for six months but the Congress had kept his father in custody for 11 years. "Farooq Abdullah's father was kept in jail for 11 years by the Congress. We don't want to follow them and as soon as the administration decides, they will be released," he said. "It is for local adminis-

tration to decide when political leaders will be released. We don't want to keep anyone (leaders) in jail even for a day more than that is required. As and when the local administration feels the time is appropriate, they will be released. There will be no interference from our side," Shah said. Earlier, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy, responding to a supple-

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

Cong welcomes Sena's stand on CAB Bill in RS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concerned over 'fundamental freedom' of people, says EU

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

Astuto, at a media brief-

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

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

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

A five-judge Constitution Bench headed by Justice NV Ramana, which commenced hearing on batch of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the Centre's decision, was told by the petitioner that it was violative of the Constitution as orders were passed in "disregard of consent" of people of J&K. Provisions of Article 370,

which gave special status to the erstwhile State of J&K, was abrogated by Centre on August 5.

A number of petitions have been filed in the matter, including that of private individuals, lawyers, activists and political parties and they have also challenged the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019, which splits J&K into two Union Territories — J&K and Ladakh.

Senior advocate Raju Ramachandran, appearing for bureaucrat-turned-politician Shah Faesal, Shehla Rashid and other petitioners, said Jammu & Kashmir was under President's Rule from December 19, 2018, till October 31 this year and "will of the people" was not there in the concurrence given

by state for abrogation of provisions of Article 370.

He told the Bench, also comprising justices SK Kaul, R Subhash Reddy, BR Gavai and Surya Kant, that powers of the President and Parliament during period of proclamation under Article 356 is in its very nature "temporary" and it cannot be used to bring "irreversible" constitutional changes.

"The record indicates that neither the President nor the Governor held any consultations on the issue either with the public at large or with members of the legislative council," Ramachandran said in his outline of submissions which was handed over to the Bench. **PTI**

LS passes Arms Amendment Bill

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the Arms Amendment Bill providing maximum punishment of life imprisonment for manufacturing and carrying illegal arms. Piloted by Home Minister Amit Shah, the Arms (Amendment) Bill, 2019 also ensures that those using firearms in a rash or negligent manner in celebratory gunfire, endangering human life or personal safety of others, shall be punishable with an imprisonment to two years or with fine which may extend to ₹1 lakh or with both.

Replying to a nearly three-hour-long debate, Shah said the Bill has been brought as a requirement to significantly impose weapons control in the country. The Home Minister said that the bill has accorded special status to sportsperson who need firearms and ammunition for practice and participating in tournaments. The Lok Sabha rejected many amendments brought by Opposition MPs, mainly on the number of arms to be kept with license holders. "They (sportspersons) will be entitled to get licences for different types of firearms," Shah added, clarifying to the concerns raised by MPs.

Under the proposed provision, a person can have a maximum of two firearms, against the present norm of three, he added. "Many suggestions came including keeping two firearms by an individual.

I have moved official amendment in this regard also," he said. As per the bill, those who own more than two firearms will have to deposit the third one with authorities or authorised gun dealers within 90 days for de-licensing once the amendment is approved by Parliament.

"There were many discrepancies in the six-decade-old law making crime control difficult," he said. Home Minister said that there is a provision for life imprisonment for those who snatch or loot arms and ammunition from police or defence forces. The Bill seeks to enhance punishment for illegally possessing and making prohibited arms, besides other changes in the six-decade-old Arms Act.

- Piloted by Home Minister Amit Shah, the Arms (Amendment) Bill, 2019 also ensures that those using firearms in a rash or negligent manner in celebratory gunfire, endangering human life or personal safety of others, shall be punishable with an imprisonment to two years or with fine which may extend to ₹1 lakh or with both
- Replying to a nearly three-hour-long debate, Shah said the Bill has been brought as a requirement to significantly impose weapons control in the country
- Under the proposed provision, a person can have a maximum of two firearms, as against the present norm of three, he added



As per the Bill, the Government proposes to amend Section 25 (1A) of the Arms Act, 1959, to give punishment from the usual life term of 14 years to "imprisonment for the remainder of that person's life" for manufacturing, selling, repairing and possessing "prohibited" arms. The minimum punishment under this section will be 14 years. Under the present law, the offence invites imprisonment of not less than seven years but may extend to life imprisonment — mostly up to 14 years. According to an estimate, India has a total of around 35 lakh gun licences. Thirteen lakh people have licences to carry weapons in Uttar Pradesh, followed by militancy-hit Jammu & Kashmir, where 3.7 lakh people possess arms licences, most of which were taken in the name of personal security.

Punjab, which witnessed terrorism in 1980s and 1990s, has around 3.6 lakh active gun licences, most of which were issued during the two decades of strife.

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

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

NIRBHAYA GANGRAPE-MURDER CASE

Convict moves SC seeking review of death penalty

PNS/PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

"Very few people reach up to the age of 80-90 years. This is almost a very true analysis. When we look around us then we come to the conclusion, more or less this analysis is true when a person faces the stark realities of life and passes through the adverse situation, then he is no better than a dead body," it said. The 23-year-old paramedic student was brutally gangraped

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

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

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

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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

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

Onion rates are

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

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

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

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



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

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

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

In a reply to the Lok Sabha,

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

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

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

CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT BILL

Sonowal welcomes passage of Bill

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

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

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

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



Sonowal tweeted.

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

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

Sarma who is also the finance, health and PWD min-

ister of the State, tweeted that the Bill will go down in "history as a glorious historical correction of a blunder committed by the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, in 1950 to PM Sri @narendramodi for this giant step".

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

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

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

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

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

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

Kerala CM slams CAB

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

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

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

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

"The bill was passed by the Lok Sabha with unusual haste and tenacity," he said. "Muslims, who have immigrated from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan are being excluded. The discrimination on the basis of religion

Politics behind Govt's decision to introduce it: Pilot

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

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

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

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

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

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

It will dilute Art 371F in long run: Bhaichung

PTI ■ GANGTOK

Footballer-turned-politician Bhaichung Bhutia on Tuesday expressed disappointment that Sikkim was not excluded from the ambit of the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, unlike several other northeastern States.

Bhutia, also working president of Hamro Sikkim Party, expressed his fears that the legislation will dilute special provisions of the Himalayan state that it enjoys under Article 371F of the Constitution.

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

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

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

"We wanted Sikkim also be mentioned in writing on the Bill like other North-East states," Bhutia, said in a Facebook post.

He said though Home Minister Amit Shah had mentioned in the House that the legislation will not have any effect on states enjoying special status under Article 371, the legal provision is different from Article 371F.

"This Bill is surely a way of diluting Article 371F in long run," the former Indian football team captain said.

Bhutia said apparent efforts by Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang and the state's lone Lok Sabha MP Indra Hang Subba failed in keeping Sikkim out of the CAB's ambit.



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

It is aimed at pushing Hindutva: Guj activists

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

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

Afghanistan facing religious persecution in those countries.

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

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

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

Same view not always possible: NCP on Sena backing CAB

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TRIPLE MURDER CASE — Calcutta HC rejects Mukul Roy bail plea

PNS ■ KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tough task ahead for BSY as he works on Cabinet expansion

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

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

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

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

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

are expected to become Ministers soon.

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

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

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

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

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



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

Countdown begins for launch of RISAT-2BR1

PTI ■ CHENNAI

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

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

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

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



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

Somalia, Yemen beckon Indian fishermen

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Honour killing not rape-murder

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

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



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

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

"The Dinara SHO, in the meantime, got the information that a woman hailing from the locality who got married last year had been missing ever since she eloped with her paramour and her family members, moved by shame, had got their son-in-law married to their younger daughter", he added.

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

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

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

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

Unnao rape victim's dying declaration strong evidence to nail killers: UP DGP

Singh told PTI.

"When she was taken to Delhi and admitted to the hospital, she also had a chat with doctors. We will try to get the statement of the doctor also in this regard. These will be strong evidence to chargesheet these five criminals," he added.

Singh also said the police will soon file the chargesheet in the murder case. "We will be chargesheeting them within a few days. We want to fast-track the entire case," said the police chief. "We are also exploring the possibility of going for the DNA test of the accused," said Singh.

Explaining the rational behind going in for the DNA test of the accused, the police chief said the victim also had a mobile phone and a purse, which have already been sent for the forensic test to ascertain if those

items came in contact with the accused and carry their fingerprints or traces of their sweat or hair etc from which the DNA sample of the accused could possibly be lifted.

"We would then match the DNA samples of the accused to those found on the victim's items," said Singh. "We also have several strong pieces of circumstantial evidence in the case," said the DGP. In her statement to Sub Divisional Magistrate Dayashankar Pathak, the woman had said she was attacked when she reached Gaura turn near her home on her way to the court to attend hearing in her rape case.

She had specifically named Harishankar Trivedi, Ram Kishore Trivedi, Umesh Bajpai, Shivam Trivedi and Shubham Trivedi as the persons who set her on fire. **PTI**

Pro-Maratha outfit seeks speedy justice in Kopardi rape case

Pune: The Maratha Kranti Morcha has demanded speedy justice in the 2016 case of rape and killing of a 15-year-girl in Maharashtra's Kopardi village.

The pro-Maratha outfit sent a letter to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Monday, seeking his intervention into the matter and their other pending demands.

"A sessions court awarded death sentence to three accused in the Kopardi rape case. The case is now pending before the Bombay High Court. The Government should intervene and ensure speedy justice to the victim," Maratha Kranti Morcha member Rajendra Kondhare told reporters here on Monday.

The victim, a Class IX student belonging to the Maratha community, was found brutally killed after being raped on July 13, 2016 at Kopardi village in Ahmednagar district. According to police, the accused also inflicted injuries all over her body and broke her limbs before throttling her. **PTI**

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

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

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

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

ablaze by her attackers.

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

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

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



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

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

Kerala Women's

Commission Chairperson M C Josephine said fast-track courts, speedy trial and women-friendly police stations besides grassroots level awareness drives are the solutions to address the increasing atrocities against women.

However, she said compared to many other northern states, cases are registered in the state fast and it was a positive sign in a way.

"Delayed justice is a cause of worry in the cases of atrocities against women. Justice delayed amounts to justice being denied to the victims,"

Josephine told PTI.

"It prompts people to think and act emotionally. That's what we saw in Telangana recently," she said.

So, fast-track courts should be set up. Trials should be expedited and stringent punishment should be ensured to the culprits, the Women's Commission chairperson said.

Despite stringent laws, women are facing new forms of crimes and atrocities nowadays, she pointed out. "Five women have died in petrol attacks in Kerala in the last six months," she said. **PTI**

Capital punishment only way to curb rapes: Cong

PTI ■ PANAJI

The Goa Congress women's wing on Tuesday said capital punishment was the only way to curb crimes like rape in the country.

It supported Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's remark that India was now known as "rape capital" of the world.

The recent trend of rapes and killings of innocent victims clearly reflects what Gandhi has

stated, Goa Pradesh Mahila Congress Committee president Pratima Coutinho said.

"We should not live in a state of denial. There are cases of minor girls being raped and killed. Women are not feeling safe on streets in several parts of the country. This is the actual situation and not a political statement," she said.

Coutinho said time has come to amend the existing law and ensure that those convicted

for raping and killing are "hanged to death in public".

"There is a need to instill fear in the minds of perverts that if they commit such crimes, they would face severe consequences," she said, adding that countries all over the world are adopting a zero-tolerance attitude towards such crimes.

Such crimes can be controlled only by capital punishment, she asserted.

New year gift: Mumbai to get first AC local on Jan 1

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Suburban railway commuters await a New year gift, as the Central Railway prepares to operate the first-ever Air-conditioned suburban local on January 1, 2020.

"The first Air-conditioned EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit) local train has arrived in our yard. It will be a New Year gift for our commuters. This AC EMU train has 12 cars fully air-conditioned including driving cabs," a Central Railway spokesperson said here on Tuesday.

"A motor woman will in all likelihood operate the AC local on its maiden run," the spokesperson added.

The AC local has been manufactured by ICF (Integral Coach Factory) Chennai, which has made a new breed of indigenous air-conditioned EMU train set.

The salient features of the new local include: AC system for passengers comprising 2 X



15 ton capacity roof mounted package units (RMPU) for air conditioning in each coach, provision of an EMU rake with secondary air suspension with two air bellows, provided on each bogie, availability of a Passenger Address & Passenger Information system (PAPIS), a GPS based information system for passenger with intercom facility and LED Based Coach

identification system for Alarm chain pulling & Door malfunctioning.

Among the safety features for commuters, the local has an electrically-operated automatic door closure system, Emergency Talk Back (ETU) system which is a part of PAPIS and a manual door opening system in each coach that can be accessed.

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

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

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

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

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

"Sternest action needs to be

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

At the meeting, the chief minister interacted with the Police Commissioners of Pune, Thane, Aurgangad, Nagpur, Nashik and Navi Mumbai and Special Inspectors General of police, through video-conferencing.

Uddhav's remarks about Maharashtra having not utilised any money allocated to it under Nirbhaya fund should be seen in the light of the fact that though the State had been allocated ₹ 128.46 crore Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) of the Nirbhaya

fund during 2017-18, it has not utilised any money under this fund.

Similarly, the Centre allocated ₹ 176.6 crore to Maharashtra during 2015-17 under the Central Victim Compensation fund of the Nirbhaya Fund, but the state has not so far utilised any money, according to a note released by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) on July 19, 2019.

While Maharashtra was allocated ₹ 45.84 crore Cyber Crime Prevention against Women & Children (CCPWC) ₹ 45.84 crore during 2017-18, it was allocated a total of ₹ 144.65 crore for a period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 under One Stop Centre Scheme. Similarly, it was allocated ₹ 6.27 crore under Universalisation of Women Helpline during 2015-16. Maharashtra has not utilised any money under any of these heads of the Nirbhaya

Under two other heads -

safety city projects in eight cities and strengthening of forensic science laboratories, Maharashtra was allocated ₹ 874.7 crore and ₹ 268.5 crore during 2018-19 respectively. However, according to the MWCD note, the Centre has not yet received utilisation certificates from Maharashtra.

The Nirbhaya Fund Framework provides for a non-lapsable corpus fund for safety and security of women to be administered by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) of the Government of India. Further, it provides for an Empowered

Committee (EC) of officers chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development (MWCD) to appraise and recommend proposals to be funded under this framework.

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

Shops closed in J&K districts due to shutdown called by separatists

Srinagar: Most of the shops were shut in Srinagar on Tuesday due to a shutdown called by the separatists on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, officials said.

Shops, fuel stations and other business establishments were shut in several areas of the city, they said.

The shutdown was intense in the Downtown (old city) areas, the officials said.

Public transport was less, but private cars and auto-rick-



shaws were plying, unhindered they added.

There were reports of shutdown in certain areas of the valley, the officials said. The schools in Kashmir were shut after the Government announced the winter vacations from

Tuesday till February 22, 2020.

The headline Hurriyat Conference, led by Syed Ali Shah Geelani, had reportedly called for the shutdown on Monday and asked people to observe a "black day" on the occasion of International Human Rights Day. **PTI**

Dozens detained at panchayat members' rally in Jammu

Jammu: Dozens of All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) members were detained here on Tuesday after they tried to take out a march in support of their various demands, including clearance of ₹ 1,000 crore liabilities under the Centre's flagship MGNERGA scheme.

The AJKPC, a frontline body of elected panchayat members, went on a week-long hunger strike on December 3 to press for their demands. It ended the hunger strike on Tuesday but tried to take out a rally when its members were

detained by police.

"We are ending the hunger strike as per already chalked out programme today (Tuesday)... We have already conveyed all our genuine demands to the director rural development department who visited us during the hunger strike and are hopeful of resolution of our issues," AJKPC president Anil Sharma told reporters before leading the protest march.

However, he threatened to intensify the agitation if the administration failed to resolve their issues. **PTI**

PARADIP PORT TRUST
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
Name of the Work: "Ailment of 05 (Five) nos. of Manual Iron Ore/Iron Ore Pellet Plants."
License Fees: Rs. 2,29,08,402/-, Wharfage Fees: Rs. 6,02,276/-. Last date & time of submission of bid: 24.12.2019 upto 15.00 hrs., Date & time of opening (technical bid): 26.12.2019 upto 16.00 hrs.
Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. Traffic Manager PPT/PR/534/19-20, Dt.09/12/2019

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)
N.I.T. No.: 10/19-20 dated 06.12.2019 1. Name of work with its location: Repair & maintenance work in NRCH Complex near new OPD Block Gynecology, Pharmacy Block Kitchen area and 2nd entry of Hospital in the S/o SSE/Hort/NDLS under ADEN/Hort/NDLS 2. Approx. Cost of work: 427209.83. Earnest Money: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 85500.00 4. Completion period of Work: 12 Months 5. Cost of tender on cash/by post: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 3540.6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15.00 hrs on 31.12.2019 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 31.12.2019 7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen: Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. 128-W/269/OET/19-20/NRCH/NIT 10 Dated: 06.12.2019. 3940/19 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi
NOTICE INVITING TENDER Date: 11.12.2019
BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd., Delhi intends to invite tenders from all bidders in two envelope system for following job:-
NIT No. Brief Item Description Estimated Cost (₹) Cost of EMD (₹) Due Date & Time of Submission Date & Time of Opening
CM/C/BR/19-20/SV/RS/PG/829 SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF 11 KV/LT DISTRIBUTION NETWORK INCLUDING PACKAGE SUBSTATION, RMU, CABLE AND ACCESSORIES ON SINGLE POINT RESPONSIBILITY BASIS IN CONNECTION WITH PROVIDING SMVA SUPPLY FROM 66KV JAFFERPUR GRID TO DTC DEPOT MUNDHELA KALAN 5.9 Crores 5,90,000/- 01.01.2020 1530 HRS 01/01/2020 1600 HRS
CM/C/BR/19-20/RS/MS/831 ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF NETWORKING ITEMS (LAN) IN BRPL 98 Lacs 1,96,000/- 01.01.2020 1530 HRS 01.01.2020 1600 HRS
Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 180/-
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com Head (Contracts & Materials)
Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC11527 Telephone No.: +91 11 3999 7235 | E-mail: bpl.auction@relanceadsa.com | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)
NIT No. 93186847B
Name of work and its location Winter Jacket Functional Specification:- Jacket with inner living with/without hood/cap, Orange Colour Superior Quality as per Specification of winter jacket for track Maintainers attached as Annexure-1
Approx. Cost of work With Approximately cost is Rs. 10000000/-
Earnest Money Rs. 200000/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only.
Quantity 4000 Nos.
Date and Time for Submission of tender and opening of tender Upto 11.00 hrs on 30.12.2019, Opening of Tender at 11.00 hrs.
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. DMM/NS/LP/93186847B/2019 Dated: - 09.12.2019 3943/19
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
SR. NO. LETTER / MEMO NO. & DATE NAME OF DEPARTMENT ENT/ BOARD/ CORP./ AUTH OLD REFEREN CE /NIT / TENDER NO. NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM WEBSITE OF THE DEPT./ BOARD CORP./ AUTH NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1 Ch-18/CE/HPCC/ SE/C&R-II/LTP- III/300 MW SOLAR dated 14-11-2019 Haryana Power Purchase Centre MW SOLAR 82/CE/ HPCC/ LTP/ 100 MW SOLAR Date extension www.uhvvn.org.in www.bharat-electricstender.com CE/HPCC, Shakti Bhawan Sector -6 Panchkula/ oehppo@gmail.com 0172-2583789

UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
SR. No. NAME OF BOARD CORP./ AUTH OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO. NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1 HSAMB, KARNAL MEMO NO.4465 DT.25.11.2019/ REPAIR & WIDENING/ STRENGTHENING OF ROAD LIFTED SCHOOL, IN SHRIHARIPUR (ROAD ID: 4035)-CH ANNC 20844 AT THE RISE & COST OF M/S KAVITIK BUILDERS - 1 OTHER WORK Late date of tender/bid submission will be 23.12.2019 (11:00 AM) https://etenders.hry.nic.in 0184-2220964
2 THE ROHTAK CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LIMITED, ROHTAK 2019_HBC_108994_1 Re-Scheduled for dated 19.12.2019 at 4.00 P.M. / Opening 20.12.2019 at 12.00 Noon https://etenders.hry.nic.in www.vitandus.org.in 01262-276302,277364 vitarochak@gmail.com
3 HVPNL PANCHKULA 06/CCD-168/B/2019-20 DATED 20.09.2019 The last date of online bid submission is extended up to 20.12.2019 No change in the tender, only date of opening is extended upto 24.12.2019 due to non turning up of minimum bidders i.e minimum 3 bidders https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in https://www.hvvn.org.in 0172-2583789 pro@hvvn.org.in
4 HVPNL PANCHKULA NIT NO. 5 /APB/CIVIL WORKS/2019-20 DATED: 19.11.2019BROW EXTENDED NO.(2019_HBC_109381_2) DT.09.12.19 WWW.HVPN.ORG.IN 0172-2583789 pro@hvvn.org.in
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO NO. 79515

Unfulfilled goals

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



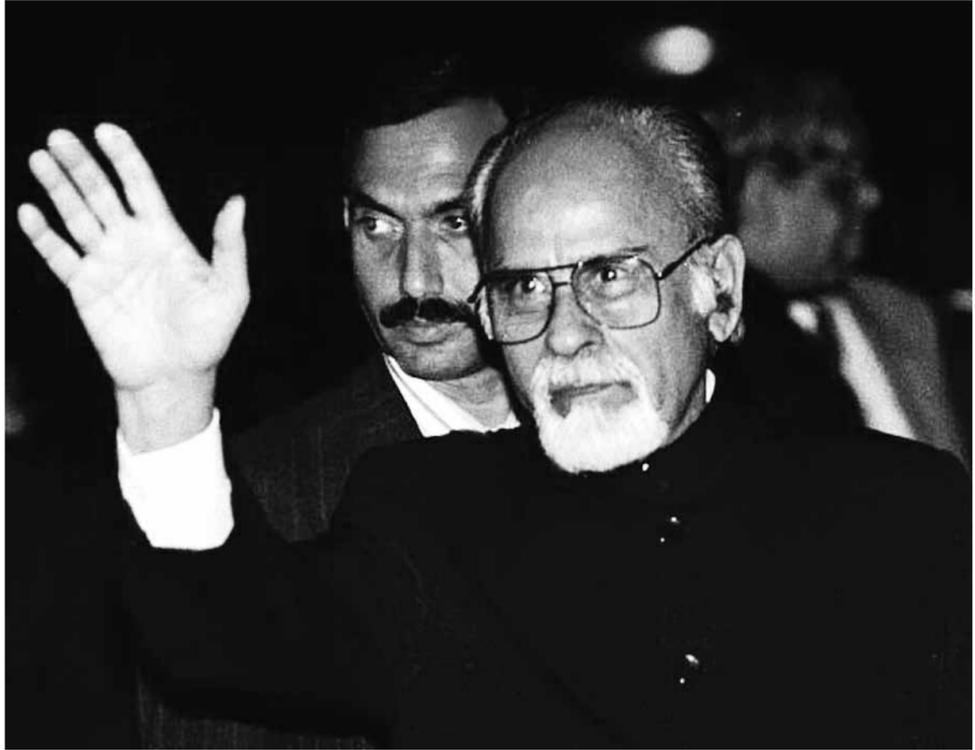
RK PACHAURI

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anxiety in the N-E

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



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

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

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

Shut out Russia

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

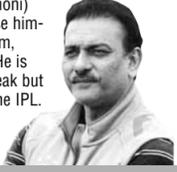
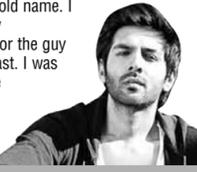
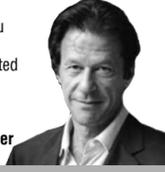


Vladimir Putin is not a happy man. In fact, the Russian President is extremely angry. This because the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has decided to ban all athletes competing under the Russian flag for four years. This is an unprecedented punishment as the ban will cover all major competitions, including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

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

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

SOUNDBITE

<p>The last thing he (Dhoni) will want is to impose himself on an Indian team, having known him. He is wanting to take a break but he is going to play the IPL.</p> <p>India coach —Ravi Shastri</p> 	<p>I wasn't a household name. I was known by my character's name or the guy who spoke very fast. I was also known as the 'monologue guy.'</p> <p>Actor —Kartik Aaryan</p> 	<p>Citizenship Bill is a part of the RSS's Hindu Rashtra design of expansionism propagated by the fascist Modi Government.</p> <p>Pakistan Prime Minister —Imran Khan</p> 	<p>It is regrettable that the USCIRF has chosen to be guided only by its prejudices on a matter (Citizenship Amendment Bill) on which it has no <i>locus standi</i>.</p> <p>MEA Spokesperson —Raveesh Kumar</p> 
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Task cut out

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

Gajendra
Via email

CAB: A violation of the Constitution

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

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



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

JS Acharya
Hyderabad

Business as usual

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

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

Sahil Agrawal
Kolkata

of onions and one of the measures could be to increase the area under onion cultivation across the country. Onions are the staple food for millions of Indians, the poorest of whom often make meals of wheat-rolled roti, green chilli and this vegetable.

Devendra Khurana
Bhopal

put the entire blame on the Government. Much of the crop was destroyed due to unseasonal rains in key onion-growing regions in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Rajasthan that left the year's kharif crop damaged. But it is also true that the Government failed to take stock of the situation at the right time. It could have ordered the import of onions right at the time when an increase was reported. Instead, it chose to wait for prices to spiral. It is now that we have ordered the import of onions from Egypt, Afghanistan and Turkey. The way forward for us should be to find possible solutions to increase the production

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

EVs are the next big thing

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



PANKAJ M. MUNJAL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WHEN WILL FAROOQ ABDULLAH AND TWO OTHER FORMER CHIEF MINISTERS AND POLITICIANS OF KASHMIR BE RELEASED FROM PRISON?

—SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER
 ADHIR RANJAN CHAUDHARY



SHEIKH ABDULLAH WAS KEPT IN JAIL FOR 11 YEARS BY CONGRESS, WE WON'T FOLLOW THEM. ONCE THE ADMINISTRATION DECIDES, THEY WILL BE RELEASED.

—UNION HOME MINISTER
 AMIT SHAH

Take it into account

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



HIMA BINDU KOTA

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Amity University)

Time for collective introspection

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



KALYANI SHANKAR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(The writer is a senior journalist)



FOREIGN EYE



BRING YOUTH TO THE FOREFRONT

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

(Courtesy: Daily Mirror)

RCEP did not address India's concerns: Goyal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The RCEP did not "adequately" address India's concerns including over issues of non-tariff barriers to trade and opaqueness in subsidy regime in some countries, which forced it to back out from the trade deal, the government informed Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

Besides, the government is also going to review the free trade agreement between India and ASEAN countries by the previous governments saying that it has created trade imbalances, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal said in a statement.

According to the minister, imports from these countries have increased much more than exports from India.

However, Goyal, who was replying to members in the Upper House, also assured them that India's Look East policy would continue.

"The government's priority is also to correct the asymmetry in the existing agreements and maximise its export potential to benefit domestic industry and farmers to promote Prime Minister's vision of Make in India and doubling farmers' income," said Goyal.

The minister also said that India would continue to engage with other countries as "equal partner and on the principle of reciprocity".

"We are working with our existing FTA partners like South Korea and Japan to address our concerns," said Goyal in his statement on trade agreements with RCEP countries.

He further added: "We have also secured an agreement to initiate a review of ASEAN-India Trade and Goods agreement to make the AIFTA more user friendly, simple and trade facilitative."

Over RCEP, the minister said that India continued to focus on its core demands - level playing field, fair trade practices, transparency and market access - during the trade negotiations.

"Since, RCEP in its current form did not adequately address our concerns, joining it would be unfair to our interests," he said.

During RCEP negotiations,

the government had highlighted India's position as a relatively low per capita GDP as compared to other RCEP countries and its concerns about the livelihood of farmers and employment generation provided by the industrial sector, particularly by the MSMEs.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a mega free-trade agreement (FTA) which was negotiated by 16 countries, including India and China. On November 4 in Bangkok, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the call of not joining the RCEP agreement as India's concerns were not addressed in the pact.

Taking a dig on the previous governments, the minister said that the previous FTAs done by them had done damage to trade, hence there was no question of any such further trade agreements.

Asked about the consequences of not joining RCEP, the minister said, "The economy of the country would improve and there would be no unwanted imports."

₹ rises 12 paise to 1-month high of 70.92 against \$

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee rose by 12 paise to close at a more than one-month high of 70.92 against the US dollar on Tuesday amid softening crude oil prices and weakening of the greenback vis-a-vis major global currencies.

Forex traders said the Indian rupee gained ground on the back of stable crude oil prices and a weaker dollar index. However, muted domestic equity markets weighed on the local unit.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 70.98 against the US dollar.

During the day, the domestic unit fluctuated between a high of 70.85 and a low of 71.04 and finally ended the day at 70.92 against the US dollar, the highest closing level since November 5 when the unit settled at 70.69.

On Monday, the rupee had settled at 71.04 against the American currency.

"Rupee continued to extend gains despite fall in domestic equities but primarily on back of weakness in the dollar against its major crosses," said Gaurang Somaiyaa, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Private Ltd.

Somaiyaa, further said that focus will now be on inflation and industrial production number and weaker-than-expected data could curb the gains for the currency.

"We expect the USDINR (Spot) pair to find support close to 70.80 levels and on the higher side resistance is at 71.40 level," he said.

Forex traders said easing crude oil prices and weakness of the US dollar vis-a-vis other currencies overseas supported the rupee.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.13 per cent to 97.51.

Chinese inflation hits eight-year high as pork prices double

AFF ■ BEIJING

Consumer prices in China accelerated at their fastest pace for almost eight years in November as the African swine fever epidemic caused pork prices to more than double, data showed Tuesday.

The consumer price index (CPI) — a key gauge of retail inflation — came in at 4.5 per cent for November, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said, up from 3.8 per cent in October and the highest rate since January 2012.

Analysts surveyed by Bloomberg News had forecast an increase of 4.3 per cent on-year.

The widespread outbreak of swine fever since August 2018 has disrupted the pork supply in China, sending the prices of the staple meat up 110.2 per cent last month November.

With China's pig herd down by about 40 per cent, authorities last week launched a plan to restore pork production to pre-swine fever levels by 2021.

Govt told to prevent misuse of input tax credit under GST as collection slows

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A Parliamentary panel on Tuesday observed that the Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection has slowed down in recent months and asked the government to prevent misuse of input tax credit.

Two years after its launch, the government has begun the review of GST, including a possible resetting of rates along with the slabs, the Standing Committee on Finance headed by Jayant Sinha said in its report tabled in Parliament.

"In this connection, the committee are constrained to observe that GST collections have somewhat slowed down in recent months as compared to the target. The committee would therefore expect the government to resolve all the troubling issues related to GST at the earliest to achieve the desired revenue buoyancy," the panel said.

GST revenue collection crossed the ₹1 lakh crore mark after a gap of three months in November, with the revenue growing by 6 per cent to ₹1.03 lakh crore in the month. The collection stood at ₹95,380 crore in October.

"The committee would also urge the Department of Revenue to remain vigilant so as to prevent misuse of provisions as input tax credit and enhance monitoring of overall compliance," the committee said.

It further asked the revenue department to have systematic reports and conduct feedback surveys from taxpayers to evaluate whether GST is operating smoothly.

On large amount of tax refunds and the accruing interests on it, the committee said the processes should be revisited to dispense with the "need for raising realistic demands as also payments of disproportionately large advance tax by assesses".

In 2017-18, the direct tax refunds stood at ₹1.52 lakh crore and ₹17,603 crore as interest, which rose to ₹1.61 lakh crore and ₹20,566 crore respectively in 2018-19.

FCI raises ₹8K cr on BSE BOND platform

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-run Food Corporation of India (FCI) garnered Rs 8,000 crore by way of issuance of bonds on private placement basis on BSE's electronic book mechanism platform.

In total, 247 bids for Rs 20,071.2 crore were received on BSE BOND Platform, which is the second highest bids ever received for yield based bidding, the exchange said in a statement.

B S Mohapatra, Executive Director (Finance) at FCI said the platform's convenience, user-friendly feature and support from BSE team smoothened the entire bidding and fund-raising process.

"I am delighted that FCI is able to raise Rs 8,000 crore successfully using BSE BOND platform...BSE firmly believes that Indian bond market is tapping ample potential for sizeable growth and India is parking its domestic savings in the most judicious manner," BSE CEO and MD Ashishkumar Chauhan said.

The platform was launched on July 1, 2016 to facilitate online bidding for private placement of debt securities. Since then, companies have garnered over ₹9 lakh crore through the exchange mechanism.

The platform, which allows all categories of investors to place bids, helps bring in transparency and efficiency in price discovery for private placement of debt securities.

Flipkart-owned PhonePe receives ₹585 cr infusion from parent firm

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

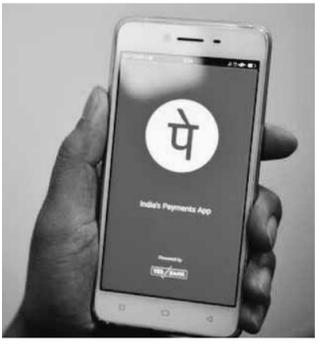
Flipkart-owned digital payments company PhonePe has received a fund infusion of about ₹585.66 crore from its parent firm in another round, according to regulatory filings.

PhonePe Pvt Ltd, Singapore, (formerly Flipkart Payments Pvt Ltd) was allotted 13,81,278 shares and the total amount paid was ₹585,66,18,720, according to documents sourced by business intelligence platform Tofler.

The company declined to comment on the fund infusion.

In July this year, PhonePe had received a fund infusion of about ₹698 crore from its parent firm.

The latest fund infusion is expected to provide PhonePe more muscle to compete in the burgeoning payments segment in India. It competes against the likes of Paytm, Google Pay, Amazon Pay and others in this space.



Paytm had recently announced a USD 1 billion (around ₹7,173 crore) fund raise led by the US-based asset management firm T Rowe Price. Existing investors Alibaba, Softbank and Discovery Capital had also participated in the funding round.

Digital payments have seen significant growth in India after the government's demonetisation drive in 2016. Players like PhonePe and Paytm have witnessed strong growth in user base as well as transaction value and volumes.

PhonePe has seen its losses mount to ₹1,904.72 crore in 2018-19 from a loss of ₹791.03 crore for the year ended March 2018.

However, its revenue from operations rose manifold to ₹184.22 crore in 2018-19 as against ₹42.79 crore a year ago.

Previously, PhonePe had stated that it had seen 380 million transactions on its platform in August 2019, as compared to 290 million in the month of June.

There have also been reports that Flipkart is looking at hiving off PhonePe into a separate entity, a move that would help the payments company raise funds independently.

Yes Bank shares plunge nearly 10% amid capital infusion

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of Yes Bank on Tuesday fell over 10 per cent amid reports about difficulty being faced by the lender over a USD 2-billion fundraising plan.

The stock dived 10.05 per cent to end at ₹50.55 on the BSE. During the day, it plunged 12.27 per cent to ₹50.55.

On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), the company's shares tumbled 10.4 per cent to close at Rs 50.40 apiece. During the day, the stock plummeted 13.68 per cent on the NSE.

In terms of the equity volume, 2.29 crore shares of the company were traded on the BSE and over 34.5 crore shares changed hands on the NSE during the day.

According to reports, the bank was likely to reject the offer of the proposed capital infusion.

However, the lender after the market hours said it shall continue to evaluate other potential investors to raise capital up to USD 2 billion.

"The board is willing to favourably consider the offer of USD 500 million of Citax Holdings and Citax Investment Group and the final decision regarding allotment to follow in the next board meeting, subject to requisite regulatory approval(s)," it said in a regulatory filing.

The binding offer of USD 1.2 billion submitted by Erwin Singh Braich / SPGP Holdings continues to be under discussion, it further added.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)

Name of work with its location	AMC of CCTV system installed in IRCA building & P.K. Road Railway Officers Colony, New Delhi for three years.
App. Cost of the work (₹)	₹ 18,45,106.56 only.
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-I, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.
Tender Document Fee (₹)	₹ 2,360 only.
Earnest Money to be deposited (₹)	₹ 36,900 only.
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading / closing date & time 08.01.2020 up to 15:00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the N. Ry. website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.

No.: 558-Sig-16-Tele-AMC-563 Date: 10.12.2019 3936/2019
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COAL LINKAGE RATIONALISATION LEADS TO ₹3,770CR SAVINGS PER YEAR BY 58 TPPS: CIL

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Coal India Ltd (CIL) on Tuesday said about 58 thermal power plants (TPPs) in the country are saving around Rs 3,770 crore per annum in coal transportation cost after the miner had implemented the fuel linkage rationalisation.

A total of 63 million tonne of coal movement is currently involved under the rationalisation policy, CIL sources said.

"An estimated Rs 3,770 crore is being saved annually by 58 thermal power plants in the country in coal transportation costs after the implementation of linkage rationalisation policy by Coal India Limited since 2015," the miner said.

The linkage rationalisation refers to transfer of coal supply source of a power plant from a far end mine to the nearer one.

This arrangement benefits the power plants in reduction of coal transportation cost and ensures quicker supplies of the fuel and greater availability of railway rakes, the sources said.

SBI reports loan divergence of ₹11,932 cr for FY19



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) on Tuesday reported about Rs 12,000 crore divergence in their bad loans for the last fiscal.

As per the assessment done by the RBI, the gross NPA of the SBI was 11,932 crore more at ₹1,84,682 against ₹1,72,750 reported by the bank for 2018-19, SBI said in a regulatory filing.

Similarly, the net NPA was 77,827 crore as compared to disclosed figure of ₹65,895 crore, reflecting divergence of ₹11,932 crore, it said.

As a result the bank has to make additional provisioning of ₹12,036 crore in the balance sheet and the notional loss would have been at ₹6,968 crore.

SBI had posted a profit of ₹862 crore for 2018-19 in May this year.

It further said after subsequent slippage or upgradation during the current financial year, the remaining impact on the gross NPAs during the third quarter of current fiscal is ₹3,143 crore.

The impact on provisioning during the third quarter stood at ₹4,654 crore, it added.

In recent months, there have been several instances of under-reporting of bad loans by lenders, prompting regulatory action by the Reserve Bank of India.

Last month, SBI in a circular noted that disclosures in respect of divergence and provisioning are in the nature of material events and hence necessitate immediate disclosure. Further, this information is also price sensitive, requiring prompt disclosure by a listed entity.

Accordingly, the regulator has decided that "listed banks shall make disclosures of divergences and provisioning beyond specified threshold, as mentioned in aforesaid RBI notifications, as soon as reasonably possible and not later than 24 hours upon receipt of the Reserve Bank's Final Risk Assessment Report (RAR), rather than waiting to publish them as part of annual financial statements".

The SBI has reported the loan divergence to the exchanges, as per the direction of market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Next rate cut depends on how less teary-eyed onion leaves RBI

Mumbai: Days after the Reserve Bank stunned the market with a status quo on the policy rates, an American brokerage has said onion prices hold the key to the next rate cut.

Onion prices, considered politically sensitive, have been spiralling for the last few weeks and have breached the ₹200-mark in some markets.

The RBI was widely expected to cut interest rates at last week's policy, which would have made it into a sixth consecutive cut in as many policy reviews in 2019 to boost the sagging growth, that has dipped to a six-year low.

"We advise investors to track onion prices to time the next rate cut by RBI," house economists at Bank of America Securities said in a note on Tuesday.

It said onion prices have now jumped 371 percent year-on-year in December, after a 177 percent increase in November. If the prices retreat to ₹60 a kg in December and to ₹40 in January from the present levels, inflation should peak off at 5.9 percent in December and slip to 5.4 percent in January. But if onion price moderates to ₹60 a kg in January, when bulk of onion imports arrive, inflation will be at 6.1 percent in January, it said.

The note, however, said its base case is for a rate cut at the next policy review in February, when it expects the headline inflation to peak at 6 percent in December or latest by January.

While holding the rates, governor Shaktikanta Das had said that the central bank was still open to cut the rates but chose to wait and watch for evolving data.

The brokerage said if the RBI is not comfortable with a negative real repo rate, which is the repo rate minus the headline inflation, the next rate cut will be in April.

China plans to launch its own digital currency: Report

PTI ■ BEIJING

China plans to launch its own digital currency to stay ahead of the global competition with its central bank approving proposals to conduct trials in some cities, official media here reported on Tuesday.

China's central bank - the People's Bank of China (PBC) - has stepped up efforts to roll out its Digital Currency Electronic Payment (DCEP) as it seeks to stay ahead of the competition among central banks around the world and help preserve financial sovereignty, state-run Global Times reported.

The bank is set to conduct trials of the digital currency in cities such as tech hub Shenzhen in the country's southern Guangdong Province, it said.

The initial test, set at the end of this month in Shenzhen, will involve some of the largest banks in the country and telecom carriers, the Times reported, quoting the Caijing Magazine.

The test will be expanded to more areas next year, it said. Similar tests are also expected to be conducted in Suzhou, China's eastern Jiangsu Province, the report noted.

Domestic internet giants Alibaba and Tencent will also participate in the trials, it added. The PBC is accelerating the launch as competition heating up among central banks around the world to leap ahead with digital currency, expected to affect a wide range of sectors ranging from financial to retail and trade, the report said.

On Wednesday, Francois Villeroy de Galhau, governor of France's central bank, announced that the bank will conduct a test of a digital currency and launch a call for projects before the end of the first quarter of 2020.

Employability of graduates jumps to 47% in 2019 from 33% in 2014: Survey

PTI ■ MUMBAI

In some good news to the millions graduates and also to the education system in the country as a whole, where for many years as much as 70 per cent of the professional degree holders were found to be unemployed, a survey has found that nearly half of the fresh pass-outs are employable now.

The survey, however, does not speak about the jobs scenario given the shape of the economy due to the high capacity underutilization prevalent in across most industry segments for many years now.

According to the India Skills Report by Wheebox, People Strong and CII, there is an overall positive trend in talent supply as over 46 per cent of the students surveyed are found to be employable or ready to take-up jobs in 2019 against only 33 per cent in 2014.

"There is an improvement in the availability of employable talent at around 47% in 2019up from 33.9% in 2014," Wheebox founder and chief executive Nirmal Singh said.

The most employable candidates are MBA passouts with 54 per cent of the being found employable against 40 per cent in two years ago, it said, adding BPharma, polytechnic, BCom and BA graduates have also seen an improvement in their employability which has increased by over 15 percent.

However, there has been a decline in the employability those coming out with B.Tech, other engineering streams, MCA, technical and computer-related courses, says the survey.

The survey is based on a study by the talent management specialist Wheebox which has conducted the national employability test survey from July-November 2019 with more than 3 lakh participants from 3,500 educational institutions across the country.

Appeal For Identification

General public is hereby informed that this person **Name** : Unknown **S/o** : Unknown, **R/o** : Unknown, **Age** : 45 Years, **Sex** : Male, **Height** : 5 Ft. 5 Inch, **Complexion** : Shallow, **Wearing** : Grey Colour Inner Only, has been found dead on 29.11.2019 Near Hari Haran Public School, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 21-A Dated 29.11.2019 has been lodged at PS. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

SHO
DP/724/N/19.
PS. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23967889, 23968730, 8750870123

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Ram Kumari**, **D/o: Rajender Singh**, **R/o: Gali No.- 10, Sanjay colony, Safiabad Road, Narela, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 20.11.2019 from the area of P.S. Narela, Delhi.** In this regard **FIR No. 497/19 u/s 363 IPC dated 21.11.2019** has been registered at P.S. Narela, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Ram Kumari, Age: 16 Years 6 Months, Height: 5'5", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, ID Mark: Mole on left cheek, Wearing: Blue colour frock and sandal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Narela, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cbc@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station, Narela, Delhi
Ph: 011-27282350, 27285839
DP/820/ON/19

Passenger vehicle sales slip into negative territory in Nov

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Domestic passenger vehicle sales slipped into negative territory once again in November after registering a slight recovery in the preceding month, as muted demand conditions forced companies to reduce their dispatches to dealers.



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

kept April 1, 2020 as the date of introducing upgraded fuel across the country. The BS-VI fuel is available currently in only the NCR region. Total two-wheeler sales in November fell 14.27 per cent to 14,10,939 units compared to 16,45,783 units in the year-ago month.

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

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

In the two-wheeler category, Hero MotoCorp posted a 15.81 per cent drop in sales at 5,05,994 units, while rival Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India saw sales decline by 5.32 per cent to 3,73,283 units.

TRAI issues public notice on revised MNP process

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Telecom regulator TRAI on Tuesday issued a public notice on the revised mobile number portability process, which is slated to make the porting process fast and simple from December 16.

There is no change in the porting timelines for the corporate mobile connections, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) said. "TRAI has revised the Mobile Number Portability (MNP) process... In the revised MNP process, the Unique Porting Code (UPC) will be generated only when the subscriber is eligible to port-out his mobile number," TRAI said.

Sensex tumbles nearly 250 pts

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark indices spiralled lower on Tuesday, dragged by widespread selling in bank, energy and IT stocks, as investors booked profit at higher levels amid lacklustre macro and global cues.

On similar lines, the 50-script NSE Nifty fell 80.70 points or 0.68 per cent to finish at 11,856.80. Participants were eager to take money off the table amid lack of positive news on the growth front, while global cues were weak due to the US-China tensions, traders said.

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

BSE Utilities took the biggest hit with 2.16 per cent fall, followed by power (1.83 per cent), oil & gas (1.73 per cent), metal (1.38 per cent), basic materials (1.27 per cent), IT (1.18 per cent), Teck (1.12 per cent), FMCG (1.11 per cent) and energy (1.02 per cent).

According to data released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), passenger vehicle (PV) sales declined 0.84 per cent to 2,63,773 units in November from 2,66,000 units in the year-ago period.

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

New Delhi (PTI): Honda

Cars India Ltd (HCIL) on Tuesday introduced BS-VI compliant version of its premium sedan Honda City priced between Rs 9.91 lakh and Rs 14.31 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). Petrol version of the BS-VI compliant Honda City is available in both manual and automatic transmissions, while diesel version will be introduced subsequently, HCIL said in a statement.

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

NIFTY 50 table with columns: SCRIP, OPEN, High, LOW, LTP, CHANGE. Lists top 50 stocks including BAJFINANCE, HINDUNILVR, CIPLA, EICHERMOT, BHARTIARTL, etc.

BSE 500 table with columns: Script, Open, High, Low, LTP. Lists 500 stocks including MAHINDCIA, YESBANK, IBSLHSGFIN, HDFCCAMC, SBN, etc.

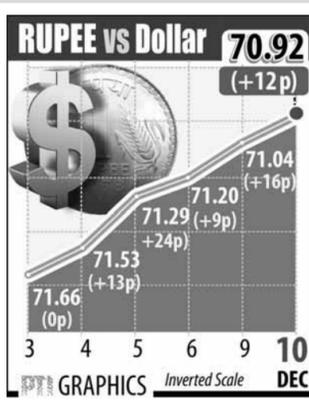


Table of stock prices for various companies including EIDPARRY, JINDALSAW, ECLERX, IDBI, ABBOTINDIA, RPOWER, etc.

Table of stock prices for various companies including OIL, SOUTHBANK, IKTRE, PGHH, PHOENIXLTD, FINEOR, etc.

Table of stock prices for various companies including SUPREMEIND, MAXINDIA, SYNGENE, GSPL, PRSMJOHNSN, etc.

NIFTY NEXT 50 table with columns: SCRIP, OPEN, High, LOW, LTP, CHANGE. Lists 50 stocks including NIACL, IBSLHSGFIN, IDEA, SBILIFE, NMDC, etc.

BSE 500 table with columns: Script, OPEN, High, LOW, LTP. Lists 500 stocks including MAHINDCIA, YESBANK, IBSLHSGFIN, HDFCCAMC, SBN, etc.

Table of stock prices for various companies including GODREJPROP, SRP, DELTACORP, ULTRACEMCO, RAJESHXPO, etc.

Table of stock prices for various companies including EIDPARRY, JINDALSAW, ECLERX, IDBI, ABBOTINDIA, RPOWER, etc.

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Table of stock prices for various companies including SUPREMEIND, MAXINDIA, SYNGENE, GSPL, PRSMJOHNSN, etc.

FBI was justified in probing Trump-Russia: Fed watchdog

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The FBI was justified in opening its investigation into ties between the Trump presidential campaign and Russia and did not act with political bias, the Justice Department's internal watchdog declared, undercutting President Donald Trump's repeated claims that he has been the target of a "witch hunt."

The long-awaited report, issued Monday, rejected theories and criticism spread by Trump and his supporters, though it also found "serious performance failures" up the bureau's chain of command that

Republicans are citing as evidence that Trump was targeted by an unfair investigation.

The affirmation of the investigation's legitimacy, balanced by criticism of the way it was conducted, ensured that partisan battles would persist over one of the most politically sensitive investigations in FBI history.

Another review of the origins of the probe continues, and the prosecutor picked by Attorney General William Barr will take that effort hinted Monday he'll take a harder view of the FBI's actions.

Monday's review by Inspector General Michael Horowitz knocked down multiple lines of attack against the Russia investigation, finding that it was properly opened and that law enforcement leaders were not motivated by political bias.

Contrary to the claims of Trump and other critics, it said that opposition research compiled by an ex-British spy named Christopher Steele had no bearing on the decision to open the investigation known as Crossfire Hurricane.

And it rejected allegations that a former Trump campaign aide at the center of the probe was set up by the FBI.

It found that the FBI had an "authorised purpose" when it opened its investigation in July 2016 into whether the Trump campaign was coordinating with Russia to tip the election in his favour.

The report said the FBI had cause to investigate a potential national security threat.

FBI Director Chris Wray, in an interview with The Associated Press, noted that the report did not find political bias but did find problems that are "unacceptable and unrepresentative of who we are as an institution."

The FBI is implementing more than 40 actions aimed at fixing some of the bureau's most fundamental operations, such as applying for surveillance warrants and interacting with confidential sources.

Those changes are in response to some of the report's criticisms.

They largely centered on how agents and prosecutors set about eavesdropping on a former Trump campaign aide who they said they feared was being targeted for Russian government recruitment.

The inspector general identified 17 "significant inaccuracies or omissions" in applications for a warrant and later renewals from the secretive Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to monitor the communications of former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page.

The report also details that the FBI used an informant to set up and record a September 2016 meeting with a high-level Trump campaign official.

The official wasn't identified by name, but was not a subject of the Russia investigation, the report said. While the information collected wasn't used during the Russia probe, it does lend support to the assertions by Trump and Barr that the Trump campaign was spied upon.

The report said the errors resulted in "applications that made it appear that the information supporting probable cause was stronger than was actually the case."

Democrats to introduce articles of impeachment against Donald Trump

IANS ■ WASHINGTON

US House Democrats will on Tuesday announce articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump.

Two articles of impeachment focusing on abuse of power and obstructing Congress were expected to be unveiled. Xinhua news agency quoted The Washington Post as saying in a report on Monday night citing sources who cautioned the plan was yet to be finalized.

Under the current plan, the House Judiciary Committee, which is responsible for writing articles of impeachment, would vote on the articles on Thursday, the newspaper said in its report.

A full House vote will take place next week, it added.

The news broke out only hours after the House Judiciary panel concluded its second and final hearing in the Trump impeachment proceeding on Monday.

The marathon hearing that lasted nearly 10 hours allowed the attorneys to present their findings from the first phase of the investigation, who provided conflicting accounts of Trump's dealings with Ukraine, as Democrats and Republicans reiterated their positions.

In his closing statement on Monday evening, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler accused Trump of having "put himself before his country".

"I am struck by the fact that my Republican colleagues have offered no serious scrutiny of the evidence at hand. They have talked about everything else, but they have offered not one substantive word in the President's defence," he said.

Doug Collins, the top Republican on the panel, said it "will be the first impeachment that is partisan, and facts are not agreed to".

House Democrats have been looking into whether Trump abused his office by pressuring Ukraine into launching investigations that could benefit him politically. Lawmakers have also been examining whether the Republican conditioned a White House meeting or military aid to Ukraine on those probes.

Bangladesh starts fencing Rohingya camps

Balukhali: The Bangladeshi military has started erecting fences around camps housing hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees despite complaints from community leaders and rights groups.

An AFP correspondent on Tuesday saw troops in military fatigues erecting pillars for barbed-wire fences around one large camp at Balukhali in the southeastern border district Cox's Bazar.

Bangladesh's refugee commissioner Mahhub Alam Talukder confirmed to AFP that construction had begun but declined to comment further.

Army chief General Aziz Ahmed said late last month that army engineers had begun erecting the pillars and that the military has "placed orders" for barbed wire.

Suu Kyi told to 'stop genocide' in UN court showdown

AFP ■ THE HAGUE

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

Myanmar's civilian leader sat through graphic accounts of mass murder and rape as the west African state of The Gambia set out its case at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Thousands of people back home in Yangon rallied in support of 74-year-old Suu Kyi, whose silence about the plight of the Rohingya has tarnished her international reputation as a rights icon.

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

"Tell Myanmar to stop these senseless killings, to stop these acts of barbarity that continue to shock our collective conscience, to stop this genocide of its own people," Gambian Justice Minister Abubacar Tambadou told the judges.

Muslim-majority Gambia accuses Myanmar of breaching the 1948 genocide convention and has asked the court, set up in 1946 to rule on disputes between UN member states, to take emergency measures to stop further violence.

"Another genocide is unfolding right before our eyes yet we do nothing to stop it," added Tambadou, a former prosecutor at the tribunal into the Rwanda's 1994 genocide.

US asks UN to discuss risk of NKorea 'provocation'

Washington: The United States on Monday called a UN Security Council meeting this week on the risk of North Korean "provocation" as Pyongyang demands US concessions by a year-end deadline.

The United States, which holds this month's presidency of the Security Council, is scheduling the session instead of a planned meeting on human rights in North Korea, one of the world's most authoritarian states.

This week's meeting will provide "a comprehensive update on recent developments on the Korean Peninsula, including recent missile launches and the possibility of an escalatory DPRK provocation," a State Department spokesperson said, referring to the North by its official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Security Council also met last week behind closed doors to discuss 13 missile tests by North Korea.

That meeting was organised by European nations, which condemned North Korea's actions.

But the request for a new session shows growing alarm by the United States on North Korea, which has demanded that Washington propose a new offer by December 31 to kickstart nuclear negotiations.

North Korea has warned of countermeasures if not. On Saturday, North Korea also claimed to have carried out a "very important test" that will change its "strategic position," without providing further details.

That meeting was organised by European nations, which condemned North Korea's actions.

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Axis Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice upon the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Axis Bank Ltd.

The Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagee(s) attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (9) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Borrower/ Co-borrower	Description of Property	1. Date of Demand Notice	2. Date of Possession	3. Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)
1. Mr. Hitesh Agarwal S/O Mr. Ramesh Chand Agarwal U-23/35 Ground Floor, Pink Town House, U Block, DLF Phase-III, Gurgaon-122022, Haryana Also At: Mr. Hitesh Agarwal S/O Mr. Ramesh Chand Agarwal 28A Deepali Jeevan Jyoti Nagar, Kishangarh, Madanganj, Ajmer, Rajasthan-305801 Also At: Mr. Hitesh Agarwal S/O Mr. Ramesh Chand Agarwal Price Water House & Co. Chartered Accountants LLP Building 8 th & 9 th Floor, Tower -B, DLF Cyber City, Gurgaon-122002, Haryana Mrs. Khushboo Garg W/o Mr. Hitesh Agarwal U-23/35 Ground Floor, Pink Town House, U Block, DLF Phase-III, Gurgaon-122022. Haryana Also At Mrs. Khushboo Garg W/o Mr. Hitesh Agarwal Shastri Nagar Colony, Ajmer Road, Keki, Ajmer, Rajasthan-305404	Residential Ground Floor Dwelling Unit called 'Town House' having its covered area of 76.50 Sq. Mtrs. (G23 Sq. Ft.) bearing No. U-23/35 together with impartible and undivided pro-rate share of land in Plot No. 35, Road No. U-23, measuring 125.07 Sq. Mtrs. In the Residential Colony Known as DLF City, Phase-III, (Earlier known as DLF Qutub Enclave Complex), situated in and around Village Nathpur, Tehsil & Distt. Gurgaon (Haryana) and bounded as under- East: Property No. U-23/36 West: Property No. U-23/34 North: Road South: Property No. U-22/19	1.16-Sep-19 2.6-Dec-19	1.16-Sep-19 2.6-Dec-19	26,22,00,000/- (Twenty-six crore and twenty-two lakh only)
1. Mrs. Nilofar Singh W/o Mr. Inpinder Singh R/O 607, Sarvapriya Vihar Apartments, Sarvapriya Vihar New Delhi 110016 Also At: Mr. Harman Singh S/o Mr. Inpinder Singh H.No-503, Second Floor, Block-E, G.K -2, New Delhi 110048 2. Mr. Harman Singh S/o Mr. Inpinder Singh R/O 607, Sarvapriya Apartments, Sarvapriya Vihar New Delhi 110016 Also At: Mr. Harman Singh S/o Mr. Inpinder Singh H.No-503, Second Floor, Block-E, G.K -2, New Delhi 110048 3. M/S Nitex Overseas Through its proprietor Mrs. Nilofar Singh F-90/33, Okhla Industrial Area Phase -1 New Delhi-110020 Also At: M/S Nitex Overseas Office at 287, Sant Nagar, East of Kailash, New Delhi 110065 1 Mr. Sumit S/O Mr. Charanj Lal R/O 3291, Gali No. 28, Beadon Pura, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 Also At: Mr. Sumit S/O Mr. Charanj Lal S/O Sh. Badri Prasad Flat No. 703, 7th Floor, Superitech-Livingston, Tower E, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad U.P.-201016 1. Mr. Charanj Lal S/O Sh. Badri Prasad R/O 3291, Gali No. 28, Beadon Pura, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005 Also At: Mr. Charanj Lal S/O Sh. Badri Prasad Flat No. 703, 7th Floor, Superitech-Livingston, Tower E, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad U.P.-201016 Mr. Ravi Pal Udar S/O Mr. Dharam Pal Udar R/O House No. 510, Mass Housing Society, Plot No. 24, Sector-10, Dwarika, Delhi-110075 Also At: Mr. Ravi Pal Udar S/O Mr. Dharam Pal Udar M/S Janak Medicos, B9 Basement, Shankar Garden, Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018 Mrs. Rachna Udar W/O Ravi Pal Udar R/O House No. 510, Mass Housing Society, Plot No. 24, Sector-10, Dwarika, Delhi-110075 Also At: Mrs. Rachna Udar W/O Ravi Pal Udar M/S Janak Medicos, B9 Basement, Shankar Garden, Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018	Entire Second Floor of the Property No 503, Block -E, Measuring 248 sq yds., Situated at Greater Kailash Part -2, New Delhi with Three Bed Room, Three Bathrooms, One Drawing Dining Room, One Kitchen, One Servant Room, Open Car parking space in the back side of basement, Half Top Terrace to be used commonly with owner of the first floor along with share and interest in the said land underneath the building in which said property is located and in the common areas and facilities provided in the building/ scheme/ complex.	1.16-Sep-19 2.6-Dec-19 3. Rs. 10,181,267/- Interest, incidental expenses and cost	1.16-Sep-19 2.6-Dec-19 3. Rs. 10,181,267/- Interest, incidental expenses and cost	26,22,00,000/- (Twenty-six crore and twenty-two lakh only)
All That Piece And Parcel of The Built Up Apartment Bearing No. C-748 On 7th Floor In Building/ Tower No. 12 Having A Super Area of 109.63 Sq. Mtrs (1180 Sq. Ft.) (Covered Area 846 Sq. Ft. Balcony & Utility Ward 140 Sq. Ft. And Common Area 194 Sq. Ft.) Alongwith Undivided and Impartibly Proprietary Share In The Land Underneath The Building And Undivided Proportionate Share In The Common Areas of The Building Attaching Thereto Alongwith Right of Use To General Commonly Used Areas And Facilities Earmarked For Common Use of All Occupants Within The Said Complex Together With Right To Use The Reserved Car Parking Space In The Complex, Being Part of The Residential Complex Named 'River Heights' Situated At Village Noor Nagar, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad, U.P.	1.29-Apr-19 2.7-Dec-19 3. Rs. 17,35,000 & Rs. 3,10,896/- Interest, incidental expenses and cost	1.29-Apr-19 2.7-Dec-19 3. Rs. 17,35,000 & Rs. 3,10,896/- Interest, incidental expenses and cost	1.29-Apr-19 2.7-Dec-19 3. Rs. 17,35,000 & Rs. 3,10,896/- Interest, incidental expenses and cost	26,22,00,000/- (Twenty-six crore and twenty-two lakh only)

Govt. of Bihar

BHAGALPUR SMART CITY LIMITED
CIN- U93090BR2016SGC033046

NIT No: BSCL/CCCB/2019/19

Notice Inviting Short Term E-Tender

Second Call

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of ICCC Building (G+5 floors) including utility services under Bhagalpur Smart City Mission, Bhagalpur on EPC basis.

Sr. No.	Work Descriptions	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Tender Processing Fee	Tender Documents fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)
1.	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of ICCC Building (G+5 floors) including Utility services under Bhagalpur Smart City Mission, Bhagalpur on EPC basis.	26,22,00,000/- (Twenty-six crore and twenty-two lakh only)	As per e-proc norms. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	25,000/- (Twenty-five thousand only)	36,22,000/- (Thirty-six lakh and twenty-two thousand only)

Tender Schedule:

Sr. No.	Activity	Date and Time
1.	Online Sale / Download date and time of tender documents. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	From 14/12/2019 to 03/01/2020 (up to 23:00 hrs.)
2.	Prebid Query Submission date and time. Email: bscl.pbq@gmail.com & info@smartcitybhagalpur.org	19/12/2019 up to 23:55 hrs.
3.	Prebid Meeting Date and time	19/12/2019 at 11:00 hrs.
4.	Last date and time for online uploading the tender. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	03/01/2020 up to 23:55 hrs.
5.	Submission of hard copy of Tender Documents Fee & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in original. Address: Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited, Swami Vivekanand Path, Near Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur - 812001.	04/01/2020 up to 14:00 hrs.
6.	Date and Time of Technical Bid Opening. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	04/01/2020 at 15:00 hrs.
7.	Date and Time of Financial Bid Opening. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	20/01/2020 at 13:00 hrs.
8.	Contact person for official correspondence.	Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited. Email: bscl.pbq@gmail.com & info@smartcitybhagalpur.org

For further details please visit website www.prdbihar.gov.in Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited.
PR. No. 011936 (Ni Ni) 2019-20

बेटी है एक वरदान। देहेज देकर मत करो अपमान।।

Govt. of Bihar

BHAGALPUR SMART CITY LIMITED
CIN- U93090BR2016SGC033046

NIT No: BSCL/CCCB/2019/19

Notice Inviting Short Term E-Tender

Second Call

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of ICCC Building (G+5 floors) including utility services under Bhagalpur Smart City Mission, Bhagalpur on EPC basis.

Sr. No.	Work Descriptions	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Tender Processing Fee	Tender Documents fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)
1.	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of ICCC Building (G+5 floors) including Utility services under Bhagalpur Smart City Mission, Bhagalpur on EPC basis.	26,22,00,000/- (Twenty-six crore and twenty-two lakh only)	As per e-proc norms. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	25,000/- (Twenty-five thousand only)	36,22,000/- (Thirty-six lakh and twenty-two thousand only)

Tender Schedule:

Sr. No.	Activity	Date and Time
1.	Online Sale / Download date and time of tender documents. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	From 14/12/2019 to 03/01/2020 (up to 23:00 hrs.)
2.	Prebid Query Submission date and time. Email: bscl.pbq@gmail.com & info@smartcitybhagalpur.org	19/12/2019 up to 23:55 hrs.
3.	Prebid Meeting Date and time	19/12/2019 at 11:00 hrs.
4.	Last date and time for online uploading the tender. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	03/01/2020 up to 23:55 hrs.
5.	Submission of hard copy of Tender Documents Fee & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in original. Address: Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited, Swami Vivekanand Path, Near Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur - 812001.	04/01/2020 up to 14:00 hrs.
6.	Date and Time of Technical Bid Opening. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	04/01/2020 at 15:00 hrs.
7.	Date and Time of Financial Bid Opening. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in	20/01/2020 at 13:00 hrs.
8.	Contact person for official correspondence.	Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited. Email: bscl.pbq@gmail.com & info@smartcitybhagalpur.org

For further details please visit website www.prdbihar.gov.in Chief Executive Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited.
PR. No. 011936 (Ni Ni) 2019-20

बेटी है एक वरदान। देहेज देकर मत करो अपमान।।

Chilean military plane disappears with 38 onboard

IANS ■ SANTIAGO

A Chilean military aircraft enroute to Antarctica with 38 people onboard, has disappeared off the radar, the country's Air Force confirmed in a statement.

The Hercules C130 aircraft took off on Monday from the Chabunco Air Base in Punta Arenas at 4.55 p.m. and last radio contact at 6.13 p.m., Xinhua news agency quoted the statement as saying.

The aircraft was heading to the President Eduardo Frei Montalva Air Base in

Antarctica, adding that people onboard comprised 17 crew members and 21 passengers.

The statement further said that the plane was around 450 miles into its 770-mile journey when contact was lost, placing it within the Drake Passage, reports the BBC.

The Drake Passage is a body of water connecting the South Atlantic and South Pacific Oceans, and is known for treacherous weather conditions.

But the Air Force said that local weather was good at the time of the plane's disappearance.

Air Force General Eduardo Mosquera told local media that the plane also did not activate any distress signal.

Chilean President Sebastian Pinera said that he was "dismayed" by the loss, and was monitoring the situation from the capital, Santiago.

Chile controls over 1.2 million sq.km of Antarctic territory, bordering land claimed by the UK and Argentina.

Within this territory it operates nine bases - the most of any country in the world.

Hong Kong court lifts ban on face masks

Hong Kong: A Hong Kong court on Tuesday lifted a ban on face masks by refusing the governments request to suspend an earlier ruling that found it unconstitutional.

Acting chief judge of the High Court Jeremy Poon Shiu and Court of Appeal Vice President Johnson Lam revealed they were satisfied the government appeal was "reasonably arguable" but found that the authorities had failed to show there was a need to further suspend the lower court's declaration of unconstitutionality and refused the application.

But the judges also warned their decision "is not and should not be regarded as an encouragement or condonation for any person to cover their face" in situations previously caught by the ban, the South China Morning Post reported.

The Court of First Instance on November 18 ruled in favour of 25 pandemic democrats who applied for a judicial review challenging the constitutional-ity of the ban on masks that was introduced by the government to quell the anti-government movement roiling the city since June.

A notice of appeal was lodged on the following working day, with the government arguing that the court should have allowed the executive branch a broader discretion over emergency laws, in its bid to reinstate the ban.

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

Boris' spoof on 'Love Actually' scene sets Twitter abuzz

London: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's new pro-Brexit ad, a spoof on the 2003 hit movie 'Love Actually', set Twitter abuzz, with users posting memes and funny comments.

The 3-minute clip called 'Brexit Actually' got 9.7K retweets and 25K likes after it was posted on Johnson's Twitter account on Tuesday. It had 1.7 million views.

The clipping shows Boris standing at a woman's doorstep and using written signboards to seek her vote and warn that the elections are "closer than you think".

Through several billboards, he mimicked a famous scene between Andrew Lincoln and Keira Knightly. Thus, he tried to send the message across to fencingsitting voter about Brexit.

One signboard read: "With any luck by next year we will have Brexit done (if Parliament doesn't block it again) and we can move on."

"But for now let me say, your vote has never been more important. The other guy could win."

"So you have to make a choice - between a working majority or another gridlocked hung Parliament."

It ends with the PM walking away and telling the camera "enough, enough - let's get this done."

Twitterati poked fun at the video and also tore into the Conservative Party leader. One said: "Hang on, isn't the doorstep character trying to sleep with his best mate's wife?"

In reply to @BorisJohnson, one user posted: "Oh, for God's sake now you have really crossed a line."

A Twitter user posted a meme of Johnson sporting blonde hair opening the door to US President Donald Trump with billboards in his hand that say 'with some luck you will sell the NHS' and to 'me'.

One user said: "Desperate, yes. The sad thing is that this is still the only thing Boris can say to you in this election. Nothing of substance on anything that matters in your daily life. And even that's an empty promise."

Become a problem solver

An integrated approach has to be taken and courses like design thinking and creative problem solving, have to be offered in MBA programmes as a core subject which will help students think holistically, says DR RAMAKRISHNAN RAMAN



If one ponders about the job that a middle level and a senior manager does in any organisation, then it would be evident that they solve problems and try ensuring that those problems do not occur again. One of the critical skills that a manager must have is the ability to solve problems. The issues can be related to process or people or procedures — but solving them needs creative thinking and excellent people management skills.

In an MBA programme which is offered by many Indian B-schools, faculties are usually arranged in functional silos, where specialised knowledge such as finance, accounting, operations and HR is taught in specialised courses by subject-specific technical experts. But when it comes to the real-world scenario, complex problem solving is integrative, and it cuts across these silos. This means that all departments are responsible for helping students become better problem solvers, but none of them owns

the challenge and takes the lead in addressing it. Consequently, a typical b-school doesn't teach complex problem solving as part of the core curriculum or provide the opportunity to practice and get feedback on it. Hence an integrative approach has to be taken and subjects like Design Thinking and Creative Problem solving, have to be offered as a core subject which helps students to integrate and think holistically.

B-schools must ensure that problem solving becomes an integral part of the MBA programme and must equip the students with skills related to problem-solving. There are several theoretical approaches which give insight about several methods to solve problems in a structured manner. While imparting this 'knowledge' the students must also be trained in tools and technologies that can help them approach, understand and solve problems in a better fashion. Today every organisation has a large amount

B-SCHOOLS MUST ENSURE THAT PROBLEM-SOLVING BECOMES AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MBA PROGRAMME AND MUST EQUIP THE STUDENTS WITH RELATED SKILLS. THERE ARE SEVERAL THEORETICAL APPROACHES WHICH GIVE INSIGHT ABOUT SEVERAL METHODS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN A STRUCTURED MANNER

of unstructured data available at disposal. Using this data can help in understanding the root cause of many issues that the organisation are grappling. Analysis of this data and correlating it with the problems can bring a different perspective to the organisations. If this skill is imparted to a management graduate, then, their employability quotient will increase by many folds.

Many managers go with their gut feeling when they face a problem which needs an immediate solution. Whenever one depends only on the gut, then the answer might go wrong in the long run. Hence ability to quickly look at the available data and analyse it to get some insights can help in solving the problem in a better fashion. This is a key aspect which must be ingrained in the students while they pursue their MBA degree.

In the present VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambi-

guity) world problem-solving is in demand. It's considered the top skill for success at management consulting firms and it's increasingly desired for everyone, not just MBA graduates. A case-based curriculum that is followed by some premium B Schools in the country orients the students towards problems solving in real-time. With the internet and access to it via mobile a lot of data that is available at disposal for the graduates while they join the workforce. Hence there is no point in making the graduates cram up mundane stuff; instead, they must be made to learn on how to apply the concepts to solve real-time practical problems. By ensuring that problem-solving becomes the default in all subjects offered at the MBA level, the next generation managers will be well equipped to innovate and bring innovative solutions to perennial problems.

The writer is Director, Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune

QUOTE OF THE DAY
A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special
— Nelson Mandela

ECG TECHNOLOGY

The Delhi Paramedical and Management Institute (DPMI) invites applications for admissions to its full time Diploma in Electrocardiogram Technology (ECG) programme.

This course provides syllabus that combines theory and practice, covering important background on the anatomy and physiology of the heart and chest, electrical conduction system of the heart and basic ECG interpretation.

Duration: One year
Eligibility: This diploma course has been thoughtfully designed for those who have recently passed Class XII from any recognised board and wants to work in Health industry can enroll for these courses.

How to apply: Log on to www.dpmiindia.com or the application forms & brochure may be obtained from admission office of Delhi Paramedical & Management Institute, New Ashok Nagar, Delhi.

Last date to apply: August 28, 2020.

HOTEL MANAGEMENT

Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management invites applicants for admissions to its under graduate programmes and a post graduate programmes in Hotel Management.

Duration: Three years for BSc; two years for MSc.

Eligibility: Candidates must have passed Class XII from a recognised central/state board or from a recognised university. Selection will be based on the personal interview and for MSc in Hotel Management applicants must complete their graduation from a recognised university.

How to apply: Log on to www.lbiim.com or the admission forms can be obtained by filling the institute's application form and paying nominal fee of ₹400 in cash or ₹450 via demand draft in favour of



Lakshya Bhartee Institute of International Hotel Management (LBIHM), payable at New Delhi.

Last date to apply: December 29, 2019.

MSC PROGRAMME

JK Business School (JKBS) invites applications for admissions to its AICTE approved PGDM programme.

Duration: Two years

Eligibility: Graduate in any discipline from a recognised university with minimum 50 per cent score is eligible to apply for the PGDM programme. Candidates appearing in the final examination 2019 can also apply.

How to apply: Log on to www.jkbschool.org.

Last date to apply: January 31, 2020.

UG PROGRAMMES

The Indian Institute of Art and Design (IIAD) in collaboration with Kingston School of Art, London invites applications for admissions to its undergraduate programmes in Fashion Design, Fashion Business Management, Communication Design and Interior Architecture & Design. It also offers post-graduate programmes in Fashion Design and Fashion Business Management.

The institute offers these programmes through its creative studio-based education and strives to groom the next generation of designers and design thinkers at its state-of-the-art campus in New Delhi.

How to apply: Log on to www.iiad.edu.in or contact +91 98713 83633, +91 11 4138 0000.

'Adopt creative teaching approach'

There is need to develop innovative ways of learning for differently-abled children, says MAHJABEEN YUSUFI

Learning is the process of gaining knowledge or skill. But how do we accomplish this with children who are unable to learn in traditional ways.

Well, the answer to that is innovation! Innovative methods; titrated to the needs of each child will help optimise the learning process. Now let us look at some of the challenges encountered.

Do you remember sitting for a three-hour long movie and waiting for the interval to stretch your legs? Well, whittle that down to a 40-minute session; and you have a child who is edgy, restless and fidgety. What that child needs; is an interval. Tasks like 'erase the board', 'take a peek out the window', 'have a sip of water and join us' can be given to the child. These two-minute intermittent breaks will calm the surge of restiveness and help with sitting tolerance.

For many children rote learning has been an integral and safe tool, hence any digression into abstract territory may ruffle them. Have you tried making sense of a Jackson Pollock? I can't! Making sense of abstract nuances can be a difficult task for those children



who think only in black and white.

Simple tasks like 'make a sentence' will leave them parroting back the excerpt from the lesson. Tell them 'Don't think about the table as you read it in the text, look at your table; is it big, blue, messy, wooden? Now make a sentence.'

Encourage role play where they learn to challenge and improvise. Turn that abstract thinking into something concrete. 'Circle your friend like the Earth does the sun', 'Put your hand on the speaker and feel the vibration of sound'. Engage all their senses and create

a 5D learning experience.

Another area is attention. I sometimes think of that picture in picture television. Where do I focus my attention? That can be a daily reality for many children. What we need to do is tone down the learning space. No cluttered desks, no engaging in intrusive and tangent talk. Train the child to build tolerance by waiting for a stipulated time at the end of each class for expression and dialogue.

You may also encounter impulsive and sometimes destructive behaviour. Can you imagine having to dodge a projectile in

class while teaching because the child was not happy with a B. A behaviour modification chart will go a long way to repair unfitting behaviour. Being firm with bad behaviour is just as important as rewarding good behaviour. A rewards chart with takeaways like 'you can wear coloured clothes once you collect your stars', 'library privileges card' will help motivate appropriate behaviour.

Adopt a creative approach. Reverse roles in class, as a teacher you hand in your work and ask them to correct it. Let them hold the reins for a while scanning through your flawed work. This is not only an excellent tool for revision but it humanises the authority figure and shows the children that adults too make mistakes.

At the end of the day you need to respect every child. Steer clear of discrediting syntax. They might not understand semantics but they are fluent in body language. A simple pat on the back will show them that you care.

The writer is Teacher, The Aditya Birla Integrated School

Digital Delhi Conclave

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIIT-Delhi) organised the inaugural, day-long Digital Delhi Conclave on the topic of IT and Health for all at its campus. The event saw the participation from a cross-section of IT and health related specialists from the academic, industry and the civil society related to the theme of sustainable development and health in Delhi. Participants included doctors and media researchers from various institutions such as AIIMS, WISH foundation, DBT/Wellcome Trust India as well as representatives from the field of media and health sector including Save the Children, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The idea behind the conclave was to create a public platform to discuss the evolution of information technology and its implications for sustainable development of the national capital region. "As an institution recognised for its cutting-edge research and teaching in information technology, we are very well placed to initiate the discussion on how the rise of information technology can play a role in the sustainable development of Delhi and the NCR region. Moreover, as a public institution, located in the heart of this bustling India's largest metropolis, we see our role as an agenda-setter for issues of AI and IT and how they relate to the key sustainable development goals (SDGs) for our shared future," said Dr Aasim Khan, Assistant Professor (SSH), IIIT-Delhi and the convener for the event.

The event kicked off with a conclave debate on the topic of IT and future of healthcare, where student teams debated some of the most significant questions relating to social and data challenges facing India's healthcare sector. This was followed by a workshop on scientific communication which participation from both within and beyond IIIT-Delhi. The latter part of the conclave saw thought leaders, scientists, innovators, social scientists and science communicators engage in a lively discussion including on theme of big data and the potential to revive our health sector through partnerships across silos.

Go for right date

ITCOUNTS

The date on which a business should be launched or *mahuratis* to be done, should be decided on the basis of the personal year number of the person as well his destiny number.

The date which we fix should vibrate harmoniously with both personal year number (actual age of a person on that date) and the destiny number (the total of date + month + year).

For example, a person's name is Raj Kumar. He wants to launch his business on December 15, 2019. His date of birth is May 15, 1990. To find his personal year, subtract the date of birth from the date of launching of business. In this case, it will be 15.12.2019 — 15.05.1990 = 29+.

So, this person will be running in the 30th year and shall continue till his next birthday. Therefore, personal year will be, 30 = 3+0 = 3.

Psychic Number (date of the birth), 15 = 1+5 = 6
 Destiny number (date + month + year) = 1+5+5+1+9+9+0 = 30 = 3+0 = 3
 So, we have to see the



JC CHAUDHRY

relationship of destiny number (3) with personal year number (3).

As they are in harmony with each other so this date can be fixed for launch of business and will prove as a good date.

If the date is not harmonious then, some other date can be fixed.

Each number vibrates with different frequency.

The writer is a renowned entrepreneur, motivational speaker and numerologist

Leadership change in Cambridge University Press

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Ratnesh Jha, the Managing Director of Cambridge University Press India and South Asia, is standing down to pursue other career opportunities.

During his six years with Cambridge, Ratnesh has played an important role in the Press's success in India, developing innovative publishing and digital solutions, responding to changing needs from teachers and learners, putting in place a team which has generated strong growth, and laying the foundations for further expansion.

Managing Director for the Press's Education Group, Rod Smith, said: "Ratnesh has been a huge asset to the Press Education Group in India and South Asia. While we're sorry he's moving on, we wish him success in his future career."

chains and under his leadership our teams have had a powerful and positive impact on education in this region."

Govindan Talian Veedu will take over the role from Ratnesh. Govindan will move from his current post as the Press's Regional Director for English and Education in the Asean region and North East Asia, where he has built an impressive track-record in driving sustained growth, building effective teams and long-lasting relationships with customers.

Chief Executive of Cambridge University Press, Peter Phillips said: "Ratnesh has been a huge asset to the Press Education Group in India and South Asia. While we're sorry he's moving on, we wish him success in his future career."

12th convocation at IMS

The 12th convocation of the IMS Engineering College on the National Highway was completed with grandeur. In which titles and certificates were distributed to 840 students — graduates and undergraduates. The convocation was inaugurated jointly by the chief guest Dr Omkar Rai, Professor Vinay Kumar Pathak, IMS College Society's Rakesh Chharia by lighting the wreath and lamp on Maa Saraswati.

Significantly, in his address Professor Mukherjee, Director of IMS College, presented the



Dignitaries present at the event

brilliant placement in the International Outreach Programme, Culture of Innovation, among the major achievements of the college in his

address, mainly awarding degrees to 840 students. Eight students were awarded various medals and cash prizes.

During this, Chief Guest Dr Onkar Singh said that India is in a phase of IT revolution after Green and White Revolution. Experienced entrepreneurs, efficient youth power, the government has developed an eco system which can revolutionise IT with entrepreneurship and start-up. Today's young generation and startups can achieve very good status and can take the country to some level.

Academic excellence award for Ryan

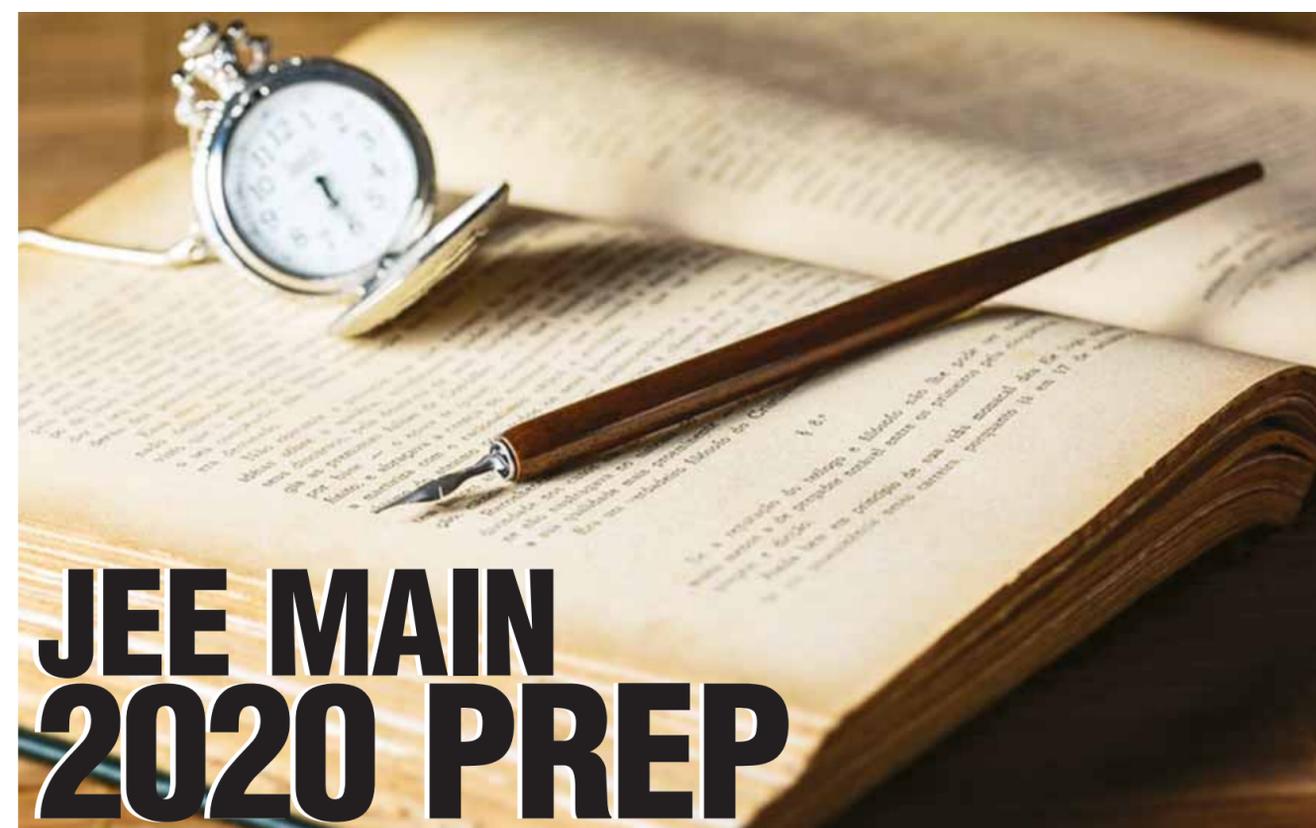
The Ryan International Group of Institutions was awarded the Most Promising School with Academic Excellence Awards at the Indo Arab Leaders Summit and Awards 2019 in Dubai.

The award was given by Market Research Company, Worldwide Achiever for outstanding contributions in the field of education. Ryan Pinto, CEO of Ryan International Group of Institutions received the award.

On this occasion, HE Dr Mohammad Saeed Al-Kindi (Former Minister, Environment and Water,

United Arab Emirates), Vipul (Consul General of India, Dubai) and Asian Games Gold medallist wrestler Padma Shri Bajrang Punia were present as the chief guests.

While addressing the audience Vipul said: "Technology has become a part of our life. Through these investments, both countries can be beneficial for each other. Technology is evolving in the field of teaching as well, online learning apps are the best example of it. Nowadays, students are also taking the help of technology for studying."



JEE MAIN 2020 PREP

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

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

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

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

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

■ When it comes to BE/ BTech paper, there will be 75 questions in total as compared to 90. Each section will now have five questions less, which is, an aspirant will need to solve 25 questions instead of 30.

■ Similarly, Paper II for BArch will have a total of 77 questions. In the drawing test, candidates will now require to solve two questions instead of three. While Part I and Part II of this paper will be computer based, Part III will involve pen and paper.

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

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

pare, accordingly.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

'Important to know your passion to select course'

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Dr Narendra Shyamsukha
Founder & Chairman, ICA Edu Skills

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MINDIT

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

People need to understand that a power

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

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

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

Students also develop creativity and curiosity that indeed are the biggest teachers in the World. When students are curious and happy, they find the key to their problems by themselves as they get a sudden surge of zest in them.

The students of today are the torch bearers of the India of tomorrow. After graduation, they must have more than just a degree in their quiver. Arming them with the necessary life skills is crucial to enable them to cope with post school environment, handle stress better, be more social and be more employable. Need for such success skills can not be overemphasised, they are critical to happiness and success. Life is competitive and unless children are empowered with these essential skills they would not be able to stand apart in a crowd. Therefore, there is a dire need to prepare them for the life ahead by giving them a much needed platform.

The writer is Col (Retd) Dinesh Mudri, Director of TWIN WIN Academy, Bengaluru



The Strathclyde Business School is delighted to be able to offer a number of Masters Scholarships for International students starting their studies in 2020. Candidates for all Full Time MSc programmes in Glasgow will be automatically considered for these scholarships so no separate scholarship application is necessary.

Number: 40
Value: £7000
Eligibility: The Scholarships will be awarded on merit, rather than financial need, to candidates who demonstrate in their Masters Programme application excellent academic performance (current and/or previously gained); any relevant extra-curricular or professional experience and career development and who will contribute to the overall academic, cultural and experiential profile of the programme cohort.

For more information - <https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/strathclydebusinessschools-scholarships> or contact sbs.admissions@strath.ac.uk

Application deadline: July 31, 2020.

The University of Sheffield, UK is delighted to offer 125 International PG Taught Merit Scholarships in 2020.

Each scholarship is a competitive award worth 25% of the original tuition fee. The scholarships are available to all new international (non-EU) students who meet the eligibility criteria.

Eligibility: Your programme must commence at the University of Sheffield in September 2020. You must receive an offer for a course studied in full at the University of Sheffield. Masters programmes split between the University of Sheffield and a partner institution are not eligible to apply for a scholarship.

For tuition fee purposes you must be self-funded and required to pay the overseas tuition fee. Anyone studying a Masters/integrated PhD programme is eligible for a merit scholarship in the Masters element of the programme only.

For more visit: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/international/fees-and-funding/scholarships/postgraduate-international-merit-postgraduate-scholarship>

Application deadline: It is 13:00 (UK time) on Monday May 4, 2020.

ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING AT BRAHM WORKS

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹5,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279528
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT WORKEX

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹8,000-₹15,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279530
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

GRAPHIC DESIGN AT DIGION

Location: Bengaluru
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279538
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

COUNSELLING AT ESTERO NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279542
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

CIVIL ENGINEERING AT ELEVENX CONSULTANCY

Location: Delhi
Stipend: ₹5,000-₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279543
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (SALES) AT ALNOURISH HEALTHY FOODS

Location: Delhi, Gurugram
Stipend: ₹10,000-₹20,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279545
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

VIDEO EDITING AT P2C SOLUTIONS INDIA

Location - Work From Home
Stipend: ₹10,000 per month
Link: internshala.com/i/2279549
Application deadline: December 15, 2019

STUDY ABROAD

'Permanent residency is an attraction for students'

Statistics say that Canada and Australia are preferred study destinations, over the US, for students. ROHIT SETHI lists reasons for the same

There are numerous reasons why Indian students are preferring to go to Australia and Canada for their higher studies.

Post-study work permit: Many countries don't offer the option of a post-study work permit to students, Australia and Canada do. Foreign students in Australia can apply for a post-study work visa if they have studied for two years or more in the country. Similarly, Canada gives a work permit for three years to students on the completion of a Master's degree from a Canadian university. The country also allows this permit to students pursuing a minimum of eight-month diploma from any community college, however, the visa tenure is different in such case. Adding to the inflow of Indian students to Canada is the Study Direct Stream programme introduced last year.

Safety and affordability: Australia and Canada offer a safe study environment to foreign students. The residents of these countries are kind to foreigners and strongly support cultural diversity. Apart from safety, studying in Australia and Canada is also

more affordable as compared to the US, be it in terms of the cost of living, tuition fees etc.

Multitude of courses: Reputed universities in Australia and Canada are famous for offering a vast range of courses. From Science, Technology, Engineering and Math courses to management programmes, these two countries offer several options to students, basis their personal interest and expertise. Students are also opting for unconventional and specialized areas of study, in addition to popular mainstream courses.

Permanent residency: In many cases, students continue to stay back and seek employment in Australia and Canada after the completion of their studies, before applying for Permanent Residency. The best part: They don't have to go through a lot of hassle. The approval process is smooth and takes little time. Canada's newly reformed Express Entry programme has also drastically streamlined the approval process for foreign students looking to seek permanent residency in the country.

These two countries are expected to pull in more students from the country in the near future as well.

The writer is director, ESS Global (Study Abroad Consultant)

IN BRIEF

GIS CLUB WITH ESRI TECHNOLOGY

The Scottish High International School has announced the launch of India's first ever GIS Club in a school. Through this launch, it aims to educate and train the future professionals around the dynamics of GIS technology and how it can be used for better understanding of various subjects including IT, Science, History, Civics, and Literature apart from Geography.

The programme provides hands on experience for students to learn Esri StoryMaps and use Esri technology in research and learning. In 2017 and 2019, students from Scottish High Schools also won awards in Esri India StoryMaps Contest using Esri's ArcGIS technology. Students have also presented their work to distinguished audience in the Esri India User Conference.

AUC PARTNERS WITH BRAINGAIN ACADEMY

The American University in Cairo (AUC) in Egypt, has exclusively collaborated with BrainGain Academy, for its 10-day winter programme - *Discover Egypt: A Historical and Cultural Learning Adventure*. The programme is inviting applications for its 10-day programme from January 11-24, 2020 at the campus of the American University in Cairo. The

short course will offer an immersive experience. With this archaeological adventure, participants will explore Egypt's history and ancient civilizations and walk through the past, while experiencing the present in the streets of the magical city of Cairo. The deadline for accepting applications is December 20, 2019.

Harjiv Singh, founder-CEO, BrainGain

Global said: "We are happy to collaborate with AUC for this unique programme. The goal is to provide students with a valuable historical and archaeological academic experience while immersing students in an authentic learning environment. Such programmes provide cultural and educational experience and we are glad that we have partnered with AUC."

PG IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

The FLAME University has developed a unique model of creating next generation of high impact innovators and entrepreneurs. The curriculum is designed by renowned faculty, industry practitioners and innovation experts. Programme participants will get an opportunity to interact and learn from advisors and mentors like Hari Menon, Rupen Jhaveri, Manish Chokhani, Saras D. Sarasvathy, Prasanna Krishnamoorthy and more.

The four-module programme provides an opportunity to work on live

start-up projects over the first two modules followed by incubation of new ventures either individually or in groups in the second half of the program. The program is practice and outcome focused. Participants learn and practice decision-making frameworks such as effectuation and lean start-up that have helped established entrepreneurs succeed.

Participants will be given exposure to exponential technologies that will include AI/ML, Blockchain, Robotics, IoT and AR/VR.

Gunners end barren run

Arsenal relieved as worst winless streak since 1977 ends at West Ham



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, front right, celebrates after scoring his side's third goal duels for the ball

AFP ■ LONDON

Arsenal caretaker manager Freddie Ljungberg believes a weight has been lifted off his players shoulders after a three-goal blitz in nine second-half minutes beat West Ham 3-1 on Monday to end the Gunners worst winless run in 42 years.

Another miserable night for the Swede seemed in store when the visitors trailed at half-time to Angelo Ogbonna's deflected header.

However, Arsenal suddenly sparked into life after Gabriel

Martinelli scored his first Premier League goal as Nicolas Pepe finally started to deliver on his club record £72 million fee by curling home a brilliant second, before crossing for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang to secure all three points.

"It means so much for the players. They have been living under enormous pressure and you see it in their performances," said Ljungberg. "You can see the players have been a bit low and you see in the dressing room the relief and how happy they are."

A first win in 10 games in all

competitions lifts Arsenal up to ninth and cuts the gap on fourth-placed Chelsea to seven points in the battle for Champions League qualification next season.

Ljungberg reacted to taking just one point from his opening two games in temporary charge against lowly Norwich and Brighton by making five changes with Martinelli and Pepe among those coming into the side.

Pepe's inability to make an impact has been one of the major reasons for Arsenal's struggles, but the Ivorian looked a new player after

curling home his first Premier League goal from open play 24 minutes from time.

"Nicolas is an amazing football player, but it is not easy to come from the French league into the Premier League and adjust straight away," added Ljungberg.

"It was an amazing goal and he'll get better and better."

'WEST HAM' DOMINATED FOR 60 MINUTES'

Not much had improved in Ljungberg's first two games since replacing the sacked Unai Emery

and it was the same tame and lifeless Arsenal for the first hour against a West Ham side that have won just once in their last 11 games.

"I think we dominated the game for 60 minutes and after that in 10 minutes we lose the game," said West Ham manager Manuel Pellegrini, who is under increasing pressure as his side sit just one point above the relegation zone.

Another home defeat means the Hammers have taken just one point from their last five games at the London Stadium and the home side were booed off at full-time.

"You understand the boos because the last five games we played here we didn't win," added Pellegrini. "You cannot concede three goals in every game."

In a first half of precious little good football it was fitting the opener arrived in scrappy fashion as Ogbonna's attempted header came off his shoulder and deflected off Martinelli to wrong-foot Bernd Leno in the Arsenal goal.

But one moment changed the course of the game when Sead Kolasinac burst down the left and crossed low for Martinelli to slot home his eighth goal of the season after impressing in the League Cup and Europa League.

Suddenly the confidence which Emery and Ljungberg bemoaned had drained away from their players in recent times was restored, none more so than in Pepe, who cut inside onto his favoured left foot and curled into the top corner.

Pepe then turned provider for Aubameyang to slide in for his 13th goal of the campaign.

"At half-time, Freddie told us to play with a higher tempo," said Aubameyang.

"We have the quality in the squad, and if we believe in ourselves, we can go forward and win games. We will take this second half as an example for the rest of the season."

Sindhu ready to defend Tour Finals crown



PV Sindhu in action during match BWF

PTI ■ GUANGZHOU

Enduring a rough patch since claiming the world championship gold, ace Indian shuttler P V Sindhu would be eager to turnaround her fortunes when she begins her title defence at the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals here on Wednesday.

Sindhu registered her career's biggest triumph at the World Championship in Basel, Switzerland in August, but since then the Indian looked awfully out of form.

The Olympic silver medalist, who had reached the finals of Indonesia Open Super 750 tournament in July, made two first-round exits at Korea Open and Fuzhou China Open and went down in the second round in three events — China Open Super 1000, Denmark Open Super 750 and Hong Kong Open Super 500.

Her only quarterfinal finish was at the USD 750,000 French Open.

Only the top 8 on the BWF

Race to Guangzhou Rankings qualifies for the World Tour Finals and Sindhu ended the year at the 15th spot but still made it to the women's singles field by virtue of being the world champion.

Despite the recent dip in form, all eyes will be on Sindhu as she has the reputation of producing her best in major events. The Indian had taken a break after the Hong Kong Open to be in the best shape for the World Finals, where she has twice reached the summit clash in 2017 and 2018.

This time, Sindhu has been placed in group A alongside Chinese duo of Chen Yu Fei and He Bing Jiao and Japan's Akane Yamaguchi, while Group B consists of the rest four shuttlers — Taiwanese Tai Tzu Ying, Thai duo of Ratchanok Intanon and Busanan Ongbamrungphan and Japan's Nozomi Okuhara.

Sindhu will open her campaign against Akane Yamaguchi, who has claimed two titles at Indonesia and Japan before a hip problem saw her make four straight first round exits. However, the Japanese showed signs of regaining her form with semifinal finishes at French Open, Hong Kong Open and Korea Masters.

The world no 6 Indian has a healthy 10-6 head-to-head record against Yamaguchi but she lost to the Japanese in the last two meetings.

Against Chen Yu Fei too, Sindhu enjoys a 6-3 record but the Chinese has been in rampaging form this season, having won all six of her finals, including the All England Championships.

Sindhu, however, lost nine times to He Bing Jiao with four of them coming in their last four encounters.

The Chinese won the Korea Open, besides finishing runner-ups at India Open and Badminton Asia Championships.

India end SAG on top

PTI ■ KATHMANDU

India ended its South Asian Games campaign with a best-ever medal haul of 312, continuing its undisputed domination in the regional multi-sporting event by finishing on top for the 13th time in a row here on Tuesday.

India collected 174 Gold, 93 Silver and 45 Bronze after ten days of competitions in the 13th edition to surpass the 309 (189 Gold, 90 Silver and 30 Bronze) it had won in the previous edition in Guwahati and Shillong in 2016.

But the number of Gold India won this time was 15 less than the 2016 edition. India had sent 487 athletes in this edition.

The 2016 edition, however, had 263 medal events and a total of 789 medals on offer while this edition has 338 medal events and 1014 total medals.

Hosts Nepal stood a distant second with 206 medals (51 Gold, 60 Silver and 95 Bronze) while Sri Lanka was third with 251 medals (40 Gold, 83 Silver and 128 Bronze).

India has topped the medal tally of every South Asian Games since its inception in 1984.

On the concluding day on Tuesday, India added 18 medals (15 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze) with the boxers fetching six Gold and 1 Silver.

Indian cagers also fetched both the men's and women's basketball Gold by defeating Sri Lanka (101-62) and hosts Nepal (127-46) in their respective summit clashes.

In squash, India won a Gold and a Silver in the women's and men's team events respectively.

The day belonged to the Indian boxers who brought home a rich haul of 12 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze.

Reigning Commonwealth Games Gold medalist Vikas Krishan (men's 69kg) and 2014 Commonwealth Games Bronze medalist Pinki Rani (women's 51kg) guided India to six more Gold medals.

From among men, Sparsh Kumar (52kg), Narender (+91kg) were the other boxers who bagged the yellow metal while Sonia Lather (57kg) and Manju Baboriya (64kg) contributed to India's Gold medal tally among women.

All the women boxers in action won a gold. Former World Championships Silver medalist Sonia Lather (57kg) hardly broke a sweat and easily dominated her final bout against Sri Lanka's Krismi Ayoma Dulani Lankapurayalage 5-0 to finish on the top podium.

Consecutive WC in India make sense: FIH CEO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The decision to award hosting rights of the men's hockey World Cup to India for the second consecutive time in 2023 was purely based on merit, world body (FIH) CEO Thierry Weil said on Tuesday.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) CEO Thierry Weil said that the decision of giving it to India instead of Malaysia, completely makes sense, considering the financial viability of the sport in a country like India.

"I am coming from another sport which is football, where whenever we organised a World Cup, we have been extremely criticised to have created white elephants," Weil said in a tele-conference with Indian journalists from Lausanne.

"So, in that sense I am extremely happy that we as a sport have decided to re-use venue like Bhubaneswar for the second time because there was a lot of effort and investment went in to build this venue, which currently to my knowledge is the best venue we have," he said.

India will, thus, become the first country to stage four men's Hockey World Cups after having hosted the showpiece in 1982 (Mumbai), 2010 (New Delhi) and 2018 (Bhubaneswar). The Netherlands had hosted three men's tournaments.



Indian players celebrate after end of India's campaign in Olympic qualifiers HI/Twitter

"The bid was an open one. There were quite a lot of good bidders, including Malaysia. Actually it was decided taking into factor India's commercial relevance and high financial contribution. FIH needs financial revenues. India did an extremely good job of putting everything on table," Weil said.

"Some of the countries that bid didn't have infrastructure and needed huge investments. We made the decisions which make complete sense and completely viable for our sport."

Weil said FIH needs revenue to keep its flagship event, the Pro League lasting for a long time and India's introduction in the second edition of the league will be big plus for the sport.

"Having a country like India in the sport makes a huge difference to be honest because with the size and population of the country and with the hockey lovers in India, it's definitely a big plus.

"But we know we have to increase hockey around the world, we need to do more development and more revenue and the way to generate revenue is to have a country like India a part of the sport," he said.

FIH CEO believes that Pro-League will help them sell the product showcasing best of hockey from top teams.

"I am convinced that the major purpose of the Pro League is to have more home games and showcasing

the best of hockey against two top teams.

"I totally believe and it is the mission of the FIH along with participating nations is to sell this product and make people understand it's not just another friendly game but the result of this game can lead a team to be the best team in a year, next to Olympics."

India will make its debut in the Pro League against the Netherlands at Bhubaneswar in January next year.

The FIH CEO also informed their plans of introducing quite a few changes from the second edition of the Pro League, including abolishing the year-end grand finale and also introducing relegation system in future.

"We have done two things. First of all not just because of the Olympics we changed the number of travels but also for the welfare of the players. We have also decided to not have a grand finale at the end of the season and shorten the league.

"This has been done for two reasons - one is to give the national teams 6 to 8 weeks to prepare for the Olympics. But I myself feel there is no better way to prepare than play at the Pro League 6 months ahead of the Olympics," Weil said.

"We should stick to the league system where at the end of the season the team which has collected most points will win the league," Weil said.



Robert Lewandowski celebrates after scoring against Tottenham AP/File Picture

Bayern look for home comforts Bundesliga giants will aim to create history as Spurs braced for revenge

AFP ■ MUNICH

Bayern Munich are already through to the Champions League last 16 as group winners, but interim coach Hansi Flick wants his side to beat Tottenham today to boost their confidence after back-to-back defeats.

"We need a win in front of our fans and we want to show them a good performance. That's why tomorrow is an important step for us," said Flick, who has been put in charge as caretaker coach until January.

If Bayern beat Jose Mourinho's Tottenham they will become the first German club to win all six Champions League

group-stage matches. "We'll try all we can to win at home," said Flick, who ruled out resting any of his stars despite the game being a dead rubber with Spurs guaranteed to finish second in Group B behind Bayern. "We're going in the right direction, but we have to be critical with ourselves.

"We haven't made the most of our chances in the last two games." Flick confirmed French midfielder Corentin Tolisso will miss the game with injury.

While despite scoring 27 goals in 22 games so far this season, Poland striker Robert Lewandowski has failed to score in his last two matches.

Baby piles on Delhi's miseries

PTI ■ THUMBA (KERALA)

Skipper Sachin Baby grinded a listless Delhi attack to hit 155 as Kerala gained complete control, first by posting a mammoth 525 for 9 and then removing the two opposition openers here on the second day of their Ranji Trophy group A campaign.

Left-hander Baby, carried on the good work done on the opening day by centurion Robin Uthappa and Ponnambal Raju (97), as his 274-ball knock had 13 hits to the fence.

His innings was the primary reason that Kerala went past the 500-run mark as a tired Delhi side lost both its openers - Anuj Rawat cleaned by off-spinner Jalaj Saxena and Kunal Chandela (1) edging one to Mohammed Azharuddeen behind stumps



Puducherry left-arm spinner Sagar P Updesh off pacer Sandeep Warrier. PTI

Delhi will first look at a score of 376 to avoid follow-on and take it from there. However it looks an uphill task at the moment in the manner the match has panned out so far.

After looking pedestrian on opening day, Delhi bowling seemed to have found its mojo back for a brief period when Vishnu Vinod (5) and Azhar (15) were dismissed in quick succession reducing Kerala to 310 for 5.

Just when it seemed Delhi would do well to restrict the hosts under 375, Baby and Salman Nizar (77 off 144 balls) added 156 runs at a decent pace to gain the momentum.

Delhi's specialist — debutant leg-break bowler Tejas Baroka (3/128 in 30 overs), offie Shivam Sharma (2/112 in 34 overs) and orthodox slow left-arm Vikas Mishra (1/107 in 34 overs) had the ignominy of conceding 100 runs each.

Baby had 13 hits to the fence while Nizar hit nine fours and two sixes.

Once Nizar was out, Baby shielded the tail beautifully as another 31 invaluable runs were added with Karaparambil Monish (9) which took the score closer to 500.

Mulani shines as Mumbai on verge of taking innings lead

PTI ■ VADODARA

Domestic giants Mumbai are on the cusp of getting a first-innings lead after reducing Baroda to 301/9 despite a valiant unbeaten 100 by their opener Kedar Devdhar.

Resuming on their overnight score of 362/8, Mumbai added 69 runs to their tally, as their innings folded up at 431.

For Mumbai, spinner Shams Mulani shone with both the bat and ball, as his 89 helped them cross the 400-run mark.

Mulani, who was unbeaten on 56, added 33 runs to his score and eventually fell at 89. He hammered 11 fours and two sixes in his 141-ball knock.

Mulani played responsibly with the tail-enders Shashank Attarde (22) and Tushar Deshpande (18 not out), and was the last man to be dismissed, as he missed what could have been a terrific 100.

For Baroda, opener Kedar Devdhar (154 not out) staged a lone battle as Mulani (5-99) ran through their batting line up.

Devdhar was the cynosure of eyes at the Reliance Stadium here, as he took the Mumbai attack to cleaners on the second day of the four-day game.

Devdhar has struck 20 fours and a six in his 184-ball stay at the crease so far.

It will be an uphill task for Baroda if they want to go past Mumbai's first innings total. Devdhar got support only from Vishnu Solanki (48) at the top, as the other opener Aditya Waghmode (2), Deepak Hooda (24), skipper Krunal Pandya (1) and Yusuf Pathan (2) fell cheaply.

Wicket-keeper Viraj Bhosale (27) played his part as he supported Devdhar, but the stumper failed to convert his start.

Once the ninth wicket fell, Baby decided to declare, rightfully denying Delhi's shoddy bowling attack of getting the opposition all-out.

PTI ■ MUMBAI

SERIES DECIDER

India face Windies in winner takes it all contest at Wankhede



India vs Windies
Live from 7:00pm IST
STAR SPORTS 1 NETWORK

Rohit Sharma, top left, Kuldeep Yadav, right, Ravindra Jadeja, front left, Deepak Chahar, right, warmup during a training session

AP/File Picture

India will have to address the many inadequacies laid bare by a resolute West Indies in the second T20 International when the two teams made up of power-hitters square off in what promises to be an enthralling series-finale here today.

The rubber is locked 1-1 after two-time world champions West Indies turned on the style in the second T20 International in Thiruvananthapuram following a Virat Kohli special in the lung-opener in Hyderabad.

For India, the focus will once again be on young guns like off-spinner Washington Sundar and under-fire wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant.

The spotlight on Pant, especially, has been obsessive and it is expected to be no different when the team takes the field at the Wankhede Stadium.

As for Sundar, it would be interesting to see whether the team management persists with him or gives chinaman bowler Kuldeep Yadav a game.

Sundar has taken only three wickets in the last five T20s that he has played (two against West Indies and three against Bangladesh) and leaked 144 runs in 23 overs that he bowled.

He also ended up wicket-less in the two T20 Internationals against South Africa.

Sundar's fielding is another aspect about which skipper Virat Kohli would be worried. In the last game, he dropped a sitter of Lendl Simmons, whose 45-ball 67 laid the foundation of the West Indies' eight-wicket triumph.

Kuldeep last played a T20 against New Zealand in Hamilton back in February. He warmed the benches in the first two games.

For Pant also things are only getting tougher. The focus on him has been unrelenting and it won't be easy for him to regain the early form that made him seem like Mahendra Singh Dhoni's heir apparent.

Coming in at No.4, Pant made scores of 33 not out, 18, 6, 27, 19, 4 in the last seven T20s that he featured in.

His last T20 fifty came against West Indies in August, in Providence. With the likes of Sanju Samson wait-

ing in the wings, Pant will have to come good sooner than later.

But in overall analysis, India's batting has never been a problem. Opener Rohit Sharma, who had a rare-twin failure, would be raring to go before his home crowd.

K L Rahul and skipper Kohli are also among the runs. Shivam Dube, who slammed his maiden T20 fifty, showed he can hit towering sixes and he would want to perform before his home crowd and so Shreyas Iyer.

However, bowling is a slight concern. A profligate pace duo of Deepak Chahar and Bhuvneshwar Kumar leaked runs in the first two matches. Chahar had a memorable series

against Bangladesh but has not managed to repeat the show this time around. With Mohammed Shami around, Chahar will have to step up.

Also, India's fielding was way below par. The dropped catches and several mis-fields prompted Kohli to say if the performance does not improve, no score would be enough.

The hosts are also good chase-masters but will need to learn how to defend targets.

On the other hand, West Indies will also fancy their chances to clinch the series after the terrific comeback.

Their top-order batsmen, particularly Simmons, are in splendid form. Also the likes of Evin Lewis, Nicholas

Pooran and Shimron Hetmyar are among the runs and they will look to continue the form.

Add to it, the firepower of Brandon King, Jason Holder and skipper Kieron Pollard, the West Indies can look unbeatable on their day.

Even their bowlers, including pacer Sheldon Cottrell, are among the wickets. Along with Cottrell, Kesrick Williams, leg-spinner Hayden Walsh Jr and Holder, will have to bowl in the right areas to stem the flow of runs.

The West Indies also have fond memories of playing T20s at the Wankhede as in the 2016 ICC World Cup semi-final, they defeated India and went on to win the title.

SQUADS

India: Virat Kohli (c), Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Manish Pandey, Shreyas Iyer, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Deepak Chahar, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Shami, Sanju Samson.
West Indies: Kieron Pollard (captain), Fabian Allen, Brandon King, Denesh Ramdin, Sheldon Cottrell, Evin Lewis, Sherfane Rutherford, Shimron Hetmyer, Khary Pierre, Lendl Simmons, Jason Holder, Hayden Walsh Jr, Keemo Paul, Kesrick Williams.

'WC is long way away, let's focus on present'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Indian team might be treating every bilateral T20 assignment as an audition for next year's World Cup but vice-captain Rohit Sharma prefers to focus on the present instead of losing sleep over a marquee event, which is still 10 months away.

India will lock horns with two-time world T20 champions in the series-deciding third match here even as the efforts to find the right combination for the marquee event continue.

"See, I don't want to keep saying that we are trying to build a squad for the (T20)World Cup. It is still a long, long way ahead. We just need to focus on winning the series and that will keep us in good state, moving forward," Rohit said on Tuesday ahead of the series-finale.

"If we keep winning games, keep doing the right things on the field, the composition of the team will take care (of itself)," Rohit added.

The stylish batsman then gave his rationale for why he wants to take one series at a time.

"We are playing against a quality team and hereafter Sri Lanka is coming, then we go to New Zealand and thereafter there are a lot of T20s to focus on. If we focus on the present, that will help us more than anything else."

"Right now, we need to see what are the mistakes we are making so that when we come out and play every fresh game, we look like a different side."

Talk about chasing, Rohit agreed that India have been better while batting second compared to defending totals as one found out in the first two games in Hyderabad (won while chasing) and Thiruvananthapuram (lost while defending).

"Yes, of late our chasing has been good compared to posting targets. It was a good target that we posted but again it's a new set of guys."

"There are a lot of inexperienced players along with experienced players but that is what every T20 team now has, bit of inexperience, now with that some experience. Those two elements need to come together to form a very composition (composite) side."

He gave West Indies credit for chasing a target of 171 on a slow track.

"When you talk about setting targets, on that pitch (in 2nd T20 Int'l), a target of 170 plus (171) looked decent. When we started batting, the wicket was on the slower side, the shot-making was not that easy although the West Indies made it look very easy."



Pollard's IPL experience will benefit WI

PTI ■ MUMBAI

West Indies coach Phil Simmons on Tuesday said the team would be banking heavily on skipper Kieron Pollard in the series-deciding third T20 International against India as his understanding of the pitch due to IPL exposure will be "invaluable" for the bowlers.

Pollard has played a lot at the Wankhede Stadium as he has been part of the Mumbai Indians IPL squad and Simmons said his experience will help the visiting bowlers.

"(Kieron) Pollard has played a lot at this venue, the others have not played that much. I think the experience which they have got from here is invaluable and especially the captain (Pollard), as he has been here for 10 years," Simmons said in the pre-match press conference here.

"He knows things inside out and that will definitely help our bowlers mainly, there are a few youngsters in this format. It will definitely help," he added.

There have been lot of dropped catches from both the sides and Simmons said there should be no excuses for fielding lapses.

"You will not win games if you drop them. The players will have to tell you if it is your fault. You can blame the lights but I think we just have to keep working hard so we do not drop any," he added.

"...I do not like excuses. I think if you drop a catch it is your fault. You can blame the lights but I think we just have to keep working hard so we do not drop any," he added.



Pollard looks on during training

AP he has been doing well in the twin roles.

"I didn't have Jason (Holder) a lot in the ODIs when I was there (as a coach) before. Kieron (Pollard) is proactive with all the

'Pollard is a smart thinker'

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Rohit Sharma has seen a capable leader in Kieron Pollard from close quarters and believes that his longtime Mumbai Indians teammate has been responsible for a transformed West Indies side in white ball format.

Rohit termed the West Indies captain as a "smart thinker of the game".

"I know Pollard really well and he has a great knowledge about the game. I know as a leader what he would be expecting from the team. Under his leadership, it is a different team that we are seeing now, so yes, we have to be at our best when

we play them," said Rohit. "He (Pollard) is a very smart player, smart thinker and he has been the captain of the team. When it comes to Mumbai (Indians), he has always been part of the leadership group and last year when I wasn't available for one game, he captained MI. So, he has always been part of the leadership group and I know how he thinks."

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Rohit agreed that the Caribbeans are unpredictable as a team, you never know what they can come up with on a given day, like we saw the other day," said Rohit.

"They are very unpredictable as a team, you never know what they can come up with on a given day, like we saw the other day," said Rohit.

players. He lets them know exactly what he wants from them. He's been good in the

sense that they know that he'll give everything for the team," Simmons said.

Don't mess with Mahi



Ravi Shastri and Mahendra Singh Dhoni in a file picture

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

World Cup but the enigmatic former captain would "never impose himself" on the team. In a soon-to-be-telecast interview on 'India Today' channel, Shastri was asked

India coach Ravi Shastri says none can "mess around with" Mahendra Singh Dhoni if he decides to be in contention for next year's T20

about the much-speculated future of Dhoni, who has been on a sabbatical ever since India's semifinal exit from the ODI World Cup in England earlier this year.

"That (Dhoni) guy is a legend. The last thing he will want is to impose himself on an Indian team, having known him."

He is wanting to take a break but he is going to play the IPL," Shastri said on the show 'The Inspiration'.

Asked if he isn't ruling out a comeback by the 38-year-old, Shastri answered, "The amount of sport he has played... If he puts himself in contention... If he feels after the IPL that 'I am good enough to play for India, don't mess around with that.'"

Dhoni, after maintaining a stoic silence on his future plans for months, had recently stated that, "Don't ask anything till January."

It's an emotional moment: Azhar on return of Test cricket to Pak



Pakistan skipper Azhar Ali with his Sri Lankan counterpart Dimuth Karunaratne pose with trophy before start of Test series PCB

PTI ■ RAWALPINDI

The return of Test cricket to Pakistani soil is an emotional occasion, captain Azhar Ali said on Tuesday but that will not come in the way of his team's efforts to make amends for a disastrous tour of Australia.

Pakistani players will play Test cricket at home after a gap

of 10 years when they take on Sri Lanka in a two-Test series starting here today.

"All the players are very emotional about this Test series. It is great to be back to our home grounds and I just hope that Test cricket returns regularly to Pakistan now," Azhar told a media conference.

Azhar also conceded that the series is a make-or-break situation for his team it has not been playing well in Test cricket for some time now. Pakistan lost 0-2 to Australia

"It is unacceptable the way we lost in Australia. The last two series in South Africa and Australia have been tough for

No more int'l cricket at neutral venues

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan will no longer look for neutral venues to stage home international cricket matches.

"The onus will be on the other teams to tell us why they can't play in Pakistan," Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Ehsan Mani told the Associated Press on Tuesday.

"Our default position will remain that Pakistan is safe. We play cricket in Pakistan (and if) you want to play against Pakistan you have to come to Pakistan."

"It's only logical that cricket comes home," Mani said.

us. We know how important this series is.

"We need to turn to reverse our results and get back on the winning track as there is a lot of pride in Pakistan cricket and we need to win back the confidence of the fans," he said.

The under-pressure Pakistan skipper also made it clear that Sri Lanka would be a tough side to beat even in home conditions.

"Sri Lanka has always been a tough team because they play disciplined cricket. We also have to play disciplined cricket in every department. Test cricket demands disciplined cricket. You can't win a test in one session but you can lose a test in one session. So one has

PCB invite CA for Test series

PTI ■ KARACHI

The Pakistan Cricket Board is trying to convince Cricket Australia to send its national team for a Test series in Pakistan in 2022, according to its CEO Wasim Khan.

"Cricket Australia has agreed in principle to play three Tests in Pakistan's home series. Obviously, we are doing everything to ensure Australia agrees to play in Pakistan in 2022 and it is an ongoing process," Khan told reporters.

He added that under the new Future Tours Program, whenever Pakistan and Australia play a bilateral series it will include three Tests.

Australia has not toured Pakistan since 1998, forcing the 1992 World Cup champions to conduct their home series at neutral venues, including Sri Lanka, England, and UAE.

to be disciplined to beat Sri Lanka at home or away," he said.

"We have to rely on our bowling attack. Yasir Shah didn't do well in Australia but he has won many matches and I think he will return to his old self in this series. We have confidence in our attack and we are backing them," he added.

There is a forecast of rain here on the second and third days of the match.

The PCB official lamented that whoever from the board had agreed to the existing Future Tours Program schedule has not given enough importance to Test matches.

"It is unfortunate that we are among those countries who play the least number of Test matches in a season. Whereas other leading nations play 8 to 14 Tests in a year we don't even get six to seven," he said.

Khan also confirmed that the PCB has dispatched the proposed itinerary of the ICC Test Championship Tests to the Bangladesh Cricket Board to be played in January.

"We have sent the itinerary and are awaiting a response. After Sri Lanka's arrival to play the two Tests we don't foresee any problems in the Bangladesh board agreeing to send their team in January," he said.

Azhar said one can't say for certain how much time is required to rebuild the team.

"We have never kept patience and we don't give the rebuilding process time. I think these players have a lot of potential and they will soon come out of their comfort zone once they play under different conditions. We have to keep patience instead of calling for changes," he asserted.



Micky Arthur explains some batting techniques to Niroshan Dickwella

Mickey's presence is big advantage: Karunaratne

PTI ■ RAWALPINDI

Sri Lankan Test skipper Dimuth Karunaratne feels the presence of former Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur in their camp will be a "big advantage" when his side take on Azhar Ali's men.

"Mickey is with us and previously he was the coach of the Pakistan team as well so it is a positive thing for us that he knows the Pakistan team very closely and that has given us a lot of confidence for this series," he said on the eve of the match.

However, the skipper said the onus will be on his players to execute plans properly.

"His presence is a big advantage to us as he knows each and every player very closely. How they think. How they prepare.

But we have to do things right in the middle and implement our plans properly."

"Our bowlers have to bowl in the right areas to every batsman and we have to also apply ourselves in batting and fielding. Pakistan has never been an easy side to beat at home. The good thing is we know their game well having played regularly against them in gome or UAE," he said.

He added that playing in Pakistan for the first time serves as a motivation for him to do well in the series.

"I am in Pakistan for the first time and that is also a motivation for me to do well as I have played against them at home and in UAE. But this will be a different experience for me and most our guys who are playing here for the first time," he said.