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VIDARBHA WIN IRANI TROPHY TITLE

Published From
DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL
BHUBANESWAR RANCHI
RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
DEHRADUN

LUCKNOW, SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2019; PAGES 12+8 ₹3



sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



USUALSUSPECTS
SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Modi yet to show his 'dream' hand

Last week Parliament felt like the final days of the school academic year. Everyone, but particularly the Lok Sabha members, was in both a reflective and celebratory mode. Celebratory because the assigned work was finally over — at least for the time being — and reflective because there was no knowing whether they would pass or fail the re-election test in the summer. The Rajya Sabha was unendingly disrupted and did no work because Opposition parties competed among themselves to demonstrate their anti-Government credentials and stall all pending legislation. But even here, there was a note of both concern and anticipation. No one was really sure of the future.

In 2014, when the old Lok Sabha finished its term, there was certainty on one count: that the incumbent Government wasn't coming back to power. Most people expected a fractured Parliament with the BJP having an edge but only the most optimistic expected it to muster a majority on its own.

This week the mood is both similar and different. Conventional wisdom — and the extra bounce in the steps of Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party MPs — suggest that it is going to be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the BJP to replicate its spectacular 2014 showing in Uttar Pradesh, when it won 73 of the 80 Lok Sabha seats. The SP-BSP members and their Trinamool Congress hangers-on believe that the BJP will be completely decimated in India's largest State. The Congress, on the other hand, seems a little more circumspect. It is confident it will do well and much better than 2014 but there is no certainty about numbers. The euphoria over Priyanka Gandhi performing an electoral miracle isn't reflected in the conversations in Central Hall.

It is the BJP mood that is more interesting. If the media is to be believed, the ruling party is on the backfoot and agonising over the imminent loss of power at the Centre. Certainly there are MPs who are worried but the concern is less over the election outcome than with the prospects of securing re-nomination by the party. In 2014, the BJP was a bit casual with giving tickets in seats it considered unwinnable. This was particularly so in Uttar Pradesh. However, thanks to the fierce Modi wave, nearly all of them won. Some have turned out to be good constituency MPs but others have underperformed. This time, to minimise the effects of local anti-incumbency, the party may select new candidates. Predictably, that worries many sitting MPs, although they try and put up a brave face and appear unconcerned.

Apart from the uncertainties over ticket distribution, the BJP morale seems quite upbeat. Over the past month, the Prime Minister has been travelling incessantly and speaking at public meetings all over the country. At almost each of his meetings, the crowds have been spectacular and the numbers seem to be swelling each week. Maybe the fact of Narendra Modi drawing big crowds isn't news any longer. However, those who monitor the meetings — and live internet feeds make the task easier — will see that the PM's connect with his audience is immediate and real. His appeal seems intact and, unlike 2014 when he was still an unknown quantity in large parts of India, almost every Indian has a view of him. So far Modi has been quite unsparing in his attacks on the very idea of the Mahagathbandhan and the leadership of the Congress. His assault on the entitlement culture of the dynastic parties is savage. In places such as West Bengal, he has struck a chord by targeting overbearing Chief Ministers such as Mamata Banerjee. Modi has also paid emphasis on his Government's achievements, particularly its record in creating the architecture of a welfare State. Women are being specially targeted by Modi using Swachh Bharat and the cooking gas schemes as ammunition. Anti-corruption is also one of Modi's battering rams against leaders with a reputation for being casual over corrupt practices.

However, there is one aspect of the Modi messaging that still seems deficient. It is still not entirely clear what hope he is holding out for the future. A successful campaign has to sell a big dream — sometimes even a catchphrase such as achche din. As of now the idea of New India isn't being backed up by anything more than a commitment to build on the foundations created over the past five years. Maybe this is something the PM is keeping till the time the formal electioneering begins but this is a gap in the campaign that has to be rapidly addressed.

As of now, I see no reason to revise my belief that this is going to be a presidential election.

Pak gives 26/11 brains free access to varsities

RAKESH K SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

In what could further vitiate the security environment in the Indian subcontinent, the Imran Khan-led Pakistan Government has allowed open access to Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) Number 2 and 26/11 conspirator Abdul Rahman Makki in the universities and schools as a motivational speaker to deliver anti-India sermons and 'virtues' of jihad and radicalise the youngsters at a young age. The radicalisation and recruitment of highly educated youths will significantly enhance the strike capabilities of the Pakistani terror groups. Agencies here apprehend the move will lead to creation of a "network of terror facilitators" in the region for furthering the larger anti-India terror agenda.

In addition to the latest tactic of the Pakistan Government-Army combine, the duplicity of the US that hosts common servers for the Pakistan Army and its terror proxies like LeT and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) has further compounded the security situation in the country. The common server of the Pakistan army and its terror affiliates are a clear link between the two. The US has



A large number of people attend the funeral procession of CRPF jawan Ramesh Yadav, who lost his life in Thursday's Pulwama terror attack, at Masaurhi in Varanasi on Saturday

only done lip service towards the Pakistan-directed terror in India but has always been comforting Islamabad by reiterating that it is a permanent ally. The US has also failed in conducting drone strikes against the LeT and JeM masterminds who have a free run

in furthering terror in the region especially against India. Due to the terror hits by the Pakistani jihadi groups, India is one of the top 10 terrorism-hit countries in the world. "The idea of allowing access to Makki to the technical institutes and other educational

facilities is to catch them young. Pakistan Army's terror proxies like the LeT and JeM will get a pool of educated students and engineers for inflicting more and more terror hits with an ever evolving sophistication," a senior security official said. **Turn to Page 6**

LeT no. 2 allowed to deliver anti-India sermons, 'virtues' of jihad at educational institutions

JeM gains ground in South Kashmir

Security forces yet to nab five who sneaked in from Pakistan

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), the Pakistan-based terrorist group which owned responsibility for the attack on the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) convoy in Kashmir on Thursday, has grown in strength in the last few months and at least 40 of its operatives are now active in south and central Kashmir. Moreover, out of 11 foreign terrorists neutralised by the security forces in last two months, nine of them were from JeM.

Besides these alarming trends, the security forces are also worried as they have so far not been able to nab at least four to five suspected JeM terrorists who sneaked from Pakistan into Jammu region almost a fortnight back. Some blood trails were found in the fields in Samba region then and a manhunt was launched but so far no luck for the joint team of Border Security Force (BSF), Army and the local police.

Giving these details, officials in the security establish-



ment said on Saturday this is very alarming as JeM terrorists are infiltrating into the Kashmir Valley through Jammu region considered to a "non-traditional" route in terms of infiltration. After sneaking in from the heavily guarded Jammu region, they travel through the 300-km long national highway till Jawahar tunnel in Banihal, the gateway to the Valley, undetected as the vehicles are rarely checked while going from Jammu to Srinagar.

Even as the security forces have managed to neutralise at least 11 foreign terrorists including nine of JeM, alarm bells have started ringing as three encounters near Srinagar in late last month, in which three JeM terrorists were killed, took place after they managed to reach the outskirts of the capital by road from Jammu undetected. **Turn to Page 6**

China condemns strike sans naming Pakistan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A day after it expressed shock over the Pulwama terror attack, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Saturday sent a condolence message to Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj denouncing "all forms of terrorism" which it claimed is "the common enemy of mankind". The message, however, did not make any reference either Pakistan or Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), the terror group which has claimed responsibility for the attack.

In a letter to Sushma, Wang Yi on behalf of the Chinese Government, conveyed sympathy to the families of the 40 CRPF jawans who were killed after a suicide bomber vehicle rammed into their bus in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday. The statement from Beijing came at a time when India has received condolences from several nations, including the United Nations. The White



House even asked Pakistan to immediately end "support" and "safe haven" to all terror groups. Wang Yi said he was "shocked to learn that a suicide attack was carried out in Kashmir and heavy casualties were caused. A statement by the Chinese embassy read "Wang Yi stressed that terrorism is the common enemy of mankind. The Chinese side resolutely opposes and strongly condemns all forms of terrorism. **Turn to Page 6**

US supports India's right to self-defence: NSA to Doval

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

US National Security Adviser John Bolton told his Indian counterpart Ajit Doval that America supports India's right to self-defence as both sides vowed to work together to ensure that Pakistan ceases to be a safe haven for Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and other terror groups. Doval and Bolton held a telephonic conversation on Friday evening during which they resolved to hold Pakistan to account for its obligations under the UN resolutions and remove all obstacles to designate Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Maulana Masood Azhar as a global terrorist, the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi on Saturday.

It said that Bolton supported India's right to self-defence against cross-border terrorism and offered all assistance to India to bring the perpetrators and backers of the attack promptly to justice. The



call was initiated by the US side to express condolence and outrage over the Pulwama attack by Pakistan-based terrorist group JeM. "I told Ajit Doval today that we support India's right to self-defence. I have spoken to him twice, including this morning... And expressed the US' condolences over the terrorist attack," Bolton told PTI in Washington. He said the US has been very clear to Pakistan on end-

ing support to terrorist safe havens. "We have been very clear on that score... And, we are continuing to be in discussions we are going to have with the Pakistanis," the US NSA said.

Earlier, the White House and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo asked Pakistan to end its support to terrorist safe havens inside the country. "We stand with India as it confronts terrorism. Pakistan must not provide safe haven for terrorists to threaten international security," Pompeo said on Twitter.

In a stern message to Pakistan, the White House asked Islamabad to "immediately end" its "support" to all terror groups and not to provide "safe haven" to them, as the US condemned the brutal Pulwama terror attack.

Jaish has claimed responsibility for the terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday. **Turn to Page 6**

Ban on Sidhu sought for disturbing sentiments

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE) has called for ban on cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu over his controversial comments in the wake of the Pulwama terror attack.

Sidhu, who appears on "The Kapil Sharma Show", had condemned the incident but courted a controversy when he asked whether an entire nation can be blamed for a handful of people.

He was among the invitees for the swearing-in ceremony of Imran Khan as Pakistan Prime Minister last year.

The Punjab Cabinet Minister's comments sparked an uproar on social media, with many people asking for his removal from "The Kapil Sharma Show". **Turn to Page 6**

CAPSULE

27 MORE HOTELS TO SHUT IN NATIONAL CAPITAL
New Delhi: Intensifying its drive against errant hotels, the Delhi Government has cancelled fire safety certificates of 27 establishments for various violations in Karol Bagh area, where a massive fire at a hotel killed 17 people earlier this week.

VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS RUNS INTO TROUBLE
New Delhi: A day after it was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's first semi-high speed train, Vande Bharat Express, ran into some trouble twice on Saturday while returning to Delhi from Varanasi.

DELHI-NCR TO WITNESS RAIN THIS WEEKEND: IMD
New Delhi: New Delhi and adjoining areas may witness more rain in coming week as Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday forecast light, moderate rain for February (Feb) 19 to Feb 22. However, for Sunday, Met predicted hazy like weather due to moderate fog. It was a cloudy and foggy Saturday morning in the national Capital.

Parties put up united face to fight terror

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

All political parties on Saturday spoke in one voice and backed the Government in its efforts to fight terrorism following Thursday's deadly attack at the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) convoy at Pulwama in Kashmir and expressed their solidarity with the security

forces. The resolution adopted at the all-party meeting here, however, did not name Pakistan but asserted that India has been facing the menace of the cross-border terrorism which of late, it added, is being actively encouraged by forces from the neighbouring country. **Turn to Page 6**



Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and CPI leader D Raja after attending an all-party meeting on the Pulwama terror attack, at Parliament Library building, in New Delhi on Saturday

Curfew continues on Day 2

PNS ■ JAMMU

Tension prevailed in Jammu for the second consecutive day as district authorities decided against relaxing curfew restrictions following fresh unrest in parts of Jammu. Mobile internet services remained disrupted while normal life was hit hard in the entire region.

Army columns remained deployed in sensitive areas of the city even as small groups of protesters took out marches holding tricolor in their hands and shouted anti-Pakistan slogans. Tension prevailed in Janipur area where large numbers of State Government employees were accommodated inside Government quarters.

According to reports, a small group of miscreants converged outside the Government apartments after pro-Pakistan slogans were raised by inhabitants living in the Government quarters. Senior district officers along with police officers visited the area to contain the law and order situation. **Turn to Page 6**



Army soldiers conduct a flag march during the second day of curfew in Jammu on Saturday

Major martyred, was to get married on March 7

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

An Indian Army Major who attained martyrdom in an IED blast along the Line of Control (LoC) in Nowshera sector of Rajouri district on Saturday was to get married next month

on March 7 in Dehradun. According to reports, the Army officer, hailing from Corps of Engineer, was reportedly defusing an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) when it went off. **Turn to Page 6**

Moist eyes bid farewell to martyrs

Sombre atmosphere prevails

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

The 10-year-old daughter of a CRPF jawan, who died in a suicide attack in Pulwama, fainted during his funeral in Kannauj district of Uttar Pradesh on Saturday.

Supriya, Pradeep Singh Yadav's daughter, was rushed to a hospital for primary treatment and was discharged after an hour.

Yadav's other daughter, a two-and-a-half-year-old kid, appeared unaware of the developments around her, as people raised slogans praising the courage of her father.

Yadav was one of the 40 CRPF men killed when a member of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist group rammed his explosives-laden vehicle in the bus he was travelling to Kashmir Valley to join duty.

The atmosphere was similarly sombre during the funeral of the other CRPF jawans in Maharajganj, Agra, Mainpuri, Unnao, Kanpur Dehat and Chandauli districts in the state.

Tens of thousands of people across Uttar Pradesh raised slogans praising the bravery of the fallen soldiers and hailing the motherland.

The soldiers' families demanded the ministers and administration officials attending the funerals to bring the people responsible for the ghastly attack to justice.

In Kanpur Dehat, the slogan "Shaheed Shyam Babu

Amar Rahe" was raised as his mortal remains were consigned to flames by his brother, Kamlesh, in their native village Nonari.

Babu's family demanded that Pakistan be given a befitting reply for the attack.

Union minister Smriti Irani, who represented the Union government at the funeral, consoled the family and said the Prime Minister has promised the nation that the perpetrators of the attack will be punished. The deaths of the jawans will not go waste, she stressed.

A road in the area is being named after Shyam Babu, officials said.

Government officials, politicians and thousands of members of the general public joined the funeral procession of soldier Kaushal Kumar Rawat in Karhari village in Agra.

Rawat's final journey began at 9 am and his daughter Apoorva, who works in an airline company in Delhi, hoped her father's sacrifice would not go in vain.

Members of the family have offered land in the village for a memorial for Rawat.

Rawat was posted in Siliguri in West Bengal and was transferred to Srinagar, where he would have joined duty on Thursday.

Agra city observed a 'bandh' against the Pulwama tragedy. Shops and other businesses remained closed and people took out rallies, raising



Samar, 6, center right, and Saahil, 5, center left, watch the funeral procession of their father, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) soldier Mahesh Yadav, who was killed in Thursday bombing in Kashmir, in Tudihar village, some 56 kilometers east of Prayagraj

slogans against Pakistan.

In Deoria district, slain CRPF jawan Vijay Maurya's wife Vijay Laxmi demanded that Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visit the family and only then she would allow the funeral to take place.

UP minister Anupama Jaiswal and other leaders tried to convince her but she refused.

In Unnao, CRPF jawan Ajit Kumar Azad's mortal remains were consigned to flames by his brother Ranjit.

As soon as his body reached his home in Loknagar area, residents gathered to pay their last respects and raised anti-Pakistan slogans. People showered flower petals on the roads during Azad's final journey. UP minister Brijesh Pathak, Speaker of UP

Legislative Assembly Hriday Narayan Dixit along with other leaders paid homage to the braveheart.

In Maharajganj, the last rites of CRPF constable Pankaj Tripathi were done at Trimohan Ghat in Harpur Bailhiya village.

When Tripathi's body, draped in tricolour, reached his village, people followed it to his home and raised the slogan — "Pankaj Tripathi Amar Rahe".

"My son was coming soon to meet me, but it seems that something else was written in my fate. Now I can never meet my son," his mother said, struggling to hold her tears.

Tripathi's brother Subham said: "Time has come to take revenge." Union minister Shiv Pratap Shukla assured the villagers, "India will give a befitting reply to Pakistan's cow-

ardly act." "We have ended our trade ties with the country and soon the prime minister will take more actions," Shukla said, referring to India's withdrawal of the Most-Favoured Nation status to Pakistan.

In Mainpuri, CRPF jawan Ram Vakeel's son consigned his mortal remains to flames amid slogans praising his courage.

UP minister Satyadev Pachauri and police and administration officials attended the funeral in Vakeel's native village Vinayakpur.

In Chandauli, Awadhesh Yadav's last rites were done on the banks of river Ganga. His father, Hariresh Yadav, lit the funeral pyre.

Awadhesh Yadav, a native of Bahadurpur village, had returned to join his duty three days before the attack. His mother has cancer and he is survived by wife and a son.

Uttar Pradesh BJP president Mahendra Nath Pandey, the Lok Sabha MP from Chandauli, visited the residence of the martyred soldier and paid his tributes.

Congress leader Shaileendra Singh said, "Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra spoke to Hariresh Yadav, father of Awadhesh. She consoled him and said that in the hour of sadness, she is with the family of the martyr, and soon may come to meet them." The state government has announced ₹25-lakh ex gratia each and a job to one family member of the 12 CRPF personnel from the state killed in the attack.

22 DMs among 64 IAS officers shifted

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Ahead of the crucial Lok Sabha elections, the state government on the intervening night of Friday-Saturday shifted 64 IAS officers including 22 District Magistrates and several Divisional Commissioners, Secretaries and Special Secretaries.

Transport Commissioner and Managing Director of UP State Road Transport Corporation P Guru Prasad and Excise Commissioner Dhiraj Sahu, swapped places.

Commissioner of Devipatan division Sudesh Kumar Ojha was posted as Secretary in Revenue department. Secretary in Secondary Education Preeti Shukla was posted as Commissioner of Devipatan division replacing MM Lal, who was posted as Secretary of Revenue and Member (Judicial), Board of Revenue.

Formerly Member (Judicial) Board of Revenue Anand Kumar Singh was posted as Commissioner of Vindhyaachal division.

Vice-chairman of Moradabad Development Authority Kanak Tripathi was posted as Secretary of Secondary Education department.

District Magistrate of Bulandshahr Anuj Kumar Jha was posted as DM of Ayodhya while DM, Etawah, Selva Kumar J was made the new DM of Firozabad. Special Secretary (Home) Jitendra Bahadur Singh was posted as DM of Etawah. MD of Pradesh Cooperative Federation Pramod Kumar Upadhyay was posted as the new DM of Mainpuri. Special Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Sanjeev Singh was posted as DM of Fatehpur.

DM and Municipal Commissioner of Ferozabad Neha Sharma was made the new DM of Rae Bareilly.

DM of Pratnagarh Shambhu Kumar was posted as DM, Bahraich replacing AK Singh, who was made DM of Rampur. Awaiting posting, Abhay was posted as DM of Bulandshahr.

Special Secretary (Home) Markenday Shahi was posted as DM of Pratnagarh. Member (Judicial), Board of Revenue, Sujit Kumar was made the DM of Bijnor.

Special Secretary of Industry and Infrastructure AK Agarwal was posted as DM of Sonebhadra, while Special Secretary, Industry, GP Tripathi was made the DM of Mau. Special Secretary of MSME Pawan Kumar was posted as DM of Bagpat while Special Secretary of Medical and Health Umesh Mishra was made the new DM of Amroha.

Municipal Commissioner of Ghaziabad CP Singh was made the DM of Kasganj, while Special Secretary of MSME Ravish Gupta was posted as DM of Sant Kabir Nagar. Municipal Commissioner of Varanasi Nitin Bansal was made the DM of Gonda.

Special Secretary of Food and Civil Supplies, Abhishek Singh—II was posted as DM of Auraiya. Mission Director of Skill Development Mission Pranjal Yadav was posted as Special Secretary of National Integration.

Similarly, Special Secretary of MSME RM Mishra was posted as DM of Amethi while Special Secretary, Minority Affairs, DP Giri was made the DM of Sultanpur.

Awaiting posting, Ajay Shankar Pandey and RS Prem were posted as DM of Muzaffarnagar and Member (Judicial), Board of Revenue respectively. Another officer, awaiting posting, Radhey Shyam was made Additional MD of UPSRTC. Similarly, RK Tyagi was made Special Secretary (Home).

Another officer awaiting posting, Manoj Kumar was posted as Regional Food Controller in Moradabad. Municipal Commissioner of Ayodhya, Ravi Shankar Gupta was posted as Special Secretary of Medical and Health.

Awaiting posting, AK Chaurasia was posted as MD of PCF DM of Rae Bareilly SK Khattri was posted as Special Secretary (Home). DM of Mainpuri Pradeep Kumar was posted as Special Secretary, MSME. DM of Sultanpur Vivek was posted as Mission Director of Skill Development Mission.

DM of Bahraich Mala Srivastava was posted as Special Secretary in Housing department, Lucknow. DM of Rampur MB Singh was made Special Secretary of Housing department. DM of Bijnor AK Rai was posted as Special Secretary (Home).

DM of Sonebhadra AK Singh was posted as Special Secretary, MSME, while DM of Mau Prakash Bindu was made Special Secretary of Finance department.

DM of Bagpat R Kumar was posted as Special Secretary, Rural Development while DM of Amroha Hemant Kumar was made Special Secretary of Medical and Health.

DM of Kasganj RP Singh and DM of Sant Kabir Nagar BS Choudhary were posted as Special Secretary (Home).

DM of Amethi Shakuntla Gautam was posted as Special Secretary in Women's Welfare department while DM of Auraiya Srikanth Mishra was posted as Special Secretary in Housing department.

Vice-chairman of Varanasi Development Authority Rajesh Kumar was made Special Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies.

Meanwhile, the transfer orders of Joint Magistrate of Mathura Rajendra Pesia as Chief Development Officer (CDO), Deoria, was cancelled and Joint Magistrate of Ghazipur Shivsharanappa will be the new CDO of Deoria. DM of Muzaffarnagar Rajiv Sharma was posted as Special Secretary, Urban Development department.

DM of Gonda PK Srivastava was posted as Special Secretary, Infrastructure and Industrial Development. DM of Ayodhya Anil Kumar was posted as Special Secretary, Infrastructure and Industrial Development department.

Secretary of LDA MP Singh was posted as Vice-chairman of Varanasi Development Authority. Special Secretary in Rural Development TK Shibu was made the new Vice-Chairman of Moradabad Development Authority.

Joint MD of UPSIDC Divya Mittal was posted as Vice-Chairman of Bareilly Development Authority while Special Secretary, Housing, RK Pandey was made Vice-Chairman of Meerut Development Authority.

Awaiting posting, Samuel Pal N was made Municipal Commissioner of Bareilly Nagar Nigam. Special Secretary, Medical and Health, Neeraj Shukla was posted as Municipal Commissioner of Ayodhya.

RLD pays tributes to Pulwana martyrs

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Leaders and workers of Rashtriya Lok Dal paid tributes to CRPF jawans who were martyred in the Pulwama attack on Wednesday by taking out a candle march and holding condolence meetings across the state on Saturday. They also shouted slogans against Pakistan and burnt effigies of Pakistan and terrorism at

different places on Saturday. At the Lucknow-based RLD headquarters, state RLD chief Masood Ahmad, national spokesman Anil Dubey, national general secretary Shiv Karan Singh and hundreds of workers burnt effigies of Pakistan and raised anti-Pakistan slogans. Thereafter, they held a condolence meeting and paid tributes to martyred jawans.

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CANTONMENT BOARD, FAIZABAD
DISTRICT-AYODHYA (U.P.)
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR INSTALLATION OF SHARED COMMUNICATION TOWERS
Cantonment Board, Faizabad invites expression of interest from access service licensees and infrastructure provider companies (IP-1) for shared communication towers to extend communication network and to propose locations for setting up of static towers or cell on wheels (CoW) in Faizabad cantonment area as per Govt. of India, MoD policy letter No F.11026/1/2005/D(Lands) dated 26-02-2018. Interested companies may submit EOI in prescribed format within 15 days of the date of advertisement. Detailed EOI document can be downloaded from the website of Cantonment Board, Faizabad.
Contact no for any clarification : 05278-224325, 9044534553
E-mail : cbfaizabad@digest.org Sd/XXXXXX
Website: www.cbfaizabad.org.in Chief Executive Officer
Cantonment Board Faizabad

LIC भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
मण्डल कार्यालय: 'जीवन प्रकाश', 30 हजरतगंज, पोस्ट बाक्स नं० 111 लखनऊ, 226001
प्रेस विज्ञापित
भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम, मण्डल कार्यालय, लखनऊ, के अधीन समस्त सविल वर्क्स (सन्मरिग,पैटिंग,कार्पेटिंग), विद्युत वर्क्स, एयर कंडीशनिंग (सपलाइ एंड एंजिनरी), वाटर कूलर (एंगेन्जरी), फायर फाइटिंग एंड फायर अलार्म (एंगेन्जरी) सोलर लाइट एंड वाटर हीटिंग सिस्टम (एंगेन्जरी), सर्वो-स्ट्रिक्चरल इन्ड्र (सपलाइ एंड एंगेन्जरी), के वार्षिक रखरखाव के कार्य हेतु विभिन्न जी०एस०टी० पंजीकृत प्रतिष्ठित फर्मो/संस्थानो से पंजीकरण (Empanelment) के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित करतहैं। आवेदन प्रेषित करने की अंतिम तिथि 08.03.2019 समय शाम 03.00 बजे तक है। निविदा राशि रु० 590.00 (500.00 + 90.00 GST सहित), नकद-कैश काउंटर पर जमा रशीद/बैंक ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर चेक जो भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम के पक्ष लखनऊ में देय हो, प्रत्येक आवेदन पत्र के साथ संलग्न करे। लिफाफे पर सविल, विद्युत आदि हेतु आवेदन अवश्य लिखे। विस्तृत जानकारी शर्त एवं आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप एल०आई०सी० की वेब साइट www.licindia.in, (टेण्डर शीट के अंतर्गत) से डाउनलोड करे या अभियांत्रिक विभाग, भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम मण्डल कार्यालय, लखनऊ से किसी भी कार्य दिवस में प्राप्त करे। निगम के पास किसी भी निविदा को स्वीकार अथवा अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार सुरक्षित रहेगा। वरिष्ठ मण्डल प्रबंधक

Union govt hikes sugar MSP by 7 per cent

Industry not enthused

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

In a major relief to the sugar industry grappling with low price of the commodity and mounting arrears of cane dues, the Union government hiked the Minimum Selling Price (MSP) of sugar by 7 per cent to ₹31 a kilogram which will now become the benchmark for wholesale price. Not enthused with the hike, the sugar industry said that the move would not make much impact in medium term on the domestic sugar sector bogged down by a global glut and rising inventories. The industry fears that the Union and UP governments would now step up pressure on mills to clear cane dues.

In the crucial election year, the extra elbow room provided to mills by way of hike in MSP

itches the Yogi government in a much comfortable position. The NDA government in the interim budget has already announced a dole of ₹6,000 to small and marginal farmers in three instalments.

Although, the MSP hike improves the realisation of beleaguered mills in the backdrop of outstanding for 2018-19 crushing season rising to almost ₹22,000 crore, yet it remains below the average cost of production, which private millers peg at almost ₹34 per kg.

However, coupled with sugar and realisation from cane byproducts, like bagasse, ethanol, cogeneration etc, which account for nearly 15 per cent of the total realisation by an average sugar unit, the current level should be sufficient to settle

arrears.

An Sugarcane department official said that the mills would get some extra liquidity (estimated ₹6,000 cr) and there would be some sentimental impact to expedite the payment of arrears. He said that recently, there had been some unrest among farmers over arrears and the hike would provide extra cash to mills to pay farmers. It will also ensure that the sugar prices did not crash over the next 2-3 months. India's top sugar producer, UP, accounts for nearly ₹10,000 crore of total outstanding cane arrears.

A senior official with a leading sugar producer said that the move put mills at 'marginal position' and allowed them to clear arrears. He said that though the break even point for mills came to about ₹33-34 per kg, yet mills could comfortably settle their payment commitments at this MSP level.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD
Short term E-Tendering Notice 2019—March—01A Dated: 13.02.2019
Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), N.C. Rly, Agra for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through on Line only (E-Tendering) for the following works. The details of the tender are as under :

Tender No. & Description of work	Approx. Cost (₹)
2019—March—01A—01: Welding of Rail joints by Alumino Thermit SKV process including supply of welding portion, supervision, tools & plants etc. under Sr. DEN-II/Agra Jurisdiction.	₹ 1,82,31,504.97

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenders can only be submitted through web portal www.ireps.gov.in upto 15.00 hrs. on 05.03.2019. 22919(R)
North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD
E-Tender No. 2019-20_TPWS_1
No. NCR/S&T/PU/SEI/BNDA-BZM/TENDER/2019 E-TENDER NOTICE Dated: 15.02.2019
Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Works, North Central Railway, Allahabad for and on behalf of the President of India invites open E-tender on two packet system, from reputed contractors/joint venture firms with adequate experience and financial capability, for the following work up to 11.00 hrs on the opening date of E-tender mentioned therein. The tender shall be in two parts i.e. (i) Technical Bid and (ii) Financial Bid. On due date of opening, only Technical Bid (Packet-I) will be opened. Tenderers, who qualify in the Technical Bid, shall be invited separately for opening of financial bid. Packet-II (date of opening will be decided afterwards). The details of the Tender are as under :

Name of work	Estimated cost of work (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
Supply, Designing, Installation, testing and commissioning of Indoor and Outdoor Signalling gears in connection with Replacement of Mechanical Signalling at Five Stations by EI along with provision of block panels in Seven block sections in place of Block Instruments in Banda-Bhimsen section of Jhansi Division of North Central Railway.	₹ 17.18 Crore (Rupees Seventeen Crores Eighteen Lakhs Only)	₹ 10,08,990/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Only)

Cost of Tender Document (Non Refundable): ₹ 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only). Completion Period: 18 Months, Availability of Tender Form: Tender forms shall be available on website www.ireps.gov.in. 30 days prior to date of opening of the tender. Closing Date/Time of Tender: 15.03.2019 before 11.00 Hrs. Tender Opening Date/Time: 15.03.2019 at 11.00 Hrs. Place of Opening: Through Online E-Portal www.ireps.gov.in in the office of Dy.CSTE/HQ/Project, NCRHQ, Ganga Complex, Subedarganj, Allahabad. Validity of Offer: 180 days from date of opening. Further particulars can be obtained from Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderers who wish to participate in tenders invited on www.ireps.gov.in have to register on the website mandatorily. Please refer to website for more details. Tenderers can submit cost of tender document and EMD only through online mode. Online payment of earnest money and cost of tender document can be made through net banking, debit/credit card etc. Fixed Deposit receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal). 22519(R)
North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

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Ph.D. and M.S.(RESEARCH) ADMISSION FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 - 2020
Admission to the Research Programmes for Ph.D. and M.S. (by Research) is open throughout the academic year 2019-2020.
Applications are invited at any time from eligible candidates for admission to Ph.D. and M.S. (by Research) programmes under Regular/Part-Time/External schemes of IIT Madras.
Candidates with B.E / B.Tech / B.S (4 year) can apply to pursue Direct Admission to M.S.+Ph.D. in Engineering / Sciences after their Bachelor's Degree.
Opportunities to carry out Joint Ph.D. between IITM & reputed Foreign Universities exist; details at <https://research.iitm.ac.in/jdp>.
Detailed information regarding fellowships and online application form can be accessed at <https://research.iitm.ac.in> or <https://www.iitm.ac.in>. Access to the link "Admission Opened for M.S / Ph.D (2019-2020)" will be available from 01.03.2019.
Applications received till 31.03.2019 will be considered for July 2019 admission.
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We have to be united against terror: Yogi Two succumb to swine flu

CM INAUGURATES FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW AT RAJ BHAWAN

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath paid tributes to the martyred CRPF personnel at the inauguration of 'Flower and Vegetable Show' organised at Raj Bhawan on Saturday.

"The CRPF soldiers were on duty when they were targeted by a suicide bomber and as Indian citizens, we have a responsibility towards them and their families. Terrorism is the base of all evils and we have to unitedly fight against it. The country has always won when it has fought against ultras. The government has already launched an offensive against the terrorists and we will not rest till terrorism and naxalism is removed from the country," he said. The Chief Minister said that Centre and state government would support the fam-



Chief Minister with a giant bottle gourd after inaugurating flower and vegetable exhibition at Raj Bhawan on Saturday. (Right) Girls pose for a selfie

ilies of the martyrs in this hour of grief. A two-minute silence was also observed on the occasion of the martyrs. The Raj Bhawan garden displayed a creation of flowers by a local organisation as a homage to slain soldiers. "I was in Prayagraj in the morning but returned to Lucknow attend the show here, especially because it showcases the talent of farmers given the opportunity to exhibit their products. Such exhibitions bring us closer to nature," the Chief

Minister said. He expressed happiness over Horticulture department taking forward the traditional programme of Raj Bhawan in a commendable manner. "This is also important because it highlights the prosperity of farmers of the state. Traditional farmers growing traditional crops only earn between Rs 15,000-25,000 per acre but if they grow vegetables, flowers and fruits, their earning goes up to Rs 1.5-2.75 lakh. Such exhibitions provide platform to these prod-



ucts and experts help farmers in doubling their income," he pointed out. The exhibition had some stunning fruits and veggies on display. A local organisation made a crocodile with bitter gourds and its eyes of grapes and mouth of watermelon. It had the visitors attracted. Paan leaves were also displayed at the exhibition. Giant-sized pumpkins, radishes, cauliflowers, cabbages, and capsicums were cynosure of all eyes. A huge variety of exotic fruits and vegetables such as

broccoli and dragon fruit were also put on display. The visitors were specially attracted to wide varieties of flowers and families took selfies in their backdrop. Among the varieties displayed were pansy, petunia, phlox, wall flower, aster, roses, bougainvillea, carnations and dahlias and several cacti. Horticulture director Raghendra Pratap Singh said there were 5,407 entries and 1,512 participants for the exhibition.

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Two persons suffering from swine flu succumbed during treatment at King George's Medical University on Saturday. Two more patients, said to be in a critical condition, were admitted to KGMU's Gandhi Ward and three patients to Infectious Disease Hospital. However, the CMO office is still waiting for the death audit report. According to incharge of Gandhi Ward Dr D Himanshu, Pinky

Devi from Kanpur and Sushil Kumar alias Shiv Kumar from Gonda were brought to the hospital on Friday and they succumbed during treatment late night. On Saturday, the CMO office reported seven fresh swine flu cases from Lucknow. As per CMO data, two cases were reported from KGMU and they have been isolated in their homes. Mohd Saleem Khan and GS Pandey (both of Alambagh) tested positive for H1N1 infection. Apoorva Jaiswal,

Ashish Srivastava, Neema Pant, Vivek Verma, Malti Devi (all of Sultanpur Road), and another from SGPGI campus were diagnosed with swine flu. This month, 89 fresh cases of swine flu have been reported. KGMU spokesperson Dr Santosh Kumar appealed to all the doctors and attendants to ensure prevention from H1N1 infection. "We have directed vaccination of the staff and resident doctors attending to swine flu patients," he added.

2 killed in separate road mishaps

Lucknow (PNS): A 36-year-old vendor was killed after being hit by a speeding bus on Sitapur Road under Aliganj police station on Saturday. The deceased, identified as Shiv Charan, was a resident of Madiyon and hailed from Sitapur. According to police, the man was going to Mahanagar and around 2 pm, the speeding roadways bus hit him from behind and later ploughed into a stationary dumper. The man died on the spot while the driver sped off. Elsewhere,

in Kakori, a 32-year old farmer, identified as Mulyam Yadav, was fatally hit by a speeding container on Saturday. The deceased, identified as Mulyam Yadav (32), was a resident of Malihabad. The mishap occurred around 10 am when Mulyam was returning home on a bike without wearing a helmet. When he reached Kushmaira turn, the speeding container knocked him down. The victim died on the spot while the errant driver fled, abandoning his vehicle.

Jilted lover booked for attempt to murder

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

A day after a jilted lover burnt a woman for refusing her proposal at the Tourism department, the Gomti Nagar police registered a case of attempt to murder against the accused. The victim suffered more than 60 per cent burns while the accused, identified as Sameer Khan of Khadra locality in Hasanganj, also hurt himself in the process. Both were admitted to a hospital where the condition of woman was said to be critical.

"The police registered a case for attempt to murder on the complaint of victim's son,"

the Gomti Nagar police said. On Friday evening, Sameer reached room number 316 of UP Tourism office where the woman was all alone. Sameer tip-toed up to her and poured petrol on her before setting her afire. In the process, Sameer's hands also got burnt. The victim screamed for help hearing which her colleague Manju Mishra gave a call to other employees. The victim was rushed to civil hospital while police first took Sameer to RML Hospital and later to KGMU Trauma Centre on doctors' advice. Investigations revealed that Sameer worked as a ward boy at the KGMU Trauma

Centre. Six months ago, he had met the woman who was there for treatment of her son. In due course of time, Sameer fell for the woman and started visiting her home and office. It also came to the fore that fed up with Sameer's behaviour, the woman had filed a complaint of sexual harassment against him at Hasanganj police station.

According to the investigating team, Sameer got riled up so much with the FIR against him that he decided to kill his love interest. A mother of five, the victim got the job in 2012 following her husband's death. Her eldest daughter is scheduled to get married on March 5.

FIR against college student for remarks on Pulwama attack

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW

A BA (I) student of Shri Jai Narain Post Graduate (KCC) College was booked for posting derogatory remarks on Pulwama attack in which 40 CRPF jawans were martyred. The case was registered on Saturday following a complaint against him at Hussainganj police station.

As per reports, the accused, identified as Rijab Khan of Azad Nagar locality in Krishna Nagar, allegedly praised the terrorists and used abusive and insulting language against the Indian Army. Police spokesman AK Dwivedi said the student had a long chat on Facebook and WhatsApp groups. "A case under section 153 b of 66 IT Act," he said. The police spokesman said the

The accused, identified as Rijab Khan of Azad Nagar locality in Krishna Nagar, allegedly praised the terrorists and used abusive and insulting language against the Indian Army

Hussainganj police sent the accused to jail. "The accused may be questioned by ATS and agencies," he said, adding that the student was also expelled from the college.

A huge number of students created a ruckus on the college campus. The protest ended after the police informed them about the arrest of the accused.

VIJAYA BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Annexure - 28

Branch: Aliganj, Lucknow

Notice to be issued to the Borrower for Sale under Private Treaty

Ref No. Aliganj/18-19 By Regd. Post / Speed Post with A/D Date: 15.02.2019

- M/s Shyam Trader & Floor Mills, Plot no. 9A, part of non agricultural khasra no. 254 Village Tarihiya, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow
- Prop: Mr. Dileep Kumar Jaiswal, R/o - 1/160, Sector - H, Jankipuram Lucknow R/o 1/133, Sector-H, Jankipuram, Lucknow
- Mrs. Sushma Jaiswal w/o Mr. Dileep Kumar Jaiswal, R/o - 1/160, Sector - H, Jankipuram Lucknow R/o 1/133, Sector-H, Jankipuram, Lucknow
- Mr. Durga Prasad Shukla, R/o 4/692, Sector-H, Jankipuram, Lucknow

SUB: SALE OF SECURED ASSET UNDER PRIVATE TREATY

The undersigned acting as Authorised officer of Vijaya Bank and in exercise of powers conferred under Sec. 13 (4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, has taken possession and put for sale on 06.09.2018.

Please refer our letter No. 1-nil dated 05.10.2018 and letter no. -2 dated 18.01.2019 whereby we have informed you that we have published Auction Notice in 1 auction - Dainik Bhaskar and Pioneer on 30.09.2018 and 2-auction Jansandesh Times and Pioneer on 18.01.2019 by fixing the reserve price of 1-Rs. 14,85,000/- and 2-13,36,500/- The Auction was scheduled for first auction 12.11.2018 and for second 06.02.2019 The Auction could not be successful due to lack of any bidder.

Now we would like to inform you that one person has approached our Office expressing interest to purchase the said property for Rs. 12,00,000/- (Rs. Twelve Lakhs Only). Hence the borrower(s)/ mortgagee(s) are hereby informed to take note that the Authorised Officer will be selling the under mentioned property under private treaty in case of your failure to pay the outstanding dues of Rs. 9,15,648.44 as on 31.01.2019 with further interest thereon with cost and expenses, within 15 days from the date of receipt of this notice.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Plot no. 9A, part of non agricultural khasra no. 254 Village Tarihiya, Pargana Mahona, Tehsil Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow Bounded by: East - Plot of Rakesh Kumar Jaiswal, West- Plot no. 10, North- Plot of seller, South- 25 feet wide Rasta Yours truly,

Place: Lucknow, 16.02.2019 Authorised Officer (Vijaya Bank)

साफ नीयत-सही विकास

प्राविधिक शिक्षा परिषद के मेधावी छात्र-छात्राओं का सम्मान, टॉप रैंकर्स को लैपटॉप वितरण, शिक्षकों का सम्मान तथा 'सक्षम बालिका-सम्पन्न परिवार' योजना के अन्तर्गत चेक वितरण कार्यक्रम

एवं

75 परियोजनाओं का लोकार्पण/शुभारम्भ

मुख्य अतिथि

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश के कर-कमलों द्वारा

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

आशुतोष टण्डन 'गोपाल जी' मंत्री, प्राविधिक शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

संदीप सिंह राज्यमंत्री, प्राविधिक शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

दिनांक : 17 फरवरी, 2019 | समय : पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे

स्थान : राजकीय पॉलीटेक्निक, लखनऊ

सड़क सुरक्षा - जीवन रक्षा प्राविधिक शिक्षा, उत्तर प्रदेश

साफ नीयत-सही विकास

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विभिन्न स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग व.स. टोल फ्री नं. 1800-180-5145 / राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य विभाग टोल फ्री नं. 1800-180-1905 <https://www.facebook.com/NationalHealthMissionUP> https://twitter.com/nhm_up

Rajnath reviews country's security

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday reviewed the security situation in the country, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir, in the wake of Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF jawans killed when an explosive-laden SUV hit the paramilitary convoy two days back.

During the meeting, top security officials briefed the Home Minister about the prevailing situation in the country. The officials gave a detailed account of the security situation, including along the Indo-Pak border to Singh, Home Ministry officials said.

Amid inputs of Pakistani terror groups further exploiting the situation in the backdrop of Pulwama attack, the meeting took stock of the security measures in place to foil any design of the Pak-based terrorist groups to disturb peace in Jammu and Kashmir as well as in hinterland, an official said.

The Home Minister directed the officials to ensure that all possible steps are taken to hunt down terrorists, especially the high value ones currently operating in Kashmir valley,

PULWAMA TERROR ATTACK



Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Narendra Singh Tomar during an all-party meeting on the Pulwama terror attack at Parliament House in New Delhi on Saturday

another official said.

Those who attended the meeting include National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba and Director of Intelligence Bureau Rajiv Jain among others.

Forty CRPF personnel were killed and five injured in one of the deadliest terror attacks in Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday, by a Jaish-e-Mohammed suicide bomber in South Kashmir's

Pulwama district.

Massive protests and candlelight marches were held on Friday in different parts of the country against the attack and curfew was imposed in Jammu city following violence during demonstrations there.

Meanwhile, security of Kashmiri separatists having suspected links with Pakistani intelligence agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) will be withdrawn after an assessment by the Jammu and

'Some elements in Jammu & Kashmir have links with the ISI and the terrorist organisations. Their security should be reviewed'

Kashmir administration, another official said.

The security review of all such individuals linked to the ISI will be carried out following a suggestion given by the Central government, he said. The Home Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir Government will conduct the review of the security of separatists and will take a decision on withdrawal of protection, an Intelligence official said.

The State Government will do the security review of the separatists as most of them have security being provided by the Jammu & Kashmir Police. The separatists have a major role in vitiating the security environment through their vitriolic speeches and providing shelter to the jeahdis besides channelling terror funds, sources said, adding the NIA is probing terror funding cases

against them.

Addressing a Press conference in Srinagar on Friday, Singh had said the security given to people getting funds from Pakistan and ISI should be reviewed.

"Some elements in Jammu & Kashmir have links with the ISI and the terrorist organisations. Their security should be reviewed," he had said.

Forty CRPF personnel were killed and five others injured on Thursday in an audacious terror strike in Jammu & Kashmir when a Jaish-e-Mohammed suicide bomber rammed a vehicle carrying explosives/inflammable gas into buses of a paramilitary convoy in Pulwama district. The ill-fated bus was part of a convoy of 78 vehicles carrying the CRPF personnel from Jammu to Srinagar.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had on Friday said those responsible for the attack will pay "a very heavy price" and security forces will be given a free hand to deal with the terrorists.

In a hard-hitting speech, Modi said the "blood of the people is boiling and forces behind the act of terrorism will be definitely punished".

High Court stays CIC order to HRD Ministry to revise Bal Shree scheme

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has put on hold the operation of a Central Information Commission order directing the HRD Ministry to re-formulate the Bal Shree scheme for selecting meritorious children from among students who are members of Bal Bhavans in the country.

Justice A K Bhambhani stayed the CIC November 19, 2018, direction to the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry till the next date of hearing on May 27.

The court also issued notices to the RTI applicant on whose plea the commission had passed the order and the National Bal Bhavan, which is an autonomous body under the HRD Ministry.

The order came on the ministry's plea, filed through advocate Rahul Sharma, challenging the commission's decision on the ground that the direction was issued without hearing the Government.

The Ministry, also represented by advocate C K Bhatt, contended that the commission could not have issued any



'lack of clarity, transparency and decision making at the district, state and national level which requires a complete revamp and reformulation of the policy'

direction to re-formulate the scheme when the government was not even a party before the Central Information Commission (CIC).

The commission had directed the ministry to revise the scheme and place it on its website within 60 days of receipt of the order.

The CIC was of the view that there was a "lack of clarity, transparency and decision

making at the district, state and national level which requires a complete revamp and reformulation of the policy".

The commission's directions had come while hearing a parent's plea seeking information regarding the Bal Shree awards scheme and the process of conducting district-level selections for the scheme by the Hyderabad district.

According to the HRD ministry's plea, Jawaharlal Nehru in 1956 "founded the Bal Bhavan and the activities started in a tin shed at Turkman Gate, Delhi giving a start to a nationwide mission for creative enhancement of children through playing and doing different activities in a child friendly environment".

MHA asks all States to ensure safety of people from J&K

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In the wake of isolated reports from some part of the country that students and people from Jammu & Kashmir experiencing threats and intimidation after Pulwama terror attack, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Saturday asked all the States and Union Territories to take necessary steps to ensure their safety and security.

The advisory came hours after Home Minister Rajnath Singh assured an all party meeting of doing the needful for the protection of the Kashmiri students and people who were allegedly threatened after the terrorist attack in Pulwama in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. The advisory directs all Chief Secretaries and Director General of Police (DGP) of states and Union Territories (UT) to maintain law and order situation.

A Home Ministry official said there have been some reports of students and other residents of Jammu and Kashmir experiencing threats and intimidation. "Therefore, the Home Ministry today issued an advisory to all states/UTs to take necessary measures to ensure their safety and security," the official said.

According to reports, some students from Kashmir putting up in rented accommodations or hostels in Dehradun and Haryana have asked by landlords and administrators respectively to vacate. They have alleged of being harassed after the Pulwama attack. After the reports, authorities from Jammu and Kashmir Police have spoken to the authorities concerned in Dehradun Police. Aapolic spokesperson said in Dehradun, that they are in touch with student representatives from Jammu and Kashmir.

In another video that has surfaced on social media,



'The villagers have been asked to vacate Kashmiri students from the rented accommodation... In case it is not done the person in whose residence such students are living will be considered as a traitor'

Mulana village sarpanch Naresh Rana of Ambala district in Haryana could be heard asking villagers to evict Kashmiri tenants. The village head alleged that some Kashmiri students were involved in "suspicious activities". "The villagers have been asked to vacate Kashmiri students from the rented accommodation... In case it is not done the person in whose residence such students are living will be considered as a traitor," the sarpanch is heard saying.

According to reports, half a dozen Kashmiri students have been shifted to the hostel of the Maharishi Markandeshwar Mulana University after the purported video appeared. Vishal Garg, one of the trustees of the university, located in Mulana said a few Kashmiri students of the university had requested him to provide them accommodation in the hostel. They had been provided proper accommodation, he said.

Meanwhile, Superintendent of Police Astha

Modi said the matter was being investigated. Around 1,200 Kashmiri students have been studying in various educational institutions in Ambala district while around 120 of them studying in MM Mulana University.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police said anyone from the state who is living outside and needs assistance can contact them. People on social media also posted several helpline numbers (0194-2451515).

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also requested the centre to ensure security for people from the state who are living across the country. Abdullah also met Home Minister Rajnath Singh and apprised the reports of Kashmiri students being harassed and threatened and urged to appoint a nodal officer for the same. "Just met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh Sb to personally pay my condolences for the tragic deaths in Pulwama on Thursday. I requested him to take all steps necessary to ensure Jammu remains calm (sic). Abdullah tweeted after his 30 minutes meeting with the Home Minister.

Another former chief minister, Mehbooba Mufti, asked the Home Minister to take steps to prevent intimidation and harassment of students from Jammu and Kashmir.

IAF carries out mega exercise at Pokhran

PTI ■ POKHRAN (RAJASTHAN)

The Indian Air Force Saturday carried out a mega exercise here involving almost all variants of its fighter jets and attack helicopters, in a fire power demonstration near the border with Pakistan.

The exercise came two days after 40 CRPF personnel were killed in a suicide attack in Kashmir's Pulwama by Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said security forces have been given full freedom to retaliate against the attack.

In the Vayu Shakti exercise, the IAF showcased fire power capability of indigenously-developed platforms like Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Advanced Light Helicopter

(ALH) and efficacy of the Akash surface-to-air missile and Astra air-to-air missile.

Fighter jets and helicopters hit targets during day and night. It was for the first time, the ALH and the Akash were deployed in a military exercise.

The IAF also deployed the upgraded MiG-29 fighter jet in an air-to-ground role during the exercise. A total of 137 aircraft including Su-30s, Mirage 2000s, Jaguars, Mig-21 Bison, Mig-27, Mig-29, IL78, Hercules, AN-32 aircraft participated.

Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat, defence attaches of several countries and top officials of defence ministry also witnessed the exercise. Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, who is an honorary group captain of the IAF, was also present.



Smoke rises from an explosion during an air exercise named 'Vayu Shakti-2019' at Pokhran in Rajasthan on Saturday

Didi takes out candle march against Pulwama attack

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

India was united at its hour of grief, Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday said at the end of a long candle-light march organized by the ruling Trinamool Congress denouncing the terrorist attack on CRPF personnel in Pulwama in J&K.

Banerjee who led hundreds of her followers from Hazra crossing in South Kolkata to the Mahatma Gandhi statue said terror had no religion and that "we are against any kind of terrorism in any country of the world".

About 44 CRPF jawans were martyred in suicide attack launched by a terrorist of Pakistan-sponsored Jaish-e-Muhammad.

Banerjee said "this is united India", iterating, "we stand united with the families of the CRPF jawans who lost their lives in the line of duty."

Two jawans from Bengal, one from Nadia and the other from East Midnapore martyred in the attack.

A Bevy of TMCF leaders including a large number of women joined Banerjee in the march wearing black badges and covering their faces with black stripes and chanting the slogan of "vande mataram."

Banerjee had also asked her party leaders from districts to organize silent marches in the districts and block levels apparently to show solidarity with the families of the martyred jawans.

ED creates STF to probe drug money laundering cases

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A Special Task Force (STF) has been created in the ED. The central agency that enforces the PMLA and FEMA laws in the country, to speedily probe money laundering cases emerging from illegal narcotics trade.

Officials said ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra has ordered for the creation of the first-ever STF in the agency and it will be headed by a special director-rank officer based at its headquarters in Delhi. The STF team will comprise of a joint director, deputy directors and others as part of the new setup.

The force will specifically look into past and probable cases of illegal narcotics trade, drug crime syndicates and hawala transactions that have national and international

links and such instances will be dealt under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), they said.

The agency estimates that a number of terror financing cases have their roots in the illegal trade of narcotics transport, sale, purchase and smuggling and hence it was decided to work on these cases on priority and with dedicated focus.

The agency over the last one year has also obtained conviction in at least two such PMLA cases which were registered by it after taking cognisance of the predicate offence filed by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) or the police under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

The scheme of the anti-money laundering law mandates that the ED cannot inde-

pendently file a criminal complaint under the PMLA but has to base its FIR on a predicate offence booked by any another law enforcement agency under the IPC or other laws.

All the past cases registered under this category (narcotics and drugs) and those to be taken up in the future will be dealt by the new STF which will have authority to conduct pan-India action, by taking assistance from Enforcement Directorate's zonal and regional offices across the country. They said the ED is working on over two dozen such cases at present.

The central agency, that functions under the Union Finance Ministry, is empowered to enforce the PMLA and the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) in the country.

Western disturbances to impact North-West

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted western disturbances will continue to impact the hills and plains of North-West India right until the end of the month. The continued passage of these disturbances will result in precipitation over hills of North-West India and adjoining plains on almost all days into the last week of the month (February 22-28). Western disturbance activity has been known to peak in late winter (February). Studies have shown that the western disturbances are more likely to occur during the winter than other months.

February witnessed third western disturbance this year till date. One is expected on Sunday.

These rains will be harmful for the Rabi crop. Hailstorm activity may bring

quite loss for the farmers. "Intense" disturbance is expected to check into the Western Himalayan region from Sunday and extend associated severe weather over the plains during Tuesday next to Thursday.

The hills of Western Himalayas might experience widespread rain/snow with isolated heavy to very heavy falls during this period. Adjoining plains, Central and East India would also receive rains due to the passage of this system," it said.

According to Skymet, after giving widespread rain and thundershower activities over the eastern regions of India like East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand, the focus has now shifted over to West Bengal and Odisha.

Duo untimely rainfall and hailstorm in the past two weeks this month Moderate and heavy rainfall

together with hailstorm experienced in some regions of North India this month left wheat and other crops partly damaged even as the rabi planting data released by the Agriculture Ministry indicated a shortfall of four per cent in area as compared to the corresponding week last year. As against 643.6 lakh hectares (lh) planted in the same week previous year, the area covered during the current rabi season stood at 617.8 lh.

According to Punjab Government, the State experienced widespread moderate to heavy rainfall along with storm and some districts such as Fatehgarh Sahib, Hoshiyarpur, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Patiala, Ropar and Ferozpur reported light hailstorm that damaged some area of wheat, sarson, vegetables and rabi fodder in these districts.

Nearly 10 per cent drop in gram cultivation, reported mainly from Maharashtra, which is hit by a major drought, has affected the overall pulses cultivation, which came to 156.3 lh, nearly six per cent lower than 166 lh in the corresponding week last year. Winter rice, on the other hand, was down by 14 per cent mainly because of the subdued planting in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

The area covered under winter rice till this week was less than 34 lh as compared to 39.64 lh in the same week last year. Currently, El Nino neutral conditions are prevailing over equatorial Pacific Ocean and the latest Monsoon Mission Climate Forecast System (MMCFS) output indicates that weak El Niño conditions are likely to develop in the coming months and continue for a short period.

Govt hikes import duty on Pakistan goods to 200%

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Taking strong economic action against Pakistan following the Pulwama terror attack, India Saturday raised the customs duty to 200 per cent on all goods imported from the neighbouring country, including fresh fruits, cement, petroleum products and mineral ore.

The decision would significantly hit Pakistan's exports to India, which stood at USD 488.5 million (around Rs 3,482.3 crore) in 2017-18 as it would drastically increase the prices of its goods here.

"India has withdrawn MFN (most favoured nation) status to Pakistan after the Pulwama incident. Upon withdrawal, basic customs duty on

all goods exported from Pakistan to India has been raised to 200 per cent with immediate effect," Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said in a tweet.

The two main items imported from Pakistan are fruits and cement, on which the current customs duty is 30-50 per cent and 7.5 per cent, respectively.

Slapping an import duty of 200 per cent effectively means almost banning the imports from Pakistan, official sources said. India on Friday revoked the MFN status to Pakistan in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack. The country invoked a security exception clause of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to withdraw this status. Both the countries are member of this organ-

isation. India can also restrict trade of certain goods and impose port-related restrictions on Pakistani goods.

Items which Pakistan exports to India include fresh fruits, cement, petroleum products, bulk minerals and ores, finished leather, processed minerals, inorganic chemicals, cotton raw, spices, wool, rubber product, alcoholic beverages, medical instruments, marine goods, plastic, dyes and sport goods.

India granted the MFN status to Pakistan way back in 1996, but the neighbouring country had not reciprocated.

Under the MFN pact, a WTO member country is obliged to treat the other trading nation in a non-discriminatory manner, especially with

regard to customs duty and other levies. In 2012, Pakistan had committed to giving the MFN status to India but retracted later due to domestic opposition. Instead of MFN, Pakistan said it was working on granting Non-Discriminatory Market Access (NDMA) status to India but that also was not announced.

Total India-Pakistan trade has increased marginally to USD 2.41 billion in 2017-18 as against USD 2.27 billion in 2016-17. India imported goods worth USD 488.5 million in 2017-18 and exported goods worth USD 1.92 billion.

During April-October 2018-19, India's exports to Pakistan stood at USD 1.18 billion, while imports were USD 338.66 billion.

PAK GIVES 26/11...

Counter-terrorism expert Dr Rituraj Mate said, "This is a dangerous trend emerging in Pakistan which has implications for not only India but also for countries like UAE where a lot of Pakistanis travel with work visas besides the US and the UK where they go for higher education. The radicalised professionals and students will continue with their mindset even while pursuing their vocations in the respective countries."

will continue to perpetuate the hatred and insidious agenda against India. Some of the radicalised technicians and engineers will subsequently go to the Western countries for jobs and will continue to live with their jihadi mindset. The terror groups will have trained technicians and engineers to devise sophisticated IEDs and other weapons for terror attacks. The students radicalised by Makki will subsequently join the firms operating in China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and will even seek to radicalise the Chinese manpower. In addition, the Pakistani radical professionals can also seek technical knowhow from the nuclear ancillary units being set up by China in the CPEC.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

worry and concern," sources said. Explaining their apprehensions, officials said most of the terrorists of JeM are foreigners. After infiltrating into Jammu, they are ferried in trucks or cars by sympathisers on the nearly 300 km long Jammu-Srinagar highway. Since vehicles going to Kashmir from Jammu are rarely checked, the JeM is taking advantage of this factor and after crossing Jawahar tunnel, the ultras merge into the thickly populated Qazigund and Kulgam areas near the tunnel. In fact, two encounters in last week of January took place in Kulgam thereby clearly indicating that the terrorists came via Jammu, officials admitted.

(organisations) have managed to shore up its fighter strength through infiltration through non-traditional routes, foremost being international border in Jammu and Punjab, they said. The International Border has come into focus in terms of infiltration after National Investigation Agency (NIA) in December last year is learnt to have submitted a comprehensive report to the Union Home Ministry, highlighting the fact that terrorist outfits, based in Pakistan, are relying more on International Border. The NIA report was based on interrogation of over ground workers engaged in the task of ferrying these infiltrators via Jammu Srinagar National Highway in trucks headed towards Kashmir. More than three dozen terrorists were transported by overground workers (OGWs) or sympathisers through the same route before they came on the radar of the security forces during gun fight between hiding terrorists and the security forces near Jhajar Kotli on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway last year.

At the meeting, political parties put up a united face as they underlined India's determination to fight terrorism and resolved to stand in solidarity with the security forces, defending the country's unity and integrity. The resolution adopted at about two-hour meeting said, "India has displayed both firmness and resilience in dealing with these challenges. The entire nation speaks in one voice to express its determination to fight these challenges." The resolution con-

demned the terror attack and the support being given to it from across the border. Senior leaders of the Opposition extended support to the Government in tackling the challenge. Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad asked the Home Minister to urge Prime Minister Narendra Modi to convene a meeting of the presidents of all major national and regional parties, a view supported by Derek O'Brien of the Trinamool Congress and D Raja of the CPI.

U.P. Rajya Vidut Utpadan Nigam Ltd., Obra Thermal Power Station, OBRA-Sonebhadra, -231219 E- Tender Notice For the work of "Construction of W.B.M. approach Road from Crusher house to Fuel Oil pump house unloading bay for unloading of Fuel Oil from Tankers" a E Tender Notice No. 04/OCCCD- II/CTPS/2018-19 has been uploaded on https://etender.up.nic.in portal. As per the notice the estimated cost of work is Rs. 8,10,62,21.21 Only and date of submission of e-tender on above portal is 25-02-2019 (till 16:00 hours). The original documents of part-I can be submitted in the office of SE, Obra 'C' Civil Construction Circle-I up to 26.02.2019 (till 16:00 hrs). The technical bid (part-I) shall be opened on 27.02.2019 at 16:00 hours or later. The earnest money for the work is Rs. 16,500.00 and tender cost of the work is Rs.1000.00 + GST @18%(1000.00+180=1180.00). The B.O.Q. tender specification and terms & conditions is available on above portal. The Concerned S.E. has right to reject to tender without assigning any reason. Please note that this tender is online tender and bid will be accepted on https://etender.up.nic.in If there is any extension in opening date of tender or any corrigendum issued regarding tender, that will be uploaded on above web site. Bidders are advised to watch the above website regularly for update. Superintending Engineer Obra 'C' Civil Construction Circle-I, Obra. Notice Inviting e-Bid E-Open Tender No. CT-1368 (MMC-II)/CPD-I/ATPS/19 Online e-Bids are invited for the work, "Emergency Rechargeable Torch, Rechargeable Search Light and Rubber Hand Gloves" for Obra Thermal Power Station, Obra. E-tender has been uploaded on 08.02.19 at 18:00 Hrs on Govt. e-tender portal http://etender.up.nic.in. Information related to extension in due dates and corrigendum, if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website on regular basis in order to keep themselves update. Last date of submission up to 26.02.19 up to 18.00 Hrs. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MMC-II E-TENDER NOTICE NAME OF WORK: Annual running maintenance of hydraulic coupling, O/H of Sump Pump of 2X50MW, Obra. TENDER NO. : T-5/SE-I/BTPS/TMD-19/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs.6,55,00,000 (Rupees Six Lac Fifty Five Thousand Only) Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids : 26.02.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. DATE AND TIME OF OPENING OF E-BID PART-I : 11.03.2019 up to 16:00 hrs. PLACE OF OPENING OF E-BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, Obra, NO. : T-5/SE-I/BTPS/TMD-19/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs.590.00 (Rs. 500 fee + Rs 90 GST) EARNEST MONEY : Rs. 17,30,00/- (Rs. Seventeen Thousand Three Hundred Only) Note: - Tender Fee and Earnest Money Deposit in the Office : 12.03.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : 14.03.2019 up to 16:00 Hrs. Place of Opening of e-Bids : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, obra thermal power station, obra, Sonebhadra, UP-231219 No. 33 Date Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station, P.O. - Obra (Sonebhadra) Address for

Communication : SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC -I, 'B' T.P.S., P.O. - Obra, Pin - 231219, Dist. - Sonebhadra (U.P.) E-mail Address : se.ommc@1.btbs.obra@uprvnl.org Bid Document Cost : Rs.590.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Ninety) Only Earnest Money : Rs.13,000.00 (Rupees Thirteen Thousand) NOTE:- The tender documents shall not be sold. Tender specification is available on http://etender.up.nic.in. Tender will be accepted online only. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC-I, 'B' T.P.S., OBRA E-TENDER NOTICE NAME OF WORK : Annual breakdown / running maintenance of H.P. Heater, Aux. PRDS system, Fabrication / replacement of bends, O/H of control valve & etc. work of unit no. 9, 10 & 11 of 5X200MW, BTPS, OBM. TENDER NO. : T-6/SE-I/BTPS/TMD-19/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs.7,26,00,000 (Rupees Seven Lac Twenty Six Thousand Only) Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids (Technical and Financial) at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in : 11.03.2019 up to 18:00 Hrs. Last Date and Time for Submission of original Hardcopy of Tender Fee and Earnest Money Deposit in the Office : 12.03.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs Date And Time of Opening of e-Bids : 14.03.2019 up to 16:00 Hrs. Place of Opening of e-Bids : Office of Superintending Engineer, Operation & Mechanical Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station, P.O. - Obra (Sonebhadra) Address for Communication : SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC -I, 'B' T.P.S., P.O. - Obra, Pin - 231219, Dist. - Sonebhadra (U.P.) E-mail Address : se.ommc@1.btbs.obra@uprvnl.org Bid Document Cost : Rs.590.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Ninety) Only Earnest Money : Rs.14,600.00 (Rupees Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Only) NOTE:- The tender documents shall not be sold. Tender specification is available on http://etender.up.nic.in. Tender will be accepted online only. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC-I, 'B' T.P.S., OBRA U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. OBRA THERMAL PROJECT OBRA-SONEBHADRA E-TENDER NOTICE NAME OF WORK : Work for annual refilling of Co2 fire extinguishers & Gas cartridges of OTPS, Obra TENDER NO. : T-12/SE-HQ/OTPS/FF & SD/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs. 8,64,907.00 (Rs. Eight Lac Sixty Four Thousand and Nine Hundred Seven Only) LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDER : 08.03.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. DATE AND TIME OF OPENING OF E-BID PART-I : 11.03.2019 up to 16:00 hrs. PLACE OF OPENING OF E-BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, Obra, NO. : T-5/SE-I/BTPS/TMD-19/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs.6,55,00,000 (Rupees Six Lac Fifty Five Thousand Only) Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids : 26.02.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. DATE AND TIME OF OPENING OF E-BID PART-I : 11.03.2019 up to 16:00 hrs. PLACE OF OPENING OF E-BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, obra thermal power station, obra, Sonebhadra, UP-231219 No. 33 Date Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station, P.O. - Obra (Sonebhadra) Address for

Communication : SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC -I, 'B' T.P.S., P.O. - Obra, Pin - 231219, Dist. - Sonebhadra (U.P.) E-mail Address : se.ommc@1.btbs.obra@uprvnl.org Bid Document Cost : Rs.590.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Ninety) Only Earnest Money : Rs.13,000.00 (Rupees Thirteen Thousand) NOTE:- The tender documents shall not be sold. Tender specification is available on http://etender.up.nic.in. Tender will be accepted online only. SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, O&MMC-I, 'B' T.P.S., OBRA U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. OBRA THERMAL PROJECT OBRA-SONEBHADRA E-TENDER NOTICE NAME OF WORK : Work for annual refilling of Co2 fire extinguishers & Gas cartridges of OTPS, Obra TENDER NO. : T-12/SE-HQ/OTPS/FF & SD/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs. 8,64,907.00 (Rs. Eight Lac Sixty Four Thousand and Nine Hundred Seven Only) LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDER : 08.03.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. DATE AND TIME OF OPENING OF E-BID PART-I : 11.03.2019 up to 16:00 hrs. PLACE OF OPENING OF E-BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, Obra, NO. : T-5/SE-I/BTPS/TMD-19/2018-19 ESTIMATED COST OF WORK : Rs.6,55,00,000 (Rupees Six Lac Fifty Five Thousand Only) Last Date and Time For Submission of e-Bids : 26.02.2019 up to 17:00 Hrs. DATE AND TIME OF OPENING OF E-BID PART-I : 11.03.2019 up to 16:00 hrs. PLACE OF OPENING OF E-BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer-HQ, obra thermal power station, obra, Sonebhadra, UP-231219 No. 33 Date Maintenance Circle-I, 'B' Thermal Power Station, P.O. - Obra (Sonebhadra) Address for

JEM GAINS...

Admitting that the phenomenon of JeM using non-traditional routes like the borders of Jammu and Punjab has emerged the "highest point of

US SUPPORTS... "The United States calls on Pakistan to end immediately the support and safe haven provided to all terrorist groups operating on its soil, whose only goal is to sow chaos, violence, and terror in the region," White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said in a late night statement on Thursday. Top US lawmakers have rallied behind India's effort to fight terrorism and said that such heinous crimes will not weaken the resolve of its people. So far, more than 70 American lawmakers including 15 Senators have condemned the attack.

BAN ON SIDHU...

In a statement sent to Sony Entertainment Television on Saturday, FWICE said Sidhu should apologise for his comments that have "not only disturbed the sentiments of the nation, but also have been taken as an anti-Indian nature." In social and national interest, on behalf of five lakh workers of the FWICE, we request you to kindly ban him from "The Kapil Sharma Show" until he submits his unconditional apology to the nation and martyrs, who sacrificed their lives while on duty for the nation," the statement said. "We look forward to your understanding and support for the same. We would also like to inform you further that until he apologises personally, none of our members shall be working on the sets of your shows and that the production house and your channel shall be sole responsible for the entire cost and consequences due to this non co-operation by our members," it added.

CURFEW CONTINUES...

Addressing a Press conference here in Police control room, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Sanjiv Verma claimed the issue was sorted out after the timely intervention of the senior officers. He said all the State Government employees, who feared backlash, were directed to stay put inside their rooms and adequate security arrangements were made to instil sense of security among them. Meanwhile, State Governor Satya Pal Malik convened a high level meeting at the Raj Bhawan where he reviewed the present law and order situation in the State in the aftermath of a major attack on a CRPF convoy at Lethpora in Pulwama district on Thursday.

MAJOR MARTYRED...

Official sources claimed the IED was possibly planted at least 1.5 km inside the Indian territory by terrorists. Defence PRO in Jammu, Lt-Col Devendra Anand said, "during sanitisation of track in Nowshera sector, mines were detected on the track around 3.00 p.m." He said, "Major Chitresh Singh Bisht leading the Bomb Disposal Team defused one of the mines successfully. While neutralising another mine, the device got activated and the officer suffered grievous injuries and attained martyrdom." Maj Chitresh Singh Bisht, aged 31 years, belonged to Dehradun, Uttarakhand and is survived by his parents, Defence PRO said. Meanwhile, one hour later Pakistan army initiated 'unprovoked' ceasefire violation along LoC by firing of small arms in Nowshera. Defence PRO said, "Indian army retaliated strongly and effectively".

PARTIES PUT UP...

The meeting called by the Government was chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh who briefed political parties on his visit to Kashmir on Friday in the aftermath of the suicide bomber attack that killed at least 40 CRPF personnel.

CHINA CONDEMNS...

Countries in the region should enhance cooperation, jointly address the threat of terrorism and maintain regional peace and security." However, China, who has been single-handedly blocking India's bid to designate Jaish e-Maulana

PM targets Pak, says Pulwama attackers will be punished

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Sending out a strong message to Pakistan that "S has become synonymous with terrorism", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that however the perpetrators of Pulwama mayhem "may try to hide" but "they will definitely be punished" and the security forces had been given a "free hand" to deal with the counter-attack they deemed fit. Reiterating that the sacrifices of the sacrifices made by the jawans killed in the Pulwama attack "will not go in vain", the Prime Minister said: "I request you to be brave and have confidence in our jawans. Our jawans will decide how, where, and when and who will punish the terrorists behind Pulwama attack. They will also decide on what kind of punishment to the perpetrators of the attack". Addressing a public rally after kick-starting various development projects at Yavatmal in eastern Maharashtra, Modi made unmistakable reference to Pakistan and said that the neighbouring country was "sheltering" perpetrators of terror and had become synonymous with terrorism. "The country, which came into being after India's partition and the country shelters terrorism, is on the verge of bankruptcy. And it has become synonymous with terrorism," Modi said. Avverting that the nation "understands" the anger prevailing among CRPF personnel over the killings of their colleagues in Pulwama, Modi said: "However, the perpetrators of Pulwama mayhem may try to hide but they will definitely be punished. We are both proud and confident of our soldiers and security forces. We have given a free hand to the security forces (to deal with the situation in a manner they deem fit)".

कार्यालय, जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर

पत्रांक : 1548 / वि/प्र/0 / 2018-19 / दिनांक : 11.02.19 खनिज परिवहन शुल्क वसूली ई-टेंडर / नीलाम सूचना संरक्षण का उचित किया जाता है कि जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर द्वारा जनपद, फतेहपुर के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की या उपर्युक्त टट से चालू बाटू, मोरंग, रेत या अन्य खनिज मिट्टी, पत्थर, बोल्टर, सूखी, चूना, मन्सी, कोयला, बजरी, खारी से निकलने वाली मिट्टी को लेने, एकत्रित करने तथा उसे जिले में या जिले के बाहर व्यवसायिक उद्देश्य से सार्वजनिक मार्ग या नदी मार्ग से परिवहन करने वाले शक्ति बलिष्ठ वाहनों से उद्गम स्थल पर शुल्क वसूली सम्बन्धी टेंडर / ई-नीलामी वर्ष 2019-20 (दिनांक 31.3.2020 तक) के लिये ई-निविदा / नीलामी दिनांक 07.02.2019 समय दोपहर 12:00 बजे तक ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की गयी थी जिन्हें अपरिहार्य कारणों से निरस्त कर दिया गया था जिसकी पुनः ई-निविदा / नीलामी दिनांक 02.03.2019 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। जिसके लिये टेंडर फार्म ई-टेंडरिंग पोर्टल http://etender.up.nic.in पर दिनांक 26.02.2019 प्रातः 12:00 बजे से दिनांक 02.03.2019 दोपहर 12:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड / अपलोड किया जा सकता है। तकनीकी निविदा दिनांक 02.03.2019 को समय 1:00 बजे अपनाने से खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा कार्यालय, जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर में अपर मध्य अधिकारी कार्यालय के कम्यूटर वक में निविदा फार्मों के समस्त ससम्पत्त खोली जायेगी। निविदादाता अपने समस्त प्रमाण पत्र की स्कैन कॉपी निविदा के साथ ई-टेंडरिंग पोर्टल http://etender.up.nic.in पर अपलोड करना होगा तथा मूल प्रमाण पत्र शर्तों के अनुसार टेंडर खोले जाने से पूर्व स्वयं उपस्थित होकर या संजिक्टर्ड ब्याक द्वारा अनिवार्य रूप से कार्यालय, जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर के अभिनेता वक में शौल्ड बायस में जमा करना होगा। अन्वया की स्थिति में ई-निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। उपरोक्त टेंडर के सम्बन्ध में विस्तृत जानकारी जिला पंचायत कार्यालय से किसी भी कार्यदिवस में प्राप्त की जा सकती है। प्रो अमर मुख्या अधिकारी जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर अथवा जिला पंचायत, फतेहपुर

Notice Inviting e-Tender

No.SSA/CW/KGBV-AUG/2018-19/490/2018/6088 Dated -14/02/2019 Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission (Samagra Siksha), Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process for augmentation of infrastructure (RCC G+1) 19 nos. of KGBV Building of Baksa, Barpeta, Charideo, Darrang, Dhemajai, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Kamrup-Rural, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, Tinsukia and Udalguri from registered Contractor under A.P.W.D. (building) of Class - I (A,B & C), Assam having experience of similar nature of works. To participate in the tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II (minimum) and have to register in the portal https://assamtenders.gov.in by themselves. The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website https://assamtenders.gov.in, with proof of payment of non refundable tender fee of Rs. 3000/- (Rupees Three thousand) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule. Sd/- Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

Notice Inviting e-Tender

No.SSA/CW/RBS-MAJULI/2018-19/489/2018/6087 Dated -14/02/2019 Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission (Samagra Siksha), Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites tender through e-Tendering process for construction of Residential School Building for boys at Majuli block under Majuli District from registered Contractor under A.P.W.D. (building) of Class - I (A,B & C), Assam having experience of similar nature of works. To participate in the tender process through e-procurement document, bidder should have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of class-II (minimum) and have to register in the portal https://assamtenders.gov.in by themselves. The Bidder who have downloaded the tender schedules containing the tender details, terms and conditions, from the website shall submit their tender on-line on the website https://assamtenders.gov.in, with proof of payment of non refundable tender fee of Rs. 5100/- (Rupees Five thousand one hundred) only in the form of demand draft/Bankers Cheque drawn in favour of Mission Director, Axom Sarba Siksha Abhijan Mission, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19, Assam, from any nationalized Bank and payable at Guwahati. The tender should be submitted on-line as per date and time of submission as per prescribed schedule. Sd/- Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilpara, Guwahati-19

Office of the Executive Engineer, CD-3(PP), PWD, Lucknow Address:- Nirman Bhawan 96, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow, UP PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) (STATE RURAL ROADS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY UTTAR PRADESH)

Letter No. 107/A-1/19 Dated-12.2.2019 VERY SHORT TURN NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) (Third Call).

The Executive Engineer, CD-3(PP), PWD, Lucknow on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the percentage bids in electronic tendering system (E-Tendering) from the eligible and approved contractors registered with UP PWD/UP RED/CPWD/MES/P&T/Railways and other State Govt. and Central Govt. Departments in class A, B & C or equivalent category for REPAIR/MAINTENANCE OF THE RURAL ROADS CONSTRUCTED UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA in package shown in column 3 of table below. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in clause 4 ITB the Instruction to bidder to qualified for the award of the contract.

Table with 9 columns: Sl No, Name of District, Package No, Name of work, Estimated Cost (in Rs. lacs), Time allowed for completion of work, Bid Security (Rs. lacs), Cost of Bid Document including all taxes, Address of Executive Engineer. Row 1: Lucknow, UP 4666 (M), NH-56 (Km 33.300) Part A Initial Rehabilitation, Rs.29.95, 30 days, 4.00, 3500/-, Executive Engineer CD-3(PP), PWD, Lucknow.

- 1. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement- 18.02.19
2. Bids will be opened online at 12:30PM on 27.02.2019 in the Office of Superintending Engineer PMGSY Cell PWD Lucknow.
3. Cost of Bid Form: Rs 3500.00 per Tender (non-refundable) only in from of Demand Draft in favour of Chief Executive Officer, UPRRDA, Lucknow payable at Lucknow.
4. Submission of Original Documents: The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (Bid Security should be pledged in favor of Executive Engineer, CD-3 (PP) PWD, Lucknow in the form of NSC/FDR issued by nationalized bank valid for 45 more days after the bid validity) (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4(B) (ii) of ITB with Office of the Executive Engineer, CD-3 (PP) PWD, Lucknow. Address Nirman Bhawan 96, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow, UP on a date later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand.
5. Last Date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering: 27.02.2019 up-to 12:00 Noon
6. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgstenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgstenders.gov.in.
7. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already processing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAS can use the same in this tender.
8. Bid validity is 90 days.
9. All conditions/ clauses of SBD are applicable for this bids.
Executive Engineer, CD-3(PP), PWD, Lucknow

US asks Pak to freeze funds of designated terror groups ... supports actions against JeM

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The US Friday asked Pakistan to "freeze without delay" the funds and other financial assets of the UNSC-designated terrorist networks and their leaders. It also said it fully supports "actions to prevent" the outlawed Jaish-e-Mohammed "from conducting future attacks". Pakistan-based JeM has claimed responsibility for the terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday that left at least 40 CRPF soldiers dead and five others critically wounded.



prevent them from conducting future attacks.

A State Department spokesperson told PTI, "Pakistan outlawed Jaish-e-Mohammed in 2002. However, the group still operates in Pakistan. The US designated JeM as a foreign terrorist organization in December 2001, and we fully support actions to

resolutions to deny safe haven and support for terrorists and to freeze without delay the funds and other financial assets or economic resources of individuals and entities on the UNSC 1267 sanctions list," the spokesperson said in response to a question. The official, however, did not divulge if the

US has taken up the issue with the Pakistani leadership directly after the Pulwama terrorist attack.

In various statements and on social media, the Trump administration has asked Pakistan to deny safe haven and end support to terrorist organizations.

The spokesperson also refrained from making any comment over China blocking India's move to designate Jaish chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist.

"Our views on Masood Azhar and Jaish-e-Mohammed are well known. The JeM has been responsible for numerous terrorist attacks and is a threat to regional stability," the spokesperson said.

US lawmakers rally behind India

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Describing the Pulwama terrorist attack as a despicable act of violence, top US lawmakers have rallied behind India's effort to fight terrorism and said that such heinous crimes will not weaken the resolve of its people. So far, more than 70 American lawmakers including 15 Senators have condemned the attack. At least 40 CRPF personnel were killed and many injured on Thursday in one of the deadliest terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir when a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) suicide bomber rammed a vehicle carrying over 100 kg of explosives into their bus in Pulwama district. The "terrorist attack against Indian paramilitary police is a despicable act of violence, however, I know it will not weaken the resolve of the Indian people," said Senator Thom Tillis, a member of the Senate India Caucus.

"The American people and the American government stand fully behind our ally India and their fight to defend their democracy and end the threat of violent extremism," he said. As a member of the Armed Services Committee and Senate India Caucus, Tillis said he remains committed to strengthening the national security alliance between the two nations. "What a terrible terrorist attack in India. America stands with our Indian friends and allies against this despicable atrocity. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families," Senator Bill Cassidy said.

"I condemn the terror attack yesterday in Jammu and Kashmir. My thoughts are with the families who lost loved ones in this horrific attack," said Senator Sherrod Brown. Other US lawmakers also took to Twitter to condemn the attack.

"I strongly condemn the heinous terrorist attack in Kashmir, one of the deadliest attacks in the region in decades. My prayers are with the families of the victims," Senator Cory Booker tweeted.

Gunman kills five in shooting at US manufacturing facility

Chicago (AFP): Five people were killed and multiple police officers shot Friday when a gunman opened fire in an industrial area on the outskirts of Chicago, the latest mass shooting to hit the United States. The shooting took place at approximately 1:28 pm (1928 GMT), at a giant manufacturing complex in Aurora, Illinois — a small suburb 65 kilometers west of central Chicago. Police said officers engaged in a firefight with the suspect, thought to be an employee, before he was shot dead. He was identified as 45-year-old Gary Martin. Aurora police chief Kristen Ziman said five police officers were shot. Two were airlifted to Chicago-area trauma centers. "The other officers on the scene located gunshot victims inside the building," Ziman told a news conference, putting the death toll at five people.



Law enforcement officers work at the scene of a shooting at the Henry Pratt Co. on Friday in Aurora, Ill.

Police did not release information on the officers' conditions or identify the victims. Police said they do not know the motive for the shooting, but witnesses told local media that the gunman was a disgruntled employee.

Witnesses said they locked themselves into nearby buildings as the gunman began firing off rounds. Aerial TV footage showed dozens of

police cars, ambulances and fire trucks at the scene as officers with shields entered the complex.

John Probst, who was in the building as the shooting began but was able to escape, told the local ABC TV affiliate he recognized the gunman as a co-worker. "What I saw was the guy running down the aisles with a pistol with a laser on it," he said. "We were just scared." Nancy Caal, an employee of a nearby repair workshop, told the Daily Herald newspaper she and three others had heard numerous emergency sirens, and so "went and shut the front gate and locked all of the doors."

37 mass shootings in 2019 - The local school district put campuses on lock down, but students were released later in the day.

The Illinois Fraternal Order of Police lauded the wounded police officers who "willingly ran into harm's way to protect their fellow citizens and very nearly paid the ultimate price."

The White House said President Donald Trump had been monitoring the situation. "Great job by law enforcement in Aurora, Illinois. Heartfelt condolences to all of the victims and their families. America is with you!" Trump tweeted.

India, Pak in UN court for death row 'spy' case

The Hague (AFP): India will ask the UN's top court Monday to order Pakistan to take an alleged Indian spy off death row, in a case that could stoke fresh tensions after a deadly attack in Kashmir.

Kulbhushan Sudhir Jadhav was arrested in the restive southwestern Pakistani province of Baluchistan in March 2016 on charges of espionage and sentenced to death by a military court. The International Court of Justice urgently ordered Pakistan in 2017 to stay the execution of Jadhav, pending hearings on the broader Indian case that take place this week in The Hague. The rare foray into the international courts for the nuclear-armed rivals could be another flashpoint after Thursday's suicide bombing in Indian-administered Kashmir that killed 41 troops.



New Delhi's lawyers will present their arguments on Monday to the court, which was set up after World War II to resolve international disputes, followed by Pakistan's on Tuesday.

bordering Afghanistan, where Islamabad has long accused India of backing separatist rebels.

Jadhav, a former Indian navy officer, was accused of working for the Indian intelligence services in the province

After a closed trial he was sentenced to death by a Pakistani military court on April 10, 2017, on charges of "espionage, sabotage and terrorism". India insists Jadhav was not a spy, and that he was kid-

napped in Pakistan. New Delhi in court documents is asking that the ICJ order Islamabad to annul the sentence. It accused Islamabad of violating the Vienna Convention by failing to provide him with consular access, as well as breaking human rights law. If Pakistan is unable to quash Jadhav's death sentence, Islamabad should be found in violation of international law and treaties, and be told to "release the convicted Indian national forthwith", India said.

India accused Pakistan in 2017 of harassing Jadhav's family during a visit, saying their meeting was held in an "atmosphere of coercion". Islamabad reacted coolly to the ICJ's urgent order to stay Jadhav's execution at the time, saying it "has not changed the status of commander Jadhav's case in any manner".

Iran general says Pak backs group behind suicide bombing

Tehran (AFP): Iran's Revolutionary Guards accused "Pakistan's security forces" of supporting the perpetrators of a suicide bombing that killed 27 troops on Wednesday, in remarks state TV aired Saturday. "Pakistan's government, who has housed these anti-revolutionaries and threats to Islam, knows where they are and they are supported by Pakistan's security forces," said Revolutionary Commander Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari, referring to jihadist group Jaish al-Adl ("Army of Justice").

"If (the Pakistan government) does not punish them, we will retaliate against this anti-revolutionary force, and whatever Pakistan sees will be the consequence of its support for them," he warned.

The general made the remarks in Isfahan City on Friday evening during a farewell ceremony held for those killed. Funerals are expected to follow on Saturday. Jaish al-Adl was

formed in 2012 as a successor to the Sunni extremist group Jundallah (Soldiers of God), which waged a deadly insurgency for a decade before it was severely weakened by the capture and execution of its leader Abdolmalek Rigi by Tehran in 2010.

The Wednesday bombing targeted a busload of Revolutionary Guards in the volatile southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchistan, which straddles the border with Pakistan.

The attack was one of the deadliest on Iranian security forces in recent years and came just days after Iran held more than a week of celebrations for the 40th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, which overthrew the US-backed shah. The commander also blasted "the support that the region's reactionary states Saudi Arabia and the Emiratis" maintain for "conspiracies" that he said were ordered by Israel and America.

China flays Pulawama attack

Beijing (PTI): Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has condemned the suicide attack in Kashmir in which at least 40 CRPF personnel were killed, saying Beijing "resolutely opposes" all forms of terrorism and countries in the region should enhance cooperation and jointly address the threat of posed by it. At least 40 CRPF personnel were killed and many injured on Thursday in one of the deadliest terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir when a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) suicide bomber rammed a vehicle carrying over 100 kg of explosives into their bus in Pulwama district.

In a condolence message to External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on Friday, Wang said he was "shocked to learn that a suicide attack was carried

out in Kashmir and heavy casualties were caused". While extending condolences, he said "terrorism is the common enemy of mankind. The Chinese side resolutely opposes and strongly condemns all forms of terrorism". Expressing sympathy to the families of the victims, he said "countries in the region should enhance cooperation, jointly address the threat of terrorism and maintain regional peace and security". UN-proscribed Pakistan-based terror group JeM has claimed responsibility for the terror attack.

India has been demanding that the group's chief Masood Azhar be designated as a global terrorist. If Azhar is listed as terrorist by the UN Security Council (UNSC), he would face a global travel ban and assets freeze.

Two States only solution for Israel-Palestine conflict, says UN chief

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

A "peaceful and just solution" to the longstanding Israel-Palestine conflict can only be achieved through creation of two States living side-by-side in peace and security, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has said, asserting that there is no plan B. In his address to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which was established by the UN General Assembly in 1975, Guterres said on Friday that "based on relevant UN resolutions, long-held principles, previous agreements and international law", Jerusalem should be the capital of both States.

"Unfortunately, over this past year, the situation has not moved in that direction", he rued, pointing to protests that began along the border fence with Gaza last year that left hundreds dead and thousands wounded by Israeli security forces.

He also cited "security incidents and provocations by Hamas and other militants in Gaza", including the launching of rockets and incendiary kites that dangerously escalated the situation. "Thanks to the UN and Egyptian

mediation efforts, a major escalation was avoided", he said, appealing to Hamas authorities in Gaza to "prevent provocations".

The UN chief said under International Humanitarian Law Israel too has a responsibility to exercise "maximum restraint", except as a last resort. Guterres said he regretted Israel's decision not to renew the mandate of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron, saying "I hope an agreement can be found by the parties to preserve this long-standing and valuable arrangement".

"Palestinians have endured more than a half-century of occupation and denial of their legitimate right to self-determination" with both sides continuously suffering from "deadly cycles of violence", the Secretary-General said.

He indicated that leaders bore the responsibility to reverse this negative trajectory and pave the way toward peace, stability and reconciliation. Guterres praised the Committee for keeping the focus on the ultimate objective of a "peaceful solution with two States coexisting in peace and security" as the only way to achieve the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (WEST)-II
D-BLOCK MOTI NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110015
SHORT PRESS NIT NO:64/WEST-II(2018-19)

S. NO.	Name of Work	TENDER COST	Earnest Money	Tender fee	Date release of tender in e-procurement Solution	Last Date/Time of receipt of tender through e-procurement Solution
1.	Improvement of sewerage system by replacing of old main peripheral sewer line by 400 MM dia AND 500 MM DIA DWG SN8 pipe from F-Block to Munshi Ram Bagh Ranjeet Nagar in AC-24 Patel Nagar Under EE (West)II. Tender ID: 2019_DJB_168806_1	2757720.00	5600.00	500.00	15.02.2019	21.02.2019 upto 3.00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <http://delhi.govtprocurement.com>
 ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
 Advt.No./S.V.-825/2018-19

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF RAILWAY
RESEARCH DESIGNS & STANDARDS ORGANISATION
Manak Nagar, Lucknow-11
NOTICE FOR INVITING E-TENDER

For and on behalf of president of Union of India, The Town Engineer RDSO, Lucknow invites open E-tender (online) for the following work:-

S. No.	Open tender No. & Name of work	Approx. cost (Rs.)	Cost of tender document (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Completion period	Date of closing/opening
1	Tender Notice No. WKS-1221-TEN 16.02.2019 Repairing leakage roof of quarters of Sector A, B&C and different labs, Berthing Yard, Stadium and offices in RDSO.	25753425.82	10000.00	278800.00	10 (Ten) months	11.03.2019
2	Tender Notice No. WKS-1107-TEN 16.02.2019 Sanitation work of Sector A, Old Colony & Service Building in RDSO Colony.	14361570.72	5000.00	221800.00	12 (Twelve) months	11.03.2019

Details of above e-tender are available on web site. (www.ireps.gov.in). Tenderers can submit their bids on 11.03.2019 upto 15.00 hrs. The above E-tender will be open on same day at 15.00 hrs. in the office of the Town Engineer, RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow.
Town Engineer, RDSO, Lucknow.
 For and on behalf of the President of union of India

कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी, गोरखपुर।
 पत्रांक : मु0चि0अ0/एन0एच0एम0/ई-निविदा/2018-19/10019 दिनांक 14 फरवरी, 2019

ई-निविदा सूचना
 (केवल ई-टेंडरिंग वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> के माध्यम से)

जनपद गोरखपुर में राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन एवं चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न गतिविधियों के सफल संचालन हेतु विभिन्न प्रकार की सामग्री का उपयोग किया जाना है। विभिन्न प्रकार की सामग्री उपयोग होने वाली फार्मेट/कार्ड/रजिस्टर/पोस्टर/बैनर/प्रशिक्षण सामग्री/वाल पेंटिंग/होर्डिंग/कन्टीजेन्सी इत्यादि सामग्री के लिये वित्तीय वर्ष 2018-19 एवं वर्ष 2019-20 तक के लिये एवं वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 के उपरान्त नवीन निविदा कार्यवाही होने तक ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जा रही है।

क्र.सं०	विवरण	अन्य विवरण
1	निविदा फार्म अपलोड करने की तिथि व समय	दिनांक 15.02.2019 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से सायं 5 बजे तक
2	निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड करने की तिथि व समय	दिनांक 16.02.2019 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 28.02.2019 को सायं 5.00 बजे तक
3	ई-निविदा पोर्टल पर अपलोड तकनीकी विड एवं वित्तीय विड से संबंधित समस्त प्रश्न सील बन्ध लिफाफे में जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि व स्थान	दिनांक 02.03.2019 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे से अपरान्ह 2 बजे तक कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी कक्ष गोरखपुर
4	तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	दिनांक 02.03.2019 को अपरान्ह 3.00 बजे कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी कक्ष गोरखपुर
5	वित्तीय निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय	दिनांक 06.03.2019 को 3.00 बजे कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी कक्ष गोरखपुर
6	ई-निविदा पोर्टल वेबसाइट	https://etender.up.nic.in
7	ई-निविदा प्रश्न धनराशि	₹ 2000.00 (दो हजार रुपये मात्र) जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति, गोरखपुर के नाम से डी0डी0/बैंकर्स चेक के रूप में जारी होगा।
8	ई-निविदा स्वीकृत की विधि	निविदादाताओं का सर्वप्रथम तकनीकी विड का मूल्यांकन किया जायेगा। तकनीकी शर्तों के अनुसार तकनीकी विड पूर्ण होने पर फाइनलिसल विड में एल-1 (न्यूनतम दर) होने पर।
9	अग्रिम (अरनेस्ट मनी) डिपॉजिट	₹ 5,00,000.00 (₹ 5 लाख मात्र) का एफ0डी0 आर0/बैंक गारंटी/एन0एस0सी0 जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति, गोरखपुर के नाम से बैंक हो।

निविदा प्रश्न ई-निविदा की वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर देखी जा सकती है। इच्छुक फर्मों से अनुसंधान हेतु निमित्त रूप से उक्त वेबसाइट देखते रहें क्योंकि निविदाओं के सम्बन्ध में कोई बदलाव अथवा अतिरिक्त सूचना वेबसाइट पर ही उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।

मुख्य चिकित्साधिकारी गोरखपुर

Office of The Executive Engineer, P.D., P.W.D., Kanpur Dehat
 No.: 288/4A Date: 05-02-2019
e-Tender Notice
 1. E-Tender is invited for eligible contractors registered with U.P. P.W.D. for "Road Work" by Hon'ble Governor, U.P. as below:

Sl. No.	District	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Lacs)	Bid Security (Lacs)	Cost of Bid Document (Rs.)	Period of Completion (with rainy season)
1	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Sikandra Jhijnjhak Rasulabad Road (MDR-47) (Km. 7 and 11) by HMP.	32.50	3.25	838.00	1 Month
2	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Mughal Road to Budhau - Rasdhan - Derapur Road (ODR) (Km.2, 3 and 4) by HMP.	17.50	1.75	838.00	1 Month
3	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Jhijnjhak - Kanchau Road to Heeramansha via Langartha Road (ODR) (Km.1(500), 3, 4, 5 & 8(500)) by HMP.	20.50	2.05	838.00	1 Month
4	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Ratanapur to Nonari - Akaru Juria Road (ODR) (Km.5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) by HMP.	35.00	3.50	838.00	1 Month
5	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Sikandra - Jafapur Road to Mirgaon Link Road (VR)(Km.2 (500-1000), 3 and 4) by HMP.	14.60	1.46	838.00	1 Month
6	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Kasolar - Rauipur Road to Udaipur Link Road (VR) (Km.1 and 2(950))	11.40	1.14	838.00	1 Month
7	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Usariya (Samayun) Link Road (VR) (Km.1 & 2(770))	10.30	1.03	838.00	1 Month
8	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Piparkheda (Manawa Rasula bad) Link Road (VR) (Km.1, 2 & 3(200))	12.80	1.28	838.00	1 Month
9	Kanpur Dehat	Renewal of Maddupal to Bholapurwa Link Road (VR) (Km.1 and 2)	11.70	1.17	838.00	1 Month

Bid document / Tender details is available on website <http://etender.up.nic.in>. From 18.02.2019 to 26.02.2019 (upto 12:00 Noon) which can be downloaded from website. Filled Bid documents submitted / uploaded on line on the above website on dated 26.02.2019 (upto 12:00 Noon). Technical bid will be opened on 27.02.2019 at 12.30 p.m

(Santosh Kanaujia) Assistant Engineer Provincial Division, P.W.D., Kanpur Dehat
 (R.K.Yadav) Executive Engineer Provincial Division, P.W.D., Kanpur Dehat

U.P.: 137999, Date: 11-02-2019, विज्ञापन वेबसाइट www.upgov.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

SHOW TIME

Iska time ayega



GULLY BOY
*ing: Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt
Rated: 5/10

So, if you don't have any angst in life; if you are a happy go lucky person without rage or resentment at anything, would you still relate to *Gully Boy*? If you are past the age for rap and the anger and aggression it spews, will you like *Gully Boy*? Most probably not and definitely not in the long form that Zoya Akhtar presents the story of her rapper.

Despite the realism around youth frustrations and existential problems of the not so rich Dharavi populations, the film stretches the limits of storytelling much too far than required. Despite Ranveer Singh's stellar performance, the monotony of his journey gets to you in ways that it should not have.

The entire culture of rap, we understand, is largely underground (why I wonder) and encompasses all the negativities of growing in a modern unequal ills-ridden

society.

As Murad, whose cubicle and claustrophobic existence complements his push to the entire rap scene budding in the depressing alleyways of the slum, Ranveer delivers well. He is aptly irreverent, simmering with potent anger, portrays the frustrations in a menacing and contained manner.

And yet the film has gaps that stare at you with queries writ large on the efficacy of such a long film sparsely sequenced.

Coming to the lyrics and the film's anthem *Apna time ayega* showcases the rage hallowed with hope and reconciliation with the circumstances as are the other rap contests that brought out the applause from the youngsters in the hall.

Overall, the film could have been shorter, better sequenced and more happening, despite the crackling chemistry that Ranveer shares with his friends, his music and his girlfriend Alia Bhatt, who incidentally is the sunshine in this dark and unforgiving film.

Plan Your Sunday

UTKALIKA- Garland of Dances

Venue: Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
Date: February 18, 2019
Timings: 7pm

Dr Sonal Mansingh brings Utkalika — a Garland of dances from Odissa. Dr Sonal Mansingh has been an exemplary contributor to Indian performing arts and literature. She has trained several thousand talented artists over the course of four decades since the establishment of CICD in 1977. Her lifelong contribution to Indian classical dance & culture continues to date. This presentation is sure to leave audiences spellbound celebrating the vibrant dance form that is Odissi. All art-lovers are welcome.



Street food at Farzi Cafe

Venue: Farzi Cafe, DLF Cyber City, Gurugram
Date: Till February, 2019
Timings: 12 pm to 11:45 pm
Cost: ₹1,500 plus taxes (for two)

It's the time to get Farzified as Farzi Cafe, The Pioneers of cutting edge and an innovative dining experience presents the Most innovative Local Street Menu. Dishes like "Dal Moth Matka Chat with fresh pomegranate, a 2.0 version of Bombay bhel, mini raj kachori with crispy okra salad and chutney foam, galouti kebabs with crispy ultra tawa parantha and more. For street food indulgence, dine at Farzi Café, Cyber Hub.



TELLYTALE

TOTAL DHAMAL ON THE KAPIL SHARMA SHOW



Comedian Kapil Sharma will be seen hosting Bollywood Diva Madhuri Dixit along with co-star Anil Kapoor on his show this weekend. The star cast of *Total Dhamaal* will be joining in on *The Kapil Sharma Show* to elevate the laughter levels. A conversation with Madhuri Dixit seems to be incomplete if a mention of the great MF Hussain is not made. During her chat with Kapil, Madhuri talks about the large heartedness of MF Hussain and how great a person he was who was away from all materialistic pleasures. She shares an interesting story when she was in Denver.

"I was in Denver and Aryan was just born. So, one day, Hussain Saab called me and expressed his desire that he wants to paint me in the role of a mother as he has seen me acting, in the role of a heroine and now he wants to see me in the role of a mother and how I take care of the house and the child. He came to Denver carrying a small roll-away bag, seeing which I asked him if I need to get his baggage collected. He mentioned that he isn't carrying any baggage and the roll-away bag is all he has got. He didn't waste any time and started planning on going out to get a canvas and start off with the painting to which I asked him to relax and rest during his stay. To which Hussain sahib said *aap mujhe punishment de rahi hai, relax karne ko bol kar, jab main paint karta hoon to main relaxed rehna hoon*. I gave in and told him that we need to get canvas as well as paints, but he pointed towards his bag and said that paints are all here. I was a little surprised to see that the only bag he was carrying was full of paints, so I asked him about his clothes to which he said *ye shirt pehna hai aur pyjama*.

ARJUN TO HOST KITCHEN CHAMPION

Food is always a serious business! To spruce up the afternoon slot with some great cooking and an unlimited dose of entertainment, COLORS gears up to treat its viewers to an all-new season of *Kitchen Champion* season 5. Known to bring popular celebrities under one kitchen for a cook off, COLORS' homegrown cooking show has a major line-up of celebrities who will be joined by one family member.

Hosting the show will be Arjun Bijlani. Having successfully hosted his first show — *Dance Deewane*, Arjun is ecstatic at being part of a show that will not only help him taste various delicacies from the kitchen but also share the screen space with kids who will be judging the show. Being a foodie Arjun loves experimenting with various cuisines. He exclaims, "My new found love for



anchoring has got me really excited about hosting *Kitchen Champions*. Being a hardcore foodie, I'm part of the group who lives to eat. The concept of *Kitchen Champion* entices viewers of all generations as they watch their favorite celebrities cook traditional recipes. Since the show will have celebrities as contestants, the cook-off is going to be intense. The best part is the panel of judges, we all know how tough it can get to please kids. Everyone who knows me is aware that I love playing with children and I get along very well with them, therefore I'm sure this will be an enriching experience."

CUTE AND QUIRKY LIL' CHAMPS

Zee TV's singing reality show *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Li'l Champs* is back with its 7th season and is all set to entertain the audiences. The upcoming Mega audition episode will give the show its Top 16 contestants who have left behind the shackles and delivered impeccable performances setting them on a path of accomplishing their goal of becoming the next Li'l Champ.



This time the Li'l Champs decided to do something fun and quirky as the top 16 contestants curated a special video where they recreated Ranveer Singh's super hit rap song *Apna Time Ayega* from the film *Gully Boy*. Just like the mantra of this season *#MusicSeBadhengeHum*, *Gully Boy* embodies the same philosophy about music being one of life's key propellers that help you grow and channelise your creative energy towards achieving your dreams. Through innovative twists to the lyrics such as *Tu singer bankar aaya tha, kya medal leke jayega*, the contestants bring alive their journey on *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa* in a unique and fetching manner.

Moreover, this is definitely the cutest version of *Apna Time Ayega* that we have heard. Kudos to the Top 16 contestants and we are excited to see what they bring to the table with their upcoming performances.

RIDDHIMA GETS ROHIT'S SWAG

Television's popular actress, Riddhima Pandit has set a benchmark in *Khatron Ke Khiladi 9* by performing the stunts with utmost confidence and grit. As she's been taking on tough challenges, Riddhima has been coming out as one of the toughest contenders of this season.

The host, Rohit Shetty, is always seen encouraging and motivating the contestants with his quirks. In one such instance, Rohit Shetty promised Riddhima that if she does a stunt he thinks she cannot do and is successful, then he would gift her his personal glares which she was fond of. And this did not take long, as she impressed the stuntmaster in one of the task named 'Catapult Net Jump'.

After her impressive stunt Rohit gifted Riddhima his glares, that he was wearing and it did not took Riddhima too long to try the glares on herself.



'TV is fast-paced'

MUSBA HASHMI chats up model-turned actor KARANVIR SHARMA, who shares his experiences, journey and a desire to work with Amitabh Bachchan

Tell us about your character in Mangalam Danglam.
I am playing Nagararjuna Kutty, the son-in-law. He is a lawyer and belongs to a South Indian family. He speaks truth and respects women. He has the solution to every problem.

How did acting happen with you?
I didn't want to be an actor. I wanted to become a director but then at that time Anupam Kher used to push me a lot saying that I should try my hand at acting. I used to tell him: *Dekhiye Sir, main koshish to kar leta hoon par koi guarantee nahi hai main to ek average sa insaan hoon*. This was in early 2000. That was the time when looks were equally important in the industry. I always thought in my college days *ki mujhe zindagi main aisa kaam karna hai jisse main bore nahi hoon*. Then I started working as an editor. I have also worked as an assistant director. That was when I realised that I have to work in the industry but acting was the last option for me. Then there was a time when I was called on camera as a substitute and it was then when I explored my acting skills.

How has your journey been from Sadda Adda to Mangalam Danglam?
There were a lot of struggles and nothing came easily to me. I have struggled to earn ₹200 and have also worked on the salary of ₹2,000 per day. I have seen all those days. Those struggles have made me a better performer. I believe that if your foundation is strong you can achieve a lot of things in life. The good part of my journey is that I have played a lot of different characters. The reason that I am doing a comedy show now is that a lot of people were saying that I was only playing strong, powerful and intense characters. At that time, I got involved with those kinds of roles and now I am pushing myself to take up a very different character. So it is very challenging for me and at the same time, it is very exciting also.

What all challenges did you face in your life?
There were a lot of challenges *aur mushkile toh roz aati rehti hain zindagi main*. And acting is not easy. Now the time has come where people are



I don't play characters that don't touch my heart. I am not selective in my work but I play those characters where I can build a connection with them otherwise I don't take up the project

judgemental and the lifespan of an actor is less because your audience can change the channel anytime or can just switch to the online media or don't show up in the theatres for your movie. You have to impress your audience at the very first go and that makes the struggle even more. My struggle as a performer is that I should be convincing and real enough to portray it in the right way. Other than that the other challenges were rejections but it has given me enough experience to value my work which I wouldn't be doing otherwise.

Which role came close to you and why?
All the roles that I have played are equally close to my heart. I don't play characters that don't touch my heart. I am not selective in my work but I play those characters where I can build a connection with them otherwise I don't do it.

How is the experience working in different media?
The experience is different in both TV and films. Television is a medium where you have to do new things daily because it is of longer duration but in films, you do a particular thing for a scene and then it gets over. In television, you have to think of new ways to make your character interesting because it runs for years and you have to keep experimenting with it. Every day is a challenge for a television actor and it is very fast paced.

Any actor that you would like to work with in future?
I would like to work with Amitji (Amitabh Bachchan) because I have learnt voice modulation from seeing his work. I would like to work with Aamir Khan also because he does everything with perfection.

What is there in the pipeline?
At present, I am concentrating on *Mangalam Danglam*. Then people will see me in a film — *Blank*. It will release this year. It has Sunny Deol in it. The director of *Azhar*, Tony D'Souza, is the producer of the film.

Condemning terror attack

TV actors express their grief on the ghastly attack on February 14 that killed 43 CRPF jawans

Krishna Bharadwaj said he feels extremely angry about the loss. "I feel devastated and extremely angry about this loss. How long will we tolerate this bloodshed in the name of countries, terrorism, politics or religions? I guess it's time we need an army rule because I have lost all trust in any of the political parties. People who have been posted for our safety, they themselves are not safe anymore. It's a shame on humanity and I don't have a platform to take out my anger and grief. It's high time somebody does something about it rather than just blaming each other for this kind of loss," he says.

Rehaan Roy said: "I feel this is one of the most shameful acts that has ever happened in the history of the country. My heart cries out for the soldiers and their families and at the same time, I wish I could just bury all those cowards alive. I wish and pray for the families that have lost their sons, fathers, husbands, and brothers. They are the real heroes of our nation."

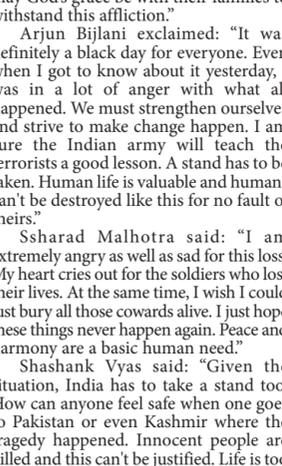
Kishori Shahane Vij added: "Yesterday, while the entire nation was celebrating Valentine's Day, our own Jawans were killed by the terrorists. It was so devastating. Most of the celebrations were called off and people really were heartbroken about this incident because this is one of the most severe attacks that India has faced in latest times. I, myself, am buried in sorrow. We all mourned the loss. Basically, all this is so politicized. The entire world knows that elections are approaching there has to be turmoil politically and that's how it is. But I feel that the nation should unite and should not play the blame game. The best politician has to win for the betterment of our nation."

Saurabh Pandey said: "Whenever a soldier is martyred, we cannot even imagine the pain that the soldiers' loved ones go through. My sincere prayers to those brave soldiers who got martyred and my respect to the family for such a big sacrifice. We owe them a big thanks. Had it not been for our Indian soldiers protecting our line of control, we would have not been living a peaceful life."

Moon Banerjee said: "Somewhere and somehow, someone needs to be stopped. We need to make a micro effort to see the difference in the macrocosm."

Ansh Bagri says this is very disturbing, during this time, we hold our loved ones even closer. Our prayers go out to the families and our men in Kashmir. Our anger and betrayal should be constructive, we must strengthen ourselves and strive to make change happen in the government so that these gruesome tragedies stop.

Himanshu Malhotra said: "It is definitely very upsetting and it does tend to anger you also. This is such a coward act. Almost 40 of our jawans have lost their lives. It is very unfortunate but the only thing which we can do is offer our blessings, wishes, prayers to the families who have lost their sons, fathers, husbands.



That's the least we can do."

Shivini Narang said: "Definitely, it was a black day for everyone. Even when I got to know about it yesterday, I was in lot of anger. I have no words to express my anger and disappointment. I just hope these things never repeat, not only in India but anywhere in the world. As a human, it's unacceptable."

Jason Shah says we shouldn't do anything more in anger because the more people get angry, it's getting worse. Anger is not going to change anything. It's a very sad thing that something like this happened. It happens because of politics. I think the world needs to show a little more love.

Shweta Rohira said: "It's most unfortunate that terrorists are extinguishing humanity in totality. May all these martyrs' souls' rest in divine light and

may God's grace be with their families to withstand this affliction."

Arjun Bijlani exclaimed: "It was definitely a black day for everyone. Even when I got to know about it yesterday, I was in a lot of anger with what all happened. We must strengthen ourselves and strive to make change happen. I am sure the Indian army will teach the terrorists a good lesson. A stand has to be taken. Human life is valuable and humans can't be destroyed like this for no fault of theirs."

Shashank Vyas said: "Given the situation, India has to take a stand too. How can anyone feel safe when one goes to Pakistan or even Kashmir where the tragedy happened. Innocent people are killed and this can't be justified. Life is too short already and everyone has the right to have peace."

Geetanjali Singh said: "It is such an unfortunate incident. Definitely, it was a black day for not only soldiers and their families but for the entire country. May all these martyrs' soul rest in peace and I pray for lots and lots of strength to their families. It was certainly a very sad day for all of us. I cannot even begin to imagine what the families of the deceased soldiers are going through. They risk their lives to protect the nation and we could not protect them. It is a sad day for all of us. I could not believe the news when I heard it. It seems so unreal to even think that human beings can inflict such heinous crimes on other human beings. My heart goes out to the families. May God give them all the support and love that they need at this time."



ROAD TO SAFETY

Driving on the wrong side of the road, improper signals and potholes are some of the reasons that result in 70 deaths per hour on Indian roads. MUSBA HASHMI speaks with stakeholders who talk about how technology and compulsory road safety education in schools can bring down the accident rate

On March 18, 2018, an SUV rammed into a canter resulting in the death of three doctors and leaving four injured. The horrifying high-speed crash happened in the wee hours of the morning at the Yamuna Expressway when seven doctors from AIIMS were heading to Agra. The accident was so fatal that it took half-an-hour for the police to extricate the victims from the vehicle. Later in the day, two other people were killed in an accident when a UP Roadways bus fell off the road because the driver dozed off.

On January 2, 2019, four people including a minor were killed in a deadly car accident at the Yamuna Expressway and three people were seriously injured. The tyres of the SUV burst which resulted in the accident. The accident was so severe that head of one of the deceased was decapitated from his body while another person's torso was amputated.

Such deadly road accidents are a common sight on highways due to high-speeding vehicles. To address this issue SIAM (Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers) in association with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Delhi Police held a seminar on emerging trends in safety on roads in the Capital. The seminar aimed at raising awareness on the issue of road accidents and how to prevent them.

Mahesh Rajoria, treasurer, SAFE and advisor, Maruti Suzuki said: "Most of the accidents happen due to the lack of seatbelts. People think that airbags are there to protect them but truth be told that airbags will only work properly if the seat belt is deployed. Airbags only provide 25-30 per cent protection in accidents and the majority 70 per cent protection is given by seat belts."

Taj Hassan, Special Commissioner of Traffic Police, Delhi who was present at the seminar said that there are multiple reasons of road accidents and it is a multi-stakeholder's responsibility to prevent them. "There are various reasons that contribute to road accidents, they are — road condition, road engineering, improper speed calming measures, driver's expertise or failure, vehicle fitness and the facility provided for pedestrian crossings, which makes for this complex issue. Then there are a number of drink and drive cases, rash driving and over speeding cases and we do approximately 200 challans every day for such cases," he tells you adding that these issues can only be tackled when there is

proper awareness among the public and the rules are implemented more seriously.

"The challenges of enforcing the accident preventive measures are like whenever a driver will see a policeman standing he will wear his helmet or seat belt and as soon as he crosses the policeman he will again get back to its original state. In such situation, the system should lay more strict rules and proper implementation of the rules should be done to prevent it from happening. Also more speed calming measures should be taken and road conditions should be analysed on a more frequent basis. The reason behind this is irresponsible behaviour of the public is lack of awareness. Road safety measures should be taught to each individual of the society and it should be the people's responsibility to take road rules more seriously. It should be added as a part of the school's curriculum so that students too get to understand their roles and responsibilities. This has to be done from the grass root level of the society to ensure positive results," Hassan opines.

Prashant Banerjee, Executive Director, SIAM said that the Government and the automobile companies have come up with certain road safety measures that will help prevent accidents. "We are almost near the concept of developed countries in terms of safety levels and certain car crash norms have been mandated by the Government and they will come into effect from July. Some of these rules include airbags requirement in every model of the car, seat belt reminders and speed alerts. The first speed alert will raise an alarm when the car speed reaches 80kmph and the second one will create an alarm when the car reaches 120kmph," he tells you adding that there are certain safety rules laid down for the buses also.

When it comes to bigger vehicles like buses there is a prescribed weight limit for the number of passengers that can be carried in a bus. This is laid down under the ASI63 rule which says for a normal person the weight limit is 75kg per person and for children it is 50kg per person. There are certain rules which decide what type of seats should be there in the school buses and what kind of window panes should be there.

NS Talib, Assistant Vice-President & Operating Head, Honda Car India, said that along with the rise in infrastructure the number of accidents have also increased in the last four-five years with

TECHNOLOGY CAN BE USED TO PREVENT 25 PER CENT OF THE ACCIDENTS. THE REST WILL ONLY HAPPEN WHEN THE MINDSET OF THE PEOPLE WILL CHANGE. FOR THIS, THE DRIVERS HAVE TO BE EDUCATED ABOUT ROAD SAFETY MEASURES AND THERE IS NEED TO CREATE MORE AWARENESS AT LARGE



almost 70 deaths per hour on roads being reported everyday. "The infrastructure has gone up in the last few years and with this rise in infrastructure the number of road accidents have also increased. Seventy deaths are reported on roads per hour. The reason being bad commuting habits which includes wrong side driving, potholes which act as a natural speed breaker, improper signages and traffic light malfunction which thereby results in violation of road rules," he explains.

He insisted that technology can only provide 25 per cent assistance in preventing and managing road accidents and the rest 75 per cent is upto the public.

"Technology can only prevent 25 per cent of the accidents. The rest will only happen when the mindset of the people will change. For this we have to educate our drivers on road safety and the preventive measures. There is urgent need to create more awareness and have to take this issue more seriously," he says.

Talking about certain safety measures that will be now incorporated in the two wheelers and four wheelers Talib tells you that there are new systems that have come up with to ensure proper safety of the public.

The cars will now be equipped with a

front camera that can sense any obstruction on the road. Whenever there will be an obstruction on the road the system will generate vibrations which will be sent to the steering wheel and the driver can sense them. This system is called Controlled Mitigation System. Another system that will help prevent road accidents is Lane Keeping Assisting System. This system will keep the car inside the prescribed lane and avoid any accidents or crashes. But this system will only work if all the vehicles are moving in a single direction and if any car is moving in the wrong direction and in the wrong lane then this system will go for a toss.

Some manufacturers have already started providing this system but unfortunately the drawback of this system is it will not work if the driver will switch it off. Some drivers get irritated with the alerts and vibrations and they decide to switch it off and it seems like there is no such system in the car. And this issue can only be tackled when the mindset of the people will change. As far as the two wheelers are concerned, they will be equipped with Combined Braking Mitigation System. This system will automatically reduce the vehicle's speed if it will sense any obstruction on the road. The other system is

Automatic Braking System which will help the vehicle to maintain its balance even if the brakes are applied suddenly. This will exclude the chances of losing balance and falling down. So these are some of the preventive measures that are being taken up by the automobile manufacturers to make their road experience smooth and reduce the risk of road accidents.

KK Kapila, Chairman, IRF and CEO-MD, Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrat Pvt Ltd opines that it is everyone's duty to ensure that proper safety measures are being taken up by the public. "It is a multi-stakeholder's responsibility to make sure that road rules are followed by one and all. The automobile manufacturers should also make it mandatory to buy a helmet along with the two wheelers. They should sell their two wheelers only if the customer buys an ISI mark helmet along with the vehicle. This should be done by all the manufacturers at large and not just by a couple of big brands," he says adding that revised NCERT books for schools have been uploaded on SIAM's website which promotes road safety measures among children and it can be downloaded free of cost.

The solution or safety measures according to Harjeet Singh, Executive Advisor, Hero MotoCorp Ltd has to touch the masses to be effective. "According to a survey it showed that the number of two wheelers accidents and fatalities have increased from the year 2008 to 2017. My recommendation is that any solution or safety measure will be effective only when it touches or reaches out to the masses. For this proper and appropriate education should be there for every individual of the society. Education in schools and colleges should not be only about giving lectures about road safety and going away but also teaching the students practically. They should be made to follow the rules every time they step out of their home and they should be taught to become a responsible citizen themselves," he tells you.

Neeti Sarkar, CEO and PD, NATRiP, tells you that safety is of prime concern now because of the alarming fatality figures on road. "With emerging technologies and the strengthening of law and regulations, situation in India is bound to improve in spite of high traffic density and vast climatic ranges. NATRiP is setting up more testing facilities to ensure vehicles' safety condition. Testing agencies and Original Equipment Manufacturers will work together on safety of Indian roads," Sarkar says.

'ACCIDENTAL DEATHS ARE PREVENTABLE'

MUSBA HASHMI speaks with DR TEJ PRAKASH SINHA about how to prevent post-crash deaths that may occur on the way to the hospital

Road accidents are not uncommon in India. But the gravity of the situation can be gauged from what Dr Tej Prakash Sinha, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine, Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre, AIIMS has to tell you.

"There are almost 220 patients that come to the trauma centre every day and out of which almost 50 per cent are road injury cases. And out of these 220 patients 20 per cent are seriously injured or require some kind of urgent intervention," Sinha tells you.

Talking about the death rate in road accident cases he said: "There are two types of cases. First is death during initial care which is in the first 24 hours of being admitted. Last year out of 9,000 patients 185 deaths were reported so death rate is not that high but cases of serious injury are very high. Second, when the patient dies on the spot or is brought dead to the hospital and approximately 300 patients were reported brought dead last year."

Sinha has a solution on how to prevent the post-crash deaths that may happen on the way to hospital. "These deaths are



largely preventable and can be prevented by a Robust Hospital System. The Robust Hospital System is accommodating the bystanders of the accident as

responsive individuals who can provide some help to the patient. There should be a legal framework which can help save the patient. The bystanders

should have some kind of training so that they can make instant call for an ambulance and they should be smart enough to identify that the place where the victim is lying is safe or not," he tells you.

Also, if the victim is lying in between the road they should be able to transfer him to a safer place and should be able to do something to sustain the life of the victim till the ambulance arrives. This can simply come under promoting trained and smart bystanders or first responders. "Second, there should be well-equipped

ambulance services which can provide the initial care to the patient on his way to the hospital. We are working with National Health Mission and Ministry of Health to promote this initiative," Sinha says and tells you that 79 per cent cases are of two wheelers and pedestrian accidents which happen because of wrong lane driving and skipping the traffic signals.

He tells you that the most common type of injuries are head, muscular and bone related. "Some other common injuries are reported in the limbs because that is where the person seeks

balance from after falling. Also in majority of the cases the death is caused due to excessive bleeding. Almost 30-35 per cent deaths in accident cases are caused due to excessive bleeding and they are largely preventable by following simple safety measures like wearing your helmets and seat belts," Sinha says.

The other common reason for deaths in case of two wheelers is brain haemorrhage which happens because of the absence of helmets or because the quality of the helmet is not good or because the helmet was not tied properly.

SAINA ROUTS SINDHU

Three-time former champion Nehwal uses powerful smashes to register 21-18, 21-15 win against Sindhu in the tournament decider; Sourabh completes hat-trick of titles

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

Saina Nehwal beat PV Sindhu in straight games in the marquee clash of the tournament to retain her women's singles crown at the 83rd Yonex Sunrise Senior Badminton Nationals on Saturday.

The three-time former champion Saina used her powerful smashes to telling effect, registering a 21-18, 21-15 win the summit clash against Sindhu, who herself is a two-time winner.

Earlier, Sourabh Verma completed a hat-trick of titles, claiming the men's singles crown by defeating young Lakshya Sen in straight games.

Saina and Sourabh went home richer by ₹3.25 lakh while Sindhu and Sen received a cheque of ₹1.70 lakh each.

"Sindhu is playing at the highest level for quite sometime and we both are playing well and she is a very tough opponent. It was not a simple match, there were tough rallies and simple errors from her helped me to win," Saina, who has lost to Sindhu only once in international events at India Open 2017 said.

In a repeat of last edition's final in Nagpur, 2012 Olympics Bronze medalist Saina once again had the upper hand over Sindhu during the exciting clash which was witnessed by a capacity crowd at the TRP Indoor stadium.

Saina had also defeated 2016 Rio Games Silver medalist Sindhu at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games summit clash last year.

Sourabh, the 26-year-old from MP's Dhar showed great composure and used his experience to outdo 17-year-old Lakshya for the second time at the senior national finals. He had beaten Lakshya, then 15, in February 2017.

"At 6-6 in first game, I had done unforced errors so I thought if I reduce my mistakes I can make a comeback," Sourabh said.

In men's doubles, second seeded makeshift pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and Chirag Shetty clinched the title after beating top seeds Arjun MR and Shlok Ramchandran 21-13, 22-20 in 33 minutes.

Chirag and Pranaav came together



Saina Nehwal and P V Sindhu pose during the prize ceremony after their final match of the Senior Nationals PTI

after the former's regular partner Satwik Rankireddy was sidelined ahead of the tournament due to an injury. Satwik and Chirag had finished runners-up at the last edition.

For Pranaav, it is his third national title, having won the men's doubles crown along with Akshay Dewalkar in 2013 and 2015 and the mixed doubles title with Prajakta Sawant in 2010.

Manu Attri and Maneesha K

later beat top seeds Rohan Kapoor and Kuhoo Garg 18-21, 21-17, 21-16 to claim the mixed doubles crown.

In the women's final, edged on by a vociferous crowd, Saina used her trademark smashes to either finish points or create openings.

Sindhu, on the other hand, lacked precision in her strokes, hit too many mid court returns, and also misjudged the shuttle at the back court.



Sourabh Verma returns a shot against Lakshya Sen during summit clash match BAI

OTHER RESULTS

Category	Winner(s)	Runner up(s)	Scoreline
Men's singles	Sourabh Verma	Lakshya Sen	21-18, 21-13
Men's doubles	Pranaav Jerry Chopra & Chirag Shetty	Arjun MR & Shlok Ramchandran	21-13, 22-20
Mixed doubles	Manu Attri & Maneesha K	Rohan Kapoor and Kuhoo Garg	18-21, 21-17, 21-16

"It was a good match and both of us played really well and it is a great feeling to win the nationals in such an atmosphere."

—Saina Nehwal

"Winning the nationals for the first time (in 2011) is always special but this time also it was a great feeling. Lakshya is improving regularly and every time you have to be alert against him. It was my fourth final and third win."

—Sourabh Verma

Vidarbha retain Irani Cup

PTI ■ NAGPUR

A clinical Ranji champions Vidarbha reasserted their supremacy in domestic arena, beating a star-studded Rest of India to retain the Irani Cup, making it back-to-back seasons of double delight.

Vidarbha has now become the third team after Mumbai and Karnataka to clinch two Irani Cup titles in a row.

Set a tricky target of 280, Vidarbha were well and truly on course at 269 for five, needing only 11 runs for an outright victory. However the two teams decided to shake hands and settle for a draw.

The victory was a testimony to Vidarbha's teamwork as they defeated a Rest of India side comprising Ajinkya Rahane, Hanma Vihari, Shreyas Iyer and Mayank Agarwal without their season's top scorer Wasim Jaffer and pacer Umesh Yadav.

It was another senior Ganesh Satish (87 off 168 balls) and young U-19 international Atharva Taide (72 off 185 balls), who ensured that the Cup will remain in the Vidarbha Cricket Association's Trophy cabinet.

Also others like opener Sanjay Ramaswamy (42) and Mohit Kale (37) chipped in with handy knocks, while wicket-keeper Akshay Wadkar remained unbeaten on 10.

And their skipper Faiz Fazal would certainly be pleased with the fact that his boys nearly pulled off an outright win chasing a near 300-score on a fifth day track.

Resuming their innings on 37/1, Ramaswamy and one down Taide added 116 runs for the second wicket.

While Ramaswamy stuck four boundaries and a six, Taide was tad more aggressive striking eight fours and a six, as the duo kept Rest bowlers at bay.

After Ramaswamy fell,



Ganesh Satish celebrates his fifty PTI

Team	Titles	First title
Rest of India	28	1965-66
Mumbai	15	1959-60
Karnataka	6	1974-75
Delhi	2	1980-81
Railways	2	2002-03
Vidarbha	2	2017-18
Hyderabad	1	1987-88
Tamil Nadu	1	1988-89
Haryana	1	1991-92

Rest of India and Mumbai shared the trophy in 1965-66. Faisal Features

Satish joined hands with Taide. The two managed to add 30 runs for the third wicket.

But Taide's departure did not deter Satish, who played the sheet-anchor's role to perfection.

During his 168-ball stay at the crease, he hammered the ROI bowlers, nine boundaries and a six. He got able support from Mohit Kale, who hit four fours in his brief but crucial innings.

After Satish, the curtains came down on the hard-fought game, in which Vidarbha emerged triumphant.

"We as a team have decided to donate the prize money to the family of the martyrs who lost their lives in Pulwama. This is a small gesture from our team and VCA."

—Faiz Fazal (Vidarbha skipper)



Perera's stunner pulls thrilling win

Runs	Partners	Opp	Venue	Season
78*	Vishwa Fernando/Kusal Perera (SL)	SA	Durban	2018-19
57*	Inzamam-ul-Haq/Mushtaq Ahmed (Pak)	AUS	Karachi	1994-95
48*	Dave Nourse/Percy Sherwell (SA)	ENG	Jo'burg	1905-06

Faisal Features

AP ■ DURBAN

Sri Lanka pulled off a stunning against-the-odds run chase with a record last-wicket partnership of 78 to beat South Africa by one wicket in the first Test on Saturday.

Kusal Perera almost single-handedly won the game with his 153 not out, but No 11 batsman Vishwa Fernando played a crucial role as he hung around for 77 balls for his 6 not out to allow Perera to take Sri Lanka home.

Chasing an unlikely 304, Sri Lanka was 226-9 and looked out of it at Kingsmead

with the 10th wicket an apparent formality.

But Perera and Fernando had other ideas and took the inexperienced tourists - written off at the start of the series - to a thrilling victory on the fourth day. Even Dale Steyn and top-ranked test bowler Kagiso Rabada couldn't break their last stand.

Perera scored 67 of those 78 runs for the last wicket and won it with a late cut down to the boundary for four, prompting Sri Lankan players to sprint from the dressing room out onto the pitch to congratulate their match winner. Perera removed his helmet and thrust both arms



PERERA PUT ON 58 FOR THE FOURTH WICKET WITH DEBUTANT OSHADO FERNANDO (37) AND 96 FOR THE SIXTH WICKET WITH DHANANJAYA DE SILVA (48) BEFORE HIS EXTRAORDINARY ASSOCIATION WITH VISHWA FERNANDO

"It was a superman effort. He (Perera) deserves all the accolades."
—Faf du Plessis

"I'm a little tired now, I don't know what to say. I did my part but we are winning as a team."
—Kusal Perera

up in the air to celebrate one of the best innings ever by a Sri Lankan, and one of the team's most remarkable victories.

It was Perera's career-best score, just his second test century, and his first in three years. Sri Lanka's 304-9 was

the third-highest successful run chase in nearly 100 years of Test cricket at the Kingsmead ground in Durban and the partnership between Perera and Fernando a record for the highest 10th-wicket partnership to win a Test. The previous record was 57 by Inzamam-ul-Haq and Mushtaq Ahmed for Pakistan against Australia 25 years ago.

Sri Lanka's scintillating victory also gave it a 1-0 lead in the short two-Test series and ended South Africa's run of seven straight home series wins in dramatic fashion.

Almost nobody thought victory would be possible when South Africa spinner Keshav Maharaj had Kasun Rajitha lbw for 1 to leave Sri Lanka 226-9.

At the time, Perera was on 86. But he threw caution to the wind, crunching all five of his sixes in that game-winning last-wicket stand.

Guptill romps Kiwis past B'desh

AFP ■ CHRISTCHURCH

Ar rejuvenated Martin Guptill wound back the clock with his second century in as many games as a clinical New Zealand clinched their one-day series against Bangladesh in Christchurch on Saturday.

The long-serving opener, who had a disappointing recent series against India, rated his 118 as a more satisfying knock than the unbeaten 117 when he returned to form in the first match against Bangladesh.

"There was a lot of flow and rhythm in that one," he said after New Zealand comfortably knocked off their 227-run target for the loss of two wickets and with 13.5 overs to spare.

"It felt like I got back to where I was a couple of years ago." Guptill cut, drove and



Martin Guptill celebrates after scoring his second consecutive ton ICC

pulled the Bangladesh attack apart as New Zealand cruised to victory and went 2-0 up in the three-match series.

Against India's tight bowling, Guptill was restricted to a top score of 15. But against a less confining Bangladesh attack, he scored freely,

to partner Guptill in a 143-run stand for the second wicket.

When Guptill went in similar fashion to Nicholls, caught on the boundary by Liton Das off Mustafizur Rahman in the 29th over, New Zealand were 188 for two.

Williamson and Ross Taylor then guided the home side to the finish with Williamson not out 65 and Taylor on 21.

After Williamson won the toss and opted to bowl under cloudy skies, the Bangladesh top order again failed to fire.

They were in trouble at 93 for five after 21 overs before Mohammad Mithun (62) and Sabbir Rahman (43) provided some backbone for the innings, putting on 75 for the sixth wicket.

Ferguson finished as the most successful New Zealand bowler with three for 43.

Gaurav, Nikhat advance in Strandja Boxing

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Commonwealth Games Gold-medallist Gaurav Solanki (52kg) advanced to the men's pre-quarters, while former junior world champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg) made the women's quarterfinals of the 70th Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Zareen defeated Italy's Giovanna Marchese in her opening clash, while Solanki got the better of American Abraham Perez. Solanki, also a Gold-winner at India Open and the Chemistry Cup last year, will be up against Kazakhstan's Anvar Muzaparov in the last-16 stage.

Zareen, a multiple-time national medallist, will square off against Belarus' Yana Burym in the next round.

Also advancing to the pre-quarters in the men's competition was last year's Ulaan Baatar Cup Gold-medallist Ankush Dahiya (60kg).

Dahiya claimed a split verdict over Azerbaijan's Sarkhan Aliyev and Macedonian Jasim Ljama awaits him in

the round of 16. In the women's 60kg category, Neeraj defeated Bulgarian Aslahan Mehmedova.

However, the day was not without its share of disappointments either. Among the men, world championships Bronze-medallist Gaurav Bidhuri (56kg) bowed out following a first-round loss to local favourite Emanuel Bogoev in a split decision.

Another prominent name to make an early exit was former Commonwealth Games Bronze-medallist Pinki Jangra in the women's competition. Jangra was beaten by Filipino Irish Magno in a split verdict.

Two other women boxers, whose campaign ended early were Nupur (75kg) and Neetu (75kg). While Nupur went down to Italian Jessica Galizia 3-2, neetu lost 0-5 to Elena Gapesina.

In the men's draw, Ashish Kumar (75kg) and Ashish (64kg) also lost their respective bouts in split decisions to exit on a mixed day for India at the prestigious European tournament.

'Working with Kiran More on keeping helped in Australia'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A slight tweak in hand positioning and body posture was all that it took for Rishabh Pant to turn the tables after a tough stint behind the stumps in England and the fast-rising Indian wicketkeeper-batsman credits Kiran More for making it happen.

He faced sharp criticism for his wicket-keeping skills in adverse English conditions but Pant more than made up for it in Australia.

In England, where the red Dukes was seaming all around, a lot of byes were recorded against Pant's name, many of them due to the ball moving in the air even after leaving the stumps.

However, things changed in Australia, where he pulled off 20 catches with a world record-equalling 11 scalps in Adelaide.

"Keeping in England was an altogether different experience. After that, I worked with Kiran sir at the NCA on a few specific areas. It included hand-positioning and body posture. Every keeper has distinct movement and I tweaked it a little and it worked," Pant told PTI during an exclusive interview.

While Pant didn't elaborate on the specifics, More, who has been a respected coach as well as former chairman of the national selection committee, pointed out a few basic areas.

"Rishabh had a more side-ways movement and I suggested a bit more open chested stance. It helps in balance and keeping a still head, something that is key to Mahendra Singh Dhoni's success," More said.

About the positioning of hands, More said, "I advised a very minor change like pointing the finger towards ground rather than the bowler. It helps one avoid injuries and success in taking catches goes up."

For Pant, the endeavour is to improve everyday and work-



ing on his glove work is a part of that process.

"When you make it to the team at a young age, the more you are keen to learn, the better you get at utilising the opportunities that come your way," the 21 year old said.

The turning point for him was certainly the hundred at the Oval which gave him confidence and it's effect showed in Australia where he was phenomenal both behind as well as in front of the stumps.

"When I got that hundred in England, the confidence rose to a different level. From there, I started constantly thinking that how can I improve in certain areas. The process of learning that started in England paid off in Australia," said the heir apparent of Dhoni.

The 'devil-may-care' approach to batting has been his calling card and he asserts that the high stakes IPL games, where he plays for Delhi Capitals, and for India, have not bogged him down.

But isn't there and insecur-

ity that this approach may let him down when stakes are very high?

"Insecurities will always be there whether you play for India or for your franchise in IPL. But how do you beat those insecurities and perform, defines you as a player."

"Stakes will always be high for India or Delhi Capitals, so if you let insecurities come in your way, it will be very difficult to focus on the job. One needs that balance to treat every game as same," said Pant.

Having scored 684 runs in the last IPL season for Delhi (erstwhile Daredevils), Pant obviously wants a repeat and would prefer batting at the top of the order for the Capitals.

"As a batsman, I would always like to bat as high as possible but the team combination is also very important," said Pant, who expects things to change for Delhi this time round.

"We have had a change in name, jersey and New players have come in. It's a good blend of youth and experience. Hope both our departments click this time and Delhi Capitals have a good tourney."

With 277,000 followers on Twitter, Pant's fan following is on the rise but for him it's a by-product of his success on the field and nothing more than that.

As a young celebrity, he provided his perspective on how social media can cut both ways.

"You need to be careful about social media. Once you are well known, your personal space shrinks. You will get a lot of praise but one should also be aware that you will have to deal with negativity," he said.

"Irrespective of social media's influence, it's the cricket that you play which will remain paramount. How to keep focus when you have hit a low patch and things are looking down, is something we all must learn," he concluded.

Sehwag offers to take care of education of Pulwama martyrs' children

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India cricketer Virender Sehwag on Saturday offered to bear the educational expenses of children of all the CRPF personnel martyred in the dastardly terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama.

On Thursday, at least 40 CRPF paramilitary troopers were killed in a terror attack while several others are battling for their lives following what is being termed as the deadliest terrorist strike in three decades in the valley.

"Nothing we can do will be enough, but the least I can do is offer to take complete care of the education of the children of our brave CRPF jawans martyred in #Pulwama in my Sehwag International School @SehwagSchool, Jhajjar. Saubhagya hoga," Sehwag wrote on his twitter handle.

Star boxer Vijender Singh, who is employed with Haryana Police, is donating a month's salary.

"I'm donating my one month's salary for the martyrs of #Pulwama Terror Attack and want everyone to come forward and support the families. It is our moral duty to always stand by them and make them feel proud of their sacrifices. Jai Hind," the Olympic medalist said.

An explosive-laden SUV rammied into one of the buses

Kohli postpones Sports Honours

NEW DELHI: Star cricketer Virat Kohli has postponed the RP-SG Indian Sports Honours, which was to take place on Saturday, as a "mark of respect" to the CRPF personnel martyred in the Pulwama terrorist attack. On Thursday, at least 40 CRPF paramilitary troopers were killed in a terror attack while several others are battling for their lives following what is being termed as the deadliest terrorist strike in three decades in Jammu and Kashmir. Indian Sports Honours is an initiative of Virat Kohli Foundation and RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group.

"The RP-SG Indian Sports Honours has been postponed. At this heavy moment of loss that we all find ourselves in, we would like to cancel this event that was scheduled to take place tomorrow," Kohli wrote on his twitter handle Friday night.

The sporting fraternity, including Kohli, had joined the country in condemning the dastardly attack.

The batting mainstay annually rewards excellence in sports and nurtures promising athletes through his foundation.

"The RP-SG Indian Sports Honours that was supposed to happen tomorrow night has been postponed by Virat as a mark of respect to the CRPF jawans who were martyred at Pulwama by a tragic terror attack," the foundation said in a statement.

"The who's who of entertainment and sports industry were supposed to be present for the award ceremony. Every partner and all the sportstars and delegates associated with this award have been informed and communicated with, stating that hosting an event was unacceptable at this moment when India is mourning the death of its jawans." An explosive-laden SUV rammied into one of the buses in the CRPF convoy at Awantipora town in the Pulwama district. Condolence messages have been pouring in for the family of the deceased CRPF soldiers since the news of the attack broke out.

Condemning the terror

attack, the big-hitting former India opener had earlier tweeted, "Really pained by the cowardly attack on our CRPF in J&K in which our brave men have been martyred. No words are enough to describe the pain. I wish a speedy recovery to those injured."

LOCAL EVENTS

AKSHDEEP TO LEAD

Akshdeep Nath will lead the Uttar Pradesh team in the Syed Mustaq Ali T20 Trophy, commencing from February 21. The UPCA senior selection committee announced the team on Saturday. Aditi Sharma will captain the UP team in the Senior Women's T20 Trophy.

TEAMS:

Men's: Akshdeep Nath (C), Ankit Rajput, Suresh Raina, Rinku Singh, Priyam Garg, Upendra Yadav, Samarth Singh, Shubham Chaubey, Yash Dayal, Mohsin Khan, Mohit Jangra, Saurabh Kumar, Shiva Singh, Ankit Chaudhary, Aryan Juyal, Bobby Yadav, Nalin Mishra. **Coach:** Mansur Ali, **Batting coach:** Parvinder Singh, **Manager:** Sanjeev Jakhmola **Women's:** Aditi Sharma (C), Tanu Kala, Kshama Singh, Sweta Verma, RAshi Kanaujia, Bhawna Rathor, Ekta Singh, Shashi Mathur, Arti Singh, Kriti Sharma, Shiv Priya Pandey, Shafali Sharma, Mridulata, Kajal Tamta, Shaifali Sahu, Anuj Rani. **Coach:** Neetu David, **Manager:** Gayatri Yadav.



HANDBALL TEAM ANNOUNCED

Uttar Pradesh Handball Association on Saturday announced the UP team for the 41st National Junior Boy's Handball Championship to be held at Manipur from February 20.

THE TEAM: Amit Sharma, Ayush Verma, Vijay Yadav, Pradeep, Bharat Bharti, Deepesh Kumar, Praveesh Upadhyay, Shubham Singh, Shubham Kumar, Mohd Asif, Vijendra Yadav, Ganga, Sonu Kumar, Abhishek. **Coach:** Nafeesh Ahmed. **Manager:** Jeeshan.

JUDO

St Francis' Deaf School bagged six gold, three silver and five bronze medals to win the District Judo Championship held at KD Singh 'Babu Stadium on Saturday. Vibgyor School finished second with five gold, five silver and 11 bronze medals. Sudhir Halwasia gave away the prizes.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE BEAT SONI CLUB

Champions League defeated Soni Club by six wickets in a league match of BBD 'D' Division Cricket League on Saturday. Batting first, Soni Club scored 103 runs which Champions League achieved for the loss of four wickets.

CCI 'covers' Imran portrait on its restaurant wall

MUMBAI: The prestigious Cricket Club of India (CCI) Saturday covered a portrait of Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, in a unique way of protest against the dastardly terror attack on CRPF convoy in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama.

On Thursday, at least 40 CRPF paramilitary troopers were killed in a terror attack while several others are battling for their lives following what is being termed as the deadliest

terrorist strike in three decades in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan-based terror organisation Jaish-e-Mohammad has claimed responsibility for it. The CCI, which is an affiliated unit of BCCI, is home to the iconic Brabourne Stadium, which has hosted many Test matches and is considered to be a cricketing hub. The entire CCI premises, including its restaurant, adorn portraits of the greatest crick-

eters across eras and from all nations. Imran's portrait is one of them as he was a distinguished former cricket captain, who led Pakistan to 1992 World Cup victory. CCI President Premal Udani confirmed the development to PTI on Saturday, saying a decision in this regard was taken on Friday.

"See, CCI is a sports-club and we have photographs of past and present cricketers from all countries. We wanted to show,

in our way - displeasure - on whatever is happening right now. It is mark of protest. We have covered it as of now but can't say right now if we would take it down," Udani told PTI.

Another senior CCI official said that the portrait could be found on the wall of 'Porbunder All-rounder', a restaurant inside the club premises on the ground-floor, which also has pictures of other past greats. In the past, Imran has twice played for

Pakistan against India at the Brabourne Stadium. He had lead Pakistan in a festival game against India in 1987, which was a pre-cursor to the World Cup.

He has also played an ODI at the venue, when he lead Pakistan to victory against Australia in a Nehru Cup game in 1989, where he was also declared as the man of the match. Pakistan later beat West Indies in the final to win the Nehru Cup.

Bayern fight back twice in Liverpool tune-up win

AFP ■ BERLIN

Bayern Munich conceded the fastest own-goal in Bundesliga history and twice had to equalise before securing a 3-2 win at Augsburg in their final tune-up before their Champions League tie at Liverpool.

Ahead of Tuesday's last 16, first-leg clash at Anfield, Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp will have watched with interest how Augsburg, who sit just above the Bundesliga relegation places, caused Bayern a few problems.

The away league win Friday means defending champions Bayern trimmed the gap to just two points behind leaders Borussia Dortmund, who are at bottom side Nuremberg on Monday.

With one eye on Anfield, Bayern goalkeeper Manuel Neuer returned after three games out with a thumb injury, but conceded two goals in the opening 24 minutes - the first after just 13 seconds.

Leon Goretzka claimed an unwanted record for the Bundesliga's fastest own-goal when he turned the ball into his own net.

"I can't remember a worst start from us," admitted Bayern coach Niko Kovac.

"We have to play much better at Liverpool."

The win could have come at a price as Kingsley Coman,



who scored Bayern's first-half goals, was injured in the dying stages.

"We need to see how he is, but it doesn't look good," admitted Kovac.

Coman twice equalised in the opening half, cancelling out the own-goal then levelling at the half-time break after South Korea international Ji Dong-won had restored Augsburg's lead.

David Alaba scored Bayern's winning goal early in the second half, but Bayern will need to improve to trouble Liverpool.

"The goals we conceded were crazy," said Bayern captain

Neuer. "We had said we wanted to defend well and we didn't manage that."

"Liverpool are a strong, attacking team and we must do better, luckily we have a few days to improve."

Bibianna Steinhuis, the first female referee in Europe's top five leagues, had barely blown for kick-off when Augsburg winger Philipp Max put in a cross which flummoxed the Bayern defence.

Goretzka watched in horror as the ball ricocheted off his boot and into the net as the injury-hit hosts took a shock lead.

It was short of the

Bundesliga's record fastest goal, just nine seconds, shared by Kevin Volland, of Hoffenheim against Bayern in 2015/16, and Karim Bellarabi, for Leverkusen against Dortmund in 2014/15.

However, shell-shocked Bayern quickly regrouped.

Serge Gnabry and Robert Lewandowski went close, then Bayern drew level on 17 minutes when a beautifully curling Joshua Kimmich cross found Kingsley Coman, who tapped home at the far post.

Augsburg restored their lead with almost a copy of their first goal when Max again fired in a cross and Ji rifled an unstoppable shot past Neuer from 14 metres out on 24 minutes. Bayern still managed to go into the half-time break level when Coman claimed his second goal.

Goretzka made up for his earlier mistake with a pass to the French winger, who fired through the legs of Augsburg goalkeeper Gregor Kobel to make it 2-2 just before the break. The winning goal arrived eight minutes into the second-half when Coman flicked the ball inside to Alaba and the 26-year-old fired a trademark low-shot inside the post which gave Augsburg keeper Kobel no chance.

Augsburg's Reece Oxford headed over with a brilliant effort with 26 minutes left, but Bayern held on for victory.

Pune dent Jamshedpur's play-offs chances with a 4-1 win

PTI ■ JAMSHEDPUR

FC Pune City produced a clinical display to beat Jamshedpur FC 4-1 in an Indian Super League clash at the JRD Tata Sports Complex here on Saturday.

Robin Singh (17and 65th minute), Marcelinho (45+2) and Ashique Kuruniyan (70th) led the target for Pune while Carlos Calvo (76th) scored a consolation goal from the penalty spot for Jamshedpur who slumped to their first defeat of the season at home.

The result put a huge dent in Jamshedpur's chances of qualifying for the play-offs while Pune City's slim hopes of going through remain alive.

Cesar Ferrando's side are now four points behind fourth-placed Mumbai City with two games remaining. Pune, on the other hand, are nine points behind Mumbai with three matches in hand.

Jamshedpur's defeat meant league leaders Bengaluru FC became the first team to qualify for the play-offs ahead of their away match against Delhi Dynamos on Sunday.

The home side started the game with urgency and should have scored at least twice within the opening 15 minutes but for some wasteful finishing. Calvo moved forward from the left and picked out Farukh Choudhary at the far post. However, Farukh blazed his volley over from point-blank range.

Calvo then forced Pune goalkeeper Kamaljit Singh into a save before Mario Arques went close twice. First, his shot from a corner was blocked on the line by Marko Stankovic. Two minutes later, a long ranger from Arques was denied by the crossbar.

The spurned chances came back to bite Jamshedpur in the 17th minute when Pune broke forward before Diego Carlos lashed a shot straight at

Jamshedpur custodian Subrata Paul who could only parry it. Iain Hume latched on to it but his shot hit the post before falling for Robin who swept it home.

A rattled Jamshedpur mounted a fightback but did leave space behind that Pune looked to exploit. The urgency mounted from Cesar Ferrando's men as the half wore on, but they were dealt a body blow right on the stroke of half-time from another quick Pune counter after a threatening Jamshedpur move was broken down.

Hume was the architect, threading a brilliant through-ball for Marcelinho in behind the defence. Subrata came out to close down the Brazilian but could not clear the ball. It fell again to Marcelinho who had the presence of mind to swivel and lift a finish into the open goal.

Jamshedpur, in a bid to find their way back into the

game, threw on Michael Soosairaj but left themselves very open at the back. Pune duly capitalised and scored twice after the hour mark.

In the 65th minute, Ashique did extremely well to run down the left and keep the ball alive on the touchline. He found Robin inside the box who beat Paul at the near post with a thumping strike.

Five minutes later, it was Ashique's turn to score with a powerful side-footed finish after good work by Marcelinho as Jamshedpur looked crestfallen.

Pune did gift Jamshedpur a goal in the 76th minute when Martin Diaz handled the ball inside the box and Calvo converted the penalty.

However, despite exerting pressure on the visitors, Jamshedpur were unable to find more goals and now have been left with a mountain to climb in the race for the play-offs.

Scott, Thomas lead at rain-hit Riviera

AFP ■ LOS ANGELES

Australia's Adam Scott and American Justin Thomas topped the leaderboard at 10-under par when darkness halted play in the second round of the weather-disrupted Genesis Open.

Scott and Thomas both posted five-under par 66s on Friday, and each was five-under for the second round when darkness fell on another rainy day at Riviera Country Club, where organizers were scrambling to get the tournament back on track for a Sunday finish after a seven-hour weather delay on Thursday.

Tournament host Tiger Woods made little headway on the marathon day, struggling with the putter in a one-under first round and still one-under, tied for 55th, through 12 holes of the second.

"It was a tough day," Woods said. "I'm stiff right now. It got pretty chilly towards the end, the ball wasn't going very far."

Woods strung together four birdies in a row in the middle of his first round, but his troubles on the greens kept him from building any momentum.

"I putted awful today," said Woods, whose 44-foot eagle putt at his 10th hole in the second round was an anomaly on a day when he hit 17 of 18 greens in regulation in the first round but had four three-putt bogeys.

No sooner had the eagle enlivened his round than he had two straight bogeys before play ended.

"I didn't hit it that bad, felt like I controlled it well enough and just a terrible day on the greens," he said.

Despite the long day in tough conditions, Woods noted that plenty of players - more than 70 - were under par. "You have to go get it, and JT did it and I just wasn't able to do it," Woods said, lauding playing partner Thomas.

"He made tough conditions look easy," Woods said.

Thomas totalled 14 birdies in his day's 30 holes - seven in the first round and seven through 12 holes in the second. "I'm just proud of myself the way I fought out there today," he said.

Thomas and Scott were one stroke clear of J.B. Holmes, who led after a first-round 63 highlighted by a hole in one at the par-three sixth.

"It was awesome to see that," Holmes said of the ace, which landed past the hole and spun back some 20 feet. "I wanted to get it past the hole because I knew how much they were coming back. Hit it exactly how I wanted it and it went in."

At nine-under with nine to play, Holmes was two strokes in front of Luke List, who was seven under with three to play, and American Jordan Spieth - who was seven-under and due to tee off in the second round on Saturday along with half the field.

Spieth added two more birdies to a bogey-free 64 as he played the last six holes of his first round on Friday morning before having the afternoon off.

Ronaldo on target as Juventus cruise before Atletico showdown

MILAN: Cristiano Ronaldo set up Paulo Dybala to score early and added one himself with defender Leonardo Bonucci also on target as Juventus surged 14 points clear in Serie A with a 3-0 win over lowly Frosinone.

Coach Massimiliano Allegri was taking no chances, even against a side sitting second bottom of the table, ahead of next week's Champions League last 16, first-leg tie at Atletico Madrid.

Dybala returned to the front line alongside Ronaldo and Mario Mandzukic with key defenders Bonucci and Giorgio Chiellini both back from injury.

"The team is growing in terms of fitness, it's a decisive moment for the season," said Allegri.

Juventus are building towards next week's game in Madrid and a top-of-the-table clash against Napoli in the San Paolo Stadium on March 3.

"We struggled a bit after the winter break but now we are ready to face this important moment of the season both in

the championship and the Champions League," added Allegri.

Juventus remain unbeaten this season but the reigning seven-time league champions had been held 3-3 by Parma two weeks ago.

Bonucci returned after three weeks out with an ankle injury along with captain Chiellini who limped off during their shock Coppa Italia exit on January 30.

Ronaldo set up Dybala to rifle in with his left foot after just six minutes in Turin as the Argentina forward, who has been overshadowed since the arrival of the former Real Madrid player, scored his first league goal since November 3.

Ten minutes later Bonucci broke through after a desperate goalmouth scramble. Frosinone goalkeeper Marco Sportiello denied Mandzukic's diving header with Bonucci in place to turn the rebound into goal.

Ronaldo slotted in his 19th Serie A goal and 21st in all competitions on 62 minutes with Rodrigo Bentancur crossing

for Mandzukic who provided the assist for the Portuguese striker. Ronaldo was then replaced by Federico Bernardeschi with the tie against Atletico in mind, with Sportiello denying Juventus a fourth goal keeping out a powerful Bernardeschi free kick.

"I'm happy for Paulo, he scored a good goal and that's what strikers live for," said Allegri.

"The game against Atletico Madrid will be very different. It's crucial that we get a goal there, otherwise qualification would be rather difficult to achieve."

"But this team is growing, we are even better than the first weeks (of the season)."

AC Milan, in fourth, travel to Atalanta, one place below in fifth, on Saturday in a battle for Champions League football next season. Napoli host Torino on Sunday, with Inter Milan, in third, hosting ninth-placed Sampdoria.

Roma play relegation threatened Bologna on Monday after winning their Champions League last 16, first-leg tie against Porto 2-1.



'Gully Boy will change the rap culture'

How does it feel to finally live your dream?

I can't say that I am living my dream. I am happy that I am on it. It is great that God has given me a direction. Sometimes, people don't get this direction. I am blessed in this regard.

Did you always want to be a singer-composer?

I never thought that I would be a rapper-singer. I have not learnt music or how to write professionally. It never crossed my mind to be a singer. But it just so happened that I was in a situation. A person came and sat next to me and started playing the guitar. This was probably God's way of telling me that I had it in me to be a rapper.

Talktime

DINO JAMES

James is the first Indian rapper to cross a million subscribers on his YouTube channel. He speaks with Shalini Saksena about his latest video *Bhokali* and how the rap culture is changing fast in the country

You were in Mumbai earlier as well for seven years. What had brought you to the city back then?

I was in the city to explore. Eventually, I started acting. I did a lot of theatre. I did cameos in films. I stood behind the lines like a junior artist. I did

ARTISTS LIKE BADSHAH AND HONEY SINGH HAVE BEEN RAPPING COMMERCIALY. BUT HARDCORE RAP WILL GAIN POPULARITY WITH GULLY BOY. PEOPLE WILL GET TO HEAR A DIFFERENT SOUND NOW

everything that I could do back then. But then, I went back home and came back seven years later and joined Pradeep Sarkar and worked with him for three years before I did my own thing.

Did you want to be an actor then and being a singer fell into your lap?

Yes, I wanted to be an actor. But I was not getting enough work. There was fear that this might not happen. I was 19 when I came to Mumbai in 2002. Stayed here for seven years. But then went back with my dad for two years and tried to get into his business.

But came back to the city again in 2012.

How have these six years been?

These have been the best years of my life in terms of clarity — what I wanted to do — in terms of work that I have done and want to do. These years have been enlightenment; many of us die with many of our talent unexplored. But I am happy that I have been given this opportunity. I rap, write, sing and meet new people. These have been gifted years.

How has the rap culture changed in India?

It has changed in the last three years. A lot of things have changed when it comes to the digital platform. I was in a situation and wanted an outlet for my angst. Two of my songs on my channel were doing well. Yet, I didn't want to tell people that I was a rapper. I wanted to make good videos and good music. I am grateful that people have accepted me and I have had so many views including my latest video.

Do you think that rap is something that Indians love?

Sound and music changes with each gen-

eration. You had rock that was popular. Now you have rap. There are artists like Badshah and Honey Singh who have been rapping commercially. But hardcore rap will gain popularity with *Gully Boy*. People will get to hear a different sound and realise that something like this also exists.

Does this mean that the Indians have a lot to learn?

I would not say that they have to learn. They just don't know that hardcore rap involves storytelling and involves hard work when it comes to writing the song, that artists give out their experiences. But after the movie, I am hoping that it will open people to this kind of music as well.

Will the movie help open doors for hardcore rap in films?

There is scope for all kind of music. But yes, a lot of heads are going to turn. As long as you give good content, there will be plenty of opportunities. But because I have my own channel, I do have a sense of freedom. I don't have to beg for work. People now know about my work but it will take time to for the shift to happen.

KOREAN ENTERTAINMENT TWIST

From K-pop music to adaptation of films and soap opera, showcasing webseries on digital platform and food festivals, Korean culture is taking India by storm. SANGEETA YADAV reports



Be it Sanjay Gupta's *Zinda* (adaptation of *Oldboy*) or Mohit Suri's *Ek Villain* (adapted from *I Saw The Devil*) or even Mahesh Bhatt's *Murder 2* (adapted from *Chaser*), *Rocky Handsome* (adaptation of *The Man From Nowhere*) or the upcoming film *Bharat* (adaptation of *Ode to My Father*, filmmakers are eyeing popular Korean films to adapt it for the Indian audience with Bollywood *taadka*.

"Their stories are not only high on family drama and human emotions but also violence, dark and gore. Where some films are based on mind games in their suspended thrillers, many showcases different shades of love and relationships. Their shrewd characters flaunting their six pack abs and action moves makes it more interesting for the Indian actors to experiment with all these elements," Kim Kum Pyoung, director, Korean Cultural Center in the Capital tells you.

Films like *3 Idiots*, *Dangal* and *My Name Is Khan* were screened in Korea

with the subtitles that got great response. This cultural exchange will not be expanded with a new collaboration with Doordarshan to air the channel in Korea and KBS World in India.

"We are soon going to launch DD India in Korea and KBS World channel in India. We have many Korean entertainment companies who are working on preparing the shows with the subtitles and also films to be adapted for Indian platform," Pyoung reveals.

It is not just Korean film subjects that have grabbed eyeballs in India. Their webseries are as popular and soon Indian viewers will get to see some soap dramas on the digital platform dubbed in several Indian languages.

"Korean drama on the digital platform will be launched in March as webseries. Seven to 10 drama will be dubbed in several Indian languages with English subtitles will be aired," Pyoung says adding this year, they will bring a big Korean star in India for the



IT IS NOT JUST KOREAN FILM SUBJECTS THAT HAVE GRABBED EYEBALLS. THEIR WEBSERIES ARE AS POPULAR AND SOON VIEWERS WILL GET TO SEE THEM ON DIGITAL PLATFORM

fans meet and greet and to take the movement forward.

Pyoung believes that remakes of Korean film do well than showcasing the originals with the subtitles. There is some gap in Bollywood and Korean films. We released *Train to Busan* in India but it couldn't viewers as compared to the remakes of the Korean films starring Bollywood actors. Korean content is good but how to match the Indian taste is the challenge. That is why Indian directors are adapting. It is time to remake good content for Indian audience. Bollywood lovers are looking for Indian face.

"Two years back, we participated in IFFI Goa and got 10 Korean directors with their film which got good response. This time again, we are collaborating with PVR Cinemas to have Korean film festival in March — April that will showcase top 10 Korean films with English subtitles. If it works well, we will distribute the film as well," Pyoung says.

Like Bollywood music, K-pop

music is also known for quirky dance number and lyrics. That is why it is liked by a lot of people. It all started when PSY's *Gangnam* song came out and spread like a wildfire. Not just PSY, South Korean band BTS has crazy fan following worldwide.

"We had organised our first K-pop contest in 2012, the same year when Psy became popular for his song *Gangnam Style* all over the world. When we played the video during the event, people jumped up from their seat to dance and cheer. I never thought this would become so popular and have huge base. Many people said that India's culture is quite conservative and might not be accepted in India. But that point, all the assumption was put to rest with this reaction," Pyoung tells you.

Since then, the K-pop festival became a regular affair in the Capital. "Last year, we have had 500 teams from all over India and 2,000 participate. K-pop fans are growing by leaps and bounds. Like Bollywood style, Korean singers like to sing and dance as well which requires a lot of stamina and practise. The singers make the songs keeping in mind the worldwide audience and not just for the Korean fans or films," Pyoung explains.

Many youngsters are enrolling to learn Korean language at the cultural centre and this gave another avenue for expansion.

"Since a lot of people are liking Korean drama and music and the rise in translation to Indian languages, it could be one of the reasons for youngsters opting to learn Korean language. Currently our centre has 380 students learning Korean language and also training them to become teacher to teach many others," Pyoung says.

Its not just music, dramas and films, Korean food is as popular as well. With the rise in Korean restaurants in India, their traditional dishes are catching a lot of attentions.

"Korean foods are liked by a lot of people. Dishes like Miso soup, Bibimbab, Gimbap, Ramyeon, Kimchi, Tteokbokki, desserts like Bingsu, Kkul Hotteok paired with traditional Korean tea and coffee are a must to explore. Indian chef are trained in Korean cuisines and some learn it from YouTube to make the dishes," Pyoung says.

'I always try to reinvent myself'



Known for his role in *Loveyatri*, AAYUSH SHARMA speaks with MUSBA HASHMI about how has his life changed after the film and his upcoming projects

What is keeping you busy these days?

I am working on my next film which is different from *Loveyatri*. It is an exciting project, full of action and an entirely performance driven film. It will surprise the audience because after *Loveyatri*, people would expect me to come back in a romantic role but this one will be a complete shocker. Pre-production has started for another film so I am busy with setting up things for that. When I am done for the day, I spend time with my family and son who is growing up fast.

How have things changed for you after *Loveyatri*?

Things have changed completely. It is an altogether different world and there is a sense of settlement. Before the film was released there was a lot of concern and fear among us that how it will do and how people will react to it. But I got positive responses and people started recognising me by my name. I have started getting more love and affection from the people. Professionally, it has given me the drive to perform better.

Did you go out of your comfort zone?

A lot many times. I am not a dancer. I was an introvert. I barely danced at parties and avoided talking to anyone. I never did theatre in school because I had stage-phobia. Then I learned dancing, I started facing the stage and became an extrovert and now when I see myself here it surprises me a lot.

What preparations did you do to become an actor?

It was a five-year long journey. I watched many movies and did a lot of workshops. I used to practice 11 hours a day and work on my acting skills, diction and expressions. And those five years were required only for one film and now when there is another film, I had to again train and reinvent myself. I keep trying to do something new and achieve something better and I am still learning.

Would you have been placed so well if you did not know Salman Khan?

I don't think so. I won't deny that a certain kind of recognition came my way because of him. If I was not attached to him, maybe no one would have noticed the film. Nowadays everyone aims to make a blockbuster, nobody wants to make a flop film. With his name attached to us, it gained eyeballs and gave us the right kind of attention and people knew about the film. It's a big thing because this is the time when a film releases but people don't even know about it so he has always been an asset for us.

Do you have to work harder to prove yourself?

Yes, I had to and more than anything I had to prove it to myself. I am not content as a performer. I see my work and feel I could have done better. I don't call myself an actor but a student of acting. I am growing and I want to keep exploring my horizon because I don't want to put myself in a box and say that I am only good at dancing. I want to try my hand at several things and I will keep experimenting and find my way and one day I will say to myself that I am very versatile (laughs).

Do you think as a newcomer you can choose your projects?

God has been kind to me to do that. I take my projects, go through the scripts and understand what I want to because at the end of the day it is my journey — my high, my fall. I don't want to blame any person or position of what happens to me if I am ready to take the credits then I should take blames as well therefore I choose my own projects.

Now when the film is premiering on & pictures, how would it further your career?

I always believe that television has a very wide range and it reaches places where theatres can't. Sometimes people don't want to go to theatres because they are busy but when a film comes on television they make time to watch it. Television penetrates into tier III and tier II cities which is a big market for us. Also the film is very family oriented so those people who missed the film can watch it with their family and have a different perspective of the film altogether. For me, my aim in my first few films is not to make a huge box office collection but to reach maximum hearts.

Some lessons come young

15-year-old Armaan Singh is making waves by teaching the underprivileged children, says HIMA KOTA

He used to have numerous questions in his mind when he saw little poor children begging at the red light from the window of his car. As a toddler, he would seek answers to those questions from his parents.

At 12, Armaan Singh Ahluwalia decided to do something for them. He told his mother, Dr Tarvinder Kaur Ahluwalia, that he wanted to open a school for the poor children. Kaur gave in to his innocent demand, looking at her son's enthusiasm and passion.

Now, at 15 Armaan, runs Apne, a four-room school, on one of the floors of his house in Noida, for underprivileged children. "It feels like I get a fresh breeze when I'm in the company of these children," says the Class X student of the DPS RK Puram. He spends at least one hour daily with 15 to

20 students on a regular day. The number of students increases to 25 on weekends when Armaan spends five to six hours at the school.

"I want all these students to be well-educated and be all-rounders, so as to improve their quality of life," Armaan tells you who also organises football matches, athletic training sessions and theatre rehearsals for them. Last year, he had organised a football tournament for them.

However, all this is tougher than it sounds. Though he has had to sacrifice on a lot of pleasure that children his age enjoy like play video games, or watch TV, he has no regrets. "I have sacrificed these pleasures because to be in the company of these kids given he a lot of satisfaction and happiness," he says.

His mother helps him in the cause. In fact, after meet-



Armaan Singh Ahluwalia (centre) with his students at Apne

ing these children and listening to their stories, she resigned from her job in a multinational company two years back and helps Armaan run the school

"I get so much satisfaction to see the smiles on the innocent faces who seemed to have lost faith in themselves, when they came first to the school. I feel Armaan is get-

ting much better education by serving them and understanding their stories of struggle, hunger and pain. I am happy that he is learning the real meaning of being educated. I have no regrets in leaving my job and helping my son. It has given us so much happiness. We understand the purpose of our lives now. Perhaps the reason why Armaan is getting a good education and I left my job to serve these kids," Kaur says.

Armaan and his mother just don't teach these kids, they are provided with stationery, uniform and food free-of-cost to the students, besides academic and sports facilities.

Looking at the good work and son and mother are doing, the school has started getting support from other families, who donate stationery, books and uniforms, besides providing monetary assistance.

Taking inspiration from Armaan, his friends too have started celebrating their birthdays and special occasions with these children.

Each child at Apne has a struggle to share. "Now instead of working on construction sites, I come to the Apne. I can speak basic English and feel confident. I am fortunate that I have been given an opportunity to study and instead of being a labourer, I now dream of being a police inspector when I will grow up," 10-year-old Lochan says.

Another student at Apne tells you how she loves going to Apne. "Studying and playing with other children makes me happy. I used to work as a maid in a house washing dishes. It gives a different feeling to come here. I am a different person now. When I grow up, I want to be a teacher," Rakhi says.

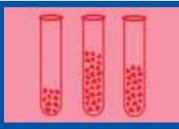
No matter what race or religion or nationality or sexual orientation or gender you are, music has the power to unite us — Lady Gaga



3

Just one birthday wish

Murakami's *Birthday Girl* revolves around a concept that tends to develop an extra layer of complexity with each passing year — birthdays



6

The science of love

If more people understand the science of love, they will realise how many aspects of it are in our control, and thus lead happier life



7

The higher plane

Through meditation, personal transformation, and universal love, human beings can connect with their own soul



Not long ago, Bollywood aligned itself with the cultural ideology of the ruling party, which favoured a nationalistic revival. This new cinema demanded a sense of national pride in its stories, and the biopic genre fulfils this condition without ruffling many feathers, writes HIMANSHI SHARMA

BOLLYWOOD'S BIOPIC BOOM

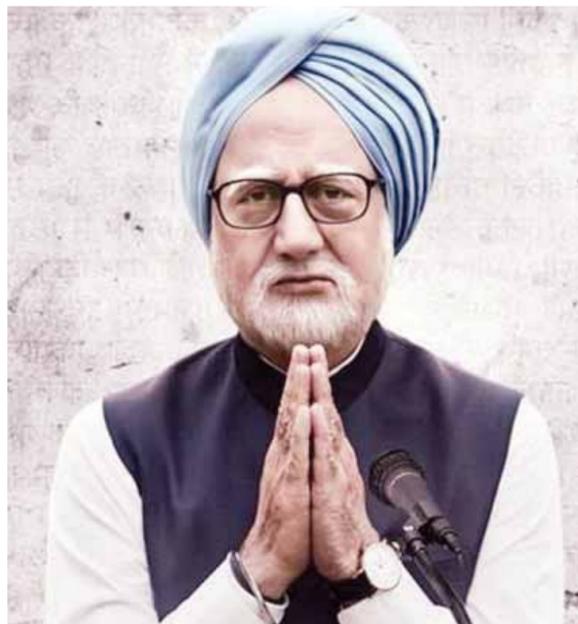
On February 9, Rupesh Paul dropped a teaser for his upcoming movie based on the life of Rahul Gandhi titled *My Name is RaGa*. The film is due to be released in April, just in time for the 2019 Lok Sabha Elections. Just two days prior to this, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis had released the official film poster of an upcoming Narendra Modi biopic to be directed by Omung Kumar of *Mary Kom* fame. This year has already seen the release of *Thackeray*, a biopic based on the life of Shiv Sena firebrand, the late Balasaheb Thackeray; *The Accidental Prime Minister* directed by Vijay Ratnakar Gutte, which tracks the tenure of Dr Manmohan Singh as the Prime Minister of India between 2004 and 2014; and Kangana Ranaut starrer *Manikarnika* based on the life of Rani Lakshmbai. The phenomenon is not limited to this year either. The year 2018 saw the release of several biopics, including *Pad Man*, *Sanju*, *Soorma*, and *Manto*, and the genre has been gaining steady rise for over half a decade now. How do we account for this seemingly sudden surge in the popularity of the genre? Why are Bollywood producers and audiences alike smitten with biopics of late?

Biopics were not a particularly attractive genre for Bollywood producers and directors even less than a decade ago when *Paan Singh Tomar* was released in 2012. They were scattered in Bollywood's neglected "serious" cinema by-lanes: Films that usually steered clear of portraying contemporary political actors, and often chose to portray fictional interpretations of historical figures. Think of *The Legend of Bhagat Singh* (2002), or *Mangal Pandey: The Rising* (2005). Contrast this to Hollywood cinema of the time when the Academy Award for best female actor went to Reese Witherspoon in 2006 for her portrayal of June Carter in *Walk the Line*, and in 2007, to Helen Mirren for her performance as Queen Elizabeth II in *The Queen*. Hollywood's romance with biopics as potential Oscar-bait is an open secret; it allows actors to display their acting prowess in terms of both physical impersonation as well as through nuanced interpretations of the motivations of their real-life counterparts.

In Bollywood, on the other hand, even in the event that the film was based on the real life of a contemporary figure, the film was produced as a drama rather than a biopic. Mani Ratnam's *Guru* (2007), for instance, though rumoured to be based on the life of business tycoon Dhirubhai Ambani, was never promoted as such. And yet, just a decade later, there is a slew of movies based on the real-life stories of sportspersons, film actors, and contemporary politicians, including those who are yet to professionally retire.

One reason for this massive change in the way films are produced and marketed is the

THIS NEW CINEMA SITUATED ITSELF IN SMALL TOWNS REPLETE WITH STORIES OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS, AND ITS UNIQUE SET OF MORAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL CHALLENGES. THE NATIONALISTIC PROJECT REQUIRES NEAT HEROES AND VILLAINS, IT REQUIRES INSPIRING STORIES OF SURVIVAL, IT INVOLVES MYTHMAKING, BUT ABOVE ALL, IT DEMANDS A SENSE OF NATIONAL PRIDE IN THESE STORIES



shift in public discourse. Popular Bollywood cinema in the recent decades has recalibrated itself; moving away from its position in newly-independent India as an instrumental opinion-shaper, it has adopted for itself a more subdued reflective role. It's no wonder then that earlier films shied away from explicit politics. The spike in NRI movies during this period is not coincidental, as multiple academics have consistently noted. Cinema became a reflection of desires; so when the new middle class, itself a product of globalisation, desired to see the ultimate dream of *desi* mobility against Western backdrops on the silver screen, Bollywood delivered. There was limited scope for meaningful engagement with contemporary politics in such narratives. Indian biopics rarely allow for fancy foreign locales, and so it's no wonder that the Hindi film industry sidelined the genre.

The global recession of 2008, while it didn't have much impact on the Indian economy, changed the configuration of Indian politics. With global economy in decline, the momentum of growth and development from the first UPA term dipped. We know the story, of course: A weak Congress embroiled in multiple corruption allegations lost to a much stronger NDA. However, this wasn't merely a change in political Governments. Bollywood aligned itself with the cultural ideology of the ruling party, which strongly favoured an involved nationalistic revival. This new cinema situated itself in small towns replete with stories of social and economic aspirations, and its unique set of moral and infrastructural challenges. The nationalistic project requires neat heroes and villains, it requires inspiring stories of survival, it involves mythmaking, but above all, it demands a sense of national pride in these stories. The biopic genre fulfils these

conditions without ruffling many feathers. Think of it this way: *Lipstick Under My Burkha* and *Dangal* both came out in 2016, and both movies tried to capture the many kinds of oppressions that continue to beleaguer women, especially in a small town context. They were both reasonably well made films and both were declared blockbusters, yet while one of them was heavily censored by the Certification Board for being "lady oriented", the other was declared tax-exempt in certain States.

The story of the Indian biopic boom is incomplete without a discussion of profits. "Critical" cinema in the Indian film industries usually refers to films that do well at the festivals and scoop National Awards, but perform poorly at the box office. They're usually produced at shoestring budgets, and if a film is lucky, it may sometimes do better than just recovering the cost of production. *Shahid* (2013) was made on a budget of ₹65 lakh, its total collection was about ₹3.6 crore; *Paan Singh Tomar* (2012) made on a budget of ₹4.5 crore collected ₹20 crore. These were peanuts, of course, compared to the profits of big-budget movies; *Dabangg* (2010) had an opening day collection of ₹14.5 crore. And yet, in scale with their budgets, these films seemed to be doing quite well. *Manjhi* (2015) earned double its budget of ₹8.5 crore, though Hansal Mehta's widely acclaimed *Aligarh* (2015) — which was released in India in February 2016 — failed to even recover its cost. But 2013 also saw *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*, which grossed over ₹100 crore. Priyanka Chopra star-

rer *Mary Kom* (2014) garnered both critical and commercial success, earning over ₹56 crore. The commercial success of sports biopics resulted in a flurry of similar films vying to cash in on the opportunity. *Dangal*, *M.S. Dhoni*, and *Sachin: A Billion Dreams* were made on budgets that were huge compared to *Paan Singh Tomar*, and they all made upwards of ₹50 crore. It's an easy logic to follow — these sport stars are celebrities with huge followings. They ensure quick publicity, assured audience, and therefore, huge profit margins. But big bucks don't just make big profits, they also sanitise.

These newer movies may have all been sports biopics, but they were a long way away from the Tigra Manushu Dhulia film. *Paan Singh Tomar* was a sportsman who turned bandit due to the institutional indifference of Government machinery towards people in his position. It's a masterful and empathetic insight into the character of a much reviled and feared *baaghi*, an "anti-national" if one was to use the political language of our time. *M.S. Dhoni* and *Sachin: A Billion Dreams* are stories of one-in-million cricket players, who were able to make it in a system that is otherwise stacked against them. You wouldn't know it after watching these films, though. They follow the recognisable format of building a story of rags to riches, or obscurity to fame. They are stories of struggle, personal failures, and efforts that overcome them.

GANDHI AND HIS INDIA

Aparna Basu's *Gandhi's Vision: Freedom and Beyond* takes a leaf out of Mahatma Gandhi's life and gives readers a sense of the thoughts and actions that led India to Independence and built a base for social development. An excerpt:

The Swadeshi Movement was a result of the Partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon in 1905. Conceived as an administrative readjustment of boundaries, it was overshadowed by political considerations. The movement formally began on August 7 at the historic Town Hall meeting in Calcutta, presided over by Maharaja Mahindra Chandra Nandi and addressed by Surendranath Banerjee. The protest took the form of boycott of foreign goods and the patronage of indigenous products popularly known as swadeshi. All classes of people — zamindars, professional groups such as lawyers, teachers, journalists, doctors, students and women joined the movement.

Rabindranath Tagore announced his plan in September 1905 to observe Rakshabandhan on October 16, the Partition day, and women took part in it. Another rite observed on this day was *arandhan*, suggested by Ramendrasundar Trivedi, asking women not to cook. Women organised swadeshi *bhandars* and Sarala Devi Chaudhurani, niece of the Rabindranath Tagore, opened Lakshmi Bhandar which sold only *swadeshi* products. Women gave up using imported cloth and smashed their bangles (*churis*). Bipin Chandra Pal addressed women's meetings during his tour of East Bengal in 1907 and the women of Tangail gave a big reception to Surendranath Banerjee when he visited Mymensingh later that year. A women's meeting was organised in the house of the eminent physician Dr Nilratan Sircar to honour the revolutionary Bhupendranath Dutta's mother. A number of women in Barisal gave their savings to the Swadeshi Bhandar Samiti.

Secret societies had started earlier in Maharashtra, and in Bengal, revolutionary organisations began to develop, mainly owing to the efforts of Aurobindo Ghose. The most important of these was the Anusilan Samiti founded in 1897. It received active help and encouragement from Sister Nivedita. Among others connected with the growth of revolutionary societies were Barindra Ghose (brother of Aurobindo) and Sarala Devi Chaudhurani. Women circulated revolutionary leaflets and helped in maintaining liaison between different revolutionary leaders.

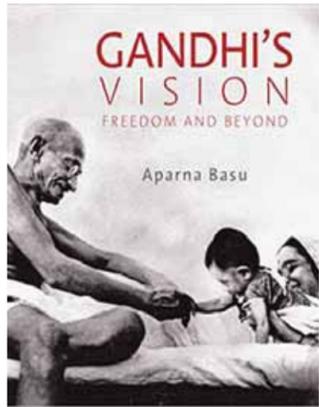
As the movement spread over Bengal, mass meetings were organised where the creed of swadeshi was preached. Bonfires of foreign goods were held and students boycotted Government schools and colleges. 'Bande Mataram', the sacred mantra of Bankim Chandra, became the rallying cry and inspired people with a new sense of patriotism and national consciousness. The president of the Indian National Congress, at its 1906 session held in Calcutta, expressed the demand for swaraj. Aurobindo Ghose declared the attainment of complete freedom as the goal of the national movement. The demand for national education was also a part of the Swadeshi movement. National schools were started and a technical college was opened in Jadavpur. With the annulment of the Partition in 1911, the Swadeshi movement, which had been largely centred in Bengal, petered out.

THE HOME RULE LEAGUE, TILAK AND ANNIE BESANT
Before Gandhi, Bal Gangadhar Tilak was the most widely known Indian political leader. Unlike his contemporary Maharashtra Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Tilak was a radical nationalist but conservative in his views on social reform. In 1897, plague broke out in Poona and the Government had to undertake segregation and house search. Tilak organised his own relief measures, but criticised the Government for its harsh measures. As a



result, he was arrested under Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code on the charge of sedition. He was once again arrested in 1908 on the charge of writing polemical articles intensifying racial animosity between Indians and the British. In June 1914, he was released after spending six years in prison, most of which he had spent in Mandalay in Burma.

On his return, he found the political situation in India very different. Aurobindo Ghose had given up politics for a spiritual life in Pondicherry. Lala Lajpat Rai was away in USA. To conciliate the moderates and avoid any political confrontation, Tilak started the Home Rule League asking, like the Irish Home Rulers, for administrative reforms and not for overthrow of the Government. Annie Besant, an Irish ex-suffragette, an advocate of Free Thought, Fabianism and Theosophy came to India in 1893 to work for the Theosophical Society. She entered Indian politics in 1914 and founded the Home Rule League. She realised that for her movement to succeed, she had to get the support of the Indian National Congress, of both the Moderates and the Extremists. She launched a campaign through her two papers, *New India* and *Commonwealth* and organised public meetings



SATYAGRAHA WAS NOT PASSIVE RESISTANCE, BUT ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO ANY FORM OF INJUSTICE. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR READ INTENSIVELY INTO THE GANDHIAN PHILOSOPHY AS A NEW AND POWERFUL WEAPON AGAINST INJUSTICE. BUT THE OPPOSITION HAD TO BE NON-VIOLENT

and conferences demanding that India be granted self-government on the lines of Britain's White colonies after the War. In 1917, the Government of Madras placed Mrs Besant and her associates BP Wadia and George Arundale under arrest. There was nation-wide protest and many 'Moderate'

leaders like Madan Mohan Malaviya, Surendranath Banerjee and MA Jinnah joined the Home Rule League to show their support to Annie Besant. Tilak advocated the use of passive resistance if the Government did not release her. At Gandhi's instance about a thousand signatures were collected

of men who were prepared to defy the internment order and march to the place where Besant was interned. The new Secretary of State, Lord Montagu was much more sympathetic and conciliatory and Besant was released. She was elected President of the Indian National Congress in 1917.

The announcement of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms divided the ranks of the supporters of Home Rule and the movement gradually lost its strength. In any case, its popularity had been mainly among the urban, English educated intelligentsia. However, it had generated a widespread nationalist atmosphere and created a group of individuals who played an important role in the national movement of the succeeding years, when under the leadership of Gandhi, it became a mass movement.

SEEDS OF SATYAGRAHA AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA
It was in South Africa where Gandhi spent twenty years, and evolved a method of political protest which he called satyagraha, which literally means 'truth force' or 'the struggle for truth'. Gandhi described it as 'a force which is born of truth and love or non-violence'. For him, it was the end of a quest for a moral equivalent of war.

Satyagraha was not passive resistance, but active opposition to any form of injustice. Martin Luther King Jr read intensively into the Gandhian philosophy as a new and powerful weapon against injustice. But the opposition had to be non-violent.

In his own words, 'Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction'. King recognised Gandhi's legacy of non-violence for the effectiveness of his own campaigns for racial integration. He became Gandhi's greatest disciple by embracing satyagraha as a method of struggle for the emancipation of blacks in America. The Transvaal Government introduced the Asiatic Law Amendment Ordinance which required every Asian man, woman or child above the age of eight to register his or her name with the Registrar of Asiatics. Failure to do so was a criminal offence. In response to the Black Act, a public meeting was held in the Empire Theatre in Johannesburg in September 1906, attended by about 3000 Indians who took a vow to defy the law in a non-violent manner.

Excerpted with permission from Aparna Basu's *Gandhi's Vision: Freedom and Beyond*, Niyogi Books, ₹1,500

FROM PAGE 1

The audience is invited to see themselves in the hero, to imagine that they can achieve the middle-class dream too if only they put in a little more effort, if only they overcome the barriers that hold them back. At the core of these inspirational stories is always the individual; the system is meant to be 'won' rather than questioned or dismantled. The limited budget biopics mentioned earlier do precisely this. Take *Shahid*, for instance, based on the life of the late Shahid Azmi, an Indian lawyer best known for defending cases of persons accused of terrorism. It is a film that uses the biopic genre to bring communalism, Islamophobia, Government overreach, and the dangerous consequences of cruel and draconian laws on the public life, into sharp focus. *Shahid* doesn't just pay homage to Shahid Azmi, it honours his legacy by putting the bravery and perseverance of the individual in perspective by juxtaposing it against an apathetic system.

Bollywood's biopic boom

one man as if to convey that this treatment was reserved for him (think of the overflowing toilet in his jail cell); it might have even justified the same treatment had it been doled out to an 'actual' terrorist rather than Sanjay Dutt, who was mistaken to be one. *Sanju* doesn't take the opportunity provided to it by the protagonist's life to reflect on the injustice practised in disproportionately withholding bails of the underprivileged; the film's only contention is that its protagonist was denied one. *Shahid* practices restraint but it is able to unpack layers upon layers of violence. In a scene in a police station with Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub, who plays Shahid's brother Asif, he requests the police inspector to grant him permission to meet his brother. The conversation gets heated when the inspector denies the requests and abuses Asif; it's a memorable scene that compels you to linger on it. The inspector's ire is not limited to Shahid's TADA charge; he is incensed when Asif speaks to him in English to make a point; it is a moment



that only Hansal Mehta could have visualised. We don't know the social background of the police inspector's character, but we can guess it because he embodies the insecurities of the majority; that a Muslim man would speak to him in English is unacceptable to him.

Shahid portrays the best of Azmi's life, but it succeeds because it is able to expand itself by linking the story to those of millions of other stories, in and outside the country.

One of the other important losers in big-budget biopics is inclusion. Of the biopics released in 2017-18, only *Pad Man* based on the life of Arunachalam Muruganatham could have claimed to represent an overlooked community in cinematic adaptation. However, as Aswathy Gopalakrishnan notes for *Silverscreen.in*, even that remained unrealised: "All non-glitzy elements have been removed from the story, and that includes Muruganatham himself. His identity as a school dropout from an impoverished family of handloom weavers in rural South India gets modified on screen as an upper-caste man named Laxmikant Chauhan (Akshay Kumar) in a town in Madhya Pradesh. It isn't a minor alteration which can be easily passed in a terribly skewed world where a large section of people are

underrepresented or misrepresented in our popular culture."

Dilip Mandal has pointed out how *Manikarnika* doled out the same treatment to the character of Jhalkari Bai, Dalit warrior and Lakshmi Bai's confidante who was instrumental in facilitating the latter's escape from the palace in Jhansi before her final battle. Though *Manikarnika* failed to recover its humongous ₹100 crore budget, the formula has generally worked. I'll use Mike Sholars' words, in context of his critique of *The Imitation Game*, to put it another way: "If the positive outcome of sharing true stories is inspiration, then the negative outcome is the erasure of the struggles and existence of marginalised group and the conflation of entire swaths of the human experience with 'messy details' that can be expunged from a narrative with little consequence. It's one thing to simplify a narrative and quite another to sanitise or sensationalise it."

And what of the increasing number of biopics based on the lives of active politicians? The abysmal trailer for *My Name is RaGa*, and the failure of *The Accidental Prime Minister* to draw audience might suggest that these stories will only have a short run. But let it be noted that the failure has more to do

with the lack of compelling storytelling rather than their political bent. It is yet to be seen how Omung Kumar puts the formula to use in his Narendra Modi film. The truth is that while Bollywood may have climbed the bogey of social change and patriotic fervour, these films are more about the actors who star in them rather than the issues they claim to be addressing.

Much like *Chak De! India* and *Pink*, *Pad Man* and *Dangal* exist to put wedge credentials in the kitties of established male actors. Fresh stories are rewritten in service of these actors relegating the principle subjects and their stories to the background. With female actors asserting their own power in the industry, the same thing has started happening on the other end of the permissible gender binary. *Mary Kom* had proven that women-centric biopics also make money, and Ranaut's limited success notwithstanding, several similar biopics based on Anandibai Joshi, Laxmi Agarwal, Gunjan Saxena, Jayalalitha, Saina Nehwal, Teejan Bai are either in works or slated for release this year. The bottom line? Biopics are hot because Bollywood has finally cracked how to sell them.

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MANY A BOOK IS LIKE A KEY
TO UNKNOWN CHAMBERS
WITHIN THE CASTLE OF
ONE'S OWN SELF
— FRANZ KAFKA

The print and the visual multimedia as distinct disciplines have traditionally been unwilling partners, in other words, they make strange bedfellows. Both stake claims as the carriers of the absolute truth in its untarnished, complete glory, harbouring a remarkable degree of suspicion for each other. In terms of literature, fiction as a literary text and fiction depicted on screen as cinema, are seldom understood to be quite the same thing: While the written word would claim an enormity which cannot possibly be depicted on screen, verbatim, unless one were to take great liberties with the run-time. Similarly, the on-screen version would plead for a treat for all senses, a more wholesome, multi-layered experience over the unidimensional written word. It is easy to spot two literature and film enthusiasts respectively, bitterly arguing over say, the Harry Potter or the Lord of the Rings series. Cinematic adaptations are mere starting points of animated discussions and discourse in proper, winding through the respective strengths of literature and cinema. These are some of the issues that academic, critic and translator Vivek Sachdeva deftly handles in his *Fiction to Film: Ruth Praver Jhabvala's The Householder and Heat and Dust*.

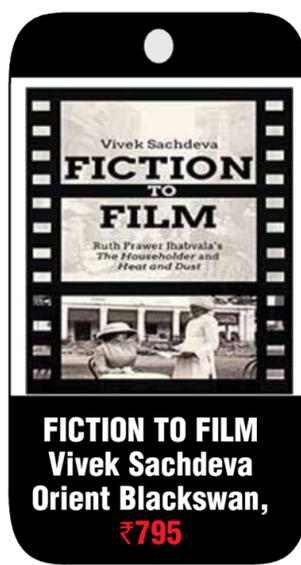
In his detailed introduction, Sachdeva lays a definitive background for building a case for fiction and film as distinctive texts: He defines the aim of his project as one to study adaptations of novels into films and to note the transformations a narrative undergoes in cinematic form. Talking at length about adaptation, its growth and famous cinematic adaptations in both the Western and the Indian corpus, Sachdeva goes on to discuss "Film as Art". He makes a significant observation in terms of a distinctive feature of canonical literature like that of Shakespeare which had "something for everyone"—philosophy, wit, melodrama, rhetoric and also spectacle. Cinema which may have its origin in entertainment has over the years through the contribution of filmmakers par excellence, grown into an evolved art form because of the 'timeless works of art in portraying human life in all its bewildering complexity and nuance with rare insight and sensitivity' notes Sachdeva. Drawing upon several crucial interventions by the likes of Raymond Williams, Adorno, Arnheim and Eisenstein's theory of montage, Sachdeva explicates the relation between films and reality: While literary images reach the readers through 'conceptual perception', cinematic images reach directly through perception. Under the interestingly titled section "Pride (in literature) and Prejudice (against adaptation)",

Vivek Sachdeva's book *Fiction to Film* will be of great use to both research scholars of film and literary studies as well as enthusiasts and connoisseurs of adapted classics, writes KALYANEE RAJAN

THE FILMS AND FICTIONS OF RUTH JHABVALA

Sachdeva cites several directorial exemplars while inferring that "creative filmmakers have used film's mode of communication so innovatively and effectively that what a novel takes pages to describe, a filmmaker has said more in a short scene or two". The nature and scope of adaptation is also discussed in depth, the respective artistic conventions of a novel and a film are analysed. Sachdeva also dwells upon the connotations associated with criticism of cinematic adaptations, which are usually pejorative and highly polarising viz 'deformation', 'bastardisation' to name a few, and the whole debate around fidelity criticism, with the label 'infidelity' drawing from Victorian prudishness and ethical perfidy in particular. He makes a case against the prejudice of parasitism of cinema as an art form which has led to a supposition that films in some way drain or damage the narrative text, by restating how adaptation is "fundamentally a creative process". A dedicated section on "Challenges of Adaptation" looks at two primary vertices: That of the origin of the two respective art forms films

and novels, and their respective employment of linguistic tools. Through an exhaustive survey of theories, Sachdeva finds Klein and Parker's model of seeing "adaptation as an interpretation of the original text" stronger in terms of essentially veering away from the fidelity aspect. He proposes looking at the relation between the original and the new text through the lenses of "inter-textuality, translation and inter-mediality", looking at the adaptation as a derivation that is not derivative. The final section titled "Narration in Cinema" is particularly illuminating as it dwells upon the "complex system of relations" to be perceived by the viewer, including the framing of shots, arrangement of material on the basis of space and time, the point of view and narration through modes of long shots, close ups, the treatment of time and so on. Sachdeva seeks to explicate all his observations through a close analysis of celebrated novelist Ruth Praver Jhabvala's novels *The Householder* and *Heat and Dust* which the author herself helped to depict on screen by donning the hat of a screenplay writer, for



the films produced by Ismail Merchant and directed by James Ivory.

In the succeeding four chapters, Sachdeva presents a comprehensive study and scrutiny of the phenomenal journey of fiction transforming into films. In the first chapter, he methodically deals with the technicalities of story, time (analepsis and prolepsis), focalisation, levels of narration, narrator and kinds of narrators with their respective functions, concluding with characters and characterisation, and space, all written in crisp, jargon-free style of explanation. The next chapter looks at Jhabvala the individual and the writer, her brief biography, also including brief synopses as well as insightful thematic discussion of her primary works such as *To Whom She Will*, *The Nature of Passion*, *Esmond in India*. The sub-section titled "The Screenwriter" engages with short overviews of the several films Jhabvala wrote during her fruitful association with Merchant Ivory Productions. The third and the fourth chapters juxtapose the novels and their respective cinematic adaptations, in the

manner of an expert, microscopic scrutiny. The conclusion ties up the entire analysis towards proposing a new take on narrative discourse in fiction and film, especially in the Indian context. The exhaustive annexures on the two films and the detailed bibliography testify to the range of research and referencing that has gone into making of this pioneering volume.

The merit of Vivek Sachdeva's *Fiction to Film* lies in its clinical handling of a subject so mired in contrary points of view, and the insights he draws can be effectively applied to the study of other cinematic adaptations, translations and theatre in general. It must be mentioned that in these times, cinematic adaptations in Bollywood have caught popular imagination with creative adaptations of Shakespeare for instance, by the likes of veteran directors such as Vishal Bhardwaj (*Maqbool*, *Omkara*, *Haider*), and Sanjay Leela Bhansali (*Goliyon ki Raas Leela Raam Leela*) among others as cases in point.

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NEW ARRIVALS

HOW TO WIN AN INDIAN ELECTION
Shivam Shankar Singh
Penguin, ₹250



What role do political consultants play in election campaigns? How are political parties using technological tools such as data analytics, surveys and alternative media to construct effective, micro-targeted campaigns? How does the use of money impact election results? What aids in the en masse dissemination of divisive propaganda and fake news? What does it take to win an election in India today? What is the future of politics in the country?

THE GREAT MARCH OF DEMOCRACY
SY Quraishi
Penguin Viking, ₹599

As India gears for its seventeenth Lok Sabha elections in 2019, the Election Commission of India, guardian of the world's grandest electoral experiment, marks the beginning of its seventieth year. This book celebrates seven decades of India's vibrant democracy and the Election Commission's excellence and rigour, with a remarkable collection of essays written by those who have studied India's unique experiment in electoral democracy.

TWICE UPON A TIME
Payal Kapadia
Puffin, ₹199



'All princess stories are the same!' But not this one. This is a story about two girls. Keya just happens to be a princess. Nyla just happens to be a tomboy. Both just want to be themselves. When Princess Keya quits and Nyla shows up to replace her, two worlds collide. Together the girls ruffle dresses and feathers; break vases and traditions; fight dragons and boredom; grow roses and revolutions. So what if there are a few puny princes and snivelling snobs in the mix? Leave it to the girls to rescue everyone—and each other. Boisterous, over the top and wicked funny, this book is for girls who have outgrown princesses.

Just one birthday wish

Murakami's recently re-released *Birthday Girl* is just the gift that a grown-up would need on his/her next birthday. In its philosophy as well as writing style, it is a rare literary treat, writes UMANG AGGARWAL

There's almost nothing new about a story that revolves around the idea of the protagonist being granted a fixed number of wishes. Almost inevitably, the story ends with a philosophical lesson that he/she learns in the process of making the wish. Only an author with (Franz) Kafka-like rare skill and thought to add novelty to this. And that's exactly what the book being reviewed offers.

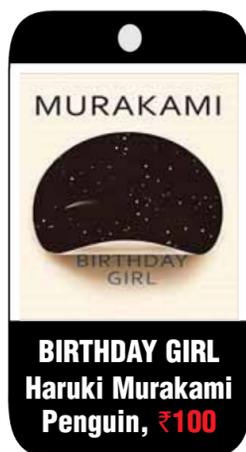
Haruki Murakami, a contemporary Japanese author whose works have been widely translated and celebrated, has often been compared with Franz Kafka. Like Kafka, Murakami's characters and stories are set in the world that lies somewhere in the middle of that which seems magical and that which seems eerie. Unlike Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Salman Rushdie who create beautiful and strangely believable worlds in the genre of magical realism, Kafka and Murakami retain a sense of enigma in their writings. Their works do not go all the way in making supernatural elements seem 'normal'. Instead, they thrive on an element of incredulity in the stories that they weave. While Marquez and Rushdie would have you believe that their beautiful worlds exist somewhere, Murakami would almost never give the reader the satisfaction of that kind of finality. A nagging but enchanting loose end would follow the reader and make him/her come back to the novel in search of any clues that he/she might have missed earlier.

Thriller, romance, fantasy—Murakami's works defy the usual genres that literature is classified into. Instead, they criss-cross through so many genres adapting and refashioning elements from each of them



that at best one can say that they have a genre of their own. *Birthday Girl*, the Japanese author's celebrated short story was re-packaged into a novella and released by Penguin less than a month ago. And, it would be safe to say that it is one of the most rewarding Murakami treats.

The short story turned into a novella revolves around a concept that tends to develop an extra layer of complexity with each passing year—birthdays. Grown-ups can pretend that they are over the childish excitement and anxiety that birthdays bring along with them. But to put it plainly, almost no one ever is. The idea of a fresh start each year is as inviting as the idea of looking back at the previous year is



MURAKAMI WOULD ALMOST NEVER GIVE THE READER THE SATISFACTION OF FINALITY. A NAGGING BUT ENCHANTING LOOSE END WOULD FOLLOW AND MAKE HIM/HER RE-READ

daunting. The girl protagonist in the book who resigns to waiting table even on the eve of her 20th birthday as she was "not going to do anything special anyway". Just like her, grown-ups often tell themselves

to keep their birthdays "ordinary" and eventless. But just like in the book, fate can choose to interfere at almost any point. In the book, the protagonist has an unusual encounter that seems to be destined to happen. People around her fall unexpectedly ill and practically start making way for her to have an experience which cannot help but think back on even years later. The 20th birthday, which the author chooses, carries extra weight in the sense that it officially marks the end of the teen years in a growing adult's life. It's a milestone that one can cross only "once" in a lifetime. And the author has some rather insightful take on what one should wish for at that juncture—he/she should 'make' their wish.

"Just one. You can't change your mind afterwards and take it back." The beauty of Haruki Murakami's writing can be discovered and rediscovered by reading this one sentence over and over again. It's one of the most loaded, deeply meaningful, and deceptively simple sentences that English literature has seen. In the book, on the face of it, the limitation of "just one" is imposed on the number of wishes granted to the unnamed narrator. If one looks at keeping the context of birthdays and birthday wishes in mind, it can even refer to each successive year that an individual is "granted" on his/her birthday as he/she gets old. The underlying message here is that with each year coming as an opportunity to "make" our wishes come true, do individuals really need to close their eyes, blow on the birthday candles, and ask for more? That, of course, is just one interpretation. In a larger sense, "just one" can even refer to the number of lives an individual is granted. In that case, the open-handedness of the narrator's conversation with her unnamed friend becomes all the more poignant. "That's because you have already made your wish," the speaker says to the listener when he/she is unable to come up with one wish that would have been appropriate for his/her twentieth birthday. In saying that and invoking the idea of "time" playing "an important role," the story opens itself up to an interpretation where "only one" wish refers to what an individual does with the "only" life that he/she gets. If you have nothing 'special' to do on your next birthday, I would suggest reading or even rereading Murakami's *Birthday Girl*. It beckons the reader into a space that is anything but ordinary.



NALIN KUMAR MOHAPATRA

Eurasian security at stake

The NATO-Russia Council Summit demonstrates the 'misunderstanding' about each other still exists and is accentuating a hostile strategic climate in and around Eurasia

The deadlock between Russia and NATO in the NATO-Russia Council Summit in Brussels has once again exposed the perpetual fissures and this may jeopardise both Eurasian security and global peace.

The Cold War-era global conflict which veered around NATO-Warsaw antipathy to each other is once again resurfacing even after the collapse of the Soviet Union 28 years back. This is happening despite the fact that there is no more a Warsaw bloc. The mutual hostility between NATO and Russia (as a lead member of the former Warsaw pact in the form of inheritor of the former Soviet Union) was fully reflected in the latest NATO-Russia Council meeting which took place in Brussels on January 25, 2019.

The mutual antipathy towards each other has also reflected in the tone and tenor of the Brussels Summit. As reported in the Russian press, lack of unanimity in the Council meeting came to fore when the Russian delegates stated that the United States is keen to accelerate its infamous "Star War programme".

The Russian delegates urged that it will "accelerate arms race" at a global scale putting the security of "Global Commons" at nadir. Another contentious issue which got

much attention in the NATO-Russia Summit meeting was on the issue of Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces also known as (INF). The Brussels meeting as expected from many quarters failed to evolve a consensus on the future of nuclear arsenals. The failure of the coordination council of both the adversaries is also generating a lot of hypothetical questions relevant to international security. These are:

a) Is NATO going to tame an assertive Russia in near future?

b) Whether NATO will continue its policy of "encirclement" of Russia?

The antagonism between NATO-Russia which has its roots in the Cold War period took a new turn in the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union and emergence of the Russian Federation as its successor. To an utter surprise, the new leadership under Boris Yeltsin guided by the pro-Atlanticists forces tried to mend fences with the erstwhile foe and got engaged with the NATO bloc.

In fact the admission of Russia into the NATO's outreach Programme of Partnership for Peace (PPP) along with some other former Soviet Union (FSU) States like Azerbaijan, Moldova and Uzbekistan showed inclination of

FSU States to mend fences with their Cold War adversary.

Soon the "honeymoon" between these two fell to a low level and Moscow tried to give a new impetus to its external policy in the form of distancing itself from the Western bandwagon. The stand-off between these two reached to a new low when the latter reignited the "soft tinderbox" of Eastern Europe.

The subsequent NATO onslaught on Kosovo alarmed the strategic thinkers of Russia that the United States may use NATO to orchestrate a Cold War type crisis to checkmate Russia. Subsequent change of leadership in Russia which saw emergence of Vladimir Putin as the new President has had a profound impact on policy towards the West. Unlike his predecessor's inconsistent policy as some analysts put it towards the West (especially in the Yeltsin's first term), Putin, in his foreign policy orientation gave a new teething.

The 9/11 incident, however, brought the two into a common platform to fight against radicalist and terrorist forces in Afghanistan. This resulted in the creation of this institutional forum NATO-Russia Council in 2002. The Council was created as stated in the NATO website for "building bridges with

Russia".

The short-lived "bonhomie" between these two soon faded into oblivion (Russia-NATO) when West started showing its real intention in the FSU States. Directly or indirectly it propped up the so-called "Colour Revolution" in some of the FSU States like Georgia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan. By propping up its own regimes in three above-mentioned strategically important States reflected the true intention of the United States to bring this space into its orbit. In this venture it used NATO's military might to frighten Russia. Along with this move their real intention was also to get a firm foothold in the natural resources like energy.

Nervousness on the part of Russian leadership to the question of NATO's expansion in the Russian periphery strongly reflected in the Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation 2008. The Concept paper published in the Russian Foreign Ministry website mid.ru highlights that "bringing the NATO military infrastructure closer to the Russian borders on the whole... violates the principle of equal security."

Giving a strong rebuttal to the NATO's expansionist policy in its sphere of influence, as reflected in

the Foreign Policy Concept paper, Russia took firm measures which resulted in Russia-Georgia war in 2008 and this contributed to South Ossetia's declaration of independence. This gave a severe jolt to NATO's expansionist policy. Another major flashpoint which contributed to the further deterioration of relations between NATO and Russia was over NATO initiated project, Northern Distribution Network (NDN), to deliver humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.

By bringing some of the Russian allies like Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, in the NDN fold along with beefing up of the NATO-Ukrainian council, NATO tried to get an upper hand in the Eurasian geopolitics.

However in the post-2014 era the hide and seek game between these two strategic competitors took an ugly turn when Russia annexed Crimea. Calling it as an act of "aggression" by Moscow, NATO tried to frighten the former by stationing its troops across its bases in Eastern Europe, Central Europe and Baltic states. The deployment of missiles by NATO in the periphery of Russia propelled analysts to predict the return of "Cold War syndrome" in the global geopolitics. NATO's apprehension of Russia's action was clearly manifested in the

Warsaw Summit of NATO which took place in 2016. The Summit meeting as quoted in the NATO website stated, "Russia's aggressive actions are a source of regional instability."

Using "regional instability" (discussed above) as a precursor, NATO is strategising its policy towards the post-Soviet space. NATO member States despite their own internal rift are quite vociferous in demanding stricter action against Russia as evident from recent speech of President of Ukraine. In spite of internal rift (by the European member states and the United States in NATO over generating fund) which threatened the very existence of this military bloc, this Western body — as reported in the London-based newspaper *Telegraph* dated January 27, 2019 — is "mulling to spend around \$100 billion" for member states' security. This demonstrates NATO's preparedness to indulge in perpetual hostility with Russia. NATO's intention of taking on Russia militarily can be evident from the fact that it is conducting a series of military exercises in the periphery of Russia to demonstrate its war preparedness.

Another contentious issue which got attention in the NATO-Russia Council Summit was the

reduction of INF. It may be recalled here that the Council for Foreign Relations (CFR) study titled "The Ailing INF Treaty: What to Know" published on January 28, 2019 states that Russia is enjoying an "tactical advantage" over the United States in the possession of INF warheads.

The data of CFR study said, "Moscow has around 6,850 warheads and Washington has only 6,550" of the same. The failure of Brussels Summit resulted in both the United States (being part of NATO) and Russia deciding to withdraw from the INF treaty as stated by policy makers from both the countries. However this may trigger a new kind of "security dilemma" in global politics.

The NATO-Russia Council Summit demonstrated that the "misperception" of both the sides is still there and accentuating a hostile strategic climate in and around Eurasia as evident from recent moves in Ukraine. Similarly for a "sustainable peace" both NATO and Russia should take steps that might reduce mutual hostility.

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PERSPECTIVE

40 years of Islamic Revolution in Iran

Since the 1979 revolution, international relations and geopolitical equations have drastically changed. Besides stirring up a debate on Islam vs West, it continues to have repercussions on the Islamic Republic's relations with the rest of the world



YASIR ALI MIRZA

In the political history of West Asian and North African (WANA) region, the decades of 1970s and 1980s are marked as the years of turbulence. These years witnessed major upheavals in the political arena of Iran as well. The Islamic Revolution in Iran in 1979 under the leadership of Ayatollah Sayyid Ruhollah Moosavi Khomeini was one of the monumental events. It was a major development of the 20th century as it comprehensively changed the course of history and politics.

Cultural Shock

At their wits' end, the Western world was fumbling for words to react to this "orientalist" phenomenon as it did not conform to their notion of a "revolution". Cut to present, the revolution has stirred up an intense debate on Islam vs West because the whole idea of modernity has been challenged by the contours of the Iranian revolution. It continues to be a source of bewilderment in the Western world and is often called "rightist", "reactionary", "fanatic", "irrational" and "regressive".

However, in an important book *Shi'ism and Social Protest*, US academician Richard W Cottam has tried to dissect the anatomy of the Iranian Revolution by comparing it with French and Bolshevik revolutions. He is of the view that both the revolutions did not have the populist features as compared to the Iranian Revolution as one-fourth of Iran's population took to the streets against a regime still capable of brutal repression.

The Gathering Storm

Before every political revolution there is an intellectual revolution. To name a few, it was mystic philosopher Ali Shariati, Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari, Jalal Aal-e Ahmad and Ayatollah Beheshti who exhorted people with their intellectual engagements. In Iran the Islamic Revolution has its roots in the trials and tribulations of history. The late 19th century Tobacco Movement and early 20th century Constitutional Movement has been a very important event in awakening the collective consciousness of people. Further the democratically elected popular Prime Minister

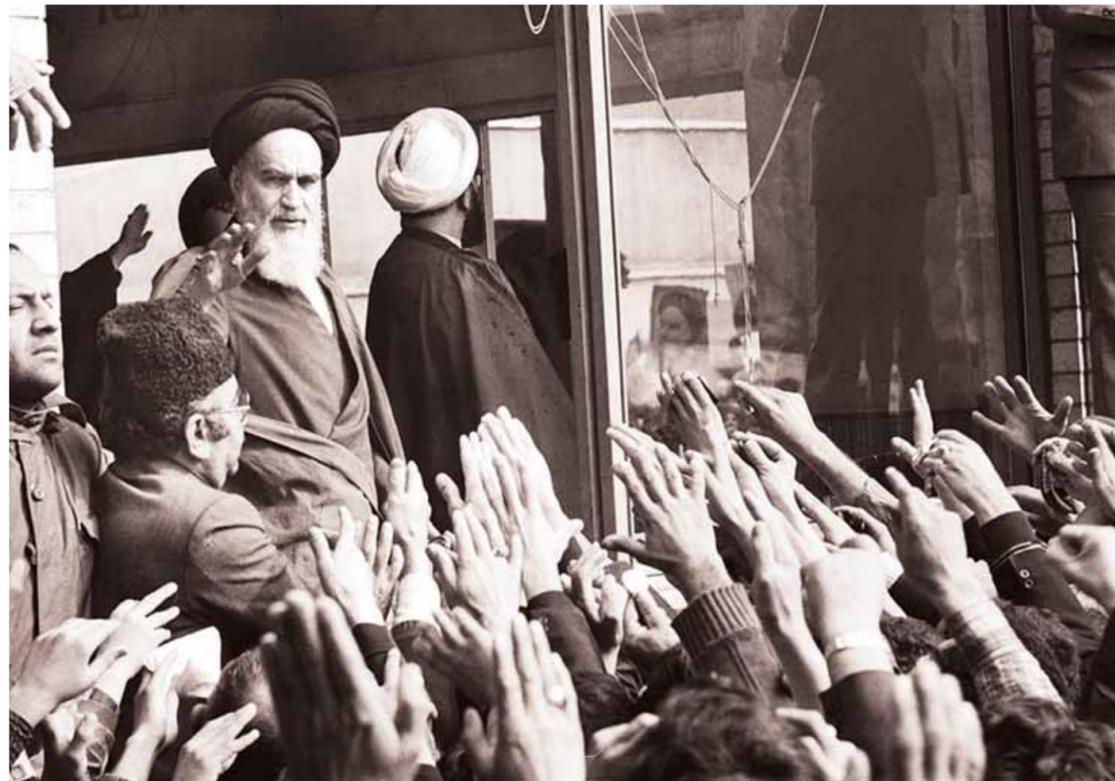
Mohammad Mosaddegh Government supported by a Shia clergy Ayatollah Sayyid Abol Qasim Kashani was overthrown in a US-backed coup (also called Operation Ajax) had deep impact on psyche of ordinary Iranians. Actually, the sense of anti-Americanism had also roots in that "great betrayal". Upon restoring the monarchy with the help of Britishers and Americans, Shah started more repressive policies by eliminating the dissenting voices. The notorious secret service SAVAK had played major role as henchmen in perpetuating the intimidation and torture of political activists. The bloody events of 15 Khordad in 1963, after which Ayatollah Khomeini was sent into exile, had begun to radicalise the Iranian masses against the despotic monarchy. Western countries had more clout over the oil businesses. Despite booming oil remittances the wedge between rich and poor began to make situation worst.

A Road to Revolution

In the last leg of the nationwide mass protests in December 1978, the momentum began to gather each passing day. The religious fervour was very high as it coincided with the commemoration of Martyrs of Karbala in the month of Muharram, which has a central place in Shia religio-philosophical construct. The Iranian ulama have successfully tried Shia symbols to mobilise the masses and created the binary of Imam Hussain vs Yazeed. The streets swelled with frenzied people raising the emotional slogans in crescendo "Kullo Yaumin Ashura, Kullo Arzin Karbala" (Everyday is Karbala, Everyday land is Ashura). It was quite evident that any time soon US-backed Shah would no longer ruler of this country. Even the renowned French intellectual Michel Foucault, who went to Iran as an Italian newspaper *Corriere della sera's* correspondent, sensed the popular upsurge that is going to inevitable in Iran.

Post-Revolutionary Islamic Republic

Na Shah Mee Khwaham, Na Shahpour Mee Khwaham (I want neither Shah, nor Shahpour). This was a proclamation of Ayatollah Khomeini in a massive public recep-



In this Feb 1, 1979 file photo, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, centre, waves to followers as he appears on the balcony of his headquarters in Tehran. Forty years ago, Iran's ruling Shah left his nation for the last time and the Islamic Revolution overthrew the vestiges of his caretaker Government. The effects of the 1979 revolution, including the takeover of the US Embassy in Tehran and ensuing hostage crisis, reverberate through decades of tense relations between Iran and America

tion at Behisht-e Zehra cemetery when he landed on Mehrabad Airport on 1st February in 1979 after fourteen years of exile in Turkey, Iraq and France. Iranian newspapers covered this historic event as "Imam Aamad" (Coming of Leader). Iranians welcomed him as a redeemer of their suffering who will lead to their collective salvation. Defying vestiges of Shah's regime on February 11, Imam Khomeini took the reins in his own hand formed Islamic Revolutionary Committees were formed across the country to run the affairs.

After one month, Khomeini constituted a referendum and declared Iran as Islamic Republic and introduced the political system of *Velayat-e Faqih* (Governance of

the Jurisprudent). Mehdi Bazargan, who later parted his ways, became first President. In order to consolidate the regime and his grip on power he also formed an elite force called *Pasdaran-e Enghelab-e Islami* or Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), which later cut their teeth in Iran-Iraq War and also played an important role in purging the remnants of Shah. It remains a formidable force in Iranian defence system. After the victory of revolution, the relations between Iran and US administration got worse. President Jimmy Carter showed no goodwill towards the new regime but hostility and threats. The US embassy hostage crisis further added fuel to the fire. In its neighbourhood, Iraqi dictator Saddam

Hussein, being bankrolled by Gulf regimes and armed by Western countries, imposed an eight-year devastating war on Iran. The left guerrilla group Mujahideen-e Khalq Organisation (MKO) would also try to trigger a counter revolution. But despite all these stumbling blocks, it came out triumphantly. The commendable fact of these developments is that electioneering process of Presidents and Majles had never been halted despite these entire crises.

International and Regional Geopolitical Implications

The revolution not only profoundly changed Iran and its Government, but also changed how Iran was dealt with by the rest of the

world. Beyond the borders it also had the regional and international dimensions. One of the pillars (other was Saudi Arabia) of United States' "Twin-Pillar Strategy" in the region fell down. Western nations and especially the US, whom Iran termed it as *Shaitan-e Bozorg* (Great Satan), were not prepared for the revolution and it was a great surprise to the international community.

The revolution was seen as a great threat to the status quo in the authoritarian and monarchical regimes in the WANA region. Asserting Islam as a major political force and to dislodge the East-West binary being contours of international relations, Iranian revolutionaries had given a call "Na Sharq,

Na Gharb, Faqat Jomhouri Islami" (Neither East, Nor West, only Islamic Republic). They also exhorted "Mustazifeen" (Oppressed) to take the "Mustakbireen" (Oppressors) out from the power. As Vali Nasr also contends that Iran made Islamism a political force that would change Muslim politics from Morocco to Malaysia.

It inspired the people struggling for self determination and their legitimate rights. Particularly it had a major impact on the Palestinian liberation struggle against the Zionist occupation. The birth of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad movements made possible after the Iranian support. The Iraqi Shia political activists who were bearing the brunt of ruthless repression of Saddam Hussein's regime were also very receptive of Imam Khomeini's clarion call. The underclass Shia of south Lebanon also got inspired by the Islamist fervour and organised a powerful Hezbollah movement against the Israeli occupation. It was that time when the farcical Arab Nationalism had taken hold across the region.

Iran After 40

After 40 years of revolution, Iran has achieved progress almost in every walk of life and made country self reliant. Ayatollah Khomeini's forthright leadership and his undeterred character led the revolution to its accomplishment despite all hardships and adverse circumstances. Similarly after the death of Imam Khomeini in 1989, the incumbent Supreme Leader Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hosseini Khamenei successfully carried on his legacy with new vigour and wisdom. He successfully led Iran to a rightful place in comity of nations.

The legacy of the revolution continues to have reverberations even today, and has profoundly shaped politics in the West Asia. Still the Iranian leadership is standing against the war-monger countries like rock solid who are bullying in the names of covert or overt war and harsh economic sanctions.

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ON THE LAST DAY OF THE BUDGET SESSION, MULAYAM SINGH YADAV WISHED NARENDRA MODI A SECOND TERM AS THE PM

Rahul to have the last word on party's LS ticket formula

sunday gupshup

HARI SHANKAR VYAS



On February 7, Rahul Gandhi met the State in-charges and General Secretaries of the party. Two days later, he called a meeting of State Presidents, leaders of MLAs in States, and Chief Ministers. In the two meetings, Rahul discussed the preparations and strategies for the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections. Among other things, the formula for ticket distribution was also decided in the meetings.

It is being said that during the course of discussions, it was decided that the Rajya Sabha MPs would not be given tickets for the Lok Sabha polls. MLAs, too, would not get a chance to fight the Lok Sabha Elections, say sources. The leaders who had fought the Assembly Elections would also be kept out of the race, as will the kin of leaders. Interestingly, there is a catch in this: The final decision rests with Rahul. This effectively means that if Rahul deems right, he may tweak this formula in select cases.

Now the question is how much of this formula will be implemented? Leaders present in the meetings, who did not oppose the formula at the time, are now calling it impractical. Will this strategy send all known faces into oblivion? Will the Congress be able to counter the challenges posed by Narendra Modi and Amit Shah with novices? Sources in the party say many Rajya Sabha MPs are trying to get LS tickets either for their wives or children. The kin of many CMs, former CMs, and State Presidents are gearing up for the upcoming polls. Relatives of many big leaders, such as Kamal Nath, Siddaramaiah, Ashok Gehlot, and Sheila Dikshit, might stake a claim for tickets. Barring some, this is almost certain that almost all relatives of big leaders would get tickets, as will some MLAs.

JYOTIRADITYA'S BIG PLANS

What will be next plan of action of the in-charge of western UP, Jyotiraditya Scindia? People are saying that his wife, Priyadarshini Rajee, is gearing up to fight the Lok Sabha Elections from Gwalior. Scindia is an MP from Guna, but Gwalior has been his family's stronghold for the longest time now. His wife has started appearing in public functions and people are desperate to know whether both the husband and wife will contest the elections. However, that would seem highly unlikely since Jyotiraditya will be busy working alongside Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in UP.

Meanwhile, there is buzz right from Madhya Pradesh to Delhi that Jyotiraditya has his eyes set on the CM's



chair and that is why he doesn't want to fight the LS polls. It is being said that soon after the elections, his role in State politics will gain prominence. Quite possibly, he will fight the Assembly Elections after ensuring the resignation of a loyal MLA. However, some are of the opinion that he might be sent to the Rajya Sabha or be given the party command in the State. Perhaps, Kamal Nath is apprehensive of a possible upheaval, which is why he has conveyed to the party high command his decision to not leave the Chhindwara seat. Kamal Nath might rope in his son, Nakul Nath, to fight from here. Kamal's wife, Alka Nath, has also been an MP from this seat.

SACHIN PILOT'S STRATEGY

The Congress State President of Rajasthan and Deputy CM, Sachin Pilot, has announced that nobody from his family will fight the Lok Sabha

Elections. The current MLA from Tonk was defeated in the 2014 Lok Sabha Elections from Ajmer. Later, when byelections were held in Ajmer, he didn't contest. This seat is vacant. Raghu Sharma, who had won the byelections, has become an MLA and is now a Minister in the Gehlot Cabinet.

However, Pilot has clarified that nobody from his family will fight from this seat. He is said to be eyeing the CM post, which explains his strategy. His mother, Rama Pilot, has been an MP from Dausa. This time also, people were saying that she might contest from Ajmer. Pilot's wife, Sara, is also from a political family; she is Farooq Abdullah's daughter and Omar's sister. It won't come as a surprise if she too jumps on the political bandwagon. If only Sachin hadn't tried to stand out among other party leaders and announced that no one from his family would contest. It's likely that he will start

pressure politics soon after the elections.

BIG DILEMMA IN CONGRESS

It seems that Rahul Gandhi has appointed State in-charges and General Secretaries without any deliberations or a thought about the future. Many General Secretaries are likely to contest elections, prompting several questions. General Secretaries and State in-charges are worried for their seats and the big question looms large: Who will lead the elections in States which have been assigned to them? There is no cause for worry in areas where Rajya Sabha MPs have been given charge, but what will happen in States whose in-charges are themselves in the Lok Sabha poll race?

RPN Singh is in-charge for Jharkhand and has to fight the Lok Sabha Elections. State President of Jharkhand, Ajay Kumar, and chairman of the campaign committee, Subodh

Kant Sahay, are also set to contest. Who will guide the party there? Umang Singhar — co-in-charge of the party in Madhya Pradesh and a Minister in the Kamal Nath Cabinet — might be told to look after election preparations in Jharkhand. In the same manner, Rajiv Satav, an MP from Hingoli in Maharashtra, has been given the responsibility of Gujarat. He also has to take care of his own seat along with Gujarat.

The biggest issue is of KC Venugopal, the MP from Alappuzha seat in Kerala. Earlier, he was in-charge for Karnataka and is now the General Secretary of the organisation. He will fight the Lok Sabha Elections along with the double responsibilities. In-charge of Assam, Harish Rawat, and in-charge of Maharashtra, Mallikarjun Kharge, also have to contest. In contrast, the BJP has appointed such leaders as State in-charges who don't have to fight the Lok Sabha Elections.

A cold chain prayer to prevent vaccine wastage

Vaccines are sensitive and fragile, and hence need to be stored in proper conditions; temperatures and sequence of storage are critical elements for ensuring the potency

Deepak Pal stole a glance at the battered, metal clock. It was just past 9 am. His morning tea would have to wait. He walked up to the ice-lined refrigerator (ILR) and leaned over to read the words imprinted on the glossy flex right above it, on the wall. "O Mere Bhagwan Roj Teri Daya, Isprakar Permanent Hame De," he whispered in Hindi, almost in a trance, the words in Hindi mean "Seeking the kind blessings of the Almighty every day and forever." A ray of light from a half-open window filled the room in a golden hue as he ended the cold chain prayer.

Minutes later, as he settled down to enjoy his cup of tea, Deepak, a Cold Chain Handler (CCH) at Rajpur CHC, of Barwani, a district in Madhya Pradesh, marveled at the power of the cold chain prayer. This was no ordinary chant to appease the Gods, but a powerful mnemonic to help CCHs like Deepak remember the stacking order of vaccines — starting with 'O' as in OPV at the bottom and 'De' for diluent at the top. It has become a part of Deepak's daily routine; to review the guidelines for stacking the vaccines in the top-opening ILRs, in increasing order of temperature, from minus 20 degrees celsius to 8 degrees celsius. The prayer helped him remember this order and the right temperature, protecting the vaccines from damage. What seemed easy today was indeed a struggle a few years ago.



(Left) Flex imprinted with the cold chain prayer displayed over the ILR of one of the cold chain points in Barwani; Deepak Pal explaining how the prayer helps him memorise the guideline of stacking the vaccines in the tray of a top-open ILR



vaccines potency. Hence, vaccine storage and management has always been a critical factor for an immunisation programme's success. Before 2014, this was proving to be a challenge, as CCHs like Deepak struggled to remember the vaccine storage guidelines. Despite several trainings to the

handlers, errors continued and large volumes of vaccines were being wasted due to incorrect stacking and storing, resulting in financial loss, loss of vaccine potency, and poor immune response. In 2014, when expensive vaccines like Pentavalent, PCV, RVV, IPV were introduced in

Madhya Pradesh, there was a call for urgent intervention to set things right. The solution came from Dr Santosh Shukla, the State Immunisation Officer (SEPIO), a veteran in the field of immunisation. Dr Shukla, Joint Director-cum-SEPIO, Madhya Pradesh, an officer who had worked extensive-

ly in rural and remote areas of the State, had immense knowledge and understanding of the ground realities, knew they had to quickly find a solution and think outside the box to help CCHs, supervisors, and MPW/LHVs remember the vaccine storage guidelines. Was there a way to help these tar-

get audience remember these guidelines? He found the answer in mnemonics, a learning strategy often used in classrooms from his days as a student in medical college. He codified the guidelines using mnemonics in the form of a simple prayer. For the vaccine handlers, this was a ditty they

could chant every day, much like the many prayers that were a part of their lives. There was no looking back! Dr Shukla's deep understanding of the handlers, a group of religious-minded people, had saved the day.

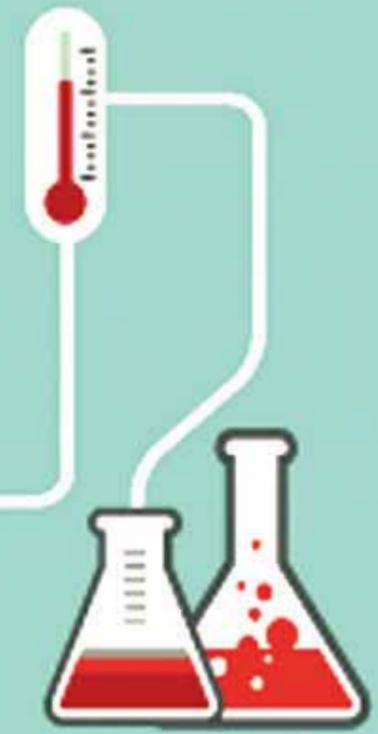
The results were evident from the start — the rate of vaccine wastage started dropping across the State. In a study conducted in the cold chain points of the State in 2015, it was revealed that the cold chain prayer and a mobile application for tracking vaccine storage had together saved ₹9.72 crore worth of vaccine from wastage. This innovative practice was even appreciated by the visiting teams of the Common Review Mission from the Government of India, UNICEF, WHO and dignitaries from other Indian States. Over the years, this practice has been adopted by some other States as well.

Today, cold chain handlers like Deepak working in 1,200 cold chain points of the State start their day by chanting the cold chain prayer. It's a part of their morning ritual. By leveraging the power of religious belief, a simple mnemonic-based prayer has become the soul of cold-chain points of the State. They say a prayer has the power to save lives. This simple chant is a living testimony to that — it may well have saved over a million lives of children in the State from vaccine-preventable diseases. By following a simple step, the providers have been able to ensure that beneficiaries get the full benefit of life-saving vaccines and protection against diseases.



THE SYSTEMATIC ASSIMILATION POLICY OF CHINA TOWARDS UIGHUR TURKS IS A GREAT EMBARRASSMENT FOR HUMANITY, SAID TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN HAMI AKSOY

The science of love



What are the essential questions we must ask to ensure a good relationship? BOUDICCA FOX-LEONARD finds out

WHAT SHOULD I LOOK FOR IN A PARTNER?

Research suggests we don't really know what we want in a partner — for example, speed-dating studies have found that what we say we want is different to what we actually go for. So don't be overly picky. Shared values are more important, in my opinion, than shared interests. Finding someone who also likes chess, or wearing purple clothing, isn't going to be enough. Commitment is far more important than connection; someone who's prepared to put in the hard graft to make a relationship work. Attachment theory comes into it if you are insecure — basically, being with someone secure will make your relationship more likely to succeed. Be conscious that who you choose will change you over time.

IS MONOGAMY NATURAL?

No. Of the 160 countries in a 2009 study, 44 per cent accepted polygamy, at least to some extent. Add to that the high rates of infidelity in many "monogamous" cultures, as well as the number of people who try non-monogamy (21 per cent in a large US study) and monogamy seems to be less "natural" or "universal" than many might believe. It's not the norm in animals either. Out of 4,000 mammal species, only a few dozen are monogamous, and of the world's 300-400 primates, only nine are — our closest living relative, the bonobo, definitely isn't (they seem to have sex at every available opportunity).

WHY DO PEOPLE CHEAT?

So many reasons. Sometimes because their relationship isn't working — but research suggests people cheat even when they're very happy in their relationship. In one study, a hefty 56 per cent of men and 34 per cent of women who had cheated rated their marriage as either "happy" or "very happy". If they were happy, why did they cheat? When asked this question by researchers, people provided a variety of answers, including: fun, career advancement, escapism, a need for conquest and power, exploring sexual identity, a desire for variety, or to combat feeling inadequate. But people also cheat for reasons they're not aware of, for example introducing insecurity into their relationship because they crave

independence, or exploring a part of themselves they have denied or buried.

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO WALK AWAY?

First of all, it's important to recognise that love and commitment are, or should be, conditional. And you need to decide what the conditions are. They shouldn't be too stringent but they shouldn't be too lax either. I interviewed philosopher Richard Kraut about this, and he said: "You should be willing to put up with a lot of discomfort and hard work, and a certain amount of self-sacrifice out of loyalty to a friend. "But I would add there is a limit to that, especially if there eventually comes a point where you simply cannot do any more good for a friend and putting effort into this is harming yourself. At that point, loyalty no longer is a virtue." Of course, that may be easier said than done. For those in abusive relationships, for example, not only can walking away be traumatic, difficult or dangerous, but it may also be impossible without support.

DOES LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT EXIST?

No. I think the sort of love that makes relationships last requires time — and with "love at first sight" time isn't there, by definition. I think it has the potential to turn into love, but I think love requires persistence, vulnerability, intimacy. For every person I interviewed who fell in love at first sight and was right, I interviewed more who got it wrong (for example, Sophie, a model I sat next to on a plane, whose boyfriend ended up stalking her and installing spyware on her phone).

SHOULD YOU JUST KNOW IF YOU ARE WITH THE RIGHT PERSON?

No. And I think it's unrealistic to think you have to know. Lots of people I interviewed knew and were then wrong. Lots of people didn't know (like Robert, who came around to fix my boiler and had been married for 42 years), and have long, happy relationships. Attachment theory is a factor — you're more likely to doubt if you're insecure. Doubts can be more a reflection of you than the other person and the relationship.

CAN YOU REIGNITE THE SPARK IN A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP?

Yes. Evidence suggests that doing new

and exciting activities with your partner, being responsive, making them feel desired and valued and spending time with other couples where you have positive, supportive and intimate conversations, can all rekindle sexual desire. So too can trying to meet your partner's sexual needs without expecting an immediate return, and believing that you can be sexually satisfied in your relationship through hard work and effort.

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR LUST TO LAST?

Evidence suggests that lust does dwindle. When researchers interviewed 6,785 people who were married and living with their spouse, 80-98 per cent under 24 had had sex in the past month, compared with 20-50 per cent of people over 75. And by looking at the partners of the people who chose not to say anything about their sex lives, researchers discovered that when people didn't answer, it was usually because they didn't have much sex — suggesting a cultural expectation. Research suggests that the more you encounter something, such as a spouse, the less exciting you find it, or them.

CAN YOU CHANGE SOMEONE'S ATTACHMENT STYLE?

If you're secure, you might be able to slowly make your insecure partner secure. But sometimes you won't be able to (for example, if the avoidant breaks up with you before you get the chance). Attachment style is stable, but can also be influenced by the relationships we're in.

CAN YOU CHANGE YOUR OWN ATTACHMENT TYPE?

Reflection can have a huge impact on attachment. Research looking at women who had experienced a very deprived upbringing found that each one who was highly reflective went on to have a secure child, whereas of those on the other end of the scale, only six per cent did. In other words, mothers who were very reflective were able to prevent insecure attachment from passing to their child.

Attachment styles are robust, but they're not unchangeable. Learning to reflect (both on your own mental states and those of others), to excavate and process any trauma you have suffered, and to regulate

your emotions can trump your personal history — even when that history is horrendous. In doing so, you can potentially transform the way you relate to others — and yourself.

DO OPPOSITES ATTRACT?

In attachment theory terms, yes. Because anxious and avoidant often go for each other as they conform to what each person would expect from a relationship. However, when two secure people get together, they manifest as the smug, "we're so happy" couple. If I ruled the world I'd break them up and distribute them among all the anxious people.

IS THERE A THING AS 'THE ONE'?

No. It doesn't make mathematical sense. And I think it's a really dangerous way of looking at love — it makes it all about finding the "right" object, instead of thinking about whether you could work harder at the skill of loving.

CAN YOU BE IN LOVE WITH MORE THAN ONE PERSON?

I think being "in love" really means being "in lust" or "in romantic love". The sort of love that makes relationships last is very different. It's much calmer. Yes, you can lust after more than one person, although my general impression of lust is that it's quite dominating, deliberately so because without it we wouldn't survive as a species. Lust engages the brain's reward system, the same part of the brain engaged when we take cocaine or amphetamines.

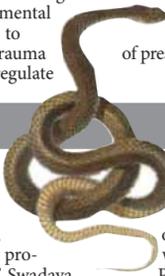
Can you have companionate love for more than one person? I think so, yes. At least, polyamorists seem to be able to. I don't think love is a limited resource. But that doesn't mean loving more than one person is easy or solves the problem of the paradox of humans, i.e. that they want novelty and safety all at the same time.

CAN YOU BE HAPPY WITH SOMEONE YOU MET THROUGH AN AFFAIR?

Yes, although the illicit nature of the relationship will make them all the more alluring. And they're unlikely to be quite so appealing when the danger dissipates.

It also depends on the stakes — if you leave children and families behind, it can put a huge amount of pressure on your relationship to last.

The Daily Telegraph



ODDLY ENOUGH

TEXAS STUDENTS DON WIGS IN TRIBUTE TO PAINTER BOB ROSS

There were lots of happy little trees at one Texas middle school this week. Art students at Madison Middle School in Abilene donned their curliest wigs and painted little trees onto canvases to pay homage to the late painter Bob Ross. Teacher Brady Sloane tells the Abilene Reporter News that the idea came about because she wanted to reward Advanced Placement students who had been stressed out over recent projects and grades. The result was a flash mob Thursday of about four dozen students who wore wigs, blue button-down shirts and held palettes of paint. An episode of Ross' television show, "The Joy of Painting," was projected onto a large screen. Ross gained a following for his soothing tone and soft-spoken voice. He died in 1995.



INDONESIA POLICE APOLOGISE FOR USING SNAKE IN INTERROGATION

Indonesian police have apologised and pledged disciplinary action after officers draped a live snake around the neck of a suspect to persuade him to confess during an interrogation session in the easternmost area of Papua. A video circulated online shows a man being questioned about stolen mobile phones seated with his hands tethered behind his back yelling in distress as a snake is pushed towards his face by an officer. The man, who can be seen writhing on the ground for much of the time is asked by an officer, "How many times have you stolen mobile phones?" The suspect later responds by saying, "Only two times." During the video, a voice can be heard ordering the man to open his eyes and at one stage threatens to put the snake into his mouth and under his trousers.

In a statement, Jayawijaya police chief Tonny Ananda Swadaya issued an apology, saying, "The investigator was not professional in doing his job". Swadaya added that the officers had been acting on their own initiative to try get a confession, saying the snake was non-venomous and tame. "We have taken stern action against the personnel," he said, adding the officers themselves had not physically attacked the man. Papua police spokesman Ahmad Musthofa Kamal said the case was being investigated by the internal affairs unit and if violations of the law or code of conduct were proven action would be taken. Reports of human rights abuses by security forces often emerge from Papua, where a separatist movement has simmered for decades. The former Dutch colony, the resource-rich western part New Guinea island, was incorporated into Indonesia after a widely criticised UN-backed referendum in 1969. Veronica Koman, a human rights lawyer focused on Papua, said by text message that using a snake in this way represented torture and was

not a one-off incident in the area. Koman said a snake had also been used in an interrogation of one of her clients, whom she said was a pro-independence activist. Papua police spokesman Kamal said he was not aware of another case.

(Reuters)

A DYING DISK: WARM WEATHER DETERIORATES RIVER'S WHEEL OF ICE

Maine's giant spinning ice disk may soon meet its end because of unseasonably warm weather. The Portland Press Herald reports the disk in the Presumpscot River has lost most of the shape and appearance that made it look like a blue moon. Westbrook spokeswoman Tina Radel says that the disk was on the move Wednesday and that its "time may be limited." The ice disk formed in early January, drawing crowds to the river's edge and attracting attention online. It formed naturally where there is a circular current that creates a whirlpool effect. Radel says a webcam set up by scientists from Brown University that provides time-lapse photography of the disk will remain in operation through the spring.

(AP)

CULTURE LANE

The crisis of 'presidential harassment'

Two days after calling for bipartisanship in his State of the Union address, Donald Trump returned to Twitter to cry foul about Democrats in Congress. The House ways and means committee announced it was preparing to investigate Trump's tax returns, a move Trump decried as "presidential harassment". "You laugh but it's true, folks," Trevor Noah said on the *Daily Show*. "Presidential harassment is a serious crisis that affects one out of every 320 million people in this country."



But credit where credit is due: "One thing that makes Trump so successful is that he knows how to make himself seem like the victim when other people are just doing their jobs." If the press reports on him, it's "fake news". If Congress investigates conflicts of interest, it's "presidential harassment". "I bet if the cops were chasing Trump he's the kinda guy who would try to call 911 on them," Noah said.

But of all the swirling scandals, Trump seems to be the most worried about his tax returns — an anxiety reflected in recent comments by billionaires, whose staggering wealth elicits increasingly less sympathy from the American public. Though pundits have classified plans to tax the super-rich — those earning over \$10m a year — as fringe socialist ideas, Noah cited a Politico poll from MSNBC in which 76 per cent of Americans supported it.

BBC fights to retain Attenborough

The BBC has commissioned three major series on the natural world, as it fights to stop staff who make its popular natural history shows — including David Attenborough — being poached by deep-pocketed rival Netflix. *Perfect Planet*, *Frozen Planet II* and *Planet Earth III* will be shown on the BBC over the coming years, building on the success of 2017's enormously popular *Blue Planet II*, which helped push the issue of plastic recycling to the top of the political agenda.



The announcement comes after senior staff left the BBC's Natural History Unit, lured to the commercial sector by the prospect of working for rapidly-growing streaming services, which can offer bigger budgets. Attenborough, who is synonymous with the BBC's natural history output, has already agreed to provide the voiceover for a forthcoming Netflix series named *Our Planet*, which is due to be released in April and has

involved 600 crew members filming for four years around the world. Despite its name, the programme is not part of the official BBC Planet series and the similarity is thought to have angered the corporation's bosses. In an interview with the *Financial Times* published recently, Attenborough said he would still work with the BBC but was enthused by Netflix's global reach, with its programmes made available around the world at the same time.

Louvre Abu Dhabi's exquisite exhibits



The Louvre Abu Dhabi, the first museum to carry the name outside France, has announced that it will display works by the Dutch masters Rembrandt and Vermeer this month. Works by the two artists are part of the gallery's first exhibition of 2019 — Rembrandt, Vermeer and the Dutch Golden Age: Masterpieces from the Leiden collection and the Musée du Louvre. The exhibition in the United Arab Emirates capital is dedicated to the renowned Fijnschilders (fine painters) of the Netherlands. "Rembrandt is a master of the Golden Age," said the museum's head, Manuel Rabate. "He's a universal genius, he's connected to the world." The exhibition's 95 works include

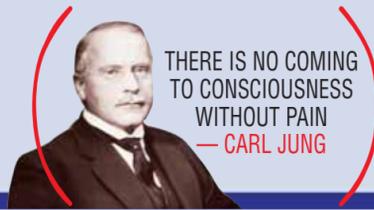
Vermeer's *Young Woman Seated at a Virginal* and Rembrandt's *Portrait of a Man. Study of the Head and Clasped Hands of a Young Man as Christ in Prayer* by Rembrandt will also feature, and has been acquired by the museum for its permanent collection. The Louvre Abu Dhabi was opened in November 2017 — nearly five years behind schedule — by the French president, Emmanuel Macron, and Abu Dhabi's crown prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan. Marketed as a "universal museum" celebrating cultural exchange and tolerance, the Louvre Abu Dhabi has reportedly cost the UAE about \$1bn, including about \$500m to use the Louvre brand. Officials have not confirmed the price tag.

ART EXHIBIT SHOWS IVANKA LOOKALIKE VACUUMING

A new art exhibit at a Washington museum shows an Ivanka Trump lookalike pushing a vacuum cleaner and invites spectators to toss crumbs for her to clean up. The art piece by Jennifer Rubell, titled "Ivanka Vacuuming", opened February 1 and continues through February 17 at the Flashpoint Gallery. The public is encouraged to "throw crumbs onto the carpet, watching as Ivanka elegantly vacuums up the mess, her smile never wavering." A large text description of the work hanging on the gallery wall describes Ivanka Trump as "a figure whose public persona incorporates an almost comically wide range of feminine identities — daughter, wife, mother, sister, model, working woman, blonde." It calls the act of throwing bread crumbs onto the carpet for her to vacuum "surprisingly pleasurable." But Ivanka Trump and her

brothers Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump criticised the exhibit on Tuesday as a sexist attempt to humiliate her. "Women can choose to knock each other down or build each other up. I choose the latter," Ivanka Trump, a senior White House adviser, tweeted alongside a link to a story on the exhibit. Trump Jr tweeted, "Sad, but not surprising to watch self-professed 'feminists' launching sexist attacks against @IvankaTrump. In their crazed world, sexism is OK if it hurts their political enemies." Eric Trump, on Fox News, called his sister a "powerful woman who has done more for women than probably anybody in Washington DC." The exhibit is presented by the CulturalDC arts organisation, and Executive Director Kristi Maiselman said her group is always happy to present "timely boundary-pushing installations" like this.

(AP)



BRIEFLY
speaking



GIRLS MORE PRONE TO ADDICTION?

Women's hormonal cycles may not only make them more prone to drug addiction but also more affected by triggers that lead to relapse, a study has found. The research is significant since there are virtually no addiction studies in women that account for these cycles, according to researchers from Vanderbilt University in the US. They point out that women represent a particularly vulnerable population, with higher rates of addiction following exposure to drugs, but addiction studies have primarily focused on the mechanisms underlying these effects in men. The study showed that when fertility-related hormone levels are high, females learn faster, make stronger associations to cues in their environment and are more prone to seek rewards. "Women becoming addicted to drugs may be a fundamentally different process than men," said Erin Calipari, an assistant professor at Vanderbilt University. "It's important to understand this, because it's the first step in developing treatments that are actually effective," she added.

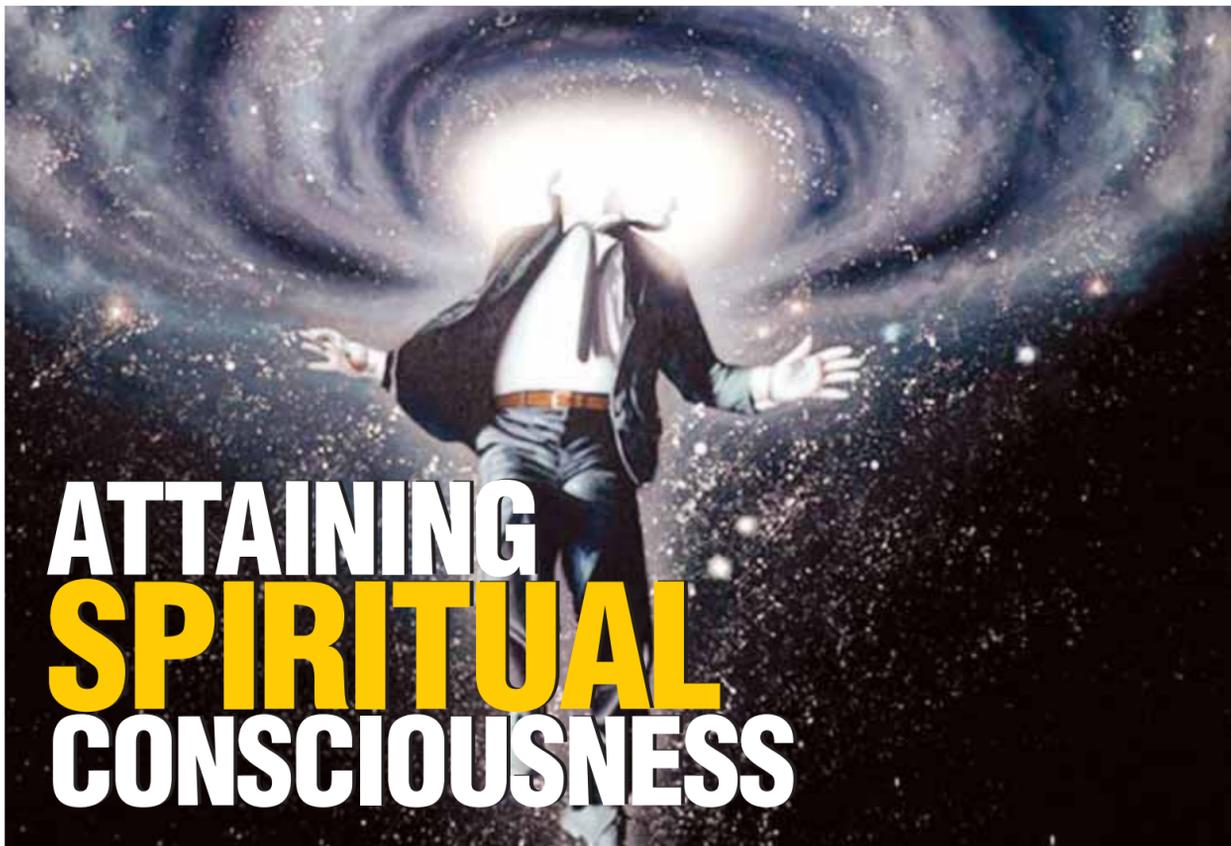
DOES FASTING AID YOUR METABOLISM?

Apart from losing weight, occasional fasting may also help to boost metabolic activities, generate antioxidants, and help reverse ageing, says a study. Scientists have identified 30 previously unrecorded metabolites whose quantity increases during fasting. We have been researching ageing and metabolism for many years and decided to search for unknown health effects in human feelings, said Takayuki Teruya, lead author. Fasting induces metabolic activation rather actively. Scientists analysed human blood, plasma and red blood cells drawn from four fasting individuals. Results revealed 30 previously-recognised metabolites and 44 new metabolites that had been increasing universally among the subjects between 1.5 to 60-fold within just 58 hours of fasting.

PILL TRUMPS INSULIN INJECTIONS?



Researchers have developed a drug capsule that could be used to deliver oral doses of insulin, potentially replacing injections for patients with Type-2 diabetes, says a new study. About the size of a blueberry, the capsule contains a single and small needle made of compressed insulin, which is injected after the capsule reaches the stomach. The study showed that the capsule could deliver enough insulin to lower blood sugar to levels comparable to those produced by injections given through skin. They also demonstrated that the device can be adapted to deliver other protein drugs. "We are really hopeful that this new type of capsule could someday help diabetic patients and perhaps anyone who requires therapies that can now only be given by injection or infusion," said Robert Langer. The tip of the needle is made of nearly 100 per cent compressed, freeze-dried insulin. When the capsule is swallowed, water in the stomach dissolves the sugar disk, releasing the spring and injecting the needle into the stomach wall.



ATTAINING SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Through meditation, personal transformation, and universal love, human beings can connect with their own soul, writes **SANT RAJINDER SINGH**

The world we see before us is vastly altered from the world of yesterday. Far more dramatic than the changes brought about by technology are the changes in our perception of the world. Science has broadened our vision to extend from the minutest subatomic particles to the brilliant light radiating from distant quasars. The universe is no longer perceived as solid matter, but dancing packets of ever-whirling energy. Our worldview has shifted from believing in only what one can perceive with the five senses to recognising that there is more than what we see with our physical eyes.

Besides exploring outer space, scientists have begun researching the realm of inner space. We find medical doctors reporting cases of people who had near-death experiences in which they underwent clinical death yet were revived. Dr Raymond Moody's book, *Life After Life*, documents cases in which people who underwent the near-death experience reported similar experiences. In the interim period while they were declared dead many reported leaving the body and finding themselves floating in the room, looking down at their physical body. They could float through the hospital, often-times seeing their relatives in the other room and listening to their conversations. A remarkable number of people experienced soaring through a tunnel to a region of Light where they met a benign, radiant being. They experienced transcendent peace and happiness which they found difficult to leave. Even children whose lives were restored following clinical death described this same experience. The number of people who underwent these near-death experiences is so large and the descriptions so strikingly similar that doctors and scientists find it difficult to ignore the possibility that there is more to who we are than our physical body. All who have undergone such an experience came to the same conclusion: There is life beyond our present life.

These findings are corroborated with the experiences of mystics throughout the ages. What seems new to the Western mind has been widely accepted knowledge for centuries in the East. In each religion we find accounts of similar experiences in which one's consciousness can be separated from the physical body. We find extraordinary descriptions of higher states of consciousness in different religions. In Hinduism, we find the ancient story of Savitri, whose husband was taken from her by death. Savitri is said to have left the body, apprehending the angel of death and imploring him to return her husband to life. Such was the power of her love that her husband was revived. In Buddhism, we have the *Tibetan Book of the Dead* that describes in detail the journey of the soul as it departs from this world. Islam describes in detail regions of heaven, hell, and ahraf (purgatory) to which a soul passes after this physical existence is over. In Christianity we have the *Book of Revelations*, rich in description of realms beyond this world. In the Kabbalah of Judaism, a cosmogony of higher planes is described. A deeper study into the heart of each religion reveals a wealth of mystical experiences described by the saints and spiritual adepts. Each in its own time has taught disciples how to transcend physical consciousness and explore spiritual realms.

Spiritual consciousness is our birthright. It is the highest attainment we can achieve in our lifetime. We may have thought that these states were the monopoly of saints, but the experimentation of modern scientists and mystics confirms that the average person may also enjoy spiritual consciousness. There are simple steps to spiritual consciousness. Unbounded joy, happiness, and inner peace await us when we discover the freedom, the exhilaration, and the wonder of enlightenment that comes from attaining spiritual consciousness.

What is spiritual consciousness? It is becoming conscious of the soul

and God within us. Most of us are aware of our body, of the thoughts passing through our mind, and of the world around us. This is called body or physical consciousness. But we are more than our body and mind.

We are actually a soul, a conscious entity which inhabits the body. The soul is a part of the Oversoul, whether we call it God, the Creator, Allah, Wah-i-Guru, or Parmatma. It is of the same essence as God. The soul is what enlivens the body. When the soul leaves the body at the time of death, the body dies. But the soul does not die. It is immortal. Just as people who clinically died experienced a continued existence outside their body, so will each of us continue to exist even after the demise of our mortal frame. This consciousness at the level of soul, independent of our body and mind, is what is termed spiritual consciousness.

We do not have to wait until our physical end to know what it is like perceiving life at the level of soul. It is an experience many have enjoyed during their lifetimes and is available to every human being. We have read in the scriptures of various religions about people who had experienced spiritual consciousness. Buddha attained enlightenment under the bodhi tree. St Paul said, "I live; not now I, but Christ lives in me." Bahá'u'lláh, the mystic saint of Persia, said, "O Son of dust, hearken unto the mystic voice calling from the realm of the Invisible... up from thy prison, ascend unto the glorious meadows above and from thy mortal cage wing thy flight unto the paradise of the Placeless."

These inner experiences are not limited to peoples of antiquity. The first step to spiritual consciousness is learning the art of meditation. The next step is to achieve personal transformation. Finally, inner peace and personal transformation lead to outer peace in the world. By attaining inner peace, we can make a positive contribution to human unity, universal love, and the improvement of all life on this planet.

“THE SOUL IS WHAT ENLIVENS THE BODY. WHEN THE SOUL LEAVES THE BODY AT THE TIME OF DEATH, THE BODY DIES. BUT THE SOUL DOES NOT DIE. IT IS IMMORTAL. CONSCIOUSNESS AT THE LEVEL OF SOUL, INDEPENDENT OF OUR BODY AND MIND, IS WHAT IS TERMED AS SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS”



HIDDENSOULS
PRAMOD PATHAK

Understanding Rajdharma



Rajdharma or the duty of the king has been a much talked about subject in ancient historical and scriptural texts of India. However, it has often been found missing in the character of many kings from the ancient times to the present ones. Usually, there is much of sermonising about the duty of the *praja* or the subjects who are supposed to observe the laws laid down by the kings. From ancient Indian kingdoms to the modern state, the story has not changed much and the rulers tend to lose track of what their duty is. In the Indian philosophical thought, the kings were supposed to be representatives of God in this world and had a very obligatory role to play in the well-being of their subjects. Legendary kings from history like Vikramaditya or Bhoj have proved what a king was supposed to do for his subjects. Our ancient Indian accounts of the polity of those times were rich treatise on basic principles of statecraft that aimed at good governance. The clichéd jargon Minimum Government, Maximum governance was actually the avowed principle those days which the kings practised. In *Manusmriti*, there is elaborate discussion on relationship between *dharma* or righteousness and ruler of the State. The execution of right duties was the king's basic responsibility and his duties were defined under the concept of Rajdharma. According to Manu, the law giver, God created the king to protect the subjects from anarchy and exploitation of the powerful people. Thus, it was the king's duty to protect the weak from the strong who broke the law. If the verdict of a king is unjust it would be a great sin. A king should be very careful while executing the laws which were supposed to be based on *dharma*. It was to be correlated with morals and ethics. Ideally, the king was seen as a person who would always speak the truth, be a realist, and be well versed in duty and work. If a king is abusing and violating the law, he is punishable. He is supposed to be transparent, duty bound and must follow the code of the *Shastras*, the book of *dharma*. Humility was supposed to be a desired skill. Manu held that the king should behave like a father towards all citizens and keep them happy. He was repulsive to the idea of king imposing his will on the subjects unscrupulously and ruthlessly. In the *Ramayana*, the essentials of Rajdharma are also imparted to Bharat, the younger brother of Rama when the former goes to meet him during the early period of exile. The discussions between the brothers in the "Ayodhya Kanda" is an enriched discourse on how the king should rule. It details all aspects of a king's duty towards the subjects as well as the State. But the best example of Rajdharma is the story of king Rantideva as narrated in the *Mahabharata*. He was so responsive that anybody with any problem would run to him for help and the king would happily serve him. His belief was that by serving his subjects, he was serving Shri Vishnu, the Lord. Legend goes that he became a favourite with God because of the service he rendered to his subjects. In ancient India, Rajdharma was the welfare of the people or moral duty. Its spirit was to ensure peace, justice and prosperity to the people. The modern day rulers need to take a leaf or two out of the chapter on Rajdharma.

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We have been sufficiently equipped

As long as human beings keep faith in God and follow the path He shows, they will never find themselves helpless, says **AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI**

I do not need to remind anyone how challenging this material world is. Beginning with one's stay in the mother's womb, things are tough and one needs to apply oneself to stay afloat. We have to be realistic and act very sensibly. Where do we begin? We must realise that we all are small entities. No matter how rich or powerful one may become, everyone is helpless in the ultimate sense. When one is born, it is natural that parents look for beautiful features in the child. Do we have any say in that? Same is true of the level of intelligence. Parents, whose children are intelligent, consider themselves very fortunate. Education over, one looks for professional opportunities. How many are able to gain the desired objective? Getting married presents a big challenge. Are you getting the right partner? The richest man has just divorced his wife of twenty five years. Our challenges do not end with bad

marriages; we get helplessly sick, sometimes terminally sick. Same is true of death. One of the richest men died recently despite the best medical facilities available to him. People lose their near and dear ones and can do nothing about it. I have not mentioned lack of resources due to which the majority of the people suffer. All in all, one is well and truly helpless.

But one does not have to be. Is it true? Can all the problems indicated so far be dealt with satisfactorily? Yes, read on and you will agree. The first problem mentioned can be avoided by qualifying for liberation. God has instructed in great detail how this can be achieved. Yes, it may take several births to qualify for this privilege but we can definitely gain it. As far as looks go, one can hope for good features in the next birth if one has been doing mostly pious deeds and has a desire for good looks. As far the present life is



concerned, one can radiate charm by being a good person. People are attracted to such personalities.

Good intelligence presents a bigger challenge for the present life. Like good looks, sharp intelligence is how good persons are rewarded by God. This is great for the next birth but all is not lost even for the present life. Many persons manage to gain sufficient expertise in some field even though they are not very intelligent in the conventional sense. In God's creation, there are always ways to overcome any deficiency. As regards professional opportunities, God takes a direct role if approached; He guides. And God, being omniscient knows exactly what will suit a particular person. Bad marriage does present a problem for the present life but God is not helpless; He helps in getting rid of a difficult partner through divorce if he or she cannot be reformed.

Diseases are not foreign to a material body but by eating proper foods, exercising adequately, sleeping sufficiently and having healthy entertainment, one can reduce one's suffering (*Gita*). Those connected with God not only reduce their chances of getting stricken with painful diseases but they also get tolerance power from God, ensuring that one does not get too disturbed by the onset of a disease. The timing of death does present a challenge but devotees of God are not unduly perturbed because they are assured of excellent next births. And as stated by Sanjay in *Gita*, devotees of God are never short on resources.

It may appear difficult, but God has equipped us adequately to deal with all eventualities. He assures those connected with Him of an excellent future; we are never helpless really.

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



FOR A LONG TIME, I HAVE BEEN MAKING MANY PREDICTIONS... I ACKNOWLEDGE ALL TO HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH DIVINE POWER AND INSPIRATION — NOSTRADAMUS



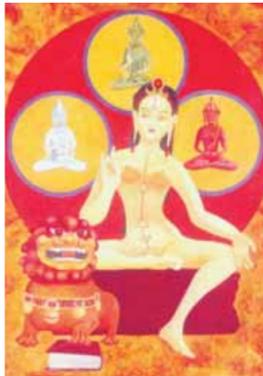
YOUR WEEK AHEAD

MADHU KOTIYA



ARIES March 21-April 19

This week, you are likely to face digestive or intestine-related problems. And health-related challenges will not stop at that as a hectic schedule, travelling and day-to-day challenges are likely to take a toll on your health. Don't avoid these problems or take them lightly. Take some time out and start a fitness plan. On the work front, anxiety and tension could reduce your efficiency level. Decisions regarding the sale of real estate property will need to be taken. New job offers are on the cards. Keep your financial documents updated. Relationship wise, you need to analyse your existing relations and spend some quality time with your partner. Those waiting for approval of relation by elders may face opposition. **Lucky number 15**
Lucky colour Golden
Lucky day Friday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

This week, you are likely to feel good about living a healthy and balanced lifestyle. You should pamper yourself with beauty treatments and spa sessions this week. You should try to bring some changes in your workout routine to revive your mood and focus. Career-wise, this week will be good as many big projects will come your way that will prove to be profitable. Self-owned ventures will be successful and people will accept your views. Travelling to a foreign land is on the cards. Those in import and export business may get into productive networking and make a huge profit around this time. Your love life is very interesting and romantic this week. For singles opportunities for new romance is on the horizon. Make good use of it. **Lucky number 13**
Lucky colour White
Lucky day Saturday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

The week is all about taking good care of your health. You will not have to compromise on health issues. Take some time out of your busy schedule to figure out what more you can do to improve your health status. Avoid impulsive and aggressive nature. Professionally, you are moving to a new position. This will make you feel optimistic and hopeful about the future. Financially, the week is good and you will plan for good investment. In your relationship, your heart will push for what you want. Making new friends and friendship turning into love is on the cards. Talk openly to your partner to improve your relationship and build a solid base. Singles may meet their someone special this week. **Lucky number 8**
Lucky colour Red
Lucky day Monday



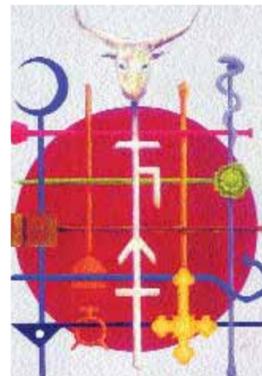
TAURUS April 20-May 20

You will enjoy determination and will power that will help you to face the health challenges coming your way this week. This will be a good time for you to quit unhealthy food habits like consumption of alcohol, junk and spicy foods. Daily exercise and planned diet will work wonders for you. But at work, you feel stagnated. This could be a wake-up call for you. Changes in form of a job, working environment, working attitude are on the cards. One of the advantages is that this change will be beneficial for you. Changes are foreseen in your relationship as well. There is some change in your partner's behaviour pattern. Take some time out to sort out these changes. A quick decision is very important. **Lucky number 24**
Lucky colour Green
Lucky day Saturday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

The week starts on a good note as you may be able to give up some of your bad habits and start leading a healthier lifestyle. Take good care of yourself and your loved ones. Focus on your physical well-being. You are likely to find some spiritual facts that hold more promise and are beneficial for you. On the career front, take a break and also change your perspective. Things will not be as per your expectation; take it easy. This could be a time when you can consider a job change. Financially, you need to understand the unfavourable situation and face it without losing your calm. Relationships will be stable around this time. Some of you may get attracted to an older person. This attraction may not be mutual. So, be prepared and don't lose heart. **Lucky number 23**
Lucky colour Pastel colours
Lucky day Wednesday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week, you will need to bring in some speedy changes in your health schedule for a better condition. Females who are expecting are advised to do go for a medical check-up this week so that they are not stressed over petty things in the coming months. Some of you are likely to enjoy a high energy level. This will assist you in leading a healthy life. At the professional front, worrying about your job will not help matters. You need to focus on things which are under your control. Those seeking jobs will need to have an optimistic outlook. Don't hesitate to ask for help. Relationship wise, you will feel blessed and happy as you get full support of your loved ones. Take a stand for your own beliefs. **Lucky number 17**
Lucky colour Copper
Lucky day Tuesday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

You will have good health, emotionally and physically. Ensure a positive approach to things. Those awaiting test results regarding health can relax as the news will be good. As the week progresses, you may feel charged up. You may enter new realms in your spiritual exploration. On the career front, you may be rewarded for your work. Those in partnership ventures have fair chances of working for their selfless motives. This week your views and opinions will be heard and respected. Those in a job may experience the pride of accomplishment. Love life looks good as you may plan a vacation to an exotic location. This week you will receive love and affection from others. **Lucky number 19**
Lucky colour Magenta
Lucky day Thursday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

The week looks cheerful and positive in terms of your health. You are likely to devote some quality time towards the attainment of your physical and mental well-being. From good nutrition to exercise and relaxation, you will follow everything required to restore your health. Professionally, you have the spirit of cooperation that will help you share cordial relations with everyone. Trust your instincts and connect with your innermost desires. This is a good time for new ventures. Relationship wise, the week is good. Things will speed up in the relationship. Quick decisions taken in haste mode could give you repentance at a later stage. So, listen to your heart but work with the mind to avoid being in that situation. **Lucky number 10**
Lucky colour Turquoise
Lucky day Friday



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week, pay attention to your diet and exercise routine. Ensure you take time to rest. Those having physical health issues should stay optimistic and remember that things don't stay like this always. If required, do consult a professional health consultant for a better state of health and an anxiety-free life. On the career front, you are likely to make a new connection that could be beneficial for you. Your efforts will be appreciated. Those seeking jobs may expect a call from a distant city. Salary hike is indicated. You will find a new sense of freshness and happiness in your relationships. Love is in the air and the stars are in your favour. So, this will be the right time for you to look for a lifelong partner. **Lucky number 14**
Lucky colour Pink
Lucky day Thursday



CANCER June 21-July 22

This week, you should give yourself some time to relax. Do not hesitate as this is the time for you to enjoy good health. The five elements of life will help you attain the balance that will make your life worth living. You may become an inspiration for some. On the career front, expect a hike in your income or reputation. Changing of a job, promotion or transfer are on the cards. Stay positive as this change will work in your favour. Students aspiring for higher education or studying abroad will get a piece of positive news. In your love life, conflicts or arguments are indicated. Your or your partner's aggression may take a toll on your mental health. But, it will be advisable that you relax as this is a temporary phase. **Lucky number 30**
Lucky colour Pastel green
Lucky day Monday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

You are likely to follow a new belief system and hence walk on the path of self improvement. Attending religious services is on the cards. You may follow a new diet or workout routine that will again lead you to self-improvement. Professionally, you are shining bright with new ideas. You will work towards improving your social life. That shall be refreshing and will give new hope about the future. Some of you can expect promotion or the beginning of a new and fruitful project. Your productivity level will be very high. Relationship wise, this week is good for you. Tension and worry in this area of life over will come to an end as love and passion are back on track very soon. The week is full of fun, love and laughter. So, enjoy it! **Lucky number 22**
Lucky colour Coral
Lucky colour Mauve
Lucky day Sunday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

Health will be good. This week, everything will come together and you are in the right place, doing the right thing. You are likely to achieve what you have wished for. The week holds new beginnings that naturally emerge out of the accomplished cycle. To balance your energies, avoid rich food and do not oversleep. This week, career may not be so satisfactory. You will feel uncomfortable in your working environment. Your senior may feel that you are not putting your 100 per cent effort into a project or task. Your honest nature may fetch you some kind of displeasure. Avoid any kind of investment or a new deal in business/property. On the love front, you may be possessive. Those in love may face conflict and a difficult phase. However, a balanced approach will work in your favour. **Lucky number 14**
Lucky colour Mauve
Lucky day Wednesday

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ASTROTURF
BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

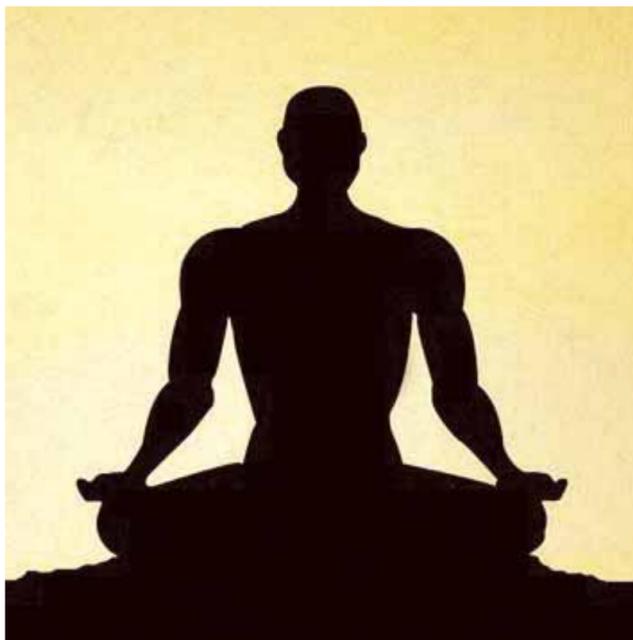
Be the master of your own self

Taking off from the previous issue, it comes out that in so far as the question of fate and freewill is concerned, human mind holds the key. All that happens in life begins in the mind which visualises, excites desires, sets the functional mandate of a being, and accordingly gets going. The feel of the fruit of actions, good or bad, or for that matter the experiences had during the run of life too, feed the mind and add up to make its stock memory. That, in turn, influences the future course of life. Going through such successive phases of life, each mind gets preconditioned over a period of time, one way or the other, and that defines the unique character of a being. No wonder, different individuals are found reflecting varying levels of mind-state, according as one is inherently made out.

Ground study suggests that each individual is found reflecting one or the other out of the five different types of mind-state — darkening/ignorant, scattered, gathering up, one pointedness, and concentrated. Those ignorant about living realities of life fall into darkening category. Usually, they move unthinkingly to the usual promptings

of the in-store memory imprints and resign to fate. Those having a monkey like mind continuously engaged in random thoughts evidently have a scattered mind. Their restive mind doesn't allow the scope to apply proper forethought before taking any call, not to say anything about due diligence. It's difficult for them to fully absorb any fresh educative inputs either. Evidently, they carry equal probability of failure and success in life. A large majority fall under these two categories.

The ones who realise that they were not able to fulfill their aspirational urges because of their own monkey-like mind-traits, put in conscious efforts to reign in their mental flirtations and improve their focus. They first try to bring their mind to a restful state following the method suggested in the previous issue. So, they are able to apply reasons as and when they are able to focus on the issue in hand. But they are not able to remain focused for long. Soon, they get distracted. They then try to regain their focus. This tug of war keeps going on. Such subjects fall under the category of gathering up type. Evidently, on relative scale, such characters are able to perform better



than the earlier two types.

To move beyond this stage, one would need to get into the meditation process. The process calls for withdrawing attention from the outer world and turn it inwards. A process of self-reflection begins when you come across your true nature with all its good and bad. Becoming aware thus, you could conscientiously purify your mind of all the negative and inconsequential imprints that are otherwise responsible for disorderliness of mind. It's time now to seek the help of a Guru. Guru will offer you a *mantra* for recitations and an iconic figure to focus upon, depending on the callings of your inner frame of mind. Pursuing the process in all sincerity, over a period of time, your mind gets trained to maintain pointed focus on the iconic figure for a specified period of time. Your mind still gets distracted every now and then. But the relatively you are able to remain focused longer than during the gathering up process, and so is termed as one-pointedness. In the process, the thought process too gets reformed with the help of educative import of the iconic figure. Pursuing the meditation process on a regular process, a stage comes over a period of

time when the mantra as well as the iconic figure, both go out of one's reckoning. The seeker's mind then gets fully tuned to the cosmic intelligence, which then spontaneously drives you through. Having arrived at this stage, you become the master of your own mind rather than being its slave. And you are in full control of your own self and at your best. Hereafter, wherever you pay attention, you may intuitively get to the underlying truth, and therefore, shall be able to perceive things in the right perspective. Also, shall be able to put in your qualitative best in all your endeavour.

To sum up, you are empowered to be the architect of your own destiny. So said Swami Vivekananda: "The history of the world is the history of few men who had faith in themselves. Faith calls out the Divinity within you; you can do everything. You fail only when you do not strive sufficiently to manifest the infinite power within."

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