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## SC orders work HDK to brave trust vote, startles all

SC asks K'taka Speaker to maintain status quo on MLAs' resignation till Tue

## PNS BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy on Friday sprang a major sur-prise by claiming that he would seek a trust vote to end the "confusion" triggered by resig-nation of rebel MLAs and asserted that he is "ready for everything".

With the resignation letters of as many as 16 MLAs of the Congress-JD(S) alliance pending with the Speaker, it is unclear how the Chief Minister would get the numbers to cross the halfway mark.

Earlier, the Supreme Court restrained the Speaker from taking any decision till next Tuesday on the resignation and disqualification of 10 rebel MLAs of the ruling Congress-JD(S) coalition.

Kumaraswamy told the State Assembly that he has "voluntarily" decided to seek the vote, adding that he will continue as the CM only when he commands the support in the House.

Asserting that he did not come to the Chief Minister's position with the intention of remaining in power forever, the JD(S) leader requested Speaker KR Ramesh Kumar to fix a time for the confidence vote.

Later, in the business advisory committee meeting, Kumaraswamy proposed Wednesday for the trust vote. However, no decision was BJP did not attend the meeting, sources said. A decision was



Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy, with his Cabinet colleagues, arrives to attend the Assembly Session at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Friday

tion MLAs that has raised

questions over the Government's survival.

on the proposed trust vote.

informs him about the date on

the

likely to be taken on Monday, they added.

Senior Congress leader Siddaramiah on Friday said the decision to seek a trust vote by the coalition Government headed by HD Kumaraswamy was taken by the two ruling partners and asserted it has the numbers.

The Congress Legislature Party leader also said he had been talking to disgruntled party MLAs barring Roshan Baig because he has been suspended.

The Assembly met on taken as the main Opposition Friday for a 11-day Monsoon Session against the backdrop of resignation of 16 ruling coaliwhich he would move the confidence motion it will be mentioned in the list of business.

Kumaraswamy announced his "He (CM) will have to tell me. The Chief Minister has decision to brave the trust vote during the obituary reference spoken his mind that there is time. The Opposition BJP took confusing situation and he will exception to the Chief Minister not stick to power. If he tells me raising the matter during obitwhen he will move a motion seeking trust vote, I will put it uary reference. State BJP president BS Yeddyurappa later told reporters that his party for business the next day," the Speaker said.

would decide its strategy on the basis of Kumaraswamy's speech According to a PTI report, Kumaraswamy was later seen in a relaxed mood in the Though Kumaraswamy Assembly lobby and expressed wanted the Speaker to fix a confidence about the trust vote time for the vote, the latter said and getting numbers in favour as and when the Chief Minister of the coalition.

According to the report,

Kumaraswamy is said to be in direct talks with at least four Congress legislators, who have resigned and is hopeful that they will withdraw.

The ruling coalition's total strength is 116 (Congress-78, JD(S)-37 and BSP-1), besides the Speaker. With the support of the two independents, the BJP has 107 MLAs in the 224member House, where the halfway mark is 113. If the resignations of the 16 MLAs are accepted, the coalition's tally will be reduced to 100.

In a related development, the BJP, apparently fearing poaching of its MLAs by the ruling coalition leaders, has decided to shift its legislators to a resort on the city outskirts. In the Supreme Court, the

Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi cited "weighty issues that have arisen" and said the matter will be considered by it on July 16 and the status quo as of Friday should be maintained. The Bench, also comprising Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose, specifically mentioned in the order that the Speaker would not decide on the issue of the resignation or the disqualifi-

cation of rebel MLAs to enable the court to judge larger issues raised in the matter. The Bench noted the issue of maintainability of the rebel MLAs' petition under Article

32 of the Constitution was raised by the Speaker and the Karnataka Chief Minister. The case involves issues of

substantial importance related

to Articles 190 and 361 of the Constitution, it said, adding that it also needs to address as to whether the Speaker is obligated to decide on disqualification proceedings before accepting the resignation of MLAs.

The Bench took into account the arguments by

senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the rebel MLAs, countering the Speaker's submission that the disqualification plea of the ruling coalition in the southern State had to be decided before taking up the issue of resignation of the lawmakers.

"In view of the weighty issues that have arisen, we are of the view that the matter be considered by us on Tuesday. We are of the view that the status quo as of today with regard to the prevailing situation be maintained. Neither the issue of resignation nor that of disqualification be decided till Tuesday," the Bench said

Before passing the order, the Bench asked Kumar's counsel AM Singhvi, "Is Speaker challenging the authority and power of the Supreme Court. Is it his case? Are you challenging our power to issue directions to the Speaker? Are you saying that we should stay our hands so far as the Speaker is concerned? You are suggesting that he is duty-bound to decide on the disqualification prior to their resignations.

Singhvi replied: "Yes, this is what is my case."

## on Metro Ph-IV Process must begin on all 6 corridors,

## including 3 stalled projects: AAP Govt

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered commencement of construction work on the Delhi Metro's fourth phase, which is over 100 km long and is estimated to add around 18.6 lakh riders per day, after the Delhi Government said it has agreed

to give the go-ahead. The AAP Government has asked for starting work simul-taneously on all six corridors of Delhi Metro's Phase-IV project, Transport Minister Kailash

Gahlot said on Friday. "It was said by us in the court that we have no objection to starting work on the project but work should also start simultaneously on remaining three corridors which have been left by the Centre in its approval to the project," Gahlot said in a press conference.

It may be recalled that the six corridors of the project were approved by the Delhi Government in December 2018. However, the Centre in March 2019 dropped three, while allowed the rest. The apex court directed

implementation of the Metro Phase-IV project while hearing Related reports on P8

Authority (EPCA) had recently filed a report stating that the approval for the project was held up since 2014.

The court was informed by the Delhi Government counsel that they have agreed to give a go-ahead to the project.

The Centre had approved the Mukundpur-Maujpur, RK Ashram-Janakpuri West and Aero City-Tughlakabad corridors. The three other proposed corridors - Rithala-Bawana-Narela, Inderlok-Indraprastha and Lajpat Nagar-Saket G Block — approved by the Delhi Government were dropped by the Centre while giving the Metro Phase-IV its go-ahead.

"The Centre has not clarified the rationale behind picking up three corridors under the project and leaving other three," Gahlot said. He also accused the EPCA of filing a "one sided" report in the court.

"EPCA filed a one-sided report. The three corridors left by the Centre finds no mention in the EPCA report," he claimed.

## Deficient monsoon hits kharif **Chinese protest near** LAC against Dalai's Sowing areas fall by 38.96L ha till July 12:

b'day bash in Ladakh

Happiness curriculum enthuses parents at Delhi's Mega PTMs STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI



## Agri Ministry

### RAJESH KUMAR MEW DELHI

 $\begin{array}{l} R_{a} \text{ big way} - 23.54 \text{ lakh} \\ \text{hectare} - \text{in six of the top 10} \end{array}$ rice producing States. The data shows rice sowing acreage at 97.77 lakh hectare as compared to 121.31 lakh hectare so far.

Similarly, five of top 10 pulse producing States have seen fall in sowing by 14.94 lakh hectare so far.

Monsoon deficiency and flood are seen as main reasons behind the shortfall in sowing of kharif crops. Monsoon deficit for the country as a whole fell to 12 per cent by Friday.

As per latest data released by the Agriculture Ministry on Friday, kharif crops sowing areas overall declined by 38.96 lakh hectare till July 12. The Agriculture Ministry's data is based on the information and reports provided by the State Governments on kharif crops sowing. West Bengal, Bihar, Assam,

Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are the States which have witnessed a fall in rice

crop sowing areas this year. The rice sowing acreage is down by 2.83 lakh hectare in Chhattisgarh, 2.66 lakh hectare

in Bihar, 2.57 lakh hectare in Assam, 2.43 lakh hectare in Uttar Pradesh, 2.26 lakh hectare in Haryana, 1.99 lakh hectare in Madhya Pradesh, 1.82 lakh hectare in West Bengal, 1.22 lakh hectare in Arunachal Pradesh, and 0.38 lakh hectare in Andhra Pradesh.

According to officials of Agriculture Ministry, some States have attributed decline in acreage of rice sowing to defi-

cient monsoon while some blamed flood. Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have reported flood-like situation while other rice producing States are facing deficient rainfall due to delayed arrival of southwest monsoon to start

kharif crops sowing. Nagaland, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Punjab have reported higher rice sowing acreage so far. As per the third advance estimate of rice production, it is estimated 115.63 million tonnes in 2018-19. Similarly, pulses cultivation

and

too is languishing as compared to last year, mainly in Maharashtra, Karnataka, MP Rajasthan, Telangana.

adakh region witnessed a \_confrontation between Tibetans living in India and those in China last week near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Fukche area of Demchok in eastern Ladakh.

However, the Chinese dressed in civilian clothes did not cross the LAC and went back after displaying banners.

Giving details of the incident, sources said here on Friday that Tibetans annually hold a religious festival Dole Tango to celebrate Dalai Lama's birthday in Koyul village of Fukche on July 6. In such festival last week, a sizable number of Tibetans had gathered and waved the Tibetan flag.

A group of Chinese origin Tibetans came near the LAC on their side in two SUVs and displayed a banner saying, "ban all activities to split Tibet." They went back and after some time, said sources, adding the villages across the LAC are sparsely populated.

Officials denied reports that the Chinese Tibetans had



intruded into Indian territory adding the action across the LAC was in reaction to the Tibetans on the Indian side waving the flag. Demchok is an area that

has seen Chinese transgressions in the past. In 2014, there was a fist fight between Indian and Chinese troops during a stand-off. China has been pushing its

own successor of the Dalai Lama and pressing that any other appointment should not be given any recognition.

over 1,000 Delhi Government run schools, the 'Mega' parentsteachers meetings (PTMs) saw parents flocking schools across to take feedback on their wards' performance on Friday.

Lauding Happiness and Entrepreneurship curriculum, Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister Manish Sisodia said both the curriculums were highly appreciated by parents who felt that this was the need of the hour.

"Parents enthusiastically assured teachers that they would support the child in the activities suggested under the curriculum," the Minister said. "Apart from discussion on

Happiness and the Entrepreneurship Curriculum, teachers were asked to discuss absenteeism and irregular attendance of students. Heads of schools have been asked to prepare a list of low achievers whose parents did not attend the PTM. The low achievers will be identified on the basis of assessment under Mission

Buniyaad and their results of

the last academic session 2018-

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and senior AAP leader Atishi visit a Government school during 'Mega PTM' on Friday Twitter

19. Such parents will be called introduced in schools last year. for a meeting with teachers at a later date," an official of the Sisodia said PTMs are important platforms for interaction Directorate of Education said. between teachers and parents The PTM was scheduled to

in Delhi's Government schools. take place on April 20 but it was ent-teacher engagement which put on hold after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accused the the Government aimed to insti-AAP of using the PTM as an tutionalise through Mega opportunity to influence voters PTMs has been achieved. We and get political benefits durare happy that this exercise, ing the general elections. which used to be limited to big Sisodia, along with former private schools, has now

adviser and AAP leader Atishi, visited several schools in Hari Nagar and Shakti Nagar and interacted with parents and their wards.

The mega PTMs were said Sisodia.

# Cong holds dinner to keep its flock together

Bhopal: With the current political situation in Karnataka and Goa, the Congress party in Madhya Pradesh seems alarmed to keep its flock together. Meanwhile, a statement by BJP leader Narottam Mishra said that Monsoon would reach Madhya Pradesh from Goa, via Karnataka, has also caused flutter in political circles.

A dinner was organised at the official residence of State Health Minister Tulsi Silawat on Thursday to show unity among various groups in the party. The dinner was attended by Chief Minister Kamal Nath, senior Congress leader Jyotiraditya Scindia, all the Ministers and the MLAs of the party. Besides them, the dinner was also attended by

SP, BSP, and independent MLAs. The Congress government in the state enjoys a slim majority with their support. Though the Congress leaders have termed the dinner as routine development, many feel that the entire exercise was a well-crafted move to project that the party was a united house. A minister claimed that the state government would run for five years under the leadership of Chief Minister Nath. Finance Minister Tarun Bhanot also slammed the BJP over the recent crisis that has hit the Congress in Karnataka and Goa. "They are displaying their character every now and then...be it in Goa,

Karnataka, Manipur or Mizoram.

They did a similar thing in

Bihar. If we gather at a place for

dinner, they see politics in it. They are desperate without power just like the condition of a fish is without water," he said. Energy Minister Priyavrat Singh claimed that something different from what has happened in Goa and Karnataka might happen in Madhya Pradesh. "Dinner was a routine thing. There is nothing to fear. Delhi is keeping an eye on the developments in Karnataka and Goa," Forest Minister Umang Singhar said. BJP leaders, however, are predicting weather change in the state. BJP MLA Narottam Mishra

said, "Monsoon has moved from Goa. Very soon, weather change will take place in Madhya Pradesh. They count their MLAs every day after waking up." SR

## No more accident! Device to help drivers keep eyes peeled

### PTI LUCKNOW

Alarmed over a spate of accidents on the expressways, the Uttar Pradesh State Roadways Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) is planning to deploy special devices in vehicles to prevent drivers from dozing off on long-distance routes.

The device equipped with special sensors will initially warn the driver with a beep sound and red light in the event of him getting sleepy during driving and later slow down the vehicle and put emergency brakes to stop it altogether, UPSRTC regional manager Pallav Bose told PTI.

The move comes close on the heels of an accident on the 165-km Yamuna Expressway on Monday which claimed 29 lives. The bus driver apparently fell asleep behind the wheel

and lost control following which the vehicle veered of the road and fell into a drain.

Bose said the special device made with Israeli technique is being manufactured by a Punebased company and costs ₹40,000.

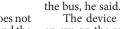
As a pilot project, the back.

gave a positive response to the idea.

Elaborating further on the said it will be deployed on the

dashboard of the vehicle. The device will produce a beep sound and red light warning as soon as the driver's hold on the steering wheel slackens due to

slumber. In case, the driver does not react to the beep sound and the slackness continues, the device



PTM

The device will also keep an eye on the road ahead and alert the driver in case of overspeeding and overtaking, Bose explained.

"It is evident that the par-

become an integral part of the

culture of Government schools.

I congratulate all Principals and

teachers for making this Mega

а

success.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had on Thursday warned transport department officials, saying they cannot escape responsibility for road accidents by blaming drivers and asked the Yamuna Expressway authority to follow safety measures strictly.

He also asked the department officials to deploy two drivers on state-run buses on routes more than 400 km long, so that they can drive the vehi cle alternatively.

Road safety experts have often warned of the dangers of overspeeding on wide expressways, especially in early morning hours and at night.

device was used in two buses on the Lucknow-Nepalganj route and two others on the Lucknow-Gorakhpur route, he said, adding the proposal was sent to MD, UPSRTC Dheeraj Sahu after getting a good feed-

The official said Sahu also

such devices will now be sent to the Government, Bose said. functioning of the device, the UPSRTC regional manager

A proposal to acquire more

will automatically put brakes on

смүк —



## **'Sex edu must be part of course in schools'** Girl injured in accident

Experts discuss the issue in meet organised by FPAI

BHOPAL | SATURDAY | JULY 13, 2019

### STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

The Family Planning Association of India (FPAI) organised dialogue with "Media Rights for Acceptance on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for All" here on Friday. Psychiatrist Dr Satyakant

Trivedi spoke on the subject of social anecdotes and said that sex education should be included in the course at the school level. Homa's sexuality is not wrong. This is a biological part of a person's special life that has been kept in the society as a huge taboo.

He said that sex related problems are seen as a disease right now. The patient is afraid to talk to the doctor. Many

times, he is ruining his life by spending millions of rupees in the bluff of the wrong people. That is why it is important that

you know what type of doctor you need to help in the disease. The doctor should also ask that

<u>he pioneer</u>

Get involved Youth Dialogue: xual and Reproductive Health and Dialogue edia: Rights V/s Ac July, 2019 Bentree Hotel he speak to the patient in his local language and give him a

chance to open and speak. Dr Raka Arya, associate

professor of LNUU, talked about the law on sexual and reproductively rights of young

people. He said that even today, the Parents are afraid of talking to their child on these topics. Teachers do not want to teach the chapter in school. In this way, children read the content on the Internet. They

Entry without tickets should not

said that in adolescence, the boys and girls bring changes in their behavior with hormonal changes. Parents have to talk to him on this. At the same time, children will have to understand how to handle themselves between these changes. Now children are sexually assaulted. Children are afraid to tell anyone. If they say, then the Parents only reject their words. Dr Jagmeet Chawla said

that the youth of the age group of 10 to 15 years and between 16 and 24 years develops differently. The first emotions are then hormonal changes. If children do something wrong, they will explain them as a harmless nature and they will accept it. Dr Nisha Jagdish, Director (Gender and Rights), FPA India (Headquarter) said that

learn how to connect children to themselves by parents. By making assumptions already on any topic, children cannot keep their problems openly. Correct information can save many problems.

near SAM College dies

truck and rushed

to hospital where

woman identified

as Hariya Bai

was declared

dead while two

survived

After the preliminary investigation body was sent for

registered a case under section

seized the truck bearing regis-

#### STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

 $A^{14}$ -year-old girl died which was third casualty in accident which took place on Saturday near SAM College under Bilkharia police; father and mother of girl died after

the accident. The girl identified as Reshma Singh died while undergoing treatment late in the night on Thursday.

On July 6 the girl and her parents were on their way to Bhopal when they were hit by a speeding truck and rushed to hospital where woman identified as Hariya Bai was declared dead while two survived.

Later, during the investi-gation Sardar Singh died on July 8 while undergoing treatment. Condition of the lone survival Reshma deteriorated further and she died on Thursday night.

On July 6 the girl while errant driver escaped the spot. and her parents Meanwhile, Khajuri police were on their have started investigation of death of 38-year-old man who way to Bhopal dead under suspicious cirwhen they were hit by a speeding

cumstances on July 7 at a private hospital in Kolar; a zero FIR was registered by Kolar and later case was transferred to Khajuri police. An injured man was

rushed to Hamidia after he was found at Khajuri and later he was taken to JK hospital where he died during treatment on July 9. The deceased was identi-

fied as Ganeshram Dayal of Kolar. After his death Kolar police registered a case of zero FIR and transferred the case to Khajuri police.

the post mortem. Police have The police have registered 304 A of the IPC. Police have a case under section 174 of the CrPC and started further investration number MP20SB1599 tigation.

## Air Marshal Ajit Shankar Rao Bhonsle visits IGRMS

Bhopal: Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya is working for national integration, and promotes research and training for salvage and revitalisation of vanishing but valuable cultural traditions.

On Friday, Air Marshal, Ajit Shankar Rao Bhonsle, VSM, AVSM, Indian Air Force (Member of UPSC) visited Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya on the bank of 7 mile long Bhopal upper lake.

On this occasion they visited the rock art shelters, Desert and Coastal village and Tribal Habitat Open-air Exhibition and Indoor exhibition Building, Veethi Sankul of the museum.

They were guided through the visit by Director, IGRMS, Prof Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri and KK Basa (Tagore pose.

Fellow) Khwahish foundation bhopal with the collaboration with IGRMS, EPCO & BMC organised An exhibition of artistic installation 'My Planet My Home' is being put up at DB City

Mall. In this sequence, IGRMS premises.

will organise a painting competition for students on Saturday. 13 July, 2019 at DB Mall

The aim of this competition to aware in students to Single use plastic which is used one and thrown away. Single use plastic like bottles, plastic bags, plastic sively that the station premises and train are under surveilspoons, mugs are polluting the lance of CCTV cameras. environment on a very large said special emphasis on addiscale. Most of the plastic waste is single use plastic, which will tional security on railway statake about a century to decom-

be allowed at rly stations: DGP Bhopal: Safety and security tricts of the state has to be laid should be made in such a They said that Dog and bomb manner that unauthorised perdetonators have been fully sons and passengers without active in every railway zone. ticket should not enter or exit Additionally, adequate ammufrom railway stations and nition of bomb disposal equipwherever required security ment should be kept.

Mr. Singh said that GRP, measures have to be strengthened said DGP VK Singh at RPF and Police should work State Level Rail Safety Committee at State Police together to create mutual cooperation and continue to Headquarters on Friday. He said that CCTV camexchange information regularly to keep the security of the eras have to install in adequate railway safe.

numbers at railway station premises and along with this it should be tried to install CCTV Special focus on the safety of women and children should be kept and spread information of Child Help Line, create Child Helpline Groups. The contact numbers of helpling cameras on both the doors of every bogie of the train. It contact numbers of helplines should be publicized extenrelated to women and children should be displayed. GRP and RPF should make joint efforts In the meeting DGP Singh to maintain safety and security in every train and at every railway station by maintaining tions of Balaghat and Mandla adequate staff. areas of the Naxal-affected dis-

## ₹50K electronic goods stolen from parked car

Bhopal: A parked car was targeted by miscreants near hospital under Piplani police station area and electronic goods worth ₹50000 in a bag was stolen by breaking the window panes on Thursday.

According to the police electronic goods in a bag was stolen from the victim Sabitanad Lodha's car parked near a hospital in Indrapuri The incident took place at

around 6 pm when the victim had gone to visit his relative undergoing treatment at the hospital.

His bag carrying iPad and other important documents was kept in the back seat and when the victim returned the window panes of the door was broken and bag was found missing.

Based on the complaint after the preliminary investigation the police have registered a case under section 379 of the IPC and have started further investigation into the matter.

Meanwhile, Ashoka Garden police have booked unidentified miscreants attempted to break an ATM at Subhash Colony late in the night on Thursday





inauguration during 38th foundation day celebrations of National Bank for Agricultutre and Rural Development (NABARD) at Academy of Administration in Bhopal on Friday Pioneer photo

### **STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

The 38th Foundation day of NABARD was celebrated with great fervor here on Friday. Governor of Madhya Pradesh Anandi Ben Patel was Chief Guest of the occasion, while Sachin Subhash Yadav, Cabinet Minister, Farmer Welfare and Agriculture MI Development,

On this occasion, SK tions in the next three years. Bansal, Chief General Manager, Madhya Pradesh has provided a loan of Rs Regional Office Bhopal, wel-23,539.68 crore to the State comed all the guests and remarked that Farmers' Producers Organizations are playing a vital role in rural and agricultural development of the country.

He deliberated that farmin the country have 2-3

their marketing.

Government till March 31, 2019 for basic infrastructural facilities such as roads, irrigation, drinking water projects, bridges etc. in the rural areas. Wadi project is another important project of NABARD, which has done

He added that NABARD



SR

Speaker of the State Assembly NP Prajapati, Chief Minister Kamal Nath, Deputy Speaker Hina Kavre and other leaders in a meeting during ongoing Monsoon session of the State Assembly in Bhopal on Friday Pioneer photo

According to the police, ATM was found damaged in the early morning hours, but the miscreants failed to get through the machine and reach the cash which was their target.

Police said that the number of miscreants in the incident would be searched in the investigation. Indicash ATM – ATM service provider by TATA company was targeted by miscreants and nothing could be ascertained at the moment regarding the miscreants. In the initial investigation

police have not found anything concrete which could help in the nabbing the miscreants as the locals and nearby shopkeepers have expressed ignorance over the burglary attempt. SR attempt.

Government was present as a special guest.

Besides, Vivek Agrawal, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India and General Manager from State Bank of India and other senior officials from state government, Banks and line departments were present during the function.

The main attraction of the celebration was the presence of more than 500 Farmers' Producers Organizations (FPOs) and Women Self-Help Groups (W-SHGs) from different districts of the State. NABARD has been pioneer in the promotion of Self-help Group -Bank Linkage Programme and Farmers' Producters Organization programme and both these groups have accelerated development in their respective fields.

major concerns - getting the remarkable work in the tribal right price for their produce, areas of the State. Under this sudden losses which they sufproject, more than 67,000 tribfer due to fluctuation of prices al families have been benefited under grant support from NABARD. in the market and availability of good quality seeds and fer-

SK Bansal, Chief General Manager, NABARD also tilizers at the right price. The solution to these problems is to bring aggregate production of emphasized that NABARD, small farmers at one place and together with its various stakeholders such as State Government, Financial Institutions, NGOs, Farmers make collective efforts towards At the same time, these Club, Self Help Groups and Agricultural Producing farmers have to be provided with necessary agricultural inputs ie seeds, fertilizers etc at Organizations, played an the correct price. For this, important role in the develop-NABARD has propagated the ment of the State Madhya concept of Farmers' Producers Pradesh. He informed that in Organizations. NABARD has the year 2019-20, NABARD formed 361 Farmers' Producers plans to provide financial assistance of 25-30 thousand crores

Organizations in the State of Madhya Pradesh and is also to the State Government, which aiming to connect 3.6 lakh is 15-20% metre than the prefarmers with these organizavious year.

## Singh: Kisan Samvad 'Experimental knowledge with theoretical must'

## programmes will be held at district level

### **STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

 $F_{\text{Consumer}}^{\text{ood, Civil Supplies and}}$ Minister Pradyumna Singh Tomar said that Kisan Samvad programmes will be organised at district level to ensure participation of farmers in the procurement policy of Rabi-Kharif crop of the state. Minister Tomar will inaugurate the Kisan Samvad programme from Jhabua on July 21.

Minister Tomar said that the state government has decided to give priority to the suggestions and experiences of

farmers in the fixation of the procurement policy. He said that the expectations of the farmers from the state government will be included in the procurement policy. Tomar said that maximum participaimportant. tion of farmers will be ensured in the Samvad programme to

be organized at district level. Tomar said that redressal of problems faced by the farmers in bringing the crop to the mandis besides weighing, storage and payment will be ensured in the procurement policy. The policy will be made farmer-oriented.

In response to the questions of RJ Sukriti in 'Hello Bhopal' programme of Radio Mirchi Minister Higher Education, Sports and Youth Welfare Jitu Patwari today said that time has changed now. Now only theoretical knowledge of any subject cannot improve quality of education. Experimental knowledge of the subject is also very

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

Patwari said that curiosity regarding any subject can be created among students if education is made interesting. He said that traditional knowledge and science are one and the same. The combined use of these will further increase the level of education. Old courses running over the years have to be adopted in accordance with



today's competitive environment. Patwari gave answers to the questions put up by the youth also. Responding to the question of closure of the Medhavi Chhatra Yojana by

Prateek, a student of BSSS Patwari said that the scheme will continue and is being redesigned. On a question regarding skill development by student Suraj, he said that a Skill

University is being started by the state government from next year in Indore. Here students will be able to develop their skills in conformity with traditional regional skills as well as modern needs through various courses and training. In response to a question of the lack of well-educated teachers by student Neeraj, the Minister said that about 3,000 teachers will be appointed soon. For the training of teachers, a high-level training institute is being set up in

Bhopal. Here, about 4,000 teachers will be trained from time to time in the field of education and training on modern education.

Addressing sports as an important part of life Sports Minister Patwari said sports help us to handle the difficulties of life easily and said it should be adopted.

Provision of effective health services is Govt's priority: DG Bhopal: Provision of effectual was established in the year health services in each village

is part of State Government's priority. This was said by the Director General of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA) R Parshuram, while expressing his views on the subject 'Comprehensive Healcare for Rural Poor' during a lecture series 'Asardaar Parivartan-

Tikau Parinaam'. He mentioned that the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute will be benefitted by the experiences of Jan-Swasthya Sahyog Sansthan. This institute has done a commendable work in providing health services to the villages. The Co-Founder of Jan Swasthya Sahyog-Ganyari, Bilaspur Raman Kataria informed that the institute 1999 by 6 doctors of AIIMS, New Delhi. The institute on the basis of partnership model has played an important role in rural areas for prevention of diseases like mother and infant infectious diseases, malnutrition and TB. This work is being done by the institute in 70 villages.

Besides, work is also being done by the institute in 6 districts of Madhya Pradesh. He further stated that medical requirements could be fulfilled at local level by making Asha workers competent at community level. He laid emphasis on use of generic medicines in place of costly medicines. Kataria said that balance diet in childhood could save from many diseases.

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## townhall 03

## I-T dept collects ₹23,334 cr



Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, AK Chouhan, talking to media persons at Aayakar Bhawan in Bhopal on Friday Pioneer photo

#### STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

 $I_{(Madhya \ Pradesh \ and}^{ncome \ tax \ department}$ Chhattisgarh) had collected income tax of ₹23,334 crore in the financial year 2018-19,

which was about 13.4 percent more than the previous financial year said principal chief commissioner of income tax, MP and CG Ajay Kumar Chauhan on Friday.

department is going to honor honest taxpayers. On July 24, such taxpayers will be honored on the occasion of Income Tax Day. This is for the first time

He said that the income tax that taxpayers who pay tax will

also be honored on Income Tax Day this year.

In the last year (2018-19), 6,85,651 new taxpayers were targeted to be associated with the department and the department added 7,06,487 new taxpayers, which was about 3 percent higher than the target.

He said that the Income Tax Department is reaching more and more people under its outreach programs and is motivating people to earn honest tax.

Income tax department is adopting new techniques to expand its tax payer base which has helped the department in

achieving targets. Income tax fortnight has been organized from July 10 to 24, in the celebration of the 15th year of the income tax day celebrated on July 24, 2019.

Blood donation camp was held on Friday in the Income Tax Bhawan. Free medical checkup will be organized in all districts of the state in this fortnight. Plantation program is also been organised. Outreach program is being organised to join tax payers.

#### **STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

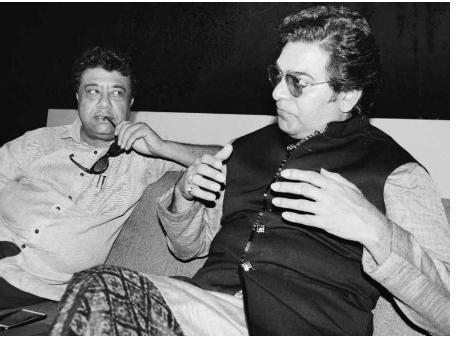
Experiments are must in the-tres as theatres cannot be possible without experiments, says the renowned bollywood actor Ashutosh Rana.

Rana was in the city to attend the 'Satra Samapti Samaroh (session-end function)' of the MP School of Drama (MPSD) on Friday.

While talking to media persons, he talked about the growing popularity of web series at a press conference. He said, "As an actor, I

don't find any difference between theatre, films, TV and web series. The actors have to simply play their roles but the reach of web series is much wider than any of the other media. You can watch them on your mobile at your conve-nience, unlike theatre, films and TV, where the timing is

fixed.' He said he is working in two films under Dharma productions and web series besides a teleplay 'Purush' for G5 web services. He said he wants to play the roles of Chanakya,



Reach of web series is much wider: Rana

Swami Vivekananda, Ravana and Krishna.

Talking about villains in Bollywood films, Rana said, "The character of villains has been changing. And I was lucky to play a villain when the

transformation was happening. started acting at the age of four. I began with Ramleelas. But till now, I have never chosen any role on the basis of whether it of a villain or of a hero. I focus on the character."

On being asked whether he intends to join politics, he said, "In a democracy, every person is in politics. I am still to lose interest in acting. If and when that happens, I will think about the other options."

## **IN BRIEF**

**SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY ON JULY 16** Bhopal: A scholarship distribution ceremony will be held in Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki Vishwavidyalaya on Tuesday July 16 in which Governor and Chancellor Anandiben Patel will be the chief guest. Vice Chancellor Prof Sunil Kumar will preside over the programme. Principal Secretary, Technical Education and Skills Upgradation Pramod Agarwal will be a special guest. Scholarships of ₹20,000 each will be given to motivate proficient students, who have scored highest marks in the theoretical exams of graduate courses of Engineering, Pharmacy and Architecture of RGPV and allied institutes for the academic session 2018-19 and 2019-20 in the ceremony. Scholarships of over Rs one crore will be given to approximately 550 students of last 2 years during the ceremony. In addition, 60 students who have stood first in each faculty will also be honoured.

### **NEW POSTINGS OF 5 IAS OFFICERS DECLARED**

Bhopal: The State Government declared new posting of 5 officers of Indian Administrative Service. Chairman of the Board of Secondary Education Iqbal Singh Bains and Additional Chief Secretary-Higher Education Salina Singh have been posted as Chairman Revenue Board, Gwalior and Chairman Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education respectively. Similarly, Principal Secretary-Labour Ashok Shah has been entrusted with additional charge of Director, Tribal Research and Development Institute along with his current responsibilities. Principal Secretary Tourism and Officer on Special Duty cum Commissioner Tourism and Managing Director- Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Board and Managing Director-Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation Hariranjan Rao has been posted as Principal Secretary Higher Education.

### **CASH REWARD ON REPORTING POWER THEFT**

Bhopal: In order to prevent electricity theft, the Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company has implemented a scheme to give cash reward under the prescribed conditions for informing about illegal use of electricity. On the basis of information, 10 percent of the recovered sum will be paid to the informer. There is no maximum limit of amount. Besides the head office of Madhya Kshetra Vidyut Vitran Company and regional head offices, regional general managers can also be informed in writing or through telephone in connection to electricity theft. Concerned officers will be responsible to keep the informer's particulars confidential. Officers/employees of the

## 4-day theatre festival ends with Shakespeare's play

### STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

 $T^{
m he\ four-day\ theatre\ festival}_{
m concluded\ with\ the\ classic}$ play of William Shakespeare. The Merchant of Venice was staged at Ravindra Bhavan on Friday. The play was performed in Hindi 'Venice Ka Saudagar'.

The play was performed by the students of Madhya Pradesh School of Drama (MPSD).

The Merchant of Venice is a 16th century play written by William Shakespeare in which a merchant in Venice named Antonio must default on a large loan provided by a Jewish moneylender, Shylock.

Antonio, a merchant, agrees to loan money to his friend Bassanio so he can woo his beloved Portia. However, Antonio's money is tied up in his ships out at see.

The play was performed by the students of Madhya Pradesh School of Drama (MPSD). The **Merchant of Venice is a 16th** century play written by William Shakespeare in which a merchant in Venice named Antonio must default on a large loan provided by a Jewish moneylender Shylock

He visits the moneylender to Antonio, and Bassanio marries Portia.

July 2 to 8.

Pradesh.

Shylock to acquire the neces-sary funds. Shylock dislikes Antonio, but he agrees to lend Antonio the money on the condition that if he defaults on the loan, Shylock is entitled to a pound of Antonio's flesh. Ultimately, Shylock can't collect on his end of the deal because of the harm that would be done

The audiences were enthralled to watch the enactment of Shakespeare's play. The students performed it very enthusiastically leaving the audiences mesmerized. The audience watched the play with rapt attention as it was performed beautifully.



BJP activists during party's membership campaign at Shivaji Nagar locality in Bhopal on Friday

Raja Harishchandra MP players bag bronze Woman kills self after in junior boxing c'ship | not getting son's

## play staged at **Tribal Museum**

### **STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL

AHindi play 'Raja Harishchandra' was staged 'Raja here on Friday.

The play was performed at Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Museum under Abhinayan series of drama.

The play was directed by Krishna Kumari.

This fascinating story was much enjoyed by the audience. Also it was presented brilliantly by the artists of the theatre

group. At the center of this presentation is Harishchandra. Harishchandra was the king of artistic manner. Ayodhya, the famous Suryavanshi (Ikshvakvanshi, Arkavanshi, Raghuvanshi), who was the son of Satyavrat. They are unique to their

integrity and for this they have to endure many hardships in life.

Raja Harishchandra had sold himself along with his wife and son to walk on the path of truth.

It is said that - 'Chandra Tera Suraj Tarai, Tarey Jagat Behnaa, Pai Purely Shri Harishchandra's True Idea.

His wife's name was Tara and the son's name was Rohit, he donated a whole kingdom to Rishi Vishwamitra due to his grandson nature.

In today's presentation the artists presented how Vishwamitra took revenge on Raja Harishchandra and still did not get off the path of Raja

Harishchandra Satya. Harishchandra's tribulations and their enduring behav-King ior were presented to the audi-Raja ence by artists on stage in

> The end of this presentation is accompanied by the meaningful duty of King Harishchandra and the victory of truth.

Through this presentation, the artists gave inspiration to the audience to be truthful and to be perfect with self-confi-

dence. The play was much enjoyed by the audience.

**STAFF REPORTER** BHOPAL Patwari, he congratulated them by welcoming the players from Madhya Pradesh State Boxing Academy's players Suraj Saini and Abhishek the floral bouquet.

The Sports Minister encouraged Suraj Saini and Tomar bagged bronze medal in Abhishek Tomar to excel in the first all-junior National upcoming competitions. On this occasion, MP Roshan Boxing Competition. The championship was Lal, Chief Instructor of State held in Rohtak, Haryana from Boxing Academy was also pre-

Suraj Seni defeated Meanwhile, in the junior Pondicherry's player in the Asian wrestling competition first match of 55kg in the Sub Jr. National Boxing played in Thailand from July 9 to 14, 2019, Pooja Jat, player of Competition and defeated the Madhya Pradesh State Punjab player in Chandigarh Wrestling Academy, gave the and quarterfinal match in the country bronze medal. pre-quarterfinals. Similarly, Representing the Indian team, Abhishek Tomar defeated Pooja Jat earned this medal in the weight of 53 kilograms. Damandiv's player in the pre-

Expressing happiness over this achievement of Pooja Jat, quarterfinals match in the 50kilometer-weight contest and defeated Damandiv's player in the State Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Jitu Patwari bronze medal to Madhya congratulated her. He has said Sports Minister welcomed that Pooja has brought laurels to the country and the region the winners with enthusiasm. by giving India a bronze medal Medal winner Suraj Saini and in junior Asian wrestling com-Abhishek Tomar presented petition. Director Sports and Youth Welfare S.L. Thoussen courtesy to Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Jitu Patwari on Friday. When both the playalso congratulated them for appreciating the performance ers arrived at their residence to meet Sports Minister Jitu of the Puja Jat.

## admission in school

## STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

Unable to admit her son in a good and reputed school, a 28-year-old married woman committed suicide by hanging with the ceiling at Neel Sagar Colony Neelbad under Ratibad police station area on Thursday.

Vibha Singh was found hanging with the ceiling and was declared dead when taken to a nearby hospital.

At around 12.30 in the afternoon when Vibha failed to open door her father-in-law was informed by neighbours and when he came and broke door to enter Vibha was found hanging. Police have not found any

suicide note but in the investigation it was revealed that Vibha used to have frequent fights with her husband over admission of their children in renowned schools in which children of their relatives study

work when Vibha Singh committed suicide.

Pioneer photo

The deceased had 7-yearold son and three and a half year old daughter from marriage.

Police were informed and after preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem.

The police have registered a case under section 174 of the CrPC and have started further investigation.

Meanwhile a 23-year-old married woman committed suicide by hanging with the ceiling at Jawahar Chowk under TT Nagar police station area on Thursday. According to the police the deceased Pooja Mehar was found hanging and was rushed to a nearby hospital where she was declared dead.

After the preliminary investigation the body was sent for the post mortem and a case under section 174 of the CrPC was registered by the police. The reason of the suicide remained unknown and would be investigated.

### company will not be considered as informers. The Incentive money will be paid from the head office of the company and deposited directly in the bank account of the informer.

### **HEALTH EXAMINATION OF 53.54L CHILDREN CONDUCTED**

**Bhonal:** Dastak teams visited from door-to-door in 44 085 villages and conducted health examination of total 53.54 lakh children under the Dastak Abhivan in the State. In the campaign that began on June 10, 99 percent villages have been covered so far. The campaign will continue till July 20 State Nodal Officer Pragva Tiwari said that during the health check of children under the Dastak Abhivan, 61.014 children were diagnosed with diarrhoea, 27,880 children with anaemia and 6,474 children were suffering from sepsis. Blood transfusion was performed on 2.205 anaemic children As many as 6.618 children out of sepsis (malnourished) affected children were admitted and treated in NRC and given nutritious meals.

#### SOUTH EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED \$ "A MINI RATNA COMPANY"

E- TENDER NOTICE 1.NIT NO: SECL/JK/APC/Alum Chlorine/1819134 / 035,Date 08.07.2019, Location of work: Jamuna-Kotma Area, Estimated Cost: 1951520.00 /-,Description of Work: Procurement of Alum Chlorine at JK Area.Date & Time for Submission Work: Procurement of Alum Chlorine at JK Area.Date & Time for Submission of bid: 08.07.2019 at 02:00 PM to 30.07.2019 at 02:00 PM, Date & Time for Opening of bid: 31.07.2019 at 02:00 PM. SO(MM) Jamuna-Kotma Area 2.NIT NO: SECL/JK/APC/Nut for Roof Bolts/ 1916035 / 036,Date 08.07.2019, Location of work: Jamuna-Kotma Area, Estimated Cost: 16,00,000,00/-Description of Work: Procurement of hexagonal nut for roof bolts at JK Area Date & Time for Submission of bid: 08.07.2019 at 02:00 PM to 30.07.2019 at 02:00 PM, Date & Time for Opening of bid: 31.07.2019 at 02:00 PM.

## SO(IMI) Jamuna-Kotma Area 3.NIT NO: SECL/GM/JOH/Survey/eTender/ 19-20/ 25,Date 06.07.2019, Tender

ID: 2019\_SECL\_143675\_1, Location of work: Nowrozabad west colliery Estimated Cost: 25,90,943.00/-,Description of Work: Installation of bel conveyor structure in underground of Nowrozabad west colliery,Nowrozabad sub area of Johilla Area.Date & Time for Submission of bid: 09.07.2019 at 10:00 AM to 29.07.2019 at 05:00 PM, Date & Time for Opening of bid: 31.07.2019 at

11:00 AM. ASO, Johilla Aree Note: For details and submission of bid please visit website www.eprocure. gov.in,and e-procurement portal of CIL https://coalindiatenders.nic.in & www. secl-cil.in. In Case of any Misprinting/Error, details as per website documen will be considered as fina

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- 2. Junior Engineer (Civil) Group 'C Level-5
- On Deputation / Direct Recruitment Basis
- 3. Junior Accounts Officer (Group 'B') Level-6
- 4. Junior Accountant (Group 'C') Level-4

For details of the number of posts, qualifications/experience etc and the format of application, please refer website of NPTI www.npti.gov.in

Davp/34107/11/0005/1920

Rise in number of festival holidays likely in schools

### STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

 $W^{\mathrm{ith}\ \mathrm{a}\ \mathrm{private}\ \mathrm{member's}}_{\mathrm{Bill},\ \mathrm{the}\ \mathrm{legislators}\ \mathrm{of}}$ Madhya Pradesh have expected to increase the number of festival holidays in the schools.

A private member's resolution passed by the house with voice vote wants the government not to hold any exam immediately after the festivals, especially after the festival of colours, Holi.

The resolution was moved able by the Congress MLA from festivities.

Bargi in Jabalpur, Sanjay Yadav. And it was passed by the house with voice vote in the late afternoon on Friday before the assembly was adjourned for four days - from Saturday to Tuesday.

While talking to media persons inside the assembly premises Sanjay Yadav said that gradually the number of holidays during Dussehra, Diwali and Holi is decreasing. The school children are not the

to enjoy

They are also not able to connect with their religion and culture. He said that in the past Dussehra and Diwali festivals in schools would last for 24 days.

For the past many years, exams, especially board exams coincide with the very next day of Holi. Parents do not allow children to enjoy the festival because of exams." The private member's resolution passed by the house will now go to the school education department for consideration.

Whereas, The authorized officer of UCO Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act 2002 and in exercise of power conferred under 13(12) read with rule 3 of the security

of the UCO Bank, Shanti Nagar Branch, Jabalpur for an amount mentioned below & Interest & other charges thereon. The borrowers & / or guarantors attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section 8 of Sec 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name & Address of Borrower	& Property Owner	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Date	Amt. Outstanding
M/s Khushbu Embroiders Prop- Mrs Siddique Fatima W/o mubin Khan	An Area Of Constructed House No- 339/2, P.H. No-01 Nb-601 Part of Khasra No-251/2, 252/3, Area of Plot 1260sq Ft Mouza Gohalpur Tehsil / District Jabalpur. Boundaries : North- Road, South-Sushila Devi, East- Mukhtiyar Ahmed, West-Israr Hazi Owner- Siddique Fatima W/o Mubin Khan	10-07-2019	₹ 1983310.68 + Interest & other charges
Date & Place : Jabalpur, 10-07-2019	Au	thorised Office	r, UCO Bank

### युको बैक (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) Shanti Nagar Branch : Jabalpur (M.P.) Tel.: 0761-2650080 **POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) RULE 8 (1)**

interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued a demand notice calling upon the below mentioned borrowers & Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice and interest thereon with in 60 days from the date receipt of the said notice. The borrowers & / or guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned, being the Authorized officer of Uco Bank has taken **Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under Sub section (4) section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8

of the Security Interest Enforcement) Rules 2002 The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property will be subject to the charge

Her husband who works with Archeological department at Hoshangabad was at



## **'Cong leadership issue** would be settled soon'

#### PNS CHANDIGARH

A mid leadership crisis in Congress at the central as well as the state level, former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Friday expressed hope that the matter of party leadership will be settled soon and then decision regarding Haryana state party unit will be taken. "We have demanded that

Rahul Gandhi should take his resignation back. We are hopeful that the decision regarding party's national leadership will be taken soon," Hooda said while talking to the mediapersons here.

The elections to 90-mem-ber State Assembly elections in Haryana are due to be held in October.

Regarding the demand of change of guard in state party unit, the former Chief Minister

PNS CHANDIGARH

on the election planning and said, "We are waiting for the decision at central level. After management committee the leadership issue at the cen-(EPMC) constituted by Haryana Congress chief Ashok tral level is resolved, the decision will be taken in case of Tanwar, the former Chief Harvana as well? Minister said that the general

On the ongoing infighting secretary in-charge Ghulam in Haryana Congress unit, Nabi Azad had himself stated Hooda said, "There is no fightthat this committee is not ing ... Thought process is difapproved. I have also remained state

ferent. Congress will perform well party president. Such commitin the upcoming assembly elec-tions. In Lok Sabha polls, there tees cannot be constituted without the approval of AICC, he was Narendra Modi wave but added. in assembly elections, there week announced the constitu-tion of EPMC for upcoming will be no such wave, he said.

The BJP Government in Haryana has failed on all fronts, be it health, education, law and order situation or power sector, he alleged.

Commenting on rumours declared the committee as of him quitting the Congress, 'invalid', Tanwar had convened he said, I will stay in Congress its

only." Azaus shue and the committee as a group. Azad's snub and had renamed

## CM Helpline to redress public grievances, says Thakur

## PNS SHIMLA

H<sup>imachal</sup> Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur on Friday said that the Chief Minister Helpline (Him Sewa) would prove to be very effective in redressing public grievances.

Addressing a training workshop on Chief Minister's Helpline organised here by the Information Technology department through video conference from Ahmedabad, Thakur said that the Chief Minister Helpline is being started as per the budget assurance of the state gov-ernment that will help in saving precious time and money

meeting on July 8 in New Delhi. While Azad had of the general public. He directed the officers to make all efforts to make this meeting in defiance of

Helpline a big success. The Chief Minister added that Jan Manch programme initiated by the state government has proved to be another successful medium in providing relief to the masses by reaching out directly to them. Principal Secretary, Information and Technology Jagdeesh Chander said that complaints relating to all departments would be registered under this Helpline and it would be ensured that the complaints are addressed at the earliest.

This Helpline would reg-ister the complaints through and demands through call centre and all relevant information regarding the offi-cers of all the departments would be available on it.

He said that an app of this Helpline would be started and feedback and suggestions of the people would also be taken through this ser-

The offices of the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary would monitor the Helpline which would remain active from 7 AM to 10 PM.

Gurugram: Gurugram Police

have busted a gang that stole luxury cars in Delhi and the

NCR region and sold them in

the faraway northeastern states.

by the police with the arrest of

The nexus was unearthed

accused named Dharamveer

## Devotees of Maharashtrian Community participate in Dindi procession of Lord Vitthal on the occasion of Ashadi Ekadashi, in Bhopal on Friday JJMP rebels torch 16

Railway siding under Chandwa Police Station of Latehar district putting on fire at least 16 heavy vehicles at the site on the intervening

night of Thursday and Friday. The rebels also thrashed some people present at the site and snatched their mobile phones.

Police reached the spot as soon as they received infor-mation of the incident, following which the rebels resorted to firing. According to police, firing continued from both sides for about one and half hours and later the extremists fled the spot tak-

ing advantage of nearby

tion with police action against JJMP chief Pappu Lohra. "Police had applied for court orders to seize proper-ties of JJMP chief Pappu

Lohra. The order has been passed and the step seems to be taken in desperation by the rebels," Anand said, adding that a search opera-tion has been launched to nab the culprits in the area.

According to information, about 15 extremists had entered the railway siding at Tori and started firing indiscriminately.

One of the teams started torching the vehicles at the

site, while the other team started beating the people present there. The extremists snatched torches and mobile phones from people present at the site.

Locals said that the outfit claimed the responsibility of the incident by leaving a hand written note citing reason of non-payment of levy for their action. They have also threatened to stop work at Tori and Biratoli coal siding if it is without their per-

mission. After the incident, police of neighbouring districts Chatra, Lohardaga and Ranchi have been alerted.

Police have launched intensive search operation on all roads from Latehar passing through the three districts.

## Railways to start girder installation work

nation 04

## **PNS** ■ JAMSHEDPUR

**¬**rain services will hit in the L Tatanagar-Adityapur section of South Eastern Railway's Chakradharpur railway division on Sunday due to girder installation work for the new Jugsalai overbridge. The Chakradharpur rail-

way division declared a railway block of three hours from 11.30 am on July 14 for the installation work.

Movement of over a dozen mail, express and passenger trains would be affected during the railway traffic-cum-power block. "The overhead traction wire will have to be dismantled for girder installation work and this would bring movement of trains to a grinding halt in that section for three hours," said H K Balmuchu, director of Tatanagar railway station

The Hatia-Tata Passenger, Barkakana -Tata Passenger and Tata-Chakulia Passenger trains will remain cancelled. The Dhanbad-Tata Swarnarekha Express will be short-terminated at Kandra railway station. The Bilaspur-Tata Passenger will be short-terminated at Chakradharpur. The Barbil-Tata Passenger will be short-terminated at Chaibasa while the Asansol-Tata Express will be short-terminated at Chandil.

Apart from this movement of over half-a-dozen mail and express trains including Titlagarh-Howrah Ispat Superfast Express and Mumbai-Tata Antodaya Express would be affected in the Chakradharpur division.

About one lakh people from the densely-populated Jugsalai and Bagbera localities of the city cross the Jugsalai level crossing located between Tatanagar and Adityapur stations every day. As about 90 trains, including goods trains passes through the Jugsalai level crossing. The railway has finalised the blueprint for the ₹21.54 crore project.

## Not a drop to drink: Water Gurugram Police bust gang that sold stolen luxury cars in Nagaland crisis hits tail-end of the city The accused revealed that he

## **PNS** JAMSHEDPUR

woes in lamshedpur. The along with decreasing water increase the water supply

other initiatives drinking water tanker trips.

water programme. The rising level of mercury "It is really difficult times said that if the water crisis in for us. The scorching heat, the city increases, they would the city increases the would be a score the score of the score

A senior district official

Raising questions against the faulty online process for also entails harassment and looting of admission seeking the Colleges admissions in students, he added. admission is quite opposite to

Singh Surjewala on Friday alleged that the BJP Government is out to doom the University where if a student applies for admission in ten future of students in the state. Colleges, his/her name appears in the merit list of all ten Suriewala said that the students are not getting admission Colleges, Surjewala further in Colleges as per merit and are being forced to pay a fee of Rs 150 for admission application in

each College, whereas on allotment of one College, the name of the student is not considered for admission in other Colleges, though the student may be placed higher in rank as per the merit. This process not only

defeats the objective of merit-Administration issued a notice based College admissions, but, stating that even students who This process of College

Haryana, Congress communications in-charge Randeep the process being followed for admission in Colleges of Delhi

BJP playing with future of

students in Haryana: Cong

added. Referring to other students problems in new admission process, Surjewala said that earlier, the students passing 12th standard from Haryana Board were not required to get their documents verified. But this time, on the last day, the

have passed their 12th standard from Haryana Board will be required to get their documents verified and consequently the names of students from Haryana could not appear in the merit list for admission. In such a scenario

Ashok Tanwar had last

Haryana Assembly elections and had convened its first

the students in Haryana are feeling helpless and desperate, the Congress leader said. In its entirety, the present

system in Haryana has been a gross betrayal of the meritorious students of Harvana since the online admission process has totally failed and the people in Haryana will uproot this BJP Government in the ensuing Assembly elections on account of its failing the students fraternity at every level, he added.





Students of Inter National Institute of Fashion Design (INIFD) walk the ramp at a fashion show at Bhojpur Club in Bhopal on Pioneer photo Friday

alias Dharma on Friday. The accused revealed that he was part of a gang active in Gurugram that used to steal expensive luxury vehicles at gunpoint.

Dharamveer revealed during interrogation that he had looted one Toyota Fortuner SUV on March 24 from DLF Alameda City, sector 73, in Gurugram. The accused and his men in a Maruti Omni blocked the way of the SUV. Two of the accused stepped out from the van and accused Bharat Singh, the owner of the SUV who was driving at the time, that he had hit another vehicle from behind. While Singh argued with them,

firearms, ammo recovered

## used to steal expensive luxury vehicles at gunpoint

was part of a

gang active in

**Gurugram that** 

another two gang members came out of the van and held him at gunpoint," Gurugram Police PRO Subhash Bokan said.

The accused overpowered him and forced him into the van. One of the accused drove the SUV and followed. The accused took away his mobile phones, wallet, debit and credit cards with pin numbers and dumped him at an isolated place. IANS

"All of them have criminal

antecedents and during investigation, they have accepted

their involvement in three

cases. One of them is that of

murder and another is related

water problem is more severe in the areas located at the tailend of water supply system and on the city outskirts. In order to end the water woes of the residents, the district administration has decided to distribute water through tankers in the areas of Baghbera, Jugsalai, Pursudih and Karandih, which are the worst-affected areas.

In order to redress the water woes of the citizens during the summer season, the East Singhbhum administration is gearing up to pre-pare an action plan that includes repair- ing of hand pumps, distribution of water through tankers and several

level, has made life difficult for us. Long queues of women, standing for water at hand pumps, are regular feature," said Yogesh Sharma, a resident of Baghbera. According to the infor-

mation, the water problem is more severe in the areas located at the tail-end of water supply system and on the city outskirts.

The district administration expects that due to the scanty rainfall last year, more tube wells could dry up as the groundwater recedes further. To ensure water supply in the affected area, the public health and engineering department will increase the

Accident Investigation Bureau

Absence of rain has situation.

## **Chinese protest** near LAC against Dalai's b'day bash

### PNS NEW DELHI

adakh region witnessed a Lconfrontation between Tibetans living in India and those in China last week near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Fukche area of Demchok in eastern Ladakh.

However, the Chinese dressed in civilian clothes did not cross the LAC and went back after displaying banners.

Giving details of the incident, sources said here on Friday that Tibetans annually hold a religious festival Dole Tango to celebrate Dalai Lama's birthday in Koyul village of Fukche on July 6.

In such festival last week, a sizable number of Tibetans had gathered and waved the Tibetan flag.

A group of Chinese origin Tibetans came near the LAC on their side in two SUVs and displayed a banner saying, "ban all activities to split Tibet.'

## In such festival last

## week, a sizable number of Tibetans had gathered and waved the Tibetan flag

They went back and after some time, said sources, adding the villages across the LAC are sparsely populated. Officials denied reports

that the Chinese Tibetans had intruded into Indian territory adding the action across the LAC was in reaction to the Tibetans on the Indian side waving the flag. Demchok is an area that

has seen Chinese transgressions in the past. In 2014, there was a fist fight between Indian and Chinese troops during a stand-off.

China has been pushing its own successor of the Dalai Lama and pressing that any other appointment should not be given any recognition.



other colleagues.

added

#### MRITUANJAY KUMAR I RANCHI Maranhada area.

n a major breakthrough, of police officials, led by Sub-Khunti police nabbed five Divisional Police Officer, CPI-Maoist ultras and recov-Ashish Kumar Mahli and other police official of the district ered two firearms as well as police undertook the operation ammunition from Amto Village under Maranghada successfully. Police Station in Khunti Informing about the oper-

District area on Friday. Those arrested are the

active members of the CPI-Maoist's in Marangahada area. The arrested have been identified as Sukhdeo Munda (21),

Samir Nagar (20) Karm Singh Nagar (22), Nardeo Munda (19) and Kandra Munda (21) all of them are resident of

#### to attack on a teacher's family with intention to kill. Police also got success in cracking other cases in which they are involved and those who have fled, the arrested ultras have given information about them," said Mahli. The Police team recovered Acting on a tip off, a team one country made pistol, some

banners of banned Maoists outfit, a green coloured Apache motorcycle and some live cartridges.

In another case, Ranchi Police arrested two criminals from Hindpiri Police Station in ation, Mahli said that five ultras Ranchi on Friday.

Hindpiri Police Station Inwere arrested while they were making plans to commit crime charge Brij Kumar said that two in Amto village with their criminals Mohammad Sajjad (30) and Armaan Hussain (22) Four or five colleagues of both of them were residents of them escaped from the hands Hindpidhi. Police arrested of police but the police will arrest them immediately, he them with three country-made pistols, one six round revolver and some live cartridges.

### PNS JAMSHEDPUR

5 Maoists held in J'khand, CSIR signs MoU with Aircraft

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) NML signed an MoU with Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) MoU on Thursday. The MoU was signed in presence of Pradeep Singh Kĥarola, secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, at Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi for utilising NML's laboratory facility and technical expertise for aircraft accident /incident Investigation and

training of investigators. The MoU was signed by Dr. Indranil Chattoraj, director, CSIR-NML and Arvindo Handa, director general, AAIB. This MoU will be valid for five years and will provide opportunities to the scientists of CSIR-NML to carry out Research and Development activities on aviation related

problems. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) is a division of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India which investigates aircraft accidents and incidents in

General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) conducted investiga-Laboratory, Jamshedpur is the tions and gave information to third in the Council of Scientific and Industrial the investigations established by the Court of Inquiry and the Research (CSIR) family of 38 Committee Inquiry. A separate laboratories. The laboratory was forinvestigative agency was established to comply with the mally inaugurated and dedi-Standards And Recommended cated to the nation on the November 26, 1950 by Pandit Practices (SARPs) of the International Civil Aviation Jawaharlal Nehru.

through tankers.

Now, as the water crisis is looming large since the city received scanty rain last year, the supply of water through tankers would be increased by around 30 lakh litres.

Zilla Parishad member, Rajkumar Singh, said that almost all panchayat areas under his jurisdiction are facing an acute drinking water crisis as it is a dry zone. Tube-wells and bore-wells have gone dry.

aggravated Therefore, this year too, he has decided to supply water through tankers to overcome sufferings of the people.

India. Earlier, the Directorate Organisation (ICAO). The National Metallurgical

## nation 05

running kilometre by 12,000

km between 1950-2014, while

from 2014-2019, it grew by

Freight Corridor started in 2007.

From 2007 to 2014, they had not

even managed one kilometre of

track linking. We took on this

work and in just five years, we

have completed 1900 km of

ing the Congress rule, not one

coach was manufactured in

Rae Bareli's Modern Coach

Factory since 2007-2008 till 2014 and the first coach was

made in August 2014 shortly after the BJP came to power. There was no protest or response coming from the

We want the MCF to

increase its manufacturing

capacity to 5000 and the trains

coming out of there go to the

entire world. We want it to be

the largest factory in the world,"

2004 and 2009, around 206

accidents took place every year,

while the number was 153

between 2009 and 2011. He

said that during the BJP's tenure, it reduced to around

State Governments in West

Bengal, Goyal said several pro-

jects had been held up because

the State was unable to provide

Bengal is running from 1974-

pleted because the Government

"The oldest project in West

Lashing out at successive

Goyal said that between

Congress benches.

he said.

100 every year.

land to railways.

He again claimed that dur-

track linking," said Goyal.

5,000 running kilometre. "The work for Dedicated



# Budget 'realistic', 'achievable': FinMin

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NFW DFI HI

 $R^{\rm efuting \ the \ Opposition}_{\rm charge \ that \ the \ Union}$ Budget for 2019-20 lacks vision and is anti-poor and farmers, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said in the Rajya Sabha it reflects commitment to boost investment in agriculture and social sector particularly healthcare and education.

She also brushed aside Congress leader and former Minister P Finance Chidambaram's contention that the Narendra Modi Government has not initiated any structural reforms and shied away from bold steps and listed at least 16 such actions including GST, annual dole of Rs 6,000 to all farmers, direct benefit transfer and "radical" changes in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) among others. She also strongly asserted that the five trillion dollar economy by 2025 was achievable after Chidambaram had pooh-poohed this target in his

speech on Thursday. Devoting nearly 45 minutes of her one hour and 40 minutes reply to the three-day debate on her maiden Union Budget in rebutting Chidambaram's charges made in his assertion on Thursday, Sitharaman said all the targets mentioned in her Budget, including five trillion dollar economy by 2024 were "realis-tic" and "achievable".

In fact, the Minister also said

**INSHORT** 

VIKAS SWARUP IS SECY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS

according to an order issued by

Friday. Swarup, a 1986-batch

officer of the Indian Foreign

Service, is at present India's

PM MODI MEETS BJP Women MPS

New Delhi: Prime Minister

Narendra Modi met women

MPs of the BJP over breakfast

at his residence on Friday the

fifth in the series of meetings

parliamentarians from the party

with a cross-section of

High Commissioner in Ottawa

New Delhi: Senior diplomat

Vikas Swarup has been

appointed as Secretary,

Overseas Indian Affairs.

the Personnel Ministry on

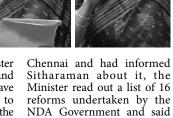
the former Finance Minister had attempted to "slight and ridicule" the budget in a "suave manner" and then went on to compare the performance of the five years of the Modi regime with the targets achieved by the

previous UPA Government. She said the NDA Government in 2014 was saddled with an under recovery of more than 1.4 lakh crore left by the then outgoing UPA Government. Moreover, inflation was also high as admitted by then Finance Minister Chidambaram. She also pointed out the voluntary disclosure of income scheme initiated by Chidambaram as finance minister drew strong criticism by the Comptroller and Auditor

General (CAG). Her sharp reaction came after Chidambaram on Thursday had termed the Budget as "insipid" and lacking in bold steps and structural reforms. He also questioned the five trillion dollar target. Taking on Chidambaram

PNS NEW DELHI

who was not present in the house as he was away in



Chidambaram only listed four reforms during the UPA rule.

Rebutting his assertion of "unachievable" tax projections, she read out numbers to say income tax, excise and GST collection targets are achievable.

While excise collections will boost with Rs 2 per litre increase in tax on petrol and diesel and an amnesty scheme, GST collections will boost by over 14 per cent on simplified return filing and tracking of evasion.

"It is not without a plan," she said on increasing the size of the economy from USD 2.7 trillion to USD 5 trillion by 2024-25. She then went on the challenge Chidambaram's comment that a money lender can also calculate regarding five trillion dollar economy and said if it is the case there is no need for a government. As regards the priorities of

the Budget, she said besides focus on agriculture, the plan

Nirmala Sitharaman said Budget reflects commitment to boost investment in agriculture and social sector particularly health care

## and education

includes increasing investment coming by way of further liberalisation of FDI rules, lowering of corporate tax to 25 per cent to companies with turnover of up to Rs 400 crore, tax cut on electric vehicles, widening scope of voluntary pension scheme for retail traders and shopkeepers and giving push to infrastructure development with an investment of Rs 100 lakh crore over the next five years.

To criticism of her Budget speech on July 5 not featuring allocations, Sitharaman read out allocations made in employment guarantee scheme, irrigation, rural roads, drinking water, health, education, crop insurance and mid-day meal scheme to say funds made available for 99 schemes having impact on common man have all gone up.

Sitharaman said over the last five years, public sector banks have been recapitalised by Rs 3.19 lakh crore. "NPA problem has been comprehensively addressed by the Government.

On farmer support schemes, she said extending scope of cash support of Rs 6,000 to every farmer, giving 50 per cent margin of profit on cost of production and timely announcement of MSP increase will help double farmer income by 2022. The Minister also said the Government is considering

a proposal for pension scheme for farmers above the age of 60.

## Rlys need big investment: Goyal

DEEPAK K UPRETI I NEW DELHI

Stating that Railways need "big investments" if facilities like new stations, railway lines and speed trains are to be created, Railway Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday for this reason his Government would increase public-private partnership even as he rejected the charge that the national transporter would be privatised.

"Privatisation is needed for new stations, railway lines and speed trains," said Goyal, who was replying to a debate in the Lok Sabha to the discussion on Demands for Grants of the Railways. He said Government

would increase public-private partnership in the railways which was also initiated by the Congress-led-dispensation at the centre. "You failed, we are capable... why shed crocodile tears," the Minister said while referring to the issue of privatisation and the need for inviting private investments in

the railways. Goyal said railways was in for a big expansion and referred to the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget speech which said Rs 50 lakh crore was needed to be spent on Railways in the next 10 to 12 years. Goyal said Railways are spending money in new coaches and single automatic signaling system for the entire

country. With several Opposition leaders accusing the Government of ushering in privatisation of the railways, Goyal said: "There is no question of privatisation of the railways. The railwavs cannot be privatised. However, if we have to increase the facilities in railways then

Privatisation is needed for new stations, railway lines and speed trains, said Pivush Goval

- □ You failed, we are capable... why shed crocodile tears, the Minister said while referring to the issue of privatisation and the need for inviting private investments in the railways
- □ The Minister said Railways was running in profit despite ₹22,000 crore paid to workers after Seventh pay commission report. He said Railways borrowing was at ₹18,000 crore
- The justified ending the tradition of presenting a separate Budget for the Railways saying, Khayali pulao banane ka purana railway Budget ko Modiji ne khatam kar diya, jahan hazaro wade kiye iate thav



obviously we need investments for it. We have taken a decision to encourage public private partnerships and we will also corporatise some units."

The Minister said Railways was running in profit despite Rs 22,000 crore paid to workers after Seventh pay commission report. He said Railways borrowing was at Rs 18,000 crore.

He said punctuality of trains was his priority and for this automatic monitoring of trains arrival and departure times would be in place and it would be not left to be handled by the station masters as used to happen in olden times.

Goyal detailed figures to claim that the Modi Government has performed much better in boosting both infrastructure and safety parameters of the national transporter as compared to the UPA era. The minister also highlighted how the government had installed around 2,10,000 bio-toilets in trains so far and

in next 12 months all trains in the country would have them. During his hour-long speech there were frequent protests by Congress mem-

bers, as their leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury accused him of misleading the House and he was backed by his party colleagues.

He justified ending the tradition of presenting a separate Budget for the Railways saying, 'Khayali pulao banane ka purana railway Budget ko Modiji ne khatam kar diya, jahan hazaro wade kiye jate thay (Modi ended the practice of separate railway budget which made vote bank promises)." He also went on to quote Atal Bihari Vajpayee, "*Main hamesha vade* 

leke nahin, irade leke aaya (I bring determination/commit-75. The projects don't get comment and not promises)." He said track kilometre

doesn't give us land. If they give grew by 39,000 km in 64 years, us land, work will immediately start," he said, adding simiwhile in the past five years it grew by 7,000 km. Similarly, he lar problems were also faced in said the railways increased its Kerala.

India, Pak delegates to meet at Attari-Wagah border tomorrow **LS clears changes in Central varsities Act** 

> To set up Central, Tribal varsities in Andhra Pradesh

## PNS NEW DELHI

🗖 he Lok Sabha on Friday passed the Amendment Bill to Central Universities Act to set up a Central university and a tribal university in Andhra Pradesh.

**HRD** Minister said the **Modi Government has** given Andhra Pradesh two universities and seven institutions of importance. Stating that at present the education

Moving the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019 for passage HRD

budget of Rs 1.25 lakh crore, he said the

department has a

Government is moving at

tivity at the Zero Point and the number of pilgrims to be allowed. Government officials said the construction from Indian side will be completed by October 31, well before the commemoration of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in

the officials.

November 2019. New Delhi had earlier conveyed its strong concerns to kistan over the presence of a



KARTARPURCORRIDOR

Will discuss various issues related to the Kartarpur Corridor, including connectivity at the Zero Point and the number of pilgrims to be allowed. Government officials said the construction from Indian side will be completed by October 31, well before the commemoration of

constructed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The officials said India is constructing a bridge at the Zero Point and has urged Pakistan to build a similar bridge on its side that will provide safe and secure movement of the pilgrims and address concerns regarding flooding. The bridge is over a creek, of which the majority part falls in Pakistan. Pakistan said it would build

a mud-filled embankment, a move which would not only lead to flooding in areas on the Indian side but also pose a threat to the structure of the bridge. The construction work

before the commemoration of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in November 2019. More than 250 labourers and 30 engineers are working at the site in three shifts. The terminal is being built on around 15 acres of land with comprehensive facilities to cater to approximately 5,000 pilgrims daily.

The passenger terminal building is being constructed by the Land Ports Authority of Índia.

The work for it was awarded to the Shapoorji Pallonji Group on May 29. The land acquisition process has been completed with the support of

The party's MPs have been divided into seven groups and Modi has already met party narliamentarians belonging to the OBC. SC and ST categories, and those who were ministers once, sources said.

### WON'T ALLOW TO GIVE JNU BAD NAME: HRD MIN

New Delhi: The Jawaharlal Nehru University is a top research institution and "intentions" of some people who have given it a "bad name" will not be allowed to succeed. HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhrival Nishank said in the Lok Sabha on Friday.

## INDIA HAS 19.47L Doctors: Health Min

New Delhi: The Government on Friday said there were more than 19.47 lakh allopathy, ayurveda. unani and homeopathy doctors at the end of March this year. Out of them, 11.59.309 allopathy doctors were registered with the State Medical Councils/MCL "Assuming 80 per cent availability, it is estimated that around 9.27 lakh doctors may be actually available for active service. It gives a doctorpopulation ratio of 1:1456 per current population estimate of 1.35 billion, which is lower than the WHO norm of 1:1000.' Health Minister Harsh Vardhan told the Lok Sabha

## 4,800 MBBS SEATS **RESERVED FOR EWS**

New Delhi: Around 4,800 MBBS seats have been reserved for students from economically weaker sections in the current year, Union Minister Harsh Vardhan said Friday adding there has been an increase of 24.698 seats for Under Graduate and Post Graduate in medical colleges in more than two years

#### CENTRE ANNOUNCES SAVE **INDIAN BUSTARDS PROJECT** New Delhi: With just 130 great

Indian bustards left in the country, the Centre has initiated a project worth Rs 33.85 crore for their conservation and protection, the Environment Ministry told Lok Sabha Friday.

leading Khalistani separatist in a committee appointed by Islamabad on the project. "The meeting will discuss modalities of the Kartarpur Corridor and

PNS NEW DELHI

550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in November 2019

connecting the Zero Point of related technical issues," said the Kartarpur Corridor up to The four-lane highway National Highway-354 is being

at the site of passenger terminal complex at Dera Baba Nanak in India is on full swing. The work has been planned to be completed by October 31

the Punjab government and the project is scheduled to be completed by October 31. The total cost of the project is Rs 177.5 crore.

has allotted Rs 450 crore for the central university and Rs 420 crore for the central tribal university. Currently these two universities are functioning in temporary facilities in Anantpur and Vijayanagaram

respectively. HRD Minister said the Modi Government has given Andhra Pradesh two universities and seven institutions of importance. Stating that at present the education department has a budget of Rs 1.25 lakh crore, he said the Government is moving at a fast pace in the area of education. It has put the education sector under focus to ensure all round development,

he said. According to the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019, the two universities

will increase access and quality of higher educa-tion and also promote tion for the people of the state. The Tribal University will pro-

vide instructional and research facilities in tribal art, culture and cusand

Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal a fast pace in the area 'Nishank' said the Government of education

advancement in technology to the tribal population of India. At present, there is no central university in Andhra Pradesh while other States, except Goa, have one or more such institution.

Setting up a central university and a central tribal university in Andhra Pradesh is obligatory under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 for creation of Telangana.

Participating in the discussion, K Suresh (Cong) said that the bill has not mentioned about detailed funding mechanism and funding of universities have remained an issue in the country. There is also no mention about curriculum and administration of these two universities in the bill, he said.

He added that it was also not mentioned whether tribals would get reservation in the central tribal university.

at

Rajiv Pratap Rudy (BJP) the TDP for took questioning the intentions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

and dealers

CBI books former Arunachal

CM Tuki in corruption case

op two parking places in manager United Commercial Niriulee and Naharlagun in the also been booked, they said.

Rs 2.60 crore, officials said. gratification of Rs 30 lakh, Tuki was the CM of the State during 2011-16. His brother Nabam Tagam, NN Osik, the then director civil supplies, and the then chief



Bank Sohrab Ali Hazarika have Osik allegedly paid illegal

which were credited in his account in Itanagar branch of the United Commercial Bank. The cheque was initially issued

later changed to "yourself", the agency alleged. It said Hazarika, as the branch manager, helped to get the amount credited in Tuki's account and did not obtain any

authorisation for alterations made in the cheque beneficiary column. The account holder's name in the bank records was "obliterated" and was replaced with

in the name of Tuki and was

T Nabam in the specimen signature card. A picture of Tuki's brother Nabam Tagam was also put on the specimen signature card.

The agency has booked all the accused for IPC sections relating to criminal conspiracy and forgery besides provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

## **SC stays Madras HC** proceedings in case against Tamil magazine

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday stayed further proceedings in the Madras High Court in a case against Tamil magazine 'Nakkheeran' for publishing articles alleged-

ly denigrating Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit. A Bench headed by Justice

SA Nazeer agreed to examine the State Government's plea against the order which stayed the proceedings against the magazine and its editor. On June 4, the High Court had granted interim relief to Nakkheeran editor R Gopal by staying proceedings against him in the case in a lower court.

Gopal was arrested on October 9 last year under Section 124 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) which relates to

"assaulting President, Governor etc with intent to compel or restrain the exercise of any lawful power", triggering a controversy.

However, he had walked free within hours after a local court had rejected the police's

plea for his remand and released him on a personal bond. The case was filed on a complaint from the Raj Bhavan over the publication of a series of articles in Nakkheeran related to a woman assistant professor of a private college who allegedly asked girl students to extend sexual favours to university officials in return for

marks and money. Gopal approached the Madras High Court seeking | ture a quashing of the case. **PTI** | toms

Gujarat to soon get world class zoo near Statue of Unity

## ARCHANA JYOTI INEW DELHI

take illegal gratification in lieu

of the contracts given to devel-

state worth Rs 61.43 lakh and

Visitors to the 'Statue of Unity' (SoU), world's tallest statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, will soon also get to enjoy the Jungle Safari housing exotic animals and birds as the Gujarat Government is in the process of developing a world class zoo adjacent to the site at Kevadia Colony in Narmada district in the State.

Setting up of the Sardar Patel Zoological Park is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's wishes keen to develop the spot as a major tourism hub, said a senior official from December 22, the Prime

Central Zoo Authority has already given in-principle approval to the proposal of developing the zoo to be spread over 200 acres near the statue site which witnesses around 7 lakh tourists every year. The zoo, which is being developed in phases, is likely to be inaugurated



Minister during his visit to the to develop Kevadia as a tourism

SoU site had expressed desire hub so that the tourists visiting

from far places have full value of their time and money.

"The Prime Minister wanted more attraction at the venue where kids and families can spend entire day together. Also idea is to sensitise and educate the visitors about the ecosystem and importance of wildlife conservation.

'The zoo will have five sections each for mammals, carnivorous, herbivorous and water animals and a walk through aviary besides exotic animals as per the zoo mandate. We are in the process of acquiring the animals from other zoos," said the official.

Inaugurated by Modi last year, the 182 meter tall SoU is already flanked by 17-km-long patch of colourful flowers, around 100 varieties of flowers, along the banks of River Narmada to make the spot resembling a rainbow of flowers set up on earth. In addition, two beautiful lakes — 'Kamal' and 'Poyani' - are also devel-

oped. With a view to give firsthand experience of nature and environment to visitors, natural treks - Reva Trek, Sadhu Trek, Vainkutth Baba Trek, Sardar Trek, and Ashwasthama Trek - have been developed. In

addition to these, the site has Adventure Park, Garden of Five Senses, Selfie with Statue and Sardar garden, said the official. Sardar Patel Once

Zoological Park starts functioning, Gujarat will in total have eight zoos. The seven other zoos are Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagadh; Kamla Nehru Zoological Garden, Ahmedabad; Indroda Nature Park, Gandhi Nagar; Nature Park, Surat; Rajkot Municipal Corporation Zoo, Raikot; Savaii Baug Zoo, Vadodara; and Sundervan Nature Discovery Centre in Ahmedabad.

#### the Gujarat Government on condition of anonymity. The Central Zoo Authority (CZA), a regulatory body for zoos in the country, has already given in-principle approval to the proposal of developing the zoo to be spread over 200

acres near the statue site which

witnesses around 7 lakh

tourists every year. The zoo,

which is being developed in

phases, is likely to be inaugu-

rated in October this year,

most probably on the birth

Pioneer that last year on

The official told The

anniversary of the iron man.



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## – PAPER WITH PASSION – Ayodhya deadline

Modi 2.0 can neither ignore the temple demand given its moorings, nor can it risk its sabka vishwas legacy



any among us would be sad if the much-politicised Ayodhya issue can-IN Inot be settled over mediation and becomes a subject of another round of legal to and fros and point-scoring instead. But that would be looking at it rather superfluously, though it would undoubtedly be an ideal solution. Given its gravitas in the body politic and a hold of our national consciousness, particularly to the Hindu identity, which is on the ascendant post the recent Lok Sabha verdict, the temple is expected to be the culmination

of an iconisation process. And about setting a historical benchmark. Still, ignoring opposition from Hindu organisations, except the Nirmohi Akhara, on the ground that earlier attempts of reaching a compromise had failed and that it was an emotional issue that needed closure, the Supreme Court did give a chance to talks. But considering there is no clarity yet from the three-member panel, comprising spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, Justice (Retd) FM Kalifulla and senior advocate Sriram Panchu, which had to deliver within a timeline, looks like this is another missed opportunity.

Factoring in the sensitivities of the case and the pressure on the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to bring about an ordinance before the elections, the Supreme Court had ordered mediation to dissociate Ayodhya from the considerations of electoral politics. In that sense, the exercise was more of a breather to the BJP. which, unsure of the subsequent verdict it got in May, didn't want to be seen as a party whose hands were forced on the subject. Even during the mediation process, on-ground reports had suggested that both sides were equally adamant about their stated positions and were not willing to yield an inch to the other. For both the Muslims and Hindus, compromise equals climbdown when it comes to the legitimacy of the mosque and temple. But as the court said, the past cannot be undone and the only option was to take things forward. For the Hindu right-wing, which has based its claim to political legacy on the temple, it cannot afford to water down Ayodhya, the starting point of its pan-India efflorescence. And now that majoritarianism has been legitimised by a big verdict, even the BJP has no option but to address its core constituency. For it has derived only incremental advantages from what was once an upper-caste concern to a mainstream heartland plank. Though the rath yatra by veteran BJP leader LK Advani laid the foundation of the movement, it was not until the demolition of the mosque that the construction of the Ram temple wrested the pan-India narrative. So, BJP will never be able to settle for half measures on the *mandir* issue though the traction has been diminishing over the years — the last being an almost empty session on the subject at the Kumbh mela - compelling even RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat to declare that the subject should be taken up after the general elections. The temple even failed to create a ripple effect in last year's bypolls and Assembly elections in the heartland states, considering its supporters were mostly concentrated here. Except the Shiv Sena, which has been keeping the pressure on the government and pointing out that the dispute is about 1,500 sq ft land and not about the remaining 63 acres, and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's promises, there wasn't much traction on the subject pre-election. Then the Pulwama terror attacks and the Balakot airstrikes gave a nationalist and pan-India surge that not only shored up Prime Minister Modi's ratings but afforded him an opportunity to delay his Ayodhya strategy instead of giving in to the pressure of issuing an ordinance from ideologues and the larger Sangh Parivar. Although Modi had then clarified that any discussion on Ayodhya would be considered only after the judicial process was over, it is now, with the BJP's own massive majority, that he is expected to take an imponderable step to ensure temple construction. Truth be told, the Ayodhya land issue itself may be a lesser irritant but it is the slogan of "Jai Shri Ram" that it has inspired that has acquired greater potency, sometimes used as a political slogan against the Bengal government, at other times as a fringe justification for rakshak lynchings. It is this delicate balance between a political necessity and a burden that the Modi 2.0 Government has to negotiate. Moreover, can it get past the obstinacy on the matter?

# opinion Bengal's real bankruptcy

Forget the political class, it is the intellectual elite that has failed Bengal and its people. Its leading lights have become so selfish that they speak when it serves their image



RINKU GHOSH

id this happen to Bengal, really?" This was the question among the tribe that has prided itself in standing apart and shaping the thoughts and culture of a State by sheer endowment of history than an interactive understanding of contemporary reality, namely the intellectual. Soon after the Lok Sabha verdict had announced the inevitable, that the syncretic liberalism that the State had been a product of was now slowly endorsing a majoritarian conservatism, Bengal's intellectuals began groping for explanations. And thrown into a sea of confusion from their ivory tower constructs, they clutched at the next best thing. Survival. Even if it meant changing perspectives overnight. If something had fallen, may be there was something indeed wrong with it, never mind that they had wilfully ignored the signs as long as it was self-serving and non-threatening, and, therefore, pragmatically moved on to the next best thing. Nothing can better explain how a shifting bloc of Bengal's cultural elite has thrived on every regime change, picking up patronage to ensure its legitimacy and in the name of being the people's conscience, has conveniently moved on to the next sponsor. Question is do the keepers ever listen to their own conscience? For if they had, they would have realised that they have failed Bengal.

Nothing can better explain how a group of intellectuals, fattened by 34 years of Left Front rule and almost embedded as a pro-foundly political secret society, took up the cudgels when resistance came in the form of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and Mamata Banerjee at Nandigram and Singur. And now that the trade winds have shifted, they are negotiating a new pole position in the name of giving out a conscience call. Nobody is endorsing the Trinamool's excesses or arrogance that cost it the Lok Sabha tally but why couldn't the intelligentsia nurtured by it effect a course correction from within, rebel or mobilise a movement if needed, force an agenda on the people and lead them if required rather than being glib deserters preening with their "I told you so" diagnosis? If only they had looked into history, they would have realised that their predecessors never stood in the sidelines but plunged deep into the thick of things, that they were not just agitationists and commentators but revolutionaries, that they never depended on patronage of the establishment but forged their own legacies. Most important, they remained true to the spiritual core of their civilisational identity



a reality in colonial India or been the bedrock of social reforms that had an impact across our DNA. Had not the enlightened elite started their printing presses and encouraged sub-altern literature and home-grown opinions, there would not be a discourse on either democracy or nationalism as we know it today. And though Bengal revolutionaries are not credited enough in post-colonial history, the fact is they were born of the urban middle class. Even the Leftist, socialist movement and sensibility was birthed by it. And the two icons that Bengal's elite claims lineage to -Rabindranath Tagore and Swami Vivekananda — abandoned their city comforts and made the countryside and the dispossessed their karmabhoomi. They even became our first global Indians, letting in a cross-flow of cultures to be adapted and learnt from but one that never sequestered the Indic philosophy.

Bengal's intellectual movement bloomed as long as it was connective matrix of people

entitled and guaranteed roles in academia, the theatre, the arts and films. The Naxalist era did see activist movements on the ground but those were just pyrrhic sparks, not enough to dent the deeply-set culture codes that were quickly appropriated as an extension of the establishment. In the process, State power bred its own brand of "intellectuals", the kind who kowtowed than questioned, the kind who ended up as repressive and intolerant of otherness. That primarily explains why in both the Left and Trinamool regimes they have been posited as trophies and medallions of courtiership rather than emerging as a vibrant selfcheck mechanism, one that could have either saved or annihilated both regimes that follow a similar template of coercion and propagation. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn defined intellectual in The Gulag Archipelago as "a person whose interests in and preoccupation with the spiritual side of life are insistent and constant and not forced by external circumstances, even flying in the face of them. An intellectual is a person whose thought is nonimitative." Contemporary intellectuals today are just the polar opposite. In fact, they have become so cultishly selfish that they speak when it serves their image and will not stake the largesse they have accumulated through years of them being

endorsed by their patron regimes to a worthwhile cause of rescuing Bengal's standing. Yes, they are a civil society alright. The question is, therefore, are they

being civil about their duties? It is sad that Bengal is now cited only in terms of hasbeens, the first to abolish feudal systems, the first to initiate land reforms, the first to devolve power to the panchayats and farmers and so on. But look at indices of development and it is a wasteland. This even prompted welfare economist Amartya Sen to argue that the State has paid for ignoring industrialisation. In fact, the politics of Bengal has been predicated so much on parties toppling each other for the throne by fouler means than fair that there has been no revision of ideologies or ideas to revive what could sustain it in the first place growth and development. Without these two, there cannot be mental enlightenment either.

For all the intellectuals, who get the media arclights whenever they deign to drop a pearl of wisdom, there are no answers on bettering growth figures, winning back industrial investment and pulling it out of a negative trap of the trade unionist era, or improving its human development indices like education, which are dismal compared to even smaller States. Nobody is absolving the political class one bit for

ignoring governance and administration or being despotic about priorities. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), too, has already fallen into the same trap of desperate power-grabs. But there's no absolving the cultural elite espousing its opinion from the comfort of Kolkata without even so much as attempting a connect with rural society, its aspiration to mainstream itself with the rest of India, its right to live a normal life with basic parameters rather than being pledged as a faceless votebank or even its deep desire to break out of the vicious trap of denial and non-recognition. Such is the deep disconnect

that even films, where Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen once captured the rural angst, are now all about urban concerns, relationships and gender identities. In the process, the popular cultural discourse, even in literature, has become severely restricted to the perception of an elite Kolkata, so used to the pandering by both the Left and Trinamool, that they believe they are the agenda and not the other way around. The resultant benefits have made them ideological kulaks rather than free-thinkers and changemakers. So when a group of activists now criticises Mamata and seeks redress with the Bengal Governor as part of their constitutional right and duty, one would like to ask them where was this purification campaign before the election or even the last five years when Bengal made national headlines for extortion scams, political violence or child deaths? Why were they so tepid despite being coopted in several statelevel committees and did not use them to sound the alarm bells? What stopped them from mass resignations or signing off retire-ment benefits? Why have they, as the protector of Bengal's soul, been loyal to parties (and they will in the future too) than the idea of Bengal? Why do the greatest thinking minds in the academia and global institutions not spare a journal to be test-piloted on the ground? Or remit some practical wisdom than regret the state of affairs? One may argue that they are entitled to their intellectual freedom and privileges that come from it. But then one expects that intellect to also rise above what others do. This intellectual corruption, bankruptcy and hypocrisy, one leges personal capitalism that priv over preached socialism, has failed the ordinary people of Bengal. And so if the common Bengal labourer is wondering why his mills are shut, doles are pathetically low and he has to travel to plants in Gujarat as a migrant, everybody better be prepared to answer the question. (The writer is Associate Editor, The Pioneer)

## **Aviation blues**

The Government wants to take a deeper look at the crisis between the promoters of IndiGo, the nation's largest airline



ndia's aviation sector cannot seem to stem the tide of bad news. Even if this particular item does not question the viability of an airline, the very fact that the promoters of India's largest airline are at odds with each other has the government rightly worried. IndiGo is a trusted brand and after the collapse of two major players over the past decade and the precarious financial health of others, we cannot deal with even a small airline's demise, let alone any major snafu in the operations of a carrier that ferries almost half

of the 10 million plus domestic air travellers every month. At the same time, IndiGo is one of India's most valuable listed companies along with being one of the most valuable airlines in the world based on its share price, and thus it has also become a vital part of our stock exchanges. Both aspects are important to consider why even those in the highest echelons of government should take an interest in the dispute between the two promoters. The issues raised are prima facie serious, and different government agencies should take a long and careful look at this. However, the government and the Indigo management must make sure that this dispute does not impact the day to day operations as that could have a catastrophic impact on domestic air travel and the economy as a whole. The aviation sector has already undergone massive amounts of churn with the collapse of Jet Airways, now with almost no hope left of revival, as well as several safety related incidents over the past few months. The industry, the economy and the country don't need a major crisis to engulf the nation's largest airline.

The civil aviation sector in India could do with a spot of good news soon as the continuing closure of routes between northern India and Pakistan remains a problem which has now nearly gone on for half a year. The collapse of Jet Airways, with thousands of crores due to creditors, employees and in taxes, is far from being resolved. And the government is now adamant on divesting itself of Air India, at a time when the global and domestic markets are weak and the world is on the verge of a multilateral trade war. The spotlight on safety issues after a spate of runway overruns should also be a matter of concern to the industry as its global health continues to reel from the impact of the grounding of the Boeing 737 Max. Possibly the old adage, no news is good news would not be a bad place for the civil aviation sector to be in India right now.

than don a garb of foisted ideology.

Would the Indigo Revolt of 1859 have made such a mark if it didn't have the support of the Bengali intelligentsia, who built a tide of opinion through pamphlets, protests and dialogue? Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and R C Dutt supported the anti-zamindari Pabna Agrarian Leagues. Had Raja Rammohan Roy and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar not led from the front, the Bengal Renaissance would not have become

without prejudice and was about a shared, humanist pursuit of a single goal. But the moment the bhadralok got gentrified, there was a categorisation of culture as what Bengal thought and others didn't and the consequent imperviousness to what people really wanted. In the Left regime, the bhadralok became a part of an enormous cultural czardom with



#### LETTERS 0 ТНЕ EDITOR

## Stand by your words

It looks as if the BJP

power just to finish

**Congress leader** —Ghulam Nabi Azad

and opposition

Sir — It is laudable that the Union Cabinet has given nod to amend certain sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The Bill provides for stringent punishment, including death, for sexual assault of children, as well as fines and jail terms for child pornography.

If indeed the BJP Government means what it says, it should immediately appeal against a special court verdict, which granted life imprisonment to three main convicts for raping and murdering an eightyear-old girl in Jammu & Kashmir's Kathua last year. Culprits must be given the death punishment.

Shalini Gerald Chennai

## **Gutsy cricketer**

Sir — India's hold on the game of cricket and the World Cup tournament notwithstanding, New Zealand was always capable of creating this mega-upset. The stars failed when it mattered

## There is always a 'next time'

he adage that "cricket is a game of glorious uncertainties" has once again been proved right by the India-New Zealand match in Manchester. In an international tournament like the World Cup, skill, coupled with common sense, matter and swing the game. At the same time, it must be conceded that over and above them, there is an element of luck, too, in the game. We were disappointed at the result of the knock-out game and saddened that team India could not make it to the finals. As Indian skipper Virat Kohli put it, "it was heart-breaking to go out on 45 minutes of bad cricket.

The collapse of the fabled top order batsmen came as a bolt from the blue and the dismissal of Ravindra Jadeja (not a bits and pieces player) and MS Dhoni (otherwise the great finisher) in the final overs sealed our fate. It was an "uncertainty" and ill-luck that Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul lost wickets in such quick succession. It was some solace to think that we would not have lost had the match been not deferred to the next day due to the rains. The loss to Kiwis in the semi-finals came to pass

the most as India's World Cup hopes died a painful death at a gloomy Old Trafford. India did find an unlikely hero in Ravindra Jadeja who took the team to the doorstep of victory but failed to unlock the door. True, Jadeja couldn't take

India home, but his 59-ball 77 gave a resounding reply to one and all who dared call the

Saurashtra man a "bits-and-pieces cricketer." Sanjay Manjrekar's "well done Jadeja" tweet at the end of the match could have been considered reconciliatory had it not come with a wink.

It's probably an indication that the former India middleorder batsman hasn't backed off from his earlier remark but it doesn't matter. Every act of val-

when India was widely regarded as the hot favourites to win the World Cup. For millions of Indians, cricket is an absolute religion. There is no corner in our country where cricket is not played with enthusiasm. Though hard, we have to now reconcile ourselves to the irreversible exit. The only thing we can now do is to hope that we will be able to bring home the coveted Cup the next time in 2022. G David Milton Maruthancode

> our doesn't necessarily come with the winner's medal and Jadeja will live with it. But for all those "bits-and-

pieces" professionals, this innings will be an example of a never-say-die spirit that can make one believe that nothing is impossible.

P Arihanth Secunderabad

## **Overhaul the party**

Sir — After the defection of 15 lawmakers from both the Janata Dal (Secular) and the Congress, the existing ruling coalition Government in Karnataka is poised on the edge. If the defecting MLAs remain true to their decision and vote as declared in the trust vote, the continuation the Kumarswamy of Government would be very difficult.

The Congress was well aware that all had not been well in the Karnataka Government. It became obvious after the general election. People have now lost faith in the grand old party. It needs drastic reform measures and organisational elections. No doubt, there are eminent and efficient Congress leaders in the party but it's time to choose a capable leader as its president, who can take independent decisions, free from interference of the Gandhis as they are now a spent force

> Nimai Charan Swain Bhubaneswar

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



## FIRSTCOLUMN Connect to a safer world

Contactless cards, which make payments by just waving at a PoS terminal, are quick, convenient and secure. They entail benefits for both merchants and customers



TR RAMACHANDRAN

n a recent communication to the banks, the Finance Ministry advised them to start issuing Near Field Communication (NFC) enabled contactless credit and debit cards to customers. Viewing contactless cards as an enabler of a less-cash dependent economy, the Ministry's communication reinforces the fact that technology will aid in bringing added security and convenience for digital payments for countless Indian citizens.

But what are contactless cards? Unlike a traditional card, it works on NFC technology and lets card users make payments by a mere tap at the point-of-sales (PoS) terminal. This drastically reduces the transaction time and offers seamless purchase experience to customers. Aimed towards making small ticket purchases speedier and more convenient as also to encourage more citizens to go cashless, the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) guidelines have limited the amount per transaction for these cards to ₹2,000. For a transaction exceeding the amount, customers are required to enter the PIN.

Distinguishing between a normal and contactless card is easy. The latter comes with a symbol, making it easily recognisable. The same symbol is also present on the PoS terminal, where a card user can tap to pay. The terminal accepts and processes payments when it is placed within 4 cm or closer to the card reader. Using a contactless card, too, is simple — just tap and pay! All the merchants have to do is enter the purchase amount in the PoS, following which, the customer can simply tap the card against the PoS reader to complete the transaction

Regarding security, contactless technology is one of the most secure ways to pay at the PoS as it leverages the same dynamic security as any EMV contact chip enabled card. Every transaction includes a unique one-time passcode in place of personal account information, ensuring that the card information transmitted cannot be used to create counterfeit cards. Hence, critical information and data, including cardholder's name and CVV code, is not shared during a transaction. Moreover, as the card does not leave the customer's hand, there is no way for a merchant to access the information on it. Also, communication between a contactless card and a checkout terminal is only initiated if both devices are less than 4 cm apart and correctly oriented against the reader.

In case of lost or stolen card, banks usually pre-define a limited number of daily tap and pay purchases for contactless cards issued by them. This means that consumers can only conduct those many number under ₹2,000 transactions in a day. Post that, transactions will require entering their PIN. Furthermore, security algorithms could also randomly request for authentication after every few transactions. The technology has been designed to provide the card holder a seamless payment experience.

A normal cash transaction takes around 30 seconds or more, while an EMV transaction using the swipe or chip method can often take longer owing to multiple steps involved. Opposed to these two, contactless cards provide a seamless user experience as it takes a mere three seconds or less to complete a transaction with literally a tap. This means shorter queues and even shorter wait time. This in turn also means more business for merchants, who earlier would lose customers owing to long queues. More importantly, it reduces the hassle of managing large quantities of cash and wards off the possibility of theft.

Globally, in more digitally mature markets, there has been a drastic reduction in cash usage, largely driven by contactless payment technology. A recent survey by *The Guardian* showed that cash usage in the UK, a country where contactless cards have witnessed widespread adoption, fell to 40 per cent in 2016, against 62 per cent in 2006. In Australia, researchers at the Reserve Bank of Australia Visa's contactless product now accounts for nearly 94 per cent of its face-to-face card transactions. Contactless face-to-face Visa transactions have tripled in Hong Kong in the past 18 months and today, one in three face-to-face Visa transactions is made via a contactless payment. Back home in India, more than 20 million contactless cards were in circulation till October 2018. The RBI had set a deadline for all banks to upgrade the existing magnetic strip cards of their customers to EMV chipbased ones by December 31, 2018. Hence, it is a good time for customers, who have still not replaced their old cards, to request their respective banks to issue a contactless card. Payment cards providers like VISA have already rolled out pilot projects with leading Indian retailers and are rapidly improving infrastructure to ensure that customers can use their contactless cards everywhere.

# analysis

## POINTCOUNTERPOINT

WHILE THE PRIME MINISTER HAD SAID THAT RAILWAYS WILL NOT BE PRIVATISED, THE BUDGET TALKS ABOUT PPP, CORPORATISATION AND DISINVESTMENT. ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY



NO QUESTION OF PRIVATISATION OF RLYS, BUT WE SHOULD INVITE INVESTMENT IN NATIONAL INTEREST IF THERE ARE NEW PROJECTS, LINES. -UNION MINISTER **PIYUSH GOYAL** 

# Opt for a reformist approach

The Government's failure to bring a comprehensive set of reforms for the fertiliser sector is a missed opportunity. Glaring anomalies need to be fixed to harness long-term potential



UTTAM GUPTA

returned to power for a second term with a thumping majority, it was expected of the Modi Government to kick off immediate reforms for the fertiliser sector. Being just the beginning of the five-year term, now is the golden opportunity for it to opt for big bang reforms as any adverse fall-out in the short-run (inevitable when harsh measures are implemented) won't pose any threat to the Government. Alas, it missed the opportunity.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget, too, had no mention whatsoever of substantive issues pertaining to the fertiliser policy even as allocation for fertiliser subsidy at about ₹80,000 crore during 2019-20 (this does not provide for the roll-over of ₹32,000 crore from the previous year, including this, total payment would be ₹112,000 crore) says it all.

The fertiliser subsidy has remained high and on a rising trajectory (only two years back, it was ₹66,000 crore in 2017-18) despite steps taken by the present dispensation *viz*, mandatory neem-coating of urea, issue of soil health cards (SHCs), which were intended to curb diversion of urea to chemical factories and improve effi-ciency of urea use and, thus, bring about reduc-tion in subsidy payments. The anomalous situ-ation arises because successive Governments ation arises because successive Governments, including the NDA dispensation under Atal Bihari Vajpayee (1998-2004) and the Modi 1.0 Government (2014-2019), refused to carry out fundamental reforms. At the outset, let us clear some basics regarding this sector.

To make fertilisers affordable to farmers, the Centre controls their Maximum Retail Price (MRP) at a low level, unrelated to the cost of production and distribution, which is higher. The excess of cost over MRP is reimbursed to the manufacturer as subsidy. In case of urea, the subsidy varies from unit to unit and is administered under the New Pricing Scheme (NPS); whereas for decontrolled complex fertilisers, Muriate of Potash (MoP) and single superphosphate (SSP), a "uniform" subsidy fixed on per nutrient basis, is given to all manufacturers under the Nutrient Based Scheme (NBS).

The cost of transportation (it includes pri-ary movement by rails from the plant and sec-

SUBSIDIES MUST BE GIVEN DIRECTLY TO FARMERS VIA DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER (WITH THIS, NPS AND NBS WILL GO). A MECHANÍSM SHOULD BE FOUND TO EXCLUDE BETTER-OFF/RICH FARMERS FOR BETTER AND LOWERING

SUBSIDY TO SUSTAINABLE



LEVELS



of the former and less of the latter. Discrimination against complex fertilisers and MoP is also evident in

their not getting freight subsidy on secondary movement to retail point (SSP manufacturers don't even get primary freight for movement from plant to railhead) as also in denial of natural gas the feedstock used for the making of ammonia — an intermediate used in manufacture of complex fertilisers to their plants.

These disjointed policies are at the root of increasing imbalance in NPK (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) use ratio, declining crop yield, deterioration in soil health and adverse impact on the environment. The issue of SHC can at best guide the farmers on proper fertiliser use but it can do little to stem the opposite impact of the flawed policies. Low MRP of urea also gives a strong incentive to traders/farmers divert to chemical industries or smuggle to neighboring countries where it fetches a higher price. The neem coating of urea (on which the Modi Government banked heavily to rein in this unhealthy practice) has not helped much or else we would have seen the results in terms of big reduction in subsidy (taking diversion @40 per cent), which is not visible. The extant unit-wise NPS for urea for subsidy determination does not reward low cost units even while protecting high cost units (thus, we have units producing @₹20,000 per tonne plus co-existing with others producing at half this cost). Even in the non-urea subsidy to sustainable level.

segment, where every unit gets the same subsidy, a manufacturer, who manages some savings, is not sure of retaining it as the Government reserves the right to mop it up on examination of high cost data.

It gives no incentive to companies to invest in R&D for delivering more efficient and cost-effective products to the farmers or explore indigenous resources (at present, India depends heavily on import for meeting its fertiliser requirements viz, nearly twothirds in nitrogen, 90 per cent in phosphate and 100 per cent in potash). As a result, even as the farmers don't get major break-through in yield, the

Finance Ministry and the NITI Aayog was working on a road-map for DBT for fertiliser subsidy and even alluded to club this with the assistance @₹6,000 per annum, that is currently being given under PM-KISAN and give the total amount as quasi-universal basic income transfer. But it seems the idea has not caught the attention of the Modi 2.0 Government, else it would have made the announcement to be followed by implementation say from January 1, 2020.

The least the Government could have done was to bring the policy for urea at par with that for non-urea fertilisers by giving uniform subsidy to its manufacturers under NBS (a group of

(The writer is Group Country Manager, India And South Asia, Visa)

ondary movement from the unloading rake point by road to the retailer) is reimbursed to urea manufacturers under a uniform freight policy. On the other hand, manufacturers of decontrolled complex fertilisers/MoP (excluding SSP) get reimbursement of freight cost only towards primary movement on the basis of actual rail freight, as per the railway receipts.

Thus, the manufacturers/importers of decontrolled complex fertilisers, MoP and SSP receive a step-motherly treatment vis-à-vis manufactur-ers of "controlled" urea. In case of complexes/MoP/SSP, even as the Government normally keeps the subsidy unchanged, increase in the cost leads to ever increasing MRP. In sharp contrast, it keeps the MRP of urea at a low level (the current price @₹5,360 per tonne is more or less the same as it was nearly two decades ago) even as all escalations in cost are absorbed by increasing subsidy.

This results in disproportionately low MRP of urea *vis-a-vis* the MRP of complex fertilisers, MoP and SSP, prompting the farmers to use more country remains vulnerable to exploitation by global suppliers.

The system is also highly prone to the misuse of subsidy. According to the Economic Survey (2105-16), 24 per cent of the fertiliser subsidy is appropriated by inefficient manufacturers, 41 per cent gets pilfered on way to the farmers and 24 per cent cornered by large farmers. Only 11 per cent of the benefit actually goes to the poor farmers (those with land holding <2 hectares). These glaring anomalies can be addressed by dismantling controls on MRP and the existing system of routing subsidy through manufacturers. Instead subsidies must be given directly to farmers via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) (with this, NPS and NBS will go). A mechanism should be found to exclude better-off/rich farmers for better targetting and lowering

ministers (GoM) under then Agriculture Minister, Sharad Pawar had recommended this way back in 2012). But even this is not done. Alternatively, it could have affected some increase in urea MRP to demonstrate its intent to correct the imbalance in its price visà-vis complex fertilisers and MoP. Even this wasn't done.

Another doable was to be more "transparent" in reporting subsidy figures by switching over from the existing cash-based system to accounting of subsidies on accrual basis (as recommended by the "expenditure management commission" under Dr Bimal Jalan, former Reserve Bank of India Governor in 2015). This, too, was not done. The Modi Government must not allow these things to linger on. It should get cracking on fertiliser reforms not later than February, 2020. (The writer is a policy analyst)

Early this year, reportedly, the

## When sports reflects the real world

Sports should not be mixed with politics but underlying political tensions are often not lost on the fans. Despite the many rules enacted by international sporting bodies, politics often manage to play a visible role in how a sportsperson or their fans end up behaving on and off the field



NADEEM PARACHA

here's an often repeated statement: "Politics should never be mixed with sports." Ideally, this should be the case, but the fact is that sports and politics do mix and there's nothing one can do about it. Sports are played by men and women, many of whom are as much affected by their respective countries' politics as their fans and/or countrymen and women. So, despite the many rules enacted by international sporting bodies to discourage this mix, politics often manage to play a visible role in how a sportsperson or their fans end up behaving on and off the field.

The most stunning example is the one in which the armies of El Salvador and Honduras actually went to war after the former won the decisive game during the qualifier series between the two countries for the 1970 FIFA World Cup. The ensuing war became known as the 'Soccer War' even though the causes of it were more complex. Relations between El Salvador and Honduras were already tense before the matches.

Clashes between fans of both the

nations had already taken place during the matches. Then, after El Salvador squared the series 1-1, its Government broke off diplomatic ties with Honduras. The El Salvadorian Government accused its Honduran counterparts of unleashing violence against refugees from El Salvador and expelling 11,700 of them. When El Salvador won the third game, more violence between fans of the two countries in the stands was followed by an actual war between the two nations. This is just one example. During

the 1986 Football World Cup, the memory of the 1982 war for the Falkland Islands between British and Argentinian forces was still fresh. Tension among fans of both the countries was running high when Argentina met England in the quarter-finals. Rioting between support-

ers of the two countries had taken place just before the match in which several British fans were hospitalised. Argentina went on to win the match, after a controversial goal from its captain Diego Maradona put them ahead, kicking off an intense football rivalry between the two countries.

During the 2004 Football Asia Cup in China, when the home side played their "historical nemesis" Japan (the country had occupied China during World War II), the crowds did their best to drown out the Japanese national anthem with loud chanting and booing. In the late 1960s, black American athletes and the former world heavyweight boxing champion, the great Muhammad Ali, often expressed "black power" symbolism and rhetoric during international meets. Recently, the multimillion-dollar American football scene was rocked by controversy when many black major league players refused to stand straight during the playing of the American national anthem in a show of dissent against what they saw as prevalent

racism in the US.

Last week, fighting broke out between Pakistani and Afghan fans, outside and inside the stadium during an after Pakistan's close game against Afghanistan in the Cricket World Cup in England. Some Afghan fans also jumped into the ground in an apparent attempt to attack the Pakistani players after the match. Pakistan and Afghanistan have had a long history of rocky relations and mistrust.

There are millions of Afghan refugees in Pakistan, who began to arrive in the 1980s during the anti-Soviet insurgency in Afghanistan, which was funded by the US and Saudi Arabia and willingly facilitated by Pakistan. Just before the match, during this year's World Cup game, the CEO of the Afghan Cricket Board had told the media that Pakistani cricketers should learn from Afghan players. Retaliatory remarks by some former Pakistani cricket stars, about Afghan players once being refugees in Pakistan, fuelled the clashes between the fans. Most eyewitness reports suggest that the Afghan fans were more proactive

in this respect.

Relations between India and Pakistan have been rockier and both countries have fought four wars against each other. Yet, interestingly, their matches at international cricket events have never witnessed any clashes between fans of the two cricket-crazy countries. However, in the fifth Test match in Karachi during the 1982-83 Pakistan-India series in Pakistan, youth belonging to a right-wing student group invaded the ground and attempted to attack the two Indian batsmen who were at the crease

Then, in Ahmedabad, during the fourth Test match of the 1987 Pakistan-India series in India, the Pakistan team walked off the ground after it was pelted with stones by the crowd. During Pakistan's 1999 tour of India, the Pakistan team often travelled with security guards and commandos after a right-wing Hindu nationalist group threatened to attack the players at their hotels and on the ground. The radical outfit had already destroyed the pitch at one venue and announced that it would release poi-

Pakistan series was not called off. But, surprisingly, despite the fact that Pakistan-India matches often attract fans from both the countries to watch the matches from the stands, there have never been incidents such as the one witnessed recently during

the Pakistan-Afghanistan game. Bangladesh's relations with Pakistan have blown hot and cold ever since East Pakistan separated in 1971 to become Bangladesh. Thousands of Pakistani troops and a far larger number of ordinary Bengalis were killed during the civil war. Bengali separatists living in England threatened to attack the visiting Pakistan team during the 1971 England-Pakistan series. The Pakistani squad then refused to sign a bat that was to be auctioned to help the victims of a cyclone in East Pakistan. Some players claimed that the money would end up in the coffers of militant Bengali separatists. In 1979, when the Pakistan team

undertook a short tour of Bangladesh - which was still not an official Test playing nation - Pakistani players had

sonous snakes into the stands if the to be escorted out of the ground during a match in Chittagong when a huge crowd invaded the field to attack them. The mob followed the team bus all the way to the team's hotel, where the police dispersed the enraged crowd with batons and tear gas.

During a recent run of seminars by the University Of Chicago's Institute Of Politics on the topic of 'Power and Politics of Sports', speakers were of the view that "The sports world is bigger and more powerful than ever, with athletes wielding more and more influence over culture and politics." In an essay for the Northeastern University Political Review, Meredith McClearly writes that such an influence has often been used by heads of state and governments "to assert their political dominance." This interrelationship between the two often boils over and impacts the behaviour of the crowds, even when the sports personnel or a Government decides to downplay it. The underlying political tensions are not lost on the crowds

(Courtesy: The Dawn)

## nation 08



## Karnataka BJP MLAs to spend weekend at resort

Bengaluru: BJP in Karnataka on Friday decided to move its MLAs to a resort near here amid fears of poaching bid by the ruling Congress-JD(S) combine after Chief Minister HD Kumarasway announced he would seek a trust vote in the Assembly despite the resignation by rebel legislators.

Every one (BJP MLAs) felt that they should be together and come together to the assembly on Monday... I have said okay, State BJP president B S Yeddyurappa told reporters in response to a question. The MLAs were likely to

stay put at a resort on the outskirts of the city, party sources said.

Resort politics is nothing new to Karnataka and during an earlier crisis faced by the ruling combine its MLAs were staying at a resort on the city outskirts.

The ruling coalition's total strength is 116 (Congress-78, JD(S)-37 and BSP-1), besides the Speaker. With the support of the two independents, who Monday resigned from the ministry, the BJP has 107 MLAs in the 224-member House, where the half-way mark is 113.



for it.

order.

be applicable for the ten.

MLAs are accepted, the coali-Government on the floor of the House and asked Speaker KR tion's tally will be reduced to 100.

To a question on Kumaraswamy's surprise announement and how prepared was the BJP to the trust vote, Yeddyurappa said they would decide their strategy on the basis of Kumaraswamy's speech.

"As a Chief Minister, he has made a statement, how can I say no to it. It is left to him. We will decide on the basis of what the Chief Minister speaks when seeks the trust vote," the BJP veteran said.

Amid the crisis triggered by the resignation of 16 Congress and JD(S) MLAs, Kumaraswamy in the Assembly earlier on Friday said he would If the resignations of the 16 prove the majority of his

Ramesh Kumar to fix the time On the Supreme Court Thiruvananthapuram: With Friday restraining the Speaker Congress lawmakers quitting from taking any decision on the resignation and disqualification and cosying up to BJP in various States, Kerala Chief of 10 MLAs till Tuesday, Minister Pinarayi Vijayan took Yeddyurappa said it has come a dig at them, saying the grand as a moral booster to the rebels old party was giving a helping who were 'satisfied' with the hand in the saffron party's membership drive.

He claimed even the whip "In various states, the peoissued (asking all ruling MLAs ple's representatives and leadto attend the session) will not ers of the congress are joining the BJP.

Congress has become a The MLAs in Mumbai had contacted our friends, they all party engaged in increasing the are satisfied with the Supreme membership of the BJP," he said Court verdict, he said, adding at a function here.

Apparently referring to the the BJP would wait for the outcome of the next hearing on mass resignations in Congress Tuesday. **PTI** in various states, including

## BJP toppling Govts with money power, threats, claims Rahul

Ahmedabad: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday claimed that the BJP uses "money power" and "intimidation" to topple Governments and accused the saffron party of doing the same in Karnataka. Sixteen MLAs including

13 from the Congress, have resigned and two Independents have withdrawn support to the 13-month-old Congress-JD(S) coalition Government in the southern State.

"BJP uses money power or threat to topple Governments wherever it can. You saw this first in Goa, in the Northeast, and now are trying to do the same in Karnataka. It is their way of functioning. They have money, power, and they use it. This is the reality," Gandhi told reporters here.

"The Congress is fighting for truth, because truth makes Congress stronger," he said in reply to a question on what his

party would do now.

Reacting to defamation cases filed against him in different parts of the country, Gandhi said, "There is an attempt to suppress, threaten, but this does not matter to me. I do not get scared. I will stand and continue to fight. This is a fight for the Constitution, the country's future. Fight against corrup-

go on.



## Kerala CM takes dig at Cong MLAs

Karnataka and Goa, Vijayan asked whether a party like that "should remain an orphan without a leader" at a time when the country was going through a very difficult phase. He said the Congress lead-

ership must be prepared to face the challenges. Not only during victories,

but also during a crisis situation, there is a need to face it and give strong leadership, he said at a function here. The Chief Minister said the

CPI(M) had for long been saying that those in the Congress cannot be trusted and none were sure when they would leave their party.

**Bengaluru:** Three rebel Congress and JD(S) MLAs failed to appear before Karnataka Assembly Speaker KR Ramesh Kumar on Friday as sought by him for a personal hearing over their resignations, official sources said.

The Speaker had on July 9 asked the three MLAs to appear before him at his office between 3 pm and 4 pm on Friday for a personal hearing.

The MLAs are Narayana Gowda of JDS and Anand Singh and Prathap Gouda Patil

of Congress. However, none of them turned up, the sources said. While Gowda and Patil

remained in Mumbai along with other rebels, Singh is the letters of K Gopaliah (JDS) and Ramalinga Reddy (Congress) were found in learnt to have left for Goa. Earlier in the day, the order

He had then fixed July 15 for hearing Gopaliah and Reddy while asking others to Speaker told reporters that I will start the process if they come..

The three MLAs are part of submit their resignations propthe first batch of 13 legislators erly. of the ruling Congress-JD(S) Ten MLAs who moved the combine who resigned from Supreme Court alleging that the assembly last Saturday, the Speaker was not accepting dealing a blow to the coalition their resignations had appeared Government. Later, three other before him Thursday as direct-MLAs quit. ed by the court and submitted

resignations afresh. Ramesh Kumar had held that the resignation letters of only five out of the 13 MLAs were in proper format. Besides

In a written response to a

PTI

the Speaker ruled out any immediate decision on the resthat of Gowda, Patil and Singh, ignation.

## Congress protests against scarcity of beef in Meghlaya, blames BJP-backed Govt

Congress in Meghalaya has protested against the scarcity of beef in markets of the State and has blamed the BJP-backed Government for depriving the people of their favourite food.

The Congress also demanded that the government put an immediate stop to illegal smuggling of cattle to Bangladesh.

Local butchers protesting against cattle smuggling had refused to sell beef for a month forcing the authorities of East Jaintia Hills and South Wast Garo Hills districts to impose prohibitory orders under section 144 CrPC along the Indo-Bangla

border. They had called off their protest last weekend after the district authorities stepped up the

vigil Indo-Bangladesh border. Why has beef disappeared om the markets in the state?

Shillong: The Opposition have the cows gone? It only means that the chief minister and the state home minister are sleeping. Or they are awake, seeing and allowing things to happen, Leader of Opposition Mukul Sangma said.

The government of the day should verify. It is their job. We are concerned that we have been deprived of our most deli-Ayodhya," he told media here. cious beef. The government should have responded. I am Waqf Board, Wasim Rizvi has told that there is a smuggling of also agreed that Ram temple be cattle going on in which some big people are involved, he built in Ayodhya whereas the mosque can be constructed at alleged.

Mukul Sangma, who heads the Congress Legislative Party said at a meeting here late Thursday night that the party

has discussed the issue at length. Cattle are coming to Meghalaya but not reaching the markets. I think there is a subway to divert them somewhere

Lucknow: Ram Janmabhoomi it was most Nyas member Ram Vilas unfortunate that in Vedanti on Friday claimed bara country where ring fundamentalists, the Muslim community supports **Hindus constitute** the idea of construction of a "90 per cent" of grand Ram temple in Ayodhya. "Eighty per cent Muslims, the population, barring the fundamentalists, people are fighting want that the temple be constructed at the place where a case in court for Ram Lalla is installed in

the construction of Ram temple

-Ram Vilas Vedanti

may commence from July 25 if any other Shia-majority place in the court decides to conclude those proceedings.

His comments come in the Vedanti, described as workwake of the Supreme Court on ing president of Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas, also said Thursday seeking a report on the "progress of mediation" in there was "nothing in the name of (Mughal ruler) Babur" in the politically sensitive case of Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Avodhya and that everything in Masiid land dispute in Avodhva the city was "in the name of

"There is not even a locality, lane or ward named after Babar in Ayodhya," he said.

"Muslims need to come forward and say that Hindus should construct their temple in Ayodhya for peace, communal amity and brotherhood," he said, adding the Sunni Waqf Board should withdraw the

To a question, Vedanti, a former BJP MP, said it was most unfortunate that in a country where Hindus constitute "90 per cent" of the population, people are fighting a case in court for the construction of Ram temple. He said no power can build

a mosque where Ram Lalla is installed, adding his statement could be either taken as a 'threat' or 'suggestion'. On December 6, 1992, the

rv

Babri Masjid, constructed at the disputed site in the 16th centuov Shia Muslim Mir Baqi

Pak shells forward posts along LoC in Poonch, Rajouri

Jammu: The Pakistan Army on alty or injury to anyone in the Friday violated ceasefire by firing and shelling. firing and mortar shelling on forward posts and civilian areas along the LoC in three sectors of Jammu & Kashmir's Rajouri and Poonch districts, drawing officials said. befitting retaliation from Indian troops, a defence PRO

"At about 0800 hours today, Pak army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation with firing of small arms & later shelling with mortars along LoC in Mankote, Krishna Ghati sectors of Poonch district and Nowshera sector of Rajouri district@, Defence Public Relations

Officer (PRO) told PTI. The Indian Army is retalating beffitingly, he said

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOI KATA

After the MLAs met him,

**Apologise to** 

past mistakes:

**Didi to MLAs** 

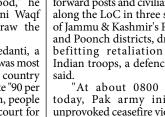
people for

PTI

Pakistan troops also tar- $A^{\rm ware}$  of the fact that massive alienation had taken geted civilian areas in Mankote area triggering fear psychosis among them, the place in her party in the past few years leading to debacle in It may be recalled that the parliamentary elections, Pakistan army resorted to fir-Bengal Chief Minister ing and shelling of mortars Mamata Banerjee has asked the Trinamool Ćongress leadalong LoC in Nowshera Sector ers to restore mass connecin Rajouri district last Friday. The Indian Army reporttivity by shunning arrogance ed 1,248 cases of ceasefire and being polite to the gener-

> al public. Meeting her party MLAs for the first time since the conclusion of the Lok Sabha elections that saw the TMC losing 12 seats to the resurgent BJP, Mamata asked the legislators to shun arrogance, conduct themselves more polite ly when they meet people and apologise for their past "Our party chief is confi-dent that the TMC will revive its lost strength for which she prescribed a simple formula, that is: be polite and apologies for your wrongs," an MLA from Kolkata said. Banerjee's advice was reportedly a part of a six-point agenda prepared by election strategist Prashant Kishor who has been employed by Banerjee for rejuvenating the party and rebuilding its image in the State. Arrogance, rampant corruption, bribery, criminalisation and misdemeanor were some primary reasons identified by the party think tank as the main reason for its electoral debacle. Out of the 42 Lok Sabha seats the TMC which had won 34 in 2014, could manage only 22 seats conceding 18 to the BJP and 2 to the Congress.

## 'Barring fundamentalists, Muslims want construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya'



violations (CFVs) and four casualties along the Line of Control this year, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday.

question in the Raiva Sabha, Singh said that January saw 203 cases of CFVs, followed by 215

What is the reason? Where else, he said in a jibe.

PTI | and said a day-to-day hearing Lord Ram".

3 more die, Assam

JE toll rises to 71

"The chairman of the Shia

Lucknow," he said.

was demolished. PTI | adding that there was no casu- in February.

## No interim relief for trio who uploaded J'khand lynching video

Friday refused to provide interim protection from arrest to three men who are accused of uploading an inflammatory video on mobile app Tik Tok following a lynching incident in Jharkhand.

The short video surfaced on the popular video-sharing app after the death of Tabrez Ansari last month.

Mumbai Police filed a first information report (FIR) against Hasnan Khan (21), Mudassir Shaikh (23) and Shadan Farooqui (23) for uploading the video, alleging that they were indulging in hate-mongering. The video purportedly

shows some youths saying, "You

Mumbai: A court here on may have killed that innocent Tabrez Ansari, but tomorrow if his son takes revenge, do not say

The police charged the different groups on grounds of religion, etc.), after which they

that all Muslims are terrorists.'

three men, who were said to have a large following on Tik Tok, under IPC section 153-A (promoting enmity between

filed an anticipatory bail plea. Their lawyer Áli Kaashif Khan said police should also hold makers of the mobile app responsible.

He said police also ignored the fact that the accused had in the past uploaded several videos calling for communal harmony and brotherhood. PTI |

Guwahati: With the death of trol the mosquito borne disease three more patients, the Japanese Encephalitis in Assam rose to 71, a National Health Mission (NHM) bulletin said here on

Friday. The number of registered positive JE cases also increased to 334 from 306 on Thursday. Of the three fresh deaths reported, two were from Dibrugarh and one from

Goalpara district, said the NHM bulletin. Giving the cumulative fig-

Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Nigeria,

Pakistan, Peru and Vietnam.

in these 10 countries, data

shows that 270 million people moved out of multidimen-

sional poverty from one survey

to the next.

The report said that with-

"This progress was largely

ures for JE/AES (Acute Encephalitis Syndrome), the bulletin said there were 165 deaths and 1,280 cases reported since January. Measures to conthat affects the brain continued to be taken across the state which is currently undergoing a transmission season for Japanese Encephalitis, NHM sources said.

Treatment and diagnostic cost for JE/AES is being borne by the government at state run hospitals where certain number of beds in all the ICUs and wards were reserved for such patients.

The AES is inflammation of the brain and spinal cord caused due to viral, bacterial and parasitic causes out of which JE is a virus transmitted through culex mosquito," Health Minister Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma said recently. PTI



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee walks in an awareness rally to spread the message of water conservation in Kolkata on Friday

## India lifted 271 mn people out of poverty between 2006 and 2016: UN

United Nations: India lifted 271 million people out of poverty between 2006 and 2016, recording the fastest reductions in the multidimensional poverty index values during the period with strong improvements in areas such as "assets, cooking fuel, sanitation and nutrition," a report by the United Nations said.

The 2019 global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) from the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) was released on Thursday.

The report said that in the 101 countries studied - 31 low income, 68 middle income and 2 high income - 1.3 billion people are "multidimensionally poor", which means that poverty is defined not simply by income, but by a number of indicators, including poor health, poor quality of work



and the threat of violence. Democratic Republic of Congo, The report identifies 10 countries, with a combined

population of around 2 billion people, to illustrate the level of poverty reduction, and all of them have shown statistically significant progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 1, namely Sustainable ending poverty "in all its forms,

driven by South Asia. In India, everywhere". The 10 countries are there were 271 million fewer people in poverty in 2016 than in 2006, while in Bangladesh tions in all 10 indicators, namethe number dropped by 19 million between 2004 and 2014," it said.

The report noted that of the 10 selected countries for which changes over time were analysed, India and Cambodia reduced their MPI values the fastest-and they did not leave the poorest groups behind.

India's MPI value reduced from 0.283 in 2005-06 to 0.123 in 2015-16.

Noting the examples of pro-poor reduction, where the poorest regions improved the fastest, the report said that Jharkhand in India reduced the incidence of multidimensional poverty from 74.9 per cent in 2005-06 to 46.5 per cent in 2015-16.

Mondol Kiri and Rattanak Kiri in Cambodia reduced it from 71.0 per cent to 55.9 per cent between 2010 and 2014. Ethiopia, India and Peru

ly nutrition, sanitation, child mortality, drinking water, years of schooling, electricity, school attendance, housing, cooking fuel and assets.

mensional poverty stood at about 640 million people (55.1

India reduced deprivation in nutrition from 44.3 per cent in 2005-06 to 21.2 per cent in 2015-16, child mortality dropped from 4.5 per cent to 2.2 per cent, people deprived of cooking fuel reduced from 52.9 per cent to 26.2 per cent, deprivation in sanitation from

50.4 per cent to 24.6 per cent, those deprived of drinking water reduced from 16.6 per cent to 6.2 per cent.

Further more people gained access to electricity as deprivation was reduced from 29.1 per cent to 8.6 per cent, housing from 44.9 per cent to 23.6 per cent and assets deprivation from 37.6 per cent to 9.5 per cent.

The trends in these 10 countries also shine a light on where poverty reduction has been uneven, despite the good progress overall, it said.

"In all 10 countries rural areas are poorer than urban areas. In Cambodia, Haiti, India and Peru poverty reduction in rural areas outpaced that in urban areas-demonstrating pro-poor development-and in Bangladesh and Democratic Republic of the Congo poverty fell at the same speed in rural and urban areas," it added.

The report also showed that children suffer poverty more intensely than adults and are more likely to be deprived in all 10 of the MPI indicators, lacking essentials such as clean water, sanitation, adequate nutrition or primary education.

Child poverty fell markedfaster than adult poverty in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, India and Peru. But children fell further behind in Ethiopia, and their progress-together with that of adults-stalled in Democratic Republic of the

Congo and Pakistan. Globally, of the 1.3 billion people who are multidimensionally poor, more than twothirds of them-886 millionnow live in middle-income countries. A further 440 million live in low-income coun-

tries. Even more staggering, worldwide, one in three children is multidimensionally poor, compared to one in six

adults. That means that near ly half of the people living in multidimensional poverty-663 million- are children, with the youngest children bearing the greatest burden. The vast majority of these children, around 85 per cent, live in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, split roughly equally between the two regions.

The report underscored that the traditional concept of poverty is outdated, demonstrating more clearly than ever that labelling countries - or even households - as rich and poor is an oversimplification.

"To fight poverty, one needs to know where poor people live. They are not evenly spread across a country, not even within a household," UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner said.

The report also highlighted a positive trend that those furthest behind are moving PŤĨ up the fastest.

In 2005-2006, the popula-tion in India living in multidi-

per cent) and this reduced to 369 million people (27.9 per cent) living in poverty in 2015-

16. India saw significant reductions in number of people who are multidimensionally poor

and deprived in each of the 10 indicators over this time peri-

## nation 09



## Assam flood situation worsens, Army called in

**Guwahati:** The Army was called for assistance in Assam as the flood situation in the state worsened on Friday with the toll rising to six and affecting nearly 8.7 lakh people across 21 districts.

Officials said the Army's assistance was sought in Baksa district to aid the personnel of National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force in rescuing marooned people.

Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) officials said three more persons died in rain and flood-related incidents in Golaghat and Dima Hasao districts Friday. While two persons died in the flood at Bokakhat revenue circle in Golaghat, one died in landslide in Haflong in Dima Hasao district.

taken place at various places in Chirang, Barpeta and Baksa due to the floods, which has submerged a total 1,556 villages It said about 8.7 lakh persons have been hit by the del-uge in Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, hectares of crop area, embank-ments, roads, bridges, culverts

and other infrastructure in the Biswanath, Sonitpur, Darrang, Baksa, Barpeta, Nalbari, affected districts. Chirang, Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Goalpara, Morigaon, Hojai, Nagaon, Golaghat, Majuli, Jorhat, The authorities are running

Tinsukia districts.

were affected in 17 districts.

lakh people are hit. They are

followed by Bongaigaon where the number of affected is

and damaged 27,864.16

Massive erosions have

62,500, ASDMA said.

68 relief camps and distribution centres in 11 districts, where 7,643 people are taking shelter Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and currently, ASDMA said.

The Army, NDRF and The state has a total of 33 SDRF have rescued 1,160 persons in the state since Thursday districts and till yesterday three persons had died in floods and have distributed 1,281.35 and around 4.23 lakh people quintals of rice, dal, salt and 1,493.46 litres of mustard oil, Barpeta is the worst hit besides tarpaulin, water pouch, with 3.5 lakh people affected, followed by Dhemaji where 1.2 sanitary napkins, baby food and other essential items.

Currently, Brahmaputra is flowing above its danger-mark at Guwahati, at Nimatighat in Jorhat, Tezpur in Sonitpur and at Goalpara and Dhubri towns, it said.

Burhidehing river is flowing above its danger mark at Khowang in Dibrugarh, Desang river at Nanglamuraghat in Sivasagar, Dhansiri river at Numaligarh in

Golaghat and Jia Bharali at NT Road Crossing in Sonitpur district. Kopili river is above the red at Kampur in Nagaon, Puthimari river at NH Road Crossing in Kamrup, Beki river at Road Bridge in Barpeta, Katakhal river at Matizuri in Hailakandi and Kushiyara river at Karimganj town, the

ASDMA added. With the Brahmaputra flowing 2.27 meters above the danger level at Neematighat, ferry services to and from Majuli island, which is Asia's largest river island, remained suspended for the fifth day Friday, Central Water Commission officials said here. Water The Inland

Transport Authority of the state government has kept two of its vessels ready loaded with anti-erosion materials to meet any situation in the erosion prone areas of the island. The swirling flood waters

have forced the railway authority to control train services due to "settlement of tracks" in Lumding-Badarpur hill section, Northeast Frontier Railway Chief Public Relations Officer Pranav Jyoti Sharma

Heavy rains have affected the train tracks between Jatinga Lumpur to New Harangajao station in Lumding-Badarpur hill section of the NF Railway, he added.

As a result, some trains have either been cancelled or short terminated, Sharma said. Kaziranga National Park,

the famed habitat of the Great Indian Rhino and a World Heritage site, has been affected too forcing the authorities to set up road barricades on the National Highway passing through it to limit the speed of vehicles, said Kaziranga Divisional Forest Officer Ruhini Saikia. **PTI** Ruhini Saikia.

A flood affected woman prepares food on an embankment at Lahorighat in Morigaon District of Assam on Friday

## Train carrying water from Jolarpettai arrives in parched Chennai Two schoolgirls killed

Chennai: A train carrying 2.5 million litres of water arrived from Jolapettai in Vellore district to Chennai, which has been grappling with an acute water crisis over the past few months, officials said on Friday.

The train with 50 tank wagons (BTPN), carrying 50,000 litres of water in each of them, reached the filling station at the Integral Coach Factory Yard in Villivakkam Friday afternoon.

Around 100 inlet pipes installed near the railway tracks would be used to discharge 2.5 million litres of water in all the wagons, to be sent to a treatment plant after passing through a conduit, an official of Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board said

"After treatment it would be sent for distribution. This arrangement has been made for the next six months until the (advent of the) north-east monsoon," the official told PTI.

The train was supposed to reach Chennai on Thursday,



A train of 50 wagons filled with water from Jolarpettai arrives at Chennai on Friday

but leakages in the valves led to around 20 days to complete. the delay. Jolarpettai is 217 km away from the southern metropolis. All the arrangements took The southern metropolis is

facing a daily water deficit of at Chennai has been grapleast 200 million litres, and the four reservoirs supplying to the pling with an acute water crisis over the past few months. city have run dry. Tamil Nadu Government had earlier requested the railways to help

them ferry the water to the city. Chief Minister Palaniswami had announced mitigating Chennai's water woes by getting drinking water from Jolarpettai with an allocation of ₹65 crore.

Earlier, speaking after a ceremony to receive the train, Municipal administration Minister S P Velumani said the Government would bring in 10 million litres of water per day (MLD) through rail from Jolarpettai.

"We have planned to bring in 10 MLD of water and have allocated ₹66 crore for the purpose," he told reporters. The Government was in

talks with the Railways to bring down the cost of transportation, he said and recalled that the Chief Minister had also written to the Railway Minister to offer the service at lesser

He said irrespective of the outcome, the assurances given by the CM would be fulfilled,

PTI

he added. Fisheries Minister D Jayakumar, Minister for Tamil

Official Language and Culture 'Ma Foi' K Pandiarajan, among others, were present at the ceremony Southern Railways said it

has earmarked two rakes (each having 50 BTPN wagons) for the arrangement, which is likely to continue till the water situation improves in Chennai. It said in a statement that two locomotives in pushpull formation have been allocated to each 'water special' train to

cut down on time. Meanwhile, DMK legisla-tor A P Nandakumar, representing Anaicut in Vellore district, said in the assembly that the party had no objection in water being supplied to Chennai from Jolarpet.

At the same time, additional quantum of water should be pumped for areas under the Vellore Combined Drinking Water Scheme to ensure that people of his district were not death of Genden Wangmu and PTI | Rinchi Lhamu, students of affected.

## in Arunachal landslide

Itanagar: Two girls were buried in their sleep and three others were injured after a landslide caused a boundary wall to collapse on the hostel building of a school in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh, police said

on Friday. The incident occurred at the hostel of a government

school at Namtsering village on Thursday when 19 girl students were asleep in their rooms, Tawang Superintendent of Police (SP) Sagar Singh Kalsi

The landslide triggered by incessant downpour struck the boundary wall with tremendous force and it fell on the hostel building, a portion of which collapsed burying the girls. reportedly swept away by flashflood in West Kameng district The hostel building was of

semi-pucca type and its walls were weaker than the boundary wall, officials said. Chief Minister Pema Khandu expressed grief at the

said.

The Itanagar-Naharlagun stretch of NH-415, which is being upgraded to a four-lane highway, is the worst hit by the monsoon fury.

able

## Mumbai: Search for kid who fell into stormwater drain stopped

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male Namely: Unknown, S/o - Unknown R/o: Unknown, Age: 30 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Wheatish,

Heavy rain, landslides hit normal life in north Bengal Kolkata/Jalpaiguri: Incessant Water levels in Teesta, worsen in the region with the

**Mumbai:** The search for a three-Brihan mumbai Municipal CCTV cameras. Divyansh's year-old boy who fell into an Corporation (BMC) said. father Suraj Bhan Singh had open stormwater drain here Wednesday has been stopped, a civic official said Friday night. Divyansh Singh, who fell into a drain at Ambedkar Chowk in Malad East around 10 pm Wednesday, remained untraceable even after 48 hours. The search was finally stopped around 10 pm, the spokesperson of the

classes 5 and 6 respectively, and announced an exgratia of Rs 4 lakh to each of their families. An official statement said three girls were injured in the

incident and they have been treated at hospitals at Lumla and Tawang. With the state capital wit-

nessing landslips, mudslides and road blockades due to heavy rainfall for several days, the district administration has ordered closure of all schools in Itanagar till Sunday. Khandu directed the chief

secretary to personally monitor the situation and shift the people from vulnerable areas to safer places. A 23-year-old woman was

on Monday and is still untrace-

Built: Normal, Face: Long, Wearing: white brown T-shirt and black pant, who was found in unconscious conditions due to accident at Rani Jhansi Road, Pahar Ganj, Delhi and he was Admited in LHMC Hospital,



Sd/- SHO

P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi

Tel. No. 011-23524746

New Delhi, where doctor declared him as dead. In this regard a case FIR No: 196/19 dated 09.07.2019 has been registered at P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

DP/6435/CD/19

(CD)

rain over the past three days has jeopardised normal life in north Bengal, creating a flood-like situation in the low-lying areas and triggering landslides in the Hills.

The weatherman on Friday predicted downpour in north Bengal and parts of Sikkim till Monday morning.

Road connectivity between Sikkim and other parts of the country has been severely affected with landslides blocking National Highway 10, the

state, official sources said.

RELUIKRODR

the Coochbehar route for the lifeline of the small Himalayan time being, he said.

Conditions are likely to

inundated, they said.

Diana, Lish, Ghish, Raidak, Met department forecasting heavy to very heavy rain till Kaliani, Sankosh and Jaldhaka rivers have risen to alarming Sunday in the five districts of levels and many areas in sub-Himalavan West Bengal Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar and Malbazar, Moynaguri and Dhupguri towns have been Alipurduar. Heavy precipita-Passenger train services tion has also been predicted in between New Jalpaiguri and north Dinajpur, south Dinajpur Alipurduar through Dooars area and Malda areas till Monday morning. Due to landslides

PTI

has been suspended, a North Frontier Railway official said. triggered by continuous rain-The trains would be taking fall, Sikkim and Dooars region of north Bengal have been cut

off from Siliguri, official sources said.

The search team covered over 10 km of drainage line but in vain, another official said. The team of 50 BMC, Fire

Brigade and National Disaster Response Force personnel searched the drain line by opening all manholes along the stretch. The child's fall into the drain near Goregaon-Mulund Link Road was captured by

alleged earlier that the authorities were not doing enough to trace his son. "The BMC, fire brigade and NDRF are not showing any intent to find my son. The fire brigade team did not even have a torch. NDRF jawans came and went back. Our family wanted to protest but were stopped by the police, PTI Singh had claimed.

			PUBLIC NO	TICE / TENDE	RNOTICE		
Sr. No.	Name of Department /	Name of Work/ Notice / Tender	- Opening Date Closing Date	Amount / EMD	Website of the Department	Nodal Officer / Contact Details / Email.	Tender Ref. No./ Tender No.
	Board / Corp. / Auth.		(Time)	(Approx.) In Rupees			
1	Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited	LLT XLPE Armoured Cable of size SCX50 as per Nigam's Tech Specification No - 115/R - II/DH/UH/P&D/ 2018 - 19, relevant ISS with latest amendments	Start Time: 11-7-2019 at 15:00 Hours Last Date: 05-08-2019 upto 13:00 Hours	10.09 Cr <i>l</i> EMD 2.00 Laos	etenders.hry.nic.in	cemm@uhbvn.org.in 9023726614	Notice Invited Tender No.03/UH/MM/ XEN/P III//MM (QH -II 2019) Dated: 11 -07-2019

#### RONO. 77515 Dt. 12-07

### TENDER NOTICE FOR PROCUREMENT OF HYGIENE CHEMICALS **ITEMS FOR CONSUMPTION YEAR 2019-2020**

. Tenders are invited by IHQ of MoD (Army), Quartermaster General's Branch, Directorate General of Supplies and Transport, New Delhi -110 105 for and on behalf of the President of India for procurement of following items:-

(a) Hygiene & Chemicals. Bleaching Powder Stable (approx qty 1,38,150 Kgs) and BTI AS Serotype H-14 (approx qty 1,100 Ltrs) for the consumption year 2019-2020 from Indian manufacturers only. The vendors can search for the tender enquiry on DPP in the following way :-

- www.defproc.gov.in → Open Home Page → Click on "Tender Search" Type → Army Hygiene Chemicals" (Right side of home page)
- 2. In case of any clarification the officials can be contracted at Tele No 011-23018963 or on email ID ddgstft-ihq@nic.in. These tenders will be available at www.defproc.gov.in with effect from 0300PM on 15 Jul 2019.

Sd/

(Avinash Gaur)

Lt Co

AQMG (ST-10)

for DGST

Adv No : P/72002/2018-19/Q/ST-9/Hyg Chem dated 12 Jut 2019. DAVP/10602/11/0024/1920

	OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-II ANDHA MUGHAL, PARTAP NAGAR (NEAR METRO STATION) DELHI-110007							
	PRESS NIT No. 10 (2019-20)							
S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id.	Last date/time of receipt of tender		
1.	Replacement of old and damaged sewer line at Krishna Gali Pahar Ganj AC-23 Karol Bagh under EE(C)-II	3498540/-	70000/-	500/-	Dt 09/07/2019 2019_DJB_175962_1	26/07/2019 Upto 3.00 PM		
ISS	ther details in this regard can be seen a <b>UED BY P.R.O (WATER)</b> vt. No. J.S.V 167/2019-20	t https://govt	procurement	 .delhi.gov.ir	_	S gineer (Central		

## **CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	OLD REFERENCE/ NI T NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFI CER/ CONTA CT DETAI LS/ EMAI L
1	HPGCL	08/CE/PLG/SOLAR/CD-300 DATED 12.06.2019	PRE-BID CONFERENCE FOR E-NIT NO. 08/CE/PLG/SOLAR/CD-300 DATED 12.06.2019 WAS HELD ON 28.06.2019. IT IS INFORMED TO ALL THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS THAT AMENDMENTS' CLARIFICATIONS TO THE QUERIES RAISED BY PROSPECTIVEBIDDER(S) ARE ATTACHED AS ANNEXURE-A & ANNEXURE-B WITH CORRIGENDUM.	www.hpgcl.org.in	0172-5022439 rajesh.verma@hpgcl org.in
2	HPGCL	E-NIT NO. PTP/POM-222115(EVENT NO.120733) SUB:- SUPPLY OF ENERGY METER FOR PTPS COLONY, PTPS	START DATE 27.02.2019 UP TO 12.30 HOURS & CLOSING DATE 24.07.2019 UPTO 13:00 HOURS	www.hpgcl.org.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcplg1@gmail. om
3	HPGCL	PTP/POM-111887 (EVENT NO.111680) SUB:- BRINE DIFFUSER FOR EXCHANGERS OF DM PLANT FOR PTPS, PANIPAT	(START DATE 15.01.2019 AT 17:00 HOURS & LAST DATE 29.07.2019 AT 13:00 HOURS)	www.hpgcl.org.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcplg1@gmail. om
4	HVPN	01/XEN/TS/SRS/2019-20 DATED 09.07.2019 (TENDER ID: 2019_HBC_82143_1)	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 22.07.2019 (11.00 HRS.)	https://www.hvpn.org .in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
5	HVPN	QDP-1191 (NIT NO. 1053 DATED 24.06.2019)	CORRIGENDUM-1/CLARIFICATION REGARDING BOQ1 OF E-TENDER ENQUIRY NO. QDP- 1191 (NIT NO. 1053 DATED 24.06.2019)	https://www.hvpn.org .in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
6	HVPN	NIT NO. 1027 DATED 08.05.2019 / REC-263	CORRIGENDUM-2/ EXTENSION OF DUE DATE OF SUBMISSION UPTO 22.07.2019 WITH DATE OF OPENING ON 23.07.2019	https://www.hvpn.org .in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
7	HVPN	QDP-1172 (NIT NO. 1034 DATED 03.06.2019)	CORRIGENDUM-1/EXETENTION OF DUE DATE OF SUUBMISSION UPTO 22.07.2019 UPTO 17.00 HRS.	https://www.hvpn.org	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
8	UHBVN AMBALA CANTT	NIT-1/19-20	DATE EXTEND UPTO 18.07.2019	http://www.uhbvn.org .in	0171-2618450 xenopambalacantt@ uhbvn.org.in
9	UHBVN	22/IPDS/IT PHASE-II/RT-DAS 2019	DATE EXTENDED	http://www.uhbvn.org .in	9317554907 seprojectsuhbvn@g mail.com
10	UHBVN	NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. 1/UH/MM/XEN/P-I/QH-I/2538 Dated: 19/06/2019	PART-I OPENING DATE EXTENDED TO 23/07/2019	http://www.uhbvn.org _in	<u>cemm@uhbvn.org.in</u> <u>9357189013</u>
11	UHBVN PANCHKULA	01/UH/MNM/XEN/P-IV/QH-II/2017	(PROBLEM IN UPLOADING PRICE BID BY THE BIDDER) 2019_HBC_80875_1 & 2 PART-I OPENING DATE 18.07.2019 1500 PM	http://www.uhbvn.org .in	8591212228 cemm@uhbvn.org.i
12	UHBVN PANCHKULA	02/UH/MNM/XEN/P-IV/QH-II/2018	(PROBLEM IN UPLOADING PRICE BID BY THE BIDDER) 2019_HBC_80919_1 & 2 PART-I OPENING DATE 18.07.2019 1700 PM	http://www.uhbvn.org .in	8591212228 cemm@uhbvn.org.ir
13	THE SIRSA DISTT COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION	NIT NO.(2019_HBC_81061_1)	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 23.07.2019 UPTO 12.00 HRS. (FOR PURCHASE OF LAB CHEMICALS)	<u>vitaindia.org.in</u>	01666-2245059 vitasrs@gmail.com
14	THE SIRSA DISTT COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION	NIT NO.(2019_HBC_81222_1)	THE LAST DATE OF ONLINE BID SUBMISSION IS EXTENDED UPTO 23.07.2019 UPTO 12.00 HRS. (FOR HIRING THE SERVICES OF HALWAI FOR MANUFACTURING, SHAPING & PACKING OF VITA BRAND KAJU PINNI, MILK CAKE & BESAN LADOO)	<u>vitaindia.org.in</u>	01666-2245059 vitasrs@gmail.com
15	HSAMB JIND	SR.NO.5&6	THE TENDERS SCHEDULED TO BE RECEIVED OPENED ON DT.15.7.19 FOR TENDER SR.NO.5 & 6 HAVE NOW BEEN RE-SCHEDULE TO BE OPENED ON 16.7.19 DUE TO ADMINISTRATIVE GROUND.	etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-255039 jindse.hsamb1@gma l.com
FC	R FURTHER	INFORMATION KINDLY VIS	IT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etende	rs.hry.nic.in	RO NO. 775

## Mining, manufacturing pull down IIP growth to 3.1%

the pioneer

### PTI NEW DELHI

Tndia's industrial output growth slipped to 3.1 per cent in May mainly on account of subdued performance of mining and manufacturing sectors, according to Government data released Friday.

BHOPAL | SATURDAY | JULY 13, 2019

The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) had expanded by 3.8 per cent in May 2018. The index grew at 4.3 per cent in April and 0.4 per cent in March this year.

The expansion in the mining sector was merely 3.2 per cent in May, as compared to 5.8 per cent in the year-ago month. Similarly, the growth in the

manufacturing sector was also subdued at 2.5 per cent in May, compared to 3.6 per cent in the corresponding month of the last fiscal. However, the power generation grew at 7.4 per cent in May, against 4.2 per cent in same month last year.

As per Central Statistics Office (CSO) data, the capital goods output, which is a barometer of investment, grew at 0.8 per cent compared to 6.4 per cent in May last year.

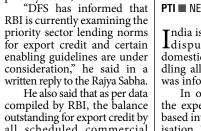
As per use-based classification, the growth rates in May 2019 over the same month



last year are 2.5 per cent in priof articles of straw and plaiting materials' have shown the highmary goods, 0.6 per cent in est positive growth of 24.8 per cent followed by 15.9 per cent intermediate goods and 5.5 per cent in infrastructure/ construction goods. The consumer in 'Manufacture of food products' and 9.4 per cent in durables and consumer non-'Manufacture of computer, durables have recorded growth electronic and optical products'. of (-) 0.1 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively.

In terms of industries, 12 out of the 23 industry groups in the manufacturing sector have shown positive growth in over the same May month last year.

The industry group 'Manufacture of wood and of fabricated metal products, products of wood and cork, except machinery and except furniture; manufacture equipment'.



outstanding for export credit by all scheduled commercial banks increased from ₹1,85,591 On the other hand, the industry group 'Manufacture of crore as on March 31, 2015 to paper and paper products' has shown the highest negative ₹2,43,890 crore as at Marchend 2018 before declining to growth of (-) 12.2 per cent fol-₹2,26,363 crore as on March 31, lowed by (-) 9.9 per cent in 2019.

**RBI** examining

priority sector

PTI NEW DELHI

lending norms for

export credit: Goyal

informed that RBI is examin-

norms for promoting export

credit, Commerce and Industry

are under consideration and

when issued, those are expect-

ed to release additional ₹35,000-68,000 crore export credit under

priority sector, he said.

Certain enabling guidelines

Minister Piyush Goyal said.

Manufacture of furniture' and The Government has taken (-) 8.7 per cent in 'Manufacture various steps to increase the flow of credit to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) exporters.

## India involved in 14 WTO disputes currently: Govt



India is a part of the 164-mem-

"At present, India is involved

The disputes include mea-

In a separate reply, he said

In another reply, he said as

PTI INEW DELHI

ber multi-lateral organisation. India is involved in 14 WTO disputes currently and domestic law firms are hanin 14 WTO disputes, all of which are being handled by domestic law firms," Goyal said. dling all of them, Parliament was informed on Friday.

In one of these disputes, sures concerning importation the expertise of the Genevaof certain agricultural products based international law organwith the US and certain meaisation 'Advisory Centre on sures on imports of iron and WTO Law' was engaged to steel products with Japan. guide a domestic law firm, there is no proposal to set up Commerce Minister Piyush a separate logistics department Goyal said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. under active consideration of 'Advisory Centre on WTO the ministry.

Law' assists developing countries on WTO law. many as 55 FDI proposals have The World Trade been received till June this cal-

Organisation (WTO) is a globender year under the governal trade rule making body. ment approval route.

## Business



CLW General Manager Praveen Kumar Mishra on Friday inaugurated the Automated timer-based streetlight monitoring system in presence of senior officers, Ramprakash, PCEE and others, staff and inhabitants of area from TS-16 sub station. This will be operational from all the 57 sub-stations of Chittaranjan Townshin



Power Grid Corporation of India Limited has signed an MoU with IIT Roorkee to create a sustainable future through various Energy Management initiatives in areas like Space Cooling/Heating, Lighting and Fans, Water Pumping, Power Distribution, Waste to Energy, etc



Punjab National Bank 18th Annual General Meeting: (Left to Right) Dr Asha Bhandarker, Director, PNB, Agyey Kumar Azad, Executive Director, PNB, Sunil Mehta, Non-Executive Chairman, PNB, Sunil Mehta, MD & CEO, PNB, RK Yaduvanshi, Executive Director, PNB, MB Gupta, Director, PNB Sanjay Verma, Director, PNB



#### NBCC (India) Ltd has been conferred the 19th Annual Greentech Environment Awarc 2019 for the Central Information Commission Building Project implemented by NBCC. This prestigious award was received by Neelesh Shah, Director (Projects) NBCC on behalf of the company. The award was presented by Bhaskar Chatterjee, IAS (Retd.) Former Sec., DPE, Govt. of India; DG & CEO, IICA, Govt. of India: & RK Dubey, former CMD, Canara Bank at an event held at New De

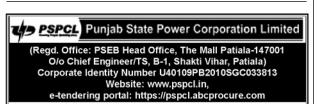
## **US-India bilateral** Retail inflation rises trade to reach \$238 to 3.18% in June billion by 2025: Report

## PTI NEW DELHI

Retail inflation increased marginally to 3.18 per cent in June over the previous month, mainly due to rise in food prices, according to official data.

The retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Indiex (CPI) stood at 3.05 per cent in May and 4.92 per cent in June

The retail inflation is on the rise since January this year. As per the CPI data monthly monetary policy.



slower.

released by the Central PTI NEW DELHI Statistics Office (CSO), the food inflation was 2.17 per cent in June 2019, up from 1.83 per

Two-way trade between India and the US is pro-jected to touch \$238 billion by 2025 from \$143 billion curcent in the preceding month. Inflation in protein rich rently if it grows 7.5 per cent each year, the US-India food items, like egg, meat and fish, was higher in June com-Strategic Partnership Forum pared to the previous month. However, the rate of price said on Friday.

This growth will occur if rise in vegetables and fruits was trade grows by average 7.5 per The Reserve Bank of India cent a year, as has been the mainly factors in the retail trend for the past seven years, inflation while deciding the bithe USISPF said in a report.

The body also estimated that by 2025, bilateral trade could range between \$283 billion and \$327 billion, at an annual average growth rate of 10 to 12.5 per cent, as witnessed in 2017 and 2018.

The assessment underscores pathways for growth and economic opportunity in our bilateral ties by highlighting current trends. achieve \$327 billion in bilateral trade by 2025 if we grow at "Sectors such as defence trade, commercial aircrafts, oil 13 per cent every year. I chaland LNG, coal, machinery and lenge the Government and industry to work together to advance this objective," USISPF electronics are areas of potential growth in US investments Chair John Chambers said. and commerce into India.

Similarly, Indian industry has an opportunity to promote the automotive, pharmaceuticals, seafood, IT (information technology) and travel services to the US market," the USISPF said.

The assessment was launched at its second annual leadership summit in the US, which was attended by Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; Rick Perry, United States Secretary of Energy; and Wilbur Ross, US Commerce Secretary; among others.

"While India's ambition to become a \$5-trillion economy by 2025 is certainly welcome for businesses, Government, and individual citizens in the US and India, it is essential that we level the playing field and stay away from protectionism. "I am confident that we can

## 8% growth needed for a \$5-trillion economy: **Ex-RBI** Governor

## PTI HYDERABAD

o become a \$5-trillion L economy in the next five years, the country should grow at eight per cent per annum and it requires a clear roadmap, former RBI governor C Rangarajan said here Friday. Speaking at the ninth con-

vocation of Icfai Foundation for Higher Education, he said though investments are the key drivers of economic growth, policymakers must try hard to create the right climate for investments.

The major task of the country is to move as fast as it can to achieve a higher standard of living. The goal is to make the economy a \$5-trillion one in the next few years," he said.

This requires a growth of 8 r cent per annum and a clear

raising per capita income, boosting consumption and increasing productivity.

"Investment is the key driver of economic growth. There are limits to which public investment can grow as the demand for welfare expenditure keeps increasing,' Rangarajan said.

Private investment by companies both small and large have a bigger burden to bear. Policymakers must try hard to create the right climate for investments to come, he said.

On the draft new education policy 2019 released recently, he said it recognises the need for improving quality of high-er education though the question is whether this improvement could be achieved by the

various changes proposed by the new draft

Short Description	Design manufacture, testing, supply & delivery of line hardware fittings (compression type) suitable for ACSR Panther, Zebra, Sub - Station bus bar hardware fittings (botted type) suitable for ACSR Zebra and Phase Plates conforming to respe citive applicable IS with latest amendments and PSPCL's tender specification no. TSQ - 1095 as per details below. Type of Fittings Description of Quantity					
Quantity	Type of Fittings	Description of Item	Quantity			
	Line Hardware	Double Suspension	100			
	Fittings suitable for Zebra	Double Tension	50			
	101 20010	Straight Joint	200			
		Repair Sleeve	250			
	Line Hardware	Single Suspension	3000			
	Fittings suitable for Panther	Single Tension	10000			
		Double Tension	700			
		PA Rods	2950			
		Straight Joint	1000			
		Repair Sleeve	500			
		SB Dampers	14000			
	Earthwire Fitting s	Dead End	3500			
		Suspension Fittings	1000			
	Bus Bar Hardware Fittings	Single Tension	600			
	riungs	Double Tension	300			
		P.G. Clamp	1250			
		T-Clamp (Z)	2400			
		T-Clamp (Z) to (P)	250			
		Bus Bar Spacers	700			
	Tower Accessories	Phase Plates	3500			
Last date / time for down loading of specification / tender documents from web site https://pspcl.abcprocure.com	19-08-2019 upto 11:3	io AM				
Last date/ time for bid submission	20-08-2019 upto 11:0	IO AM				
Date / Time for bid Openin g	20-08-2019 at 11:30	AM				
or detailed NIT & Tender sp ttps://pspcl.abcprocure.co ote:- It is informed that in c on, no corrigendum will be p	m ase tender proces	s is not completed apers.	0.1			

## SEARCH OF MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one lady (depicted in the photo), Namely: Arti Prakash, W/o: Sh. Chander Prakash, R/o: H.No. S-213, School Block, Shakarpur, Delhi, Aged: 33 years, has been missing from the area of P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi since 15.06.2019 vide DD No. 39A, Dated 18.06.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi. Her physical description is as

under: Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'4", Face: Round, Physique/Build: Muscular, Clothing: Black Colour Top and Black Colour Jeans Pant. Any person is having any information/clue about this missing lady, may inform SHO, Shakarpur, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.nic.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in Tele No. : 11-24368638 or 24368641

DP/6898/ED/19.



S.H.O

DIP/Shabdarth/0377/19-20

P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi.

roadmap, he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently said the union budget for 2019-20 lays down a roadmap for nearly doubling the size of the Indian economy to \$5 trillion in five years by

## PRESS E-TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No. VII, Irrigation & Flood Control Deptt., Govt, of NCT of Delhi, Sector- 15, Rohini, Delhi invites online percentage E-tenders on behalf of the President of India from approved and eligible contractors of I&FC Peptt. The contractors who are registered with other Departments but granted provisional permission by the Chief Engineer

(181)	I&FC) are also eligible for participation of e-tendering for the following works:-								
Sr. No	NIT No.	Name of Work	Head of Account	Estimate Cost (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allow ed	Tender ID No.	Last date & time for submiss ion of Price Bid.	
1.	EE/CD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/18	Construction of protection wall on both side of Sub Minor No. 4 at Kadi Vihar in Burari A.C.	2702 Revenue	19,15,564/-	38,311/-	03 Month	2019_IFC _176021_1	25.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	
2.	EE/CD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/22	Rejuvenation of water body bearing Kh. No. 133, at village Khera Kalan in Distt. North, Delhi by using Ecologically Sustainable Technology.	4702 Capital Rejuvenation & Preservation of Water Bodies	4,68,23,069/-	9,36,461/-	12 Months	2019_IFC _I75917_1	30.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	
3.	EE/CD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/23	Rejuvenation of water body bearing Kh. No. 19/27 at village Naya Bans in Distt. North, Delhi by using Ecologically Sustainable Technology.	4702 Capital Rejuvenation & Preservation of Water Bodies	2,23,58,406/-	4,47,168/-	12 Months	2019_IFC _175921_1	30.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	
4.	EECD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/24	Rejuvenation of water body bearing Kh. No. 44/28 at village Naya Bans in Distt. North, Delhi by using Ecologically Sustainable Technology.	4702 Capital Rejuvenation & Preservation of Water Bodies	2,11,46,970/-	4,22,939/-	12 Months	2019_IFC _175926_1	30.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	
5.	EECD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/25	Repair and Renovation of Jato Wali Chaupal at village Shahbad Daulatpur in Distt. North, Delhi	MLALAD Works	23,09,098/-	46,182/-	04 Month	2019_IFC _176022_1	25.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	
3.	EECD- VII/NIT/ 2019- 20/26	Restoration of Road and its side drain of Main Chopal Chowk at village Bhorgarh in Distt. North, Delhi.	MLALAD Works	29,29,982/-	58,600/-	02 Month	2019_IFC _176029_1	25.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs	

- of tender is extended, the enlistment of contractor should be valid on the original date of opening of tenders.
- Earnest money in physical form and self attested copy of Registration of enlistment & other documents (eg. ESI & EPF registration, copy of PAN card, Copy of VAT documents ) should be submitted in the Office of Executive Engineer, Civil Division- VII, I&FC Deptt., Govt, of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110085 upto 3.00 PM on the last date of submission of technical bids for obtaining the deposition slip for uploading.
- The details of above mentioned work(s) can be seen and downloaded from the website http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
- The agencies who do not fulfill eligibility criteria/ do not submit required documents .upto the stipulated time, their tenders shall be rejected summarily at technical bid stage.
- Tenders submitted through e-procurement portal shall only be considered and no manual tender shall be accepted.
- Intending tenders participating in tendering process in EE CD-VII, I&FC shall furnish ESI & EPF registration along with other required documents and the same shall be uploaded while bidding. Moreover the ESI & EPF registration documents of all contractors shall be kept on records and ESI & EPF registration documents of lowest tenderer to whor the work awarded shall form the part of the agreement. (I&FC department office order No.1417-48 dated 29.01.2016) SD/

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CD-VII)

According to him, though the "multidisciplinary liberal education approach" is well taken, it should not be pushed too far and it "it is going too far to abolish all specialised institutions such as IITs and IIMs.

#### PTI 🔳 NEW DELHI DGCA finds safety lapses by IndiGo, Terming the proposed L issuance of sovereign issues notices to bonds in overseas markets as the "boldest announcement" of the Budget, Finance Secretary Subhash Chandra 4 executives Garg Friday indicated that

## PTI INEW DELHI

 $F_{\rm IndiGo\ airline\ were\ issued}^{\rm our\ senior\ executives\ of}$ show cause notices on Friday by the DGCA after a special audit team of the aviation regulator found safety lapses, according to sources privy to the development.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) carried out the audit at the IndiGo office in Gurgaon on July 8 and July 9, the sources said.

announced that the Government would start rais-"Captain Sanjiv Bhalla, the head of training; Captain Hemant Kumar, the chief of flight safety; Captain Ashim Mitra, the senior vice-president - operations; Captain Rakesh Asia Pacific Srivastava, the QA (Quality Assurance) and Ops Safety, have been issued show cause notices today," a source told PTI.

The DGCA is conducting special audit of all airlines and be held in Delhi airports which are in monon July 18, 19 soon-affected areas in the wake of multiple landing incidents PNS NEW DELHI across the country.

In its notice to company's 7<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Housing Forum organised by Habitat training chief Bhalla, the regulator said that pilots' corrective training "was either not carried out or delayed" in numfor Humanity India on July 18-19, 2019 at India Habitat ber of cases when it was recommended by the Flight Safety innovative and scalable ideas to and Operations Department of foster collaborations and the airline.

the affordable housing land-The regulator said the department sent these recomscape in India. mendations for corrective training after analyzing the Collaboration for Housing data coming out of Flights Operations Quality Assurance Ecosystem, the sector conference will be attended by (FOQA). nearly 400 delegates.

## Govt may mobilise ₹70K cr from issuance of sovereign bonds abroad: Garg

about ₹70,000 crore could be

mobilised through this route.

isation is the only way of

leaving more funds for the pri-

boldest announcement which has been made, that is open-

ing up of sovereign bonds for

overseas market," he said at a

Sitharaman in Budget 2019-20

ing a part of its gross bor-

rowing programme from

With its theme as Powering

Finance Minister Nirmala

vate sector.

CII event here.

He said diversification of Government resource mobil-

"That's why this is the

## external markets in foreign

currencies. She added that India's sovereign external debt-to-GDP level is among the lowest globally at less than per cent. "We will raise a part of our

borrowing abroad now in foreign currency. It will leave some more domestic saving for the private sector. We raise ₹7 lakh crore as borrowing. We take it all from the domestic market and so much less is left for the private sector. If I raise about 10 per cent of that, additional ₹70,000 crore would be left for the private sector," Garg said.

This will increase supply of money in the domestic market, he said, adding that all of these measures are part of the larger story of opening of the Indian private sector and giving it more investible resources.

## Adani Power seeks Housing Forum to shareholders' nod to raise up to ₹7K cr PTI INEW DELHI

dani Power has sought Adami Power nuc serve shareholders' approval to raise up to ₹7,000 crore through the issuance of equity shares, convertible debentures, bonds or any other Centre, New Delhi will discuss securities in one or more currencies and in tranches in its annual general meeting on opportunities for transforming August 8.

The special resolution also seeks to empower the board of directors to undertake a qualified institutional placement with qualified institutional buyers for raising the funds.



## **UK playing dangerous game: Iran**

**BRITAIN SENDING** DESTROYER TO PERSIAN GULF AMID TENSION

#### AP TEHRAN

Tran on Friday demanded that the British navy release an Iranian oil tanker seized last week off Gibraltar, accusing London of playing a "dangerous game" and threatening retribution, while London announced it was sending a destroyer to the Persian Gulf amid heightened tension.

The comments from Iran's Foreign Ministry came the day after police in Gibraltar, a British overseas territory on the southern tip of Spain, said they arrested the captain and chief officer of the supertanker suspected of breaching European Union sanctions by carrying a shipment of Iranian crude oil to Syria.

Ministry Foreign spokesman Abbas Mousavi told Iranian state news agency IRNA that "the legal pretexts for the capture are not valid ... The release of the tanker is in all countries' interest."

This is a dangerous game and has consequences," he warned.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, threatened retribution.

"Rest assured, Britons will soon feel the slap of the pow-erful hands of the Islamic Republic," he said.

The British navy said Thursday it had stopped three Iranian paramilitary vessels from disrupting the passage of a British oil tanker through the

 $F_{\text{extended its airspace ban}}^{\text{or the fifth time, Pakistan}}$ 

along its eastern border with

India till July 26, the country's

civil aviation authority

airspace on February 26 after

the Indian Air Force (IAF)

fighter jets struck a Jaish-e-

Mohammed (JeM) terrorist

Pakistan fully closed its

PTI LAHORE

announced Friday.

airspace ban for India

shipping lane at the mouth of the Persian Gulf. Iran's Revolutionary Guard

off is believed to have stemmed from the British seizure of the Iranian tanker off Gibraltar on July 4.

During Friday prayers, Ministry of Defence said it was Kazem Sedighi, an adviser to moving up its timetable for relieve the HMS Montrose, a frigate operating in the Persian Gulf, with the larger HMS Duncan destroyer in the wake of the recent developments.

"This will ensure that the UK alongside international partners can continue to support freedom of navigation for vessels transiting through this vital shipping lane.' The Iranian tanker inter-

Strait of Hormuz, a critical cepted last week was carrying 2.1 million barrels of light

crude oil, the head of Gibraltar's government said Friday.

A senior Spanish official had previously said the interception was carried out at the request of the United States, but Gibraltar's Chief Minister Fabian Picardo told parliament no other government had asked the territory to act.

"These important decisions about breaches of our laws were certainly not decisions taken at the political behest or instruction of any other state or

of any third party," he said. He said the ship is sus-pected of breaching European

ues its campaign of maximum pressure on Iran. The US has sent thou-

sands of troops, an aircraft carrier, nuclear-capable B-52 bombers and advanced fighter jets to the West Asia, and fears are growing of a wider conflict after mysterious oil tanker attacks near the Strait of Hormuz blamed on Iran, attacks by Iranian-backed Shia Zaydi Houthi rebels in Yemen on Saudi Arabia and Iran's downing of a US military

Iran has recently begun surpassing uranium enrichment limits set in its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers in response to President Donald Trump's decision to pull the US out of the accord a year ago.

The US has also re-imposed tough sanctions on Tehran's oil exports, exacerbating an economic crisis that has sent its currency plummeting.

Iran has said its breaches of the nuclear pact can be reversed if the other parties to the agreement — Germany, France, Britain, China, Russia and the European Union can come up with enough economic incentives to effectively offset the American sanctions. China on Friday reiterated

it opposes unilateral sanctions against Iran and criticized what it described as the "long arm

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing said that international trade with Iran "within the framework of international law is reasonable and legitimate and deserves to be respected and protected." 'We will resolutely defend

our legitimate and lawful rights and interests," the spokesman

Ex-UN chief concerned over floods in Rohingya camps

## AP KUTUPALONG

 $F_{
m General}^{
m ormer}$  UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has expressed concern that monsoon floods could threaten the lives of Rohingya refugees in sprawling Bangladesh. camps in

Ban, who was visiting in his role as head of The Haguebased Global Commission on Adaptation to climate change, or GCA, said he was "saddened and dismayed" by what he saw while visiting the Kutupalong camp on Wednesday in the southern coastal district of Cox's Bazar, where more than 1 million Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar have fled military-backed persecution in

their home country. Bangladesh has a history of violent cyclones but has reduced the number of casualties from such natural disasters by investing in roads and other public infrastructure, building cyclone shelters and training volunteers across its vast coastal region, which has the world's

largest continuous beach. Still, the U.N.'s children's agency UNICEF said earlier this week in a statement that thousands of families living in the refugee camps and Bangladeshi communities in surrounding tension," he said. villages are at risk from flooding and landslides caused by heavy rainfall in the last few days.

The situation is particularly grim in the camps, though n't know. Even for Xinjiang it is being estimated that more many of the more than 4,000 families affected have been than million or more (have relocated to safer areas, it said. | been detained).

**China denies** reports of having Xinjiang-like mass detention camps in Tibet

## PTI 🔳 BEIJING

hina on Friday dismissed Cas "totally untrue" reports of having Xinjiang-like mass detention centres in Tibet.

Head of the Tibetan gov ernment-in exile Lobsang Sangay, in an interview to the BBC earlier this month, said that such detention camps existed in Tibet.

When asked about the reports that such camps were being held by China in Tibet too, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang, during a media briefing on Friday, said, "What has been motioned in the report is totally untrue.

Sangey, in the BBC's 'Hard Talk' programme on July 1, had said that the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) secretary of Xinjiang Chen Quanguo was previously the party secretary of Tibet before he was shifted to Xinjiang.

"He is the same architect. He implemented the same repressive policies in Tibet for five years which he is implementing in one year time in Xinjiang," Sangey had claimed. "We do have these camps,

but not as large as the Uighur camps. So, lot of people have been sent for education through labour, imprisonment, The treaty has been signed

Asked whether he has any by 70 countries and ratified by 23. It will come into force with figure about the number of people detained in such camps ratification by 50 countries.

#### Pak extends till Jul 26 its Chinese businesses pledges \$5 billion investment in Islamabad and New Delhi Pakistan in next five years decide it mutually," he said. Last month, Pakistan gave "The sagacity, wisdom and Islamabad: Over 55 execupecial permission to Prime tives and CEOs of leading vision of the Chinese leadership Minister Narendra Modi's VVIP flight to use its airspace Chinese companies on Friday for peace & development, good for his official trip to attend the called on Pakistan Prime governance and poverty allevi-

ation is highly impressive and worth emulating," said Khan.

in the cash-strapped nation He added that the interest over the next five years, accordof Chinese companies towards investment and relocating busi-The visiting Chinese business and industrial units to ness delegation represented Pakistan reflected the trust of the Chinese side in the grow

## NATO 'conce by Turkey rece Russian missile US has threatened S-400 into it a risk that s

to expel Turkey the F-35, from its F-35 programme

multi-role s leak back to Preside pick for Per Esper, conf

defence m deal on the

Sweden says not signing **UN** nuclear treaty AFP STOCKHOLM **C**weden will not sign a UN

world 11

Streaty calling for the ban of nuclear weapons, foreign minister Margot Wallstrom said

Friday. "The government will, as it stands now, not sign the convention on a prohibition of nuclear arms," Wallstrom told reporters at a press briefing in

Stockholm. The UN treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which calls for the ban of "nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices," was adopted by the UN General Assembly in July of 2017 with the approval of 122 countries, including that of

Sweden. Wallstrom noted that while Sweden had voted in favour, it had also expressed concern about the lack of a clear definition in the treaty of which weapons would be covered, and how it would relate to other treaties, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Instead of signing the treaty, Sweden would seek observer status, Wallstrom said, adding her country remained committed to a world free of nuclear arms.

"I would have wished we had a convention that is possible to sign... But you also have to be a realist," Wallstrom said.

in Tibet, he said "that we did-

The accord is seen as largely symbolic since none of the nine countries known or suspected to have nuclear weapons put their names down.

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stealth fighter, could	Sale of Assets and Properties owned by Shree Balaji Printopack Private Limited (in					
to the Russians.	Liquidation) forming part of Liquidation Estate of Shree Balaji Printopack Private Limited in					
ent Donald Trump's	possession of the Liquidator, appointed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal New					
ntagon chief, Mark	Delhi Bench III at New Delhi vide order dated 03.04.2019. The sale of properties will be done by the undersigned through the e-auction platform https://ncltauction.auctiontiger.net.					
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court.

Iranian Foreign Minister

Mohammad Javad Zarif scoffed

at the accusation Iran was vio-

lating sanctions, which he said

"are meant "to stop Europe from buying Syria's oil, they are

not about another country sell-

ing oil to Syria." Zarif

spoke in an interview Thursday

This undated Ministry of Defence handout shows the HMS Duncan, a Type 45 Destroyer, which will relieve HMS Montrose in the region as Iran threatens to disrupt shipping. British media reported a second warship, the destroyer HMS Duncan, was being sent to the Persian Gulf to operate alongside the Royal Navy s HMS Montrose frigate and American forces, and would be there in a few days. The British Ministry of Defense refused to comment

denied any incident had curred in the strait.

That brief but tense stand-

On Friday, the British

Union sanctions on Syrian President Bashar Assad's government and that any nation with a claim to the vessel and its cargo can file a claim in

Minister Imran Khan and

pledged to invest USD 5 billion

ing to an official statement.

their prime minister." The tanker's interception has stoked already high tensions in the region, as the Trump administration contin-

with the pro-Iran Lebanese satellite news channel Al-Mayadeen. This is a very childish and ridiculous excuse by the jurisdiction" of the US. British," he said. "They should officially announce that we are servants of America and act on

behalf of America. America has returned their favour well by insulting their ambassador and

added.

training camp in Balakot fol-lowing the Pulwama terror attack in Kashmir.

However, in March, it partially opened its airspace but kept its ban for the Indian flights.

"Pakistani airspace will be closed until July 26 along its eastern border with India. The Panjgoor airspace will remain open for overflying transit flights from the western side as Air India had already been using that airspace," the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said in a notice.

A CAA official told PTI that the Pakistan government will review whether to open its space for Indian flights or not on July 26.

"However, this issue is a bilateral one and no progress will be made till both air routes in its airspace.

former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swarai to fly directly though Pakistani airspace to participate in the meeting of SCO foreign min-

Shanghai

Kyrgyzstan.

research among others. isters in Bishkek on May 21. "Chinese business execu-

Ĉooperation

Organisation summit in

Bishkek, the capital of

Modi's VVIP aircraft avoided

flying over Pakistan. Earlier,

akistan had allowed India's

However Prime Minister

India aviation industry has suffered huge losses due to the airspace ban by Pakistan. On Thursday, India's Civil

Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri told Parliament that due to the closure of Pakistan airspace, Air India had to spend an extra Rs 430 crore on longer routes.

Pakistan earlier indicated that it may lift the airspace ban along its eastern border with India imposed on February 27

to reciprocate India's decision to remove all restrictions on all

various sectors including construction, machinery, glass, ing economy of Pakistan. automobile, electrical, power, He said the Chinese side

transportation, information have a strong desire to translate Pak-China equation into a wintechnology and technological win economic partnership.

"Our Government is facil itating investors and reducing tives expressed confidence in the business friendly policies of impediments in 'ease of doing the government and committed business'. Partnership with to invest USD 5 billion over a Chinese companies and their period of five years in various investment will reap multiple small and medium size indusbenefits for both the countries trial sectors," the statement said. including employment generation, transfer of technology Pakistan has so far received billions in financial aid packand economic growth," he said ages from friendly countries

Talking about Chinalike Saudi Arabia, China and Pakistan Economic Corridor the UAE during the current fis-(CPEC), Khan reiterated that cal year. During the meeting, ambitious project will prove to be a game-changer with respect Khan welcomed the Chinese delegation and stated that to enhancing trade activities and further cementing Pak-China has always been a trust-China relations. PTI

N<sup>ATO</sup> said Friday it was "concerned" by Turkey's acquisition of Russia's S-400 missile defence system after

AFP BRUSSELS

batch.

Ankara took delivery of its first The alliance has repeatedly warned Turkey that the Russian system is incompatible US with other NATO weapons systems, not least the F-35

fighter jet. "We are concerned about the potential consequences of Turkey's decision to acquire the

S-400 system," a NATO official told AFP. "Interoperability of our armed forces is fundamental to NATO for the conduct of our

operations and missions. The US fears that if NATO member Turkey integrates the

meeting las

Washin ened to exp F-35 prog Ankara unti the S-400 p pilots kick course and

But Tu Recep Tay refused to b he is confid face US sanct

## TENDER NOTICE **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (NAVY) INS INDIA** TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF BREAD WHITE FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEAR Sealed tenders are invited by the Commanding Officer, INS India, Dara Shukoh Road, New

Delhi-110 011 from Registered Contractors for conclusion of annual contract for supply of Bread White to INS India, New Delhi for the period of two year from the date of conclusion of contract. The items and quantity required to be supplied are as indicated below:

	items and quantity required to be supplied are as indicated below:-					
CLIMATE CHANGE	PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform public in general	<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Items</u>		<u>Approx Qty (in Kgs)</u> (Per vear)	<u>Gms / Pkt</u>
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	organized an auction in below mention respect of Vehicles. VEHICLES FOR SALE 1) AL_3718IL REG. NO. HR73A8182-YOM 2015 2) AL_3718IL REG. NO. HR73A0635-YOM 2015	<ol> <li>Firms Clain in tendering         <ul> <li>(a) Register</li> <li>(b) The firm</li> <li>(c) Marketin attached).</li> <li>(d) Holding Authority of</li> <li>(e) Bidders</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	ning Compliance. Fi activity:- ed Firms with ASC/A has valid GST/TIN n g the product in civ valid registration wi India) for supplying E	irms meeting the un ir Force/Navy/Govt. umber, CST No. an il market for at lea ith FSSAI for resp Bread. mit Earnest Money	der mentioned cond Organisation for su d PAN No. st two years. (Expe ective product (Foo Deposit (EMD) of	litions can only take part
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	IS UNDER SALE IN ITS "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION"	Opening of Bids	22 Jul 19	0900 hrs	Conference Hall Road, New Delh	, INS India, Dara Shukoh
	INTERESTED PARTIES CAN GIVE THEIR QUOTATIONS WITH IN 7 DAYS AT BRANCH ADDRESS: 3RD FLOOR, PLOT NO 7,SECTOR 125, NOIDA-201313 OR CONTACT : PUNEET PARASAR KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.	Note: Tender cost of Rs 100/- (Non Refundable) to be submitted at SVY (N) before tende opening.           4. Firms blacklisted by any Public sector undertaking are not permitted to participate in the tendering process.           Sd/				
rmany on Friday AP	CONTACT NO 8377905498	davp/10702/11/0	093/1920			INS India



ed partner of Pakistan.



Student of the 'Fridays for Future' climate movement protest with a banner reading 'Burn capitalism - not coal' in Cologne, Gern





MS Dhoni returns to pavilion after getting run out

## 'In sub-continent, players get more leeway in terms of retirement'

back.

## PTI LONDON

¬ormer Australia captain Steve Waugh believes that his country has the 2004 best phasing out policy for the biggest names unlike the subcontinent where it becomes difficult to move on once players attain legendary status.

Waugh was asked the question in context of the surrounding debate Mahendra Singh Dhoni's future in international cricket after India's semi-final exit from the World Cup.

"It's interesting. Australia definitely do that. It doesn't matter who you are because you have got to move on,"

Waugh said when asked about Cricket Australia's retirement policy and his own exit from international scene in early

But Waugh, one of Australia's most successful skippers, feels that it wont be correct to equate Australia's situation with India. "May be in the sub-conti-

nent you get a bit more leeway with 1.4 billion people following you. People no longer remain people. They become legends, Gods. It's very hard to move on," he said.

"It becomes increasingly challenging when people get to a certain age. Mahendra Singh Dhoni you are referring

IN SUB-CONTINENT YOU GET A BIT MORE LEEWAY WITH 1.4 BILLION PEOPLE FOLLOWING YOU. PEOPLE NO LONGER REMAIN PEOPLE.

Djokovic, increasingly

irritated by a restless crowd,

broke for 4-2 in the third set

ironically off another net

cord which fell this time in

But Djokovic was relent-

less and tightened his grip breaking twice for a 4-1 lead and eventually claimed vic-

tory on a fifth match point.

battle for a place in the final later on Friday, 11 years after

they mesmerised Centre

Court in a Grand Slam

championship match widely

Nadal emerged tri-

umphant that day, winning

in five sets in a four-hour 48

minute epic of fluctuating

fortunes that stretched out

over seven hours because of

regarded as the greatest even

played.

Federer and Nadal will

the Serb's favour.

THEY BECOME LEGENDS, GODS. IT'S VERY HARD

to is still a great player," said Waugh.

where they were 12 months

ago," he said on his country's

defeat against England at Edgbaston on Thursday.

"Once they got to the

who is a brand ambassador of ICC's community cricket tourperformance considering

initiative and it is what sport is all about. It's about sports at "I think it's a fair comment grassroot level and people that Australia have done well enjoying it. Learning about in the World Cup compared to

Asked to whom he would put his money in Sunday's final between England and New Zealand at the Lord's, he replied: "I don't put money on sport. I expect a great final as New Zealand has been play-ing well. They have now reached two finals. So I expect

PTI LONDON

t was called a gamechanging moment of brilliance but New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill says his direct hit that ran out M S Dhoni in the World Cup semifinal against India was more a case of luck doing its bit for him.

With that run out in the 49th over, India's hopes ended in the tense semifinal at Old Trafford on Wednesday. The for-

down by 18 runs against the last edition's finalists. "I did not think the ball was actually coming to me, I tried to get there as soon as I could. Once I got hold of the ball, I thought it was actually quite straight. Lucky enough to get a direct hit from out there, lucky for us he was out of his ground," Guptill said in a short video uploaded by the ICC on social media.

mer champions went

PORTS 0

## **Djoker has the last laugh**

### AFP LONDON

Defending champion Novak Djokovic reached his sixth Wimbledon final Friday as Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal prepared to meet at the All England Club for the first time since their epic 2008 title showdown.

World number one four-time and Wimbledon winner Djokovic booked his 25th Grand Slam final appearance with a nervy 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 triumph over Spain's 23rd seed Roberto Bautista Agut.

"This has been a remarkable tournament for me and to be in another final is a dream come true,' said the top seed.

"I had to dig deep, Roberto was playing his first semi-final at a Grand Slam and he was not really overwhelmed.

"It was a really close opening four to five games of the third set that could have gone either way - thankful-

ly it went mine.' The 32-year-old into Sunday's final seeking a 16th major title with a career advantage over both his great rivals.

He leads Federer 25-22 6-4 off a fortuitous net cord. and Nadal 28-26.

"I will watch Federer and Nadal. I am a fan of that match up — it's one of the most epic rivalries of all time." Watched by a Royal Box crammed with sports and

rally. The set was secured, movie A-listers — David Beckham, Rod Laver, Gary Player, Jude Law, Damian Bautista Agut, who had planned to be in Ibiza this week for his stag party, fought off break points in the opening game of the fourth - Djokovic swept Lewis through the first set with breaks in the second and eighth games.

It seemed certain that Djokovic was going to spend a lot less time on

court in this semifinal compared to 12 months ago when he needed five sets and five hours and

15 minutes beat Nadal.

However, Bautista Agut, who had already defeated the Serb twice

this year, eventually settled and broke for l in the second set. Djokovic fought off two break points,

via a 23-shot rally, in the fifth game. But the 31-y

constant, momentum-shifting rain interruptions. The Spaniard won 6  $4, 6-7 (5/\overline{7}), 6-7 (8/10), 9-7$  as

## Barcelona bag Griezmann after stumping up 120m euros

#### and held for 5-2 off the back AFP BARCELONA of a lung-busting 45-shot

 $B^{\mbox{arcelona}}$  announced the signing of Antoine Griezmann on Friday after the Spanish champions paid La Liga rivals Atletico Madrid the 120 million euro (\$135 million) release clause required to sign the World Cup winner.

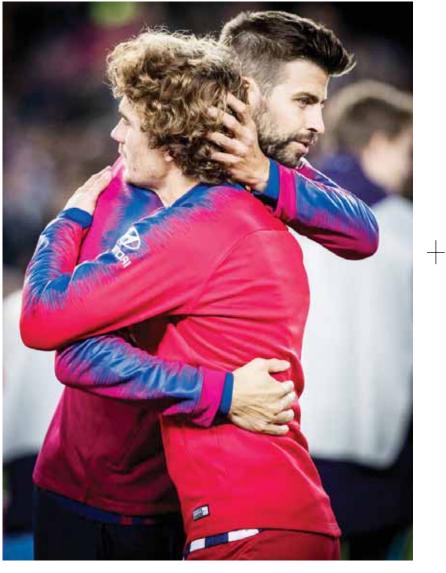
"The player will sign a contract with his new club for the next five seasons, through to 30 June 2024, with a buyout clause of 800 million euros," Barca said in a statement.

Friday's announcement brings to an end a dispute between the two clubs and Griezmann, who had long aimed to move to the Catalan giants. The 28-year-old failed to show up for

his side's pre-season gathering on Sunday after he had announced in May he would be leaving the Wanda Metropolitano, even though he could not reveal his destination until his release clause dropped from 200 million euros to 120 million euros at the start of the month.

Last week Atletico accused Barcelona and Griezmann of a "lack of respect" after the Barca president Josep Maria Bartomeu revealed the two clubs had held talks about the former Real Sociedad forward.

Atletico also claimed that Griezmann had told the club that he had struck a deal with Barcelona in March, just days before the second leg of their Champions League last-16 tie with Juventus, which saw them dumped out by a Cristiano Ronaldo hat



#### semi-finals, there were high expectations. They might be TO MOVE ON disappointed this morning but overall I think Aaron Finch did great job as captain

as well as a player," Waugh, The World Cup winning former captain is, however, happy with Australia's overall

nament called Ćriiio. Talking about the initia-tive, he said, "I think it's a great where they were 12 months

sportsman spirit."

a good match.

old Bautista Agut held his nerve to the clock ticked past 9pm eventually level and with the famous stadium the semi-final at in near-darkness.

RATE CARD w.e.f. July 10, 2019 the pioneer पायनियर (हिन्दी संस्करण) (ENGLISH EDITIONS) **BLACK & WHITE BLACK & WHITE** EDITION RATE EDITION RATE (₹per sq.cm.) (₹per sq.cm.) 1900 DELHI 1200 DELHI LUCKNOW 1000 LUCKNOW 1000 UP EDITION UP EDITION (Lucknow, Kanpur, Allahabad & Varanasi) 1500 1700 (LUCKNOW + UPCOUNTRY) BHOPAL 500 BHUBANESHWAR RAIPUR 500 500 FARIDABAD CHANDIGARH 500 500 1600 DEHRADUN 500 Delhi + Lucknow RANCHI 2800 500 All Editions RAIPUR 500 HYDERABAD 500 VIJAYWADA 500

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trick after winning the first leg 2-0 in Madrid.

Griezmann joined Atletico in 2014 and has scored 133 goals in 257 appearances,

lifting the Europa League in 2018. He won the Golden Boot at Euro 2016 when France were beaten in the final on home soil by Portugal before helping to guide his team to World Cup triumph in Russia last year.

The sale of Griezmann comes after Atletico stumped up a whopping 126 million euros to sign rising star Joao Felix from Benfica last week, making the 19year-old one of the five most expensive players in history. The fee was a record paid by the capital club and the highest ever received by a Portuguese outfit, and the

## PTI JOHANNESBURG

n etired South Africa great A B de Villiers on Friday Koke his silence on the controversy surrounding his international comeback that never happened, saying he did not demand an 11th hour return before the World Cup.

In a detailed statement, de Villiers gave his side of the story after he was criticised for picking and choosing international assingments after announcing his retirement last year.

"I made absolutely no demands at all. I certainly did not try to force my way into the World Cup squad on the eve of the tournament, and did not expect to be included. There was no burning issue from my side, and no sense of injustice," said one of the modern greats who played 114 Tests and 228 ODIs.

In the middle of South Africa's World Cup campaign, a media report had claimed that the 35-year-old had offered to come out out of retirement a day before the squad for the event was to be picked but the team management rejected it. South Africa crashed out of

the tournament with three wins in nine games. captaincy of Faf du Plessis." De Villiers said he was

privately asked on the day of his retirement if he was open to play the World Cup and he did not offer. "During the weeks and months that followed (his inevitable sale of Griezmann helps finance such a huge transfer for a young player.

Felix burst onto the scene last season, scoring 20 times and making 11 assists in all competitions for Benfica as they won the Primeira Liga and reached the quar-

ter-finals of the Europa League.

On Friday Atletico also unveiled Felix's former Benfica teammate Ivan Saponjic, the 20-year-old arriving after signing a three-year deal with the Spanish club

## Didn't demand to be included in WC squad: AB



Villiers said he made it clear

that he was available only if

required.

retirement), there was no for-"Faf and I have been mal contact between Cricket friends since we were at school South Africa or the Proteas and together and, two days before me. I didn't call them, and they the World Cup squad was didn't call me. I had made my announced, I contacted him for decision and the Proteas moved a chat. I had been in decent on, enjoying success under the form during the Indian expert guidance of coach Ottis Premier League and casually Gibson and the outstanding repeated what I had said when asked a year earlier, that I was During his chat with capavailable if required... But only if required." tain and friend du Plessis, de

It hurt de Villiers that his private conversation with the skipper was leaked in the ation," he added.

media following the team's loss to India. "Then, out of the blue, on the evening after the Proteas lost to India, suffering a third successive World Cup defeat, elements of our private conversation were disclosed to the media, and distorted to cast me in the worst possible light.

"The story was not leaked by me, or anybody associated with me, or by Faf. Maybe someone wanted to deflect criticism. I don't know. As a result, I was unfairly described as arrogant, selfish and indecisive but, with all humility, my conscience is clear."

Notwithstanding the controversy over his comeback, de Villiers said his relationship with the national team players remains strong as ever.

"Now, at this stage of my life, I would like to continue spending time with my family and to play in selected T20 tournaments in SA and around the world.

"I have been massively proud to have played for, and indeed captain, my country on the cricket field. My relationships with the Protea players remain as strong as ever, and I will always be available to support and assist the next gener-

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# TRUE FRIENDS ARE FOREVER, INSEPARABLE

A true friend is one who never deserts you. He sticks to all the time whether it is the time of happiness or sorrow, says TEAM VIVA



ith great efforts you may succeed in getting a true friend to make him a lifelong companion. But it is very difficult to maintain friendship. What is necessary is patience, a sense of tolerance.

A true friend is one who never deserts you. He sticks to all the time whether it is the time of happiness or sorrow. He is an inseparable companion even in the midst of great distress, in poverty and in other forms of misfortune.

False friends are fair weather companions. They always knock at your door when you are rich or affluent and have enough and to spare. They are with our intimates of good fortune marked by plentifulness and prosperity and desert in rough weather.

True friends, like books, stay with you till the end of your life.

Falsehood is such an attractive garb from outside that it is not always possible to know its true nature. Appearance is not always the reality. All that glitters is not gold. One cannot know the inside of somebody looking from outside.

Most people are selfish by nature and tend to deceive others to achieve their objective, and gratify their self interest. It you go through a lot of mixed feelings real-

is necessary to guard against such persons and know who are true and who are false. A true friend works life God's good angel and means good only. He makes a leap forward to come to your rescue even at the cost of his own life.

Friendship is a feeling of mutual trust, support and affection between two people. A friend can be a companion, workmate, class-mate or any person with whom our feelings of affection are attached. There is a mutual exchange of emotions, trust and supports among friends

Friendship is like an investment, the more you invest the more you reap. An investment is in terms of trust and faith which is the root of any strong relation. No matter how much you spend together on your vodkas or how many night outs you have enjoyed together, if there is no seed of trust and faith in the soil the tree of friendship cannot stand long.

Life with friends becomes an easy going journey that you would never like to get over with. Each day spent with them is to be cherished in a different way even if some days bring lot of misunderstandings or fights. But whatever it is, friendship is an old book, while turning its pages

izing that even after sharing the best and the worst you are still together.

Friendship is a relationship that all the individuals can create by themselves. Though it is not a god gifted relationship like that of the relationship of a mother, father, sister, brother or any of the other family but still it is one of the best relations an individual can possess. People who have true friends consider themselves as the ckiest individuals on earth.

We do not make friends because they are useful but the bond of friendship, once it grows stronger and stronger has a number of positive aspects. There are certain secrets that can only be shared with our friends only. When we are facing a difficult situation in our lives, only true friends come forward to help us overcome all the difficulties.

Every friend is important and their importance in known to us when certain situations arise which can only be solved by our friends. One can never feel lonely in this world if he or she is surrounded by true friends. On the other hand, loneliness prevails in the lives of those who do not have friends despite of billions and billions of people present in the world. Friendship, generally, grows between

people of the same age and dispositions.

**EVERY FRIEND IS IMPORTANT AND THEIR IMPORTANCE IN KNOWN TO US WHEN CERTAIN SITUATIONS ARISE WHICH CAN ONLY BE SOLVED BY OUR FRIENDS. ONE CAN NEVER FEEL LONELY IN THIS WORLD IF HE OR SHE IS SURROUNDED BY TRUE FRIENDS** 

They have similar passions, emotions and sentiments. When a student meets another student in a classroom, he finds that they both have the same vision and objective for life. This shared vision towards the same goal help them to come closer and help each each-other. This is why, generally, people of the same age turn into friends.

Even offices, various people work together as a team to achieve the organizational goal. The achievement of the organizational targets will in turn improve their chances of individual success. In some cases, we make our best friends for life at our workplace.

Friendship is a beautiful bond by all means but while making friends, it is essential to keep in mind that one should always be aware so as to differentiate between true friends and false friends.

True friends are committed and stand by your side even in the rough phases of your life. False friends on the other hand are truly examined only when difficulties knock your door. Most of them show you their back and join hands with either your enemies or with other successful people. One should always try to maintain a distance from false friends. False friends are those who support you in times when you

are rich and famous. As soon as fame and riches leave you alone, false friends also act as if they do not know you; you become stranger in their eyes. It has been said that only a difficult situation in life can make individuals realize who their true friends are and who their false friends are. It is always advisable to stay away from such individuals in order to maintain your peace of mind.

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Real friendship is rare. Many people gather round men of power and pelf to serve their own selfish ends under the garb of friendship. They remain with their friends as long as their selfish needs are met. They leave their friends when their power and pelf are gone. Such selfish friends are many in this world. Such friends are more dangerous than enemies and people should be cautions of such friends. It is difficult to find a real friend

People should be very cautious about selecting friends they should cultivate friendship with men of character, so that there may not be a split when friendship has sufficiently advanced. It is very bitter and painful to cut off connections later, on account of bad blood between friends. True friendship lasts till death and does not fluctuate from time to time.

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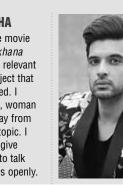


BHOPAL | SATURDAY | JULY 13, 2019

## vivacity {48 hours} 14

SHAH RUKH KHAN The experience of dubbing for The Lion King with Aryan (his son) is very personal. I got time to spend with him professionally. I am an actor and I do this, but my family has never really been associated with my work. The time spent with him in my line of work is special.

### **SONAKSHI SINHA** I decided to do the movie Khandaani Shafakhana because it's a very relevant and important subject that should be discussed. I don't want anyone, woman or man, to shy away from talking about this topic. I hope this film will give them the courage to talk about sexual issues openly



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## **KARAN KUNDRA** It's a role that will bring out the best in me because months of hard work have gone in prepping up my character. Ronobir Chatterjee is a medical college student who is flam-

dame on



CIRCUITS —

## AYUSHMANN KHURRANA TAYLOR SWIFT

I can't really talk much about the film Gulabo Sitabo right now, but working with Amitabh Bachchan, Shoojit Sircar and Juhi, is like working with a dream team. It is a good amalgam of Vicky Donor and Piku. The storyline is in a lighter space and this makes me feel happy and excited

My new album (Lover) really, sort of, is a love letter to love oneself. And I think that love is such an inspiring thing to write

ty, it is struggle. It is

pain and joy. Love is

calls out all those who

attack the LGBTQIA+

community



## - ENCOUNTER 60 MINUTES -It's not a film but a phenomenon

From talking about his favourite stories to what it means to make films that matter, filmmaker RAKEYSH OMPRAKASH MEHRA tells CHAHAK MITTAL why it's disheartening for him to see that the 12-year-old film, Rang De Basanti, hasn't resulted in a real change

► he one subject that filmmaker Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra likes the most to work upon is 'people' as they become easier to relate to in everyday life. And in the process, encourage others with a greater sense of purpose and meaning. And it's the same drive that had led him to create films like Rang De Basanti, Delhi-6, Bhaag Milkha Bhaag and many more. Layers keep unravelling with every visit to his films, be it after long intervals as their subjects stay ever-relevant. But as Rang De Basanti marks its 12th anniversary, he feels, "Rather than a delight, it is very disheartening to see the film being relevant to the times and the audience even today. However,

only a few parts of it and not in totality." But why? He says, "When you start thinking in terms of people and their context, it's a cycle, which has been going on since forever. The world has been divided and ruled by religion since the beginning. There has been nothing new. So it's a cycle, it keeps coming back in different ways."

Among other things in history, the film takes one back to the 2002 MIG-21 crash when an Indian Air Force Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21bis had crashed into an office building in Jalandhar, Punjab, killing eight and injuring 17 people on the ground. Since 1970 to 2018, around 170 Indian pilots have been killed in MIG-21 crashes. "The film talks about corruption and even today, it prevails widely. Back then, during the time of George Fernandes, the then defence minister, there was a BJP government for 18 months when we made the film. That's what struck me. There was a ₹2,000 crore corruption scandal in the defence. The MIGs were going down. Pilots were dying. I researched. They sat on the MIG-21 wearing a G-suit, there were front-face photographs in all the news-papers that they went for a joyride. They had declared the plane safe but they are crashing even today. So it's a cycle. The first scene where they come with the saffron flags - I feel it is present even today. They are very much there. Hence, I don't want it to be relevant. Ít's sad. Ab voh cheez huye 12 saal hogye hain. Aage badho aur khatam karo (Ít's been 12 years since it first took place. They should move on and finish the case)."

no price for a human life in this coun There i



**'THE MOMENT YOU CREATE** CONTENT KEEPING FRIDAY IN MIND, YOU ARE DEAD. THE WORK SHOULD BE PERPETUAL. JUST BY ATTAINING NUMBERS AT THE BOX OFFICE DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU ARE GROWING'



I come from that space where growing is the need. The content should be like my favourite book which I will stare, see it again and discover something new everytime I go back to it. When I read To Kill a Mokingbird or Devdas or any other book, I feel kuch to naya ho raha hai yaar. People would have watched Rang De.., when it released, in a different way than they would watch it today."

So, for him, it's about going to the core of a story and finding out why he wants to tell the story and why should it be told. The idea just has to be new and original everytime, without ignoring the failures. He says, "Just like a human being, content and sto-ries are unique but subjective to interpretations. Even my story is open to how you interpret it. Same things happen to people but everyone writes it in a different way. There is no one formula that I own. I have not invented the Ford Mustang in metallic red that has suddenly got the fancy of the world. Now we can make one million more cars and replicate the success. But a second film cannot be replicated. The only thing we can replicate is platforms — the point of purchase. So we can have more and more screens (not mobile screens but theatres) but not the same content?

Talking about the idea of platforms and how there is a need to have more of them and even find alternatives to those which are out of reach, he reflects upon how if someone has a "brilliant thought" and wants to make a film, s/he will not get a start, "if s/he is not in Mumbai, struggling. And why should she get it? This is the idea." He says that it indirectly does affect the storytelling. "I have asked this from the Delhi government that why can't we create filmmaking facilities out of Delhi itself? If someone wants to create a film, s/he would survive in Mumbai for approximately six months with his/her savings and budget as the city is very expensive. Even more than Tokyo. So how will one sustain? It might take six years for them to come around and express themselves with their first feature film, documentary or anything. Unless we build an alternative, the revolution won't be massive. It is easier to sustain here, in Delhi or even the NCR. Or maybe even Rajasthan. Also they don't need to read the tabloids. They do not present the idea of cinema. Conversations and platforms are very important. More and more representation not in terms of just meeting the content but more in consuming it as their voice is so important," he says and goes on to question, "But when the content does not the reach the audience, how will they consume it? It's a loss for both the viewers and the creators. Currently, there are only 8,000 screens in the country and they are only reducing. The min-imum need right now is 30,000 screens. In a way, we need to launch 22,000 screens by tomorrow morning. Then the content will go on at least some of the screens. And the people will watch it. It would be the chance to grow," says he. The Screening Room, an endeavour by PVR, at Ambience Mall, Vasant Kunj, offers a platform for those cinema lovers who want to engage, co-create films, socialise and collaborate with like-minded people. "It's a screen for netizens to look beyond the mobile screens and create more space for filmmakers to evolve. This will help creative minds and even independent filmmakers to prosper and connect," says Mehra. Talking about cre-ativity and business, the two main things in cinema, and how balancing both could be strenuous, he says, "It's not arduous or limiting, but very empowering. The starting point for me is to tell a story, creatively express myself and try to say something with it. It is limited to my talent and feeling. And then once my feeling is out through the film, I make money. It is empowering that way. But I also at the same time giving myself a chance or keep a probability for failure. We are people who write and direct films, get actors and singers to act and sing in it and then people consume it. So there are a lot of emotions getting transferred to a lot of people collectively. And it is so much fun as well. It is like playing Holi, which you can't play alone. *Apne hi rang lagaoge kya?*" He ends with a laugh as he walks towards creating anoth-er film, which he hopes will be another phenomenon. Photo: Pankai Kumar



## **BLUE RIBBON**

Producer MARK FLOWERS, through the show Earth's Greatest Rivers, says that the water bodies are much more than just standing on a bank and looking across a channel to the other side. By TEAM VIVA

Did you know that the Nile has a remark-able biodiversity and cannot be filmed easily because it is full of hippos, elephants and crocodiles at any given time? Or that the Mississippi changes character by the bend or that Amazon as a river is nearly twice as big of the entirety of India? These unknown facts are being showcased for the first time in Earth's Greatest Rivers, which has not only documented a scarce water resource but looked intricately into what sustains them and what we need to do to not lose them.

### **What prompted you to come up with a con**cept?

Rivers are the arteries of life on earth. I have combined natural history, geography, geology and people to present a holistic view of rivers that reveal them as complete entities. The rivers are much more than just standing on a bank and looking across a channel of water to the other side. The most exciting thing we did was to look at them from a height. They appear like a tree-network, the main channel breaks up into branches forming a network, which shows how big and far reaching a river is. We also wanted to take the audience on the ultimate river cruise that one could dream of.

□How different was filming across the three waterways? What were the challenges?

## The Nile was tricky because it is the world's

ngest river and flows through various coun-

arrives with the arrival of thousands of giant white pelicans, an incredible symbol of spring. A river so seasonal in the temperate world.

## □All these rivers are known to be quite torrential as waterways. Were there any special preparations that you made for filming?

We had one scene when the Blue Nile was flooded which gave us a really exciting footage. When it floods, you need to choose your tim-ing of filming carefully and also be cautious about your safety as there is a lot of water. With Amazon, we got lucky because we got some amazing footage from its parts. We got a remarkable footage in the upper reaches of the Amazon when the whole forest gets flooded. I am happy we timed it well as such floods happens over months in Amazon. If there is a slow rise of water, it's hard to prepare because it is difficult to predict. We used drones to fixed positions on GPS and that's how we showed the rise of the Amazon over months and it is the first time you'd see a massive transformaon of a landscape by a giant river in flood.

### □Any memorable incident or anecdote you remember from the shoots?

I've been interested in tropical fish since childhood. I kept one in an aquarium. Because of my interest in it, it got me absorbed in rivers and its life all around the world. I was about 12 when my brother and I had an interest for fishes and it was absolutely amazing when we were in the Amazon to find some pools where the water is as clear as an aquarium. It was such a dream come true. One of the fun things we tried were making little remote-control boats with cameras on and they managed to get up close and personal with some hippos in the Nile. Another funny incident that happened was when we found a dam where water was gushing out and it was making the fish quite onfused and the pelicans basically had a massive fight to catch them. It was a treat to the eyes to see the contrasting characteristics of the pelicans at the Mississippi.

try, he feels. "Humare desh mei insaan ki keemat kya hai? Kuch bhi nahi. The dignity of labour is a highly refined concept. Life is very cheap. Millions can keep dying and it would be in the name of service. Somebody has to risk it. It's their job, they say. We think creating wealth entitles us. If I become Mukesh Ambani tomorrow, it does not entitle me. I created wealth from people's resources, which has to go back. You are not entitled to keep it, it's not yours to keep. You are not the richest man in the world. You have used resources beautifully because you had an amazing mind to use it," says he.

The two characters - Lakshman Pandit (played by Atul Kulkarni) and Aslam (played by Kunal Kapoor), he points out, could be found in the country even today. "History is witness that Hindus and Muslims have been encouraged to hate each other and wanted each other to be wiped out. But in the film, a Hindu and a Muslim had come together. And this is what I have made. I felt very strongly and, not to forget, this was 12 years ago."

So what drove you to make the film at that time? He says that all that he showcased in the film was inspired by real-life experiences and stories. The reason - it connects. "I knew a Wahida Rahman, from real life, who plays the mother of a flight lieutenant Ajay Rathore (played by R Madhavan). I knew a friend of mine who lost his life in Sri Lanka flying in helicopter. When experienced things come to picture, you relate to life," adds he.

Films should be created keeping "perpetu-ity" in mind, or so believes the director. Says he, "The moment you create content keeping Friday and numbers in mind, you are dead, at least I am (laughs). For me, the work should be perpetual. Looking at the numbers is like living in a cocoon. Just by attaining numbers at the box office does not mean that you are growing at all. It is the overall evolution in the larger picture. So

tries. It is quite challenging to film on a river where there are hippos, elephants and croco-diles. Mississippi was tough because there everything, from filming coyotes in minus tem-peratures, in the rocky mountains with mos-quites charring the crow alize acted as a chal quitoes chewing the crew alive, acted as a challenge. Some parts of the Mississippi are very controlled and industrial, so it was hard to find good sequences. But we were proud to get a team onto the giant river barges, which basically joined together to make it almost explod-ing. We travelled down almost hundreds of miles of the Mississippi in seconds and this will be an interesting watch for the Indian audience. Now looking at Amazon, I thought the surface area of India is about 3.287 million sq km and the river is nearly twice as big of its entirety. The challenge here was to find the right location as its size and scale is mind-blowing.

#### Tell us something interesting about the wildlife habitats surrounding these rivers.

In the Nile, the most interesting thing was the ruin hunting lodge of Idi Amin. For all kind of trail camera in the ruins of the hunting lounge, it was like an absolute conversion of the Jungle Book. In the upper water of the Niles, there are big beds of papyrus trees. Papyrus is the word 'paper' and what the ancient Egyptians used to write on. What we didn't know about them is that the Papyrus bed breaks up into floating islands. When the sun sequences in the Nile, it is like a ballet of dancing islands of Papyrus trees - a beautiful sight. It is amazing to go to a place which is so transformed. The Amazon has different colours and chemicals, which is another interesting thing that we found. The water is so distinct that it gives an enriching experience altogether. Some major theories about Mississippi are that it reached as far it should and it was a delight to watch because it surfs you from the cold icy North to almost the tropical South. Spring in this river

#### $\Box Rivers$ around the world are drying up. In such a context, what should we as commoners do to ensure their conservation?

The main thing we all need to do is cherish fresh water and value it. It is an amazing commodity. Use it carefully. All we need to do is to really try and minimise pollution chemical pollution and plastic pollution because fresh water is fine as. The rivers seem to be so giant, such a huge entity but we need to also realise how fragile they are. There are things we need to take care of and respect and I think really value and think of the fresh water you use.

#### The show premieres in India this month. What would your message to the audience?

Having major theories, I really think that rivers really are the life blood of our planet. They carry the ultimate commodity, that makes life that we all depend on which is fresh water and we need to ensure they flow. We need to ensure that they have clean water and we need to prep them so that they can con-tinue to be nice to the lands. Rivers are a true part of our haves and they are vital elements our future, we need them.

(The show premieres on July 29 at 9 pm on Sony BBC Earth.)

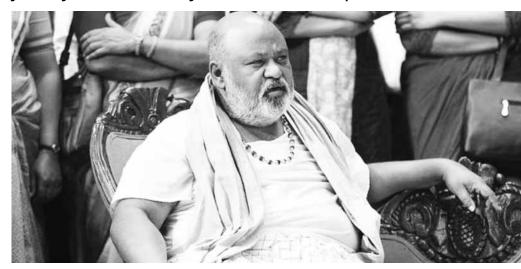




## **CONVERSATION 45 MINUTES**

# A matter of choice

Actor-director SAURABH SHUKLA tells Ayushi Sharma that freshness is coming to the fore today because filmmakers are looking for original content unlike in the yesteryears when they didn't want to experiment for fear of losing the mass market



was 25 years ago when he first came to Mumbai with dreams of becoming an actor. But because of his physique and appearance, actor-director Saurabh Shukla was offered roles which were funny and comic. As he came from a theatre background so he didn't want to do just that. "I have refused a lot of work in my initial years. It makes sense if I do it now. But it did not then. People think I am choosy but back then when I did that, they probably would have thought that I do not have brains." Narrating an instance, he says, "This incident proba-bly sums up my whole journey in the industry. I was coming back from New York. I was at the airport, there were a lot of Indians. Just being in virtue of films and seemingly star-struck, some of them came up to me and said that they are a big fan of mine. You definitely respect that and you have a constant smile on your face. And I can recall a man saying 'Mr Shukla, I am a big fan of yours. I gently thanked him. I moved ahead. But this man came back to me and told me that he wanted to make a correction. He said 'more than you, I am a big fan of your choices.' And that's about it," he says.

And indeed Shukla is known for his extra-ordinary film choices, be it Kallu Mama of Satya, Judge Tripathy of Jolly LLB, Tapasvi Maharaj of PK or an antagonist in Ajay Devgn-starrer Raid. No matter if it's a negative character or a positive one, the actor, who is all set for Family of Thakurganj, knows how to slay it rather effortlessly.

Shukla tells us that he loves acting to

tion matters. So instead of a swanky car, which doesn't take me anywhere, I would rather prefer a simple one, which takes me to different places."

The actor shares that it was the storyline that first fascinated him towards the film. "It has so many characters and that too, very well astounded ones," says he. Another thing that grabbed his attention were its screenplay and dialogues. The language that has been used, he says, is quite ornamental. "Dialogue-baazi *jisse bolte hain,*" he says it as if he was putting it forth as one of his dialogues of a film. He adds, "It has been a tradition in India since the beginning. People still remember Raj Kumar sahab's dailogue, 'Sheeshon ke gharon mein sahab's dailogue, Sneesnon ke gnaron mean rehene vaale log dusron ke gharon par pathar nahi mara karte. Such dialogues stay with the audience and become household phrases. My previous roles have been a lot different. The language has been simpler and realistic. Surely, it also has dialogue-*baazi* but in a very hidden and subtle manner. So, that way, the film is an interesting combination of orna-

mented language played in a realistic way." Shukla has backed films which didn't necessarily have commercial scripts and they have turned out magnificently. So what has been his process of choosing a script? He answers swiftly, "Every actor has a different criteria of picking it. First, the storyline has to be strong. Second, the character. I examine whether my character is interesting and important. Third, you need to know your coactors. Will they be able to reach at a certain point? You need to be one of them and simultaneously shine with them. It's a choice and trust me, it's not an easy one."

There would have been countless theories on evolution and how a person transforms with time. But the actor believes that work cannot be evolution is simply a natural process and one done on a digital cannot plan it. "It takes its own course. We all move towards evolution and it is because of our surroundings and the choices that you make. And in turn, it's always those choices that make us and help us evolve." smile on his face. Talking about how original content has July 19.) become the most important thing for both

another instance, he says, "In 1993, when I came to Mumbai, I wrote for *Satya*, Kamal Haasan, Sudhir Mishra and even Rajat Kapoor. My writing has always been writing has always been appreciated but I never claimed myself as a pro-fessional writer. Me and my friends, Tigmanshu Dhulia, Victor (Vicey Victor (Vijay Krishna Acharya) and Kannan Iyer used to discuss stories together and then go to different producers with our respective stories. We used to tell them that this is our original story ideas and how can we work on it. The producers questioned that why should they do experiments with our stories which are so new and fresh? Please come up with something that has been done earlier. They were afraid to invest in something that might not land them desired results. This was the real issue that we were facing. And then we came up with a strategy. We went to the producers with our original story ideas but tell them that the story was a Romanian film, which no one has seen?

filmmakers as well as actors, and even

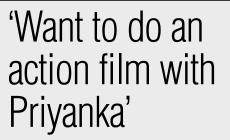
the viewers, Shukla says that it was

not the case previously. Sharing

However, today, he says, the same producers talk about originality. "They tell us that lease come to us with something original and new, which is a great transition. So what we saw and felt decades ago has come alive today," he adds.

The web platform has been allowing many to push boundaries. Shukla agrees. "It's a wonderful space. But one must understand that a medium

is never good or bad. It's the people who make it that through the content. So it's not necessary that bad medium too. It just



A ctress Parineeti Chopra has said that she would love to do an action with her cousin sister Priyanka Chopra Jonas in future.

We would love to do an action film together. We talk a lot about working together in the same film but the subject of the film has to be correct," said Parineeti, when asked if she would like to do a film with Priyanka.

Parineeti was interacting with the media in Mumbai, at the launch of the song, *UP hile* zilla hilela, from her forthcoming film, Jabariya Jodi. Her co-star Sidharth Malhotra and film's director Prashant Singh were also present.

In her new film, Parineeti does a *desi* avatar. When the media pointed out that her cousin Priyanka was known as the original *Desi* Girl, she couldn't agree more. "I think in this industry and in this world, there could be only one *Desi* Girl. I will not try to compete with her (Priyanka Chopra) but Sidharth and I are really desi in this film. I think there is one and only *desi* girl and nobody can take her place," she said. Parineeti Chopra and Sidharth Malhotra

earlier worked together in Hasee Toh Phasee and the big-city audience loved

Jabariya Jodi is set against an entirely different backdrop than the urban landscape of Hasee Toh Phasee and Parineeti admitted she was apprehensive if the audience would accept their new film.

their chemistry in that

film.

"Honestly, before the trailer of this film was launched, I was bit worried. It's totally a new world and we didn't know if *Hasee Toh* Phasee lovers would accept us or not. However, we are actually excited and motivated after the response to the trailer, because the kind of feedback we are getting is really positive. So, now our fingers, legs and arms are crossed. I hope that on August 2, there will be the same madness in the theatres."

The plot of Jabariya Jodi revolves around Abhay Singh (Sidharth Malhotra), who is famous for gets forced weddings done. He is a badass until he

meets and falls in love with Babli Yadav (Parineeti Chopra), who has political ambi

'I love cars. I drive them myself. But more than that, what I love is where a car takes me. The destination matters. So instead of a swanky car, which doesn't take me

anywhere, I would rather prefer a simple one, which takes me to different places'

the core. He feels alive when he's at it. He says, "When I practice my art, I love being the part of the whole process. I have a warm corner towards it. I don't adore anything more than acting, not writing and not even directing." In a bid to put it in a more refined way, he explains, "I love cars. I drive them myself. But more than the cars, what I love is the fact that where the car is taking me. The destina-

depends on the content," says Shukla as he signs off with a huge (The film releases on

tions.

Apart from Sidharth and Parineeti, the film also features Aparshakti Khurana, Sanjay Mishra, Neeraj Sood, Gopal Dutt, Javed Jaffrey, and Chandan Roy Sanyal in pivotal roles. (*The film will release on August 2*)—IANS

## Unlearn to learn

Filmmaker SUJOY GHOSH says he lives in the characters as he writes them

 $\mathbf{N}_{\text{Sujoy}}^{\text{ational award winning filmmaker}}$ mark with Kahaani and Badla, is stepping into the world of web series with his forthcoming show, *Typewriter*.

The process of writing stories for a long format medium such as a web series is quite tough, and Typewriter was a learning process. "I literally had to unlearn so much from my habit of writing the script of a film, which has a duration of just three hours. I have also written a short film, and this (web series) is such a long format of story-telling. I had a hard time in the beginning. The good thing is that now I am done with my first web series, so I can write and direct another one with the ease I do a film. Creatively, I know the path," he added.

A self-taught writer, Sujoy said he would have loved to take all the liberty that a web series normally offers of being experimental, exploitative and indulgent as a creative writer but he avoided the temptation because he did not want to be a 'selfish' one.

"That is why it was important for me to find the right balance and I have to say that the Netflix team helped me to stay at it. I learnt the process in writing," said Sujoy, who, besides his acclaimed feature films, has also won applauds for the short films, Ahalya and Ānukul.

Sujoy does not keep any specific actor in mind while writing a script, and he has his reasons for casting Purab Kohli, Paulami Ghosh, Jisshu Sengupta and a group of children in the show.

"I live in the characters as I write them, so I know their physical appearance, their essence, which I look for in the actors I casts. If Jisshu does not look like (his character) Amit, then as a director it is my failure, because I have to bring out the character through the actor's personality," he explained.

"Purab is very talented and so is from July 19.)

Palomi Ghosh. Her personality has a relatable factor, which worked for the ory," said Sujoy.

However, the director conducted several rounds of auditions and workshops to select the child actors for the show.

"This is the first time I worked with children, so for me it was a new experience. I never worked with a child artist before apart from Aarna Sharma."

"In fact, I wanted to cast Aarna in Kahaani 2 but that did not happen. For the other children on the show, I held workshops to decide the right group of kids who would be interactive," shared the filmmaker who has worked with iconic actors such as Amitabh Bachchan, Soumitra Chatterjee, Saurabh Shukla, Parambrata Chatterjee and Vidya Balan.

(The show premieres on Netflix -IANS

Waiting excitedly for the show to begin in the cozy and intimate indoor auditorium of the Akshara, the somewhat young-looking audience spent most of their time taking pictures of the beautiful set-up on the small wooden stage, under dulcet lighting. A divan covered in a white sheet accompanied by two white bolsters sat in between two tall white candles, which heightened the intensity once the show began. Two decorative silver bowls had been placed on either sides of the *divan*, which all three pairs of Dastangos (narrators) drank water from, regularly. An enthusiastic and responsive audience helped the storytellers gain confidence with occasional laughs and applause. What seemed to be a mixed audience, in terms of age, enjoyed every bit of the *dastaans* or stories and ended with them making plans of them wanting to attend the Dastangoi Summer Festival at the Akshara.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the word, *Dastangoi* simply means the art of storytelling. Derived from two Persian words dastan and goi that mean simply "to tell a dastan." A dastan was an epic about adventure, magic and warfare, which were usually recited or read aloud. In this tradition, the story of Hamza seemed to stand out early on. The Persian versions of the story narrated the life and adventures of Amir Hamza, supposedly an uncle of the Prophet Mohammed. Marked out by fairies, djinns and prophecies, Hamza travels to different lands and even as a young child shows great skill and courage. Summoned by the chief minister of the King of Persia due to his proficiency, to aid the King in his troubles, encountering many journeys, beings, species and realms, Hamza remains victorious and unvanquished right to the end.

Akbar was very fond of the to the Hamza story. The next two

## A good old story

An evening of *Dastangoi* transports YASHNA SHETTY to a world of fairies, diinns and prophecies where she finds contemporary relevance



narrative and would recite it himself. In fact, one of the first artistic projects under him was an illustrated version of the Hamza story, which came to be known as Hamzanama. It was a mammoth task which consisted of over 1,200 folios, each at least a yard and a half by a yard in size, making it a one of a kind project. Nothing of that size, ambition or scale was ever attempted again by the Mughal Empire, with regard

**'THE TRADITION OF** DASTANGOI IS FAR FROM DYING. IT GIVES **US AN OPPORTUNITY** TO EXPERIMENT WITH THE WAY WE NARRATE STORIES

centuries saw various Persian versions of the Hamza story circulated in India, with an occasional mention of the Dastangos, who performed them. While the Hamza story was performed and recited in many other parts of the Islamic world, in places as far away as Morocco and Indonesia, in most other places it was a part of a musical story-telling tradition. The Dastangoi Collective

was founded by Shamsur is also done on the same basis?

Rahman Faruqi, Mahmood Farooqui and Anusha Rizvi around 2005. Mir Baqar Ali, who passed away in 1928, is said to be the last greatest Dastango of Delhi. Farooqui tells us how he revived the tradition during a performance with his school friend. "We now have around 50 to 60 people in the country who are properly trained in the art of ancient Urdu story-telling or Dastangoi. We are very happy to see it growing. People are doing it in Pakistan and just the other day I got a call from someone in Nagpur, who informed me that he was doing it there," says he.

Senior dastango, Poonam Girdhani tells us that she started her life as a theatre actress but she finds Dastangoi a very flexible format to work in, both as a performer and in terms of the storytelling. For instance, she says, "I recently incorporated the story of Buddha into a dastan. You can easily spin stories around contemporary politics and happenings as well, which makes it an exciting form to work in."

Farooqui says that the response from the audience seems to be very supporting, warm as well as encouraging. "On the first day of the festival, we had a totally new and quite young audience, who weren't well-versed in Urdu at all, yet they were receptive and supportive. It's so wonderful to see youngsters supporting and showing enthusiasm. We usually conduct workshops where we are able to select a few people. However, Dastangoi needs years of practice and cannot be done in simply two months," he adds. Farooqui further tells us that the tradition is far from dying and gives us an opportunity to experiment with the way we narrate stories. "The Veda, Ramayana, Mahabharata were all meant to be recited aloud and Dastangoi



## **CricketCradle**





rohitsharma45 We failed to deliver as a team when it mattered, 30 minutes of poor cricket vesterday & that inatched away our chance for the cup. My heart is heavy as I'm sure yours is too. The support away from home was incredible. Thank you all for painting most of uk blue wherever we played 🎞

Rohit Sharma acknowledged that India "failed to deliver when it mattered" in the lost WC semifinal clash against NZ, saying his "heart is heavy" after the disappointment

### TREVOR'S TIME IS UP

Eingland head coach Trevor Bayliss has no intention of staying in the job, even if his side go on to win the World Cup and the Ashes. Australian Bayliss, 56, is set to step down at the end of his current deal in September. "I have always been a believer that four or five years is long enough, whether you are doing well or not," Bayliss told *BBC radio*. "It is time for a new voice for the boys, to hopefully take them to another level."

#### KUMAR, ERASMUS NAMED FINAL UMPIRES

Sri Lanka's Kumar Dharmasena and Marias Erasmus of South Africa were on Friday appointed as the on-field umpires for the World Cup final between hosts England and New Zealand at the iconic Lord's on Sunday. Australia's Rod Tucker will be the third umpire while Pakistan's Aleem Dar will be the fourth official, the ICC said in a statement. Sri Lanka's Ranjan Madugalle will be the match referee for the summit clash. All the officials appointed for the final were also in charge of the second semifinal between England and Australia.

### WILLIAMSON IN NEW ZEALAND GREATEST

Martin Crowe's batting was grace personi-fied and had he been alive, he would have been the first one to acknowledge that Kane Williamson probably is the greatest batsman to have played for New Zealand, feels former wicketkeeper Ian Smith. From Bert Sutcliffe in the 50's to Bevan Congdon and Glenn Turner through the 60's and 70's and Crowe in 80's, unarguably New Zealand's best player of reverse swing, Williamson with his stylish batting and able leadership has surpassed them all, according to 62-year-old Smith. "Kane is so highly ranked in the world, so it's no surprise that he is seriously highly ranked in New Zealand too. Probably our best player and when you combine leadership with it, I think we can safely say so," Smith said. "I was a great friend of Martin Crowe I think even Martin would have acknowledged that Kane is pretty special, and it's hard to deny that" said Smith, who was a part of New Zealand team that reached semi-final in 1992.

## **Stead banks on Kiwi steeliness** Pressure more on England, says NZ head coach

#### PNS LONDON

he New Zealand head coach Gary Stead gives his team a 50/50 chance at the Sunday Final when the Black Caps take on resurgent hosts England at The Lord's Cricket Ground. We are giving ourselves a 50/50

chance of winning and we have to be just a little bit better than England are on Sunday," he said.

This will be the second successive World Cup Final for the New Zealand team after 2015 which they lost to eventual champions Australia.

New Zealand, tagged as the eternal underdogs by the media and the Bering community had on 2015 sagged under the big moment pressure but this time round, Stead says his team is better equipped. Sounds true when one would see the way they handled it against the intense semi-final against India.

'It's pressure on both teams, it is how you handle that and what's made of it. The exciting thing is neither team has won a World Cup ... you are going to have a different winner than last time ... but India and England were the two who were touted as winners then maybe there is more pressure on them, " he said.

Gary Stead was earlier a ground staff at Lord's where he will now guide his team to pick up the king's pie on Sunday but he cherishes his run back then when he cleaned dressing room windows or was on scoreboard box duty as part of his job.

It is as. If an occasion for New Zealand as it will be for England when the two sides will fight out the final battle at the Mecca of cricket this Sunday. The game to be telecast

free to air in both countries where rugby scores over all else, is being touted as the biggest boost to the game. New Žealand being several time zones away from the real action, will be tuning into the Sunday Final at 9.30

**KnightWriter** 

**By HEATHER KNIGHT** 



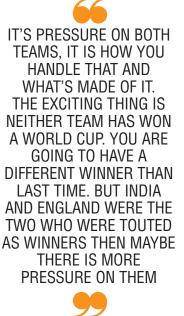
New Zealand's coach Gary Stead, centre, supervises a practice session ahead of the World Cup final match between England and New Zealand at Lord's AP

pm which means an entire night out. <sup>m</sup>Many people can stay up late and Monday will be a public holiday back home because most of New Zealand will be up watching the game," he said.

But for now he is focused on the last of the three key goals that had been set for the team to navigate this biggest tournament of cricket. "There is a fight and steeliness in the way we have played. We

don't have to play the perfect game but what we do have to do is to be able to adapt to the conditions in front of us sometimes working out a 240 is a good score," he

said. Stead invested a lot of confidence in the Kiwi middle order "especially with the likes of Kane (Williamson) and



Ross (Taylor)", he said.

"We have seven guys who were part of that squad so we will certainly lean on their experiences."

But at the end of the day, if we strip everything back it is a game of cricket .... there will be a winner at the end of it. There will be loser at the end of it you will have one team that will be happy and one team that will be disappointed so we are trying to keep things as real as we can" Stead said.

For Stead, this World Cup was never about 300 plus scores something which he had said at the beginning of the tournament. And this came through in the semifinal against India too.

Gary is mighty pleased about the way the semi final panned out against India. "A lot of characteristics we talked about within our team came through,' he said.

"When we started the game, we thought it was a game of 300 but we quickly worked out that maybe 250 we would be happy to get to ... the opening bowling spell of Matt Henry and Trent

Boult was absolutely superb. The Indian bowlers bowled to us upfront as well but we took the edges and got some edges there which put us on the front foot but I guess it was a little bit of a game of attrition as well so never thought we would blast them outright the way through but 240 was good knowing the way our guys struggled with the bat," Stead said. He was all praise for the partnership

of Jadeja and Dhoni and said it "was outstanding and it was also a very good example of our guys withstood the pressure," he said. New Zealand have been up and

down in the tournament but Stead is happy that as a team they worked on three key goals. "We have achieved two of them now we have just one to go," he said

In an all out defence of underperforming star Michael Guptill who has been having a horrible tournament so far with the bat, Gary said: "There are no promises in cricket but I am still confident that the man has big match experience under his belt, he has big hundreds in New Zealand and he has done it in England in the past as well. Hopefully he can show what's on offer on Sunday," he added.

Stead is well aware of the hostility of the English bowlers when the two teams meet in the Final. "I don't see anything friendly in the middle when bowlers are coming at you at 150 km per hour speed. Both teams will really play the game real-ly hard in the middle," he said.

In the semi final against India the wicket really suited Mitchell Santner and then those guys who could come into the wicket and bowl quite fast ... there was enough variation. "The spinners who attack the stumps are a little bit more dangerous. Mitchell's spell of 2 for 6 or was unbelievable and world class bowling. But it still shows when Jadeja came hard at them you need to be brave.'

Talking of Santner withstanding all the pressure, Stead said: "He is a special bowler for us. He has really good control of line and length and his ability in T20 cricket helps him in the longer game as well," Stead said.

For Stead it has been particularly satisfying to have won a lot of tight games like the ones against Bangladesh, West Indies and India. "It's been a number that could have gone either way," he said.

Poms gaining momentum at the right time

#### LUCKY TO GET DIRECT HIT

It was called a game-changing moment of brilliance but New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill says his direct hit that ran out M S Dhoni in the World Cup semifinal against India was more a case of luck doing its bit for him. With that run out in the 49th over, India's hopes ended in the tense semifinal at Old Trafford on Wednesday. The former champions went down by 18 runs against the last edition's finalists. "I did not think the ball was actually coming to me, I tried to get there as soon as I could. Once I got hold of the ball, I thought it was actually quite straight. Lucky enough to get a direct hit from out there, lucky for us he was out of his ground," Guptill said in a short video uploaded by the ICC on social media.

#### **BEYOND IMAGINATION**

A euphoric England captain Eoin Morgan says he never imagined that his side would be making its first World Cup final in 27 years after the disappointing preliminary stage exit it endured in the 2015 edition. "Everybody out there on the field and even in the changing room loved every ball that was bowled. There was no lack of commitment, application and we had a bit of a day out which, it's cool when it happens like that, particularly when the bowlers bowl like that, it is awesome," Morgan said. "I think as a team we have learnt to enjoy ourselves, particularly days like this, even if they don't go well. If you had offered us the position to play in a final the day after we were knocked out of the 2015 World Cup, I would have laughed at you," he quipped.

### FANS WARNED OVER FINAL TICKETS

ricket World Cup chiefs on Friday warned Cfans wishing to attend the final at Lord's between England and New Zealand against paying thousands of pounds on secondary ticket websites. The prospect of witnessing the host nation make history has led to a frenzied demand for tickets, with some put up for sale on unofficial resale platforms. The cost of many of the tickets exceed \$1,250 while some are upwards of \$5,000. The International Cricket Council reiterated its stance that it is "actively monitoring and taking action" against those trying to sell on secondary platforms. Cricket's governing body warned it can "cancel the accounts and tickets we see being sold on secondary sites" and that the only way supporters can guarantee a ticket is through the official resale site.

AGENCIES



England's captain Eoin Morgan celebrates with Joe Root after winning the World Cup semi-final AP

chase

bowled

uthless and relentless Rwith both bat and ball, England should be full of confidence after their semi-final victory over Australia

It was great to watch them do what they do best, they didn't show any signs of nerves and started really well which helps you settle, both as an

individual and as a team. They didn't really give Australia a sniff and that's so impressive - our semi-final from the 2017 ICC Women's World Cup was a nail-biter, but this performance was really comprehensive. În tournament crick-

et it's about gaining momentum and having that confidence going into the most important matches. They were obviously

going to be anxious but they were outstanding and got into the game from the start.

They perhaps wouldn't have wanted to chase if Eoin Morgan had won the toss but the way Jason Roy and Jonny Bairstow start-

ed, taking time to assess the conditions and then striking the ball superbly, it was excellent.

Setting a platform was always going to be the way of denying the Aussies a sniff in what could have been a tricky It was a good toss to for that final.

lose in the end, there was a little bit of moisture in the surface and Chris Woakes and Jofra Archer beautifully

superbly to make the most of it. The first ball went for

four but from ball two they found the lengths, got consistent movement do best. and were able to do lots of

damage. (Morgan) Eoin looked to have a really good game as captain, he

attacked a lot, kept coming at the Australians and they were always fighting against the start. England were relent-

less, and it was really nice to see Adil Rashid get three wickets as well. He's been a bit

unlucky this tournament but for him to be firing is a real plus for England. It does turn at Lord's and with the slope as well, he could really important England seem to be

in a very different place to the side that lost against Australia at Lord's. The confidence levels seem really different, they had a sit down and

worked things out and they've managed to go back to doing what they They're committed

to how they want to play their cricket, how they want to be positive, smart and aggressive and we're

seeing that pay off now. In a weird way those losses might have help them re-focus a little bit, and get back to what's been so successful for them.

The way England have been playing in their last three games, they've effectively had three knockouts and they've put in their best performances.

As a captain it's always a nervy one when you head to the knockouts. You don't know how everyone is going to go you're the one everyone looks at to steer the ship, be very clear on the direction of the team and it's a tricky job.

Morgan does that very well with the bat and in the field, he backs his bowlers and wants them to pursue positive options.

England have so many match-winners, from 1-11 they have someone who can win them a game. And when you have that, it takes the pressure off everyone if it's not your day then the odds suggest that someone else will come in and back you up.

England are in a realgood place, they've had three knockout games which they've won and they'll take so much confidence going into the final.

They'll probably be favourites but they'll be brimming with confidence, they'll have the nerves of an occasion they've never been in before.

But when they're playing cricket like they did against Australia, it's an exciting time to be a player and supporter. Courtesy- © ICC

Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



Jofra Archer fields during the WC match between Kiwis and England in Durham

## Date with destiny

### LONDON

 $F^{\rm rom}_{\rm does \ not \ seem \ to \ be \ affected}$ by nerves and according to the man himself that is true of this

entire England team. Archer set the ball rolling with his very first delivery of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup semi-final victory over Australia, trapping Aaron Finch leg before for a duck as England marched to an eight-wicket win at Edgbaston.

The success was as comprehensive as it was impressive with Archer later shaking up Alex Carey with a rapid bouncer and then removing Glenn Maxwell just as the big-hitting all-rounder was preparing to tee off.

Ând for Archer, it was clear from the moment the team got together on Thursday that they would be ready for England's first ICC Men's Cricket World Cup semi-final in 27 years.

He said: "I'm really calm. You got that feeling, even when we were at breakfast, I don't think anyone looked nervous. I might be wrong.

"Everyone just looked focused from the time we got into the ground. It's those little things that make you think the guys are ready.

"I've always been like this. I try not to get nervous because then you do things you are not meant to do. The calmer you are, the better you are in a situation."

It has been a remarkable rise for Archer, who only made his international bow against Ireland

at the start of May. He finished with figures of 2/32 from his ten overs in this game, but the fast bowler insists personal glory takes a back seat to the team's success in reaching the final against New Zealand at Lord's.

He added: "It hasn't sunk in just yet. I'm just happy to play games and win games.

"We probably would have batted first. Personally I like to bowl first and get the work done. Emotions were definitely flying after that (first wicket). Everyone looked a lot more focused and switched on.

"I'm just glad the team is doing well. I could be doing terribly but as long as the team is winning, I'm alright.

"It's been mixed feelings at Lord's. Sometimes I do ok, sometimes I don't do as well as I'd like. Hopefully Sunday goes England's way, not just my way but England's way.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

