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Fans sad at Chandrayaan delay

Moon mission put off 1 hour before launch due to snag, experts hail ISRO's timely decision

PTI ■ SRIHARIKOTA

India's second mission to the Moon — Chandrayaan-2 — was called off due to a "technical snag" in its most powerful rocket a little less than an hour before launch from a spaceport here in the early hours of Monday. Scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) were assessing the seriousness of the problem with the heavy-lift rocket GSLV Mk-III carrying the satellite that put a halt to the ambitious Rs 976 crore lunar mission amid uncertainty over a future launch date.

The ISRO was tightlipped as to what may have caused the glitch that occurred when liquid propellant was being loaded into the rocket's indigenous cryogenic upper stage engine. But several space scientists said the space agency must be appreciated for calling off the launch of rather than hurrying into a major disaster. Despite the odd hour, enthusiasts of all ages reached the island, some of them travelling long distances on two wheelers, to witness the proud moment. The men, women and children waiting at a spe-



A view of the Chandrayaan-2 on board GSLV Mk-III at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Nellore district

PTI

cial gallery, set up recently by ISRO, left the venue disappointed as the mission did not go as expected. ISRO had set up the gallery — inaugurated by Chairman K Sivan a few months ago — on the sprawling Sriharikota premises as the number of spectators turning up to witness launches has been increasing over time. "We do not know what happened but we are disappointed. I

hope they rectify whatever the issue is. We will come back again to witness the launch," said a young boy, holding aloft the tricolour, who had come with his family. A man standing nearby said it was good scientists had called off the launch when the rocket was still on the ground. "If it had gone into space and something had happened there, the huge amount of money

spent on the mission would have gone to waste," he said. Watched by President Ram Nath Kovind, the countdown to the launch of Chandrayaan-2 on board Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle GSLV-Mk-III, dubbed as "Baahubali", was scheduled for 2.51 am on Monday. The mission was stopped 56 minutes and 24 seconds before lift-off at 1.55 am following an announcement

from the Mission Control Centre. Confusion prevailed for several minutes before the ISRO came out with an official confirmation about the launch being cancelled.

A technical snag was observed in the launch vehicle system at t-minus 56 minutes. As a measure of abundant precaution Chandrayaan 2 launch has been called off for today," ISRO Associate Director (Public Relations) BR Guruprasad said. He did not specify the nature of the snag. A revised launch date will be announced later, he added.

"Launch is called off due to technical snag. It is not possible to make the launch within the (launch) window. (A new) launch schedule will be announced later," another ISRO official said. India's space agency had earlier scheduled the launch in the first week of January but shifted it to July 15. The lift-off of the three-component spacecraft weighing 3,850 kg and comprising an orbiter, the lander and the rover was scheduled from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, off the coast of Andhra Pradesh.

The satellite was supposed to explore the uncharted lunar south pole, 11 years after ISRO's successful first lunar mission — Chandrayaan-1, which made more than 3,400 orbits around the moon and was operational for 312 days till August 29, 2009. It would have taken 54 days to accomplish the task of landing on the Moon through meticulously planned orbital phases.

House to seal HDK Govt's fate on July 18

SC to take call on resignation of 16 rebel MLAs today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI/BENGALURU

Battling for survival after the resignation of 16 MLAs, the Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) coalition Government in Karnataka will face the floor test in the Assembly on Thursday. Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy had announced he would seek a trust vote to end the "confusion" caused by the resignations of rebel MLAs, while asserting he was "ready for everything".

The fate of all the 16 rebel legislators who have approached the Supreme Court is expected to be decided on Tuesday. Leaders of the ruling coalition led by Congress expressed confidence to win the trust vote, while Opposition BJP maintained the Government has been reduced to "a minority" after 16 MLAs resigned from the Assembly.

As the political turmoil lingered on with the ruling coalition making frantic efforts to win back rebels who have pushed the Government to the brink of collapse, Assembly Speaker KR Ramesh Kumar on Monday announced that the confidence motion sought to be moved by Kumaraswamy would be taken up at 11 am on July 18.

With the support of the



Karnataka Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy and his deputy G Parameshwara with other members during the Assembly session at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Monday

PTI

two independents, the BJP has 107 MLAs in the 224-member House, where the half-way mark is 113. If the resignations of the 16 MLAs are accepted, the coalition's tally will be reduced to 100.

The date has been fixed after consulting both the Opposition and ruling coalition leaders at the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting. The disgruntled MLAs are in Mumbai and have not turned up for the Assembly proceedings, which began on Friday last.

Rebel MLAs have also written to the Mumbai Police chief saying they don't want to meet senior Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge, Ghulam Nabi Azad or any other Congress leaders. Their move

came amid speculation that Kharge, some other senior Congress leaders and Kumaraswamy may visit Hotel Renaissance in Powai where the rebel MLAs are sequestered, to win them back.

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear a plea of five more rebel Congress MLAs, along with the pending petition of 10 legislators, seeking a direction to the Karnataka Assembly Speaker to accept their resignation.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi took note of the submission of senior advocate Mukul Rohtagi, appearing for the rebel MLAs, that they also made parties to the pending petition, which is to be heard on Tuesday.

World Cup final mired in ICC rule controversies

Former umpires, cricketers rap 6 runs in overthrow, boundary-count rule

PTI ■ NEW DELHI/LONDON/MELBOURNE

After cricketers, current and former, shared New Zealand's pain in losing the World Cup title on boundary countback with tournament top-scorer Rohit Sharma asking for a "serious look" into the rule, which was slammed as "absurd" by several former players, England skipper Eoin Morgan said players "do not have control over the rules" set by the ICC.

Earlier, when New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson was asked if the rule was a fair way to decide a World Cup final winner, he admitted it was hard to swallow. "I suppose you never thought you would have to ask that question and I



England's Ben Stokes holds up his hands apologetically after getting 6 runs from an overthrow during the Cricket World Cup final match on Sunday

AP

never thought I would have to answer it (smiling)," was Williamson's reaction.

Meanwhile, former international umpires Simon Taufel and K Hariharan on Monday said officials standing in the World Cup final erred in awarding six runs, instead of five, to England for an overthrow, an observation that the ICC refused to comment on. "It's a clear mistake. It's an error of judgment. They

(England) should have been awarded five runs, not six," Taufel, a five-time ICC Umpire of the Year, told foxsports.Com.Au.

In a pulsating encounter in the final, England were adjudged the winners of the world Cup on the basis of their superior boundary count — 22 fours and two sixes — to New Zealand's 16 after the epic final, and also the ensuing Super Over, ended in a tie.

Kalraj Mishra appointed HP Governor

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Senior BJP leader Kalraj Mishra was on Monday appointed the Governor of Himachal Pradesh, replacing Acharya Devvrat, who has been transferred and appointed the Governor of Gujarat.

A Rashtrapati Bhavan press communique said the appointment of Mishra and Devvrat will come into effect from the dates they assume charge of their respective offices.

Mishra, 78, had resigned from the Narendra Modi-led Government as Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in 2017 after he crossed the age of 75, the BJP's unofficial age limit for holding an elected post.

The Uttar Pradesh leader did not contest the last Lok Sabha election.

Devvrat, 60, was appointed the Governor of Himachal Pradesh in 2015.

He will replace Governor of Gujarat OP Kohli, who retires on Monday.



Monsoon to intensify in Delhi on Thursday

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

Due to change in wind direction, Delhi and its adjoining States witnessed a fresh spell of monsoon rain on Monday. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said as warm and dry westerly winds have been replaced by humid easterly winds and with the formation of cloud, rain has occurred over Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR).

Since the onset of monsoon on July 5, the national Capital has recorded 54.2 mm rainfall — only 1.4 mm precipitation occurred in first five days of the month.

The intensity of rain in Delhi-NCR will increase on July 18, said IMD.

MeT scientist for Delhi Airport Dr Rajendra Jenamani said the overall rain at Palam was recorded 26 mm.

Safadarjung observatory recorded 29 mm rain, Ayanagar 20mm, Delhi Ridge 13 mm, and Lodi Road 23.2mm. The humidity level in Delhi shot up to 78 per cent.

In a weekly weather forecast, light rain and thunderstorm activities are expected on July 16, however, MeT has also



Vehicles ford a road flooded with rainwater in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

predicted heavy rain from July 18 to July 21.

The maximum temperature in Delhi was recorded 35 degrees Celsius, three degrees Celsius departure from normal, and minimum at 27 degrees

Celsius. Private forecaster Skymet said, "This change in the weather conditions can be attributed to the trough that has already started to travel in the south direction from the

foothills of the Himalayas." Other parts of the northern plains — southwest UP, Punjab, Haryana, and North Rajasthan — will also get to see rain and thundershower activities in the coming days.

LS OK's Bill to give more teeth to NIA

Agency powered to probe terror attacks on Indians abroad

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After a heated debate, the Lok Sabha on Monday passed the National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which allows the NIA to probe terror attacks on Indians and Indian interests abroad.

Refuting Opposition's claims of "misuse" of the NIA law, Home Minister Amit Shah asserted that the Modi Government will never abuse it to target anyone but will ensure that terrorism is finished off irrespective of the religion of the accused.

Replying to the queries of

Opposition MPs on Pakistan's reluctance to sign the SAARC agreement to co-operate in cases on terrorism and relevance of amendment to the NIA law, Shah told the Lok Sabha that India has several means, including surgical and airstrikes, to deal with Pakistan.

"I am sure that Pakistan would also have to sign that agreement under international pressure," he said.

Defending the Bill, the Government refuted Opposition's allegations of "misuse" of the NIA law to target members of a community, and stressed that people have given the mandate to the Government to protect the country from terrorism. Opposition MPs accused the anti-terror law is misused at times to target members of a particular community.

Ashvamedha bestows fame on this village

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) way back in 1950s, Jagatgram village, the 2,000-year-old site in Dehradun associated with the ancient practice of horse sacrifice or the ritual of Ashvamedha, has been finally declared a monument of national importance.

Ashvamedha rituals find mention in epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata as well as many other ancient texts. Ashvamedha was conducted by kings to prove their imperial sovereignty.

An official in the ASI said the site known as Jagatgram has remains of three fire altars where the horse sacrifices were presumably conducted. "As it will be now under the ASI fold, efforts will now be on its conservation and protection," said the official.

The excavated remains of



the three fire altars here reveal that they were built in the eagle-shaped Syena Chiti form, where the bird is depicted with its wings spread. According to

experts, such altars are extremely rare.

In the period between the first and fifth century AD, Jagatgram and adjoining places

like Haripur and Lakhmandal were under the rule of the Verman clan. An inscription on the first altar says King Silavaraman, alias Pona of

CAPSULE

NO HELMET NO ENTRY ON LUCKNOW-AGRA E-WAY
Lucknow: In a bid to ensure the security of motorcyclists, no two-wheeler rider will be allowed entry on the Lucknow-Agra expressway without helmets, the Uttar Pradesh Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) decided on Monday.

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Alert in low lying areas as Ganga nears danger mark

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

With torrential rains hitting the plains and mountainous areas for the past four days, the water level of Ganga and its tributaries has started rising approaching close to the danger mark on Monday.

The Haridwar district administration has sounded an alert in villages of the Lakshar Tehsil adjacent to the Ganga and Solani rivers and the flood posts have also been alerted. In Ramsahaywala village, the water of seasonal river had entered the houses so administration has directed evacuation of villages in low lying areas.

Due to water logging at main crossings of the city and collapse of Kotawali bridge on Haridwar Najibabad highway, people faced traffic congestion on Sunday and Monday morning. With prediction of heavy rainfall during the day, the schools remained closed in the district on Monday.

The mountain regions of the state have received spells of heavy rain since the beginning of July. For past three days, the plains have also been experiencing intermittent showers on account of which the water level of the Ganga is on rise.

The upper Ganga canal SDO Vikrant Saini said, "The Ganga water level reached

Intense rain forecast in isolated places

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State Meteorological Centre has forecast the possibility of intense rain in isolated places today. Light to moderate rainfall is expected in majority of places across the State.

In Dehradun, one or two spells of rain can also occur on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum temperatures of the city are likely to be around 28 degree Celsius and

21 degree Celsius respectively. Meanwhile, the maximum and minimum temperatures recorded in the various places on Monday were 30.4 degree Celsius and 21.8 degree Celsius respectively in Dehradun, 30.5 degree Celsius and 23.6 degree Celsius in Pantnagar, 19.8 degree Celsius and 14 degree Celsius in Mukteshwar and 21.8 degree Celsius and 15.4 degree Celsius respectively in New Tehri.

Dallawala, Jogawala, Sherpur Bela, Rampur Raighati, Dabki Kheda and others. In the villages which surround the Kotawali and Solani rivers, several hectares of land is used as agricultural land by the farmers. With the heavy flow of water, the embankments are breached at places and water enters the fields.

The people's representatives and 'Apada Mitras' have been deputed for 24 hours in turns especially in Raiyasi, Bhikkampur, Govardhanpur and Madabela flood relief Chowkis, said the SDM.

MCD aims to improve Swachchh ranking in 2020

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The first stage of the three-stage Swachchh Survekshan 2020 has already started in the month of July. Dehradun mayor Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' said that necessary steps will be taken to improve the ranking of the city in this national survey this time.

Past surveys were conducted during December-January considering which urban local bodies used to work on sanitation mainly during the survey period.

However, this time the ranking will be given according to the cleanliness maintained by the ULBs throughout the year.

For this the first stage has already started while the second will be conducted in September-October followed by the third stage in December-January.

The mayor said, "The Survekshan this time is being done in three stages and our officials have been issued directions accordingly. Some steps have also been taken by us like covering the dustbins in the city."

We will work to roll up the ranking of the city." It should be noted that in 2017 Dehradun secured 316th position which rose to 259 in 2018. However, in 2019 the position of Dehradun dropped down to 384th position.

MCD collects Government land data from 23 wards

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In the past two board meetings of the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD), officials have been bringing proposals for using MCD land for commercial purposes.

However, the data so far had not been collected from all the newly added wards. Data from only 23 out of 40 new wards has been collected so far. An official in charge said, "We are taking the government land data from all the Gram Panchayats which used to work in these wards earlier. Government land data from 23 wards has been collected by us so far."

The data on government land has been collected from Laspur, Nanurkheda, Nehrugram, Natthanpur, N a k r o n d a, T u n w a l a, S u n d e r w a l a, R a i p u r, H a r r a w a l a, M i y a w a l a, M a j r i m a f i, M o h k a m p u r, K u a w a l a, B a d r i p u r, B a l a w a l a, M o t h o r a w a l a, B a n j a r a w a l a, B a n j a r a w a l a (M a f i), C h a l a n g,



Danda Khudenwala, Vijaypur and Mangluwala areas so far.

It is pertinent to mention that the MCD has been suffering from staff shortage for quite some time now. There is only one Patwari for 100

wards. Mayor Sunil Uniyal 'Gama' said, "We are trying to collect the data on the government land in the new wards however we have a shortage of staff. There is only one Patwari for 100 wards which is why it is difficult for us to collect the data on time. However, the work is in progress and we have collected the data from some of the wards."

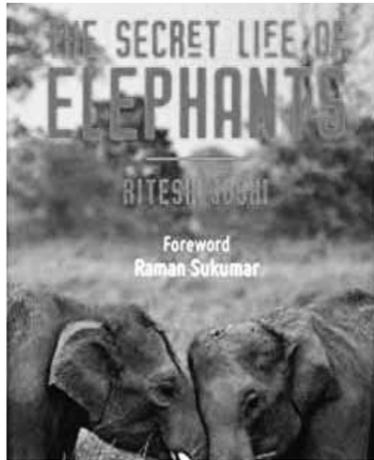
A unique glimpse into life of jumbos

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Those interested in wildlife, especially elephants have a new book to read which brings with it a refreshing perspective and insightful look in to the world of the Asian elephant. The Secret Life of Elephants, a book by Ritesh Joshi, a scientist with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, has been brought out by Natraj Publishers.

A unique and unusual blend of field work, anecdotes, observations and research on the lesser known behaviour patterns of the Asian elephants, the book written in an easy style is interesting both for the experts and laypersons.

The book's foreword has been written by noted ecologist Raman Sukumar, a professor at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, best known for his work on the ecology of the Asian elephant and human-wildlife conflict. He states, "The more you observe



elephants, the more you realise how much more there is to learn about this wonder-

fully adaptive creature. Who could have thought that this giant was capable of acrobatic feats which would do a circus artiste proud? Who could have guessed that elephants possibly grieve for the dead?" He further states, "Ritesh Joshi has been observing elephants in the Rajaji national park and its environs of Uttarakhand for over a decade."

During this period he has observed several rare behaviours such as elephants examining a dead companion's remains, or adaptive behaviours such as thoughtfully navigating roads, bridges and other infrastructure."

The book comprises five chapters on subjects including Rajaji national park, social behaviour of the Asian elephant, rare responses of Asian elephants to their environment, some unforgettable incidents and future of the lord of the jungle. The book dedicated by the author to the elephants of the Shivallik elephant reserve is a must read for lovers of wildlife and nature.

UTC revises fares in view of Kanwad Mela

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Due to the Kanwad Mela, the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation (UTC) has introduced a new tariff plan for the roadways buses operating on Dehradun-Delhi route.

The new tariff plan will see a hike of ₹ 75 in Volvo buses, ₹ 65 in AC buses and ₹ 45 in ordinary buses. The plan will be applicable from July 25 till the evening of July 31.

UTC General Manager (operation) Deepak Jain said, "The new plan will be applicable from July 25 and then on the evening of July 31 it will be reversed, as buses will have to take a longer route due to Kanwad Mela. Passengers have been informed about the hike."

It is pertinent to mention here that due to the movement of Kanwadias from July 17, the Dehradun-Meerut-Delhi high-

DG reviews preparations for Mela

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

Chairing a review meeting ahead of Kanwad Mela here on Monday, the director general (law and order) Ashok Kumar said that state police is geared up for the Kanwad Mela which is officially beginning from Tuesday.

He said closure of Lakshman Jhula in Rishikesh by PWD was a major challenge which the police will have to face while managing traffic this year. Speaking to the media persons he said that strict vigilance will be maintained during the Kanwad Mela while at sensitive locations extra check posts have will

be set up. With about three crore visitors expected in the Kanwad Mela, 29 police support centres have been made to facilitate the pilgrims.

Talking about the challenges during the fair he said earlier Kanwadias going towards Neelkanth Mahadev temple in Rishikesh used to cross from Lakshman Jhula and return from Ram Jhula but this time since Lakshman Jhula is closed the Ram Jhula will be used as entry point and the barrage route will be used as the return route. The biggest challenge will come in the last two days when Dak Kanwad begins since Ram Jhula does not suffice for motorbike Kanwadias who come in major numbers.

way will be crowded, which is why the transport department has diverted the route for roadways buses from Wednesday.

They have also appealed private vehicle owners to take the alternate route. From July 25, roadways

buses going to Delhi will be taking a longer route via Paonta Sahib and Karnal. This route will be nearly 63 kilometres extra than the routine.

Earlier the buses used to take the route via Saharanpur and Devband, but due to

increasing number of crowd there the route has been diverted towards Devband.

It is also important to mention here that the buses going from Haridwar and Rishikesh to Delhi will be taking the route via Bijnor.

Authorities to verify Pak origin woman's story

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Pakistan native and purported US citizen, Farida Malik was arrested and sent to jail under the Foreigners Act 1946 and Passport Act recently. According to Champawat Superintendent of Police (SP) Dheerendra Gunjyal the lady is under investigation and the police will be taking action as per the orders of the court. The woman has already been interrogated by Intelligence Bureau (IB), Local Intelligence Unit

(LIU), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and local police among other agencies.

According to the official sources this is not the first instance that someone with no passport and Visa has tried to cross into India through the international border with Nepal. Some do it intentionally while some do it unknowingly. Agencies have started to verify the details provided by the accused Farida Malik and the embassies concerned are also being contacted.

Expedite construction of medical colleges: Secy

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Taking cognizance in delay in construction works currently in progress in different medical colleges of the State, the secretary, medical education, Nitesh Jha has warned the work executing agency, the Uttar Pradesh Rajkeeya Nirman Nigam Limited (UPRNNL) to expedite the pending works.

The secretary reviewed the progress of the construction of buildings of medical colleges of Dehradun, Haldwani and Srinagar on Monday. It was observed that construction work in the Government Doon Medical College was going on at a snail's pace.

The general manager of the UPRNNL, Arvind Tiwari and project manager D S Rana informed the secretary that the DPR of the project is needed to be revised. On it the secre-



tary asked the director medical education to re-examine the works assigned to UPRNNL. After the meeting the secretary visited the under construction building of the GDMC and gave detailed instructions to the officials concerned. He expressed his strong objection on witnessing the defacement of the newly constructed OPD block and directed the officials to ensure that the building is not defaced or used to stick posters.

कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादून
पत्रांक सं०- 5144(H) ई-निविदा सूचना दिनांक-15/07/2019
नगर निगम देहरादून द्वारा वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 की अवधि के लिये टैक्सी वाहन (इन्वीवा, डिजायर, इण्डिका, इण्डिगो, बुलेटो, अट्टा, रफिया) किराये पर लेने हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से "तकनीकी बिड" व "वित्तीय बिड" के आधार पर ई-निविदा की वेबसाइट <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> के माध्यम से ई-निविदा दिनांक 07.08.2019 के अपराह्न 02.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित कि जाती है। निविदा दिनांक 08.08.2019 को सांय 04:00 बजे गठित समिति के समक्ष खोली जायेगी।
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Office of The Director General of Police, Uttarakhand
12, Subhash Road, Dehradun

E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Sl.No.	Description of stores	Qty.	Tender No.
1.	Coat Combat	2578 Nos.	DG-III-56/2019
2.	RAF Shoes	13626 Pair.	DG-III-57/2019
3.	Cotton Socks	28100 Pair.	DG-III-61/2019
4.	Woolen Socks	26556 Pair.	DG-III-62/2019

1. Last Date of Receipt of E-Tender - 30-07-2019, Time 17:00 hrs
2. Date of Opening of bid - 31-07-2019, Time 11:00 AM

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POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice(s) on the dates mentioned below, calling upon the below mentioned borrowers/mortgagors/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned herein below within 60 days from the date of notice/ date of receipt of the said notices. The below mentioned borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the properties described herein below, in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned below in the table. The borrower's/guarantor's/mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the below mentioned property and any dealing with the said property will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank, for the amounts mentioned herein below beside future interest and other charges/expenses. In case borrower/guarantor do not pay back the dues within 30 days of this publication, the property shall be sold as prescribed, to recover the dues.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower & Branch	Description of the property mortgaged	Date of Demand Notice & Amount	Date of Possession
1.	Sh Sandeep Kumar S/o Sh Ravindra Kumar Bo: Civil Lines	Residential property bearing Khasra 106 Shivaji Nagar Dhandhera Tehsil Roorkee Distt Haridwar, Sale Deed Registered At Sub Registrar Office Roorkee Vide Bahi No 1, Zild No. 4373 At Pages 13-46, SI No 2877 Date on 25/05/2017 Bounded As: East: 19'4.5", West: 20'7", North: 61'10.5", South: 61'9"	17.07.2018 Rs 21,61,083.50/- (Twenty One Lac Sixty One Thousand Eighty Three rupees and Fifty Paise Only) + Intt & exp.wef 30.06.2019 minus recovery if any	10/07/2019 (Symbolic)

Date: 16.07.2019 Place : Haridwar Authorised Officer

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

Dy. Chief Engineer/Const. Northern Railway, Moradabad for and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Two Packet System for the under noted work: 1. Name of work and location: Construction of 08 Nos Road under bridge/Limited height subway in lieu of LC No 13, 17, 24, 25, 26, 32, 48-B and 49 or any other I-Xing by Air pushing method using RH girder on Roza-Sitapur section in c/w Roza-Sitapur doubling under Dy/CE/CMB. 2. Completion period: 10 months. 3. Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 1627.80 Lakh. 4. Earnest Money to be deposited on line: Rs. 9,63,900/- 5. Date & Time for uploading of tender and Opening of tender: Tenders may be uploaded upto 11.30 hrs. on 07.08.19 date on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. The bidders can participate in the e-tender. Technical cum commercial bid will be opened immediately after close of uploading of tenders on 07.08.19 at 11.30 hrs. Financial bids of the eligible tenders would be opened subsequently on the date and time to be notified later on. 6. Detailed tender notice & Tender Documents: The detailed e-tender notice is available on Northern Railway website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 24.07.2019 to 07.08.2019 upto 11.30 Hrs. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender documents. The detailed tender notice also can be seen on the Notice Board of the above office. No.: 1-W/Tender-241-F/Dy.CE/CMB Dated: 13.07.2019 2269/2019

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Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
Financial Markets Division
Regulatory Establishment Section

North Block, New Delhi 110 001
3rd June 2019

Filling up the post of Technical Member in the Securities Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai, on contract basis

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up one post of Technical Member in Securities Appellate Tribunal, Mumbai in level 17 of Pay Matrix of Rs. 2,25,000/- (fixed), as admissible to a Secretary to the Government of India, on contract basis for a maximum period of five (5) years from the date on which she / he assumes office or upto 67 years of age, subject to outcome of W.P. (C) No. 279/2017 pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

2. The particulars of the post and eligibility conditions are available on the Ministry's website www.finmin.nic.in/vacancies. Applications of eligible candidates in the prescribed proforma along with attested copies of Annual Confidential Reports (ACRs) for the last five years, Vigilance Clearance and No Penalty and Integrity Certificate (in respect of serving Government servants and employees of PSUs, academic and research institutions / Universities, etc.) may be forwarded through proper channel to the undersigned within 45 days from the date of this advertisement, at the following address:

Deputy Secretary (RE)
Financial Markets Division
Department of Economic Affairs
Ministry of Finance
Room No. 42, North Block
New Delhi 110 001

3. Incomplete applications received 45 days after publication of this advertisement will not be considered.

(Manish Kumar Jha)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
davp 152011/1/0004/1920

Cong holds protest against State Govt 'failure'

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Terming the Uttarakhand Government a failure on all fronts, the state unit of Congress party held a vehement protest at Gandhi Park here on Monday. As part of the scheduled programme, large number of Congress workers assembled at Rajiv Bhawan, the state headquarters of the party on the day. From here they started a protest march. Holding flags and placards, the Congressmen shouting slogans against the anti people policies of the state government marched to the clock tower. From here, the march proceeded to the Gandhi Park where it got converted into a protest meeting. Addressing the meeting, the President of the Pradesh Congress Committee said that the people of the state are suffering from the anti people policies of the BJP government which has completed more than two and half years in office. Launching a scathing attack on Trivendra Singh Rawat led state government; the PCC President said that mining, liquor and land mafia are ruling the roost in Uttarakhand. He said that increase in the prices of petrol and diesel have fuelled price rise which is hitting the people hard. The PCC President claimed that the state government is immersed neck deep in corruption. "When this government was sworn in, the CM claimed that

Lokayukt would be brought in within 100 days but even after more than two and half years there are no signs of Lokayukt. The industry of transfer and posting is thriving in the state." Singh also took the government for task for making amendments in the Panchayati Raj act and warned that if these amendments are not taken back, the Congress party would hit streets.

Former PCC President Kishore Upadhyaya said that recent victory of Congress in urban local body election of Srinagar and Bajpur after Lok Sabha elections where BJP won all five seats proved that BJP wins by hacking EVM. "In the elections of Srinagar and Bajpur, ballots were used and Congress candidates won. It shows that BJP wins elections by manipulating EVMs." The leader of Opposition in Uttarakhand assembly,

Indira Hridayesh said anti people policies of BJP government have ensured that BJP would lose assembly election of 2022. She exhorted the Congress workers to remain prepared to fight for the cause of people. The meeting was addressed by President of women Congress Sarita Arya, MLAs, Adesh Chauhan, Furkan Ahmed, Mamta Rakesh, Rajkumar

(Purola), former Minister Dinesh Agarwal, Mantri Prasad Naithani, Matbar Singh Kandari, Soorvir Singh Sajwan, former MLA Ganesh Godiyal, Rajkumar, Jot Singh Bisht, Pramod Kumar Singh and others. Former Chief Minister Harish Rawat attended the march and protest meeting but left the venue without addressing the meeting.



BJP: Protest laughable attempt to divert focus from factionalism

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party has termed the Congress protest a laughable attempt to divert public focus away from the internal strife in the leaderless party. The factionalism in the Congress was also exposed in the protest.

The BJP State media in-charge Devendra Bhasin said that the Congress is undergoing an internal war from the central to the state level.

"There is no idea about the Congress' national president as Rahul Gandhi has abandoned the sinking ship. The party is riddled with factionalism in the states too. Congress leaders are struggling for their survival and for this they are staging protests without any substantial issues. The protest on Monday was an example of this situation. Recently, a Congress leader headed a drama of courting arrests in which the other party leaders were absent. In the protest held on Monday, some other leaders were absent. The public is comprehending these dramas staged by the Congress. The issues used by the party in the protest are also distorted. The people know about the developmental works being undertaken by the BJP governments at the Centre and State. It would be better if the Congress leaders look back upon the decisions and actions taken during their own term in office. Today, inflation is under control, interest rates have decreased and the price of cooking gas has dropped by Rs 100. Petrol and diesel rates have been hiked but these will drop too in the future. In the Rafale case, the people have rejected the allegations leveled by the Congress in the Lok Sabha elections. But, when their party leaders again raise the issue, it only shows that they have lost their mental balance," said Bhasin.

Protests, Governor's programmes create traffic chaos in City



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Three protests and governor's programme in the town hall resulted in major traffic disorder on the roads from Regional Transport Office (RTO) to Clock Tower and from Tehsil Chowk to Prince Chowk on Monday. According to official sources, police have been deployed for the Kanwad Mela set to start from July 17 which reduced the number of police personnel on traffic duty here. Those posted in the city were busy maintaining traffic with the former employees of 108 emergency ambulance services rallying towards Chief Minister's house, protest of Pradesh Congress Committee, governor being escorted to and from the town hall and escorting Chief Minister through alternate route.

On the traffic congestions in the city Superintendent of Police (traffic) Prakash Chandra Arya said, "The traffic situations on Monday were challenging but we managed to keep the traffic operational. There were three protests and three VIP programmes in the

city, which resulted in traffic related situations. The challenging part was when the school ended for the day and these programmes were ongoing, which lead to traffic chaos. Because of the protest march of former employees of 108 ambulance service, we had to give CM an alternate route."

He added, "Considering the increasing number of daylight crime, we also conducted checks too. Of course, as the force has been diverted for Kanwad season and the focus inside the district is on Neelkanth also, the traffic force in the city has reduced, but we are managing as we take force from police stations and posts during peak hours."

With the reduction of traffic personnel in the city area, many junctions on Monday were in chaos. At some places where neither the traffic personnel were present nor traffic lights were working situation worsened. However, Doon Hospital chowk was in chaos because of the lack of coordination between the three traffic controllers stationed there, which again resulted in traffic congestion there.

Fissures exposed in show of unity in Congress

Harish Rawat left the protest site without addressing the workers. Rift between different factions of Cong exposed

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A part from registering their protest against what they called anti peo-

ple policies of state government, one of the objectives of the event was to demonstrate unity among different factions of the party. However the show ended up in widening the existing fissures in the party with Congressmen of different factions accusing each other in public glare.

The factions owing affiliations to the camps of former chief minister Harish Rawat and Pradesh Congress Committee President Pritam Singh came face to face when Harish Rawat left the venue in a huff. It is learnt that Rawat who apart from being a former CM and member of Congress Working Committee (CWC) was

annoyed when he was not invited to address the meeting even as PCC president Pritam Singh, former PCC president Kishore Upadhyaya, LoP in state assembly Indira Hridayesh, some MLAs and former ministers had addressed the gathering. One of a supporter of former CM said that when anchor of the event called Pritam Singh, Upadhyaya and Indira Hridayesh to address the meeting, Rawat wanted that the anchor should invite him on the speaking dais. "This request was conveyed four times but it was ignored," he claimed. When Rawat decided to leave the site, the patience of Harish Rawat's supporters

waned and they started shouting on Pritam Singh's supporters. Senior Congress Leader Jot Singh Bisht was seen loudly questioning the behaviour of Surya Kant Dhasmana. Rawat before leaving the venue was seen pacifying his agitated followers.

Later PCC President Pritam Singh said that no one had any intention of insulting Harish Rawat. He added that he would talk to him. In Facebook post Harish Rawat too explained his position. He said that he was in protest from 10.30 am to 1.30 pm but had to leave the venue as he was having some stomach trouble. Rawat congratulated the state Congress for success of dharna.

For Earth, Nature, Environment, Health, Family and Future

Let's come together to Plant Trees



Harela Festival

Inauguration of massive plantation drive by
Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand
will be held on
16th July, 2019 11:00 am
Mothrowala, Dehradun

Plantation

<p>Achievements in 2018-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantation on Harela Festival 4 Lac 50 Thousand • Plantation in the Year 1 Crore 80 Lac 	<p>Targets 2019-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantation on Harela Festival 6 Lac 25 Thousand • Plantation in the Year 1 Crore 89 Lac
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Conservation of Environment is our Joint Responsibility





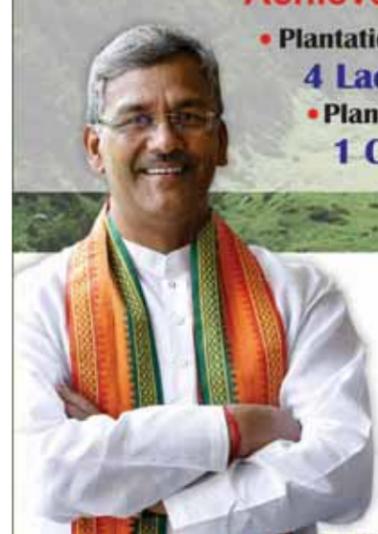


Jal Sanchaya - Jal Samvardhan

<p>Achievements in 2018-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33.40 Cr Litre (Forest Department) • 93.21 Cr Litre (Other Departments) • 126.61 Cr Litre (Total Jal Sanchaya) 	<p>Targets 2019-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38.50 Cr Litre (Forest Department) • 105.15 Cr Litre (Other Departments) • 143.65 Cr Litre (Total Jal Sanchaya)
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“Dedicated to the environment, the Harela Festival signifies the cultural heritage of Uttarakhand. The Festival spreads the message of greenery, farming, prosperity and preserving the nature. Our people have been celebrating Harela as the festival for planting trees, for centuries we have been planting trees after worshipping Harela in our homes. Let's pledge to plant more and more trees on this auspicious occasion.”

Trivendra Singh Rawat
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand



Issued in Public Interest by Department of Information & Public Relations, Uttarakhand
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 Women Helpline No. 1090, Kisaan Call Centre 1551, CM Helpline No. 1005,
 Child Helpline No. 1098, Ayushman Uttarakhand Helpline No. 104, Disaster Call centre 1070.

More services to be notified under RTS Act, says CM

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the Uttarakhand Right To Service Commission building at Sahasthradara Road here on Monday. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the chief minister said that with the commission getting its own

office building, the services provided to the citizens by the commission will be facilitated in a more time-bound manner. It is the duty of public representatives and officials to resolve the problems faced by the public. The main purpose behind bringing the Right To Service Act is to ensure redressal of issues related to public

welfare and concern. A total of 217 services have been notified under the Right To Service Act while the process is currently underway to bring 117 more services under the purview of this Act. Attempt will also be made to bring other services under this Act, said Rawat. The chief minister said, "It is important that the issues are

resolved on time. Provision will be made to penalise those responsible for delay in redressal of public grievances. The government has taken a stern decision to consider premature retirement of those officials who are negligent towards their work and not achieving proper outcomes. It is important for officers and employees to be

alert towards their responsibilities. The CM dashboard has also been established in Uttarakhand which is outcome based. In addition to this, if any citizen registers a complaint on CM helpline 1905, the problem will not be considered solved till the complainant confirms that the issue has been resolved. The effort of the government is

aimed at ensuring that issues related to public concern are resolved on time. The swift redressal of public grievances is a top priority of the State Government," he stressed. Mussoorie MLA Ganesh Joshi said that people will find it more convenient to get their grievances resolved with the opening of the Right To Service

Commission office building. The commission will play a vital role in further strengthening public welfare schemes like Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana, Ujjwala and other such schemes. Uttarakhand Right To Service Commission chief commissioner Alok Kumar Jain said that in the past four

years, 17,500 cases had been heard in the commission. It is vital for the commission to be strong in order to empower the public and bring about transparency in works. Expediting the notification of more services under the Act will facilitate swifter action in redressal of public grievances, he said.

TEMPORARY CANCELLATION / DIVERSION / PARTIAL CANCELLATION / REGULATION AND RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS DUE TO NON-INTERLOCKING WORK AT TILAK BRIDGE STATION

In order to further strengthen the infrastructure, Northern Railway will undertake the Non-Interlocking work at Tilak Bridge station in connection with 5th & 6th line between New Delhi and Tilak Bridge stations. To execute this work, Railways will take appropriate traffic blocks upto 22.07.2019. Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected on the dates shown against each:-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS		
Train No. & Train Name	Date(s) of Cancellation (from originating station)	
12419/12420 Lucknow-New Delhi-Lucknow Gomati Express	18 to 21.07.2019	
12459/12460 New Delhi-Amritsar-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019	
14205 Faizabad-Delhi Jn. Express	18 & 19.07.2019	
14206 Delhi Jn.-Faizabad Express	19 & 20.07.2019	
14207 Paratappargh-Delhi Jn. Padmavat Express	18 & 19.07.2019	
14208 Delhi Jn.-Paratappargh Padmavat Express	19 & 20.07.2019	
14211/14212 Agra Cantt.-New Delhi-Agra Cantt. Intercity Exp.	19 to 21.07.2019	
14315/14316 Bareilly-New Delhi-Bareilly Intercity Express	19 to 21.07.2019	
14323/14324 New Delhi-Rohtak-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019	
14521/14522 Delhi Jn.-Ambala Cantt.-Delhi Jn. Express	19 to 21.07.2019	
14681/14682 New Delhi-Jalandhar City-New Delhi Express	19 to 21.07.2019	
15035/15036 Delhi Jn.-Ramnagar / Kathgodam-Delhi Jn. Uttaranchal Sampark Kranti Express	20 & 21.07.2019	
19565 Okha-Dehradun Uttaranchal Express	19.07.2019	
19566 Dehradun-Okha Uttaranchal Express	21.07.2019	
14085 Tilak Bridge-Sirsa Express	20 & 21.07.2019	
14086 Sirsa-Tilak Bridge Express	21 & 22.07.2019	
51911/51912 Delhi Jn.-Saharanpur-Delhi Jn. Passenger	19 & 20.07.2019	
54055/54056 Moradabad-Delhi Jn.-Moradabad Passenger	20.07.2019	
64012/64013/64014/64016 Shakur Basti-Palwal-Shakur Basti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64018 Shakurbasti-New Delhi EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64031/64032/64034/64036 Ghaziabad-Shakur Basti-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64053 Palwal-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64071 Ballabgarh-Shakur Basti EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64075/64077/64078/64080 Palwal-New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64082 New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64087 H. Nizamuddin-New Delhi EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64089 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019	
64091 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64092 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019	
64093 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Shakurbasti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64095 New Delhi-Shakurbasti EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64096 Shakurbasti-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19.07.2019	
64097 New Delhi-Shakur Basti EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64401 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	20.07.2019	
64403 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64406/64408 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019	
64411 Sahibabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	20.07.2019	
64412 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	19.07.2019	
64418 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019	
64423/64424/64425/64427/64430/64432 Ghaziabad-New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64426 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019	
64428 New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	19.07.2019	
64431 Ghaziabad-New Delhi EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64439 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU	20.07.2019	
64445 Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn. EMU/64449/64450 Ghaziabad-New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU/64469/64470 New Delhi-Panipat-New Delhi EMU	19.07.2019	
64491/64492 Palwal-New Delhi-Palwal EMU	19 & 20.07.2019	
64493/64494 Palwal-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Palwal EMU	20.07.2019	
64569/64570 Kosi Kalan-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Kosi Kalan EMU	20.07.2019	
64434 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	20.07.2019	
64420 Ghaziabad-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	19 to 21.07.2019	
64567/64568 Bulandshahr-Tilak Bridge-Bulandshahr EMU	20.07.2019	

DIVERSION OF TRAINS

Train No. & Train Name	Diverted via	Date(s) (from originating station)
12055 New Delhi-Dehradun Janshatabdi	Delhi Jn.	19.07.19
12171 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Haridwar AC Superfast	Agra Cantt.-Mitawali-Aligarh-Khurja-Meerut City	18.07.19
12172 Haridwar-Lokmanya Tilak (T) AC Superfast	Meerut City-Khurja-Aligarh-Mitawali-Agra Cantt.	19.07.19
12204 Amritsar-Saharsa Garib Rath	Ambala-Saharanpur-Moradabad	20 & 21.07.19
12259 Sealdah-New Delhi Duroto Exp.	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	18.07.19
12260 New Delhi-Sealdah Duroto Exp.	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19.07.19
12274 New Delhi-Howrah Duroto Exp.	Delhi Jn.	20.07.19
12392 New Delhi-Rajgir Shramjeevi Exp.	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12398 New Delhi-Gaya Mahabodhi Exp.	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12483 Kochuveli-Amritsar Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	17.07.19
12484 Amritsar-Kochuveli Express	Adarsh Nagar-Delhi Safdarjang-Okhla	21.07.19
12501 Guwahati-New Delhi Poorvotter Sampark Kranti Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	20.07.19
12561 Jaynagar-New Delhi Swatantra Sainani Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	19 & 20.07.19
12562 New Delhi-Jaynagar Swatantra Sainani Express	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	20.07.19
12566 New Delhi-Darbhanga Bihar Sampark Kranti Express	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
12581 Manduadih-New Delhi Superfast	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	19 & 20.07.19
12582 New Delhi-Manduadih Superfast	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	20.07.2019
12715 H. Sahib Nanded-Amritsar-Sachkhand Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	19 & 20.07.19
12903/12904 Mumbai Central-Amritsar-Mumbai Central Golden Temple Mail	Khutbav-Mathura Jn.-Alwar-Rewari-Delhi Jn.-Sahibabad	18.07.2019
14003 Malda Town-New Delhi Express	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	20.07.19

14258 New Delhi-Varanasi Kashi Vishwanth Express	Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
15708 Amritsar-Katihar Express	Ambala-Saharanpur-Moradabad-Lucknow	19 & 20.07.19
18237 Gevra Road-Amritsar Chhatisgarh Express	Agra Cantt.-Mitawali-Aligarh-Khurja-Meerut City	18 & 19.07.19
18238 Amritsar-Gevra Road Chhatisgarh Express	Meerut City-Khurja-Aligarh-Mitawali-Agra Cantt.-Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	18 & 20.07.19
18507 Vishakapatnam-Amritsar Express	Adarsh Nagar-Delhi Safdarjang-Okhla	18 & 19.07.19
18508 Amritsar-Vishakapatnam Express	Adarsh Nagar-Delhi Safdarjang-Okhla	21.07.19
19023 Mumbai Central-Firozpur Cantt. Janata Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Shakur Basti	19 & 20.07.19
19024 Firozpur Cantt.-Mumbai Central Janata Express	Shakur Basti-Delhi Safdarjang-Okhla	20 & 21.07.19
20801 Islampur-New Delhi Magadh Exp.	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	18 & 20.07.19
20802 New Delhi-Islampur Magadh Exp.	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19 & 20.07.19
22125 Nagpur-Amritsar AC Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	20.07.19
22417 Varanasi-New Delhi Mahamana Exp.	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.-New Delhi	18.07.19
22418 New Delhi-Varanasi Mahamana Exp.	New Delhi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19.07.19
22457 Hazur Sahib Nanded-Amb Andaura Superfast Express	Okhla-Delhi Safdarjang-Adarsh Nagar	20.07.19
11078 Jammu Tawi-Pune Jhelum Exp.	New Delhi-Tilak Bridge	18 & 19.07.19
12687/22687 Madurai Jn.-Dehradun Exp.	Meerut City-Khurja-Aligarh-Mitawali-Agra Cantt.	17.07.19
51901 Agra Cantt.-Delhi Jn. Passenger	H. Nizamuddin-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.	20 & 21.07.19
54539 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ambala Pass.	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Tilak Bridge-New Delhi (East line)	18.07.19
64051 Palwal-Ghaziabad EMU	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Tilak Bridge-New Delhi (East line)	17.07.19
64052 Ghaziabad-Palwal EMU	Sahibabad-H. Nizamuddin	19 to 21.07.19
64055/64057 Palwal-Ghaziabad EMU	H. Nizamuddin-Sahibabad-Ghaziabad	19 to 21.07.19
64109 Dankaur-Shakurbasti EMU	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara-Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
64167 Palwal-New Delhi-Tundla EMU	Sahibabad-Hazrat Nizamuddin	20.07.19
64419 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ghaziabad EMU	Hazrat Nizamuddin-Sahibabad	20.07.19
64434 Delhi Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19 & 21.07.19
64443 Ghaziabad-New Delhi EMU	Sahibabad-Delhi Shahdara	19.07.19
64472/64534 Panipat-New Delhi-Ghaziabad EMU	Sabzi Mandi-Delhi Jn.-Delhi Shahdara-Sahibabad	19 to 21.07.19
64901 Kosi Kalan-Ghaziabad EMU	H. Nizamuddin-Sahibabad-Ghaziabad	19 to 21.07.19
64902 Ghaziabad-Kosi Kalan EMU	Sahibabad-Hazrat Nizamuddin	20.07.19
64903 Mathura Jn.-Ghaziabad EMU	H. Nizamuddin-Sahibabad-Ghaziabad	20 & 21.07.19
64904 Ghaziabad-Mathura Jn. EMU	Ghaziabad-Sahibabad-H. Nizamuddin	20.07.19

PARTIAL CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

Train No. & Train Name	Short Terminate at/ Originate from	Partially Cancelled Between Stations	Date(s) from originating station
12523 New Jalpaiguri-New Delhi Exp.	at Moradabad	Moradabad-New Delhi	20.07.2019
12524 New Delhi-New Jalpaiguri Exp.	from Moradabad	New Delhi-Moradabad	21.07.2019
12625 Kerala Express	at H. Nizamuddin	H. Nizamuddin-New Delhi	19.07.2019
12626 Kerala Express	from H. Nizamuddin	New Delhi-H. Nizamuddin	21.07.2019
13413 Farakka Express	at Kanpur	Kanpur-Delhi Jn.	18.07.2019
13414 Farakka Express	from Kanpur	Delhi Jn.-Kanpur	20.07.2019
13483 Farakka Express	at Kanpur	Kanpur-Delhi Jn.	17 & 19.07.19
13484 Farakka Express	from Kanpur	Delhi Jn.-Kanpur	19 & 21.07.19
14211/14212 Agra Cantt.-New Delhi-Agra Cantt. Intercity	at / from H. Nizamuddin	H. Nizamuddin-New Delhi	upto 21.07.19
14085 Tilak Bridge-Sirsa Exp.	at Shakur Basti	Shakur Basti-Tilak Bridge	19.07.2019
64017 Palwal-Shakur Basti EMU	at H. Nizamuddin	H. Nizamuddin-Shakur Basti	19 to 21.07.19
54767 Shri Ganganagar-Tilak Bridge Pass.	at Patel Nagar	Patel Nagar-Tilak Bridge	19 & 20.07.19
54768 Tilak Bridge-Shri Ganganagar Pass.	from Patel Nagar	Tilak Bridge-Patel Nagar	20 & 21.07.19
54769/54770 Tilak Bridge-Rohtak-Tilak Bridge Passegner	from / at Shakur Basti	Shakur Basti-Tilak Bridge-Shakur Basti	20 & 21.07.19
54474 Saharanpur-Delhi Jn. Pass.	at Sahibabad	Sahibabad-Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
54475 Delhi Jn.-Haridwar Passenger	from Noli	Noli-Delhi Jn.	19 to 21.07.19
54540 Ambala-H. Nizamuddin Pass.	at Meerut City	Meerut City-H. Nizamuddin	20.07.2019
54539 H. Nizamuddin-Ambala Pass.	from Meerut City	H. Nizamuddin-Meerut City	21.07.2019
64105 Aligarh-New Delhi EMU	at Sahibabad	Sahibabad-New Delhi	20.07.2019
64106 New Delhi-Aligarh EMU	from Ghaziabad	New Delhi-Ghaziabad	20.07.2019
64107 Dankaur-Delhi Jn. EMU	at Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn.	20.07.2019
64110 New Delhi-Aligarh EMU	from Sahibabad	New Delhi-Sahibabad	20.07.2019
64113 Khurja-Shakur Basti EMU	at Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad-Shakur Basti	19 to 21.07.19
64151 Aligarh-Delhi Jn. EMU	at Ghaziabad	Ghaziabad-Delhi Jn.	20.07.2019
64429 Ghaziabad-New Delhi EMU	at Sahibabad	Sahibabad-New Delhi	20.07.2019
64461/64462 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Kurukshetra-Hazrat Nizamuddin EMU	at / from New Delhi	New Delhi-H. Nizamuddin-New Delhi	20.07.2019
64905 Mathura Jn.-New Delhi EMU	at Palwal	Palwal-New Delhi	19 to 21.07.19

REGULATION / RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS

Train No. 12627 Bangalore City-New Delhi Karnataka Express will be regulated on Palwal section for 30 minutes on 17.07.2019 & rescheduled by 120 minutes on 18.07.2019 from Bangalore City.

Train No. 12716 Amritsar-H. Sahib Nanded Express will be rescheduled by 120 minutes on 20.07.2019 & 180 minutes on 21.07.2019 from Amritsar.

Train No. 12925 Bandra (T)-Amritsar Ashram Express will be regulated on North Central Railway 30 minutes on 18.07.2019 & will be rescheduled by 120 minutes on 19.07.2019 from Bandra (T).

Train No. 16032 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Chennai Central Andaman Express will be regulated for 45 minutes on 19 & 20.07.2019 at Sonarpur Jn.

Train No. 20503 Dibrugarh-New Delhi Rajdhani Express will be rescheduled by 60 minutes from Dibrugarh on 18.07.2019.

Train No. 20505 Dibrugarh-New Delhi Rajdhani Express will be rescheduled by 60 minutes from Dibrugarh on 19.07.2019.

Train No. 12625 Trivendrum Central-New Delhi Kerala Express will be regulated for 60 minutes over North Central Railway on 18.07.2019.

Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passengers Complaint Helpline No. 138

Please join us on **NORTHERN RAILWAY** visit us at: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DG's ultimatum: solve chain snatching cases in 7 days

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Taking cognisance of the increasing incidents of chain-snatching and daylight robberies, Director General (Law and Order) Ashok Kumar gave ultimatum to the Dehradun police to solve these cases within seven days. He further directed Garhwal Inspector General (IG) Ajay Rautela to transfer the Station Officers (SO) of those police stations who fail to solve these cases. Kumar said, "They have been directed to take preventive measures against such cases, in the form of picketing, vehicle checking and patrolling." Following the directions, the district police on Monday was seen checking suspicious vehicles, two wheelers without number plate and two-wheelers resembling those

of chain-snatchers. It is pertinent to mention here that alone on Sunday there were three attempts of chain snatching, out of which two were successful, while in one attempt the snatchers ended up stealing the mobile phone of the victim. In the last five days there have been six cases of chain snatching. According to sources the snatchers in at least three of the cases are same, as the eye witnesses have give similar description of their appearance and their modus operandi is also same. Two of the chain snatching incidents were carried out on motorbike while the three attempts on Sunday were carried out on Scooty. Senior district officers on Monday maintained that they have important leads on the case and the perpetrators.

कार्यालय नगर निगम हल्द्वानी-काठगोदाम

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जात है कि नगर निगम, हल्द्वानी, काठगोदाम रोमानार्त नित्य कालाहारी-वरेली रोड क्षेत्र एवं रामपुर रोड क्षेत्र में विज्ञापन प्रदर्शन हेतु इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से दू विड अधारित निविदाये ईलेक्ट्रानिक रूप में <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> माध्यम से दिनांक 16.07.2019 से दिनांक 30.07.2019 को सांय 02.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। अपरिहार्य कारणों को छोड़कर तकमीकी एवं विलीय विड दिनांक 30.07.2019 को आवंटन समिति के समक्ष अपरान्त 03.00 बजे खोली जायेगी। निविदा संबंधी अधिक जानकारी किसी भी कार्यदिनर के कक्ष संख्या 07 एवं वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in से भी प्राप्त की जा सकती है। अपरिहार्य कारणों से ई-निविदा को निरस्त करने का अधिकार नगर आयुक्त में निहित होगा।

नगर आयुक्त
नगर निगम हल्द्वानी-काठगोदाम

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during the Kanwaria Rush Northern Railway will run the following Special Trains as per the scheduled given below:-

74023/74022 Delhi - Shami - Delhi DEMU Train to be extended upto Haridwar					30 Trips
Train No. 74023	STATIONS		Train No. 74022		
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.	
-	20.00	Delhi	09.20	-	
23.00	23.02	Shami	05.30	05.40	
23.24	23.26	Thana Bhawan	04.55	04.57	
23.48	23.50	Rampur Maniharan	04.30	04.32	
00.15	00.17	Tapri	04.10	04.12	
00.53	00.55	Roorkee	03.15	03.17	
01.35	01.37	Jwalapur	02.12	02.14	
01.55	-	Haridwar	-	02.05	

Days of Run: 74023 from Ex. Delhi on 17.07.2019 to 31.07.2019 & 74022 from Ex. Haridwar on 18.07.2019 to 01.08.2019.

64557/64560 Delhi - Saharanpur - Delhi MEMU Train to be extended upto Haridwar					30 Trips
Train No. 64557	STATIONS		Train No. 64560		
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.	
-	16.45	Delhi	08.45	-	
21.50	22.10	Saharanpur	03.15	04.55	
22.38	22.40	Roorkee	01.35	01.37	
23.45	23.47	Jwalapur	00.38	00.40	
00.05	-	Haridwar	-	00.30	

Days of Run: 64557 from Ex. Delhi on 17.07.2019 to 31.07.2019 & 64560 from Ex. Haridwar on 18.07.2019 to 01.08.2019.

Stoppages of following trains are provided:-

Train No.:	Running between Stations	Stoppages
14113/14	Aligarh Jn. - Dehradun - Aligarh Jn.	Raiwala
14310 Tue & Wed, /14309 Thu & Fri	Dehradun - Ujjain Jn. - Dehradun	Raiwala
14318 Fri &		

Pak pushes infiltrators under cross-border fire

DEFENCE MINISTRY MAKES OBSERVATION IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Pakistan continues to encourage terrorists to infiltrate into India under the cover of massive cross-Line of Control (LOC) and cross-border firing in Jammu and Kashmir and the Pulwama terror attack in February this year confirmed yet again that India remains a persistent target of Pakistan's state sponsored cross-border terrorism policy.

Making this observation in its annual report for 2018-19, the Defence Ministry said on Monday India's position is that Pakistan takes credible and irreversible steps to stop supporting terrorists and terror groups operating from territories under its control and dismantle the infrastructure operated by terrorists outfits to launch attacks against India.

Assuring that India will continue to take robust and decisive steps to ensure its national security, the document said India's response amongst other measures,

included a successful pre-emptive non-military anti-terror aerial strike on the largest training of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in Balakot in Pakistan. The aerial strike came on February 26 in retaliation to the Pulwama attack on February 14 by JeM in which 40 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) were killed.

Touching upon internal security situation in the country, the report said state sponsored terrorism by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir remains the foremost challenge. During the period from January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, security forces were able to neutralize 305 militants, the document informed.

On China, the report mentioned that relations with the eastern neighbor moved towards greater stability in the overall context of closer developmental partnership. Following the informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping in Wuhan in China in April last year, there was

improved and sustained stability in the India-China border areas.

This comes in the backdrop of India and China having a disputed border of more than 4,000 km and two countries fighting a war in 1962. The report said both sides recognized that peace and tranquility in the India-China border is an important pre-requisite to development of bilateral relations.

As regards political situation in Pakistan, the report said it continues to remain challenging with a severe deficit of inclusive and balance economic development. The Pakistan Army consolidated its position as the institution driving Pakistan's foreign policy and defence policies after the elections there.

Pakistan also continues to relentlessly expand its military forces, especially nuclear and missile capabilities despite a financial crisis. The country has been torn by ethno-regional conflicts, with the zone of conflict expanding from trib-

al areas on Pakistan-Afghanistan border to hinterland. Religious extremism is also on the rise. The military has avoided taking action against jihadi and internationally proscribed terror outfits that target Pakistan's neighbor. Support to such group persists, the 272-page report observed.

On global scenario, the report said terrorism and radicalization are the biggest threats to peace and security facing the world. India has reiterated at a number of bilateral and multilateral platforms its resolve in all its forms and manifestations.

The global concerns regarding proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their delivery systems, continue to pose serious threats to international security. The WMD terrorism will remain a potent threat as long as there are terrorists seeking to gain access to relevant material and technologies for malicious purposes, the report said.

Govt introduces two important Bills in LS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Government on Monday introduced two important Bills in the Lok Sabha—one to amend Motor Vehicles Act that provides for higher penalties for violations and protection of good samaritans, among other provisions and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill that provides for banning of commercial surrogacy with a provision that only close relatives will be permitted to act as surrogates to infertile couples for "ethical altruistic" reasons.

The Motor Vehicle bill was passed in the previous Lok Sabha but could not be approved from the Rajya Sabha. Several members of the opposition raised concern over certain provisions in the bill and also sought to say that it could that it may encroach the powers of the states to legislate on the road transport.

Surrogacy bill was also passed in the Lok Sabha in 2018 but could not get passage in the upper house.

Speaking on the Motor Vehicle bill, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari said the central government is not looking to take away the rights of

The Motor Vehicle bill was passed in the previous LS but could not be approved from the RS. Several members of the opposition raised concern over certain provisions in the bill and also sought to say that it could that it may encroach the powers of the states to legislate on the road transport

states and urged the House to pass the legislation which would help in saving more lives. The Minister said around 30 per cent of driving licences in the country are bogus. About 1.5 lakh people die and 5 lakh people get injured in road accidents every year, he said.

The bill seeks to increase penalties for violations, facilitate grant of online learning licence, simplified provisions for insurance to provide expeditious help to accident victims and their families, and protection of good samaritans.

As per the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the bill, the period for renewal of transport licence would be increased to five years from three years and enable licensing authority to grant licence to differently-abled persons.

Another provision is to raise the time limit for renewal of driving licence from one

month to one year before and after the expiry date.

"My department has failed to pass the bill in the last five years but the number of accidents has reduced by around 3-4 per cent in the last five years while the incidence came down by around 15 per cent in Tamil Nadu during the same period," he noted.

Trinamool Congress member Saugata Roy opposed the bill, saying certain provisions would take away powers of state governments and would also infringe on their rights. Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said he was opposing a few provisions of the bill and not in entirety.

Another important bill that seeks to ban Commercial surrogacy was introduced in the house. The bill was passed by Lok Sabha in December, 2018 but lapsed as it could not

get nod from Parliament. According to the bill, only close relatives will be permitted to act as surrogates to infertile couples for "ethical altruistic" reasons.

The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019 in the Lok Sabha that also provides for constitution of surrogacy boards at national and state levels, as well as that the intending couples should not abandon such a child under any condition.

Only Indian couples who have been legally married for at least five years would be allowed to opt for surrogacy, as per the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the bill, which was introduced by Health and Family Welfare minister Harsh Vardhan.

The bill seeks to "allow ethical altruistic surrogacy to the intending infertile Indian married couple between the age of 23-50 years and 26-55 years for female and male, respectively".

A woman should be allowed to act as a surrogate mother only once and should be a close relative of the intending couple and "should be an ever married woman having a child of her own and between the age of 25-35 years".

House needs to discuss powers & limitations of 3 pillars of democracy: V-P

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu on Monday said the House needs to discuss the powers and limitations of the three-pillars of democracy — judiciary, legislature and executive — as an Elder made a strong case for an all-India examination for selection of judges in high courts and the Supreme Court. Cutting across party lines, the members backed Ashok Bajpai (BJP) who made this assertion.

Raising the issue during the Zero Hour, he said the Constitution does not mention the word 'collegium', though it is currently being used for

appointments and transfers of judges in the higher judiciary.

He also referred to an Allahabad High Court judge recently writing to the Prime Minister that appointments are not being made on the basis of merit and nepotism prevailed in such appointments and deserving candidates missed the chance.

Bajpai suggested that there should be an all-India examination conducted to ensure that meritorious candidates get into higher judiciary. Members cutting across party lines endorsed his suggestion.

Observing that overwhelming members are of the same opinion, the Chairman said "we need to discuss" during

one of the discussions, particularly the issue of the judiciary, legislature and executive and their powers and limitations.

Amongst other issues to figure in the Upper House, the AIADMK and DMK on Monday urged the central government to cancel the postal department examination for postmen and other posts and hold it afresh with questions in Tamil language also.

Raising the issue, A Navaneethakrishnan (AIADMK) said questions in the postal department's examination for appointments of postmen and assistants in rural areas held on Sunday were only in Hindi and English, and not Tamil. He asked the central government

to cancel the examination.

Tiruchi Siva (DMK) said the recent circular issued by the central government to the postal department has brought a sense of agitation in the minds of the youth in Tamil Nadu. He said earlier the practice was to conduct the examination in Hindi, English and regional languages. Asserting that not holding examination in regional language was "totally unwarranted" and demanded the revocation of the circular and maintaining status quo.

Naidu said the matter raised by members was very important and asked the Leader of the House Thawarchand Gehlot to look

into the issue. "I have already talked to the minister (concerned), you please talk to the minister," Naidu said.

In the backdrop of a mishap on Yamuna Expressway some days back where more than 20 people died, T Subbarami Reddy (Congress) called for scientific investigations like some advanced countries into such fatal accidents. He also more than 11,000 people die in road accidents every year. Backing his contention Surendra Singh Nagar (Samajwadi Party) called for making it mandatory for all car manufacturers to impart training to drivers in safety measures.

Demands to raise royalty on coal, roll back of steep hike

in airfares between Kerala and Gulf region and

government intervention to help release fishermen captured by Pakistan were among other issues raised in the Rajya Sabha.

Shanta Chhetri (TMC) raised the issue of death of a person after his hand got stuck between two sliding doors of the Kolkata Metro on Saturday last. She alleged passenger safety was being compromised with by the Railway Ministry and demanded immediate allocation of funds for proper maintenance and upgrade of the metro rail. Satyanarayan Jatya (BJP) raised the issue of inter-linking of rivers to solve problem of drought.

SP MP Shekhar resigns from RS, likely to join BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Samajwadi Party leader Neeraj Shekhar on Monday resigned as member of the Rajya Sabha and his resignation was accepted by Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu. Shekhar, the son of former prime minister Chandra Shekhar, met Naidu and told him he is resigning voluntarily and not under any compulsion, the sources said.

Shekhar was a prominent leader of the Samajwadi Party and there is speculation that he might join the BJP. Upset over having been allegedly sidelined, Neeraj quit amidst speculations over his next course of

political move.

He first became a member of the Lok Sabha in 2008 in the by-elections for Ballia constituency. The following year, he won again from the same constituency. He had been a member of the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh since November 26, 2014, and was due to retire on November 25, 2020.

He lost the 2014 polls and the party sent him to Rajya Sabha. But his demand to contest the 2019 Lok Sabha polls from Ballia had been rejected by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav who fielded Sanatan Pandey instead from there.

ICMR launches vaccine trial to prevent tuberculosis

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on Monday launched a vaccine trial to prevent occurrence of tuberculosis (TB) among close contacts of a TB patient. This is the first-ever government conducted vaccine trial after the BCG vaccine trial that was undertaken decades ago.

This vaccine trial is an important step in prevention and decreasing the burden of this disease, said a statement from the ICMR, a research body of the Union Health Ministry.

"After a detailed landscape analysis of the available lead vaccine candidates, two potential vaccine candidates - VPM 1002 produced by Serum Institute of India in Pune and Mycobacterium Indicus Pranii (MIP) were shortlisted for taking forward through the phase III vaccine trial in healthy household contacts of sputum smear positive TB patient," said the statement.

The study which will test the safety and efficacy of these two vaccines by administering them in close TB contacts as opposed to a control group of close TB contacts who will not receive the vaccine. The study will enrol 12,000 healthy household contacts of sputum smear positive TB cases that are at high risk of contracting the disease, from seven sites in six states - Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Balram Bhargava, Secretary, Department of Health Research and Director General, ICMR said that the clinical trials are needed in India to show that the vaccine is safe and effective, and that it can provide protection to Indian populations where the disease is endemic.

BABRI DEMOLITION CASE

Special judge seeks 6 months' time from SC to conclude trial

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A special judge holding trial in Babri Masjid demolition case, involving BJP veterans L K Advani, M M Joshi and others, Monday moved the Supreme Court seeking six more months to conclude the trial in the case.

The special judge, in a letter written in May, has informed the top court that he is due to superannuate on September 30, 2019.

The matter came up for hearing on Monday before a bench headed by Justice R F Nariman, which asked the Uttar Pradesh government to apprise it by July 19 about a mechanism by which the tenure of the special judge could be extended till he delivers the verdict in the high profile case.

On April 19, 2017, the top

court had ordered day-to-day trial to be concluded in two years in the politically sensitive 1992 Babri Masjid demolition case.

While dubbing the demolition of the medieval era monument as a "crime" which shook the "secular fabric of the Constitution", it had allowed the CBI's plea on restoration of criminal conspiracy charge against the VVIP accused.

However, the top court had said Kalyan Singh, who is currently the Governor of Rajasthan and during whose tenure as Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh the disputed structure was razed, is entitled to immunity under Constitution as long as he remained in gubernatorial position.

The court had come down heavily on the CBI for the delay of 25 years in the trial and said,

"The accused persons have not been brought to book largely because of the conduct of the CBI in not pursuing the prosecution of the aforesaid alleged offenders in a joint trial, and because of technical defects which were easily curable, but which were not cured by the State Government."

Issuing a slew of directions, it had said that "the proceedings (against Advani and five others) in the court of the Special Judicial Magistrate at Rae Bareilly will stand transferred to the Court of Additional Sessions Judge (Ayodhya Matters) at Lucknow."

Besides the three leaders, the accused, against whom the conspiracy charge was invoked, were Vinay Katiar, Sadhvi Ritambara, Vishnu Hari Dalmia, who were being tried at Rae Bareilly.

CBI arrests 7, including 2 senior officers for seeking ₹40 L bribe

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested seven persons, including two senior officers of the National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) Limited, for allegedly demanding a bribe of Rs 40 lakh for clearing bills pertaining to construction of BSF border outposts.

The arrested accused persons include NPCC Zonal Manager Rakesh Mohan Kotwal and Manager Latiful Pasha and five private persons -- Anish Baid, owner of Shree Gautam Construction Company, Binod Singh, director in Baid's company, Ramesh Kumar, an employee in the company, Sunil Kumar, Kotwal's relative and one Dharmendra Kumar in the case, agency officials said.

Sunil Kumar, who was allegedly receiving Rs 25 lakh, a part of the payment of the bribe on behalf of Kotwal from Ramesh Kumar in a hotel at the posh Safdarjung Enclave area, was caught red-handed when

CBI officials conducted a raid on Sunday.

Others were nabbed later on the basis of questioning of the arrested accused. The searches came after the agency received a secret information about the bribery transaction in the offing between the accused persons.

Based on the statements of the arrested accused, the agency conducted searches at 18 locations in Delhi, Silchar, Jalpaiguri, Guwahati and Gwalior.

Kotwal and Pasha had allegedly demanded a bribe of Rs 33 lakh from Baid for passing the bills for construction of Border Security Force (BSF) border outposts done by his firm, the officials said.

Baid assured Kotwal that the payment could be made once his bills are cleared. Kotwal suggested him to get the bills prepared and process them on a back date.

Kotwal also asked Baid to allegedly pay Rs three lakh as initial payment to his office personnel posted at the NPCC

Zonal Office, Silchar in Assam, who were processing his pending bills. The bribe amount of Rs three lakh was allegedly paid by Baid's employee Swapan Das.

On July 1, Kotwal further instructed Baid to transfer Rs 40 lakh as bribe to him in Delhi. Three days later, Baid allegedly arranged a transfer of Rs 25 lakh to Delhi through one Vinit Agarwal, a businessman based in Assam, through a 'hawala' channel, the FIR alleged.

Once money landed in Delhi, Baid allegedly informed Kotwal to make arrangements for its pickup, who in return asked his relative Sunil Kumar to visit Delhi between July 13 and 15 and collect the bribe money.

The payment of the bribe money was arranged at a hotel in the Safdarjung Enclave, where the CBI sleuths raided the location and arrested Sunil Kumar, who was receiving the bribe from Baid's employee Ramesh Kumar.

INSHORT

SC REJECTS BAIL PLEA OF ASARAM BAPU

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday rejected the bail plea of self-styled preacher Asaram Bapu, who is facing trial in a rape case lodged against him in Gujarat.

SIKRI APPOINTED AS INT'L JUDGE OF SICC

New Delhi: Former Supreme Court judge, Justice AK Sikri, has been appointed as an international judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC).

SC AGREES TO EXAMINE ABORTION LAW

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday agreed to examine the constitutional validity of certain legal provisions that allow abortion only to save the woman's life or in case of abnormal foetus and allegedly violate women's right to health, "free reproductive choice" and "privacy".

SC SEEKS RESPONSE FROM CENTRE ON AES

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday sought response of the Centre, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh on a PIL seeking urgent steps to control the outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) and provide necessary medical facilities to persons suffering from it.

SC TO HEAR PLEA ON JUDGE APPOINTMENT

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday decided to hear on July 22 a petition against the Centre's delay in clearing the name of Justice Akil A Kureshi as the Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court.

SC ORDERS CENTRE TO DEPOSIT ₹10 LAKH

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Monday directed the Centre to deposit Rs 10 lakh in an account to meet the expenses of a court-appointed high-powered committee, set up for suggesting measures to make competitive entrance exams fool proof.

CENTRE FOR 4,200 AYUSH CENTRES

New Delhi: Centre has plans to set up 4,200 Ayush wellness centres in the country in FY 2019-20 in several states, Ayush Minister Shripad Yesoo Naik informed the Rajya Sabha.

NEET could soon be scrapped for PG students

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a move that would bring smiles on the faces of the medical aspirants, the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) could soon be scrapped for postgraduate students.

According to the revised draft of the National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill, the Union Health Ministry has proposed to do away with NEET-PG and for admission to MD and MS programmes. It has proposed to use the final MBBS exam.

The revised draft of the National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill, will soon be sent to the Cabinet. The Bill, introduced in December 2017, lapsed when the tenure of the 16th Lok Sabha ended.

"According to the amendments in the fresh NMC Bill, entry into the PG programmes will be on the basis of the results of the National Exit Test,

which would be held as a common exam across the country. So the candidates would not have to appear in a separate exam after clearing the MBBS final exam for admission to PG courses," sources said.

However, the exams for AIIMS, NEET super specialty and other entrance tests remain.

While introducing the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2019, Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan said, "The National Medical Commission Bill could be introduced in the near future, though for having legal continuity, every ordinance has to be converted into a law," he said.

The original Bill which lapsed was met with opposition, as it sought to set up a National Medical Commission, which would regulate medical education as well as medical practice leading to protest from Indian Medical Association.



Dark clouds hover over Parliament house during the ongoing Budget Session at Parliament House in New Delhi on Monday

PTI

Pak intruder neutralised in Samba

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ JAMMU

Amid heightened alert along the International border across Jammu frontier, alert jawans of Border Security Force (BSF) late Sunday night shot dead a Pakistani intruder after he ignored advance warnings and tried to breach the barbed wire fencing in Ramgarh sector of Samba.



The intruder, in his early fifties, was not carrying any arms and ammunition on his person at the time of sneaking inside the Indian borders.

Since July 1, BSF is conducting special exercises to fortify its defences in the wake of ongoing Amarnath yatra.

Since July 1, BSF is conducting special exercises to fortify its defences in the wake of ongoing Amarnath yatra.

BSF troops on ground zero are also maintaining tight vigil along the vulnerable stretches of the International border to timely detect presence of any cross border tunnel or any surprise intrusion bid.

Official sources said, after the recovery of the dead body of the intruder the BSF authorities handed it over to the local police for completing necessary legal formalities.

BSF spokesman in a statement said, "during the intervening night of 14/15 July 2019, BSF troops deployed at forward post in Ramgarh area noticed a suspicious movement between border fence and IB". BSF spokesman said, "BSF troops

challenged him to stop, but he continued moving stealthily towards border fencing. Sensing his ill-intentions of crossing the fence BSF jawans first fired a warning shot which did not deter the intruder. Finally, when intruder tried to enter through the fence, BSF jawans neutralised him". Meanwhile, security forces, deployed on Amarnath yatra duty, continue to guard all the border roads leading to the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway to prevent any terrorist strike on the Amarnath yatra.

MALEGAON BLAST Won't examine 'masked' witnesses for a week: NIA

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) Monday told the Bombay High Court that it would not examine for a week evidence of those prosecution witnesses whose names and statements have been truncated from its chargesheet filed in the 2008 Malegaon blast case.



NIA made statement before division Bench of Justices IA Mahantya and AM Badar which was hearing an application filed by Lt Col Prasad Purohit, one of accused in the case, seeking non-truncated copies of witnesses' statements that are part of chargesheet.

The NIA made the statement before a division bench of Justices IA Mahantya and AM Badar which was hearing an application filed by Lt Col Prasad Purohit, one of the accused in the case, seeking non-truncated copies of the witnesses' statements that are part of the chargesheet.

Purohit's lawyer Shrikant Shivade said the special NIA court is presently recording the evidence of prosecution witnesses and the cross-examination of those witnesses whose statements or names have been masked would not be possible.

2 Amarnath pilgrims die; Yatra toll mounts to 16

PTI ■ SRINAGAR

Two Amarnath pilgrims died in the past 24 hours en route to the holy 3,880 metre-high cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, taking the death toll in this year's pilgrimage to 16, official sources said on Monday.

A woman pilgrim from Rajasthan died at the Baltal base camp due to a cardiac arrest, while a male pilgrim from Madhya Pradesh collapsed while moving towards the base camp, they said.

The death toll in this year's Amarnath Yatra has gone up to 16 which includes 12 pilgrims, two 'sevadars' (volunteers) and two security force personnel posted on duty.

The sources said 30 people

sustained injuries due to shooting stones and other causes since the pilgrimage began on June 30.

Deaths due to cardiac arrest triggered by lack of oxygen in areas around the cave shrine have been common over the years, prompting the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board to issue regular health advisories to the pilgrims.

All pilgrims are required to get fitness certificates before undertaking the pilgrimage.

More than 1.7 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance to the naturally formed ice-lingam in the cave shrine in the last 15 days. Multi-tier security arrangements have been made for the smooth and successful conduct of the Yatra, which will conclude on August 15.

IMA Ponzi scheme: MLA Baig fails to turn up before SIT

Bengaluru: Former Karnataka minister and Congress MLA R Roshan Baig on Monday did not turn up before the special investigation team probing the alleged IMA Jewels ponzi scheme saying he had some urgent work.

The MLA wanted to appear on July 25 but the SIT directed him to appear on July 19 instead, SIT said. "Regarding the appearance of MLA Mr Roshan Baig, before the SIT, he has consented to appear before SIT on July 25. But due to the necessity of speeding up the investigation on the part of the SIT, a second notice is served to him to appear on July 19,"

Kerala to bring in Anti-Superstition Bill; draft submitted

PTI ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala, which recently witnessed an alarming spurt in the number of black magic cases, is gearing up to bring in a legislation to curb "inhuman" practices and exploitation in the name of superstition.

The Kerala Prevention and Eradication of Inhuman Evil Practices, Sorcery and Black Magic Bill, 2019 has been submitted to the CPI(M)-led LDF Government for its consideration to pass as legislation. On the lines of the Anti-Superstition and Black Magic Bill, passed by Maharashtra and Karnataka, the State-run Kerala Law Reforms Commission has drafted the bill to fight superstition and eradicate "inhuman evil" practices propagated in the name of black magic.

The draft bill, accessed by PTI, proposes stringent punishment for any kind of evil practice and cheating in the name of black magic, ranging from "exposing ghost" to isolating women for menstruation and postpartum.

It also aims at raising social awareness in the society with a view to protect people against fraudulent and exploitative practices thriving on ignorance. The legislative assemblies of Karnataka and Maharashtra had passed the Anti-Superstition Black Magic Bill in 2017 and 2013, respectively.

"The draft bill is completed and we have submitted it to the State Government," K Sasidharan Nair, Vice Chairman, Kerala Law Reforms Commission, told PTI. "Unlike the bills passed by Maharashtra and Karnataka, we have given special thrust to a series of intense awareness programmes in our bill for the Government to implement. Because, superstition seems to be so deep-rooted in the minds of Kerala people nowadays," he said. "While going through many instances of superstition, I feel whether we deserve to be called a civilised society? Only a few cases are reported in the media," Nair, also a former law secretary, said. He said a legislation and stringent punishment alone cannot make any changes in the mindset of the people. "As it is a very sensitive topic, we have drafted the bill very carefully. I personally feel that public opinion should be garnered before it is enacted as law by the Government," the vice-chairperson added.



On the lines of the Anti-Superstition and Black Magic Bill, passed by Maharashtra and Karnataka, the State-run Kerala Law Reforms Commission has drafted the bill to fight superstition and eradicate "inhuman evil" practices propagated in the name of black magic

TENDER NOTICE						
SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1	HVPN	REPLACEMENT OF ORDINARY PILOT STRING DISC INSULATORS WITH COMPOSITE LONG ROD POLYMER INSULATOR OF 220 KV (PGCL) HISAR. FATEHABAD D/C LINE FOR FY 2019-20.	11.07.2019 26.07.2019	1.85 LACS	www.hvnpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
2	HVPN	CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE OF CEMENT CONCRETE PAVEMENT ROAD AT 66 KV S/STN. BARNALA & REPAIR, MAINTENANCE & WHITE WASHING OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING 566 KV S/STN. BARNALA, SADOPIR AND DHULKOT COMPLEX.	11.07.2019 01.08.2019	7.20 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
3	HVPN	OUTSOURCING OF VEHICLE UNDER TS CIRCLE HISAR FOR FY 2019-20.	CLOSING 26.07.2019	1.50 LACS	www.hvnpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
4	HVPN	REPLACEMENT OF 132KV TRANSFORMER AND LINE PANLES AND 132KV S/STN PANIPAT AND REPLACEMENT OF 11KV XLPE CABLE AT 132KV CHANDOLI.	11.07.2019 25.07.2019	4.03 LACS	www.hvnpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvnpn.org.in
5	THE SONIPAT CO-OPERATIVE SUGAR MILLS LTD	PURCHASE OF DRUM TO DRUM TUBES OF ROW 8, 9, 10, 11 OF BOILER NO. 1 OF O.D. SIZE-2.50, TATA T.1. MAKE + 39 OTHER WORKS	08.07.2019 22.07.2019	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	sonipatsugar@gmail.com 9315457364 xenopuhbnvkurukshetra@gmail.com
6	UHBVN	HIRING OF VEHICLE THROUGH OUTSOURCING POLICY FOR S/OFFICE. UHBVN, KIRIMACH (KURUKSHETRA).	CLOSING 22.07.2019	6000 EACH	www.uhbvn.org.in	xenopuhbnvkurukshetra@gmail.com
7	UHBVN	A/MTC OF NRB AT 33KV S/STN. MULTI STOREY OFFICE COMPLEX AT BAHADURGARH	10.07.2019 23.07.2019	3.30 LACS	www.uhbvn.org.in	xenciviluhbnrohtak@gmail.com
8	UHBVN	A/MTC OF NRB AT DIVISIONAL STORE MEHAM ROAD UHBVN GOHANA	10.07.2019 23.07.2019	1.50 LACS	www.uhbvn.org.in	xenciviluhbnrohtak@gmail.com
9	UHBVN	A/MTC OF NRB AT 33KV S/STN. CENTRAL STORE PANIPAT	10.07.2019 23.07.2019	3.98 LACS	www.uhbvn.org.in	xenciviluhbnrohtak@gmail.com
10	UHBVN	CONSTRUCTION OF 5000 LTRS CAPACITY WATER STORAGE TANK WITH SUPPORTING CIVIL STRUCTURE AT OP CIRCLE OFFICE COMPLEX AT OLD DC ROAD UHBVN SONEPAT	10.07.2019 23.07.2019	1.83 LACS	www.uhbvn.org.in	xenciviluhbnrohtak@gmail.com
11	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	CONST. OF BOUNDARY WALL, RAISING OF BOUNDARY WALL NEAR MP HALL AND P/F CC KERB AND SPECIAL REPAIR OF EXISTING BUILDING INCLUDING ELECTRICAL WORK AT KINGFISHER T/C, AMBALA	12.07.2019 01.08.2019	20.25 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in	9216400440 haryanaturism@gmail.com
12	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	CONST. OF CEMENT CONCRETE PARKING ROAD, BOUNDARY WALL, TILE TERRACING, EXTERIOR GRADE TILE AND OTHER WORKS AT T/C, GARUR GUEST HOUSE, ADI BADRI, YAMUNANAGAR	12.07.2019 01.08.2019	8.75 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in	9216400440 haryanaturism@gmail.com
13	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	WORK OF CONSTRUCTION OF SHIKHAR (3 NOS.) MANDIR WITH STONE CLADDING ON TERRACE OF CORRIDOR/ PASSAGE AT BRAHAM SAROVAR, KURUKSHETRA.	12.07.2019 01.08.2019	5 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in	9216400440 haryanaturism@gmail.com
14	HARYANA TOURISM CORPORATION LIMITED	WORK FOR BOUNDARY WALL ON VACANT LAND AT TOURIST COMPLEX, YADAVINDRA GARDEN, PINJORE.	12.07.2019 01.08.2019	27.30 LACS	haryanaturism.gov.in	9216400440 haryanaturism@gmail.com
15	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHARKHI DADRI	CONST. AND REPAIRING OF BRANCH STREETS OF GALI NO.9 IN WARD NO.1, CHARKHI DADRI + 36 OTHER WORKS	15.07.2019 25.07.2019	374.06 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	01250-220056
16	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNA NAGAR-JAGADHRI	CONST OF BOUNDARY WALL & ROOM IN SHIVDHAM IN VILLAGE CHANETI + 9 OTHER WORKS	13.07.2019 17.07.2019	67.78 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8708884382 xen.mcmnr@gmail.com
17	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE KALAYAT	CONST OF KANNA COMMUNITY COMMUNITY CENTER WARD NO.04 + 1 OTHER WORK	12.07.2019 19.07.2019	30 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	Munc Eng
18	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHARKHI DADRI	PURCHASE/SUPPLY OF E-RICKSHAW GARBAGE TIPPER IN MC CHARKHI DADRI + 1 OTHER WORK	11.07.2019 22.07.2019	65 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	01250-220056
19	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURGAON	PROVIDING & INSTALLATION OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF 10 SEATER MOBILE TOILET VAN IN ALL FOUR ZONES UNDER JURISDICTION OF MCG	10.07.2019 19.07.2019	5 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	ees@mccg.gov.in
20	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	COMPLETE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INCLUDING CLEANING, INTERIOR & EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING, SYSTEM, ELECTRICITY AND WATER SUPPLY ETC	12.07.2019 26.07.2019	10 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	ees@mccg.gov.in
21	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE MEHAM	MAINTENANCE OF TOWN PARK, SUBASH PARK, ANSHI LAL PARK AND TOILETS IN M.C MEHAM FOR TWO YEARS + 1 OTHER WORK	12.07.2019 22.07.2019	AS PER DNIIT	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	Munc Eng
22	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	PROVIDING AND LAYING 150MM DI PIPE WATER SUPPLY LINE FROM NH-8 SERVICES LINE TO SHOP FACTORY KHANSA ROAD WARD NO 27 UNDER MCG	CLOSING 19.07.2019	9.37 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7988669791 ee3@mccg.gov.in
23	HSAMB FARIDABAD	ANNUAL/ORDINARY REPAIR OF VARIOUS LINK ROADS (GROUP NO.1) IN PRTHLA CONSTITUENY (ROAD ID H-883, 753, 5188, 655) TIME LIMIT UP TO 15.03.2020. + 25 OTHER WORKS	16.07.2019 25.07.2019	2.94 CRORE	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	9971730975 xenfaridabad.hsamb2019@gmail.com
24	HSAMB KAITHAL	CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD FROM VILL. KHERI MATRWA TO DHERDUM C PUNDRJI ID-9764 HONBLE C.M ANNOUNCEMENT 25172 DT 03.03.2019 + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING 21.07.2019	1.31 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-223374 xenkaithal.hsamb@gmail.com
25	HSAMB REWARI	A/R OF L/R (I) UNHANI TO KEMLA ID 601 (II) APPROACH ROAD FROM PWD ROAD TO SPORTS STADIUM CHHITHROLI. ID 607 (III) DULOTH JAL TO SILAPUR ID 610	CLOSING 25.07.2019	AS PER TENDER NOTICE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274-224187 xenrewar2019@gmail.com
26	HSAMB KURUKSHETRA	WIDENING OF L/R FROM THANESAR CITY TO GHAMUR KHERI V/A BAHRI IN MC THANESAR (ROAD ID-3579) + 4 OTHER WORKS	17.07.2019 06.08.2019	1.37 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01744-231420 xenkr:hsamb@gmail.com
27	DHBVN	PROCUREMENT OF LT XLPE CABLE (ARMURED) AND TWIN CORE PVC CABLES (UN-ARMURED) OF VARIOUS SIZES. NIT NO-04/CE/OP/HSR/2019-20 DATED-11.07.2019	15.07.2019 06.08.2019	4.17 CRORE	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-223302 ceophsar@gmail.com
28	HARYANA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION	REPLACEMENT OF 80 OLD MOUNTURE METERS WITH NEW COMPACT UNIVERSAL DIGITAL DATA LOGGING UNDER BUY BACK SCHEME	10.07.2019 24.07.2019	1 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2584600 msthwc@hry.nic.in
29	HPGCL	E-NIT NO.01/CM/DP/12019-20 DTD 09.07.2019 SUB- WORK OF REPAIR OF ROAD IN PLANT & COLONY AREA AT PTPS, PANIPAT	09.07.2019 08.08.2019	48.63 LACS	www.hpgcl.org.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcp1@gmail.com

Police seeks adjournment of Kathua rape-murder trial Says accused being a major or minor still undecided

Jammu: Jammu & Kashmir Police's crime branch on Monday moved a plea before a juvenile justice board hearing the case of an accused in the gangrape and murder of a young girl in Kathua, seeking deferment of the trial as the state high court is yet to decide whether he is a minor or not.

Appearing before the board, the special public prosecutor of the crime branch submitted that the high court is yet to pronounce its decision on an application moved against the decision of a Kathua court which accepted the accused's claim that he is a minor, officials said.

The board, after framing charges against the accused who played a key role in kidnapping, rape and murder of the eight-year-old nomadic girl, had fixed Monday for examining prosecution witnesses and commencing of trial. PTI

Over 65 lakh pilgrims take Goverdhan parikrama since July 10

Mathura: Over 65 lakh pilgrims have undertaken circumambulation of the Goverdhan hillock here since July 10, with an increase in devotees since the Mudiya Poono Mela began on Friday, an official said.

The fair, which is dubbed as Mathura's Mini Kumbh, began on July 12 and will end on Tuesday. "Though 65 lakh pilgrims have performed the parikrama of the Goverdhan hillock by this afternoon, the unprecedented rush is continues," District Magistrate Sarvagya Ram Mishra said on Monday.

Schools in Mathura district's Goverdhan block have been closed till Tuesday as a precautionary measure as there has been a surge in traffic due to the Mudiya Poono Mela, he said. No untoward incident has been reported, the district magistrate said.

Mishra attributed the sudden spurt in the number of pilgrims performing the circumambulation to the lunar eclipse that falls on Tuesday night. PTI

Marx, Guevara to take brief break as Lord Rama to reign supreme in Kerala houses

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI



Come July 17, all Hindu homes in Kerala would reverberate with the reciting of Ramayana and this would last till August 16. The next 30 days would see the aged and young alike reciting "Sree Rama Rama Rama, Sree Rama Chandra jaya", to take a break from mundane issues like political murders, price rise and natural disasters.

Kerala has been observing the Ramayana Month for ages. Why July 17? It marks the beginning of the Malayalam month of Karkkadaka (the equivalent of Sravana as per the Sanskrit almanac) and concludes on August 16, the last day of Sravana.

It is a subdued age old practice handed down from generations to generations which is continuing with fervour by young and old alike. The entire Karkkadaka month is known as Ramayana Month among Hindus in the State. The epic is recited either early morning or in the dusk hours. It is the prerogative of the oldest female member of the family to read the epic from Balakanda to Yudhakanda spread over the month.

A scheme has been prepared since time immemorial to read Ramayana. As the grandmother or the senior most woman in the family reads the epic, children and all other members of the family sit around them with rapt attention. In Kerala the most preferred Ramayana is the Adhyatma Ramayana authored by Thunchath Ezhuthachan, the father figure of Malayalam. There are houses which follow the Valmiki Ramayana too.

The agitation for Ram Temple in Kerala is yet to catch up in the State dominated by Marxist ideology. That has not prevented the devotees from engaging themselves in the great epic. "People in Kerala follow Adhyatma Ramayana, which encompasses Bhakti and Vedantha (devotion and philosophy) while

the Valmiki Ramayana has given focus to Dharma Sasthra," Swamy Chidanandapuri is of the view that the Ramayana month has its origin in the age old Vedic traditions. "The month Karkkadaka marks the beginning of Dakshinayana and Chaturmasa Yagna. This is the period when people turn to God Almighty for spiritual cleaning," he explained.

According to this spiritual leader, Adhyatma Ramayana was authored by Vyasa. Lord Rama is in the form of God in Adhyatma Ramayana whereas in Valmiki Ramayana he represents the Dharmic science. Valmiki Ramayana is in Sanskrit and is a detailed account of the life and times of King Dasaratha and Lord Rama. While Valmiki has elaborated the story of the king Vibhandaka, his son Rishyasringa, King Lomapada and his daughter Santha in Valmiki Ramayana, they make just guest appearances in Adhyatma Ramayana!

It may be an abridged version of Valmiki Ramayana but it does not lack in soul and spirit. Even as the grandmother reads each sloga of the epic, the readers feel that they are hearing their own life stories from this epic. Rathnakaran, who leads a loose life by robbing, looting and murdering the poor was asked by the sages why he was engaged in such heinous deeds and whether he knew that he alone has to bear the price for his crimes, the devil in him underwent a bug change and over a period of time he was transformed into Sage Valmiki.

Ramayana is the story of the victory of good over the evil. It is also a roadmap for the wayward to return to the path of the righteousness. Even campuses in the State may see Che Guevara posters giving way to Lord Rama, though only for a month.

Centre targeting Mamata Govt: TMC ED NOTICE IN SHARADA TO TRINAMOOL MP, ACTORS

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay on Monday attacked the BJP Government for targeting the Mamata-Banerjee Government by raising law and order issues which were purely a State subject.

days, sources said. "Why the Centre is targeting Bengal Government again and again?" he asked mentioning the issuance of repeated advisories. Though he would not give details about the central communiques sources in the Bengal Government said "it all contain law and order issues which is out and out a State subject."

"First they try to attack her personally and if they fail in that they attack her Government," the Minister said. Violent clashes between a defensive Trinamool Congress and an aggressively assertive BJP have left more than a dozen people dead post general elections which saw the saffron outfit winning 18 out of 42 seats leaving 22 for the State ruling outfit. The Congress won two seats.

Municipality with bombs and bricks smashing its interiors and vandalising the hospital premises within the municipality campus forcing the patients undergoing treatment to literally flee for their lives. Clashes also took place at Patrasayar in Bankura district and Diamond Harbour in South 24 Parganas where about a dozen people from both the sides were injured. Clashes and bloodshed were reported between the supporters of Trinamool Congress Chhatra Parishad and Akhil Vidyarthi

Parishad at Garbeta, Keshpur and parts of East Midnapore sources said. Meanwhile, in an unrelated development that could cause further embarrassment to the Trinamool Congress the Enforcement Directorate has issued summons to TMC MP from Birbhum Shatabdi Roy for her alleged role in the Sharada hit fund scam. Notices have also been issued to former MP Kunal Ghosh, businessman Sandhir Agarwal, and two top Bengali cine stars, sources said.

No entry for 2-wheeler riders without helmet on Lucknow-Agra e-way

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

In a bid to ensure the security of motorcyclists, no two-wheeler rider will be allowed entry on the Lucknow-Agra expressway without helmets, the Uttar Pradesh Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) decided on Monday. "In the interest of people, it has been decided not to allow two-wheeler riders on the expressway without helmets. It will be strictly enforced," UPEIDA CEO Awanish Awasthi said.

Thane citizens launch 'post-card attack' on municipal chief

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Thane: In a novel protest, angry citizens of Thane on Monday dashed off over a 1,000 postcards to Thane Municipal Commissioner Sanjeev Jaiswal demanding his urgent intervention to resolve the hawkers' menace in their locality. The affected residents of over a dozen big housing complexes said that hundreds of hawkers have laid siege to the roads and pavements since two months, posing huge nuisance to the pedestrians, vehicles and emergency vehicular movements. "Despite repeated representations, a procession, meetings with local corporators, over 100 tweets to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and the Mayor, the Thane Municipal Commissioner has ignored our pleas. Today, we have despatched 1,052 postcards seeking an audience and permanent solution to the hawkers' problems," Eden Woods Complex Secretary T.N. Raghunatha told IANS. Lokpuram Society's Secretary Arvind Nadkarni said that the post-card campaign at Jaiswal was yet another step in the residents' peaceful agitation till their demand of making the entire locality into a hawker-free zone was achieved. IANS

PM dials Sonowal on Assam flood, assures Centre's support

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday telephoned Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and took stock of the flood situation in Assam, assuring all support from the Centre to the State in dealing with the situation.

Sonowal apprised Modi of the large-scale devastation the floods have caused on the lives of the people besides the state's economy, and informed him about the details of relief, rescue and rehabilitation operations undertaken by the Assam Government, said a Government release here.

The Chief Minister also told the Prime Minister that the State Government has sensitised the administration — both in Barak and Brahmaputra Valleys — and asked the Deputy Commissioners to reach out to the flood affected people with their men and materials. Sonowal briefed the PM on the entire gamut of relief and rescue operations that have been pressed into service to help the marooned people, the release said.

He also informed him that he has asked the State Ministers and all public representatives, including MLAs, to extend a helping hand to the victims of floods and personally involve themselves in the rescue operations. To a query of the Prime Minister, Sonowal informed that flood control mechanisms, including 24x7 control rooms, have been pressed into service

with State Government officials put on duty, manning them round the clock, the release said. Health department and Public Health Engineering department have been directed to respond to medicare related issues and provide medicines and clean drinking water, Sonowal informed.

Veterinary and Animal Husbandry department has been asked to take care of the marooned animals and keep adequate fodder stock ready for the stray animals of Kaziranga National Park, other national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, he added. He also told the Prime Minister about his direction to the authorities of national parks to supply fodder to the animals taking shelter on the high lands.



Flood submerges 90% of Kaziranga, Assam imposes restrictions

IANS ■ GUWAHATI

With the flood waters submerging 90 per cent of the Kaziranga National Park, the Assam government has imposed speed restrictions on a stretch of National Highway 37 and prohibitory orders to safeguard the animals in the area. Authorities have started issuing time cards at various check points for regulating vehicular speed to 40 km per hour on NH 37.

NH 37 in last 24 hours, a senior park official said, adding that different agencies, including the police, transport and civil administration have joined hands to control speed of vehicles on NH 37, that touches the southern boundary of the park.

According to the official, the speed restrictions are needed as some of the animals stray outside the park, particularly to head towards higher land in adjoining areas of Karbi Anglong, and are either injured or killed by speeding vehicles while trying to cross the NH 37.

24 dead in Bihar floods, over 26 lakh people affected

PTI ■ PATNA

The death toll in the Bihar floods mounted to 24 on Monday, with 25.66 lakh people reeling from the deluge in 12 districts of the state following incessant rains in neighbouring country Nepal, officials said.

Five more children drowned in two separate incidents in East Champaran district, but a senior official of the state disaster management department said they were not counted among the flood casualties. With five rivers in spate, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar undertook his second aerial survey of the flood-hit areas during the day.

Of the 24 deaths reported till 6 pm on Monday, Sitamarhi accounted for 10 deaths, while nine were reported from Araria, four from Kishanganj and one from Sheohar, a Disaster Management Department report said.

Four deaths were reported till Sunday evening from Araria (2), Sheohar (1) and Kishanganj (1). According to the Water Resources Department daily bulletin, five

rivers — Baghmata, Kamla Balan, Lalbakeya, Adhwara and Mahananda — are flowing above danger level at various places in the State.

Baghmata river is flowing above danger mark at five places, including Dheng, Sonakhan, Dubbadhar in Sitamarhi while at one place at Benibad in Muzaffarpur district, it said.

A Patna Meteorological

Centre official said it has issued a warning of heavy rainfall in Supaul, Araria, Kishanganj, Purnea and Katihar in next 24 hours. As many as 25,66,100 people have been affected by flood waters in 77 blocks of 12 districts — Sheohar, Sitamarhi, East Champaran, Madhubani, Araria, Kishanganj, Supaul, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Saharsa, Katihar and Purnea — the report said.

Tripura flood situation improves as water level recedes

PTI ■ AGARTALA

The flood situation in Tripura on Monday showed signs of improvement as Khowai and Haora rivers started receding, officials said. Personnel of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and security forces rescued a number of people in the flood affected Khowai and West Tripura districts, they said.



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119 NDRF teams deployed for rescue, relief op in flood-hit areas

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

As many as 119 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been deployed in flood-hit areas of the country, including Assam and Bihar, and a 24x7 control room has been set up in Delhi to closely monitor the situation in these regions.

As part of proactive measures, 119 teams of the NDRF have been deployed in various parts of the country keeping in view the disaster vulnerability and to keep extra vigil at locations where heavy rainfalls cause flood, an official statement said.

All NDRF teams, each comprising around 45 personnel, are equipped with boats, divers and other flood rescue-related equipment, and will be making the best use of their professionalism and technology in the discharge of their mandate, it said.

In Assam, 14 NDRF teams have been deployed in flood-affected districts of Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Biswanath Chahali, Cachar, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Guwahati, Jorhat,

Lakhimpur, Morigaon, Sivasagar and Tinsukia, where torrential rains and overflowing rivers and water bodies have worsened the flood situation, the statement said.

The NDRF teams are continuously engaged in assisting the local administration in rescue and relief work, it added. The personnel were operational in the low-lying areas of districts Bishwanath, Golaghat, Morigaon and Tinsukia. The NDRF evacuated 460 people and shifted them to safer places. So far, NDRF teams have evacuated more than 3,000 people in Assam, the release said.

In Bihar, heavy rainfall in the past few days has caused flood-like situation in low-lying areas and increased the water level of various rivers in several parts of the State. To deal with the severity of the situation, 19 NDRF teams have been deployed in Araria, Bettiah, Darbhanga, Didarganj, Gopalganj, Katihar, Madhubani, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi and Supaul districts, the statement said.

Police Headquarters J&K, Srinagar... NIT No: 39 of 2019 DATED: 11.07.2019

1K families affected by flood in Mizoram; toll rises to five

Aizawl: At least 1,000 families have been evacuated as raging waters of the Khawthlangtuipui river flooded 32 villages in Lunglei district of Mizoram, while rain-related incidents led to the death of five people in the State, officials said Monday. Heavy rain has been lashing Mizoram for the last seven days, as a result of which most rivers of the state have swollen and inundated many villages, they said.

At least 32 villages in Tlabung area in south Mizoram's Lunglei district were flooded by the river Khawthlangtuipui. PTI

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Fair game?

May be England deserved the World Cup but to win a game on the basis of boundaries hit is arbitrary



On the south bank of the Thames river that intersects London, a Wimbledon final for the ages was going down, and it would have been the most watched sporting event of Sunday if not for the twists and turns on the other side of the river at Lord's. A cricket final between England and New Zealand was going down to the wire, a cagey match with under 500 runs scored between the teams at the end of regulation in an era where 800-plus run totals in One-day Internationals are not unheard of. But at least you knew how Wimbledon would end. You knew that after that epic final between Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal a decade ago, Wimbledon changed the rules and 'unlimited' final sets were then limited to 12 games each after which a match was to be decided by a tie-breaker. Many can argue about tie-breakers in tennis and their "fairness." Federer, for example, won four more games than the eventual winner Novak Djokovic but they are an established part of the way tennis decides games. The same thing goes for many field sports such as football, field hockey and penalty shootouts. Again, one can debate on the fairness of the methods but these penalty shootouts or tie-breakers are to go to the very end, and while some have carried on quite long, games have eventually been decided.

However, to lose a game on a statistic must be particularly jarring and deeply unfair. And we all saw New Zealand lose the cricket World Cup on the basis of boundaries hit in the match. They also lost to an extremely lucky ricochet, admittedly inadvertent, that changed the game. Had the International Cricket Council (ICC) decided that because England beat New Zealand earlier in the tournament or because they did better in the league phase of the tournament that they should be the winner after everything was tied, it would have been fairer. But deciding a game on the number of boundaries hit is utterly bizarre and it would be like adjudicating a football game where after a tie, the winner is decided by who scored a goal from the greatest distance. New Zealand captain Kane Williamson, who is a tremendous individual, said it plainly, "Should have been this, should have been that, but it is what it is", and was given a standing ovation. But hundreds of cricket journalists, like cricketers and fans across the world, felt that something is rotten with the sport if a game, possibly the greatest one ever played, or so the British media would have us believe, is decided like this. Should there have been a second super over? Should the tournament have been declared a tie? These are genuinely important questions that need to be asked of the ICC and there is a major reason for that. This might have been one of the best games of cricket ever played in the one-day format in a long, long time but if these issues are not ironed out today, it could be the swan song for this genre. Fans and players expect fairness in a result, and while England played a great tournament, this is not how the game should have ended. Otherwise, they are worthy champions and did not in any way manipulate the result, unless, of course, one believes that New Zealand-born Ben Stokes deliberately 'hit' the ball to the boundary, which he clearly did not. It is a pity if the 'greatest game' ever played leaves us with so many valid questions about the result.

Wait for the moon

Too many firsts would have been compromised had ISRO not put Chandrayaan 2 on hold



Just because Chandrayaan 2, India's most ambitious space mission yet, was called off less than an hour before blast-off, doesn't mean that it has failed, dented our space programme or our global competitiveness. Considering that this mission had too much at stake, involving a moon landing on its southern side and a rover to map the surface and something which even Israel failed at just a while ago, it was better to err on the side of caution. Judging by the fact that a successful blastoff, the most spectacular of the

launch procedure, does not in any way guarantee the larger trajectory of any satellite or lunar module, means that pre-checks have to be foolproof and any technical snag has to be looked at with the microscopic attention it deserves. This mission could propel India to an elite league, becoming only the fourth country to soft-land a spacecraft between lunar craters after the US, Russia and China. It doesn't want to blackmark that journey or ability with a failed mission.

Besides, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) works on a shoestring budget and cannot afford failures, especially of something as high value as Chandrayaan 2. According to last estimates, India only has half the number of satellites it requires to meet its needs, from strategic data to predictive analysis, so we can ill afford a lost asset in space. The cost of launching Chandrayaan 2 is about half of what it would cost if it were launched from a foreign site and some reports suggest its budget is less than the Hollywood blockbuster *Avengers Endgame*. The countdown was halted about an hour before the launch because of a snag in the cryogenic stage or last stage of the rocket before it separates, the cryogenic technology having been developed by us only 1990s onwards and is, therefore, revolutionary. So a fault could jeopardise the landing mission and ISRO held back more out of "abundant precaution." Launch windows are defined by lunar orbital paths and positioning from the earth and one has to patiently wait for another opportunity but that is worth it. There are too many firsts in this project that cannot be compromised by oversight. For example, the 3.8-tonne Chandrayaan 2 spacecraft comprising an orbiter, the lander and the rover was to lift off on the 640-tonne GSLV Mark III (nicknamed "Baahubali"), India's most powerful rocket that's as high as a 15-storey building. Its rover is expected to follow up on Chandrayaan 1's projections of the presence of water and check for availability besides picking up details on moonquakes. For the first time, the mission director and project director of a space programme are women. And considering that everything about Chandrayaan 2 has been indigenously developed and manufactured, it is testimony to not only R&D and innovation but about the ability of home-grown companies to expand capabilities. India has already set a benchmark in PSLV launches, something which has even been acknowledged by NASA, and with Chandrayaan 2, it wants the GSLV to make a statement. This explains ISRO's sensitivity about the smallest move. The commercial satellite launch market is estimated to be \$30 billion by 2025. Competition among service providers has heated up in recent decades with the entry of private players such as SpaceX and Blue Origin and reusable rockets that drastically lower launch costs. China has already said it would launch reusable space rockets to compete with private players. Given this competitiveness and preparation for Gaganyaan, our manned space mission, it's okay to allow ISRO to factor safety before records.

Language conundrum

Several committees and commissions have emphasised the importance of the mother tongue medium. It is to be seen what comes of it in the final education policy



JS RAJPUT

The report to UNESCO of the International Commission on Education for the 21st Century was released at the session of the International Bureau of Education (IBE) in Geneva on October 2, 1996. The chairperson of the commission, Jacques Delors, very clearly summarised the essence of global consultations and the future vision of global education in the 21st century. For individual national contexts, he unequivocally stated: "Education in every nation must be rooted to culture and committed to progress." The report begins with Delors' Preamble entitled, *'Education: The Necessary Utopia'* and says it all in the first sentence: "In confronting the many challenges that the future holds in store, humankind sees in education an indispensable asset in its attempt to attain the ideals of peace, freedom and social justice."

The report has been deliberated upon globally for over two decades; it has received global appreciation and has impacted policies and implementation strategies internationally. Its articulation of four pillars of education — learning to know, learning to do, learning to be and learning to live together — has received admiration from common folks to seasoned academics alike. In the first quarter of the 21st century, who would not appreciate the fact that education "is not a miracle cure or magic formula" but one of the "principal means available to foster a deeper and more harmonious form of human development and, thereby, to reduce poverty, exclusion, ignorance, oppression and war." India, known for its economic, social, cultural, ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity, is committed to transform its education system to achieve social cohesion and religious harmony and strengthen unity in diversity. But its education system has to encompass a very sensitive canvas. Its three-language formula, accepted in the mid-1960s, is yet to be implemented fully in letter and spirit.

Its national policy on education was last revisited in 1992. After more than a quarter of the century, in 2019, the Kasturirangan Committee submitted the draft National Education Policy (NEP) to the Government for finalisation of a new education policy. The preparation of this report was preceded by a national consultation process spread over four years. The draft NEP is open for inputs and suggestions from every quarter before finalisation. It is interesting that widespread fresh consultations have generated demands for further extension of the time limit for submission of suggestions beyond July 31, 2019.

Yes, people are concerned about education, its quality, utility and capacity to achieve total personality development. While there is no limit to improvements in the presentation of such reports, one has to begin implementation at some point. The NEP, 2019 mostly consists of formulations that deserve support of all and active involvement of academics as well as scholars, who are unconstrained by ideological bonds and nar-



row political considerations.

The draft report attempts at giving a comprehensive view of national expectations and aspirations fully synchronised with international trends and requirements: "The vision of India's new education system has accordingly been crafted to ensure that it touches the life of each and every citizen, consistent with their ability to contribute to many growing developmental imperatives of this country on the one hand and towards creating a just and equitable society on the other." To achieve such an objective, the issue of 'language' and 'medium of instruction' will become relevant.

For obvious reasons, the British were not interested in educating Indians in their mother tongue. They needed obedient and loyal educated people who would despise everything that was Indian — be it culture, history or heritage. This could best be achieved by "delinking Indians from India." The best and easily available tool was to develop fascination for English language and all that was Western and, hence, admirable. Under severe burden of learning an alien language, where was the time for children as also parents' inclination to realise the importance of learning the mother tongue? It was rather interesting that within hours of the presentation of the report to the Human Resource Development Minister and its simultaneous uploading on the Ministry's website, certain vested interests attempted to create an

unsavoury conflict in the minds of people, raising the issue of the so-called imposition of Hindi on non-Hindi speaking States. It must go to the credit of the Ministry of Human Resource Development that within hours of the issue emerging on the national scene, it issued a clarification that the Government has no intention to impose any language on any set of people unwilling to learn it. In fact, ever since the three languages formula was accepted by the Government and a commitment made to the nation, none of the Union Governments ever tried to impose any language hegemony.

The issue of mother tongue medium has once again been comprehensively addressed in the draft NEP, 2019. It is a universally accepted fact that initial education must be provided in the mother tongue of the child. It is also a known fact that children in the age group of 2-8 years are extremely flexible in learning multiple languages.

The NEP report acknowledges: "Language has a direct bearing as the mediator in all cognitive and social capacities, including in knowledge acquisition and production. The science of child development and language acquisition suggests that young children become literate in (as a language) and learn best through (as medium of instruction) their 'local language' ie, the language spoken at home. It is interesting to note that the committee uses two terms — mother tongue and also the language

spoken at the home." One can cite an example that will indicate the farcical levels of fascination for English medium schools in India, particularly among those who can afford paying exorbitant fees in privately managed "public schools."

A young professor, working in a national academic institution in Delhi, sought transfer to his home-town in Bengaluru to look after his octogenarian in-laws, who had no other support. The request was accepted and the family shifted to their home place "happily." Their two kids — 10 and 12-year-old — got admission in a public school without any difficulty. However, their grandparents could communicate in Kannada only and the children were made monolingual, meaning they could speak English only. One had the occasion to ask the young parents how it was beyond comprehension that children were totally alien to Kannada. The response was very truthful and also revealing: "We decided to speak only English in our home and family conversation, even guests were requested accordingly. All this to ensure children acquire greater fluency in English — it was all for their bright future and to make their life easier to get a green card." If highly educated people are so charmed by English medium and English language, none will be surprised to find the mushroom growth of English medium schools in villages and towns.

The growing fascination for

English as the medium of instruction from day one onwards in schools is not new. It has a historic legacy. The language policy adopted by the British in India included every trick of the trade to wean Indians away from their culture and heritage and language was the first tool. One cannot ignore how Mahatma Gandhi analysed this fascination very early in his life.

On February 4, 1916, Gandhiji raised the issue of language and referred to the insight he had gathered from some Poona (now Pune) professors, who assured him "that every Indian youth, because he reached his knowledge through the English Language, lost at least six precious years of life." On July 5, 1928, he made a very touching statement on the medium of instruction, which deserves to be re-read and examined in the context of language learning and policy formulation. In fact, more than the policy-makers, it is the parents who should be aware of the harm being inflicted on the children by forcing children to learn English at the cost of mother tongue language: "The foreign medium has caused brain fag; put an undue strain upon the nerves of our children; made them crammers and imitators; unfitted them for original work and thought; and disabled them for filtering their learning to the family or the masses. The foreign medium has made our children practically foreigners in their own land."

In his opinion, among the many evils that the British imperialists imposed on India and its people, the imposition of a foreign medium was the greatest. He fervently wanted India to shake itself free from the hypnotic spell of foreign medium; sooner the better. Sadly enough that was not to be. Practically every commission and committee appointed in the post-independence period accepted and emphasised the importance and necessity of the mother tongue medium but things have gone from bad to worse. We have reached a stage when Governments, having failed to look after schools properly, have allowed their credibility to touch the nadir. The failure to maintain the mother tongue medium, Government schools are now being covered under the plan called school merger. People understand the real position. It will be interesting to see what emerges on the language front and the issue of medium of instruction in the final national education policy.

(The writer is the Indian Representative on the Executive Board of UNESCO)

SOUNDBITE

The House needs to discuss the powers and limitations of the three pillars of democracy — judiciary, legislature and executive.



Rajya Sabha Chairman — M Venkaiah Naidu

I feel that in an ideal world, any actor should be able to play anybody and art, in all forms, should be immune to political correctness.



Actor — Scarlett Johansson

I believe we (China, Russia, the US and Pakistan) don't exclude India in discussing and helping early settlement of the Afghanistan issue.



Chinese official — Geng Shuang

I thought power is an important thing for Punjab, one of our most important things, so I gave it to Sidhu but he did not want it.



Punjab Chief Minister — Amrinder Singh

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dramatic victory

Sir — The 2019 Cricket World Cup final was, perhaps, the wildest in cricket history and will be remembered for all time to come. This because there emerged no decisive winner. In the first stage, both England and New Zealand scored an equal of 241 runs each by the end of 50 overs. In the super over, too, both teams ended up with 15 runs in six balls.

However, it was England, which was crowned as champions by virtue of its overall direct hit to the fence. The country had 26 fours to its credit while the Blackcaps had only 17. While it is a memorable maiden victory for England, it is not a telling defeat for the Kiwis, too. Both teams played well.

Sravana Ramachandran
Chennai

A fairy tale ending

Sir — Perhaps the most imaginative writer, too, would not dare to come up with a script as unbelievable as the 2019 World Cup cricket final. What a fairy tale ending it had?

Cricket World Cup format needs an overhaul

The World Cup cricket finale ended on a high note while keeping the fans on the edge. The spectacular tied game — both England and New Zealand scored 241 runs in 50 overs — ended with super overs being declared in favour of the former, which had more number of boundaries to its credit. New Zealand conceded the defeat at the jaws of victory. It was a very close shave and worth an effort to bowl out England for 241 runs and, thus, limit their run chase to claim the title. New Zealand will be remembered for the sportsmanship and maturity it displayed in the first-ever World Cup final.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) needs to be appreciated for organising such a mammoth tournament, especially during a turbulent weather month, which hampered the matches and, hence, affected the net run rate for some teams. It should further plan meticulously to organise such tournaments in a weather-friendly season to ensure correct results without giving away points owing to bad weather. The ICC has to further review the run rate calculation method by doing away the archaic Duckworth Lewis points system, which favours only bet-



ter scoring teams batting first during rain-affected matches due to which many teams lose despite inching closer to victory. Semi-finalists, too, fared well with India and Australia being the favourites to claim the title but ended up with dismal performance. The World Cup tournament is a milestone gateway for many players, which witnessed key talent emerging and few prominent players willing to bid adieu to cricket.

Varun Dambal
Bengaluru

However, the decision on the winning team, on account of the number of boundaries it hit — 26 by England and 17 by New Zealand — acted not only as a cruel dampener but also rendered great injustice to the valiant display of the unsung Kiwis.

Barring Kane Williamson, Ross Taylor and Trent Boult, there

was hardly any other star in their line-up. Yet, by virtue of an impeccable team spirit and fighting attitude with cool minds, the Kiwis had succeeded in equalling the star-studded English in all departments, including the super over in the latter's own den, Lords, in the thrilling final. Justice would have been adequately served had both

England and New Zealand been declared joint winners.

Kajal Chatterjee
Kolkata

Exposing faultlines

Sir — Cricket teams these days depend on a handful of batsmen

and bowlers. They are called upon in all tricky situations and the selectors, the coach and the captain tend to rely a bit too much on this group. Other players in the team play as fielders. Lower-order batsmen seldom experience crunch situations and are happy to let the top order do all the hard work and take all the glory. Hence, if the top order collapses in a given match, then all hope is generally lost. India's loss in the semi-finals is a pity after winning almost every game in the league stage. The fault lies in the dodgy middle and lower orders. Expecting predictably good performances in World Cup is foolish.

R Narayanan
Navi Mumbai

Look for strategy

Sir — With the monsoon playing truant and cities facing rising population, the Government must look for a long-term remedy for the water crisis, failing which the problem may go out of hand.

Avantika
Via email

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

White elephant of dispute settlement

The lack of laws surrounding arbitration has made it not only a complex process but often delays resolution



VIVEK SINGH

When an unresolved dispute is referred by parties, who have disagreements over an issue, to a third party who stands to be neutral, the process of resolution is known as "arbitration." When instead of the litigation process, the concerned parties mutually agree to resolve the matter through a neutral party, it is known as "voluntary arbitration." But when the Government instructs the two parties to resolve their issues through mediation, it is known as "compulsory arbitration." While the former is not legally binding to both parties, the latter is subject to be abiding by both. Although arbitration seems to be simple, easy and cost-effective, the process is full of practical demerits, which remain disguised until the parties come to know that they had spent a lot. The results, however, are still unsatisfactory.

Extravagant alternative to litigation: More buzz, less bite is the perfect phrase to describe why arbitration is a white elephant. Yes, expensive but worthless. Though it was introduced as an alternative to a lawsuit, in a highly populated country like India, arbitration is not an antidote to the established legal procedure that is followed by the courts. First, a majority of the people do not have faith in this alternate way of resolving disputes because of the many complications involved in the arbitration procedure. Second, in the case of non-satisfaction, the loser does not have much scope for appellate jurisdiction.

In India, the binding value of an arbitration verdict has always been questionable in the legal term because as per the Supreme Court of India, a writ can lie against an arbitrator under Article 226 of the Indian Constitution. There are also some legal challenges that affect the effectiveness of the arbitration. According to the Supreme Court, an arbitrator's decision must not go against the provisions laid down by the law, else it will be considered illegal. After spending a significant amount of money in the arbitration agreement, dissatisfaction among the parties over its legal power is always a common issue. Further, when the legal cost is high and its recovery is unavailable, it becomes more difficult for an aggrieved party, who do not have sufficient funds or unwilling to bear arbitration cost.

When influence gets biased: Another big disadvantage of arbitration is the influence of the powerful in the system over the decisions of an arbitrator, who is not as protected as the judge of a tribunal court. The vested interest of the arbitrator from the stronger party may also nullify the purpose of arbitration. And once the decision goes wrong, the sufferer has very limited scope to challenge the verdict as there are not many avenues for appeal and chances of making any major change in the decision are always very slim, which means an upside down of the table is rarely possible.

Complexities make things rigid: Apart from the functional demerits, there are also many structural shortcomings that make arbitration the least preferred choice. It becomes quite annoying for solution-seekers to expect early resolution of a dispute when there are two or more arbitrators on the panel. Availability of arbitrators on a particular date is often a challenge because of differences in their work schedules. On the other hand, rule of applicable law is binding only to the parties, who seek justice through arbitration but arbitrators are not necessarily bound to it. In addition, hassles are also there in the enforcement of interlocutory measures against a party to resolve disputes related to relocation of assets among other things.

Arbitration is not a very good alternative to the lawsuit that takes place through the courts in a systematic and more transparent manner. Usually, in our country, retired judges from High Courts and the Supreme Court are hired as arbitrators by big firms where they make decisions to impress their bosses. In such an influential scenario, where there are no set rules and responsibilities defined by the law for an arbitrator, getting an acquaintance with justice is not just difficult but costly, too.

(The writer is a practising lawyer at the Supreme Court of India)



POINTCOUNTERPOINT

PROBE AGENCIES ARE MISUSED AND INSPIRED MEDIA LEAKS FROM THEM HAVE TURNED THE MAXIM OF INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY ON ITS HEAD.

—CONGRESS LEADER
MANISH TEWARI



THE MODI GOVERNMENT WILL NEVER ABUSE NIA TO TARGET ANYONE BUT WILL ENSURE THAT TERRORISM IS FINISHED OFF.

—UNION MINISTER
AMIT SHAH

The cost of financial inclusion

Given the high incidence of fraud and abuse and the all-pervasive menace of illegal money pooling by companies, it's essential that customer protection must be overhauled



MOÏN QAZI

In 1919, Charles (Carlo) Ponzi, a dishwasher from Parma, Italy, who immigrated to the United States (US) in 1903 and worked as a clerk in Boston, duped the Americans with a scheme that now bears his name. Ponzi was a financial con artist who did not invent this eponymous scheme but he lent star power to one of the oldest scams known to us and pioneered its subtle variation on a huge scale.

India has always been a fertile ground for swindles that have bilked mostly low-income households of millions of rupees. The financially illiterate are usually the easy picks. Financial illiteracy leads people to make systematic and costly mistakes. Investors have been periodically gulped by nefarious characters into dubious schemes. The poor have now become wary of investing money even in credible organisations. These mercenary agents use enticing traps to net gullible investors like sharks preying on small gold fish in the big bad financial ocean.

Ponzi sponsors are authors of the dreamers' landscape: Get-rich-quick schemes and rags-to-riches stories; they have an unerring gift of charming and beguiling investors, fuelling their avarice. The ruse actually juggles investors' money and works in this manner: Perpetrators typically promise gullible clients moon-stratospheric returns on investments. The scheme relies on a constant stream of new investors to fund guaranteed payouts to existing savers. These schemes can snowball but eventually collapse when the potential pool of new savers runs dry. This happens when the scheme hits the natural limits of its strategy for recruiting investors.

Ponzi and pyramid schemes: A Ponzi scheme is a classic swindle, similar to a pyramid scheme in the sense that both are based on using new investors' funds to pay earlier investors. The promoters tout phenomenal returns for investors. One difference between the two schemes is that the Ponzi originator gathers funds from new investors and then distributes them. Pyramid schemes, on the other hand, allow each investor to directly benefit in proportion to the number of new investors recruited. Older members are allowed to withdraw money after a certain period of time and receive bonuses for encouraging new entrants to sign up. In this case, the person on the top of the pyramid does not, at any point, have access to all the money in the system. Instead of investing funds or doing legitimate business, the uncouth Ponzi operator just recycles money, uses the commitments to pay off earlier investors and takes a cut for himself. Gullible investors are normally illiterate and do not understand the nuances of finance. They don't realise that existing investors are paid money not from genuine business profit. They believe that their funds are a sound and legitimate business.

The scam establishes a façade of credibility by paying the promised returns to early-stage backers, as long as new savers keep adding to the fold. The liabilities actually exceed assets and the firm is permanently insolvent. The scheme moves seamlessly, delivering steady returns and without raising a faintest hint of suspicion, until a point when it is no longer able to attract new investors. The promoters even pay the fanciful returns, perhaps even higher than the promised dividend, out of their personal funds, thus confirming the promoter's credibility. They plough ahead until the whole structure collapses like a house of cards when the flow of fresh money dwindles and the perpetrator can't honour the redemptions because the outflow of cash

“ WE LIVE IN A DIFFICULT FINANCIAL WORLD WHERE MILLIONS OF FINANCIALLY ILLITERATE, AND SOME SURPRISINGLY LITERATE, ARE BEING CONNED BY DANGEROUS MONEY GAMES THAT HAVE GENERATED MASSIVE BUBBLES OF FAKE GROWTH AND PONZI PROSPERITY WHILE ENDANGERING PRECIOUS HARD-EARNED SAVINGS, JOBS AND FUTURES OF VIRTUALLY EVERYONE OUTSIDE THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY ”



exceeds the inflow. Savings disappear, debts mount and the scammer goes slowly under. He tries to siphon off as much of the money as he can before the scheme fails and those at the bottom end up losing all the money. The crucial piece in the puzzle is the incompetence of regulators and watchdogs, who either know about these scams and do nothing, or completely overlook it on account of powerful promoters, who have political links. Such schemes thrive in an opaque policy environment.

We live in a difficult financial world where millions of financially illiterate, and some surprisingly literate, are being conned by dangerous money games that have generated increasingly massive bubbles of fake growth and Ponzi prosperity while endangering precious hard-earned savings, jobs and futures of virtually everyone outside the financial industry. "Voodoo banking" continues to generate massive phony profits. These episodes continue to cause a significant loss of consumer trust and confidence. Our market structure puts the onus of reliability on the "buyer", who is expected to be fully aware of the implications of his/her decision. It is presumed that information available in the market will empower them, who will sort through various options that competing businesses offer and make a decision that maximises the economic utility.

This model, where the responsibility sits on the consumers for choosing the right product, is based on the twin pillars of full disclosure by firms and of literate consumers, who are considered capable of decoding these disclosures.

Financial literacy is an antidote to scams: While we should make a case for strong regulations to protect consumers against unscrupulous firms, we must remember that good financial literacy

among citizens is the most effective antidote against these moral abuses. To blunt the potential for risk, it's more important than ever to arm customers with skills they need to responsibly borrow to get a business idea off the ground or to acquire an asset like a house, save and insure to stay resilient through the life's worst moments without being pushed deeper into debt. They can then keep distance from unscrupulous and dubious investment schemes that have leveraged the financial lives of multitudes. Stories commonly abound of people having been stripped of every rupee they earned by the time they realised that they'd been conned. Financial advisors and counsellors must be able to spot early, and sometimes subtle, signals.

Since low-income communities face multiple risks, small businesses need to be insured to prevent their slide back into poverty. Micro-insurance softens the impact of economic shocks, which frequent within this segment. Offering micro-credit without micro-insurance is self-defeating; it must be an integral component of financial inclusion when offered in conjunction with micro savings. Micro-insurance can keep this segment away from the poverty trap. Offering microcredit without micro-insurance is fraught with risk. Therefore the need is to emphasise the linking of microcredit with micro-insurance. It will also enhance the sustainability of micro-insurance as it is not viable as a standalone product.

Many micro-entrepreneurs still prefer other informal sources of finance, like the moneylenders because of their flexible methods of repayment. If they are prepared to pawn their jewels, local informal lenders will advance at high interest. The (interest) rate may be sky-high, but one can pay back whenever he/she has the money. It's less stressful and one can invest

all the loans without keeping anything for initial instalments. Many of these borrowers are moving to other sources for their financial needs after experiencing too many close calls when they find themselves short of money to make their micro-finance repayment. Robust consumer protection rules are critical to safeguard people from fraud and abuse and the pervasive menace of illegal money pooling by companies. This is especially important for women and low-income people, who are most likely to be financially inexperienced. This also underscores the importance of targeted financial literacy and capability training and embracing opportunities to use new technologies to expand access to formal financial services.

We need an overhaul of the customer protection regime. The new regime must be one that can hold all entities to a common standard of institutional conduct in how they deal with the individual customer, including how they sell products. A misalignment of incentives between the provider and the customer leaves the customer worse-off. Therefore, we need to enforce a system that keeps the customer's interests above everything else. The good news is that there are now several channels of information and resources to help the public build financial stability. To safeguard the hard-earned money of investors and curb the pervasive menace of illegal money pooling by companies, the Reserve Bank of India has set up a portal — sachet.rbi.org.in — to enable the public to obtain information about registered entities, who accept deposits, get information regarding illegal acceptance of deposits and lodge complaints. The portal also facilitates filing and tracking of complaints.

(The writer is Member, NITI Aayog's National Committee on Financial Literacy and Inclusion for Women)

Promoting enterprise in rural areas

At a time when India has undertaken a digital revolution, Common Services Centres are playing an important role of a catalyst in extending access to technology and services for citizens, especially in rural areas, thus paving grassroot penetration of e-governance



DINESH TYAGI

With India emerging as a leading digital economy, driven by information technology, infrastructure and services, a range of new opportunities is being created for entrepreneurship development across various sectors. Rural and semi-urban communities are being connected with services and opportunities through digital and financial inclusion.

This is being made tangible through the Digital India movement. "Digital India" is the flagship programme of the Government to transform the country into a digitally empowered society and a leading knowledge economy. The aim is to bridge the digital divide and ensure

that the advantages of information and communication technology are harnessed so as to empower the citizens. The true potential of these revolutionary steps is being harnessed by promoting rural entrepreneurship based on digital infrastructure and services to provide relevant and sustainable options of livelihood in rural areas.

In the present context, it is relevant to provide opportunity to people in rural areas for gainful employment. It is here that digital India has opened new avenues for them. The Common Services Centres (CSC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, are playing an important role as they have emerged as the harbinger of rural entrepreneurship, which is an integral part of the Government's Digital India programme.

CSCs are internet-enabled access points that deliver various electronic services through a pan-India network, catering to regional, geographic, linguistic and cultural diversity, thus fulfilling the Government's

mandate of a socially, financially and digitally inclusive society. The ability of CSCs, which avoids direct interaction of the citizens with the Government offices, ensures transparency, accountability and efficiency in the delivery of services through a reduced turnaround time.

In 2015, under the Digital India programme, the Government approved the CSC 2.0 scheme with an aim to create "one CSC, one gram panchayat" in order to cover all the 2.50 lakh gram panchayats, thus aiming at establishing a self-sustaining network at the gram panchayat level under digital India and deliver various citizen-centric services. It places great stress on sustainability of the scheme as well as providing access to the rural population.

Today, CSCs are playing the role of a catalyst in extending access to technology and services for citizens, especially in rural areas and in the process, paving grassroot penetration of digital services and, hence, fostering participation in governance. The objective of the CSC scheme is to provide non-discrimi-

natory access to e-services to rural citizens by making it a complete service delivery centre, by creating the physical service delivery infrastructure and utilising the back-end infrastructure already created in terms of other MMPs. The CSC 2.0 is envisaged as transaction-based and service delivery-based model, delivering a large bouquet of e-services through a single delivery technological platform, which would increase the sustainability of the CSCs across the country.

The role of CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC SPV), a special purpose vehicle set up by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to oversee the implementation of the CSC scheme, is engaged by the Government as the overall implementing agency for the success of the CSC 2.0 scheme. The body constantly engages with various Government departments, business establishments, banks, insurance companies and educational institutions to augment the range of services that can be provided through

CSCs and thereby ensure their sustainability. As on today, there are around 3,65,918 functional CSCs in India, of which 2,65,398 cover the gram panchayats.

These bodies are run by individuals called the Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs), who are co-opted into the ecosystem from the community they serve. Currently, around 28 Central Government services are offered to the citizens through the CSC network that uses the centralised Digital Seva Portal. State G2C services, ranging from 10 to 400 in various States, are also delivered through CSCs in collaboration with various State Governments and other departments.

In a rough estimate today, around 12 lakh people have been provided direct or indirect employment through their engagement with CSC across the country. Despite rapid urbanisation, more than 66 per cent of our population still resides in rural areas. Hence, providing livelihood opportunities is crucial for this vast segment of the population. The

launching of developing entrepreneurship capabilities in rural areas by enabling the CSCs to implement various important programmes is a paradigm shift in the approach of bridging the digital divide.

This initiative is expected to ignite rural development and reduce migration of the young generation to cities. As India continues to grow as a digital economy, the rural communities need avenues and employment opportunities that are based on the digital infrastructure. Gradually, the CSCs are being positioned as change agents, promoting rural entrepreneurship and building rural capacities and livelihoods.

The CSCs provide a success model for creating rural entrepreneurship that leverages new-age opportunities through a sound business and social development service framework. This approach has a natural call for continuation in the years to come to meet citizens' expectations and the Government's vision of delivery of services at their doorstep.

(The writer is CEO, Common Services Centre)



FOREIGN EYE



CREATIVE SELF

As the National Theatre's artistic director, Rufus Norris argued, creative confidence brings with it initiative and freedom of thought, an understanding of the relationships and communication that sit at the heart of any dynamic and successful working life. Creativity needs to be on the curriculum, not only because we should aim to nurture the next Andrew Lloyd Webber, Zadie Smith or Cressida Cowell, but because it equips even non-creatives with skills. (The Guardian editorial)

3 IL&FS group entities enter into pact with secured lenders

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Crisis-hit IL&FS Monday said it has entered into an agreement with secured lenders of three group entities, that have a debt burden of ₹5,071 crore, as part of resolution process.

Binding term sheet has been signed with secured lenders of three entities — Moradabad Bareilly Expressway Ltd, Jharkhand Road Projects and West Gujarat Expressway Ltd.

This move is in line with the current management's efforts to monetise assets and would also help in repaying debt to mutual funds.

Total debt across these three entities is approximately ₹5,071 crore — ₹3,242 crore from secured lenders and ₹1,829 crore from unsecured lenders, a release said.

The revised proposal involves certain concessions and modification of terms of financial debt availed by these entities from lenders.

The release of cash flow from existing accounts will be used for servicing financial and operational creditors, reduction in debt service coverage ratio requirement; utilisation of surplus cash and preference to secured lenders over unsecured lenders in case of a shortfall, it added.

The major secured lenders of Moradabad Bareilly Expressway Ltd include India Infra Debt Ltd, L&T Infrastructure Finance Company, L&T Finance, L&T Infra Debt Fund, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India. The overall debt is around ₹1,567 crore.

Jharkhand Road Project is undertaking developments of five projects. India Infra Debt Ltd, L&T Infra Debt Fund, Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund, Aditya Birla Health Insurance and Capital Asset Fund are among the major secured lenders. The aggregate debt is around ₹1,545 crore.

According to the release, West Gujarat Expressway has been awarded road project in Gujarat and its major secured lenders include L&T Infrastructure Finance Company and L&T Infra Debt Fund with debt of about ₹129 crore.

With the term sheet, the three entities have been moved from amber to green category.

As part of the resolution efforts, the group companies have been classified into three categories, mainly based on their financial positions — green, amber and red.

IL&FS case: Bawa's wife, daughter seek to de-freeze a/cs citing no mention in charge-sheet, SFIO report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The counsel for the family of ex-IL&FS Financial Services head Ramesh Chandra Bawa's wife Asha Kiran and daughter Akansha Monday moved NCLT seeking to defreeze their bank accounts as neither the SFIO report nor the charge-sheet name them in the case.

However, the counsel for the corporate affairs ministry, which want to extend the freeze on their accounts, argued that the petitioners are the beneficiaries of ₹12 crore of funds from Bawa's frozen banks accounts, as per the findings of the SFIO probe, which has also found that the duo had accessed the blocked-locks of Bawa three-four times after the NCLT ordered their freezing last December and thus are in contempt of the tribunal.

"There is no mention of Asha Kiran and Akansha in the charge-sheet and thus keeping their accounts frozen cannot be justified," their counsel argued.

He further said the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has not charged Asha Kiran and Akansha yet and thus have no allegations against them.

"Except for transfer of money, there is no other allegations or charges against them," he said, adding, "Asha has been operating the lockers even after the NCLT freeze as there the tribunal did not direct the Indian Banks Association on freezing the lockers."

He also said his clients are ready to return the ₹4.81 crore transferred to their accounts.

Hearing both the sides, NCLT reserved its order without mentioning the date for next hearing.

China's GDP growth slows to 6.2% in Q2, weakest in 27 years

PTI ■ BEIJING

China's growth has slumped to 6.2 per cent in the second quarter of this year, its lowest level in nearly three decades, the Government said Monday, as the world's second largest economy feels the pinch of a bruising trade war with the US and weak global demand.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth slid from 6.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2019, according to government data released on Monday.

While the slowdown to 6.2 per cent is a 27-year low, it raised concerns as the once resilient Chinese economy did not dip below 6.4 per cent even during the 2009 world economic crisis during which the largely export dependent country came under heavy pressure due to the steady fall in its foreign trade.

China's GDP expanded 6.3 per cent year-on-year in the first half of 2019 to about 45.09 trillion yuan (about \$6.56 trillion), according to data released by China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The growth, however, was in line with the Government's annual target range of 6.0-6.5 per cent for the whole year, down from the 6.6 per cent growth China put up in 2018.

A breakdown of the data showed output of the service sector, which accounted for 54.9 per cent of the total GDP, rose seven per cent in the first half of

the year, outpacing a three per cent increase in the primary industry and a 5.8-per cent rise in the secondary industry.

Consumption appeared to play a bigger role in driving economic growth as it contributed 60.1 per cent to the economic expansion in the January-June period, which officials consider encouraging. But the concerns remain as China's imports declined by 7.3 per cent in June. Since 2009, China has been trying hard to rejig its export dependent economy to the one more dependent on domestic consumption to halt the slowdown.

"The economic data is still facing downturn pressure (in the second half of the year). While there are also many positive factors, the market vitality is gradually being stimulated," NBS spokesman Mao Shengyong told the media while releasing the data.

The economic performance was generally stable and remained within a reasonable range, with progress being made in certain areas, he said. In the first half of the year, 7.73 million new jobs were created in urban areas, completing 67 per cent of the annual target, the data said.

At the end of the second quarter, the total number of rural migrant workers stood at 182.48 million, an increase of 2.26 million over the same period last year, up 1.3 per cent year-on-year.

RBI imposes ₹10 lakh penalty on Union Bank of India

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on Union Bank of India for non-compliance with the directions on cyber security framework.

The penalty was imposed on July 9, 2019, according to an RBI release.

"This action (imposition of penalty) is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers," it added.

Giving background of the case, the RBI said that based on reports of generation of seven fraudulent messages of a total value of \$171 million through SWIFT system of the bank in 2016, an examination of its cyber security framework was carried out which revealed several deficiencies.

Based on the findings, a notice was issued to the state-owned bank advising it to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed on it for non-compliance with the extant directions.

After considering the replies received from the bank, and submissions made during the personal hearing, the RBI decided to impose the penalty, the central bank said.

Business Corner



64th Railway National Award ceremony cum Rail Exhibition was organized in SAIL Auditorium Ranchi on 14th July 2019. Exhibition stalls of SER, ER, ECR, NFR, ECoR, SECR, Metro Kolkata, NFR, RLDA, RVNL & CRIS & CLW were visited by Shri Raghubar Das, Chief Minister, Suresh S Angadi, MoSR & VK Yadav, CRB, Raghubar Das, Chief Minister of Jharkhand was apprised by Praveen Kumar Mishra, GM, CLW about the new initiatives and development taken place in CLW in manufacturing of latest technology electric locomotives during last FY (2018-19) & current FY (2019-20)



To commemorate the 20th year of the "Kargil Vijay Diwas", a function was held on Monday at New Delhi Railway Station where a vinyl wrapped train was flagged off by the Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Suresh C Angadi, Union Minister of State for Railways and Meenakshi Lekhi, MP, Lok Sabha



NLC India Limited, Neyveli has been conducting Book Fairs for the last 22 years for the benefit of the general public in a grand manner and this year, the 22nd Neyveli Book Fair was held from 05th July, 2019 to 14th July, 2019. The Chief Guest of the Valedictory function, V AnbuSelvan, IAS, Collector, Cuddalore District

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)
H. O. "UJJAWAL" MAHARANI BAGH, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866
website: www.uttarakhandjvnlvidyut.com., (Tele.: 0135-2763508, 2763808, Fax: 0135-2763507)

"e" Procurement Tender Notice
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

For and on behalf of UJVN Limited, Executive Engineer (Civil) Lohiahead, Khatima invites e-tender from interested bidders for following work to be executed under Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project:

Loan Grant No & Title	Loan No: 7943-IN under DRIP (Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project)
NCB NO	NCB/01/EE(CIVIL)/UJVN/LOHIAHEAD/KHATIMA/2019-20
Name of work	Renovation of Existing Building of Erector Hostel Building with Some New Construction to Develop Training Center Cum Erector Hostel Near Sharda Power House, Lohiahead.
Estimate Value of work	₹ 17954317.00 (Excluding GST)
Earnest Money	₹ 4,48,900.00
Tender Fee	₹ 11,800.00 (Including GST)
Period of Completion	12 Months from date of start
Date & Time of availability of bid document in the e-portal	From 18:00 Hrs of 19/07/2019
Pre-bid meeting	At 11:00 Hrs of 06/08/2019
Last Date & Time for submission of Tender in the e-portal	Upto 12:00 HRS of 20/08/2019
Last Date & Time for submission of Documents in Hard Copy	Upto 11:30 Hrs of 23/08/2019
Date & Time of Opening of Tender in the portal	At 12:00 Hrs of 23/08/2019

Name and Address of the Officer Inviting the Tender : Executive Engineer (Civil) Lohiahead, Khatima
Information regarding Addendum/Corrigendum/ Cancellation etc of tender may be obtained from the website. Full & Further Details of tender can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in".
पत्रांक सं 359/दिनांक 15.07.2019

"Save Electricity in the interest of Nation"

BHEL, CONCOR to jointly set up rail-based logistics facility at Haridwar

New Delhi: Aimed at leveraging Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)'s strategic location and Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR)'s expertise in logistics, the two companies have signed an agreement to form a Joint Working Group (JWG) named BHELCON, for jointly setting up a Rail-based Logistics Terminal at Haridwar. Significantly, with this, BHEL is making a strategic entry into a new growth area. This terminal will further be developed into a multi-modal-logistics-facility.

In addition to meeting BHEL's own requirements, the terminal will also cater to the large number of industries located in the neighbouring SIIDCUL as well as other industrial clusters in the vicinity of the terminal. These industries stand to benefit immensely as the cost of rail transportation is significantly cheaper than transportation by road. Moreover, BHEL's Haridwar plant is in close proximity to both the upcoming Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors and advantageously placed to take benefit of these corridors in future. PNS

WPI inflation eases to near 2-yr low at 2.02% in June

New Delhi: Wholesale price-based inflation declined for the second consecutive month to its 23-month low of 2.02 per cent in June, helped by decline in prices of vegetables as well as fuel and power items, according to official data released Monday.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation was at 2.45 per cent in May. It was 5.68 per cent in June 2018.

Inflation in food articles basket eased marginally to 6.98 per cent in June, from 6.99 per cent in May.

Vegetable inflation softened to 24.76 per cent in June, down from 33.15 per cent in the previous month. Inflation in potato was (-) 24.27 per cent, against (-) 23.36 per cent in May. However, onion prices continued the rising trend with inflation at 16.63 per cent during the month, as against 15.89 per cent in May. WPI inflation in June is the lowest in 23 months, since July 2017, when it was at 1.88 per cent.

Inflation in 'fuel and power' category cooled substantially to (-)2.20 per cent, from 0.98 per cent last month. Manufactured items too saw decline in prices with inflation at 0.94 per cent in June, against 1.28 per cent in May.

WPI inflation data for April has been revised upwards to 3.24 per cent from provisional 3.07 per cent.

Data released earlier this week showed that retail inflation spiked to a six-month high of 3.18 pc in June, on costlier food items. PTI



BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) has won the prestigious Golden Peacock Award 2019 in the category of Occupational health and safety. Organised by the Institute of Directors (IOD), the Golden Peacock Award was presented to the discom at the 21st World Congress on Environment Management, Bangalore



CM of Jharkhand, Raghubar Das on Monday laid the foundation stone of 'POWERGRID VishramSadan' at RIMS Ranchi in presence of Chief Guest, RK Singh, Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, New & Renewable Energy, and Minister of State Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at RIMS, Ranchi. This project is part of the Corporate Social Responsibility of POWERGRID

Govt. of Bihar
BIHAR RAJYA PUL NIRMAN NIGAM LTD.
(A GOVT. OF BIHAR UNDERTAKING)
WORKS DIVISION MUZAFFARPUR
Email-spe-muzaffarpur@brpnncn.in

Quotation No. 774

Notice Inviting Quotation (National Competitive Bidding)

Sealed quotation is being invited from the ISO or CE certified manufacturer for Supply of Polypropelene Multifilament woven Fabric Geotextile Filter 130 gsm to be used as filter media underneath some/boulder pitching in slope of high embankment of approach road and in Guide Bund in Bangraghat Project under Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd. Procurement of Geotextile shall be done by the civil work agency of the project M/s S.P. Singla Construction Pvt. Ltd. Quotations will be received up to 30.07.2019 up to 3.00 P.M. and will be open on same day at 4:00 P.M. in the office of the Senior Project Engineer, Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd., Work Division, Muzaffarpur, Chhapra Niwas, IG Colony, Near Bhagwanpur Chowk, NH-28, Muzaffarpur- 842001/ Dy. Chief Engineer, Work Circle-1, B.R.P.N. Ltd, 7, Sardar Patel Marg, Patna-800015. Contact Person- Senior Project Engineer, Contact No. 9471006349.

Terms and Conditions:-

- All mandatory tests as per IS code like Breaking Strength, Elongation, Por size, Permeability etc. shall be done before delivery of the product.
- The manufacturer shall have ISO or CE Certifications for manufacturing, process and quality control.
- The manufacturer shall provide manufacturer's test certificate for every lot supplied from the factory.
- The supplier shall provide third party test reports from an independent laboratory with valid accreditation for all the test values in manufacturer's test certificate.
- Geotextile shall be tested as prescribed by BIS. In absence of IS codes, tests prescribed either by ASTM, EN, BS or ISO shall be conducted.
- The Geotextile as a filter material below stone pitching over the slope, shall allow the water to flow out and at the same time prevent the loss of soil under the protective measure.
- Procurement of Geotextile shall be done by the civil work agency of the project M/s S.P. Singla Construction Pvt. Ltd.
- Quotation can be cancelled at any time without giving prior information.

Senior Project Engineer,
Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd.
Work Division, Muzaffarpur.

PR. 04456 (NI Ni) 2019-20 विटिया मेरी अभी पढ़ेगी, शादी की सूली नहीं चढ़ेगी।

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
(Through e-tendering)
Tender No. 558-Sig-16-Tele-AMC-556 Dated: 05.07.2019

Name of work with its location: AMC of Electronics Train Chart Display system P.F. 1 to 16 of New Delhi Railway Station for three years.

App. Cost of the work (₹): ₹ 4151093.76 only

Tender Document Fee (₹): ₹ 3,540 only

Earnest Money Deposit (₹): ₹ 83000 only

Address of the office: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-I, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.

Date & Time of upload the tender/closing of tender: Tender uploading/closing date & time 14.08.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.

Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc: See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.

2271/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

STCH INTEGRATED MARKETING SOLUTION LLP
Registered office: Unit no 101, B-357-A, First Floor, KH NO-389/263/1 Main Road, New Ashok Nagar, Near East End Apartments Delhi - 110096

Form No. URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Act [Pursuant to Section 374(b) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]

- Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section(2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen days hereof but before expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at 4th Floor, IFCI Tower, 61 Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 that STCH INTEGRATED MARKETING SOLUTION LLP may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act, 2013, as a Company limited by shares
- The Principal object of the Company are as follows: To carry on the business of all types of event management in all its aspects including designing and fabrication of stage, interiors, venue construction, printing services, supplying of tents, lights, sound and other equipment, artist, catering of food and beverages, hospitality, travel services, providing and arranging transportation and accommodation of all types, advertising, arranging sponsors, events organization, marketing and other services of all kinds.
- A copy of the draft Memorandum and Articles of Association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at Unit no 101, B-357-A, First Floor, KH NO-389/263/1 Main Road, New Ashok Nagar, Near East End Apartments Delhi - 110096.
- Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code-122050, within twenty one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the LLP at its registered office.

STCH INTEGRATED MARKETING SOLUTION LLP
Sd/-
SACHIN MUTREJA (PARTNER)
Dated this 16 day of July 2019 DIN: 00814106

E-Procurement Tender Enquiry Notice
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
Directorate General Border Security Force
Motor Transport Pool-110066
WEST BLOCK-8, WING-IV, SECTOR-1, RK PURAM, NEW DELHI - 110066
(Tele/Fax No 26193282-83)
E-mail: sksanbsf73@bsf.nic.in

Tender No.105/Tender/DG MT Pool/BSF/2019/3442 Dated the 10 July 2019

- On behalf of the President of India, DIG(HQ)FHQ, BSF invites, Limited Tender in single bid system from registered owners / contractors/Transporters for Hiring of Civil vehicle for providing vehicles for conveyance of VIPs/WIPs/Foreign Delegates within Delhi/Outside Delhi to attend various Force level functions organized by BSF during the year 2019-20 as per terms and conditions of the tender:-
- Bids shall be submitted Through Dak/Tender Box. Tenderers are advised to follow the instructions provided in the clause No. 28.

CRITICAL DATE SHEET

Published date	-	10 July 2019
Bid Document download Start Date	-	10 July 2019
Clarification Start Date	-	14 July 2019
Clarification End Date	-	15 July 2019
Bid Submission Start Date	-	16 July 2019
Bid Submission End Date	-	21 July 2019
Bid Opening Date	-	24 July 2019

- This tender enquiry has Schedules and appendices as following:-
 - SCHEDULES**
 - (i) Schedule-I = Condition of tender
 - (ii) Schedule-II = Special instructions
 - (iii) Schedule-III = List of destinations for which vehicles required
 - APPENDICES (to be filled & submitted by tenderer)**
 - (i) Appendix-1 = Offer of stores.
 - (ii) Appendix-2 = Details of Manufacturer / Auth Dealer.
 - (iii) Appendix-3 = Questionnaire about manufacturer/Tenderer.
 - (iv) Appendix-4 (A&B) = Bank Guarantee Proforma for EMD and PS.
 - (v) Appendix-5 = Guarantee / Warranty clause.
 - (vi) Appendix-6 = Proforma for Price bid.
 - (vii) Appendix-7 = Check list of Tenderers.
 - (viii) Appendix-8 = Sheet to be filled by the Vendor
 - (ix) Appendix-9 = List of vehicles held with the firms
 - ANNEXURE (To be filled & submitted by Tenderer)**
 - (i) Annexure-A = Certificate by the tenderer regarding acceptance of terms and conditions of tender.
 - (ii) Annexure-B = Certificate by the tenderer regarding firm is not blacklisted.
 - (iii) Annexure-C = MODEL ECS MANDATE FORMAT

Encls:- Aforesaid schedules & enclosures

Yours faithfully
Sd/-
(Sanjay Kumar) 2IC
Camp Commandant DG BSF MT Pool
For DIG(HQ) FHQ, BSF
On behalf of the President of India

DAVP/19110/11/0045/1920



GoGreen

Researchers have found that Japanese Matcha tea have various health benefits such as reducing anxiety. The tea's calming effects are due to mechanisms that activate dopamine D1 receptors and serotonin 5-HT1A receptors, both of which are closely related to anxious behaviour.



DOCYARD
DR SARA ANSARI

Spine Specialist

QI SPINE CLINIC



Watch your back

We are obsessed with reaching any place in the fastest way possible. It doesn't matter if we're carrying jam-packed bags, standing or sitting in uncomfortable positions for long hours or utilising roads which are uneven. A combination of these aspects can cause serious impact — muscle spasm, slipped disc, back and neck pain among other problems.

There are several things one should keep in mind when travelling by different modes of transport:

■ When using a two-wheeler: A two-wheeler does not have any back support. This makes the passenger's back an easy target for losing the correct posture. Additionally, carrying heavy loads when using a two-wheeler, can be dangerous. Especially for those who live a sedentary lifestyle, their back and spine muscles are not strong enough to carry the load for long hours. This causes aches and pains.

Tip: One should choose a two-wheeler which distributes the weight between their wrists and their back. Avoid carrying any heavy load so as to evade leaning forward which leads to imbalance.

■ When using a car: Traveling in a car for more than 30 minutes can stress your back. This is because when we are driving, we tend to lean forward. At this point we do not make use of the backband the head rest.

Tip: A lumbar support is necessary when travelling by car. Adjust your seat in such a way that your spine is aligned against the back rest and the middle of your head is supported by the headrest.

Overloading your backpack will put a lot of pressure on your neck, shoulders and back. It will aggravate the strain on your muscles. It is advisable to carry only those things that you require

■ Travel light: Overloading your bag will put a lot of pressure on your neck, shoulders and back. It will aggravate the strain in your muscles and joints. It is advisable to carry only those things that you absolutely require. In unavoidable scenarios, instead of stuffing one big bag, utilise several smaller bags so that the weight gets distributed.

■ Avoid bad roads: No matter how consciously you have aligned your back to the back rest or the middle of your head to the headrest in a car, if the road consists of potholes and bumps-it will strain and intensify your back problems.

■ Caution when travelling by public transport: A sudden, even a half second, push to someone or by someone can have long-lasting effects. The sudden jerk will come as a surprise to your back muscles. Be mindful of other travelers when using the bus, train or metro.

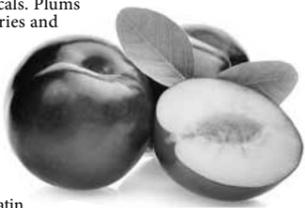
■ Support your feet: The position of our feet determines the posture of our lower back. This means that if your feet are in an uncomfortable position while sitting- hanging off, it will affect our lower back posture. The correct way to sit is with your knees at right angle and your feet firmly on the ground. In such a scenario use a foot rest to support your feet for long drives.

SUMMER COOLERS

PLUM: A plum is a round reddish fruit which is sweet and sour in taste. It is a great source of potassium and is also rich in antioxidants, protecting the body against cell-damaging free radicals. Plums are also low in calories and hence will not increase your blood sugar levels. The antioxidants fights the free radicals, preventing heart diseases and stroke scares.

Plums contain isatin and sorbitol, which help relieve constipation and improve digestion. It also keeps the bowel healthy. Consuming plum firms your skin and clears your skin texture. The fruit reduces wrinkles and rejuvenates your skin. Drink plum juice for younger looking skin.

Eating plums will keep cold and flu at bay by improving your immunity. The fruit boosts your immunity and promotes development of healthy tissues. The fruit is good for summers as well because of its hydrating nature.



A study reported that hypertension led to 1.63 million deaths in India in 2016. Doctors suggest ways to keep the silent killer at bay

LOOK OUT FOR

Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure is the result of force exerted by the blood against the artery walls. When there is too much force of blood on the walls of the blood vessels, it leads to hypertension. Severe health complications and an increase in risk of heart diseases, stroke may arise in people with hypertension. Stress is one of the acute causes of an elevated blood pressure level, however there can also be several underlying causes

including kidney diseases and medication. Consumption of excess salt in food plays a vital role in an increased number of cases of hypertension worldwide.

According to the Medical Guidelines, normal blood pressure is 120 over 80 mm of Hg. When it exceeds and reaches 130/80 mm Hg, it is considered to be high blood pressure or hypertension.

Symptoms of hypertension often go unnoticed. For this reason,

it is also known as a silent killer. Pain in the back of head and neck is one of the initial symptoms of hypertension. If left untreated, these symptoms may end up causing coronary heart diseases and damage to internal organs. One needs to stay aware of the symptoms to notice them right at the beginning.

- Stress
- Headache
- Difficulty in breathing
- Chest pain

- Blurred vision
 - Blood in urine
 - Dizziness
 - Tiredness and lethargy
 - Nose bleeding
 - Insomnia
 - Increasing heart beat
- If you experience any of the listed symptoms, it is best to seek medical assistance.

The writer is Dr Rajinder Kumar Singal, Principal Consultant & Director, Internal Medicine, BLK Super Speciality Hospital, New Delhi

WHAT TO EAT?

■ Garlic: For high BP, garlic proves to be very beneficial. The sulphur containing compounds in garlic such as allicin, diallyl disulphide and diallyl trisulphide are proved to be beneficial for lowering blood pressure.



■ Beetroot: Beetroot is one of the vegetables which are loaded with antioxidants and phytochemical that gives your body a health boost that works towards an enhanced immunity. It is an absolute power veggie. It contains a lot of health benefits. One of them is it helps managing blood pressure levels. The presence of phytochemical and antioxidants can even help in managing conditions like hypertension and certain other diseases. A glass of beetroot juice regularly goes a long way to significantly reduce blood pressure in people with hypertension.

■ Pomegranate: Pomegranates have long been associated to managing blood pressure. It has a number of beneficial properties such as powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. Drinking pomegranate juice works wonder in reduction in BP and lowers the level of unsaturated fats.

■ Foods with magnesium: According to some recent researches, magnesium may help people with high BP. Magnesium is found in abundance in our body. It is naturally available in foods containing dietary fibre, dietary supplements. Foods like green leafy vegetables, such as spinach, legumes, nuts, seeds, and whole grains are sources of magnesium.

■ Foods with potassium: It is important for muscle function, including relaxing the walls of the blood vessels. It protects against muscle cramping and lowers BP. Foods like prunes, apricots, sweet potatoes, and lima beans are natural source.

The writer is Dr Rajinder Kumar Singal, Principal Consultant & Director, Internal Medicine, BLK Super Speciality Hospital, New Delhi

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

■ Myth 1: Hypertension is not a big deal

■ Fact: This is a misconception. If you have hypertension you may face health related problems. High blood pressure can damage your vessels, heart, kidney and other parts of the body. The most shocking thing is that you will not even know that you have hypertension. This is why hypertension is called silent killer because at the beginning you cannot see any symptoms but suddenly you can have a heart attack or stroke. One should always remember that uncontrolled hypertension can be a big health concern.

■ Myth 2: No prevention for hypertension

■ Fact: Most of the time there is no cure for hypertension but it can be prevented or controlled by following a healthy and active lifestyle. There are few steps which can help to prevent hypertension and lead to healthy life.

■ Maintaining weight and controlling it at a healthy level

■ Regular exercise at least 30 minutes five days a week

■ Eat good foods which should be high in nutrients and low in fat and reduce intake of salt

■ Say no to smoking and drinking.

■ Myth 3: Impossible to manage inherited hypertension

■ Fact: If you inherit hypertension you cannot change your



genes you get from your parents, but there is lots you can do about it. Hypertension can be managed by bringing in moderate changes in your lifestyle and good habits. Doing regular exercise for at least 5 days in a week, eating healthy foods like low salt diet, vegetables, maintaining a healthy weight, avoid drinking alcohol and smoking.

■ Myth 4: Stop medication if your blood pressure brings down.

■ Fact: Medicine of hypertension leaves a prolonged profound impact at cell level, if someone abruptly stops taking pills the blood pressure can remain controlled for few weeks. Gradually over weeks to months this blood pressure

again raises its head and since its symptoms are silent it can damage vital organs like heart, brain and kidney without making any noise. So skipping or stopping the medicine leads to irreversible damage to organs (kidney, heart and brain).

■ Myth 5: Hypertension is concern for only 40 above people

■ Fact: This is a major misconception among the people that high blood pressure only impacts those above 40 and hypertension does not develop in young age. But the true fact is that happen to anyone at any time. In fact, nearly one in five young adults have hypertension. More importantly people getting more blood pressure at extremes of ages.

■ Myth 6: Wine is good for heart and can take high quantity of wine

■ Fact: This is again a myth, earlier small doses of red wine was shown to have some cardiac preventive effects. New research forbids alcohol in any form. Even small amounts of wine can lead to heavier damage and complications like heart failure, strokes and many others.

The writer is Dr Sunil Prakash, Sr Consultant & Director in Nephrology Department at BLK Super Speciality Hospital, New Delhi

MANAGE YOUR BREATHING



Managing asthma in children is no child play. SATKAM DIVYA shares tips that can help in the long run

As a parent, it can be unnerving to learn that your child has asthma. You need to know that the condition is very common and that it's manageable. Your child can surely be able to sleep well at night and play any sports they want, but it needs work.

To make asthma easier on you and to be able to create a normal lifestyle for your child, you can:

■ Schedule regular doctor's appointments
Your child's healthcare provider can help you with a treatment plan and can reevaluate it at each visit. You can proactively ask for tips around using an inhaler, figuring out whether a certain diet is working or any questions around exposure to pollution and dust.

Ensure that you schedule a new appointment outside of the regular check-up schedule if you have any concerns around the treatment not working, but be patient and don't get paranoid as that may stress the children out as well.

■ Create an action plan
Work with the doctor to create a plan for managing the regular symptoms and for handling all kinds of possible emergencies. If there are other members in the family, train them to take responsibility and proactive action if they are with the child. Keep a copy of the emergency plan with you, and give one each to your family members, also to your child's school dispensary or nurse. Check whether the school allows for keeping medicine in backpacks.

■ Make your child learn how to take medication when necessary

Your child's treatment may involve consuming a pill or using a device such as an inhaler or nebuliser. To maximise their effectiveness, your child will need to learn how to use any of these, as per the condition or situation at hand. Talk with your doctor and teach your child.

■ Beat the flu
Be prepared for the changing season and for bacteria in the air. If your child has asthma and comes down with a virus, it could lead to more difficulty in breathing. An influenza vaccine can reduce your child's risk of getting sick, and you can get one vaccination ideally every autumn, after consulting your healthcare provider.

■ Avoid exposure to allergens
Allergens like certain foods, pollen or grain can give your child breathing trouble. Observe if any of these cause any difficulty in breathing for your child, and consult your doctor for best-possible medication.

Precaution is the best form of care. If you are prepared with medication and know when and how to use it, you will be fine. Stay alert and cognizant, but learn not to panic.

The writer is CEO, ClinicApp



DadiKaKehna

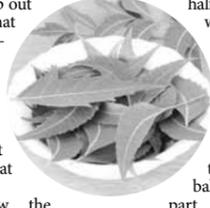
While rains bring much needed relief from the scorching heat, the season comes with its woes.

Fungal infection, red and itchy skin are a few of them. ROSHANI DEVI shares home remedies to treat these



We all look forward to the rainy days. Sipping tea and eating pakoras on a lazy Sunday is the perfect way to enjoy the down-pour. Unfortunately, most of us have to step out for work and that means skins problems; fungal infection, itchy and red skin are common problems. Here are a few things that one can do to treat it at home.

We all know the importance of neem. Boil a handful of neem leaves for about 10 minutes. Add this to a bucket of water and take a bath with it to cure skin problems. The antimicrobial properties of the leaves will remove impurities. Do this till the infection is cured.



One can use aloe vera as well since it has medicinal properties and can cure many skin problems. Apply some fresh aloe vera gel on the affected area and leave it for half an hour. Wash it with cold water.

Apple cider vinegar is an age-old cure to all your skin allergies. Dilute it with water. Then apply gently with cotton ball on the affected part.

A painful fungal infection — Athlete's foot — is caused by ill-fitting and wet shoes. One should not wear plastic, leather or canvas shoes. Try wearing footwear where your feet can breathe. Wear washed cotton socks and keep feet clean and dry.

TIPTOP

The AIIMS Centre for Dental Education and Research will undertake the largest nationwide oral health survey this year in collaboration with the Ministry of Health to collect data that would act as a baseline for planning preventive and treatment strategies.

An expert committee comprising dentists representing various oral health specialties and health ministry officials met at the AIIMS to discuss sampling strategies, planning and timelines of the survey.

"The burden of oral diseases in India is enormous. The impact of oral diseases is irreversible when neglected. Pain due to decay leads to loss of school hours among children and severely impacts the quality of life. Lack of proper oral hygiene leads to severe gum diseases which is the biggest cause of tooth loss in India," Dr

OP Kharbanda, the Chief of Centre for Dental Education and Research (CDER), AIIMS said.

The survey aims to record specific, representative data on the most prevalent dental diseases in the country like dental decay, gum diseases, dentofacial deformities, cancerous lesions, dental fluorosis and dental trauma among others.

The plan is to ensure trained and calibrated oral health workforce examine the teeth following protocols in coherence with global guidelines to bring out an authentic data bank that acts as a baseline to plan preventive and treatment strategies, Dr Kharbanda said.

Scientifically validated guidelines have been formulated for sampling, examination and recording of data by experts.

PTI

SLIMLINE

Doctors at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals saved the life of a three weeks old baby girl Inaya from a rare heart condition known as Anomalous left coronary artery from the pulmonary artery (ALCAPA). Inaya presented with complaints of respiratory distress with excessive sweating and fast breathing with difficulty. When she was brought to the emergency, she suffered a heart attack.

Dr Muthu Jothi, Sr Consultant,

Pediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals said: "The miracle happened when the team of doctors treating Inaya managed to resuscitate the baby by massaging her heart. Intensive care doctors were called and together they got the heart beating again within 40 minutes. Despite being without any cardiac function for 30-40 minutes, the child did not suffer from any perceptible brain damage."

STUDYCENTRE

Depression and other mental health problems can spread through social networks, up to "three degrees of separation" of a friend or a friend of a friend, warn recent studies.

Addiction to social media technology can have a negative effect on social connections. The accompanying loneliness is partly a consequence of replacing face-to-face interaction with a form of communication where body language and other signals cannot be interpreted.

Having access to so many different streams of information through gadgets has been found to decrease the brain's grey matter density, which is responsible for cognition and emotional control. In this digital era, the key to good health should be moderation i.e. moderate use of technology. Most of us have become slaves to devices that were really meant to free us and give us more time to experience life and be with people. And we are leading our children in the same path as well.

Tips from Heart Care Foundation of India

■ Don't use any electronic gadgets 30 minutes before sleep.

■ Take a Facebook holiday for 7 days every three months. Avoid use of social media once in a week for the entire day.

■ Use your mobile phone only when mobile. Do not use computer for more than three hours in a day.

■ Limit your mobile talk time to not more than two hours in a day.

May 'reverse' N-plan to pre-deal status: Iran

AFP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's atomic energy agency said on Monday it could reverse its nuclear programme to its status before curbs were imposed under a landmark 2015 agreement with world powers.

"If the Europeans and the Americans don't want to carry out their duties... We will decrease our commitments and... Reverse the conditions to four years ago," agency spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi said, quoted by IRNA state news agency.

"These actions are not out of obstinacy. It is to give diplo-

macy a chance so that the other side come to their senses and carry out their duties," he added.

The deal promised economic benefits and sanctions relief to Iran, but US President Donald Trump withdrew from the accord in May 2018 and reimposed tough punitive measures against the Islamic republic.

Angered that its beleaguered economy is not receiving sanctions relief it believes it was promised under the deal, Iran has intensified sensitive uranium enrichment work.

European foreign ministers

were meeting in Brussels on Monday for crisis talks on the deal.

On Sunday, the European parties to the deal — Britain, France and Germany — called for dialogue as tensions further intensified between Iran and the United States.

In a statement, the so-called E3 expressed concern the deal was at risk of further unravelling but said it was up to Iran to ensure its survival.

Iran has repeatedly threatened to leave the deal unless the remaining parties to the agreement bypass US sanctions and deliver the promised benefits.

EU holds crisis talks on Iran nuclear deal

AFP ■ BRUSSELS

European foreign ministers met on Monday for crisis talks on the Iran nuclear deal, as Britain warned the "small window" to save the accord was closing, with Tehran breaching the agreement.

Tensions in the Gulf have soared since the United States last year pulled out of the 2015 deal and reimposed sanctions on Iran, hampering its economy and prompting Tehran to break limits on uranium enrichment and stockpiling.

The European Union is desperately trying to prevent the deal unravelling completely, seeing it as the best way to stop Tehran acquiring atomic weapons, and the issue was top

of the agenda as ministers from the bloc met in Brussels.

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt -- who held phone talks with his US and Iranian counterparts over the weekend -- insisted "the deal isn't dead yet".

"Iran is still a good year away from developing a nuclear weapon. We think there is still some closing but small window to keep the deal alive," Hunt told reporters.

Britain, France and Germany -- the three European parties to the deal -- on Sunday issued a joint statement saying they were "extremely concerned" by Iran's recent breaches as well as by US sanctions. They called for dialogue to resolve the crisis.

Taliban bomb kills at least 11 Afghans in Kandahar: Officials

AFP ■ KANDAHAR

At least 11 civilians were killed and dozens more wounded Monday after their vehicle hit a bomb in southern Afghanistan that officials told AFP had been planted by the Taliban.

The deaths come just one week after Taliban and Afghan officials unveiled a "roadmap for peace" in which they pledged to eliminate civilian casualties.

Monday's incident occurred around 2:00 pm (0930 GMT) when a vehicle carrying many passengers hit a roadside bomb planted by the Taliban, provincial police chief Tadin Khan said.

It was not immediately clear if the victims had been travel-

ling in a bus or in the back of a large truck. "In the blast, 11 people were martyred and 34 others were wounded. Women and children are among the victims," Khan said.

Afghan military spokesman Ahmad Sadiq Esa confirmed the toll, while Kandahar governor Hayatullah Hayat said 13 were killed. No group claimed immediate responsibility. The Taliban did not immediately comment.

Kandahar is considered the birthplace of the Taliban, who still control some parts of the province.

Insurgents often use roadside bombs and landmines to target Afghan security forces -- but the lethal weapons also inflict heavy casualties on

civilians.

Years of conflict have left Afghanistan strewn with landmines, unexploded mortars, rockets and homemade bombs -- and many are picked up by curious children.

According to the United Nations, almost 4,000 civilians -- including more than 900 children -- were killed in Afghanistan last year, with another 7,000 wounded, making it the deadliest year to date for civilians in Afghanistan's conflict.

The Taliban and a group of Afghans met for a historic summit in the Qatari capital Doha last week, as part of US-led peace talks, where they pledged to reduce civilian casualties to "zero".

Govt. of Bihar

Government of Bihar
BIHAR RURAL LIVELIHOODS PROMOTION SOCIETY
 (State Rural Livelihoods Mission)
 1st Floor, Annex-II, Vidhut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna
 Phone: +91-612-2504980 Fax: +91-612-2504960
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Invitation of Bid for Printing and Supply of SJY Books of Records through E-Procurement

Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society invites eligible bidders to quote their rate through e-bidding for "Printing and Supply of Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) Books of Records (BoR) under NRLM." Interested bidder may download detailed advertisement and bid document from <http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in>. Other informations are as follows:

Description of services	Printing and Supply of Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) Books of Records (BoR).
Date/Time of start of download of Bidding Documents	17/07/2019 through https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
Pre-bid Meeting	01/08/2019 at 04.00 pm at BRLPS Office.
Last Date/Time for downloading the bid document	16/08/2019 till 03:30 pm through http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
Last Date/Time for uploading the bid document	16/08/2019 till 04:00 pm through http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
Date/Time for Opening the bid document	16/08/2019 till 04:30 pm through http://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
Nodal Person from Client	Dr. Santosh, Procurement Specialist Phone: 0612-2504980 (Ext. 242)

For support related to e-tendering process, bidders may contact at following address "e-procurement Help Desk First floor, M/22, Bank of India Building, Road no-25, Sri Krishna Nagar, Patna-800001. Ph no 0612-2523006, Mob -7542028164" or may visit the link "Vendor Info" at <https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in/> www.prdbihar.gov.in

PR.004295 (Ni Ni) 2019-20 **Chief Executive Officer cum Mission Director**
 आओ मिलकर बढ़ाएँ कदम, देहेज न लेगे, ठान लें हम।

Trump's congresswomen tweets 'completely unacceptable': UK's May

AFP ■ LONDON

Outgoing British Prime Minister Theresa May on Monday condemned US President Donald Trump's tweets telling progressive Democrat congresswomen to "go back" where they came from as "completely unacceptable".

"Her view is that the language which was used to refer to the women was completely unacceptable," May's spokesman told reporters.

Trump and May have endured a rocky relationship, which took a turn for the worse last week following the leak of diplomatic British cables highly critical of his presidency.

Angered by May's support for her ambassador, Trump assailed the prime minister over her handling of fraught Brexit negotiations, and welcomed her impending departure from office.

"What a mess she and her representatives have created," Trump fumed in a series of tweets.

"I told her how it should be done, but she decided to go another way."

"The good news for the wonderful United Kingdom is that they will soon have a new Prime Minister," he wrote.

Boris Johnson is the heavy favourite to replace May as prime minister, and has spoken out in support of the US president, with both men enthusiastic



backers of Brexit.

Johnson wants to visit Trump immediately he becomes prime minister to try to negotiate a post-Brexit trade deal, according to the Times on Monday.

But May's comments will now raise the pressure on him to condemn the president's comments.

Trump accused congresswomen who "originally came from countries whose governments are a complete and total catastrophe" of "viciously telling the people of the United States, the greatest and most powerful Nation on earth, how our government is to be run."

"Why don't they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how it is done," Trump wrote.

India not excluded from peace process in Afghanistan: China

PTI ■ BEIJING

India has not been excluded from the efforts to bring peace in Afghanistan, China said on Monday, days after it hosted a key meeting with the US, Russia and Pakistan on facilitating peace process in the war-torn country.

Representatives of China, Russia, and the US held their 3rd consultation on the Afghan peace process in Beijing on July 10-11 following which they also requested Pakistan to join for a surprise quadrilateral meeting.

"China, Russia, and the United States welcomed Pakistan joining the consultation and believe that Pakistan can play an important role in facilitating peace in Afghanistan," a joint statement issued at the end of the meeting said.

US special envoy for Afghanistan reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad, who is currently holding talks with the Taliban to work out an agreement for withdrawal of the US troops and participation of the rebel group in the Afghan Government, attended the meeting.

Pak anti-terror court grants interim bail to Hafiz Saeed, his aides

PTI ■ LAHORE

Mumbai terror attack mastermind and JuD chief Hafiz Saeed and his three aides were granted pre-arrest bail on Monday by an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan in a case pertaining to the banned outfit's illegal use of land for its seminary.

The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Lahore granted interim bail to Saeed and his aides - Hafiz Masood, Ameer Hamza, and Malik Zafar - until August 31 against surety bonds of Rs 50,000 each, Dawn newspaper reported.

During the hearing, Saeed's counsel insisted that Jamat-ud Dawah (JuD) was not using any piece of land illegally and urged the court to accept bail pleas.

According to officials, JuD's network includes 300 seminaries and schools, hospitals, a publishing house and ambulance service.

In March, Punjab police said that government seized control of 160 seminaries, 32 schools, two colleges, four hos-

pitals, 178 ambulances and 153 dispensaries associated with the JuD and its charity wing the Falah-e-Insaniyat Foundation (FIF) in province.

At least 56 seminaries and facilities being run by the JuD and FIF in southern Sindh province were also taken over by authorities in the same month.

Saeed-led JuD is believed to be the front organisation for the Lashkar-e-Taiba which is responsible for carrying out the 2008 Mumbai attacks.

The US Department of the Treasury has designated Saeed as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, and the US, since 2012, has offered a USD 10 million reward for information that brings Saeed to justice.

Under pressure from the international community, Pakistani authorities have launched investigations into matters of the JuD, LeT and the FIF regarding their holding and use of trusts to raise funds for terrorism financing.

North Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited
 (A Government of Bihar Undertaking)
 REGD OFFICE: VIDYUT BHAWAN, BAILEY ROAD, PATNA
 Contact No- 9264437182, 9262398837
 CIN NO: U40109BR2012SGC018920

DEPARTMENT of Stores and Purchase
NIT NO:-40/PR/NBPDCL/2019

North Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd. (NBPDCL), a Government of Bihar Undertaking, invites online Tender for **Supply, Installation, Commissioning & AMC of following materials on turnkey basis** in Two-tier (Technical and Financial) from eligible and experienced Original Manufacturer registered under company act 1956 or any other act in this regard for NBPDCL & SBPDCL

Sl. No.	Name of Material	Tender Quantity (in nos.)	Estimated Cost (in Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Tender Cost (Rs)
1	i. 33 & 11 KV, 3 Phase 4 Wire DLMS compliant fully static AMR compatible, CT-PT operated Tri Vector Energy meter (Category-C) of accuracy class 0.5s with Meter Box and GPRS MODEM with all accessories	2450 nos. (33 KV- 250 nos. & 11 KV- 2200 nos.)	30,48,00,000/-	40,48,000/-	25,000
	ii. 3-Phase 4-wire CT operated, fully static, DLMS compliant, AMR compatible, Accuracy Class 0.5s Tri-Vector LT Energy Meter (category C) with meter box (suitable for housing GPRS modem, meter, resin cast ring type CT) with 4 nos. resin cast ring type CT suitably connected with Meter and GPRS Modem with all accessories	7500 nos.			
	iii. GPRS Modem	900 nos.			
	iv. IT Hardware & Software	1 sets			

Period of Sale/download of document: Up to 01/08/2019 (up to 13:00 Hrs.) in through website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in

Submission of NIT in soft copy through website: Up to 01/08/2019 (up to 17:00 Hrs.) Rs 25,000.00 (Rupees Twenty Thousand) needs to be paid as cost of BOQ, mandatory through online mode and EMD fee as per the details above must be paid through offline mode, DD/BG, which must be submitted to Senior Manager (Finance) NBPDCL in favour of "NORTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD." payable at Patna

Date of opening of Technical & Commercial Part: 02/08/2019 on or onward 11:00 Hrs.

Date of Pre-bid Meeting: 25/07/2019 at 11:00 Hrs. at NBPDCL 3rd floor, Vidhut Bhawan Bailey Road, Patna

- The NIT documents can be downloaded from website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.
- Payment of Cost of NIT Document & Bid processing fees :- NIT documents fee, Bid processing fee is mandatory to be paid through online mode i.e., Internet payment gateway (Credit/ Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/ RTGS. Online payment details cost of BoQ etc must be submitted to Senior Manager (Finance) NBPDCL on or before 31/07/2019 at 15:00 Hrs failing which tender shall be summarily rejected.
- Payment of Cost of EMD fees:- The cost of EMD fee as per the details above must be paid through offline mode, DD/BG, which must be submitted to Senior Manager (Finance) NBPDCL in favour of "NORTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD." payable at Patna on or before 31/07/2019 at 15:00 Hrs failing which tender shall be summarily rejected.

Chief Engineer (S&P) NBPDCL

"विवादा के निष्पान के लिए लोक अदालत का काम उठावें"
 "परस्पर सहमति से न्यायिक निर्णय प्राप्त करें"
 "समय एवं खर्च की बचत करें"

PR No. 004225(Ni.Ni.) 2019-20
 अतिथ शरद एवं मादक द्रव्य के संबंध में शिकायत टोल फ्री नं. 18003456268 या 15545 पर करें

ICICI Bank
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 Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan, New Delhi -110055

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSETS
 [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
Notice for sale of immovable property

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

In compliance of the order dated 15.05.2019 passed by the Hon'ble High Court at Delhi in W.P.(C) No. 4768 of 2019 titled as M/s Odeon Builders Pvt. Ltd. & Ors. VS M/s ICICI Bank Ltd., the following properties are proposed to be auctioned in the manner provided hereunder:

Sr. No. (A)	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No. (B)	Details of the Secured assets with known encumbrances, if any (C)	Map of Property	Amount Outstanding (in ₹) (D)	Reserve Price (in ₹) (E)	Earnest Money Deposit (in ₹) (F)	Date of Property Inspection and Time (G)	Date & Time of Auction (H)
1.	Odeon Builders Private Limited (Borrower), Supreme Structures Private Limited, Anu Fashions Pvt. Ltd., Rajesh Bansal (Co Borrower)-LBDEL00001972695	Plot No. D - 112 & 113, Block D, Preet Vihar Co-operative House Building Society Limited, Preet Vihar, Delhi, Admeasuring Area - 6480Sq.Ft						

Trend Slazer

I love my freckles: Jacqueline

Actress JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ doesn't consider her freckles a problem but loves them as she has got them from her mother.

She opened up about it when she took to Instagram to ask her followers to share their skin problems with her.

The actress gave beauty advice to the followers who came forward with their queries.

When some users asked about ways to get rid of pimples, the actress of Sri Lankan origin said, "Please don't touch them. Make sure your face is always cleaned properly and drink lots of water, no sugar."



'There is a subconscious holding back when touching the face for fear or pulling the hair of fake beard or nose or whatever prosthetics there are and destroying them. Normalcy has been put away and the feel for the original absconds. Unfortunately all the films to come are also in the similar category. Change the face, put on prosthetics, put hair... It's like its a must and a given now.'

—Amitabh Bachchan

Dancer-actress NORA FATEHI is back with another recreation of an old hit dance number.

Nora's new dance is a new-age version of the song *Saaki*, for the forthcoming John Abraham-starrer, *Batla House*.

"Getting the opportunity to be able to perform on a song like *saaki*, which has been made on such an epic level by Tanishk (Bagchi) and sung by Neha (Kakkar) and Tulsi (Kumar), is a dream," said Nora.

"The best part is I am acting in the film, so my character's performance to the song leads up to a very important sequence that carries the story forward," she added.

'Comments were misconstrued'

SCARLETT JOHANSSON says comments she made on the "authentic casting" debate have been taken out of context and asserts that she supports diversity in film.

The actress came under fire in 2017 for playing an Asian character in *Ghost in the Shell* and canceled plans last year to portray a transgender man in the forthcoming film *Rub & Tug*, after transgender actors and advocates questioned the casting.

She said actors should be allowed to play any person "because that is my job and the requirement of my job."

'Maximalism defines our brand's aesthetic'

Designer FALGUNI SHANE PEACOCK, take stock of what is in store this wedding season

Falguni and Shane Peacock combine disparate elements — feathers and sequins, bling and applique, contemporary Western silhouettes and Indian tradition — which are in sync with the sensibilities of the modern bride who looks ahead yet is rooted in the past. The designer duo will be exhibiting at a wedding show in the capital. The place is ideal for those looking for a complete solution to their wedding day as it brings together fashion designers, top jewellers, wedding planners, hair and makeup artists, decor experts and gifting specialists under one roof.

□What is the wedding colour this year?

Brides are willing to ditch the conventional reds and pinks for pastels, champagne, silver, gold and other colours from the Parisian palette.

□What has been your approach towards your ensembles for this year?

For our ensembles this year, our approach has been a juxtaposition between modern, glamorous and traditional silhouettes. Think *lehengas* with exaggerated gown trails, blouses with structured shoulders and extravagant sleeves. With this collection, we are trying to give the best of both worlds. It will have the perfect balance between ethnic and contemporary silhouettes.

□You have stayed true to your signature style of feathers and glittery ensembles all these years while blending and experimenting with it. How has this style evolved?

Feathers and sequins are a big part of our identity and over the years we have experimented with it by using these elements in unconventional ways. From incorporating opulence through feathers, sequins and crystals in dresses and gowns, we have now made them a big part of traditional collections as well. *Lehengas* bearing feathers, crystal encrusted corset blouses are some of the ways in which we have reinvented our signature style.

□Fashion consciousness is being increasingly acknowledged by the Indian population; how do you think this change has come about?

About time, both consumers and



designers need to be fashion conscious and sustainable in their approach. I think the change was put in motion a couple of years ago and people are now becoming increasingly aware of it. The consumers now are more educated on the subject.

□From designing bridal couture to resort wear, designers have to constantly update their designs as fashion trends keep changing with every season. How do you keep yourself updated and handle the pressure? What keeps you going?

For us, it is not about following the norm or doing what others are doing to keep up with the trend. We have always remained authentic in our approach so what we create comes from what we are inspired by during that time. For example, if we're travelling to palaces across India, we translate that into our bridal couture, but if we're vacationing on a beach abroad and are inspired by the tropical nature, we create a line that fits the aesthetic there.

□Since most of your designs are dedicated to bridal couture, how do you think the fashion sensibility on ceremonial lines and wedding couture has



evolved in India?

The Indian bridal market has evolved enormously over the last few years. The Indian bride of today is well-travelled and aware of international trends which makes her taste and aesthetic global. They like to experiment more with their silhouettes, the cuts, and the colour

palettes instead of going for the conventional designs and in the vermilion shade.

□Do you think your creative freedom gets restricted in India?

Not really, the Indian audience has evolved when it comes to fashion, they are now at par with global trends, so it's no longer creatively restrictive. They are far more open and welcoming of newer styles, whether it's couture or pret, the audiences are constantly looking for something unusual and unique.

□Your designs are majorly fantasy-themed, dreamy with embroidery. What made you inclined towards this particular style?

Our brand's aesthetic has always been inclined towards grandeur and opulence, maximalism has always been the way for us. We like to intertwine fashion with art, therefore, we are always inspired by larger-than-life fantasies that we bring to life through the clothes we design.

□You had said, 'Statement jewellery is a non-negotiable aspect of a bride's checklist.' Can you give an insight into this?

It's all about putting the pieces

together when it comes to creating that perfect bridal look. Nothing complements a couture *lehenga* better than statement jewellery that will instantly elevate your look.

□What is new about India Couture Week this year? Apart from this, what are the forthcoming projects that you are working on?

Our India Couture Week collection this year is a celebration of the royal Indian heritage, seeking inspiration from the Fort Amer in the pink city of Jaipur. It is designed for the modern bride who wants to look contemporary yet ethereal.

□Fabrics have evolved to be accepted and recognised as an art form. What is your take on this?

Fabrics are one of the most essential components of your garment. It is very important that your choice of fabric translates the vision you have for your silhouette. It should identify with your brand's aesthetic and enable you to create art with fashion.

(The seventh edition of the three-day fest will be held from August 2 to August 4 at Taj Palace.)

A SMALL TOWN BOY

Actor JIMMY SHEIRGILL tells AYUSHI SHARMA that he has a penchant for playing characters with colour

Crime novelist Agatha Christie once said, "Instinct is a marvellous thing that can neither be explained nor ignored." And it was actor Jimmy Sheirgill's instinct to say yes to *Family of Thakurganj*. He says, "I just couldn't ignore it and now I cannot explain the feeling. Dilip Shukla, who has also written *Dabangg* series, wrote this film as well. He narrated the story long before he had actually written it. Since that time I knew I had to do this film. You have a certain kind of instinct about everything. I had the same about this story line. I was sure that this script couldn't possibly go wrong. *Ye concept level pe hi itna acha hai*. (This is so good at the concept level itself.)" Even though he reprises shades of his earlier heartland characters, it is their raw reality that he wants to chew into as an actor.

The film has a political backdrop and unfolds the story of how some people live without following any rules. "It is a rooted story with a lot of dialogue *baazi*. Dilip has a sense of style and flavour when he pens down anything. He writes with a lot of emotion, drama and action." The actor narrates, "A family lives in Thakurganj and some of the members have set rules and regulations. And then comes my character, who does everything without following any law but that doesn't make him a bad person. Even if his way of doing things is unlawful, his intentions are right."

We have seen Jimmy playing similar roles before. Think *Tanu Weds Manu*, *Saheb, Biwi or Gangster*, *Haasil* and more. So why does he have an inclination towards these? He



answers promptly, "I don't see any harm in playing small town roles. I myself have come from one. *Chote shehar se aakar hi bade-bade shehron ko basaya jata hai*. (These small town people have made big cities.) In fact, I feel, these characters have more colour. They make a person feel alive at heart and I think that is why I have an inclination towards such roles."

Jimmy says he does not regret the lack of lead roles. "People remember me for the characters I played, so I have no regrets about not playing a lead," he adds. While many actors get bothered when the release date of their film clash with those of other actors, it is interesting to observe how Jimmy is enjoying the excitement that another of his films, *Jhootha*

Kahin Ka, hits the screens on the same day. He feels that he was fortunate to star alongside actors like Saurabh Shukla in *Thakurganj*... and Rishi Kapoor in *Jhootha*...

"It was so exciting to be part of an out-and-out comedy with Rishi uncle. We all know what a fantastic actor Mr Shukla is and his contribution to cinema and theatre. At times, it is a surreal feeling. In fact, working with these veteran actors helped me better my craft," he says.

Jimmy is one actor who believes that a story makes a film good or bad. The characters are secondary. "The screenplay of a film matters the most," adds the actor, who has been a part of films like

Maachis, *A Wednesday*, *Special 26*, *Mere Yaar Ki Shaadi Hai*, *Yahaan and Munna Bhai MBBS*.

He tells us that you have to keep yourself motivated in life and give your 100 per cent to everything. "There are various phases in life. You work in a specific zone. You have to follow that rhythm. There is no hard and fast rule in life. Life is what you make of it. Just like my character in the film, there are no specific rules and regulations to live. It's a very natural process and it all depends on the situations that are thrown at you."

Censorship or the control or suppression of what can be accessed, published or viewed is increasingly being discussed with the coming of digital platforms and Jimmy feels that a lot rests on the individuals who should engage in self-censorship. He says, "It is a platform for each one of us. When this medium was made, it was obvious that you have to act as the moral police. One cannot create anything in the name of freedom and creativity. Just by adding abuses in a story is not a way to attract the audience. While some people are creating out of the box content, there are others who are just seeking attention. Here people need to engage in self-censorship. They are capable of judging what is right or wrong for them. It's people who make everything good or bad, never a platform. It's a great one for actors, directors and creative teams."

Jimmy tells us that even he is reading a lot of scripts for the web platform. "Let's see what happens," he says. (The film releases on July 19.)

Photo: Pankaj Kumar



It's a match

A matrimonial website for the elite has found that a majority of them are seeking spouses outside the country

Marriages are made in heaven, goes the old saying but in the digital era, it is internet that people are clearly bonding over. The number of matrimonial websites that improves the chances of finding an ideal match is on the upswing.

A recent survey by a leading matrimonial site has revealed 56 per cent of women and 52 per cent of men were looking for a partner living outside India, of which USA, UAE and Canada were the top three preferred countries. EliteMatrimony, a matchmaking website from BharatMatrimony, based its study on 1.5 lakh of its users.

Based on registrations, the top five cities sampled were Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai and Hyderabad. The customer base comprised 38 per cent female registrants and 62 per cent males.

The survey revealed that 64 per cent of female users, who are seeking a life partner, were between the ages of 18 and 27, while 70 per cent of men were of the age group of 28 to 37.

Six per cent of the members were from top educational institutes, including Harvard School of Business, Stanford, Princeton, Yale, MIT, Cornell, Chicago Booth, Kellogg, Wharton, Dartmouth, NUS, London School of Economics, Oxford, London School of Business, INSEAD and HEC Paris. While within India it was IITs, IIMs, ISB, XLRI, SP Jain, AIIMS, National Law School and Institute of Chartered Accountants of

India. Almost 60 per cent of the profiles were self-created, whereas 40 per cent of them were managed by siblings or parents.

It was evident from the report that 33 per cent of women and 50 per cent of men were looking for a partner with high education qualification. Among those, looking for a partner outside their caste, eight per cent were women and nine per cent men. When it comes to the preferred language of the registrants, the top five were Hindi, Gujarati, Bengali, Telugu and Tamil. The most common profession among majority of registrations was business, investment banker, entrepreneur or a doctor.

With respect to the partner's career, 29 per cent were looking for those doing business, 23 per cent a software professional, 12 per cent civil services/Army/Navy while 14 per cent preferred chartered accountants.

The report also disclosed an interesting aspect that Commenting on the trends, Murugavel Janakiraman, founder and CEO of the site said, "India is home to the fourth largest population of millionaires in the Asia Pacific region with nearly 3.5 lakh millionaires as per a report last year. That's a huge and a special market to cater to. For this niche segment, the needs and preferences for finding a life partner are unique. We see a huge potential and have been witnessing rapid growth each year and seeing plenty of success stories."

Street murals in India need to move beyond literal directness and have to rely on experience, says UMA NAIR

TRUTH AS ART



It was a series of graffiti and street art images of Paris that made me understand the nature and dynamics of public art. Rupin Thomas, an economist and photographer, had captured French artist Marko Weng's portrait of Frida Kahlo along rue de l'Ourcq in the 19th district. Marko93, the name that he goes by on Instagram, has nicknamed himself "The French Lighter," because of the constant exploration of light in his work. In this giant fresco, Marko pays homage for the second time to Frida Kahlo, an artist known for her role in the emancipation of women.

says Thomas. "The graffiti is emblematic of hip-hop culture, there is humour and irony in the mischievous stencils, there are also deeply stirring poetic collages as well as monumental murals with magnificent interior messages covering many facades. Between Montmartre and the Butte-aux-Cailles, even the smallest space is an invitation to create art but it is a process of continuation and it also echoes the voice of rebellion. Here is a voice that we respect because it carries within itself the conversations of the past," he adds.

GANDHI IN STREET ART
Walk through the Lodhi Road's

district and you would find a mosaic of Indian and international artists. There are elephants, birds and many other images. But what doesn't translate is the truth that street art cannot be a mere portrait as it has to be hinged on an experience. While bringing in international artists is a great testimony to urban art, the underlying signature of personal intuitive experience born out of one's own dimensions of experience can never be substituted by telling someone to merely paint a portrait. This, then is my problem with so many images painted across cities in India.

The Lodhi Colony Police

WHILE BRINGING INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS IS A GREAT VENTURE, HOW ABOUT HAVING TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOR INDIAN ARTISTS TO UNDERSTAND THE DEEPER INTENSITIES OF STREET ART?

Station displays a screaming mural of Mahatma Gandhi on its facade with colours that identify with the department. There is nothing wrong with the portrait. It is brilliantly executed but just by merely writing *Peer parayi jaa re* in the Devnagiri script, it does not speak of the insignia of urban metaphors.

MARKO'S FRIDA KAHLO
Coming back to the portrait of Frida Kahlo by Marko93. Inspired by the fact that Frida was often surrounded by animals, he included a rather large feline with piercing eyes, further showing the contrast between light and dark. But more than the stunning mural features, are intentionally unclear to trans-



late glare. He called his fresco on the rue de l'Ourcq. Marko painted cat and cat eyes with phosphorescent paintings. Marko continues his research on the light: the eyes of the black cat mark a stage already out-of-date. But his process is uncanny as well as filled with countless meanings.

In a self portrait, she is flanked by a black monkey, on the left and a black cat on the right. Marko also borrowed elements of relativity from the self-portrait where the parrot is bigger than the monkey and the cat for example. His analysis of the fresco is brilliant as it illuminates the asymmetrical composition. Scholars state that Marko painted this twice.

At first, a large parenthesis "contained" the white monkey, Frida and the parrot. The space to the right of the parenthesis was "reserved" and only a background was painted without a subject. The cat, which breaks the symmetry and is located out of the parenthesis, was added second time. What interested Marko in the cat was its eyes. The body of the cat, with a blue background and black outline, in "calligraphisme" (abstract style which mixes calligraphy, urbanity and spontaneity) is "sketched". On the other hand, the face of the cat is reduced and is summarised with its eyes painted a fluorescent yellow. To enhance the effect, the contours of the eyes are intentionally unclear to trans-

late glare. He called his fresco on the rue de l'Ourcq. Marko painted cat and cat eyes with phosphorescent paintings. Marko continues his research on the light: the eyes of the black cat mark a stage already out-of-date. But his process is uncanny as well as filled with countless meanings.

USING INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS AS MENTORS

If India has to build on street art, we need an original language born of both personal as well as metaphoric meanderings and moorings. While bringing international artists is a great venture, how about having training workshops for Indian artists to understand the deeper intensities of street art all over the world and helping them understand how the greatest street art murals were created?

Just bringing in foreign artists to paint has momentary meaning. Let us make use of the visit to create lessons in learning for Indian artists. Art colleges across India and the Ministry of Culture play a huge role in this pedagogy. Art teachers, too, need to step in and activate that internal understanding and create islands of originality that must become a catalyst for the future.



'Emotion in various shades'

Director VINAY SHARMA tells YASHNA SHETTY that his play, *Ho Sakta Hai Do Aadmi Do Kursiyaan*, is an exploration of stillness and silence, word and image, inscapes and instresses

Often an entire repertory is unable to hold an audience spellbound for a theatre performance. So what are the chances of one with two actors and two props achieving the result? Minimum, one would say but *Ho Sakta Hai Do Aadmi Do Kursiyaan*, written and directed by Vinay Sharma, promises to keep one hooked right till the end.

Using an ironic juxtaposition of humour with the tragic and the serious, Rikh and Padatik Theatre Group's presentation uses two chairs and two actors to tell a number of stories through intense and inward performances. Zooming in on fragments from different individual lives, these apparently unconnected stories are linked by the emotions born of love, loss and absence. The chairs become a mercurial, ever-changing metaphor as the play intersects urban relationships and makes the implicit statement that we are given life to experience compassion and not to inflict violence. The underlying message is that those who do not recognise the fragility of life may succumb to either an inner decay or to a moment of rage which endangers society. The performance is an exploration of



stillness and silence, word and image, inscapes and instresses and also an exposition of emotion in various shades. So how did Vinay conceptualise the play? He says, "This play was performed first in 2005 at Padatik Little Theatre, Kolkata. It probably arose from a perception of an increasing fragmentation of a rapidly changing world. Speed and time were challenging relationships, values and ideals, hence the idea of two chairs as a metaphor of two men whose emotions react to this change. The genesis of the play also came from an inner need to go back to the basics, to the word as image, to the presence of the actor and a discard-

ing of any other kind of support."

The director goes on to add that performing a play with fewer actors and props is always harder as there is nothing to hide behind and no camouflage. He highlights, "As with any play, this one too required a rigorous process of understanding, analysing and seeking ways best suited to convey the overt and submerged feelings in words."

So what does it take to transform a written play into a stage performance? He answers, "Blood, sweat and tears. Of course, experience and versatility can make it a little easier. And vision can make it exceptional."

How does cinema and the advent of streaming platforms impact the theatre space? Vinay tells us that it does it in both a good and bad way. "On one hand it is reducing the attention span of the audience, on the other it is opening the audience up to more experimental work. Again, as always, theatre has always appropriated any new technology, any change, so the future is probably in a fluid and hybrid space where the digital and the live experience intersect in various forms."

(The play is on July 19 and 20 at Akshara Theatre.)

Tradition finds a new patron

Shacter, a former ceramics artist, travels to remote areas of Mexico to meet the traditional artists and learn about their craft. He brings their work back to his gallery, where he imparts this knowledge to art connoisseurs

It's been said that if you're not an artist when you first visit San Miguel de Allende, you'll certainly be one by the time you leave. Similarly, if you step into Mayer Shacter's Galeria Atotonilco as a novice, you'll walk out an appreciator of fine Mexican folk art.

Shacter, a former ceramics artist from Berkeley, California, who has lived in Mexico since 2003, is much more than a curator. He travels to remote areas of Mexico to meet the artists and learn about their craft, and then he brings their work back to his gallery, where he imparts his knowledge to his customers.

His is now regarded as one of the finest collections of Mexican folk art anywhere. On TripAdvisor, the gallery, which opened in 2006 in a 600-square-foot section of his home and now consumes 6,000 square feet, is currently the top-rated "thing to do" in San Miguel de Allende, which is a short 15-minute drive away.

Shacter's passion for his gallery is immediately obvious. His collection, which ranges from textiles and woven baskets to antique ironwork and papier mache masks, is broad, and "a reflection of my many interests."

"I have a personal relationship with these people. I love helping them preserve these cultural traditions," he said.

For example, about 15 years ago, he met some artisans from Nayarit, who make Huichol yarn and bead art, after their rear-ended his car. Shacter said the police threatened to confiscate the family's pickup truck because it was uninsured.

"We got their information and agreed to pay for our own



repairs. They agreed to give us some yarn paintings," he said, adding that they've been doing business ever since.

The Huichol are an indigenous people who mostly live in the mountainous areas of northwestern Mexico. They press brightly coloured yarn onto boards coated with a thin layer of special beeswax from Campeche and tree resin. The "paintings" began as ceremonial religious art and often include representations of deer, corn, peyote and other symbols from Huichol mythology.

Shacter says the artists' quality of life and sustainability are paramount to him. He rarely buys work on consignment.

"With one or two exceptions, everything in the gallery, we purchase outright," he said. "When we leave a person's house, they have money in hand or money in their bank

account."

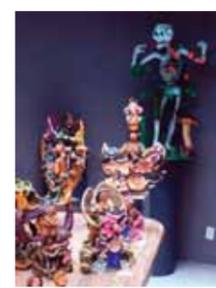
Another highlight of his collection is the lacquered gourds from Temalacatzingo, Guerrero. Lacquering is one of Mexico's oldest crafts.

During the pre-Hispanic period, oil from chia seeds was mixed with powdered minerals or plant-based dyes to create protective coatings and decorative designs. The gourds can grow on trees or vines and are dried before using. Those with bottle-like shapes are cut so the top can be used as a lid.

The layers of lacquer must be applied separately, dried and then burnished. Several small pieces can be done in a single day, while a larger decorative piece may take two or three months.

Because Shacter has developed relationships with some of the best artists in Mexico, his gallery is packed with treasures.

Among his current



favorites is the pottery from Tonalá in Jalisco. He's particularly proud of the work by Geronimo Ramos, one of the few artists who still creates petatillo pottery, which is identified by its light, yellow background filled with crosshatching that looks like a woven palm mat or petate. The tighter the crosshatching, the finer the piece. The style requires a certain type of clay to produce a

smooth painting surface. On top of the crosshatching, the artist usually paints in black, green and cream, and one of the most common images portrayed is the nagual, a mythical half-human, half-animal creature. Then, the piece must go through two separate firings to get its high-gloss sheen.

Shacter and his wife, writer Susan Page, who started the San Miguel Writers' Conference and Literary Festival in 2005, were drawn to this part of central Mexico in part because of the arts community.

San Miguel de Allende was inhabited by rich arts patrons from its start in the 1500s. And in the 1600s, silver was discovered nearby, making the town an important trade thoroughfare. By the mid-1800s, it hit its stride, and many of its mansions, palaces and churches were built during this time. But San Miguel gained its contemporary reputation as an arts center after American artist and writer Stirling Dickinson arrived in 1937. He and Felipe Cossio del Pomar, a Peruvian painter and political activist, established the town's first art school, which still exists today. In the years after World War II, veterans flocked to the school and others when they realized they could stretch their G.I. Bill money further south of the border.

The city's architecture, cobblestone streets and rich, saturated colors make it an artist's — and collector's — dream. Some believe it's built on a bedrock of rose quartz, which channels positive energy and attracts creative types. Whatever the reason, they continue to flock to San Miguel de Allende — and Shacter's gallery.

—AP

WATCH OUT

Radium *Suit*, directed by Yash Lakhya, is a play that explores the day to day life of an ordinary man. He gets traumatised when his brother-in-law and sister come to live with him. **WHEN:** July 20 and 27 **TIME:** 7 pm **WHERE:** Roseate House, Upstage insider.

Consisting of the works of a formidable triad of artists Niren Sengupta, Nupur Kundu and Niladri Pal, *Tres Maestros* is an amalgam of representational art. It is a collection of fresh canvases that dazzle with colour applications. **WHEN:** July 22 to 26 **TIME:** 11 am to 8 pm **WHERE:** Visual Art Gallery, IHC.

Dhriti Swarup, disciple of Padmashri awardee Dr Shovana Narayan, will be performing Kathak. She is a dancer, replete with technical and *abhinaya* skills and has an intense grounding in the theory of Kathak. **WHEN:** July 28 **TIME:** 6:30 pm to 8 pm **WHERE:** Triveni auditorium, Triveni Kala Sangam 205, Tansen Marg.

Banaras ka Bthug, directed by Anuradha Kapur and written by Khwaja Ahmed Abbas, is a dramatised performance about an unknown man, who enters Banaras and proceeds to question all the rules of the city. **WHEN:** July 19 **TIME:** 6:30 pm **WHERE:** India International Centre.

Dastan-e-Mahabharata is a presentation of the Mahabharata in *Dastangoi* form. Using Urdu poetry forms, this is a narration of the great battle. **WHEN:** July 27 **TIME:** 7 pm **WHERE:** CD Deshmukh auditorium, IIC.

Villains, only Heroes

■ LORD'S (LONDON)

The thrilling final throes of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019 were all about emotions — each as raw as you'll find.

We watched Jofra Archer visibly sag under the weight of unimaginable pressure, Jos Buttler gleefully uproot the stumps and man of the moment Ben Stokes immediately console a broken Martin Guptill.

These scenes will be seared into the memories of the nation and so England have etched their names into the history books.

Eoin Morgan's men have won hearts and broken records on the way: here are your 2019 Cricket World Cup heroes in numbers.

FRAUGHT FINAL

The climax to the Lord's final was a white-knuckle ride and not even England could avoid the odd slip-up.

In the final over of their run-chase, Adil Rashid and Mark Wood became the first pair of team-mates to both be run out without facing a ball in the same World Cup innings.

In the penultimate over of their bowling effort, which also featured a wicket and a crucial boundary from Matt Henry, Chris Woakes bowled a no-ball.

It seemed nothing earth-shattering at the time, but it was the first no-ball England bowled in the entire tournament.

Only one team has played a World Cup without bowling a no-ball and that was the Netherlands in 1996.

ARCHER HITS THE TARGET

Archer was a revelation for the hosts — his tournament haul of 20 wickets was the highest-ever for an England player at a World Cup, surpassing Ian Botham's 16 when they last reached the final in 1992.

The 24-year-old formed a fearsome pace bowling partnership with Mark Wood and no pair were faster across the seven weeks.

Wood's 95.7mph delivery to Henry Nicholls in the final matched Archer's feats from earlier in the competition, and Australia's Mitchell Starc also reached that speed.

Consistency was one of the keys to Archer's success and in taking at least three wickets against West Indies, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Australia he became just the



Jos Buttler runs out Martin Guptill to win the Cricket World Cup final match between England and New Zealand at Lord's cricket ground in London on Sunday AP



Jofra Archer, right, reacts with Jos Buttler after bowling the winning ball in the final at Lord's AP

fifth bowler to do so in four successive World Cup matches.

The other four bowlers to have achieved the feat are Chaminda Vaas and Brett Lee in 2003, Glenn McGrath in 2007 and Shahid Afridi across the 2007 and 2011 editions.

FIELD FEATS

When England fielded well at the 2019 Cricket World Cup, they played well as a

team and tended to win.

They were found wanting as a collective in the defeat to Pakistan at Trent Bridge, runs leaked in the field seeing their batting line-up set an unwanted run-chase record.

Before that game, only two teams had scored 300 batting second in a World Cup match and ended up losing — both in 2015, Zimbabwe in defeat to Ireland and Sri Lanka when they lost to Australia.

England scored 334-9 and still fell



Jonny Bairstow reacts after playing a shot AP



Chris Woakes, right, celebrates wrongly for the wicket of Henry Nicholls, left, during World Cup final AP

short, the highest-ever losing score in a run-chase at the tournament.

But their fielding was largely excellent, and Joe Root set a new record for the most catches in the field in any World Cup with 13 from 11 games played, passing Ricky Ponting's 11 grabs back in 2003.

And James Vince set a new record for the most catches by a substitute fielder at a World Cup with five. Ravindra Jadeja took four, surpassing Kenya's Joe Angara and Suresh Raina with three.

BATTING BLITZ

England's power with the bat was a distinctive feature of their triumph and they set a record for sixes hit at a World Cup, clearing the rope 76 times and surpassing West Indies' 68 in 2015.

Joe Root's aggregate 556 was England's best-ever in a single edition of the World Cup and county colleague Jonny Bairstow ended the competition with 532, a new record for a player at his first World Cup.

Indeed, Babar Azam's 474 runs also went past the previous record of 461 set by Rahul Dravid back in 1999.

Root opened the batting in the win over West Indies — his adaptability is taken for granted, but it was the first time he'd performed the role in his 128 ODI appearances.

Only four other batsmen have batted more times before opening in the format;

namely Mahela Jayawardene (269), Michael Bevan (178), Kapil Dev (166) and Carl Hooper (131).

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

England's title challenge was buttressed by the ability of several of their number to contribute with bat, ball and in the field, and they did so to history-making proportions.

With 3-71 and four catches against Pakistan, Chris Woakes became just the third man in ODI history to take three wickets and pouch four catches in the same match, after Hooper and New Zealand's Chris Harris.

In addition to opening against West Indies and scoring a century, Root also took two wickets and two catches — just the second such performance in ODI history.

The first and only other was Aravinda De Silva's inspired display to lead Sri Lanka to victory in the 1996 final as he made 107 not out, took 3-42 and two catches.

Moeen Ali missed out on the final and earlier in the tournament, narrowly missed out on a peculiar place in cricket history. He scored 31 runs on his 32nd birthday against Afghanistan, nearly matching Andrew Strauss' 34 on his 34th birthday against Ireland in the 2011 World Cup.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

SilberFern



By DANIEL VETTORI
Former New Zealand captain

NZ should be proud of their performance

The New Zealand players will be devastated on their way back home but they should be forever proud of how they performed in the World Cup final.

Both teams were incredible, each had times where they were on top and in control before it was wrestled back, so there were so many parts that you could analyse and deconstruct from the match.

Two ties in a World Cup final at Lord's, you can't even imagine that stuff. There was a lot going on, a lot packed into 102 overs and it was gripping from start to end.

It is heart-breaking for New Zealand, you

could see the emotion from Kane Williamson at the end of the game and there would be some devastating guys in that dressing room.

The fans and the country will be devastated, they saw the fightback and the opportunity to win the game.

The two ties are crazy, but there will be a lot of pride around the performance not only in this game but with the way New Zealand have played throughout the whole World Cup.

You can't take anything away from England, a couple of things went their way at the last but they were under an immense amount of pressure for

the last few weeks of the tournament.

They stood up and dominated, they beat the three other semi-finalists in successive games to reach the final and you can't underestimate that type of performance.

New Zealand played very well in that final — they barely did anything wrong and in that seems unfair to be talking about them as a losing side.

So for them it's about celebrating the brilliance of their game and there was plenty of it. The catches in the outfield were superb, Matt Henry with the new ball was fantastic and Colin de Grandhomme, to put together a spell of 1/25 in a World Cup final



THE TWO TIES ARE CRAZY, BUT THERE WILL BE A LOT OF PRIDE AROUND THE PERFORMANCE NOT ONLY IN THIS GAME BUT WITH THE WAY NEW ZEALAND HAVE PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD CUP

shouldn't be overlooked.

Jimmy Neesham did a great job, Lockie Ferguson was in the wickets, Tom Latham played really well with the bat — there are far more positives than negative to take from this game and the performance.

It's a time to celebrate what went right and not focus too heavily on what went wrong.

New Zealand have shown themselves to have the fight but there's plenty to notice in the skill as well, their talent in pressure moments is incredible and they've shown that in so many games through the tournament, not least against India.

To see that and to see the way they play makes all New Zealanders very proud.

The Black Caps are a fantastic group of guys and that's

personified in their cricket, as it was for England, too.

Watching Williamson and Eoin Morgan lead their teams made it such a pleasure for people to watch that final, these are two great teams doing their all but with utmost respect for each other.

Looking ahead to where New Zealand go, we certainly won't be seeing too much change from them.

This is a settled team and the majority of this squad will be available for the next World Cup, so they've got the building blocks of something very special.

They'll take a lot of experience from this heading forward and there's no reason why these 15 guys can't be competing for a title in India in four years' time.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

KOHLI, BUMRAH RETAIN LEAD IN RANKINGS

PTI ■ LONDON

India skipper Virat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah on Monday retained their number one position in the ICC batsmen and bowlers' rankings, respectively, following the conclusion of the World Cup.

India had lost to New Zealand in the semifinals of the World Cup. Players from England and New Zealand, champions and runners-up, have moved up rankings after featuring in an exhilarating final at Lord's here on Sunday.

The latest rankings update, which takes into account performances from the semifinals and the final, sees players from either side reach personal bests during the last two stages.

Player of the tournament Kane Williamson reached a career-high 799 points after the semifinal against India, in which he scored an important knock of 67. He ended the tournament at 796 points, gaining two points from his two matches, while his compatriot Ross Taylor has ended the tournament in fifth place, having reached a career-best 841 rating points earlier in the tournament.

England all-rounder Ben Stokes has ended the tournament at a career-best 694 points, gaining five places and moving into the top 20 and to within two places of his career best of 18th two years ago.

Jason Roy's 85 from 65 balls in the semi-final win over Australia has helped him into the top 10 for the first time.

Another notable gainer in the rankings for batsmen is Ravindra Jadeja, whose valiant knock of 77 against New Zealand has lifted him 24 places to 108th position.

BCCI to invite fresh applications for support staff

Shastri will have to re-apply for head coach job

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The BCCI will soon invite fresh applications for the Indian cricket team's support staff, including the head coach, and incumbent Ravi Shastri will need to re-apply once his contract expires after next month's tour of the West Indies.

The support staff comprising Shastri, bowling coach Bharat Arun, batting coach Sanjay Bangar and fielding coach R Sridhar were given a 45-day extension following the World Cup, covering the West Indies tour from August 3 to September 3.

All of them can re-apply but the team is set to have a new trainer and physio after the departure of Shanker Basu and Patrick Farhart respectively following India's semifinal exit in the World Cup.

After the West Indies tour, India's home season kicks off with the series against South Africa beginning September 15. Shastri was appointed India chief coach in 2017 after Anil Kumble's tenure ended prematurely in controversial circumstances.

The 57-year-old was also India's director of cricket from August 2014 to June 2016.

However, India have not won a major ICC event under his guidance though the team did make history by winning a maiden Test series in Australia earlier this year.

"The job openings will be put up on our website in a day or two. Besides the support staff, fresh applications will also be invited for the post of team manager," a BCCI official said.

It was the first time that the BCCI had followed a transparent procedure for hiring the team manager, in accordance with the Lodha committee recommendations.



West Indies tour squad announcement on July 19

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian team for next month's tour of West Indies will be announced on July 19 but there is no clarity over the future of Mahendra Singh Dhoni ahead of the limited-overs leg beginning August 3.

Dhoni's future has been widely speculated ever since India lost to New Zealand in the World Cup semifinal on July 9. The 38-year-old is expected to make an announcement on it in the coming few days.

"The selectors will meet in Mumbai on July 19. We have not heard from Dhoni but what is relevant is the communication between the player and selectors. If you ask me, Dhoni did well in the World Cup but he is his own man. Only he can decide whether he wants to carry on or not," a BCCI official said after the Committee Of Administrators' meeting.

Skipper Virat Kohli and pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah are expected to be rested for the limited-overs leg comprising three T20s and as many ODIs before returning for the two-Test series starting August 22. The five-day matches will be part of the inaugural World Test Championship.

There is also no official word on the availability of opener Shikhar Dhawan who is recovering from a thumb injury that cut short his World



Cup campaign.

It was COA's first meeting since India's heartbreaking loss at Manchester but the Vinod Rai-led committee did not discuss the team's performance.

However, the three-member panel and CEO Rahul Johri, who joined in via video conferencing as he remains in London for the ICC meetings, did discuss the issue of players picking and choosing games.

Former greats like Sunil Gavaskar had questioned the BCCI for allowing the likes of Dhoni and Shikhar Dhawan to skip domestic cricket in the run-up to the World Cup.

Sindhu, Srikanth begin quest for title

PTI ■ JAKARTA

Rejuvenated after a month's break, Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu will look to produce the goods and break this season's title drought when she spearheads the Indian campaign at the USD 1,250,000 Indonesia Open BWF World Tour Super 1000 beginning here Tuesday.

A title has eluded Sindhu ever since she stood on the podium with the gold medal at the World Tour Finals last December.

Sindhu has not looked her usual self as she failed to reach a single final so far this season and has made it to only two semi-finals in six tournaments.

The fifth seeded Indian will have her first final of the season in sight when she opens against Japan's Aya Ohori Wednesday. However, it will be easier said than done as another Japanese

Nozomi Okuhara stands on her way to the quarter-finals.

"It has not been really great. I think I have to do much better. I have worked on mental as well as physical fitness. I have been working out on my skills a lot more," Sindhu had said recently.

Saina Nehwal, the only Indian to win a title this season at Malaysia Masters earlier in the year, has been suffering from multiple injuries and will not feature in the prestigious tournament.

In men's singles, world no 9 Kidambi Srikanth, who was sidelined by a knee injury ahead of the Sudirman Cup, will also test his form and fitness when he opens against Japan's Kenta Nishimoto.

Srikanth had reached the final at India Open this season and he would look to put another good performance at a tournament, which he had won in 2017.

B Sai Praneeth, who has looked in good touch at Swiss Open, will be up against Hong Kong's Wong Wing Ki Vincent, while HS Prannoy will face an imposing task of timing second seed Shi Yu Qi Wednesday.

Women's doubles pair of Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy will meet Malaysian combo of Vivian Hoo and Yap Chong Wen, while men's doubles combination of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will take on Malaysian pair of Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin. Mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and Sikki will face Netherlands' Robin Tabeling and Selena Piek.

Indian shuttlers didn't set the stage on fire this season with just Saina winning a title and chief coach Pullela Gopichand blamed it on the number of injuries, and hoped they would do well in the second half of the year.

Big Ben tale



Ben Stokes reacts after Carlos Brathwaite smashes four consecutive sixes to win World T20 final 2016; (Down) Ben Stokes with the ICC World Cup 2019 winners medal as he helped England to win its maiden title in 44 years

AFP ■ LONDON

Ben Stokes started England's march to World Cup glory with a catch to remember and ended their historic campaign weeping tears of joy as victory against New Zealand completed a personal tale of redemption.

The all-rounder was voted man-of-the-match after hitting an unbeaten 84 in a thrilling England run chase that ended with the match tied after Eoin Morgan's team finished on 241 all out in reply to New Zealand's 241-8. The 28-year-old's heroics set up a rare Super Over that saw Stokes and Jos Buttler score 15 runs from six extra balls off New Zealand's Trent Boult.

When England held New Zealand to 15 from Jofra Archer's own Super Over, it was the hosts who took the trophy because they hit more boundaries in the match, including several from Stokes.

The incredible climax at Lord's gave England their first World Cup and ensured Stokes' lasting legacy will be his heroics in the final instead of the 2017 street brawl that threatened to ruin his career.

Not surprisingly, Stokes was overcome with emotion and he wept openly during



the jubilant on-field celebrations. "I'm pretty lost for words. All that hard work for four years and now to be stood here as champions of the world, it's an amazing feeling," Stokes said.

"There was no chance I wasn't going to be there at the end. It's moments like that you live for as a professional cricketer.

"It's incredible, I hope we have inspired people to want to do this in the future."

"Ben Stokes, he's a great player. He stepped up when his team needed him. That is the mark of greatness," former England captain Michael Vaughan said on BBC radio.

Stokes missed the 2017/18 Ashes series in Australia following a well-documented incident in Bristol — an ugly scene outside a nightclub which led to a charge of affray, over which he was found not guilty.

But he was welcomed back with warm, unconditional support from his team-mates and has repaid that faith in spades during this unforgettable World Cup campaign.

"Without the lads in the ODI

Cricket's coming home!



England skipper Eoin Morgan and coach Trevor Bayliss hold the World Cup trophy

AFP ■ BRUSSELS

Britain may be in the middle of a painful divorce from the EU, but Brexit did not stop Brussels congratulating England on Monday on their dramatic cricket World Cup triumph.

Before moving to the usual round of questions about migration, US trade relations and EU competition rules, European Commission chief spokesman Margaritis Schinas used a daily briefing with journalists to hail the win.

"Congratulations to the England cricket team on winning the men's cricket World

Cup in a nail-biting final against New Zealand. Cricket is coming home!" said the smiling Greek spokesman, whose enthusiasm for the game had previously passed unnoticed.

England were captained in their thrilling Super Over triumph on Sunday by Irishman Eoin Morgan, giving a European gloss to the side's maiden 50-over tournament triumph.

Schinas followed his warm words for England with similarly enthusiastic congratulations for the Portuguese roller hockey team, who saw off Argentina in the final of their own world cup on Sunday.

They took them to the final. With the situation growing more tense by the minute in England's run chase against New Zealand's fired-up pace attack on Sunday, it was Stokes who came to the rescue.

Playing with poise and panache, he ensured England made it to the Super Over despite needing 14 off the final over to tie the regulation match.

Smashing Boult for a six, Stokes enjoyed a moment of deserved good fortune when he dived full length to avoid being run out, with the ball deflecting off his bat and going for four more runs — giving him another six runs.

It was surely at that moment that Stokes realised it was going to be his day.

The cathartic triumph was completed soon after amid fireworks and confetti as Morgan held the World Cup high in the London sky while Stokes tried in vain to stop the tears.



Ben Stokes dives in to make his ground and get a 6 from overthrows during the World Cup final

'Hope it never happens again'

PTI ■ LONDON

Shattered and devastated New Zealand captain Kane Williamson rued the unfortunate overthrow in the last over that eventually turned the epic final in England's favour, saying he hoped the incident would never happen in such moments again.

In a high drama encounter on Sunday night, the pendulum swung viciously in the final over with England needing nine from three balls when Ben Stokes hit Trent Boult to the deep. The return throw from Martin Guptill hit Stokes' bat as he dived to make his ground for the second run, with the ball rebounding to the rope for additional four runs.

It impacted the equation to the extent that the heart-stopping contest stretched to the Super Over and eventually the hosts lifted their maiden World Cup trophy at the iconic Lord's here.

"It was a shame that the ball hit Stokes' bat, but I just hope it doesn't happen in moments like that. I don't wish to nitpick, just hope it never happens in such moments ever again," Williamson said.

"The New Zealand side showed a great amount of heart to get us to this point, but it just wasn't meant to be. The guys are shattered at the moment — it

is devastating. It's pretty tough to swallow at this stage. But a fantastic effort from our guys," said the skipper.

Stokes later apologised to New Zealand for that lucky unintentional touch.

"In the last over when the ball hit the bat and went for four — I apologised to Kane (Williamson) for that."

Williamson, who was adjudged the player of the tournament for scoring 578 runs and for his brilliant captaincy, said they were a few runs short.

"We thought runs on the board — we would have liked 10-20 more. But in a World Cup final this was a competitive total.

The bowlers really put the batsmen under pressure. It had to go down to the last ball, and then the last ball of the next little match, but a great match all round," he said.

"There were so many moments that could've gone either way, but congratulations to England — they've had an incredible campaign and they deserve it."

Winning skipper Eoin Morgan acknowledged the brave brand of cricket New Zealand displayed throughout the tournament.

"I'd like to commiserate Kane (Williamson) and his team. The example that they lead is hugely commendable to him and his team," he said.



Jimmy Neesham

@JimmyNeesham

Kids, don't take up sport. Take up baking or something. Die at 60 really fat and happy.

New Zealand's dejected all-rounder Jimmy Neesham advised kids as he hoped to find at least a day or two in the next decade when the nerve-racking World Cup final loss to England won't rattle him

Rohit, Bumrah included in WC XI



PTI ■ LONDON

Tournament top-scorer Rohit Sharma and pacer Jasprit Bumrah were the only Indians named in the ICC's World Cup XI, captained by New Zealand's admirable skipper Kane Williamson and dominated by champions England.

Player of the Tournament Williamson leads a team that includes six players from Sunday's dramatic final at the Lord's.

Newly-crowned world champions England are the most represented with four players in the XI while runners-up New Zealand have two in the team, named by a panel selected by the ICC to honour all those who performed well in the tournament.

The other representatives come from the losing semi-finalists India and Australia, who have two each, while

Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan rounds out the team.

Sharma top-scored in the tournament with 648 runs while Bumrah was India's best bowler with 18 wickets.

Jason Roy got the nod at the top of the order for his tone-setting brilliance for England that saw him overcome injury during the tournament to help his side to the title.

Alongside Roy, the other opening batsman is India's Rohit Sharma. One of the easier selections in this XI, considering the Indian star was the tournament's top run scorer and cracked a record five centuries in all.

Williamson comes in at No 3. The Black Caps star scored more runs than any captain has ever done before at a World Cup and led his side with aplomb from start to finish.

Joe Root will come in at No 4 for this team after a World

Cup that saw him finish as England's top run scorer, fifth overall in the tournament, with tons against Pakistan and West Indies and three half centuries.

Shakib Al Hasan scored his runs this summer batting at No 3 for Bangladesh, but for much of his career he has come in at No 5 and it is there that he appears in this team.

Shakib had a quite wonderful tournament, averaging 87 with the bat with two centuries and five half centuries, and still managed to chip in with 11 wickets as well with his left-arm spin.

Fellow all-rounder Ben Stokes is also a cast-iron selection — his heroics in the final were the stuff of fairytale but he was also a picture of consistency throughout the tournament for England.

Behind the stumps, Alex Carey effected 20 dismissals this tournament, only Kiwi Tom Latham managed more, while

Australian also bludgeoned 375 runs at an average north of 60.

Alongside Carey is his compatriot, and the tournament's top wicket-taker with 27, Mitchell Starc.

Jofra Archer — the hero of the Super Over in the final and appearing in his first World Cup — claimed 20 wickets at an impressive economy rate of 4.57 to earn his spot.

New Zealand's Lockie Ferguson finished second in the wicket charts with 21, including three in the final as well as an astonishing catch, while also going at less than five runs an over.

Last but by no means least is Bumrah, the world's No1 ODI bowler who lived up to that billing with 18 wickets while still only going for 4.41 runs an over — better than any other bowler on the top wicket takers list.



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