

OPINION 6
 POLITICS OF
 PEACE-MAKING

MONEY 8
 SWISS BANK DETAILS
 OF INDIANS FROM SEPT

WORLD 12
 BRITISH ENVOY
 TO US RESIGNS

Published From
 DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR
 RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH
 DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

*Late City Vol. 29 Issue 190
 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

NEW DELHI, THURSDAY JULY 11, 2019; PAGES 12+4 ₹3

the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

ARTICLE 15 IS
 A BRAVE FILM:
 AYUSHMANN
 13 VIVACITY



K'taka crisis reaches SC

Rebel MLAs move court against Speaker for delay in accepting resignation

PNS ■ BENGALURU/MUMBAI

Time is fast running out for the HD Kumaraswamy Government in Karnataka with more MLAs jumping off the sinking ship on Wednesday and the Mumbai Police not allowing Congress main troubleshooter DK Shivkumar to even meet the rebel MLAs in their luxury hotel.

The rebel camp, backed allegedly by the BJP, approached the Supreme Court on Wednesday and moved a petition signed by 10 Congress and JD(S) MLAs accusing the Karnataka Assembly Speaker of deliberately not accepting their resignations.

A Bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose would decide on Thursday whether their plea seeking direction for the Speaker to accept the resignation of these MLAs could be listed for urgent hearing.

Dashing the faintest hope beleaguered Chief Minister Kumaraswamy might have harboured for survival, Housing Minister MTB Nagaraj and K Sudhakar, both from the Congress, tendered their resignation to Assembly Speaker Ramesh Kumar.

With the two latest resignations, 16 MLAs — 13 from the Congress and 3 from the JD(S) — have quit while two Independent MLAs — H Nagesh and R Shanker — have already withdrawn support. The coalition's strength is 116 (Congress-78, JD(S)-37 and BSP-1), besides the Speaker.

With the support of the two Independents, who quit the Government on Monday, the BJP has 107 MLAs in the 224-member House, where the halfway mark is 113. If the resignation of the 16 MLAs is accepted, the coalition tally will come down to 100.

After tendering his resignation, Nagaraj told reporters, "I don't want any ministerial position or anything. I am fed up with politics."

Nagaraj and Sudhakar, who

is State Pollution Control Board Chairman, came to the Speaker's office about 4 pm and handed over resignations in their official letterhead to him.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the rebel MLAs, said these lawmakers have already resigned from their membership of the Assembly and wanted to contest fresh elections.

He sought the hearing either on Wednesday or Thursday on the plea in which it has been alleged that the Speaker had acted in a partisan and mala fide manner and deliberately not accepting their resignations.

In the petition, the 10 rebel MLAs alleged that the Speaker was protecting the Government which is in minority now. The MLAs further sought a direction that the Speaker be restrained from proceeding with the application for their disqualification.

"Acting in a concerted manner, the Congress has filed a petition before the Speaker seeking disqualification of the MLAs who have resigned. Needless to state, the disqualification proceedings are completely illegal and without any cause of action," they said.

In the petition, the MLAs stated that the Assembly Session is to begin from July 12, the same day that the MLAs have been asked to remain in person before the Speaker, which showed the "intent of the Speaker to disqualify the petitioners in a prejudged manner."

"The whole idea is to disqualify the petitioners and under threat of disqualification allow the minority Government to function without the support of majority in the House. It is submitted that the actions of the Speaker are arbitrary and unreasonable and violative of the Constitution," the plea said.

The MLAs further said their resignations were in consonance with the rules and the provisions of the Constitution. "The objection is clearly not warranted and appears to be an exercise to delay the proceedings, thereby giving room for the ruling dispensation to exert pressure on the MLAs who have tendered resignations," the plea said.

Related reports on P9



Karnataka Ministers D Shivkumar and GT Devegowda interact with police personnel at Hotel Renaissance, where the 10 rebel MLAs are staying, in Mumbai on Wednesday

Cong troubleshooter Shivkumar detained over 'threat to MLAs'

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

The political crisis faced by the ruling Congress-JD(S) Government in Karnataka spilled on to Mumbai and snowballed into a high-voltage drama on Wednesday as the city police detained visiting Congress Minister DK Shivkumar and his party's leaders from Mumbai for refusing to move away from a Mumbai hotel where rebel Karnataka MLAs are staying.

Shivkumar, who has handled this kind of political crises in the past, arrived at the Renaissance Hotel at Powai in north-west Mumbai at 8.15 am. Despite the fact that he had reserved a room at the hotel, he was prevented from entering the hotel by the Mumbai Police officials who told him that the Congress MLAs staying the

hotel had written to Mumbai Police chief saying they feared threat to their life due to his arrival there.

The operative part of the letter written by the 10 Congress MLAs to the Mumbai Police Commissioner read thus: "...We have heard that DK Shivkumar and others are going to storm in the hotel premises (sic). We feel threatened for the same (sic). We do not want to meet him. Kind request to us help us in the matter and do not allow him to enter the hotel premises."

The day-long drama, which began with Shivkumar being detained from near the Renaissance-Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel after he refused to leave the place till he met his party's rebel MLAs lodged at the hotel, ended with his assertion made after his

release from his detention that "all our MLAs will back and our Government is safe."

Shivkumar, who was to be deported back to Bengaluru late in the night by the Mumbai Police, said that though he wanted to stay back in Mumbai to meet Congress leaders and take them back to Bengaluru irrespective of the consequences, but he was persuaded by the police officials saying that his continued stay in Mumbai would result in law and order problem.

Talking to mediapersons after his release from detention, Shivkumar said, "I am still confident that all of them (rebel Congress MLAs staying put in Mumbai) will come back. The Congress-JD(S) Government which is there in Karnataka will be safe."

Continued on Page 4

Cabinet clears Bill to combat Ponzi menace

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seeking to curb the menace of Ponzi schemes, the Narendra Modi Government gave its approval to the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019, in the Union Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

The proposed law would address the issue of illicit deposit-taking activities as it provides for strict action against such activities.

The proposed legislation will have adequate provisions for punishment and disgorgement/repayment of deposits in cases where such schemes nonetheless manage to raise deposits illegally.

Addressing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Union Environment and Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said the Union Cabinet also approved the proposed Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill, 2019, that seeks to merge 13

- The proposed legislation will have adequate provisions for punishment and disgorgement/repayment of deposits in cases where such schemes nonetheless manage to raise deposits illegally
- Proposed Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill, 2019 seeks to merge 13 Central labour laws into a single code which would apply on all establishments employing 10 or more workers
- The Bill also has rules framed for women working in night shifts
- The Cabinet approves Bill to have a single tribunal for water disputes and the decisions have to be taken in two years. Now there are nine tribunals and these will become one

Central labour laws into a single code which would apply on all establishments employing 10 or more workers.

The proposed code enhances the coverage of workers manifold as it would be applicable to all establishments employing 10 or more workers, where any industry, trade, business, manufacture or occupation is carried on, including IT establishments or establishments of service sector, the release said. The Bill also has rules framed for women working in night shifts. The Union Cabinet also approved Inter-State River Water Disputes

(Amendment) Bill, 2019, to streamline the adjudication of inter-State river water disputes and make the present institutional architecture robust.

The Cabinet approves Bill to have a single tribunal for water disputes and the decisions have to be taken in two years. Now there are nine tribunals and these will become one.

The Cabinet also approved a proposal to grant of Organised Group 'A' status to Indian Railway Protection Force (RPF) Service. This will end stagnation, improve career progression of the officers and keep up their motivational level.

Death term for child rape now

Amendments OK'd in POCSO Act

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

To combat rising cases of child sex abuse, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved amendments to strengthen the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012 which would now have death penalty for aggravated penetrative sexual assault against children.

To curb child pornography, the amendment levies heavy fine for not deleting and destroying child pornographic material. Not reporting child pornography will also invite a hefty fine. The Government has claimed that this move will not only discourage the trend of child abuse but will also protect the interest of vulnerable minors in times of distress.

Brought in 2012, the POCSO has been modified

earlier too to make it as fool-proof as possible.

Addressing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Union Environment and Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said the amendment in the POCSO Act will make punishment more stringent for committing sexual crimes against children including death penalty. The modification in the law will address the need for stringent measures against rising trend of child sex abuse and combat the menace of relatively new kind

of crimes, the Government said, stressing that the strong penal provisions will act as a deterrent.

"It intends to protect the interest of vulnerable children in times of distress and ensures their safety and dignity. The amendment is aimed to establish clarity regarding the aspects of child abuse and punishment thereof," the Government release said.

Continued on Page 4

CAPSULE

DUTEE WINS 100M GOLD IN WORLD UNIVERSIADE

Napoli: National record holder Dutee Chand became first Indian woman track and field athlete to clinch a gold medal in World Universiade after she won the 100m dash event. Dutee clocked 11.32 seconds to win the gold.

PRO-KHALISTANI GROUP SIKHS FOR JUSTICE BANNED

New Delhi: Pro-Khalistani group the Sikhs for Justice was on Wednesday banned by the Government for its alleged anti-national activities. P5

50 BIRDS DIE IN BIHAR OF MYSTERIOUS DISEASE

Patna: At least 50 birds have died of a mysterious disease in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district in the last two days, officials said. P9

DEPOSITS IN JAN DHAN ACCOUNTS CROSS ₹1L CR

New Delhi: Deposits in bank accounts opened under Jan Dhan scheme, launched about five years ago by the Modi-Government, have crossed the ₹1 lakh crore mark. As per the latest data, total balance in over 36.06 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana accounts was at ₹1,00,495.94 crore as on July 3.

Goa LoP leads 2/3rd Congress MLAs to shift loyalty to BJP

PTI ■ PANAJI

Winds of political instability in neighbouring Karnataka reached Goa on Wednesday, with two-thirds (10 out of 15) of Congress MLAs breaking away to merge with the ruling BJP in the coastal State.

The group, led by Leader of Opposition Chandrakant Kavlekar, met Assembly Speaker Rajesh Patnekar in the evening and gave him a letter, informing him about their breaking away from the party.

The MLAs include Atanasio Monserratte, Jennifer Monserratte, Francis Silveira, Philip Nery Rodrigues, Cleoafoc Dias, Wilfred DSA, Nilkant Halarnkar and Isidor Fernandes.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, who was present when the group arrived at the Assembly complex, said the 10 MLAs have merged with the BJP.

With the 10 MLAs changing sides, the strength of the Congress in the House would be reduced to five.

The BJP is the single largest party with 17, the Goa Forward Party and Independents have three each, while one MLA each is from the NCP and the MGP.

When asked, Kavlekar refused to give reason behind their move, but said that they will make a statement later. Sawant was sworn in as CM in March after the death of then CM Manohar Parrikar.

Won't abandon Amethi: Rahul

He blames local Congress leaders for losing LS seat

PNS/PTI ■ LUCKNOW/AMETHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday visited Amethi for the first time after losing the Lok Sabha constituency to Smriti Irani and assured locals that he will not abandon the constituency. However, Rahul attributed his defeat to local party leaders who failed to connect with people there. Rahul had won Amethi LS seat thrice in 2004, 2009 and 2014.

"I will not leave Amethi. It is my home and family. The

development of Amethi will not be hampered. I am the MP from Wayanad but my ties with Amethi are three decades old. I will fight for Amethi in Delhi," Rahul reportedly told party workers.

Rahul said the workers did a lot during the campaign but "local leaders remained away from the people, leading to his defeat". Many workers said the Congress was weak in the entire district and the party campaign lacked direction. They alleged that some party men worked with the BJP in the constituency. They also unanimously demanded that Rahul should withdraw his resignation from the party president's post.

Continued on Page 4



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi listens to a party worker during his visit to Amethi on Wednesday

Massive heartbreak



India crashed out of the World Cup after suffering a heart-breaking 18-run loss to New Zealand in the first semifinal played in Manchester on Wednesday. (In picture) MS Dhoni leaves the field after being dismissed

Water project OK'd to tap 'soaring' Yamuna

Kejriwal Cabinet approves floodplain water conservation, mega reservoir

SAPNA SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

With an aim to make the National Capital self-sufficient and to end its dependence on the neighbouring States to meet water demands, the Delhi Cabinet on Wednesday approved Yamuna flood Natural Water Storage Project. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal monitored the pilot project which has the potential to end acute water shortage, particularly in summer. The project is scheduled to start in a month's time.

The Cabinet meeting chaired by Kejriwal has passed all the necessary inter-department proposals for the pilot project, including ₹77,000 per acre to be paid to farmers who

are willing to lease their land for the project.

According to the Delhi Government, the project is aimed to conserve water in the Yamuna floodplains and creating eco-friendly mega reservoir between Palla and Warirabad to deal with the water shortage.

"The project envisages creation of small ponds in the floodplains which will catch water from the overflowing Yamuna during the monsoon season. Most of the approvals have been received for the pilot project, barring two from the National Green Tribunal (NGT) committees, which are expected very soon," quoted a statement from the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

At a time when many States in India are facing water scarcity problem, the Government claimed that the project will prove to be a gamechanger not only for Delhi but for the whole country.

Continued on Page 4



Tytlar booked for usurping plots

SHEKHAR SINGH ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has registered First Information Report (FIR) against former Union Minister Jagdish Tytler for allegedly cheating and criminal breach of trust. Police said that the complainant stated that Tytler and 10 other persons had illegally usurped two plots in Delhi's Karol Bagh area.

According to FIR registered with Economic Offense Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police, the complainants Vijay and Anil Sekhri, who owns 25 per cent share in Gautam Overseas limited (GOL) said that two plots (assets) owned by the company will have the control over GOL's records along with value around 271 crores, were given on rent by forging documents with intention of defrauding and remove real owners of the plots from their rights. The complainant said that the plots in 2007, were given on lease and they were unaware about it.

According to complainant, the plots were purchased by Jagdish Tytler and Sekhri Family through GOL and both Tytler and Sekhri family that time held 50 per cent share each in the company. Sekhri family's share was divided



between the complainants and their elder brother Bhupinder Sekhri equally at 25 per cent each ratio.

"In order to protect the interest of Sekhri family and Tytler, it was agreed that Sekhri family will have the control over GOL's records along with the original documents of the plots. The papers were kept with Bhupinder till the work is initiated on the plots and physical control and possession of the plots were under Jagdish Tytler on a good faith and trust," said the FIR.

"In 2009, the family got divided and Bhupinder Sekhri's shares were illegally bought by Tytler through his two companies, which were later merged into Sun Real Estate Pvt Ltd, making him 75 per cent of share holder in GOL," said the complainant.

"Over a period of time, Tytler developed a mala fide intention to illegally usurp the share and interest of the complainants in the plots through his dummies companies. Tytler conspired with the help of Bhupinder Sekhri and took original documents of the plots from the registered company's office, without any knowledge of the complainants, who were having 25 percent in the GOL," stated FIR.

"The complainants approached Supreme Court in 2017, which ordered valuation of the two plots at a fair market value, under supervision of Justice Mukund Mudgal. The valuation was calculated to the amount of Rs 271 crores and according to share holding of 25 percent, the complainants have rightful share of Rs 67 crores in the only two plots owned by GOL," said the complainant.

"After valuation by Apex court, Sun Real Estate Pvt Ltd, indirectly owned by Tytler, which said to buy the 25 per cent share of the Sekhri brothers back out following which the court directed to auction the properties. A order to vacate the plots were also issued but Tytler company backed

down and said that they have no relation with the companies on plot and cannot get the two plots vacated," said the complainant.

The complainant said that in the records of North Delhi Municipal Corporation, the land use of the plot acquired by J D Tytler learning Centre is shown as 'Banquet Hall' and the occupancy is shown as 'Self occupied' whereas it remains a question how was the plot converted by all the accused persons when GOL never carried out any change in land status. "How it is being used as banquet hall when it is in possession of the JD learning Centre", the complainants alleged.

Meanwhile, a senior police official said that in preliminary investigation suggests no involvement of Jagdish Tytler in the complaint. However, Jagdish Tytler, talking to The Pioneer said that he no links with the companies. "The school is running there since 1954 and I am tenant there. I have no role and I own no company alleged in the FIR. There is dispute between Sekhri brothers and they are dragging me into it without any reason," said Tytler.

3 shots fired at me, claims AAP MLA; police reject claim

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Am Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and MLA from Delhi's Deoli Assembly seat Prakash Jarwal on Wednesday alleged that three shots were fired at him during an event in south Delhi's Shani Bazaar area. However, police denied Jarwal's claim and the CCTV footage collected from the spot does not show any incident of firing.

Jarwal said after verbally informing the police, he has also filed a formal complaint at the Neb Sarai police station. Jarwal claimed that he was shot at on Wednesday by an illegal alcohol distributor, who had been chasing him for the past three days.

He alleged that despite asking the police for security, no action was taken in this regard. "My life is in danger. I was pre-



viously attacked on Sunday and informed police about it but nothing was done," he said. In the police complaint, Jarwal said an AAP worker was also given death threats by the same person over phone. Jarwal said he had call records of the conversation.

According to Vijay Kumar, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), South district, the CCTV footage collected from the spot does not show any incident of firing and further investigation is going on.

Jawan held for stealing handbag with ornaments worth ₹15 lakh at IGIA

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested an assistant sub-inspector with the Border Security Force (BSF) for allegedly stealing a woman's handbag containing ornaments worth ₹15 lakh at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in National Capital. The accused has been identified as Naresh Kumar, a resident of Haryana.

According to Sanjay Bhatia, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), IGI airport, the incident took place on Tuesday when the woman along with her husband were at the airport to board a flight to Srinagar.

"After completing her boarding formalities, she took a seat and kept her handbag under the liner chair.

A few minutes later, the woman realised that her hand-

bag containing ornaments was missing after which she approached the police," said the DCP.

"During investigation, CCTV camera installed in the area were scanned and Kumar was nabbed when he was seen taking away the handbag of the woman in a CCTV footage," said the DCP.

"Stolen gold and diamond jewellery worth ₹15 lakh have been recovered from the possession of the accused. The accused told police that he was at the IGI airport to board a flight to Bagdogra," said the DCP.

"A medical examination has confirmed that Kumar was under the influence of alcohol and stole the handbag to make easy money," said the DCP adding that further investigation is going on.

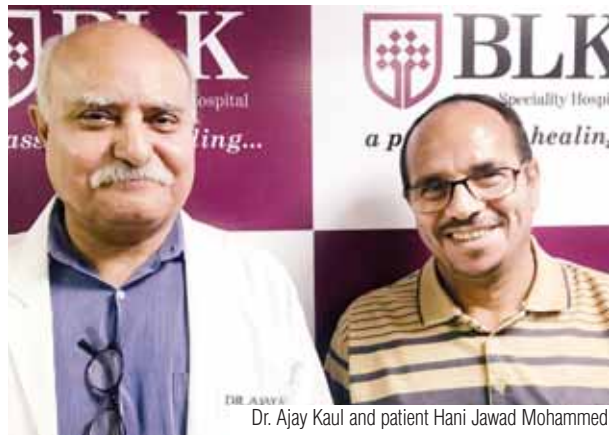
Man's heart revived 18 months after artificial implant

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

For Hani Jawad Mohammad, it was no less than a miracle when his heart resumed functioning almost 18 months after he underwent an artificial heart implant procedure following a cardiac failure. In what is claimed to be first in Asia, the 52 year old Iraqi businessman's failed heart was revived with year-long medication and monitoring by putting it on rest and decommissioning artificial heart.

Jawad, who had undergone artificial heart transplant (LVAD), admitted at BLK Super Speciality Hospital a year back after his health condition start deteriorating day by day. After assessing his condition, doctors advised him to go for heart transplant or artificial heart implant.

"Considering acute shortage of donor's heart and serious condition of Hani Jawad, artificial heart transplant was one and only alternate we had to save his life. The LVAD gave



him a new lease of life. One year of continuous monitoring and medications helped recuperate the ailing original heart, said Dr Ajay Kaul, Chairman of BLK heart centre," adding that after one year of thorough investigations, doctors found the original heart had restarted functioning properly even beyond their expectation. Hence, they weaned off the artificial heart and now Jawad's own natural heart started beat-

ing again normally without any support.

"Post-surgery he was in constant follow up with us and we were monitoring his Implant and his natural heart which was put on medication and rest," he added.

Dr Kaul said that generally, in such condition, the original heart may show recovery of 10-15 per cent but his heart functioning was way better, which is more like a medical

'Post-surgery he was in constant follow up with us and we were monitoring his Implant and his natural heart which was put on medication and rest'

miracle. "In this case artificial heart transplant has proved as destination therapy with complete recovery of his ailing heart to a normal heart."

Jawad said, "It's a rebirth for me—from a failed heart to an artificial heart to a natural one again." I had several attempts on my life. The first was one being in the captivity of terrorists, from where I managed to escape. Even after having received multiple gunshot injuries, I survived many surgeries and finally underwent an artificial heart transplant here," he said.

STAFF REPORTER ■ GURUGRAM

The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has identified four locations for constructing multilevel parking lots including Kaman Sarai, Kamla Nehru Market, Sikanderpur village and Old Veterinary Hospital at Sadar Bazaar.

The civic body has also floated e-tenders for building four multi-level parking lots to decongest these areas. MCG officials said that the state government has framed a parking policy to stop unauthorised

parking on roads.

Located within a radius of a kilometer of each other, Sadar Bazaar and Kamani Sarai are among the city's most congested commercial and residential spaces. Despite housing more than 1,100 shops and inviting a daily footfall of more than 10,000 people, Sadar Bazaar has no designated parking space.

"These parking lots will surely help to decongest parking issues at multiple locations in the city. It will also help to curb unauthorised parking on the city roads. Multilevel parking space will also provide

a better facility to the visitor. Also, the MCG will generate revenue via shops which will run inside the parking lots," an MCG official said.

In March, the MCG officials had looked at sites near Sadar Bazaar for constructing multilevel parking, but owing to space constraints there, they had to shift their plan to Kaman Sarai, which is a bit further from Sadar Bazaar.

Sikanderpur Ghosi is situated near the Delhi-Gurugram border and the Golf Course Road and is also connected by the Yellow Line of the Delhi Metro. It is home to several

paying guest accommodations and guesthouses.

Kamla Nehru Market, too, is a heavily congested market and residential area and its arterial roads are heavily encroached upon by fruit and vegetable vendors.

Despite being in the MCG's scheme of things since the civic body's commenced in 2009, multiple proposals for adopting multilevel parking at Kaman Sarai, Rajiv Chowk, Sadar Bazaar, Huda City Centre Metro station, and DLF Phase 3 failed to get a final nod from the urban local bodies department.

2 held for killing biz partner

Two semi-automatic pistols, four magazines and two dozen cartridges seized

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has arrested two gangsters who had allegedly killed their business partner in east Delhi's Yamuna Vihar in January. Police have also recovered two semi-automatic pistols, four magazines and two dozen of cartridges from the possession of the accused.

The accused have been identified as Kamaljeet Singh (44), a resident of Delhi and Sunil Malik (29), a resident of district Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh (UP). Both were carrying a reward of Rs 20,000 each in connection with the murder of Kamaljeet's business

partner Subhash Rawat. According to Manishi Chandra, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Special Cell, Kamaljeet and Malik were nabbed on Monday from Johri Enclave metro station area.

"During investigation, the duo was also found involved in 55 other cases including robbery and murder. The two-wheeler and the pistol, used to murder Rawat, were also recovered from their possession," said the DCP.

"Interrogation revealed that Kamaljeet and Rawat were involved in the real estate business. They were engaged in sale and purchase of disputed properties in the Trans Yamuna area for the last five years. With time, differences cropped up between them over sharing of profits," said the DCP.

"Kamaljeet thought Rawat had usurped Rs 1.5 crores from him. When the matter could not be resolved amicably, Singh conspired with his brother Charanjeet Singh and his associates to kill Rawat," the DCP said.

"On January 31, the accused started following Rawat from Burari. They intercepted Rawat's vehicle near Brijpur and fired multiple times at him," said the DCP.

"Singh has been involved in a dispute with gangster Satyaprakash for the last four years over collection of money from 'satta' network operating in the Trans-Yamuna area. Kamaljeet along with his brother Charanjeet had been named 'Bad Characters' by the Jafrabad police station.

DELHI DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, 4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001. O.A. No. 1452/18 Date: 24.05.2019. ICICI BANK LTD. Applicant. Vs AJAY KUMAR & ANR. Respondent. To: Debtor. 1. Ajay Kumar Sr. Mr. Raju Joseph (Borrower) R/o. Flat No. 63, Aakriti Apartment, Plot No. 82, Pagarpari, I.P. Extension Near Citi Bank A.M. Delhi 92. 2. Smart M K Trade World Pvt. Ltd. Through its Director Mr. Ajay Kumar (Co-Borrower) N-2/A, Disha Garden, Shantara East Delhi-95. Whereas the above named applicant(s) has/have retained a case of recovery of Rs. 34,64,248/- (Rupees Thirty Four Laks Sixty Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Eight Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on 22/07/2019 at 10.30 A.M. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence. By Order of this Tribunal Section Office DRT-II, Delhi

सिंडिकेटबैंक Syndicate Bank. 59, Shakuntala Apts. First Floor, Nehru Place New Delhi-19. Tel.: 011-26431534, 26281659, Fax: 26461388. E-mail: br.9044@syndicatebank.co.in

SALE & AUCTION	
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Swift Dzire
(1) Vehicle No.	DL-1-YE 2252
Year of Mfg.	02/2015
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Swift Dzire
(2) Vehicle No.	DL-1-YE 2251
Year of Mfg.	02/2015
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(3) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3180
Year of Mfg.	12/2014
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Swift Dzire
(4) Vehicle No.	DL-1-YE 1866
Year of Mfg.	02/2015
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(5) Vehicle No.	DL-1-YE 1843
Year of Mfg.	02/2015
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(6) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3179
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(7) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3178
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(8) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3184
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(9) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3181
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(10) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3183
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(11) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3155
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi
Make	Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
Model	Eco Flexi Green
(12) Vehicle No.	DL-1-LV 3182
Year of Mfg.	12/14
Car	Taxi

AS WHERE AS BASIS. Place : Delhi. Date : 10-7-2019. Authorised Syndicate Bank.

RATE CARD
w.e.f. July 10, 2019

the pioneer

(ENGLISH EDITIONS) पायनियर (हिन्दी संस्करण)

BLACK & WHITE		BLACK & WHITE	
EDITION	RATE (₹per sq. cm.)	EDITION	RATE (₹per sq. cm.)
● DELHI	1900	● DELHI	1200
● LUCKNOW	1000	● LUCKNOW	1000
● UP EDITION (Lucknow, Kanpur, Allahabad & Varanasi)	1500	● UP EDITION (LUCKNOW + UP COUNTRY)	1700
● BHOPAL	500	● RAIPUR	500
● BHUBANESHWAR	500	● FARIDABAD	500
● CHANDIGARH	500	● Delhi + Lucknow	1600
● DEHRADUN	500	● All Editions	2800
● RANCHI	500		
● RAIPUR	500		
● HYDERABAD	500		
● VIJAYWADA	500		

COMBO RATES (Black & White)

COMBINATIONS (ENGLISH)	RATE (₹per sq. cm.)	COMBINATIONS (ENGLISH + HINDI)	RATE (₹per sq. cm.)
UP Edition	1500	Delhi (Eng + Hindi)	2500
Delhi + Lucknow edition	2200	Delhi (Eng) + Lucknow (Hindi)	2200
Delhi + Up Edition	2400	Lucknow (Eng) + Lucknow (Hindi)	1400
Delhi + Lucknow + Any other Single edition	2400	UP Edition (Eng+Hindi)	2400
Delhi + Lucknow + Any other Two editions	2700	Delhi (Eng) + UP (Hindi)	2500
Delhi + Lucknow + Any other Three editions	3200	Lucknow (Eng) + UP (Hindi)	2100
All Editions	4500	Delhi (Eng) + Lucknow (Eng) + UP (Hindi)	3000
		All Editions (Eng) + All edition (Hindi)	6000

For any combination other than Combo Rates, Single edition rates will be applicable

MECHANICAL DATA	PREMIUM	COLOUR RATES
Total Page size in Print Area Width: 32.8 cms, Length: 51.8 cms Column Width: 4 cms	Front Page (Solus) 50% Extra Island Positions 50% Extra Specified Position or Page 30% Extra Pointer on Front Page 50% Extra (5 cm x 1 col)	For colour advertisements add 50% over Black & White rates

BRIDCUL (ब्रिडकुल)
ब्रिज, रोपवे, टनल एण्ड अदर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लिमिटेड

(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम), पूर्व में उत्तराखण्ड राज्य अवस्थापना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
परियोजना इकाई-हदानी, इकाई कार्यालय: रोवेला कोलोनी, घोड़ी मुद्यानी, पोडोओ-बडी मुद्यानी, हदानी, नैनीताल-263139
टेलीफोन-05946-264331, ई-मेल-pmbriidculhd@gmail.com, CIN No.-U45203UR2008SGC032591

पत्रांक: 815/ब्रिडकुल/टेंडर-22/2019 ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना दिनांक : 10.07.2019

महामहिम राज्यपाल, उत्तराखण्ड की ओर से प्रबन्ध निदेशक, ब्रिडकुल द्वारा निम्न तालिका में वर्णित क्रम संख्या-1 में सिविल कार्य हेतु निगम की तृतीय श्रेणी में अर्ह सूचीबद्ध टेकदारों/फर्मों तथा क्रम संख्या-2 में फर्नीचर कार्य हेतु प्रतिशुद्ध निर्माता/अधिकृत वितरकों/धिकेताओं से मंदावर दरों पर टू-बिड सिस्टम के आधार पर निम्नानुसार ई0-निविदाएं <http://tenderwizard.com/BRIDCUL> के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाती हैं:-

क्र. सं०	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	घरोहर (लाख में)	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य (रु०)	निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की तिथि	प्री-बिड मिटिंग	निविदा प्रपत्र क्रय किए जाने की तिथि (ऑनलाइन)	निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की तिथि (ऑनलाइन)
1.	जनपद उधमसिंहनगर, रूद्रपुर में डी0ई0आई0सी0 (District Early Intervention Centre) का निर्माण कार्य। NIT No.- BRIDCUL/HLD/24/19-20 (द्वितीय आमंत्रण)	115.36 + G.S.T	2.31	4000+ 18% G.S.T	12.07.2019 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे	19.07.2019 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे	26.07.2019 अपराह्न 02:30 बजे	26.07.2019 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे
2.	रूसा परियोजना फेज-1 हेतु कुर्माँक विश्वविद्यालय नैनीताल के परीक्षा नियंत्रक कार्यालय में नयी सुविधाओं के अन्तर्गत फर्नीचर कार्य की आपूर्ति का कार्य। NIT No.- BRIDCUL/HLD/25/19-20 (द्वितीय आमंत्रण)	47.76 + G.S.T	0.96	3500+ 18% G.S.T	12.07.2019 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे	19.07.2019 अपराह्न 04:00 बजे	26.07.2019 अपराह्न 02:30 बजे	26.07.2019 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे

निविदा सम्बन्धित विस्तृत जानकारी एवं निविदा प्रपत्र वेबसाईट <http://tenderwizard.com/BRIDCUL> पर उपलब्ध होगी। उपरोक्त के सम्बन्ध में किसी भी प्रकार का परिवर्तन होने पर केंद्रल <http://tenderwizard.com/BRIDCUL> के माध्यम से ही अवगत कराया जायेगा। अयोहस्ताक्षरी को निविदा को स्वीकृत अथवा निरस्त करने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा।

(इकाई प्रभारी)

Action against traders for fake GST invoices

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Government has launched a crackdown on bogus dealers registered under Goods and Services Tax (GST) using fake invoices. According to Delhi Government records, the Department of Trade and Taxes has been identified around 56,000 suspicious and risky dealers under various risk parameters. The department, through GST inspectors, has conducted field verifications and inspections of 16,141 suspicious dealers so far.



Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia reviewed the situation twice in last month and ordered the possible strictest action against those involved in issuance of fake invoices.

According to statement from Chief Minister's Office (CMO), the department, through GST inspectors has conducted field verifications and inspections of 16,141 suspicious dealers so far. "Out of it, 4618 dealers have been

of Delhi which is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of GST Act in Delhi.

Registration of 1,282 dealers have been cancelled so far on this account and show cause notices for cancellation have been issued to 3,221 dealers, of which proceedings are still underway, it stated.

The department has directed its tax officers to recover the entire amount of tax, interest and penalty from such dealers as well as to take other legal and criminal actions against such dealers, the statement stated.

As per government officials, besides the cancellations, 887 dealers are under the jurisdiction of Central Tax Authorities, have been sent to them for taking further necessary action as per law input Tax Credit (ITC) of more ₹128.30 crore has been blocked in respect of 1526 non-existing and bogus dealers so far, so that these dealers could not be able to avail the ITC wrongly.

Kejriwal to inaugurate RTR flyover on July 16

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is likely to inaugurate much awaited Rao Tula Ram flyover on July 16, which will make commuting towards airport from south Delhi and Noida much easier.

The newly constructed 2.7 km flyover branches out of Munirka flyover and ends before Army Research and Referral Hospital (R&R) near Subroto Park close to National Highway-8.

The construction of the elevated road was started in November 2014.

It was to be completed by November 2016, but missed several deadlines.

According to a PWD official, a safety audit of the flyover has been completed.

"Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is likely to inaugurate the RTR flyover on July 16," the official said.

AAP, BJP accuse each other of violence at DERC hearing

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accused each other of hooliganism and violence as the scheduled public hearing of Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) turned into a political battleground on Wednesday.

Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta said he had filed a complaint at the Lodhi Road police station against Aam Aadmi Party "loyalists" since he was "forcibly prevented" from submitting his petition before the DERC.

AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj, however, said, "If he has any evidence in the matter, he should show it. In fact, we have proof that Devinder Kumar Sehrawat misbehaved with Rakhi Birla while Vijender Gupta snatched papers from her hand and tore them up."

In a tweet, Bharadwaj claimed that BJP MLAs came very late at the DERC hearing but wanted to speak first. AAP MLAs protested against BJP MLAs sitting in VIP area, he wrote on the microblogging site adding BJP MLAs were not ready to sit with the public.



Bharadwaj claimed that BJP MLAs came very late at the DERC hearing but wanted to speak first. AAP MLAs protested against BJP MLAs sitting in VIP area, he wrote on the microblogging site adding BJP MLAs were not ready to sit with the public

"At DERC, it all started with DERC inviting @NitinTyagiAAP to speak (first some first serve basis). And @OPSharmaBJP interrupting MLA Nitin Tyagi. Then people asked BJP to reduce electric tariffs in BJP ruled states (sic)," Bharadwaj tweeted.

He also alleged that BJP MLAs used "filthy language against lady MLAs of the AAP". Condemning the "hooliganism of AAP MLAs, leaders and workers" at DERC public hearing on tariff petitions, Gupta alleged, "I was forcibly prevented from submitting his petition before DERC. AAP MLA Jarnail Singh went to the extent of snatching the petition from my hands and tearing it

into two pieces. BJP MLAs O P Sharma and Jagdish Pradhan, Sehrawat and Anil Bajpai were manhandled."

He claimed that his personal assistant was badly beaten and his clothes were torn. "Representatives of various RWAs were manhandled and maltreated. They were not allowed to present their case in the public hearing," the leader of opposition alleged.

Gupta, in his petition to the DERC, demanded the AAP government to roll back the fixed charges, Power Purchase Cost Adjustment Charges (PPAC), Surcharge and Pension Trust Surcharge.

Claiming that the Delhi government has increased the

fixed charges on electricity bills by six times in just one year from Rs 20 to Rs 125 per connection, he demanded that the government compensates consumers the financial loss they incurred on account of payment of these charges.

Some consumers complained that due to commotion caused by the two parties, they wouldn't get adequate time to put forth their views at the hearing.

The DERC will analyse all suggestions and objections received during the public hearing and consider it while determining new tariff rates.

Power sector experts said the process may take around a month's time although efforts are made to come out with new tariffs as soon as possible.

AAP to form auto-rickshaw wings in all constituencies

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In order to solve problems faced by auto rickshaw drivers, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has decided to constitute auto rickshaw wings in all the constituencies.

"The party has decided to constitute auto wings in all constituencies of Delhi and the responsibility to complete this process has been given to Gaurav Singh as the president and Adil Ahmad Khan and Manoj Mathur as vice-presidents," senior party leader Gopal Rai said on Wednesday.

The AAP has been conducting a survey in this regard for the past week to identifying the persisting issues of auto drivers that still need redressal, he said, adding that the existing auto wings of the seven Lok Sabha seats will continue to operate and in addition, the in-



Delhi AAP Convener Gopal Rai addresses the media on Wednesday to announce the formation of auto-rickshaw wing of the party

charges of all the major auto stands including the ones in Kashmiri Gate, ISBT, New Delhi, Old Delhi, Anand Vihar, Nizamuddin, Sarai Kale Khan, Karnal, Dholakua and Kausambi will be included.

He further said that heads of all major stations shall also be made members of our committee of 35 members. A standing committee will be formed at every assembly constituency," he added

'The party has decided to constitute auto wings in all constituencies of Delhi and the responsibility to complete this process has been given to Gaurav Singh as the president and Adil Ahmad Khan and Manoj Mathur as vice-presidents'

Talking about an alliance with the JJP (Jannayak Janta Party) for the upcoming Assembly elections in Haryana, Rai ruled out an alliance with the party after analyzing political situation in the state.

Rai said the state unit has been asked to prepare a report on the political scenario in the

state. "After the Lok Sabha elections, we analysed the political situation and we have decided to contest the upcoming elections without forming any alliance in the state," he said.

The assembly elections in Haryana are due in October 2019. The Aam Aadmi Party and the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) fought the elections together on all 10 Lok Sabha seats in Haryana.

The JJP fought on four seats while the AAP on six seats. However, there was a clean sweep by the BJP on all the constituencies.

The JJP was launched last year by former Haryana chief minister Om Prakash Chautala's grandson Dushyant Chautala, following a power struggle in the state's main opposition Indian National Lok Dal.

HC junks plea challenging free metro ride for women, imposes ₹10K cost

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court Wednesday dismissed a petition challenging the AAP Government's proposal to make metro ride free for women, saying it is for the authorities to decide on giving concession to a particular class.

A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar refused to entertain the plea, saying there is no substance in it and imposed a cost of ₹10,000 on the petitioner to be deposited within four weeks.

The court also rejected the prayer in the petition seeking reduction of fares and to make 15 slabs of the ticket price instead of existing six. "Fixation of fares is a statu-



tory function and the process of fixation is complex which involves consideration of several factors, including cost. All these factors cannot be determined in a PIL," the bench said.

It said the petitioner, advocate Bipin Bihari Singh, has failed to point out any illegality in fixation of fares and added that the court will be "extremely slow" in fixing the fares for Delhi Metro which is the prerogative of the Government.

With Assembly polls due early next year in the city, the Aam Aadmi Party government in June announced that it has proposed to make metro and bus travels free for women in Delhi "to encourage them to use public transport".

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said the Delhi government will bear the travel expenses of women.

The court also noted that two similar petitions relating to Delhi Metro fares were filed earlier as well and they were not entertained either. "We are not inclined to give any direction, much less in the nature of mandamus to respondents no. 1 to 3 (Delhi government, union of India and DMRC) on fixation of fares which prevailing today," the bench said.

AAP not happy with EPCA report over public transport

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Expressing disappointment over the latest EPCA (Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority) report on the augmentation of public transport in the national Capital, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has asked how it is willing to go with the Centre's proposal of implementing only three routes of Metro Phase-IV despite the Delhi cabinet clearing all the six routes proposed.

The EPCA on Monday asked the Supreme Court (SC) to allow work to begin on the three 'priority corridors' so that the city is not "deprived of crucial public transport". AAP spokesperson



Saurabh Bhardwaj in a letter to EPCA chairperson Bhure Lal, said that an affordable Delhi Metro is the best mode of public transport to and will reduce air pollution and road congestion

in Delhi.

"Need of the hour is to expand Delhi Metro and not allow its pick and choose expansion Sir. Further, the EPCA report is silent on how the Central government unilaterally changed the conditions putting the onus of bearing operations losses of DMRC on Delhi Government," he said.

"When it is a joint venture with the 50:50 partnership of both governments, is it fair that only Delhi government bear the losses?" he told reporters.

He urged EPCA to continue functioning in a free, fair and unbiased manner, which does not show the SC-appointed body in "poor" light.

Transport dept forms panels to curb road accidents

GAYATHRI MANI ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to curb road accidents, the Delhi Transport Department has constituted three major committees consisting of nodal officers and members from the Delhi Traffic Police, Public Works Department (PWD) and experts from Central Road Research Institute (CRRRI) and School of Planning and Architecture (SPA). The committee is named as 'District Fatal Accident Investigation Team' and 'Vulnerable Road Users' committee.

The District fatal accidents investigation team will investigate the accident and the other committee will prepare guidelines for the vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclist and two wheeler riders.

The committees will work together to provide better solution to curb road accidents and to find out the cause behind the incident occurred. "Whenever an accident will take place be it small or major, these committee will be informed as soon the incident occurs. Following which, the district investigation team will visit that site and investigate by finding out the reasons, problem, and shortcomings on that particular site/road.

The members will also keep a tab on the hospitals where the victim is admitted and to see if the victim died on the spot or after reaching the hospital," said Sewa Ram, professor at SPA, a member of this team and chair of 'Vulnerable Road Users' committee.

"The vulnerable road user committee will work on the

pedestrians, cyclist and scooter/motor cycle riders.

"This committee will prepare guidelines and accident management plan following the reports and surveys done by the investigation team," said Ram.

As per the officials this will be the first of its kind initiative to curb the road accidents. "This will be the first time that such initiative has been taken by the Government as till now none has investigated a site after an accident took place. This, initiative will help the Government to make a better plan and policy as well as increase the research opportunity as these committee consists members all the concerned departments: the creator, manager, implementing agency and the experts/scien-

tist," said Ram.

"This initiative will not only help to curb road accidents, it will also help to improve the road layout, design and infrastructure and will help the government to create better policy and transport facility," said Dr S Velmurugan another member of 'Vulnerable Road Users' committee.

As per the data shared by the Delhi Traffic police, there was a slight dip in the total number of road accidents in 2018 in comparison to 2017. However, the fatal accident in the city has been increased as compared to the previous years. In 2018, a total number of 6515 accidents took place last year out of which 1657 were fatal accidents while it was 1565 fatal accidents out of total 6673 in 2017.

Further, last year 6086 per-

sons were injured, 1690 persons were killed, 4783 were simple accidents and 75 non-injured.

"Despite the commissioning of the metro in Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR), both vehicular and human population is growing with registration of 7 lakh vehicles every year.

Further, 42.86 percentage of persons killed in the accidents are pedestrians and 39.5 percent are scooters/motor vehicle riders," said a Government official.

The official also added that the road accidents are tending to increase in the mid-night from 8 pm to 2 am. "National Highways and major roads of the city are more accident prone than the due to heavy movement of heavy commercial vehicles as well as others," added the official.

Puncture, 'cash phenk' gangs busted, 5 arrested

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the arrest of five persons in two separate incidents, Delhi police has busted puncture gang and cash phenk gang active in Delhi Southeast area.

Chinmoy Biswal, Deputy Commissioner of Police of southeast Delhi said that in first incident, three men were arrested for allegedly stealing bags from the car of an Uttar Pradesh MLA.

The gangs used to rob valuables from cars after puncturing and breaking the window panes of the vehicles, said police.

Gurvayurappan (36), Prasath (26) and P Surendra (25), all natives of Trichy in Tamil Nadu, are presently residing Madangir area, he said, adding that with their arrest, nine cases of theft have been solved.

At around 5 pm on Monday, they stole the bags from the car of Hari Shankar



Manohar, the MLA from UP's Hathras while it was parked at a private hospital's car park in southeast Delhi.

The driver was sitting alone in the vehicle when one of the accused told him that some currency notes were lying on the ground near the car. As the driver got down collecting the money, the bags were stolen, he said. A complaint was filed by the legislator's personal assistant Rajesh Kumar Singh on Tuesday.

During interrogation the accused told the police that they were working for Murugan and Govindan, who used to bring alcohol addicts and unemployed youngsters from Tamil Nadu to Delhi and trained them to steal bags from vehicles, he added.

Two laptops worth Rs. 1.5 lakh, cash worth Rs. 18,000, foreign currency notes and a country made pistol were recovered from the duo, police said.

Ex-spokesperson of Delhi BJP's daughter selected for ICJ internship programme

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Isha Kanth, daughter of Pratyush Kanth a former journalist and spokesperson of Delhi BJP, is one among the two students who got selected for 2019 internship programme in International Court of Justice (ICJ) at Hague in Netherlands.

Isha completed higher secondary from Sanskriti School in New Delhi and is currently pursuing LLB from Queen Mary College of London. Inspired by her grandfather, she wants to come back to India after completing studies and serve marginalized and downtrodden sections of society. Senior Bharatiya Janta Party leaders including party Delhi unit president Manoj Tiwari congratulated her for such remarkable achievement.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN). It was established in June 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations and began work in April 1946.

The seat of the Court is at



the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). Of the six principal organs of the United Nations, it is the only one not located in New York (United States of America).

The Court's role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.

The Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected for terms of office of nine years by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. It is assisted by a Registry, its administrative organ. Its official languages are English and French.

BJP accuses AAP of discrimination against NDMC-run schools

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) accused the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) of discrimination against the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) — run schools and alleged that Delhi Government allocated only a minuscule part of the budget to them.

Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari alleged that while the Kejriwal Government set aside over 23 per cent of the funds allocated to education for 1,033 State-run schools, it gave only 1.4 per cent to 743 NDMC-run schools.

He also claimed that although the AAP government had earmarked Rs 4,696 crore for education in the 2018-19 budget, it could utilise only Rs 1,803 crore.

"Still, the remaining money wasn't given to corporation-run schools. The reason is that the BJP rules the civic bodies," Tiwari claimed. He further said that in the years 2016-17, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) had allot-



Delhi BJP president Manoj Tiwari addresses the media on Wednesday

ted 3500 crore rupees for education which was later on reduced to 3104 crores, less by 400 crores and only 2666 crores were spent.

The balance amount lapsed but the Government did not allot fund to MCD. Similarly in 2017-18, 2127 crore rupees were allotted which was revised

to 1965 and only 1677 crores utilized, the rest amount lapsed but MCD was not given any fund. In the election year, the education budget of the 4696 crore rupees, only 1803 crores were utilized and the rest amount lapsed but again Kejriwal Government did not give any fund to MCD schools.

U'khand BJP MLA dances with guns in hands

Party issues show-cause notice

PTI ■ DEHRADUN

Suspended BJP MLA from Uttarakhand Kunwar Pranav Singh Champion landed in trouble once again on Wednesday as a video showing him dancing with guns in his hands during a get-together went viral prompting an embarrassed party to issue a show-cause notice to him.

In the video, the Khanpur MLA is purportedly seen dancing to a popular Bollywood number with two revolvers in his hands and a carbine hanging from his shoulder. He is seen sipping his drink from a glass as his friends cheer him on.

BJP's national media in-charge Anil Baluni said the party strongly condemns the MLA's behaviour and strict action will be taken against him. "A notice has been issued to the MLA seeking an explanation from him for his behaviour within 10 days," state unit president and Nainital MP Ajay Bhatt told reporters in Haridwar.

"If his explanation is not found satisfactory, he can even be expelled from the party,"



Bhatt who was in Haridwar to attend a ceremony said.

The BJP had last month suspended Champion from the party for three months on charges of indiscipline.

Bhatt said the words used by the MLA about Uttarakhand in the video clip have caused huge embarrassment to the party. Party vice President and in charge of its affairs in Uttarakhand Shyam Jaju, who accompanied Bhatt, said the BJP never compromises with its principles.

"What Champion has done does not behave a public representative. The BJP will never tolerate it. Strictest action will be taken against the MLA," Jaju said, adding that Champion is

already suspended from the party. Champion's three-month suspension had followed preliminary investigations by the party into charges of indiscipline against him and that of threatening a journalist at Uttarakhand Niwas in New Delhi.

The MLA is no stranger to controversies. He was also in the news a couple of months ago for publicly indulging in a war of words with BJP MLA from Jhabreda Deshraj Karnawal and challenging him to a wrestling bout.

Champion was among the Congress MLAs who had rebelled against Harish Rawat and crossed over to the BJP in 2016.

Dawood's activities posing threats, says India, seeks UNSC attention

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

Pakistan-based underworld don Dawood Ibrahim's criminal syndicate has mutated into a terrorist network, India has said as it sought the US Security Council's "focussed attention" to address the real threats posed by the D-Company, the JeM and the LeT.

Terrorist organisations are increasingly involved in lucrative criminal activities such as trading in natural resources and human trafficking to raise funds, India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin said on Tuesday.

Similarly, criminal groups are joining hands with terrorists and are providing services such as counterfeiting, illicit financing, arms dealing, drug trafficking and smuggling terrorists across borders, he said at the Security Council debate on "Threats to International Peace and Security: Linkages between International Terrorism and Organised Crime".

"In our own region, we have seen the mutation of Dawood Ibrahim's criminal syndicate into a terrorist network known as the D-Company.

He little known outside our region, but for us, such activities as gold smuggling, counterfeit currency, as well as arms and drug trafficking from a safe haven that declines to acknowledge even his existence, are a real and present danger," Akbaruddin said.

He emphasised that the success of a collective action to "denude" the ISIS is a pointer that the Council's "focussed attention can and does yield results". A similar degree of interest in addressing the threats posed by proscribed individuals, such as Dawood Ibrahim and his D-Company, as well as proscribed entities, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and the Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT), listed as affiliates of al-Qaeda, under the 1267 sanctions regime, will serve all of us well," he said.

Pakistan's Foreign Office last week said "Dawood Ibrahim is not in Pakistan", a day after a UK court was informed that the underworld don wanted for the deadly coordinated bombings in Mumbai in 1993 is currently in exile in the country.

During the ongoing extradition trial of 51-year-old Jabir Moti, a "high-ranking member of D-Company", Westminster



Magistrates' Court in London heard that Dawood is currently in exile in Pakistan.

"The head of D Company is Dawood Ibrahim, an Indian Muslim currently in exile in Pakistan. Dawood Ibrahim and his brother and top lieutenant, Anis Ibrahim, have been fugitives from India since 1993, when D Company was implicated in coordinated bombings in Mumbai that killed more than 200 people," according to a US Attorney's affidavit for extradition read out by Moti's barrister Edward Fitzgerald.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar has said Pakistan's stand that Dawood was not present in the

Terrorist organisations are increasingly involved in lucrative criminal activities such as trading in natural resources and human trafficking to raise funds, India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin said

He emphasised that the success of a collective action to "denude" the ISIS is a pointer that the Council's "focussed attention can and does yield results"

Jaishankar in UK for CW Foreign Ministers' summit

PTI ■ LONDON

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar arrived here on Wednesday for a day-long UK visit to attend the 19th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting which is set to discuss the future strategy of the grouping.

The Minister will be joined by his counterparts from the other 52 member-countries of the Commonwealth at the meeting, to be chaired by UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt as part of Britain's term as the current Chair-in-Office of the Commonwealth.

According to senior officials, Jaishankar's UK schedule is extremely tight and a bilateral meeting with Hunt is to be scheduled if time permits.

The Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting is set to discuss the future strategy and direction of the Commonwealth as the organisation celebrates its 70th anniversary.

Potential reforms of the Commonwealth Secretariat are also on the agenda of the talks.

Media freedom is a key theme for this year's summit as Hunt co-hosts the first Global Conference for Media Freedom in London alongside fellow Commonwealth nation Canada.

BAN ON PRO-KHALISTAN OUTFIT SFJ

Amarinder welcomes Centre's decision

Chandigarh: Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Wednesday hailed the Union Government's decision to ban pro-Khalistan group "The Sikhs for Justice" and said it deserved to be treated as a "terrorist organisation".

Amarinder Singh termed the move as the first step towards protecting the nation from "anti-India or secessionist designs" of the ISI-backed organisation.

US-based SFJ which pushes for 'Sikh Referendum 2020' as part of its separatist agenda was banned by the Centre for its alleged anti-national activities, officials said.

"Though the outfit deserved to be treated as a terrorist organisation, the government of India has at least taken a long-overdue stand against the SFJ, which had unleashed a wave of terror in Punjab in recent years," Amarinder Singh said in a statement issued here.

With this step, the Centre has finally shown its much-needed intent to crack down on the organisation, which was "overtly being backed by Pakistan's ISI in its conspiratorial campaign" over 'Sikh Referendum 2020', launched in 2014, said the CM.

He, however, asserted that the Central Government would have to take more proactive measures to aggressively crack down on SFJ and its affiliates or operatives in the interest of national security. "SFJ's activities went beyond being unlawful and posed a major threat to the very existence of our nation," said Amarinder Singh. PTI

Receiving threat calls for plaint against Honey Singh: Punjab women panel chief

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab State Commission for Women chairperson Manisha Gulati on Wednesday claimed she has been receiving threat calls and abusive messages on social media after she lodged a complaint against rapper Honey Singh for using lewd lyrics in his song.

Honey Singh and music producer Bhushan Kumar have been booked by the Punjab Police on the charge of using vulgar lyrics in a song, 'Makna'.

"I have been receiving threat calls and getting abusive messages on my Twitter handle for lodging a complaint against Yo Yo Honey Singh," Gulati told reporters here.

"I am not scared of anyone. I will continue to raise my voice on such issues," she said.

Gulati said she had reported the matter to police for further action. Gulati had earlier written to the state home secretary, the Punjab director general of police and the inspector general of police (crime), demanding appropriate action against the singer for using objectionable words in the song.

Honey Singh has been booked under Sections 294 (punishment for obscene song and acts) and 509 (punishment for word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the IPC.

Police said the rapper had also been booked under Section 67 (punishment for

publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, and relevant section of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, at Mohali in Punjab.

Gulati said she had also urged police to arrest Honey Singh as early as possible.

"It is a lesson for singers like Honey Singh who use objectionable words against women," she said, adding that the women panel would now keep a watch on other singers as well to ensure that vulgar lyrics did not find their way to songs.

"If he (Honey Singh) applies for the bail, we will oppose it," she said.

Centre OK's 1.25L km connecting roads

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a major boost to rural road connectivity across the country, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday approved the launch of construction of 1,25,000 kilometre roads linking habitations and local markets, schools and hospitals under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-III (PMGSY-III).

"Under the PMGSY-III Scheme, it is proposed to consolidate 1,25,000 Km road length in the States. The Scheme will also include Through Routes and Major Rural Links that connect habitations to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals. It involves consolidation of Through Routes and

Major Rural Links connecting habitations to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals," said the statement issued by Government.

In most of the States, this project will be implemented on 60:40 funding by Centre and States. In hilly states like Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and North Eastern States, the Centre will provide 90 percent of the investment. In total, Central share will be Rs. 53,800 crore and States' share will be Rs 26,450 crore, said Prakash Javadekar, detailing the outcome of the Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This ambitious project enhancing the rural connectivity is expected to finish by 2024-205, he said.

BILL TO MERGE 13 CENTRAL LABOUR LAWS INTO 1 GETS NOD

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet approved a bill that seeks to merge 13 central labour laws into a single code which would apply on all establishments employing 10 or more workers. The proposed Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill, 2019, would enhance the coverage of workers manifold, an official release said. The proposed code enhances the coverage of workers manifold as it would be applicable to all establishments employing 10 or more workers, where any industry, trade, business, manufacture or occupation is carried on, including IT establishments or establishments of service sector, the release said.

RPF GETS ORGANISED GROUP A SERVICE STATUS

New Delhi: The Centre on Wednesday accorded Organised Group A Service status to the Railway Protection Force (RPF) that will ensure better service benefits for them. The Union Cabinet also approved extension of benefit under Non-Functional Financial Upgradation (NFFU) and Non-Functional Selection Grade (NMSG) to them. Earlier this month, these benefits were extended to CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP and SSB.

NOD FOR TRIBUNAL FOR INTERSTATE RIVER WATER DISPUTES

New Delhi: The Union Cabinet gave its nod to set up a single, permanent tribunal to adjudicate all interstate river water disputes, subsisting existing nine, with an aim to resolve grievances of states in a speedy manner.

Haryana Govt to give pension to ex-panchayat heads

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

The Haryana Government has decided to grant pension to former village heads, chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of zilla parishads and panchayat samitis.

Finance Minister Abhimanyu said the State Government had decided to give pension to former panchayat representatives on the instructions of Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

Only village heads or chairpersons elected after 1994 will get the benefit of this scheme, the minister said in a release on

Tuesday. A former village head will get a monthly pension of Rs 1,000 and a former zilla parishad chairperson will receive Rs 2,000, while a vice-chairperson will get Rs 1,000, according to the statement.

The former head and vice-chairperson of a panchayat samiti will get Rs 1,500 and Rs 750, respectively. As many as 25,336 people will be given the pension benefit at a total outlay of Rs 30.6 crore annually. The rules have also been framed for this pension and those who are eligible will get the benefit, it added.



Villagers cross a flooded area following incessant monsoon rainfall at Chhaygaon in Kamrup on Wednesday

Won't abandon Amethi: Rahul

From Page 1

The meeting with party workers, including booth presidents from five Assembly segments — Salon, Amethi, Gauriganj, Jagdishpur and Tiloi — lasted barely 50 minutes. Rahul then left for two villages in Chhatoh block on the way to Lucknow, from where he flew back to Delhi.

On reaching Amethi, the Congress leader first visited the Gauriganj house of his party's Tiloi Assembly in-charge Mata Prasad Vaish to offer condolences over the death of a relative on June 25. Ahead of his visit, a poster appeared outside the party office demanding justice for the death of a man who was allegedly denied treatment by a hospital run by the Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Trust. In May, Irani had shared a video on Twitter that showed a man claiming that the hospital refused treatment to his uncle because the family held an Ayushman Bharat card. The hospital had rejected the charge.

PUBLIC NOTICE
To be known to all that my client Mrs. Sudeesh Bargarwa Wo Sh. Prem Lal Bargarwa Rio Janta Flat No. 15-B, First Floor, Block-B-3A, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058, purchaser of Flat no.15B, First Floor Block-B-3A, Janakpuri New Delhi-110058, The Side Possession(S/P) has been lost/misplaced. An FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station, Crime Branch, Delhi vide (LR No. 1174603/2019, dated 21.06.2019). Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may intimated with above address/Phone no 7838943700, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (Lab Janta) or Director (Lab Housing), DDA Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023.
HEMANT KUMAR JHA (Advocate)
CH.No.1104, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

Water project OK'd to tap 'soaring' Yamuna

From Page 1

"Only recycle and recharge of water is the solutions to the problem of water scarcity in the national Capital, particularly during the harsh summer months. The timely intervention and regular monitoring of the pilot project by the Chief Minister has now given a full one month's time to the Irrigation and Flood Department for the preparations of the project," said a Government official.

The pilot project is monitored directly by an IITian on an hourly basis. Soon after the Cabinet, Kejriwal called up the union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and thanked the Union Minister for the quick approvals by the Centre for the project. The Chief Minister also thanked him for the full cooperation Delhi received from Centre for the pilot project. This may be recalled that when the present Government came to power in February 2015, only 58 per cent of Delhi had piped water connection at their homes.

Remarkably, in a time of four and half years, the number of households with piped water has gone up from 58 to 88 per cent.

Death term for child...

From Page 1

The Act defines child as any person below the age of 18 years. It is a gender-neutral legislation, it said. The Government, in a statement, said the amendments in Section 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 14, 15, 34,42 and 45 of the POCSO Act, 2012 are being made to address the aspects of child sexual abuse in an appropriate manner. "Section 4, 5 and 6 are proposed to be amended to provide option of stringent punishment, including death penalty, for committing sexual assault and aggravated penetrative sexual assault crime on a child to protect the children from sexual abuse," it said.

The amendments are also proposed in Section 9 to protect children from sexual offences in times of natural calamities and other similar situations and in cases where children are administered, in any way, any hormone or any chemical substance, to attain early sexual maturity for the purpose of penetrative sexual assault, the state-

Cong troubleshooter Shivkumar...

From Page 1

Meanwhile, former Union Minister Milind Deora and former Maharashtra Minister Naseem Khan arrived at the hotel to meet Shivkumar. All of them staged a dharna near the hotel. Shivkumar refused to leave the place unless he met the Congress MLAs lodged at the hotel.

The police detained Shivkumar, Deora, Khan and a few other Congress functionaries from Mumbai as per order issued by Deputy Commissioner of Police Manjunath Singe (Operations and Executive Magistrate) under Section 144 of CrPC which prohibited the "unlawful assembly of five or more persons for prevention of breach of peace tranquility, danger to human lives and loss of properties and to prevent any kind of riot in the areas coming under the jurisdiction of Powai Police station" for a period from July 9, 2019 to July 12, 2019.

Shivkumar and others were taken to and lodged at the Bombay University's rest house at Kalina in northwest Mumbai, where they were detained for the next four hours before they were released. In his interaction with the media after his release from detention, Shivkumar said: "The BJP wants to knock out the Congress-JD(S) Government in Karnataka. The BJP is saying that it is the result of an internal dissent within the Congress. All BJP leaders from Karnataka and Mumbai are sitting inside the hotel

Death term for child...

From Page 1

"Section 14 and Section 15 of the POCSO Act, 2012 are also proposed to be amended to address the menace of child pornography. It is proposed to levy fine for not destroying or deleting or reporting the pornographic material involving a child with an intention to share or transmit it," the Government said. Over the past few years, India has received ongoing media attention for incidents of brutal rape and gender-based violence. India topped the list as the most dangerous country for women in a June survey published by Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Meanwhile, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill 2019. The Bill will be introduced in the ongoing session of Parliament. "The Bill provides a mechanism for their social, economic and educational empowerment. The Bill will benefit a large number of transgender persons, mitigate the stigma, discrimination and abuse against this marginalised section and bring them into the mainstream of society," an official statement said.

Cong troubleshooter Shivkumar...

From Page 1

and giving protection to our MLAs and are helping them officially and unofficially."

"It is shame on Indian democracy... Some of the police officials were kind. They are acting at the behest of their political bosses. They detained me and brought to this guest house. I am very happy that Mumbai Congress and Youth Congress leaders have stood by me."

Shivkumar said that he had agreed to return to Bengaluru based on the advice of some senior police officials in Mumbai who said "my continued stay in Mumbai will result in law and order situation. I am a law-abiding citizen. I have listened to the advice given by the police officials."

Cong troubleshooter Shivkumar...

From Page 1

Shivkumar said he has been denied his civil rights. "I had a reservation in Renaissance Hotel. The hotel people told me that they were forced to cancel my reservation. It is shame on the system... No one should misuse law. Politicians are not permanent. The system, constitutional and individual rights are very much important," the Karnataka Minister said.

"I had come to meet my friends (MLAs lodged at the hotel)... But BJP friends had taken a letter from the Congress MLAs addressed to the Mumbai Police Commissioner saying that the MLAs do not want to meet me," Shivkumar said.

Cong troubleshooter Shivkumar...

From Page 1

"A ministerial colleague, two of my party MLAs and I were here to meet the MLAs. I tried and tried. The MLAs were calling me from the hotel to meet me. Some senior police officials came and told me that the MLAs came and told me that the MLAs do not want to meet me and they have given a letter in this regard to the Mumbai Police Commissioner."

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VANAJA W/o. Ex-Havildar Sasi.D, 47 years, residing at Anilam, Edakkunnam, Nooranad, Alapuzha, Kerala-690505, shall henceforth be known as VANAJA.K & My Date of Birth is 25.05.1972.
PD(8554)A

Govt committed to fiscal consolidation, says Sitharaman

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Without offering any comments on the hike in petrol and diesel cess proposed in the Budget presented by her in the Lok Sabha on Friday, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said the fiscal deficit in the regular Budget for 2019-20 has been pegged at 3.3 per cent of the GDP as against 3.4 per cent proposed in the interim budget presented in the House in February.

Replying to the Budget discussion in the Lok Sabha on the General Budget 2019-20, Sitharaman said her Government is committed to the path of fiscal consolidation without compromising on public expenditure.

Several Opposition parties including the Congress staged a walkout demanding a roll back of cess on petrol and diesel proposed in the Budget and shouting slogans saying it was an anti-people Budget. Besides Congress, DMK, TMC, NC, and NCP walked out during the minister's reply.

The minister said that economic growth and national security would be the focus of the government. She said support amount for all schemes which have implications for common man has been increased.



"We will move GST Council to reduce the GST rate on e-vehicles from 12 per cent to 5 per cent," she said adding "we will work with states for supplying tap water to all in rural household by 2024".

The minister said the government's intention is to push infrastructure development and invest over ₹100 lakh crore in the next five years.

She said the Government has increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all 22 commodities. Sitharaman did not choose to comment on the hike in petrol and diesel cess proposed in the Budget.

Following the decision, the petrol price went up by a minimum of ₹2.40 per litre and diesel by a minimum of ₹2.36 per litre.

Sitharaman had on Friday proposed to raise excise duty and road and infrastructure cess on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre each to raise ₹24,000-

28,000 crore.

She said several steps including enhancing investments in infrastructure, liberalisation in the foreign direct investment policy and lowering of corporate tax are being taken to make India a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25 as stated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The Government is committed to the path of fiscal consolidation without compromising on the public expenditure placed by the various sectors," she said.

The Minister said the fiscal deficit in the regular budget for 2019-20 has been pegged at 3.3 per cent of the GDP as against 3.4 per cent proposed in the interim budget presented in the House in February. Sitharaman further said that all the data mentioned in the Budget is authentic.

"I will assure the House there is no need for any speculation on figures given in Budget and every number is authentic," she said.

Sitharaman further said the Budget reflects the mandate of the newly elected Government and towards achieving the \$5 trillion economy.

To boost investments, a five-member committee headed by the Prime Minister has been set up, she said. Referring

to questions raised on discrepancies of data between the Budget and the Economic Survey, she said the Budget has taken into account 12 per cent growth in nominal GDP.

She said although the Survey has projected a nominal GDP growth of 11 per cent in 2019-20, but the actual size of nominal GDP is same. To Opposition queries, she said the Finance Ministry has taken into account 12 per cent nominal GDP growth to ensure compatibility with the projections made in the interim Budget.

When some members objected to her statement, she said: "Even if I am mocked at, sometimes I spoke like a teacher to a class of students...And even if that is not sufficient I am quite happy to receive Members to room number 36 with due respect."

Her remarks evoked sharp reaction from the Opposition benches on which Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said he would look into the records and remove objectionable content.

On problems being faced by the banking sector, she said the government is addressing them through four 'R' strategy. These are recognition of NPAs, recovery of bad loans, recapitalisation of public sector banks, and reforms, she said.

Cong ready for Budget discussion

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After stalling the Rajya Sabha proceedings for two days on the issue of ongoing Karnataka political crisis, the Congress on Wednesday agreed to participate in the Budget discussion on Thursday. The main Opposition party, earlier, in the day raised a din in the house forcing repeated adjournments. The debate on Budget commenced in the post-lunch session despite the Congress members storming into the well and raising slogans. The Lok Sabha also saw protest by the Congress followed by a walk-out. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman replied to the Budget debate in the lower house.

The main action was in the Upper House where the Congress repeatedly disrupted the proceedings since the Rajya Sabha met for the day. Incidentally, the party did not allow the house to function on Tuesday too when the debate on budget was to commence. Given the situation, proceedings were adjourned for the day later without any business.

On Wednesday too, same unruly scenes were witnessed for almost the entire day until Leader of the House Thawar Chand Gehlot announced that the Rajya Sabha will begin the debate on Budget on Thursday at 11.00 am and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will be present. Congress leader Anand Sharma also said his party is very serious about participating in the debate and appealed to Deputy Chairman Harivansh to adjourn the house. The Chair did so at about 4.15 pm.

Earlier in the day, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu was forced to adjourn the Zero Hour after the Congress raised a din. When the Elders reassembled for the Question Hour, Congress member and Deputy Leader Anand Sharma sought to raise a point but the chairman disallowed him. Seeing the Congress members trooping into the well and continuing to create din, Naidu adjourned the House till 2 PM.

Earlier at the start of proceedings, Naidu said he had not admitted notices by Congress members including Kapil Sibal under rule 267 seeking suspension of rules to take up their issue. Barely had four members

made their Zero Hour submission when Congress members were up on their feet again, seemingly bolstered by the presence of their deputy leader. Sharma, who was not present in the House at the start of the proceedings, sought to raise the 267 notice given by his party colleagues but Naidu said the ruling of the chair was final.

In the post-lunch session, Sharma again tried to raise the issue but Deputy Chairman Harivansh did not allow him to do so and asked Congress leader P Chidambaram to begin his speech on the budget. As the agitated Congress members kept on raising slogans in the well and Chidambaram not starting his speech, the chair then asked BJP leader Suresh Prabhoo to speak. When he began to speak amidst din, Harivansh adjourned the house till three pm at about 2.05 pm.

Later, Prabhoo spoke for about 50 minutes on the budget in the continuous uproar by the Congress. Some protesting members in the well tried to block his view while Prabhoo was speaking from the front row. He immediately shifted to

the third row to continue his assertion lauding the budget. However, major part of his speech was not audible due to ruckus.

In the Lok Sabha, the Congress staged a walk-out even as Union Minister Prahlad Joshi asserted that Karnataka minister D K Shivakumar was not allowed to enter a Mumbai hotel where Congress MLAs are lodged as they alleged a threat to their life from him and sought police protection.

Speaker Om Birla allowed Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury to raise the issue again for the third time even though he reminded him that it has already been taken up in house during the previous days. Prior to this, Congress members had come to the well of the house.

Chowdhury said in Karnataka democracy is being betrayed and a conspiracy is being hatched to overthrow the government. Responding to charges leveled by Chowdhury, Joshi displayed the letter written by the MLAs lodged in a hotel in Mumbai and said it is on their request that the police is guarding the premises.

Pro-Khalistani group banned for anti-national activities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Ministry on Wednesday banned pro-Khalistani group "The Sikhs for Justice" for its alleged anti-national activities. US-based The Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) pushes for Sikh Referendum 2020 as part of its separatist agenda.

"SFJ is involved in anti-national and subversive activities in Punjab and elsewhere, intended to disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India. SFJ is in close touch with the militant outfits and activists, and its supporting violent form of extremism and ...carve out a sovereign Khalistan out of territory of India," said the MHA notification.

The outfit wanted to use Kartarpur Corridor for propagating their secessionist ideology, officials said adding SFJ and its secessionist campaign referendum 2020 are supported by Pakistan. India is likely to



Representative image

raise the issue regarding security and safety of pilgrims during Kartarpur talks with Pakistan on July 14.

The official website of SFJ and referendum 2020 were sharing and sourcing content from Karachi-based website, they said. A number of SFJ activists were also linked with same Pakistani websites, they pointed out.

They said there's no concrete evidence that Pakistan has curbed or banned the group.

A meeting of the Union Cabinet decided to declare SFJ as outlawed under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, Home Ministry officials said. The group's primary objec-

tive is to establish an "independent and sovereign country" in Punjab. The SFJ openly espouses the cause of Khalistan and in that process challenges the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India, said MHA officials.

The notification also said that SFJ is funding and encouraging and aiding the activities of secession and supporting many separatist and terrorist groups working against the country. There were occasions and proofs of SFJ's role in escalating tensions and create anti-India sentiments in Punjab

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh hailed the Union Government's decision to ban pro-Khalistani group "The Sikhs for Justice" and said it deserved to be treated as a "terrorist organisation". Singh termed the move as the first step towards protecting the nation from "anti-India or secessionist designs" of the ISI-backed organisation.

SAND MINING SCAM

CBI books 4 UP IAS officers, ex-Min

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered two fresh cases in Uttar Pradesh mining scam naming four IAS officers and former Minister Gayatri Prajapati as accused and conducted searches at 12 locations in the State on Wednesday including Bulandshahr, Lucknow, Fatehpur, Azamgarh, Allahabad, Noida, Gorakhpur and Deoria.

The CBI FIR names Prajapati, a former minister in the Samajwadi Party government, and then Principal Secretary Jiwesh Nandan, Special Secretary Santosh Kumar, then district magistrates Abhay (Fatehpur) and Vivek (Deoria), agency sources said.

The Uttar Pradesh Government had mandated e-tendering for renewal and award of fresh lease for sand mining in the State on May 31, 2012, which was upheld by the Allahabad High Court on January 29, 2013.

In the case involving Prajapati, the agency has alleged that beneficiaries Shiv Singh and Sukhraj used the influence of the Minister to get their lease renewed in irregular manner.

Nandan and then district magistrate of Fatehpur Abhay allegedly conspired with the minister to get the lease renewed in the matter of Sukhraj in 2014 while Singh managed to get his lease renewed in 2012. The lease of the duo was allegedly renewed in violation of e-tendering policy of the State government, they said.

In the second case, the agency has alleged that Vivek, during his stint as DM in Deoria, allowed renewal of lease of one Sharda Yadav.

Yadav, whose petition for renewal of lease was dismissed by the Allahabad High Court on April 5, 2013, managed to get it renewed next day in conspiracy with Vivek and other officials of the district, the CBI

has alleged in the FIR.

The agency teams simultaneously reached the 12 locations in the State on Wednesday morning, including at the premises of 2007-batch IAS officer Abhay, presently the District Magistrate of Bulandshahr, and 2009-batch IAS officer Vivek, the Mission Director of Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission to conduct searches, they said.

The officials said cash of around ₹47 lakh was recovered from the premises of Abhay and about Rs 10 lakh was recovered from the residence of Devi Sharan Upadhyay, the then ADM of Deoria. Upadhyay is presently posted as the CDO in Azamgarh, and the agency also searched his premises. The agency also seized some documents related to properties from the premises of Vivek who is presently posted as Director, Training & Employment, Lucknow.

SC to consider plea for early hearing of PIL challenging Article 370

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said it would consider the plea seeking urgent hearing of a PIL challenging the constitutional validity of Article 370 which grants special status to Jammu & Kashmir and limits Parliament's power to make laws for the State.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose took note of the submission of BJP leader and lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay that his PIL be listed for an urgent hearing.

"File a memo. We will see," the bench said.

On February 18 this year as well, he had mentioned the PIL for urgent listing for the hearing.

Upadhyay, in his plea which was filed in September last year, has contended that the



special provision was "temporary" in nature at the time of framing of the Constitution and Article 370(3) lapsed with the dissolution of the Jammu and Kashmir Constituent Assembly on January 26, 1957.

The plea also seeks a declaration from the apex court that the separate Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir was "arbitrary" and "unconstitutional" on various grounds, including that it was against the "supremacy of the Constitution of India and contrary to dictum of 'One Nation, One Constitution, One National Anthem and One National Flag'".

PTI

NIA attaches Asiya Andrabi's property in Srinagar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday attached a property of banned terror outfit Dukhtar-e-Millat chief Asiya Andrabi in Srinagar in a terror case relating to waging war against India under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The attached house of Andrabi is situated at 90 Feet Road Saura, Srinagar. Andrabi is the Chairperson of Dukhtar-e-Millat (a proscribed terrorist organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act).

"The approval for attachment of the property was granted by DGP, J&K as required under the law. Consequent to attachment, the property cannot be sold, transferred or otherwise dealt with in any manner without the express permission of officer making the order. Copy of the

order has also been endorsed to Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar to enter the effect of attachment in the revenue records," a senior NIA official said here.

The attachment has been done in connection with the investigation of a NIA case registered last year case relating to waging war against the country by using Internet platforms.

The NIA had chargesheeted Andrabi on November 14 last year along with two other accused persons - Sofi Fehmeeda and Nahida Nasreen. All the three accused persons are in judicial custody presently. The Court of Special Judge, NIA, New Delhi has taken cognisance of the chargesheet.

The attachment has been effected under Section 25 (i) of UA (P) A, which states that an investigating officer can attach a property if the officer has reasons to believe that it has been

brought from proceeds of terrorism.

Andrabi, Sofi Fehmeeda and Naheeda Nasreen were using Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and TV channels including some in Pakistan to spread "insurrectionary imputations and hateful messages and speeches against India", according to the charge sheet.

Dukhtar-e-Millat, a banned terrorist organisation, through Andrabi and others, openly advocates secession of Jammu and Kashmir from the Union of India and its merger with Pakistan through violent means.

It is engaged in anti-India activities and has been inciting the Kashmiri people for an armed rebellion against the Government of India with aid and assistance of terrorist organisations based in Pakistan.

Andrabi and her two associates were arrested by Jammu and Kashmir police in April

last year and the case was later transferred to NIA in July.

"She is spreading seditious and insurrectionary imputations against the Government of India. She is promoting ill-will and enmity between different communities in India on religious grounds. Investigation has also established that she has close contacts with designated global terrorist Hafeez Mohammad Saeed who is the head of Jamaat-ud-Dawah and Lashkar-e-Taiba, internationally designated terrorist organisations that are based in Pakistan," the NIA has said.

Fehmeeda and Nasreen have been instrumental in using social media and other platforms to wage war against the Indian government. The duo also collected funds to carry out terrorist activities of Dukhtar-e-Millat, the agency had said.

Co-infection with Kala Azar, HIV on rise in Bihar: Study

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Incidents of co-infection with Visceral Leishmaniasis (commonly known as Kala Azar, KA) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) are increasingly being reported from Bihar, noted a team of researchers and warned that such patients are reaching late for medical treatment in Government hospitals.

They pointed out that symptoms of vector-borne disease KA caused by the sandfly are being often misdiagnosed in the private sector as seasonal fever, while care providers found it difficult to disentangle the clinical symptoms of KA and HIV, due to which patients reach late to district hospitals.

This was leading to high out of pocket expenditure, leaving the patients dependent on societal support to access care. Bihar has 80 per cent of the Kala Azar reported in India.

During the study researchers found that "patients highly valued income and health as indicators of a good quality life, and routinely went into debt accessing care in the private setup. This was due to perceptions of poor quality of care in the Government setup and a lack of knowledge regarding available Government services at the district level."

The researchers from Delhi-based Jawaharlal Nehru University, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna and Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), Spain had interviewed 29 patients including 16 patients co-infected with Kala Azar and HIV and 13 patients co-infected with Kala Azar, HIV, and TB.

Among 29 patients, 24 were men while 5 were women.

"The economic impact of seeking care in the private sector combined with lost income during periods of illness contributed to feelings of anxiety and hopelessness among patients, and left them dependent on societal support to access care.

"The KA symptoms were often misdiagnosed in the private sector as seasonal fever, while care providers found it difficult to disentangle the clinical symptoms of KA and HIV, contributing to patients presenting late to district hospitals," they noted in the study. Quality of life for patients co-infected with kala-azar and HIV: qualitative study from Bihar".

The study was presented here recently at an event MSF

Scientific Day organised by the MSF. After treating more than 13,000 patients suffering from kala azar in Bihar since 2007, the MSF is now focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of HIV-kala azar co-infection.

The researchers were Pragna Kumar, Sanjay Pandey, Alok Ranjan, Chandra Mani Singh and Neeraj Agarwal from AIIMS, Patna, Amit Harshana, Mohit Nair, Shahwar Kazmi and Sakib Burza from Jawaharlal Nehru University and Fernanda Falero, Laura Moreto-Planas from Medecins Sans Frontieres, Barcelona, Spain.

This study is the first assessment of self-reported quality of life among patients with KA-HIV coinfection in the Asian context, and was particularly relevant to our work in order to understand how patients per-

ceived treatment and why they presented late in seeking care, said the researchers.

According to experts, HIV and KA are mutually reinforcing infections, which means that HIV-infected people are vulnerable to KA, while KA advances an HIV infection.

MSF is focusing on kala azar-HIV co-infection because relapse and mortality rates are around 13-14 times higher in comparison to cases of KA without HIV. "KA can also not be completely eliminated without addressing the KA-HIV co-infection. So while cases of primary KA are going down, the proportion of co-infections are on the rise, which presents a public health challenge and needs to be addressed comprehensively," explained Dr Deepak Kumar from MSF.

Govt repatriates CBI DIG Gauba supervising Rakesh Asthana probe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) is hereby conveyed for the premature repatriation of Tarun Gauba...DIG, CBI to his state cadre," said an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training.

The Government had last week curtailed the tenure of Rao in the CBI and transferred him as the DG of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards, a department under the Union Home Ministry.

Sources said Gauba had himself sought repatriation to his home cadre.

Approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) is hereby conveyed for the premature repatriation of Tarun Gauba...DIG, CBI to his state cadre," said an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training.

The Government had last week curtailed the tenure of Rao in the CBI and transferred him as the DG of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards, a department under the Union Home Ministry.

Sources said Gauba had himself sought repatriation to his home cadre.

INSHORT

LOK SABHA PASSES ARBITRATION BILL



New Delhi: A Bill to set up an independent and autonomous regime for institutionalised domestic and international arbitration was passed by the Lok Sabha on Thursday. The New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) Bill, 2019, seeks to replace an ordinance issued in March this year by the previous government. It provides for setting up of an independent and autonomous body for institutional arbitration.

CONG SEEKS TRANSPORT, FOOD FOR PARL STAFF

New Delhi: Congress leader in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on Wednesday requested Speaker Om Birla to provide food and transport facilities for Parliament staff when the House sits for late hours. His came a day after the Lower House transacted business till 11.15 pm. There was dinner for the members but staff did not get food. Also, there was no arrangement for the staff to go home, Chowdhury said. In response, the Speaker said, "Now you will get everything."

COAL BLOCK AUCTION SOON: COAL MINISTER

New Delhi: Union Minister Prahlad Joshi on Wednesday said the auction of coal blocks would commence "very shortly". The coal Minister also said that major policy changes would also be notified very shortly and expressed hope that the auction would be successful. "Once it is notified, this time, I am quite hopeful that there will be a successful auction and after that auction, the production will further increase," he told the Lok Sabha during the Question Hour.

PAPER WITH PASSION

A lost summer

India's exit from the 50-over World Cup disappointed millions but things look good for the future



International cricket tournaments are sadly few and far between nowadays, much like football, where club competitions have changed the game and at a level devalued the World Cup in that sport. The rise of franchise cricket tournaments like the Indian Premier League (IPL) seems to have taken the gloss off international tournaments. But the Cricket World Cup this summer still drew in millions of viewers, with streaming service Hotstar setting a world record for the most viewed stream during the India-Pakistan game, which despite being a damp squib, proved how excited the sub-continent gets when the two rivals compete, making yet another compelling case for renewed sporting ties. Then again, Pakistan's airspace still remains closed to Indian carriers, so renewed sporting ties will be on the back-burner for at least another few years.

But the manner of India's exit at the hands of New Zealand, thanks to a stunning exhibition of fast, swing bowling by that team's stars, doesn't just make us marvel how a country, whose population is a fifth of Delhi's, can produce such championship teams but how the vagaries of cricket, such as the Duckworth-Lewis method, are not really fair. The fact that the International Cricket Council (ICC) kept a spare day for the match should be commended but the weather did play a dampener for most fans, both at the start of the tournament and towards the end. However, one could fairly argue that the weather is an equal opportunity destroyer of games. Admittedly, it did make the coin toss vital and it has been telling that throughout this World Cup, teams batting first have won most games. It is not just disproportionate, it is totally lopsided. Cricket has an excellent opportunity to become the world's second-largest team sport after football. This is a space that several different sports from rugby to field hockey and even American sports such as baseball and basketball are aspiring towards. Yet the cricket World Cup was a singularly exclusive event for ten nations and, of course, massive numbers of diaspora citizens across the world. This tournament, while holding up a modicum of excitement, did not preach the game to new fans or to new nations. This has been the singular failure of the tournament and must make the ICC and even the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) the most powerful national cricket board, a bit worried. Sure, the Indian diaspora is pretty much everywhere and a strong team from the United States and Canada within the next decade thanks to the diaspora is a given, but cricket needs to spread. Not just to Iceland, whose cricket 'board' took out some hilarious tweets, but to East Asia and further into Africa and possible Europe. And on that front, this tournament has not done its job. So the ICC really needs to step up to the plate, to borrow a phrase from baseball, and ensure that the message of cricket spreads far and wide. Because other sports are also competing for the affections of Indians, and nothing will breed success for the game as much as a properly global world cup the next time around.

Contaminated food

Despite strict protocols, govt study shows 30 per cent of samples have failed the safety test and are adulterated



Just when we thought that food safety was finally an achievable target, what with laws and guidelines becoming more stringent and consumers demanding reassurance of the origin and processing, comes a reality check. According to government data, almost one-third of the food samples tested across the country in 2018-19 was found adulterated or sub-standard, with Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu leading the list where nearly half of the samples failed the test. What is shocking is that failed samples are now 30 per cent of the lot, which was 25 per cent over the last two years. The tests, carried out

within the parameters set by the food safety regulator, FSSAI, mean that crack-downs and heightened awareness have meant little. Between 2016-17 and 2018-19, about 8,100 people were convicted for committing food tampering offences and authorities across the states collected nearly ₹43.65 crore fine from the offenders. Which means that unscrupulous practices of diluting food quality with substitutes and additives continue unabated without fear of falling foul of the law. What it also means is that pesticides and chemicals used in agriculture have had a stubborn effect, affecting both soil and plant health, leading to unwanted spikes in harmful chemicals in food sources. There have been frequent reports of adulterated milk, frighteningly diluted with not just water but starch, groundnut milk and wheat flour. Some reports have also suggested how a majority of Indians would suffer major diseases only because of food contamination. Cooking oils continue to be mixed with low-grade palm oil, cheap edible oils and even cottonseed oil. Some of these are coloured and flavoured to avoid detection of substitutes. Even items of everyday use pose serious health risks, like tea, where used tea leaves are processed and coloured, coffee, which is routinely mixed with tamarind seed, date seed powder and chicory powder and wheat and other foodgrains, into which poisonous fungus is tossed in for volumes. Kitchen essentials like mustard are often mixed with argemone seeds, turmeric with dyes and chilli powder with brick powder.

It's not that the laws aren't there but what is pathetically lacking is their uniform implementation and interpretation. Many amendments have been suggested in the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, including life imprisonment and penalty of up to ₹10 lakh for adulterants. FSSAI has also proposed setting up of state food safety authorities so that this law can be enforced in letter and spirit down to the grassroots. In line with Singapore's Sale of Food Act, the FSSAI has further proposed that the errant will have to pay fees and other expenses incidental to the analysis of any food, thereby making him/her culpable for renegeing on prescribed standards. But as producers, they can hardly be expected to be altruistic or not attempt to bend the rules in collusion with local food inspectors. Besides, often the adulterants escape detection. Therefore, there need to be standardised screening protocols that can be applied for random checks and booking offenders. Food labelling has definitely led to awareness but manufacturers and companies must also be asked to vouch for the authenticity and source of food products and their components. Food is the building block of our national health and human resource and the study should really accelerate efforts to get amended laws passed in Parliament on a priority basis before more damage is done.

Politics of peace-making

In what way, and why, could a European war be so persistently and consistently be referred to as the First World War for a hundred years?



ABHIJIT BHATTACHARYYA

The First World War ended with a series of peace meetings and conferences in Paris, which were essentially concluded only between European powers. Hence, the question arises, in what way, and why, could a European war be so persistently and consistently referred to as the First World War for a hundred years? Was the First World War really a World War? Or was it the "First Great European War" of the 20th century? Let's look back at the post-war treaties at a glance — there were the Treaty of Versailles between "victor", "Allied and Associated Powers" and "vanquished" Germany (Saturday, June 28, 1919); the Treaty of St Germain with Austria (Wednesday, September 10, 1919); Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgaria (Thursday, November 27, 1919). In 1920, the Treaty of Trianon with Hungary (Friday, June 4) and the fifth and final Treaty with Turkey was signed at Lausanne (Tuesday, July 24, 1923). Beside these five treaties in Europe, a series of treaties was signed to restore on a firm footing the status quo in the 'Far East' Pacific Ocean at Washington DC between 1921 and 1922. History recognises all these treaties, along with a host of minor ones and agreements, as peace settlement of the First World War.

But who were the "vanquished" belligerents? Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey — all European powers. And, who were the "victors"? England, France and their "Allied and Associated Powers." How then can the 1914-1918 war, most of which was fought on European soil, be referred to anything other than the "First Great European War," a few non-European combat theatres, like northern China, in which Russia and Japan were involved, and across Mesopotamia notwithstanding?

Well, the reason for referring to it as "World War", to this author, emanates from the fact that when the White Christian European nations were at each other's throats in the heartland of the European continent, the nations, nationalities and even nationalists beyond Europe, who were fighting for freedom — from Africa to Asia and British estates of Australia and New Zealand and other island territories of/in the Atlantic and Indian Ocean — were dragged into the war of Europe without being part thereof. Simply because the "belligerents" were the colonial masters of non-European countries across the globe. Hence, a European War became "World War," notwithstanding the fact that it's a misnomer.

Indeed, it's the post-war "territorial settlement", which enhanced the importance and, hence, "upgraded" the First Great European War as First World War in history books. How and why? The overarching legacy of the Paris Peace Conference affected and/or "settled" Europe, the Near



East, Africa and the far East.

In Europe, all the five "vanquished" lost territories. Germany ceded Alsace and Lorraine to France; Eupen and Malmédy to Belgium; port of Memel to Lithuania; Posen and part of West Prussia to Poland, thereby resulting in an overall German loss of 25,000 (plus) square miles territories and seven million inhabitants. Vanquished Austria lost Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, which became part of Czechoslovakia. Slovenia went to Serbia and Croatia formed part of the new state of Yugoslavia.

Hungary lost Slovakia to Czechoslovakia; Croatia to Yugoslavia and Transylvania to Romania. The fourth European state, Bulgaria's biggest loss, however, came when Macedonia was detached from it.

Turkey, the fifth European state, somehow had the rare luck of a "vanquished" to sign the Treaty at Lausanne (Switzerland, a neutral territory) in 1923. Fortunately, it was owing to statesman-like Turkish nationalist leader Mustafa Kemal, who didn't regret the defeat and dissolution of his country's Ottoman Empire and sagaciously renounced all claim to (past

"territories containing Arab majorities."

Luck also favoured two extinguished (east) European states, Poland and Yugoslavia. From being subjects of the Austro-Hungarian empire of Habsburgs, Poland regained sovereignty after 124 years, being partitioned by/between empires of Austria, Prussia and Russia thrice in 1772, 1793 and 1795. Yugoslavia, too, came alive as a sovereign state in 1919, only to be dismembered into seven smaller sovereign states in the 1990s.

Post-war 1919, however, emerged the most complicated issues in the Arab world. An insulting verdict by the Covenant of League of Nations (predecessor of UN) read: "Those territories, ceded by the defeated powers, which are inhabited by peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under strenuous conditions of the modern world", should be placed under the tutelage of "advanced nations," and that "this tutelage should be exercised by them as mandataries on behalf of League of Nations."

In one stroke began post-European War's gross injustice, beyond Europe, inflicted by none other than the so-called saviour of the world: The League of Nations, as it

legalised occupation of non-White countries by the White "advanced nations." Regrettably, the League unabashedly justified wars initiated by the Europeans as "advanced nations" and those who were victims of the belligerents' bloodshed, branded as "peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world." How insulting the colonial West-dominated League of Nations could be towards the non-White world?

In retrospect, the League of Nations appeared to be in cahoots with European powers, which had captured the world even before the start of the Great European War, thereby giving their historians and politicians to refer to it as First World War. Thus, whereas in 1875, less than one-tenth of Africa had been turned into European colonies, by 1895, only one-tenth remained unappropriated. It was one of the harshest realities, rather ironies, of history that most of the world, by the late 19th century, belonged to a handful of so-called great European powers, which was achieved through "trade, missionaries, adventure, settlement, loot, arrogance, conquests and war between rival imperial powers."

The US, despite being one of the last to join the European bloodshed in April 1917, was more interested in the Pacific Ocean. Hence, the Washington Conference of 1921-1922, in which Japan's rising Navy was targeted by the Anglo-American lobby. The nine nations participating in the conference pledged "to refrain from taking advantage of conditions in China to seek special rights and privileges which would abridge the rights of subjects and citizens of friendly states." Yet, in reality, they turned a blind eye to the Japanese aggression of the Chinese territory.

So far as India was concerned, "peace" of 1919 brought nothing but death of thousands of Indian soldiers, thereby resulting in "blood, sweat, toil and tears", and resources were sucked out by the British to fight their war with White neighbours across English Channel. In India, however, it was the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of unarmed citizens and a political morsel thrown by Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms at the Indians. The legacy of 1919 survives to this day.

(The writer, an alumnus of National Defence College of India, is author of *China in India. Views are personal.*)

SOUNDBITE

I am the MP from Wayanad but my ties with Amethi are three decades old. I will fight for it in Delhi. It is my home and family.



Congress chief
—Rahul Gandhi

There was a time when getting trolled on health issues hurt me but that doesn't bother me anymore. I needed some love and silence to really be me.



Actor
—Shruti Haasan

Dawood Ibrahim's illegitimate activities from a safe haven, that refuses to acknowledge even his existence, are a real and present danger.



Indian official
—Syed Akbaruddin

I am not being permitted inside because of security threat. I have a lot of respect for the Maharashtra Government. I don't have weapons.



Congress leader
—DK Shivakumar

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Make roads safe

Sir — The death of 29 people in a road accident on the Yamuna Expressway is disheartening. Though the human factor is often cited in fatal road accidents, one cannot overlook poor road infrastructure as another major cause. Data from the Public Works Department last year, on Delhi's roads, showed an average of 2,000 potholes along the main roads. There were also broken footpaths, dislocated kerb stones and trees affecting traffic. India ranks very high in road accidents if one accesses data from the International Road Federation, Geneva. In a review of accident prevention, there has to be a holistic view of all factors.

Tushar Anand
Patna

Ill-thought decision

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "The camera trap" (July 10). Undoubtedly, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Government in Delhi has done a lot to improve educational standards in Government schools. From

Become equal participants in population control

Population is a blessing as well as a curse. Blessing when Governments effectively cater to smaller numbers, involving them as active participants, and curse when a voluminous population acts as a hindrance to sustainable development, especially with respect to environmental issues. Eighty million people are added to the world every year and by the end of 2030, the globe is expected to see a surge in population: Approximately nine billion people will occupy the world's space.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in collaboration with a number of governmental and non-governmental agencies, is setting priorities for different organisations to ensure population remains under control. Similar to the right to live, right to education and right to free speech, the "right to family planning" is also enshrined in the annals of the United Nations, which began marking the 'World Population Day' on July 11, starting 1990. A better-off country means heightened awareness among its people. Race, religion, economic status, marital status and gender should not act as road-blocks to a systematically undertaken family planning. Availability of resources is the responsibility of Governments. Commodities for planning should not only



be accessible but they should also be acceptable to the common man. "Forced" planning is a big 'no'. But the authorities cannot take refusal as the final word: Gently prodding and cajoling the husband and wife can have unexpected desired effects. In other words, the population should be a willing participant to make population control a roaring success. Privacy for the members of the family and accountability for the enforcers are equally important.

Ganapathi Bhat
Akola

Collective efforts

Sir — The six-lane Yamuna Expressway, which connects Agra to Greater Noida, has turned out to be a "highway to hell" for commuters due to its high accident rate. Ever since it was inaugurated by the then Akhilesh Yadav regime in 2012, it has claimed over 8,000 lives in over 5,000 accidents. Nitin Gadkari, while taking charge as Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, had promised to bring a strong law to make the roads safer. But it is a travesty that the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is still stuck in Parliament.

Due to this rigid attitude of our lawmakers, vulnerable people are losing lives everyday. Road crashes needs to be on priority for the new Government. With the lack of adequate measures and regulations, it is imperative for the citizens to stand up for the cause of road safety and educate others to do the same.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee
Faridabad

improving school infrastructure to maintaining the quality of education, AAP has created an atmosphere conducive for students to study. Its move to introduce happiness classes has been a hit. But its move to install CCTVs in classrooms and giving access of its

footage to parents is really ill-thought. Such a move will put huge pressure on teachers and students. Children will not be their normal selves and this may impact the quality of education. Hence, the AAP Government will do well to re-think on this issue. Instead,

it should install cameras on the streets to make the capital more safe. This not just for the safety of women but also because the city has witnessed a spurt in crime recently.

Bal Govind
Noida

Send your feedback to:
letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

A witness to history

Bashar Tabbah's book, *A Map & A Lens: Jordan Sights Unseen and Stories Untold*, through photographs and texts, tracks the unfolding of the entirety of Jordan's history



HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

One can divide writings about countries into three broad categories — academic or journalistic narratives about their politics, economics, international relations, history and future; literary travelogues — such as Lawrence Durrell's *Bitter Lemons* about Cyprus — describing one's encounter with a country's life, people, landscapes, cities and villages; and coffee table publications with engaging photographs of places of tourist interest, including historical sites and information about how to visit these, their significance and past.

Bashar Tabbah's book, *A Map & A Lens: Jordan Sights Unseen and Stories Untold* (Jabal Amman Publishing), is a significant addition to the third category. It is perhaps the only one of its kind that covers all important sites of tourist attraction in Jordan, which has a long history with evidence of human habitation as early as the Paleolithic Age. Bashar has arranged his photographs and text (the latter co-written with Jane Taylor) according to the various periods that have followed one another chronologically, beginning with the earliest Paleolithic, Bronze and Iron Age sites like Bayda, where the first settlements date back to 8,300 BC and Ayn Ghazal, founded around the same time and remarkable for its life-like human statues.

Next comes the Nabataean period with the famous remains of Petra. The Romans and Byzantines, who followed, have left their imprimatur in cities like Jerash, Umm Qais and Umm al-Jimal and the exquisite mosaics in Madaba and Umm ar-Rasas, a complex of 16 churches that have been declared by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The sites of early centuries of Islam depicted include Qusayr Amra and Qasa al-Hallabat. Monuments of the crusaders, Ayyubids and Mamluks, which feature in the book, include the Karak, Shobak and Ajlun castles. The Ottomans, who ruled for several centuries, have left behind numerous buildings and forts like the Hasa Hajji Fort.

The photographs and texts in the volume track the unfolding of the entirety of Jordan's history, including what is described as the Abrahamic Sites, which include Bethany, the place, a little north of the Dead Sea, where Jesus was baptized and the tombs of a number of prophets mentioned in the Old Testament. Jordan and the region around have been witness to multiple events connected with the emergence of Christianity and Islam, particularly the former. It has seen the rise and fall of empires and kingdoms and the marches of massive armies and battles, including those that Prophet Muhammad and his associates fought.

It is by no means easy to chronicle such an eventful journey in time and its architectural legacy in photographs and texts. Photographing historical sites poses its own special problems in the sense that it is not just a matter of pressing the shutter. Each building looks different under different light conditions — during day and night, dawn and dusk, on sunny and cloudy days. What lends it its identity is its structure, its constant feature. What makes the identity of a historical monument different from those of other structures is its aura arising from its being a witness to time, with its flows of people and events, bearing the silent imprint of the eras when life surged around it. A subtle, invisible emanation of the accumulated vibrations of the past, a monument's aura glides into the consciousness of those with a sense of history, a proneness to wonder how life might have been in the remote past and the ability to imagine living in its midst. Not many fill the bill.

Even among those who do, the aura's awareness comes in special moments when solitude enables the absorption of signals from the past, which are not overwhelmed by those from the present when multitudes swirl around, particularly chattering, shouting, selfie-clicking tourists, disgorging from buses and shepherded around by guides.

To be a true reflection of a historical monument's transcendental persona and not just calendar art, a photograph needs not only to capture its aura but, like the monument itself, make one wonder about quotidian experiences and events centuries or millennia in the past. To achieve this, a photographer needs to know a monument's history, and sense the imprimatur of its past on its present, stand before it in silence, with the vents of beyond-sensory perception open for times bygone to flow in. For this he/she needs to be relatively alone with the monument, which in turn demands presence in early or late hours when few are around, and repeated visits if the magic moment proves elusive. In a country like Jordan, with its many and widely separated historical sites, it means thousands of kilometres of travel.

All this requires perseverance and deep commitment manifested in sustained hard work. If his photographs are any criterion, Bashar Tabbah shows both in amplitude. These are not just of monuments but of the spaces in which these are located and the skies above, particularly at night when millions of stars sparkle and wink. A bonus is his photograph of the Dead Sea on a January evening.

There are many publications with stunning photographs of monuments and human settlements, and many with informed histories. But not many that combine both. More, one is caught in its web once one opens it. Simply put, it is unputdownable. India could do with a book like this on its rich and widely dispersed legacy of historical sites.

(The writer is Consultant Editor, The Pioneer, and an author)



Mosaic on the floor of a church at Umm ar-Rasas

I HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ANY RESIGNATION, I CAN'T DO IT OVERNIGHT. I HAVE GIVEN THEM TIME ON 17TH. I'LL GO THROUGH THE PROCEDURE AND TAKE A DECISION.

—KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

KR RAMESH KUMAR

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



MILAS HAVE RESIGNED VOLUNTARILY AND ARE COMPLAINING THAT THE SPEAKER IS NOT TAKING IMMEDIATE DECISION AND DELAYING IT DELIBERATELY.

—COUNSEL FOR KARNATAKA REBEL MLAS

MUKUL ROHATGI

Reimagining higher education

The draft NEP envisages a roadmap for improving the fundamentals of undergraduate education. But will the final policy keep to such a holistic approach?



DEVENDER SINGH

The draft National Higher Education Policy (NEP 2019) report submitted by the Kasturirangan Committee covers almost all aspects of an over-arching national education policy. There can be no gainsaying that education helps promote sustainable livelihoods, economic development and plays a catalytic role in improving the overall well-being of humans. It also helps develop a just, socially conscious, cultured and humane society — one that ensures liberty, equality, fraternity and justice for all.

As India moves towards becoming a "true knowledge society" and with the onset of the fourth industrial revolution, more and more young Indians are aspiring for higher education. With regard to the requirements of the 21st century, the aim of a "quality university" or college education must be to develop good, well-rounded and creative individuals. It must enable an individual to specialise in one or more specific areas of interest at a deeper level, while at the same time help build character, ethical and Constitutional values, intellectual curiosity, spirit of service and 21st century capabilities across a range of disciplines, including social sciences, arts, humanities as well as professional, technical and vocational crafts.

To attain these goals, higher education must provide the students with broad-based multi-disciplinary education, while also developing specialised knowledge with true disciplinary rigour. Instead of mechanistic rote learning — a scourge for students — colleges and universities must encourage active learners to develop abilities of independent, logical and scientific thinking, creativity and problem solving, and decision-making.

The 10+2+3 structure in the extant NPE 1986/1992 is in for a change in the Draft NEP 2019, which proposes a 5+3+3+4 structure at the school level and a four-year flexible undergraduate programme. The lofty objective espoused in the draft NEP, 2019 is to move towards a more imaginative and broad-based liberal education system as a foundation for holistic development of all students, with rigorous specialisation in chosen disciplines and fields.

Accordingly, it proposes that all undergraduate programmes be characterised by a liberal education approach as the foundation for holistic development, through imaginative and flexible curricular structures, creative combinations of disciplines of study and multiple exit and entry points within integrated programmes, offering rigorous specialisation in chosen disciplines and fields.

Liberal education with broad multi-disciplinary exposure, intended to develop Constitutional values, will be the basis of higher education. This will help develop important life capacities, rigorous disciplinary understanding and an ethic for social-moral engagement. This will be the approach at the undergraduate level across all disciplines, programmes and fields, including professional and vocational fields. The Centre will set up, if the recommendation is accepted, 10 Indian Institutes of Liberal Arts/Multidisciplinary Education and Research Universities on the model and standards of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

Imaginative and flexible curricular structures will enable creative combinations of disciplines of study and offer multiple useful exit and entry points for students, thus demolishing the current prevalent rigid boundaries. Thus, it will create pos-

“ THE DRAFT NEP PROPOSES THAT ALL UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES BE CHARACTERISED BY A LIBERAL EDUCATION APPROACH AS THE FOUNDATION FOR HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH IMAGINATIVE AND FLEXIBLE CURRICULAR STRUCTURES, CREATIVE COMBINATIONS OF DISCIPLINES OF STUDY AND MULTIPLE EXIT AND ENTRY POINTS WITHIN INTEGRATED PROGRAMMES ”



sibilities for life-long learning. Graduate (master's and doctoral) level education will provide rigorous research-based specialisation.

A liberal education approach will be the basis for undergraduate education in all fields/disciplines, including professional education. The notion of "streaming", where science, arts and vocational students are separated, based on their academic performance, majors, interests, or any other such criteria, will come to an end.

The existing undergraduate programmes will be re-structured to a four-year Bachelor of Liberal Arts (BLA) or Bachelor of Liberal Education (BLE) degree (or BLA/BLE with Research) and can be offered by those institutions, which are currently ready to run such programmes. However, since the existing higher education institutions are not ready both in infrastructural and academic terms, the draft NPE has proposed that the traditional/existing three-year traditional BA, BSc as well as BVoc degrees will continue for those institutions who wish to go ahead with them.

Over a period of time, it is expected that all bachelor's degrees will move towards a more comprehensive, liberal educational approach. The undergraduate programmes shall be interdisciplinary with the curricula designed to develop broadly useful capacities and important dispositions, while offering rigorous education in specialisations.

To enable this transformation in undergraduate education, the curriculum will have two parts: First, a common core curriculum for all students to develop broad capacities and important dispositions. This will include critical thinking; communication skills; aesthetic sensibil-

ities; scientific temper and scientific method; and an understanding of the Indian context and challenges along with Constitutional values and their practice, social, moral and ethical reasoning; an adequate exposure to multiple disciplines/fields, including arts, humanities, sports and science related to society and environment. The second, one or two area(s) of specialisation.

The four-year programme will provide for greater rigour in a full Liberal Arts Science Education (LASE) education and experience and also conduct research optionally. Students will graduate with a four-year LASE degree with honours, or may graduate with a BSc, BA, BCom or BVoc after completing three years with a suitable subject credit. Students will graduate in an appropriate vocational subject after completing two years with a diploma or a certificate after completing one year.

In view of the change of structure at undergraduate levels, the post-graduate structure will also undergo changes. Accordingly, there will be three options to pursue a masters programme: First, will be two-year masters for those completing three years degree; second one-year masters for those completing four-year degree and the third, a five-year integrated masters programme. Eligibility for PhD shall be based on either a master's degree or a four-year undergraduate degree with research. Another significant departure is that the draft NEP 2019 proposes that all professional education, including technical education and single-field institutions, will develop into full-fledged liberal education programmes.

A National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF) will

be formulated by a new body called the General Education Council (GEC) to outline learning outcomes associated with degree/diploma/certification for curricula across all disciplines and fields, which do not have individual Professional Standard Setting Bodies (PSSBs). In vocational subjects, National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) and the NHEQF shall be aligned for equivalence and mobility. The NHEQF shall permit flexibility — a system of credit transfer shall be put in place, making student mobility possible in many ways: Changes across streams of study (for example, from arts to science or from vocational to science), choice across combinations of areas of study (for example, music and chemistry), flexible entry into and exit from programmes and transfers across institutions and programmes.

Finally, awarding of specific degrees, diplomas and certificates will require specific combinations and number of courses to be completed successfully, which will be appropriately detailed within the NHEQF by each institution. Such a radical transformation of the undergraduate education is expected to break the current stratification of qualifications as that of preferred programmes, such as one witnessing in engineering and medicine, giving a secondary status to other programmes of study. This will break the shackles of hard silos among disciplines and pave way for students to experience varied flavours of multiple knowledge domains. Let's wait and watch whether the final policy retains such a holistic and liberal focus or gets soaked in by the popular colour of the day.

(The writer is a former Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha and an author)

Rainwater not harvested is wasted

India's culture has evolved and progressively omitted and excluded the ancient art of rainwater harvesting. This needs to be re-inculcated if India has to be liberated from water shortages and droughts



KOTA SRIRAJ

The drought situation in some parts of the country, in times when pre-monsoon showers are expected, shows that worsening climate change is all set to wreak havoc. In fact, many parts of the country should have been experiencing fair amounts of rainfall by now but the reality is far more unsettling. India is yet to take lessons — whether it is about infrastructure upgradation or rainwater harvesting. As a result of a lackadaisical approach, the country and its cities are once again at the threshold of a civic infrastructure collapse — as was seen in Mumbai — which has been battling torrential rains since the past few days, with no or very minimum arrangements in place to harvest the rain water.

India and its environmental experts, as also politicians, have since long been talking about rainwater harvesting. Debates about the woefully inadequate rain-harvesting infrastructure are repeated every year. Experts refer to its benefits and the Government makes tall claims and noises, to the effect that enough is being done about it. Superficially though. None of this is effective and every year, we see a repeat of colossal waste of rainwater, which could have successfully been harvested so as to fix the problem of water scarcity.

For years together, we have known the importance of harvesting rain from the rooftops and hill catchments and storing it in underground reservoirs, aquifers, lakes and ponds. Then, why have we failed to make this technology work? Why have we not been able to use this knowledge? This is a pertinent question which must make us uncomfortable.

The potential of rainwater harvesting makes a compelling case for itself. Sample this: One hectare of land with just 100 millimetre (mm) of rain — that's what deserts get on an average — is capable of harvesting one

million litres of water. This is quite impressive. To understand the water dependence of humans, a family of five would not need more than 10-15 litres a day for drinking and cooking. This comes to 4,000-5,000 litres in a year. This means one hectare can harvest enough water to meet the needs of 200-300 families. The scarcity of water seems like a myth now.

India had enough systems in place in the past to recover the rainwater. Many places in Rajasthan such as Jaisalmer — a city that built a flourishing civilisation and a stunning fort of yellow sandstone despite receiving only 50-100 mm of rain — is currently reeling under water shortages. It could build a water secure future as city planning in the past involved its rainwater being harvested from rooftops to tanks. This helped keep shortages at bay during the punishing dry summer months. But this ancient knowledge and wisdom of rainwater harvesting, replete with its intricacy, innovation and ingenuity, has slowly crumbled much like the historic infrastructure of the past.

Every region of the country had its own unique method of harvesting

rain, storing it and then using it. Every system had been adapted, in fact, evolved, to meet the special ecological needs yet, each system was an engineering marvel, designed to make the best of the region's rain endowment. But slowly, with modernisation, the Government took control from the local community or households as the provider or supplier of water in order to shore up revenue. This led to rainwater harvesting getting relegated to the back burner.

Moreover, the local groundwater, which was recharged using rainwater, was replaced by surface water, brought often from long distances in canals. This was coupled with pollution leaching into the groundwater table and illegal extraction, which either dwindled the water table or rendered it polluted and, hence, useless.

Rainwater harvesting is people-centric. It will continue to remain largely on the drawing board if people are not actively involved. This because primarily, the Government cannot harvest rain; people will have to do it and for that, their involvement is necessary as it has to be done in every house; every colony; every vil-

lage; and for every catchment. The incentive to do this only comes when we are dependent on groundwater for our needs. If cities and even villages get piped water, from distant sources, where is the need for rainwater harvesting?

The other problem is that India has not yet understood the science and art of harvesting rain on land. So, the catchments — land where the rain falls — have been encroached upon or distributed in the name of land-reform. The drains, which channelised rain to underground storage, have been built upon or destroyed. Then how will we harvest the raindrop? We can't and we won't. This is why the cycle of drought and flood will continue and get exacerbated. So let's really learn from the wisdom that we have ignored and allowed to die. India's culture has evolved and has progressively omitted and excluded the ancient art of rainwater harvesting from its fabric. This has to be re-inculcated in every nook and corner of the country if India has to be liberated from water shortages and droughts.

(The writer is an environmental journalist)

Swiss bank details of Indians from Sept

PTI ■ BERNE

India's fight against suspected black money stashed abroad will get a major boost this September in the form of first set of detailed financial information about all Indians having Swiss bank accounts, including those closed since last year.

The details that Switzerland would share with Indian tax authorities under the Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) framework would include account numbers, credit balance and all kinds of financial income for each Indian client of every Swiss financial institution.

The first set in September would be followed by further despatches on a yearly basis, according to Switzerland's Federal Department of Finance (FDF).

This would be in addition to details already being shared by Switzerland with India for nearly 100 Indian entities, including individuals and enterprises, on submission of prima facie evidence of their financial wrongdoings, under a bilateral pact for administrative assistance on tax matters.

Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan also said in writ-

ten reply to a Lok Sabha question on Wednesday that India will start receiving information on automatic basis from September about financial accounts held in Switzerland by Indian residents.

Besides, the India-Switzerland tax treaty facilitates receipt of information on request basis for cases under investigation, he said.

"The information received on request or on automatic basis may include information about persons allegedly involved in corruption," the minister said.

Asked whether the government would reveal those names, the minister, however, said the "use and disclosure of the information" is governed by confidentiality provisions.

Explaining the AEOI with India, which has come into force from January 1, 2018, the FDF said Switzerland, as a global wealth management hub, is committed to contributing to the integrity of the international financial system and to a level playing field.

"Switzerland applies the international transparency standards and therefore actively supports India in its fight against tax fraud and evasion," it said.

Under the AEOI framework, detailed financial information on all Indian residents that have an account maintained by a Swiss financial institution in 2018 will be provided for the first time to the Indian tax authorities in September 2019 and on a yearly basis thereafter.

The information would include accounts that were closed during 2018, it said.

It is feared many Indians might have closed their accounts after a global crackdown on black money led to Switzerland buckling under pressure to open its banking sector for scrutiny to clear the long-held perception of Swiss banks being safe haven for undisclosed funds.

However, the AEOI would only relate to accounts that are officially in the name of Indian residents and they might include those used for business and other genuine purposes.

In an explanatory dossier on AEOI, the FDF said if a taxpayer in country A (India) has a bank account in Switzerland, the bank would disclose the financial account data to the Swiss authorities, which would automatically forward the information to the tax authorities in the country A (India).

Connaught Place 9th most expensive office location in the world: CBRE

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

New Delhi's Connaught Place (CP) is the ninth most expensive office location in the world with an annual rent of nearly \$144 per sq ft, according to property consultant CBRE.

CP, located in the heart of the national capital, was at the ninth position even last year. In its annual Global Prime Office Occupancy Costs survey, CBRE tracks the cost of leasing prime office space globally.

For the second year, Hong Kong's Central district retained the top spot as the world's most expensive market for prime office rents, with the prime occupancy costs valued at \$322 per sq.ft.

"New Delhi's Connaught Place — central business district (CBD) retains its ninth position in the list as last year and the office occupancy cost is valued at \$143.97 per sq ft," the report said.

Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex and Nariman Point CBD slipped to 27th and 40th positions, respectively.

Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) was ranked 26th and Nariman Point at 37th in 2018 ranking.

The current annual prime rent of BKC is valued at \$90.67 per sq. Ft and the Nariman Point CBD is valued at \$68.38

per sq ft.

"Indian markets continued to have greater investment grade space in the CBDs of the different cities as prominent domestic and global corporates continued to favour investment grade space for setting up front their front offices in these cities," said Anshuman Magazine, Chairman and CEO, India, South East Asia, Middle East and Africa, CBRE.

The commercial office market remains a strong growth propeller for the real estate sector, he added.

"Delhi, being a prime market, continues to witness sustained activity and retains its position amongst the top 10 most expensive markets in the world," Magazine said.

CBRE highlighted that six of the world's 10 most expensive office markets are found in Asia.

London's (West End) is ranked 2nd, followed by Hong Kong (Kowloon) and New York (Midtown Manhattan). Beijing's (Finance Street) is at the fifth position on the list.

In its report, CBRE underlined the growing significance of talent acquisition race, driving the prime occupancy cost to newer heights.

"This, combined with limited supply and moderate construction pipelines in most cities, are the driving forces behind the price growth," it added.

₹ trips 7 paise to 68.58 vs USD

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee declined by 7 paise to close at 68.58 against the US dollar on Wednesday, pressured by persistent foreign fund outflows and firming crude oil prices.

A weak trend at the domestic equity markets and global trade tensions also kept sentiment subdued, traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic unit opened weak at 68.61 and soon slipped to hit the day's low of 68.67. However, it pared some losses to touch a high of 68.48, before finally closing at 68.58, showing a loss of 7 paise over its previous close.

The rupee had rebounded by 15 paise to close at 68.51 against the greenback Tuesday on fag-end selling of the US currency by banks and importers in line with a late recovery in domestic equities.

"Rupee has been consolidating in the range of 68.50 and 69.20 for last five sessions. Any level below 68.50 could bring momentum buying in rupee against dollar. Rupee has managed to remain resilient in the recent past despite rising Dollar Index and Brent crude prices.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.03 per cent to 97.45.

Over 3,133 cr digital transactions registered in FY19, says Prasad

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Digital transactions in the country surpassed the target set by the Government, clocking a total volume of 3,133.58 crore in 2018-19 and is showing a positive trend for the current financial year, Parliament was informed on Wednesday.

"FY data for 2018-19 shows that the Government surpassed the target set for digital payments and data for 2019-20 also shows a positive trend," Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.

He added that the target for digital transactions for 2018-19 was set at 3,013 crore, and the total digital transactions registered were 3,133.58 crore.

The Minister said 313.05 crore digital transactions were registered till April 30, 2019, and the government has set a target of over 4,000 crore digital transactions in the ongoing financial year.

Prasad said the Reserve Bank of India has undertaken an exercise of benchmarking India's payment systems vis-à-vis those in comparable Asian economies and BRICS nations. The analysis was attempted under 41 indicators covering 21 broad areas including regula-



tion, oversight, payment systems, government payments, customer protection and grievance redressal, among others.

"The study found that India has a strong regulatory system and robust large value and retail payment systems which have contributed to the rapid growth in the volume of transactions in these payment systems," he said.

There has been substantial growth in e-payments by the government and also in digital infrastructure in terms of mobile networks, Prasad added.

The Minister said there has been a significant increase in the use of the digital payments in the country since demonetisation. Total digital transactions grew 104.38 per cent from 1,013 crore (FY17) to 2,070.39 crore (FY18), and by another 51.35 per cent to 3,133.58 crore in FY19, he added.

India attracts \$64.4 bn FDI in FY19 despite global headwinds: Min

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India attracted foreign direct investment of \$64.4 billion in the last fiscal, and aims is to take it higher as it moves forward, Union minister V Muraleedharan said Wednesday.

At an event here late evening, the Minister of State for External Affairs also said the Centre is considering further opening foreign direct investment in aviation, media and other sectors.

He was addressing a gathering of several ambassadors and representatives from different countries in New Delhi, at a curtain raiser event for the first-ever Global Investors' Meet to be hosted by Himachal Pradesh government in Dharamshila on November 7-8.

"India is the fastest growing major economy in the world right now. Our Prime Minister has set a vision for a \$5 trillion economy. We want to avoid the mistakes of others, and do better," Muraleedharan said.

He also invited different

countries to invest in Himachal Pradesh and explore the potential of the hill state by participating in the meet in November.

"Despite global headwinds, India attracted an FDI worth \$64.4 billion, which is six per cent more than in the previous year. And, the aim is to take it higher as the country moves forward," Muraleedharan said.

Following the last five years, the Centre's policy has been to give an "unprecedented push" to the economy through initiatives such as Make in India, Ayushman Bharat and UDAN, he said.

"Our Prime Minister's vision of cooperative federalism includes an enabling atmosphere for all states and union territories to cooperate and compete with each other," he added.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur invited various countries to invest in his hill state, saying it provides ample opportunities to investors amid its clean, healthy and peaceful environment.

Sensex resumes downward spiral; Bajaj Finance cracks 5%

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmark BSE Sensex resumed its downward march on Wednesday, closing 174 points in the red as risk sentiment remained subdued following a lacklustre start to the earnings season.

Investors were also spooked after US President Donald Trump Tuesday launched a fresh attack on India over its tariffs on American imports, traders said.

Unabated foreign fund outflows, weak auto sales data and a depreciating rupee further weighed on the bourses, they added. After swinging nearly 400 points during the day, the 30-share Sensex settled 173.78 points or 0.45 per cent lower at 38,557.04. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty ended 57 points, or 0.49 per cent, lower at 11,498.90, marking its fourth straight day of losses.

Bajaj Finance was the biggest loser in the Sensex pack, cracking 4.91 per cent.

India, Russia working to deepen economic partnership: Niti VC

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India and Russia are working together to take their relationship to a higher level and there is scope for cooperation in agriculture and agro-processing sector, Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar said Wednesday.

Addressing the second India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue, Kumar said that India is looking to expand its relationship with Russia to a qualitatively higher level with deeper economic cooperation and exchange of ideas.

"India and Russia are working together to take their relationship to a higher level. The IRSED (Dialogue) is looking at six core areas of cooperation which expands upon the work done since the first meeting in 2018," he said.

The six core areas are - development of agriculture and agro-processing sector, development of transport infrastructure and technologies, small and medium business support, digital transforma-

tion and frontier technologies, cooperation in trade, banking, finance, and industry, and tourism and connectivity.

"A lot can be done in terms of agriculture ... India can meet a lot of agriculture needs of Russia. We are such a large agricultural country economy," the Niti Aayog vice-chairman said.

On the other side, Kumar said Russian companies can help Indian farmers in value addition of agricultural products.

"Both ways, it's a win-win situation" he noted. Kumar also pointed out that so far India's MSMEs are not integrated with global production chains, so there is a huge opportunity for Russian companies to partner with India's MSMEs.

Speaking at the event, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of Russian Federation Timur Maksimov said the range of issues being discussed at the second dialogue provide a positive dynamic to the Indo-Russian relationship.

HFCL grows 23% in Q1FY 20

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Himachal Futuristic Communications Limited (HFCL), a telecom infrastructure developer, system integrator and manufacturer of high-end telecom equipment and optical fibre cables released quarterly performance to start the financial year 2019-20 (FY20) on a high note.

The Company exceeds all previous quarterly performance benchmarks in Q1FY20 and has reported remarkable quarterly performance with the consolidated revenue ₹1343 crs (+23%), EBIDTA ₹194 crs (+104%), PBT ₹157 crs (+116%) and PAT ₹117 crs (+148%). The all-round performance was powered by change in revenue mix, accelerated project execution and efficiency improvement.

On standalone basis, the Company has achieved revenue of ₹1201 crs (+16%), EBIDTA of ₹164 crs(+84%), PBT of ₹136 crs(+94%) and PAT of ₹89 crs (+102%).

Having achieved significant growth in revenue, Company's focus has been on driving increased margins.



In the 18th annual convocation ceremony of VLCC Institute of Beauty and Nutrition, Union Minister of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Mahendra Nath Pandey alongside Chairperson of VLCC, Vandana Luthra, gives away certificates to the students of 2018-19 batch.

BAJAJ FINSERV OFFERS PRE-APPROVED PERSONAL LOAN

Pune: Bajaj Finance Ltd, an arm of Bajaj Finserv offers pre-approved personal loans to existing customers without any documents. An existing customer can check their pre-approved offer by simply entering their name and mobile number. Once the pre-approved offer is accepted by the customer, the loan is disbursed in no time.

To tap more customers in India, the firm has also unveiled its website link www.bajajfinserv.in/personal-loan and toll free no. 18002667989. PNS

ITL unveils Solis tractor in collaboration with Yanmar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

ITL (International Tractors Ltd.) on Wednesday launched Solis Yanmar tractor range in collaboration with Yanmar Agribusiness Co. Ltd. of Japan. ITL has one of the biggest ranges of 20-110 HP tractors outside India. Both the companies have been exporting tractors to Brazil, Turkey, Algeria and USA. Solis is Fully loaded with high-tech features and technologies supported by Yanmar.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

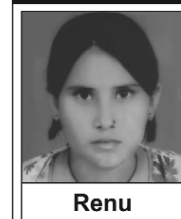
(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Menna Aka Nandani W/o Sh. Raju R/o Jhuggi Old Cloth Market, Raghubir Nagar, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 529/14 u/s 379/411 IPC P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Menna can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Menna has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Menna of FIR No. 529/14 u/s 379/411 IPC P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on 20.09.2019.

By Order Ms. Ekta Gauba Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (North-West) Court No.101, 1st Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Renu D/o Amar Pal, R/o H.No. 111, Gali No. 04, Vijay Colony, Bawana, Delhi, Age : 16 yrs. (During Missing Date), Height : 5 ft., Complexion : Fair, Face : Round, Built : Medium, Wearing : Unknown, has been missing / kidnapped since 16.10.2014 from the area of PS. Bawana. In this regard a case FIR No. 836/14 dated 16.10.2014 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at PS. Bawana, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.

if anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped girl please inform undersigned Website: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO PS. Bawana, Delhi DP/409/ON/19. Ph.: 011-27751949, 27756090

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE



General public is hereby informed that the female Namely: Savita, W/o: Sh. Arjun, R/o: A.1/18, RP Bagh, Delhi, Age: 23 years, Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Blue Saree and Plastic Chappal in Feet has been missing since 24.06.2019 from the jurisdiction of PS. Bharat Nagar, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 15-A, dated 24.06.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Bharat Nagar, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this female but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this female kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO Website: http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Bharat Nagar, Delhi. Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. 011-27301200, 8750870222 DP/9113/NW/19 Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL



General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Neha, D/o: Ravi, R/o: H.No. C-3/113, Nangli Vihar Extn., Gali No. 4, Near Shiv Public School, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 06.06.2019 from the area of P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. In this regard FIR No. 332/19 u/s 363 IPC, dated 08.06.2019 has been registered at P.S. Ranhola. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under: Name: Neha, Age: 17 Years, Height: 5', Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Unknown Colour Suit-Salwar.

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

Email: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO Web: http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. Fax: 011-24368639 Police Station, Ranhola, Delhi DP/332/OD/19 Tel.: 011-24368638/24368641 Ph: 011-28363001, 28363002, 28363003

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Pushpa, D/o: Hari Dass, R/o: D-77, Laxmi Park, Nihal Vihar, Delhi missing/kidnapped since 12.06.2019 from the area of P. S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 395/2019 u/s 363 IPC dated 13.06.2019 has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing girl are as under: Age: 14 years, Height: 5', Face: long, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Red Top-Blue Jeans Pant and blue hawai chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in SHO E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Tel.No. 011-25946700 DP/2381/OD/19 Fax No. 011-24368639 25946710, 7065036129

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Parveen @ Mota S/o Sh. Khajan Singh R/o Beed Sunar Wali, P.O. Nehru Collage, Distt. Jhajjar Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 47/19 u/s 302/120-B/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act. P.S. Bawana, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Parveen @ Mota can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Parveen @ Mota has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Parveen @ Mota of FIR No. 47/19 u/s 302/120-B/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act. P.S. Bawana, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on 17.08.2019.

By Order Ms. Manu Goel Khair Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (North) Court No.114, 1st Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi DP/412/ON/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



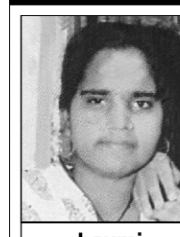
General public is hereby informed that one girl Namely: Neha D/o Mahesh Kumar, R/o H. No. C-1/224, Nand Nagri, Delhi. Age: 19 Years, Height: 5', Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Face: Round, Wearing: Black Kurti, Red colour Pajami and Cream Colour Chappal in feet has been missing since 27.05.2019 from the his house, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 32-A, dated 31.05.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO Website: http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi. Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. 8750870730 DP/7134/NE/19 Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Laxmi, D/O Sh. Ramnath, R/O Jhuggi No. 621, T-Hut, Meera Bagh, Delhi. The girl has been missing since 14.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi.

In this regard DD No. 43-A dated 15.05.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far.

The description of the missing girl is as under: Name: Laxmi, Age: 19 Years, Height: 4'10", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Identification Mark: A Tatoo mark 'OM' on right Hand, Wearing: Blue & White Colour Checked Shirt, Black Colour Jeans and White Colour Sande in her Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing girl, kindly inform SHO/P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi.

Email: cic@cbi.gov.in, Website: http://cbi.nic.in SHO Ph.: 011-23015229, 23015218 P.S. Paschim Vihar East, Delhi. Fax: 011-23011334 DP/2392/OD/19 Ph. No. 011-25267286, 07065036131

KARNATAKA POLITICAL CRISIS

Rebel MLA attacked, locked in Min's room

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

In a violent turn to Karnataka's political crisis, a rebel congress MLA Dr K Sudhakar who submitted his resignation to Speaker Ramesh Kumar was heckled, abducted and attacked at seat of power Vidhana Soudha on Wednesday by Congress leaders.

Amidst violent attack on Chikkaballapur MLA who was locked up at Minister KJ George's room by Congress president Dinesh Gundu Rao and another Minister Priyank Kharge, Governor Vajubhai Vala has directed the Bengaluru police Commissioner Alok Kumar to produce the MLA before him within few minutes. This shameful incident which is a blot on the democracy has put the Congress in a pitiable position. The Governor's intervention has saved him and later he went to Governor and submitted a copy of his resignation.

The TV grab showed Dinesh Gundu Rao, Priyank Kharge and other congress leaders heckled and dragged Sudhakar in to the room of

Minister KJ George at Vidhana Soudha and locked him up. Then Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah came inside amidst protest by the BJP. After the Governor's direction he was rescued by the police and taken him to the Governor. Siddaramaiah failed to convince Sudhakar and keeping a great silence.

Earlier in the day, another powerful and richest MLA in the country MTB Nagaraj submitted his resignation pushed Kumaraswamy-led coalition Government into minority.

This incident was a recap of 1994 where Ramakrishna Hegde and other leaders were chased, heckled and locked up in a toilet by Devegowda supporters where he was declared Chief Minister before he became the Prime Minister. This incident shows dirty and political low of the law makers who are fighting for power.

With the resignations of 16 Congress and JD(S) MLAs, the strength of the coalition Government reduced to 101

and BJP has 107 in the total strength of 208 member house. The magic number is 105 and it has been reduced minority.

It is also rumoured that Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy will resign on Wednesday to demand that Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy step down from office, claiming his Government has lost majority after 14 MLAs of the ruling Congress-JD(S) alliance submitted their resignations.

A delegation of saffron party leaders, led by state unit chief B S Yeddyurappa also met Governor Vajubhai Vala at Raj Bhavan, submitted a memorandum to him on the matter and requested him to advise the Speaker to act immediately on the resignations.

"We have made this request. As Kumaraswamy has lost the majority, he has to resign immediately. The Speaker, without any delay, has to accept the resignations," Yeddyurappa said.

Speaking to reporters after emerging from the Raj Bhavan, he said the Governor informed them he would take necessary action after examining everything. "We are satisfied," he said.

To a question on whether BJP asked for a floor test, he said they had not done so and there was no question of it as the government had already lost majority.

"As the government has already lost its majority, if the Speaker accepts the resignations without delay, even the assembly session (from July 12) also won't happen," he added.

Noting that there are chances of more MLAs resigning, he said Kumaraswamy should at least understand the reality and resign as Chief Minister.

Earlier in the day, several state BJP leaders, including former deputy Chief Minister K S Eshwarappa took part in the protest led by state president B S Yeddyurappa in front of the

BJP protests outside K'taka Assembly, demands Kumaraswamy's resignation

Bengaluru: The BJP in Karnataka demonstrated outside the Vidhana Soudha on Wednesday to demand that Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy step down from office, claiming his Government has lost majority after 14 MLAs of the ruling Congress-JD(S) alliance submitted their resignations.

A delegation of saffron party leaders, led by state unit chief B S Yeddyurappa also met Governor Vajubhai Vala at Raj Bhavan, submitted a memorandum to him on the matter and requested him to advise the Speaker to act immediately on the resignations.

"We have made this request. As Kumaraswamy has lost the majority, he has to resign immediately. The Speaker, without any delay, has to accept the resignations," Yeddyurappa said.

Speaking to reporters after emerging from the Raj Bhavan,

he said the Governor informed them he would take necessary action after examining everything. "We are satisfied," he said.

To a question on whether BJP asked for a floor test, he said they had not done so and there was no question of it as the government had already lost majority.

"As the government has already lost its majority, if the Speaker accepts the resignations without delay, even the assembly session (from July 12) also won't happen," he added.

Noting that there are chances of more MLAs resigning, he said Kumaraswamy should at least understand the reality and resign as Chief Minister.

Earlier in the day, several state BJP leaders, including former deputy Chief Minister K S Eshwarappa took part in the protest led by state president B S Yeddyurappa in front of the

Mahatma Gandhi statue at the Vidhana Soudha.

As Congress leader and state minister D K Shivakumar stood vigil outside a hotel in Mumbai to meet the rebels MLAs, BJP protesters here raised slogans like "Down, down to the government that has lost majority... Down, down to CM who wants to stick on to the chair".

Yeddyurappa also alleged that the political crisis in the state was created by Congress and JD(S) themselves.

The situation now was such that they had lost majority and had no moral right to continue in office, he said.

Denying charges that BJP had indulged in horse trading, he pointed out that Congress and JD(S) MLAs had in the last few months openly expressed unhappiness over the government and sought to know how the saffron party was responsible for it. **PTI**

Clashes in Bengal's Birbhum over cut money, 9 arrested



Police and RAF personnel at the site of a political clash at Sadaipur in Birbhum on Wednesday. **PTI**

Siuri: Clashes erupted on Wednesday between two groups of villagers in West Bengal's Birbhum district over the issue of 'cut money', prompting the police to increase vigil in the area and arrest nine persons, sources in the administration said.

Crude bombs were hurled indiscriminately by the two sides at Sahapur village in Sadaipur police station area near Siuri, with the locals claiming that the miscreants were supporters of the ruling TMC and the BJP, they said. **PTI**

Police officers, too, came under attack while trying to stop the clash, the sources claimed.

According to local people, a group of villagers on Tuesday evening agitated before TMC leader Enamul Haque's residence, demanding the return of 'cut money' which they had allegedly given to get benefits under Government schemes.

The situation, however, turned violent on Wednesday when supporters of Haque allegedly attacked those who had agitated the day before. **PTI**

Bengal Opp demands Tata's return in Singur

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The Bengal Opposition parties came down heavily on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for driving the Tatas out of the State and asked the Government to bring back India's top industrial house to Singur.

The attack came soon after the Chief Minister replying to a question in the State Assembly said cultivation has decreased in Singur in the past a few years.

Replying to a question Banerjee said the landed area under cultivation in Singur had come down to 260 acres

from 640 acre where cultivation had once again started after the Singur lands were restored to the farmers following a Supreme Court order in 2016.

The order had termed the land acquisition by the then Left Front Government as illegal. The then Government had acquired 990 acres of land for the Tata Nano plant leading to a powerful movement by Mamata Banerjee in 2006 which finally catapulted her to power in 2011.

Out of the 990 acres about 955 acres were returned to the farmers after the imposing Tata Nano structure was pulled down by the State Government

in the wake of the Apex Court order.

While the local farmers' associations said a vast area of the land had been rendered uncultivable Banerjee told the Assembly that "the Government cannot force people to cultivate the land."

Claiming that the price of the land in that area was increasing steadily which could be one reason why the farmers were leaving cultivation, Banerjee said her Government had taken all the initiatives including providing financial assistance of ₹10,000 to the local farmers to start cultivation once again.

NEET issue: DMK walks out of TN Assembly

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

On a day when the daughter of a poor tailor from Anaparthur in Kancheepuram district secured admission to MBBS in the prestigious Madras Medical College, the Opposition DMK staged a walkout in the Tamil Nadu Assembly protesting against the failure of the AIADMK Government to get the State exempted from the NEET.

MK Stalin, DMK president, told media persons after the walk out that the State Government did not inform the Opposition about the President of India rejecting the Bill passed unanimously by the Assembly in 2017. The refrain of the DMK and AIADMK politicians have been that stu-



dents in Tamil Nadu cannot compete against the their counterparts in other States and hence they are exempted from NEET

P Jeevitha, daughter of P Bhavani who was struggling to meet both the ends of life as a poor tailor, proved the Tamil

Nadu politicians wrong by cracking the 2019 National Eligibility and Entrance Test, the qualifying examination for admission to the under graduate courses in medical colleges across the country.

Senior educationists and doctors in the State are unani-

mous in their view that both the AIADMK and the DMK are voicing the concerns of private medical college owners who stand to lose big money because of NEET mode of admission. The year 2019 saw 59,785 students out of the 1,23,078 who appeared for the NEET qualifying for admission to MBBS.

This is almost 10 per cent more than the students who qualified in last year's examination. While only 39.56 per cent of the Tamil Nadu students who appeared in last year's NEET qualified for counselling, this year it rose to 48.57 per cent, a commendable performance according to educationists.

Jeevitha managed to complete her studies thanks to the financial support extended by Dr Tamilisai Sounderajan,

the State BJP chief. Similarly, there are a number of students hailing from rural Tamil Nadu who cracked the NEET and are waiting for their MBBS admission.

But the DMK lambasted the State and Central governments for their indifference to the demand by the party to abolish the NEET once and for ever. Interestingly, the DMK was part of the UPA government which was in the forefront to introduce the NEET all over the country.

Though the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly had passed a resolution demanding the exemption of the State from the NEET and a Bill to conduct medical courses admission based on the marks scored by the students in the 12th standard, the President of India rejected the same. **PTI**

50 birds die of mysterious disease in Bihar

Patna: At least 50 birds have died of a mysterious disease in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district in the last two days, officials said on Wednesday.

Most of the birds died in Lakshmi Nagar locality of Muzaffarpur.

Officials of the forest and animal husbandry departments said that the deaths of the 50 birds has surprised them as they had apparently fallen from the trees and died.

According to district officials, an investigation has begun into the cause of the deaths. Some local residents said that the birds died during the spell of rain. **IANS**

TN objects to K'taka plan for dam across Cauvery

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu Government on Wednesday objected to a Central committee's decision to discuss Karnataka's proposal to construct a dam across the Cauvery at Mekedatu, saying it is "clear violation" of the final order of a disputes tribunal and the Supreme Court.

The objection by the state government comes ahead of the July 19 meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley and Hydro electric Projects.

Chief Minister K Palaniswami opposed the com-

mittee for including Karnataka's proposal for grant of fresh terms of reference to the Mekedatu Balancing Reservoir and Drinking Water Project in its meeting.

The committee comes under the Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry.

In identical letters to Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar and Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Palaniswami pointed out that he had earlier written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the matter. He said he had then sought Modi's intervention for

denying permission to Karnataka's proposal for grant of terms of reference for environmental clearance for the project.

Palaniswami said it was brought to his notice that the committee has included Karnataka's proposal for grant of fresh terms of reference to the project in its meeting scheduled on July 19. "The action of the committee to include the proposal of Karnataka for discussion in the meeting is a violation of the Notified Final Order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal and the judgment of the Supreme Court," he said. **PTI**

BSF seizes 107 buffaloes along Indo-Bangla border in WB

Kolkata: The BSF has repulsed armed Bangladeshi cattle smugglers and seized 107 buffaloes along the Indo-Bangla border in Murshidabad district of West Bengal, the force said on Wednesday.

The smuggling bid took place on the intervening night of July 9-10 at border post Nirmal Char in the Murshidabad district of the state, the Border Security Force said.

The smugglers were attempting to take the cattle herd to the Bangladeshi side amid "unabated rain" and darkness, and they attacked the troops with 'dahs', a cleaver-shaped weapon, hasua (axe) and bamboo sticks among other sharp objects, the BSF



said.

"BSF personnel though were outnumbered by the Bangladeshi smugglers, they displayed valour, grit and commitment to foil the smugglers' attempts. The troops were also attacked with arms and country-made bombs," it said.

The BSF troops also fired a number of pump action gun (PAG) rounds to thwart the attack and the smuggling

bid after which the group of 200 smugglers, called 'Rakhal' in local language, was dispersed, it said.

The seized 107 cattle,

worth about Rs 18.68 lakh, have been kept at the BSF border post and a case has been registered at the local police station at Ranitala, it added. **PTI**

ICICI Bank
ICICI Bank Limited

Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara-390007.
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051.
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 Symbolic 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;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured assets with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding (In ₹)	Reserve Price (In ₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (In ₹)	Date of Property Inspection and Time	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)
1.	Rajendra Kumar Sharma/ Yash Sharma/ Taruna metals Pvt Ltd/ Rakesh Sharma/ Shashi Sharma/ Vivek sharma	Flat No. 7 & 8 On Second Floor, On Plot No. B- 7, Situated At T.H.A Residential Colony Chandra Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.), 201011 Area- 3208.28 Sq.Ft)	Rs. 2,40,49,166/- as on June 29, 2019	Rs. 1,70,00,000/-	Rs. 17,00,000/-	July 22, 2019, From 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM	August 3, 2019, At 12:00 Noon

The online auction will take place on the website of auction agency **Shriram Automall India Ltd.** (URL Link - "https://eauctions.samil.in"). The Mortgagors/ Noticee are given last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **August 2, 2019, before 5:00 P.M** failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with aforesaid earnest money deposit (as referred in column No. (F) in a sealed envelope subscribed "offer for purchase of property" so as to reach at ICICI Bank Limited, **2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, Delhi-110055** or our marketing agents **Shriram Automall India Ltd** having their office at **2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi - 110034** on or before **August 2, 2019 before 5:00 P.M.** The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. EMD DD / PO should be from a Nationalised / Scheduled Bank favouring "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact on Mobile no. **8657476284/ 8584874809** of ICICI Bank Limited or **9910453434** of Shriram Automall India Ltd. The tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/e-auction vendor official and registered before the cut off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any reasons thereof. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit ICICI Bank Ltd website at **https://www.icicibank.com/notice-board/properties-for-sale/properties.page?**

Date : July 11, 2019
Place : Delhi/NCR

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
ICICI Bank Limited.

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority

Administrative Building, Sector - 6, Noida - 201301 (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: **www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in**. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes / amendments / corrigendum etc.

(A) (1) 177/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 M/o W/s (Two Year Running Operation of Labour in R.W. No.-7 and 8) Noida. Cost 26.42 Lacs
(2) 179/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 Equipment and Machinery (Jal/ Sewer) Work (Two Year Annual R/o 160 KVA DG Set at A and F-Block Sector-63, Village-Baholpur, Chhajjars, 63 KVA DG Set at F-Block Sector-63 and 63 KVA Mobile DG Set in Sector-63 and 50 KVA DG Set T.W. No.-2/63 and Village-Chhajjars) Noida. Cost Rs. 34.58 Lacs
(3) 189/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 M/o Sewerage (Two Years Annual Repairing and Cleaning of Man Holes and Changing the Damaged Sewer Lines at Different Locations in Village-Parthla Khanjerpur and in 5 Percent Plots), Noida. Cost Rs. 29.55 Lacs
(4) 193/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 M/o Sewerage (Two Years Annual Repairing and Cleaning of Man Holes and Changing the Damaged Sewer Lines at Different Locations in Village-Garhi Choukhandi), Noida. Cost Rs. 39.37 Lacs
(5) 01/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2019-20 M/o W/s (Two Year Annual Maintenance of PVC Water Lines in Network Sector-63, 64 and 65) Noida. Cost Rs. 65.63 Lacs
(6) 121/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 Water Supply Scheme for Sector-78 (Electric Power Connection for UGR and Tube Wells), Noida. Cost Rs. 58.45 Lacs
(7) 202/DGM(JAL)/AO/SM(JAL)-I/2018-19 M/o Sewerage (Two Years Annual Repairing and Cleaning of Man Holes and Changing the Damaged Sewer Lines at Different Locations in Sector-62 and Rajat Vihar), Noida. Cost Rs. 41.40 Lacs

The above tenders can be uploaded by date **17.07.2019 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date **18.07.2019 at 11.00 AM**.

Office :- SENIOR MANAGER (JAL)-I
Sector - 05, Noida NOIDA
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

TENDER NOTICE Date: 11.07.2019

Sealed tenders less than two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders.

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/19-20/RS/KM/800	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF 1.1KV GRADE POWER CABLE OF SIZE 2CX10 SQ.MM.	28	28,00,000/-	09.08.2019 1500 HRS	09.08.2019 1530 HRS
CMC/BR/19-20/RS/PG/802	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF POLYCARBONATE SEALS	1.40	2,80,000/-	31.07.2019 1500 HRS	31.07.2019 1530 HRS
CMC/BR/19-20/RS/PG/803	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF METERING CUBICLES	0.84	1,68,000/-	31.07.2019 1500 HRS	31.07.2019 1530 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document : ₹ 1180/-
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website **www.bsesdelhi.com** Head (Contracts & Materials)

Regd. Off. : BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111827
Telephone No. : +91 11 3999 9444 | E-mail : bpl.eaucton@reliancecda.com | Website : www.bsesdelhi.com

Millennium City Expressways Pvt Ltd (MCEPL)
(Concessionaire for the Delhi Gurgaon expressway Project)

TENDER NOTICE

Operation Maintenance Tolling (OMT) services for the Delhi Gurgaon Expressway of NH 8 being operated by MCEPL under a Concession by NHAI on BOT (Toll) basis.

MCEPL invites Proposals from reputed and experienced OMT contractors (in NHAI road projects) for providing Operation, Maintenance and Tolling services to the Delhi Gurgaon Expressway of NH-8 (New NH No. 48). Request for Proposal (RFP) document detailing the scope of work and manner in which proposals are to be submitted can be obtained from the following persons by sending a requisition electronic mail :

saravanan.jay@mcepl.org / s.baskaran@mcepl.org

For any queries please contact on +919599821230 / +919818733233

Last date obtaining proposals: 19.07.2019 till 5.00 PM

Trend Slazer

Journalists boycott Kangana

Members of the Entertainment Journalists' Guild of India have collectively decided to boycott actress KANGANA RANAUT and demanded a public apology following an ugly spat between the national award-winning actress and a journalist.

The angry exchange took place recently during the song launch of the actress' forthcoming film *Judgementall Hai Kya*, in the presence of producer Ekta Kapoor and actor Rajkumar Rao.

The members have now sent a letter to Ekta, where Kangana's behaviour has been termed as "un-called for." The film is set to release on July 26.



'I'm truly humbled with the response that Article 15 has been getting. It's a brave, bold film intended at starting a social conversation and I'm glad that it is doing so well. I thank my director Anubhav (Sinha) for making me a part of his vision.'

Filmmaker RIMA DAS has proven her mettle as an Indian director travelling with her cinema globally, earning several honours and accolades.



Her Assamese language film *Village Rockstars* won the National Award for Best Feature Film in 2018 and was even India's official entry to the Oscars.

Das has since then been a leading name globally taking Indian cinema to new heights and accomplishing new feats.

Now her new feature, *Bulbul Can Sing* is all set to be the opening night film of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

Beyoncé drops her new song

Singer BEYONCÉ has dropped a new original song from Disney's live-action *Lion King*.

The song *Spirit* was released on Tuesday and should get an Academy-Award push for Academy Award consideration.

The tune comes at a pivotal moment for Nala, the character voiced by Beyoncé, in the film that comes out July 18.

She also co-wrote the song. It's part of an album called *The Lion King: The Gift* that Beyoncé is executive producing and performing on along with other artists. It will be released digitally July 11, with the physical album coming July 19. The collection is a companion to the main *Lion King* soundtrack, which consists mostly of songs from the animated film.

DRAPE IT TARUN'S WAY

Designer TARUN TAHILIANI calls draping one of the most exquisite ways of fashion as it never looks the same. By TEAM VIVA

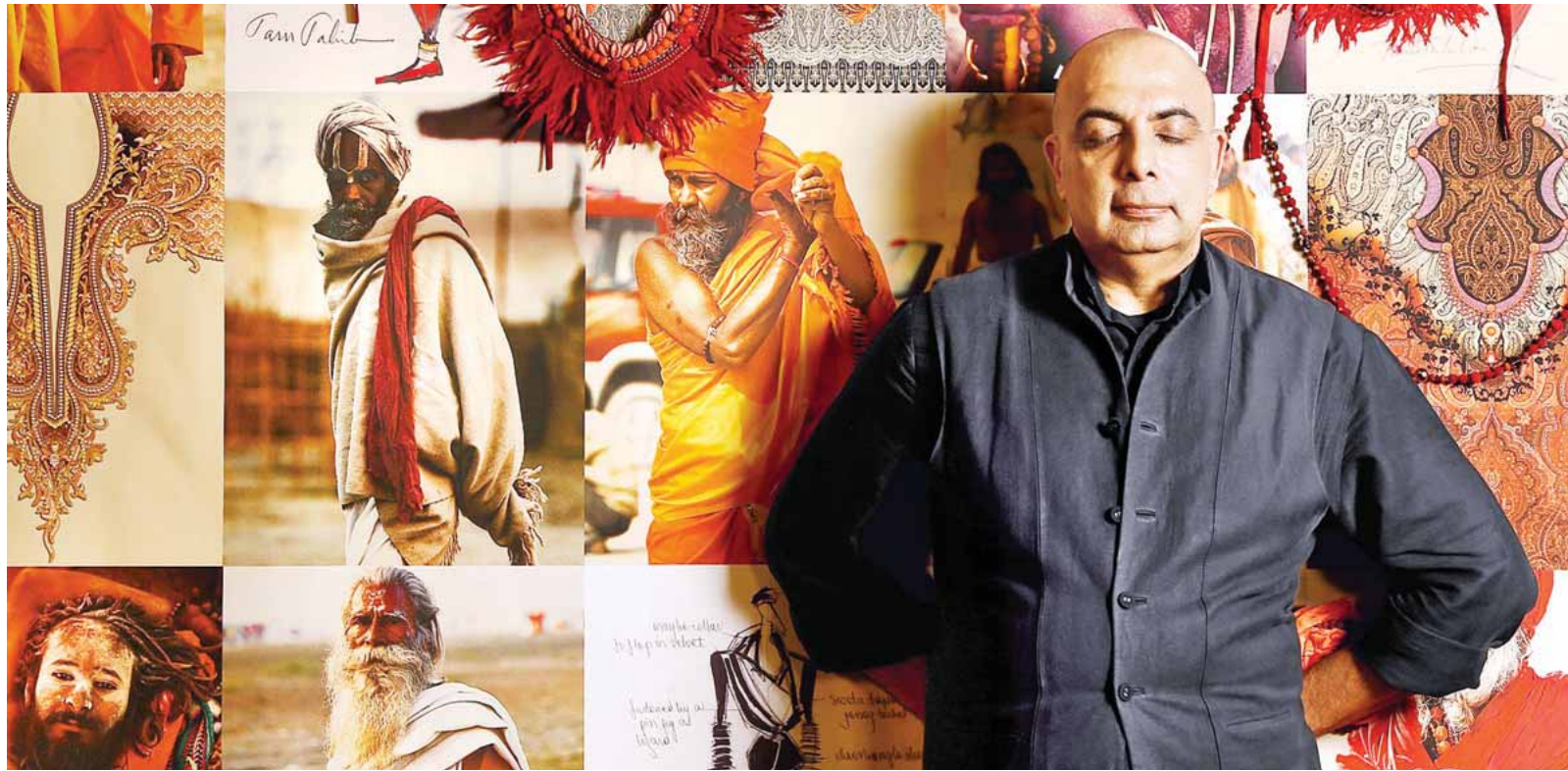
He recounted our history of being invaded and how, as a result, amalgamated cultures came into existence. A certain confidence and pride reflected in his understanding of the diversity of India. He shared that if two hundred years down the line, he was parachuted from an aircraft, he would know which part of the country he had landed in, not just by tasting the food or noting their language, but also through how people draped textiles on themselves. That was Tarun Tahiliani talking of his origins as a designer. Addressing an audience at the India International Centre (IIC), he said, "Because we have a draped tradition, we have sarees and the *dhotis*. There were also turbans and *pagadis*. Each region slowly developed its own style." The beauty of the drapes, according to him, is that unlike Western fashion, which can be moulded as per any and every body shape. They have their own signature. "The same saree worn by three women would look totally different, whereas three women walking in the same Prada dress would create a crisis in the party."

He also listed some of the greatest movements and events which led to a transformation and evolution in the Indian textile industry over the years.

MADE IN INDIA

The designer feels that even though his roots were not planted in fashion, he found himself incapable of committing to either engineering or the Navy. Defining his growing up years in terms of the fashion trends of the time, he said, "When I was growing up, India was still a textile industry. Women mostly wore wonderful sarees. There were murmurs of some big textile shows like the Vishwakarma and there were great festivals of India done by Rajiv Sethi." However, something that failed to escape his observation was the absence of textiles in India. "When I travelled abroad I would see the most beautiful things which had the label 'Made in India.' There were scarves and textiles but none of them were available in the country. I found it to be really odd that even after 30-40 years of independence, we were saving our best produce for the White Man." And perhaps it was the very moment which highlighted his passion as he told us about how he remembers shopping at fashion streets with export rejects in south Bombay. "Though there were tailors, the idea of the developed retail hadn't really come to fore."

He recalled that the idea to birth the Ensemble, his first official label, in 1987, came to him when he realised the need of bringing those textiles he saw abroad to the country. It can be traced back to a cover of a magazine daily, in which Feroze Gurdial had posed in a hot pink salwar and some silk, with a short jacket and a huge turban — all styled by Rohit Khosla. It was the time he had moved back from New York and thought that maybe it was the time for him to launch a store, through which he could encourage people, who produce things in India, to be present in the retail environment. "We wanted Indian talent who designed and worked for Western labels to think about coming



back and develop their own identity here. And when we started, we did not know what we were doing. But there was this massive crush at that time where people were desperate for this whole richness inspired by costumes of royal India," said he.

KEEP IT NATURAL

And while he also shared about his escalation into the fashion industry, he also lamented the simplicity of the tradition, "We always talk about colour and embroidery in India but actually the way people drape a fabric is the most exquisite thing to me because it never looks the same. It's a kind of a language, an identity that unfortunately is disappearing very fast." He said that he finds only a handful of people in sarees, and only at the airport, while the middle-aged and the youngsters bounce in and out of 'bonkus' fashion. "All the women who are over 60 or 70, look the best because they wear sarees. They look comfortable. Today, most middle-aged women are wearing high-slit *kurtas* with some tights which don't leave much to the imagination." The transition from being an Indian and the attraction towards the West is huge and doesn't seem to settle in the near future.

"When people are naturally Indian, I don't think you can go wrong. If you are comfortable and know what to do, you'll look great. So, we are using that in this massive effort to be Western and to change ourselves. It takes time to set yourself in your own skin," said he.

Talking about how Khadi India tried to acquaint high fashion connoisseurs with itself, he agreed it worked for a while. But Khadi is quite an expensive fabric now as compared to what people can easily

'WHEN PEOPLE ARE NATURALLY INDIAN, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN GO WRONG. IF YOU ARE COMFORTABLE AND KNOW WHAT TO WEAR, YOU'LL LOOK GREAT. SO, WE ARE USING THAT IN THIS MASSIVE EFFORT TO BE WESTERN AND TO CHANGE OURSELVES. IT TAKES TIME TO SET YOURSELF IN YOUR OWN SKIN. WE DON'T NEED A BOLLYWOODISATION'

buy. "I realised that it is not meant for high fashion, which in India is meant for a lot of cutting, seaming and embroidery. Khadi's beauty is in being a textile. The more you cut and shape, which is unfortunately what fitness and Western influences demand, it flares to certain stress points in the outfit." To further prove his point, he talked about the infamous Nilambari sarees. "In Benaras, earlier I'd find only two to three Nilambari sarees and now they have 20-30 saree stores, which are about 60,000 in number. They are exquisite and women are buying them. But if you cut them up, it would not work. A lot of such fabric is meant to be loose and layered, which is why I keep going back to draping. It's effortless, sensuous and beautiful. Everyone's trying to be something they are not, if we leave things the way they are, they work."

MILAN TO KUTCH: NO LIMITS

Being the first Indian designer to feature his work on the ramps of the Milan Fashion Week, he may as well have put Indian high fashion on the map. "Though the clothes might look like cliché, we wanted to bring these in a modern way. And because printing had happened and we had begun the draping, we started by digitally printing miniatures and necklaces." The collection boasted of an impeccable representation of the modern India, which included a Golconda necklace, printed on a little tee and could be worn with a saree, a *dhoti*, or a pair of jeans.

But how does he grapple with what works commercially and what is agreeable to his artistic instincts? Tahiliani said he is unsure of how he does it. "Sometimes I look at things and I can't believe we did this." As the label grows in magnitude, decisions reside not only on the design-

er's shoulders but also on the company. "This time I've decided, if I don't like something for the couture week, it's not going." The constant tug war to appease the market and also stay true to oneself is never ending. "At the end of the day, you've got bills to pay, there are about thousand people who have to be paid," he said.

His immense knowledge of fashion is inherent in his experiences. "Fashion took me to places, I was uncomfortable with or just curious about and taught me how to love what really mattered in India and not some supremist imposed identity." His visit to Kutch in 2011 collided him with some exquisite looks that the locals adorned. "There women wear 20 metres of fabric tucked into a *nadha*. It's not even stitched. Another thing I found, which I particularly loved, was a man wearing a *lungi* held by a little fanny pack and a shirt and a tank top underneath!" The Kumbh Mela was mind-boggling, eye-opener for him. People were in one colour, usually in shades of red or saffron. "If I were to put them on the Paris ramp of John Galiano, even the wildest, the most fantastical imagination and the ability to make those things come to life."

He continued with the message to stay true to oneself, "We just have to be who we are. We have to be comfortable as there is no 'one' answer for India. The diversity is not limited to what region we belong to, but also what our exposure of the world has been."

He added that we need to fight this "bollywoodisation" and do what feels good and right. "This is how I did it. And I hope we can do that more and more and touch people, help them or push them to engage with what our great heritage really is and not the Bandra-based Bollywood version of it," said he.



Ram's great transformation

Actor Ram Kapoor, who is known for his roles in television shows *Kasam Se* and *Bade Achhe Lagte Hain*, has recently shared photographs of his major weight loss transformation, leaving netizens stunned. The 45-year-old took to Instagram and uploaded a string of images of his lean physique by juxtaposing them with the old photographs.

"What's up people! Long time no see," he captioned the photographs in which he can be seen sporting a salt and pepper look. Social media users including his friends from the film and television industry were amazed to see the actor's extreme transformation.

Actor Ronit Bose Roy commented: "Amazing dude. Finally my brother. So happy." While actress Kishwer Merchant wrote: "You're back to how you looked in *Dhaddan*," actress Tannaz Irani complimented Ram saying it is an "amazing achievement." Ram's wife and his co-star from *Ghar Ek Mandir* Gautami Kapoor seems to be in awe of his new look. She wrote: "Hottie."

However, some of his fans are missing his old heavy look. One netizen wrote: "Amazing change sir. It's an inspirational change. Hats off to you! But then *purane* Ram Kapoor *hi ache lagte the* (the old Ram Kapoor was only good)." Another social media user tweeted, "Will miss your old look." —IANS

'Laziness is a vice, not virtue'

Director RASHMI AGARWAL tells TEAM VIVA how a play with kids is changing perspectives

In a conservative society, women are the ones doing all the chores, be it household or in agricultural fields. Director Rashmi Agarwal, through her debut play *Aalas Buri Bala*, tries to change this traditional mindset. She says, "It's always better if the responsibilities are shared equally."

The play is about a lazy man, who is fully dependent on his wife to carry out all household tasks, not due to any physical infirmity but merely out of his indolence.

The director believes that laziness is not a virtue, it's a vice. "One needs to work hard throughout their lives if one wants to achieve some peace of mind. This is the only mantra. As they say there is no short cut to success."

Since the actors in the play are children of community workers such as drivers and maids, the play is an interesting way of making them aware of gender biases and overcoming them.

She says, "The play is trying to encourage them to explore their own skills as it will help in their overall development. The idea is to



spread a message across the society that people must uplift these kids. If they get a chance they might prove their worth. They just need the right platform. There should be more such initiatives."

Mistakes and setbacks are simply a form of practice, Rashmi says, "If the road is free of bumps, you might be going the wrong way. The bumps teach you what you need to know to cross down a path. To never struggle is to never grow. Hard work is to come out of your comfort zone." She describes it as when a person is not postponing things, s/he is giving their 100 per cent to it.

So what does it take to transform a written play into a stage performance? (The play is at 5 pm on July 21 at Akshara Theatre.)

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
 Invitation of tender through E-tendering (E-Procurement Systems)
 NIT No. 221-S/4/2/BP/DLI/2017/ML-IV (2019)
 Name of work and its location: Round the clock Transportation of Drivers & Guards Line Boxes of Diesel & Electric from Engine/Train/Brake Van to running room/Lobby/Station and vice versa at Delhi main Station under Sr. Crew Controller, Delhi Main for the period of two years from the date of execution of work
 Approx Cost of work: Rs. 1,02,70,323.84 (One Crore Two lakh Seventy thousand Three hundred Twenty three and eighty four paise only) plus GST as applicable
 Earnest Money: Rs. 206800/-
 Completion period of work: Two years i.e. 24 months from the date of execution of work
 Cost of tender document on cash/by post: Rs. 5900/-
 Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15:00 hrs on 13.06.2019 Opening of Tender at 15:00 hrs
 Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen: Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
 Dated: 09.07.2019 2219/2019
 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

UJVN Limited
 H.O.: "UJJWAL", MAHARANI BAGH, G.M.S. ROAD, DEHRADUN-248006 (PHONE NO: 0135-2763508, 2763508) CIN NO. 40101UR2001SGC025866
TENDER NOTICE
 The Office of The Executive Engineer (Gen.), Ramganga Power Station, Kalagarh (Pauri-Garhwal) invites sealed tenders from interested & experienced firms/contractors/authorized dealers. Brief summary of work/supply and details of tender is given below.
 T.No.02/EE(Gen)/2019-20 : Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Dry type Neutral Grounding Transformers at Ramganga Power House.
 Approx. Value of Tenders : Rs. 19,80,540/-
 Earnest money : Rs. 59,416/-
 Tender cost : Rs. 1180/-
 Last date of downloading tender documents : 01/08/2019 up to 11.00 Hrs.
 Last date for receipt of Tenders : 02/08/2019 up to 16.00 Hrs.
 Date of opening : 05/08/2019 at 11.00 Hrs.
 For eligibility criteria and fuller and further details kindly visit our website "www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com" (Bidders are advised to regularly visit our web site for tender notice) Tenders can only be downloaded from our website & their cost has been to be paid at the time of submission.
 पत्रांक: 353 दिनांक: 09.07.2019 Executive Engineer (Generation.)
 "Avoid wasteful use of electricity"



THE SUMMER KING

Delhi's 31st Mango Festival unravelled over 500 varieties of mangoes, which included *Langra, Chausa, Amrapali, Rataul, Hussainara, Ramkela, Kesar, Fazri* and other assorted ones

Ramkela, Kesar, Fazri and other assorted ones. A new variety grown by farmers from Muzafarnagar, was named after the Indian Cricket Team Captain, Virat Kohli. It became the main attraction of the exhibition. Day one witnessed mango enthusiasts relishing the 'Sau hai daam jitne khao aam' along with performances by bands like Urooj and Indo Fuzon. Magic show and folk-dance performances maintained the enthusiasm of the visitors. Abhishek Girdhar, a young photography enthusiast, said the event is a must visit. "Having made countless summers worth cherishing, mango ushers a sense

of nostalgia from childhood days spent eating it with family and friends." The following day saw 30 women participating in the mango eating competition, in which the participants were given three kg of mangoes to consume within three minutes. Kavita Chaudhary soared as the winner, eating 1.205 kg mango pulp. The other attractions like magic show and mango quiz kept the audience engrossed. Bands like Sur Theka, Ekagra and Rock n Raaga gathered huge crowds. There was also a sale of fresh mangoes and mango-based products like pickles, chutney, juice, jelly, *aam-papad* and jam.



Daniel Bromly, one of the many foreign visitors, was spellbound by the frenzy. He said, "This festival epitomises the colour, creativity and the craze for mangoes that India possesses. The competition and the mango eating booth have made my trip to Delhi super interesting. I wish this is replicated in other parts of the world as well, especially back home by Delhi Tourism." About 20 mango growers from across the country, including Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh came together to display traditional, hybrid and unique varieties of Mangoes. To further the excitement, awards to the winning participants under various categories were given by Sudhir Sobti, chief manager (PR and Publicity and Events), Delhi Tourism. The three-day festival drew crowd more than 30,000 people from all parts of the city, which was evidence enough that the festival was a fruitful affair. "The festival celebrates our bond with mangoes that has come about because of mango growers," encapsulated Sudhir.

NHPC organises training programme

NHPC Limited, India's hydropower utility and a schedule 'A' Mini Ratna Enterprise of the government has organised a three day training programme on "Role of Engineering Geology in River Valley and Infrastructure Projects" ending on July 12 at its corporate office, Faridabad. The programme was inaugurated by Balraj Joshi, chairman and managing director, NHPC in the presence of Nikhil Kumar Jain, director (Personnel), Janardan Choudhary, director (Technical) and other seniors officers from NHPC. Speaking during the inaugural session, Joshi



stressed upon the paramount importance of geological investigations in hydroelectric and infrastructure projects for stability and sustainability of engineering structures. He also emphasised that time has come to continuously update the existing theories and practises of understanding the behaviour of rockmass

based on progressive knowledge gathered over the years at challenging ground conditions. This training programme has been conceptualised to provide an insight to young professionals about the importance of investigation and construction stage geological studies in River Valley and Infrastructure

Projects and to disseminate the knowledge gained by NHPC while negotiating geological and geotechnical issues during execution of hydropower projects over the years. Twenty-five young geologists and engineers from various organisations as well as from NHPC are participating in the programme.



INDIAN OIL FAMILIES PLEDGE FOR SWACHHTA

Indian Oil's refineries headquarter organised an awareness campaign on *swachhta* for Indian Oil families at IOC's residential township, Noida. More than 35 students of Class I to X gave wings to their thoughts in an elocution competition on 'How do I conserve and protect our water bodies.' The young minds touched upon various critical issues pertaining to prevalent society practises, which is leading to water

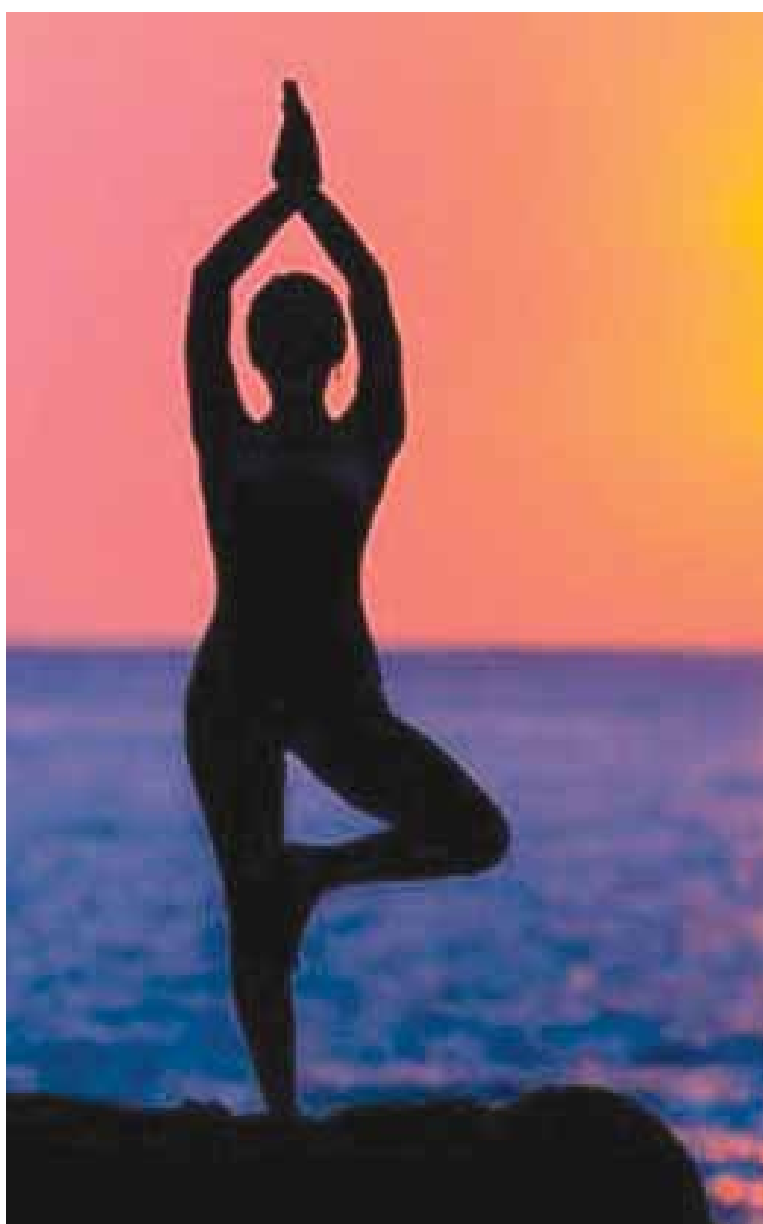
wastage. The participants shared various methods like using bucket instead of shower for bathing, using mug instead of running tap water while brushing teeth and more to be adopted in our daily lives to save water and also reaffirmed their own commitment to be water positive. Caption — VK Shukla, ED (HR), RHQ, Indian Oil along with participants during *swachhta* event.



Anoop Kumar, zonal manager, northern zone, LIC of India inaugurated the semi branding of LIC in Shivaji Stadium Station on Monday. The station will be called as 'LIC Shivaji Stadium Station'. The station is one of the highly prominent and busiest metro stations in which the airport express line operates covering the distance from New Delhi railway station to Dwarka Sector 21. Semi branding of the station will prove to be an effective medium through which LIC will create better public awareness about its various schemes. Anoop said that LIC provides insurance and social security cover thereby touching millions of lives and securing them.

TRUE ETERNAL FORM OF ASHTANG YOG PHILOSOPHY

Yog means *samadhi* which is a realisation of god. Patanjali rishi, who had full command over yog because of his divine knowledge of Vedas and great power of yog, states in his Yog Shastra Sutra 4/30 that the main motto of practising *ashtang yog* is to reach the stage of *samadhi* by attaining perfection, right from *yam, niyam, asan, pranayam, pratyahaar, dharna, dhyam* to *samadhi*. It destroys the sorrows, illusion and effect of previous and present lives' deeds. Patanjali rishi further states in his Yog Shastra Sutra 4/29 that the yogi attains *dharmamegh samadhi* and realises god's existence. Naturally the said vedic preach condemns the present thought of self-proclaimed yog teachers, who mostly preach *asan, pranayam* and meditation to improve health. It is sad that India, the land of *rishi-munis*, has stopped studying Vedas and knowing eternal vedic culture, which includes yog philosophy resulting in decline in peace and brotherhood. In fact, the said culture is universally applicable to all the human beings being the preach of almighty god in Vedas and not by man. For the last 2,000 thousand years, we have created our own paths of worship, which mostly do not tally with Vedas. This has broken the eternal, traditional vedic worship and yog philosophy, which has been fruitful for human beings. In this connection, *samved mantra 744* preaches to follow eternal vedic worship philosophy, which was being followed by our forefathers.



IT IS SAD THAT INDIA, THE LAND OF RISHI-MUNIS, HAS STOPPED STUDYING VEDAS AND YOG PHILOSOPHY, WHICH HAVE LED TO A DECLINE IN PEACE AND BROTHERHOOD. FOR THE LAST 2,000 YEARS, WE HAVE CREATED OUR OWN PATHS OF WORSHIP, WHICH DO NOT TALLY WITH VEDAS

true form of worship and ashtang yog philosophy, which traditionally has been taught in India, will never be gained. If some yog teachers claim to preach complete ashtang yog philosophy, they mostly extract money from people and don't preach daily *agnihotra*. Such practise is unauthentic and not beneficial for people. We will also have to pay our attention towards *atharvaved mantra 11/3(2)/32* and *patanjali yog darshan*, which preach that main motto of four Vedas and human life is to realise god. In the present scenario, mostly yog gurus have diluted the motto of human life and teach to improve health through *asan, pranayam, meditation* only, which is unauthentic. On one hand, it is a matter of pride and joy that recently the world has celebrated June 21 as International Yog day but on the other hand, it is a matter of concern that the true and eternal form of ashtang yog, preached by god in Vedas and adopted by our ancient *rishi-munis*, for which India attained the title of *vishwa guru*, is not being taught or spread. Ashtang yog philosophy emanates directly from Vedas and they emanate directly from God. Therefore, in the absence of vedic knowledge, the real form of it under the eternal process of acharya-disciple tradition is not possible. Yajurved mantra 7/8 inspires — Oh! aspirant, desirous of yog philosophy, you are accepted with eight parts of yog philosophy to practise and become a perfect a yogi. Ved *gurus* and intellectuals must approach government to provide vedic education for a period of at least 20-30 minutes right from the primary schools to university level to educate our children. Only then we can bring back the title of *vishwaguru* and establish *Ram rajya* in our country otherwise a destroyed culture can knock down the country.



IMS inaugurates its 30th PGDM batch

IMS Ghaziabad started its 30th PGDM batch (2019-21). It is inaugurated by chief guest Amitabh Rajan (IAS), chairman, Reserve Bank of India Services board, Government of India, along with Dr Pramod Aggarwal, managing trustee, IMS Ghaziabad, professor Alok Pandey, director, IMS Ghaziabad, Dr Tapan Kumar Nayak, dean Academics, professor Sachin Malhotra, dean MCA and professor Pandey, welcomed the August gathering by sharing the illustrious report about the college and his vision on taking IMS to great heights. The programme was epitomised with the guru mantras delivered by eminent chief guest of the day Amitabh Rajan (IAS), Chairman, Reserve Bank of India Services board, government of India by guiding students to be updated with the global news in terms of trade, finance and economics, which will provide new horizons to their future. The guests of honour — Navjit Gill, director of SoftBank group, Kamalendu Bali, senior director, Concentrix, Gurugram shared their rich experience with the budding managers by cornerstone about the essentials of integrity, leadership, management, teamwork and be visionary in terms of technology. The session was followed by Abhishek Gaur, founder and managing consultant, Time Hack Consultancy with his profuse knowledge left the students with a few thoughts for success — hard work and believing in themselves.

British envoy to US resigns

PTI ■ LONDON

Britain's ambassador to the US, Kim Darroch, resigned Wednesday amidst an escalating diplomatic row between over leaked emails in which he described President Donald Trump's administration as "clumsy" and "inept".

The resignation, announced by the UK Foreign Office, came after US President Donald Trump said Monday that the White House would no longer deal with Darroch.

Trump had branded Darroch a "very stupid guy" after emails emerged where the ambassador had called his administration "clumsy and inept".

Darroch said he wanted to put an end to speculation and step down as the leak had made it "impossible" for him to do his job in Washington.

"Since the leak of official documents from this Embassy there has been a great deal of speculation surrounding my position and the duration of my remaining term as ambassador. I want to put an end to that

EMAIL LEAK ROW WITH TRUMP



speculation," he said in his resignation letter addressed to Simon McDonald, the senior-most official at the UK Foreign Office and head of the diplomatic service.

"The current situation is making it impossible for me to carry out my role as I would like," he said.

Following the leak, Darroch was dis-invited from a dinner with Trump, the Emir of Qatar on Monday.

depends on public servants being able to give full and frank advice", she said.

May, the outgoing prime minister, spoke of the importance of "defending our values and principles particularly when they are under pressure".

The ambassador's resignation comes after a series of diplomatic messages sent by him were leaked at the weekend.

In his reply, McDonald said Darroch had been the target of "a malicious leak" and expressed gratitude for his work. "You are the best of us," he said.

The outgoing diplomat, who was set to retire at the end of the year, also received the backing of foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt, currently in the midst of a leadership contest with Boris Johnson to replace May.

Hunt said he was "deeply saddened" by Darroch's decision to resign after serving the UK with the "utmost dedication and distinction".

"He brought dispassionate insight and directness to his

reporting to ministers in London. Whenever I visited Washington as Foreign Secretary, I was struck by Sir Kim's professionalism and intellect. I am outraged that a selection of his reports should have been leaked," said Hunt, who had earlier taken to Twitter to admonish Trump over his very personal attacks on Theresa May and Darroch in the wake of the email leak row.

"@realDonaldTrump friends speak frankly so I will: these comments are disrespectful and wrong to our Prime Minister and my country," Hunt tweeted on Tuesday, reacting to Trump's attack on May for handling Brexit in a "foolish way".

Darroch received widespread backing across party lines in the UK, with Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn telling the Commons: "The comments made about him are beyond unfair and wrong. I think he has given honourable and good service and he should be thanked for it."

US, China negotiators resume trade war talks

AFP ■ WASHINGTON

Top US and Chinese negotiators held phone talks on Tuesday as the world's top two economies seek to resolve their trade war, more than a week after they declared a truce.

Talks had broken down in May over US accusations that Beijing had reneged on its commitments, and the dispute escalated with the two sides exchanging steep increases in punitive tariffs.

But US President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed to revive negotiations when they met on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Japan on June 29.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer spoke with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and Commerce Minister Zhong Shan on Tuesday.

White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow told reporters the talks "went con-

structively" but it was "too soon for details."

In an interview with the Fox Business Network, Kudlow described the discussions as "preliminary" and said meetings will "probably" be arranged, but did not give more details.

Kudlow noted that Trump has agreed to hold off on imposing new tariffs and will allow certain US products to be sold to Chinese telecom giant Huawei.

"Having said that, we have a very strong — I want to underscore this — a very strong expectation that China will really shortly, maybe immediately, begin to purchase US agricultural products," he told the US broadcaster.

The Chinese commerce ministry said in a brief statement that the two sides exchanged "opinions on implementing the consensus reached between the two countries' heads of state in Osaka."

Washington and Beijing have hit each other with puni-

tive tariffs covering more than \$360 billion in two-way trade and those duties remain in place.

After his meeting with Xi in Osaka, Trump said he would refrain from imposing tariffs on more Chinese products. He had previously threatened to put punitive duties on an additional \$300 billion in Chinese exports.

He also triggered a backlash in the US Congress by agreeing to soften some US export restrictions on components to Huawei, though Trump stipulated that officials would take care to avoid creating new risks to US national security.

The United States had imposed tough sanctions on the company, whose equipment US officials fear could be used as Trojan horses for China's intelligence services.

The ceasefire comes as the US presidential campaign has started ahead of the November 2020 election.

Iran warns Britain of 'repercussions' over ship seizure

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran's president says Britain will face "repercussions" over the seizure of Iranian supertanker.

Hassan Rouhani was quoted by the official IRNA news agency Wednesday as calling the seizure "mean and wrong" during a Cabinet meeting. He warns London: "You are an initiator of insecurity and you will understand its repercussions," without elaborating.

Last week, authorities in Gibraltar intercepted an Iranian supertanker that was believed to be breaching European Union sanctions by carrying a shipment of Tehran's crude oil to war-ravaged Syria.

The tanker's detention comes at a particularly sensitive time as tensions between the U.S. and Iran grow over the unraveling of a 2015 nuclear deal, which President Donald Trump withdrew from last year.

Europe urges Iran to stick to troubled nuclear deal

AFP ■ TEHRAN

European powers urged Iran Tuesday to reverse its move to increase uranium enrichment, as a French envoy arrived in Tehran to boost efforts to save a landmark 2015 nuclear deal.

The accord between Iran and world powers promised sanctions relief, economic benefits and an end to international isolation of the Islamic republic in return for stringent curbs on its nuclear programme.

But Tehran says it has lost patience with perceived inaction by European countries more than a year after President

Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the agreement.

The European parties to the deal along with the EU's diplomatic chief on Tuesday called on Tehran to reverse breaches of the agreement.

"The foreign ministers of France, Germany, and the United Kingdom and the (EU) High Representative express deep concern that Iran is pursuing activities inconsistent with its commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)," they said in a statement, using the deal's official name. "It must act accordingly by reversing these activi-

ties and returning to full JCPOA compliance without delay." According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), tasked with inspections, while Iran consistently lived up to its commitments under the deal until recently, it is now in breach of two of them.

French President Emmanuel Macron sent his top diplomatic advisor to Tehran after Iran announced on Monday it had passed 4.5 per cent uranium enrichment — above the 3.67 per cent limit under the agreement though still far below the 90 per cent necessary for military purposes.

S Korea warns of 'prolonged' export row with Japan

AFP ■ SEOUL

South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Wednesday told top business leaders that Japan's ban on exports of chemicals crucial to the country's tech sector had caused an "unprecedented emergency" and warned of a drawn-out trade dispute.

Tokyo last week said it would stop shipment of compounds used by major firms including Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix in the manufacture of microchips and smartphones, increasing long-simmering tensions over the use of forced labour during World War Two.

With the two firms accounting for almost two-thirds of global chip production, the issue is raising concerns about the impact on the supply chains across the planet.

Moon on Wednesday met executives from Samsung Electronics and SK Group as well as Hyundai Motor Co. And Lotte Group to discuss the crisis, telling them last week's decision by Tokyo was intended to damage South Korea's economy.

Nawaz Sharif's daughter summoned by anti-graft court in fake trust deed case

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Jailed former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif's daughter Maryam Nawaz has been summoned by an anti-corruption court to appear before it on July 19 for alleged submitting a fake trust deed in the high-profile Avenfield Apartments case.

The Avenfield properties case was one of three filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) last year in light of the Supreme Court's verdict against Sharif in the Panama Papers case.

The case pertains to the ownership of the Sharif family's apartments at Avenfield House, London.

Accountability court Judge Muhammad Bashir issued the notice to Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice-President Maryam, asking the 45-year-old political leader to appear in court on July 19.

According to the NAB, Pakistan's anti-corruption watchdog, the trust deed Maryam presented in the Avenfield case was fake and have requested a trial against the PML-N leader for fraud-

ulent documents.

In 2017, a Pakistani team investigating former prime minister Sharif alleged illegal offshore properties — flagged in the Panama Papers.

Last year in September, the Islamabad High Court suspended the sentences for Maryam and her husband Captain (ret'd) M Safdar in the Avenfield corruption case.

On July 6, after four extensions in the original six-month deadline to conclude all three cases, the accountability court announced its verdict in the Avenfield case. Sharif, his daughter Maryam and son-in-law Safdar were sentenced to 11 years, eight years and one year, respectively, in prison.

French envoy in Tehran talks for nuclear deal salvage bid

AFP ■ TEHRAN

French President Emmanuel Macron's top diplomatic advisor on Wednesday held high-level talks in Tehran aimed at saving the 2015 nuclear deal and easing tensions between Iran and the United States.

Emmanuel Bonne met Rear-Admiral Ali Shamkhani, the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, and Foreign Minister Mohammad

Javad Zarif and his deputy Abbas Araghchi.

Bonne's mission is "to try and open the discussion space to avoid an uncontrolled escalation, or even an accident", according to French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian. The 2015 accord between Iran and world powers, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), promised sanctions relief, economic benefits and an end to international isolation in return for strin-

gent curbs on the Islamic Republic's nuclear programme.

But Tehran says it has lost patience with perceived inaction by European countries more than a year after President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled the United States out of the agreement.

"Negotiations are never possible under pressure," Zarif said before the meeting with Bonne, in reference to US sanctions against Iran.

Pointing to the US withdrawal from the JCPOA, he added that the Europeans "must solve that problem." The European parties to the deal along with the EU's diplomatic chief on Tuesday called on Tehran to reverse its breaches of the agreement.

Iran "must act accordingly by... Returning to full JCPOA compliance without delay," said a statement from the European Union and foreign ministers of

France, Germany and Britain.

Bonne arrived in Tehran after Iran announced Monday it had surpassed 4.5 per cent uranium enrichment — above the 3.67 per cent limit under the accord, though still far below the 90 per cent necessary for military purposes.

Earlier this month, it was confirmed that Iran surpassed 300 kilograms of enriched uranium reserves, another limit that was imposed by the deal.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General public is hereby informed that a girl (depicted in the photo), Namely : Vibha D/o : Bhoginder R/o : H. No. 154/791, Sadh Vali Gali, Pooth Khurd, Bawana, Delhi has been missing since 21.06.2019 from the area of P.S. Bawana, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 281/19 u/s 363 IPC dated 22.06.2019 has been registered at Police Station Bawana, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Age : 17 Years 3 months, Height: 5'3", Complexion : Wheatish, Face: Round, Wearing : Blue colour T-Shirt & Black colour lower and Black colour clothes shoes in feet..

Any person is having any information/Clue about this Missing girl, may inform SHO, Bawana, Delhi at E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

SHO P.S. Bawana, Delhi Outer North Distt., Delhi Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. No. 011-27751949, 27756090

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one lady namely Sarita w/o Vedpal R/o H.N A-88, Sainik Enclave ph-III Mohan garden Delhi has been missing/kidnaped from the area of P.S Ranhola, Delhi since 13.05.2019. In this regard, a case DD No. 98-A Dated 13.05.2019 has been registered at P.S. Ranhola, Delhi. The description of the missing lady is as under.



Age: 33 Years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Round, Wearing: black colour suit- salwar and chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing lady then please inform P.S. Ranhola, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- S.H.O. P.S. Ranhola, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. 011-28363001

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl namely Nandani D/o Jagarnath R/o H.N G-35, Rao Vihar, Nangloi Delhi has been missing/kidnaped from the area of P.S Nangloi, Delhi since 17.12.2017. In this regard, a case FIR No. 521/17 u/s 363 IPC Dated 18.12.2017 has been registered at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi. The description of the missing girl is as under.



Age: 17 Years, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 46", Face: Round, Wearing: Red colour frock black jeans paint and Panjabi jutti in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing girl then please inform P.S. Nangloi, Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Sd/- S.H.O. P.S. Nangloi, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 Ph. 011-25947225

China activist arrested for 'promoting terrorism'

AFP ■ BEIJING

A Chinese anti-corruption activist who had urged officials to disclose their wealth was arrested for allegedly "promoting terrorism", as Beijing clamps down on Communist Party critics.

Zhang Baocheng, 60, was a member of the now-defunct New Citizens Movement, which campaigned for democracy and government transparency.

It is unusual in China for members of civil society or human rights activists to be accused of terrorism, and his wife told AFP that she fears it suggests Zhang might receive a heavy prison sentence.

Zhang was given a two-year prison term in 2014 for "disrupting public order" after holding a banner in a crowded shopping area in Beijing urging officials to disclose their assets as a check against corruption.

He has continued to be a vocal critic of the Communist Party even after the movement was suppressed and at least 20 of its members were detained in a year-long crackdown starting in 2013.

But what led to his latest arrest is unclear. Zhang was arrested by Beijing police on July 4, suspected of "picking quarrels, promoting terrorism, extremism, and inciting terrorism," according to an arrest warrant shared by his wife, Liu Juefan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that 6260 no of Equity shares certificates of Titan Company Limited, Folio Number TWPO006767, in the name of PRABHU SINGH has been lost. Anyone in possession may please kindly contact Paramjeet Singh at 9811133761

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that one M/s Mohar Designs "Mortgagor" is in the process to avail the credit facility against Industrial Plot No 48 in Blk-C Sec-8 measuring 208 sqm. at Noida, UP has agreed to create mortgage of the said Property in favour of Axis Bank Ltd., Noida having acquired the same vide Transfer Deed dated 22/12/2009 (Document No. 8176) According to M/s Mohar Designs they have lost some previous chain of docs in respect of the aforesaid property for that he also lodged an online FIR on dated 8/7/2019. All person's having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise however, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 10 days from the date hereof, failing which the claim or claims, if any, of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and our client shall proceed with the disbursement of loan for purchase of the said Property and subsequent creation of mortgage in respect thereof.

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) Shop No. 5 & 6, CSC, Pkt-E, Mayur Vihar-II, Delhi-110091 Office: 011-43052822 Mobile: 9810063351 E: kamalkantgupta74@gmail.com

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

No. 802-M/6/Project Utkrish/MC-I/2019-20 Date: 09.07.19	
The Chief Rolling Stock Engineer/Coaching, Northern Railway, Baroda House for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on "TWO PACKET SYSTEM" for following work from experienced and capable tenders.	
1 Name of work	Upgradation of trains under Project Utkrish
2 Work Place	Over N.Rly and N. E. Rly
3 Period of work	9 months
4 Approximate cost of work	Rs. 50,81,31,555/- (Including the provision of GST)
5 Earnest money (to be deposited online)	Rs. 26,90,700/- (Earnest money shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only available at IREPS portal. Earnest money in the form of Bank Guarantee or bond is not acceptable.)
6 Cost of the e-tender form (non-refundable)	Rs. 29,500/- (Including GST @ 18%) (e-tender form cost of shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only available at IREPS portal. This cost in the form of Bank Guarantee or bond is not acceptable.)
7 Availability of tender documents	On website www.ireps.gov.in
8 Date and time of availability of tender documents	From 08.07.19 to 31.07.19, upto 14.30 Hrs.
9 Date and time of tender closing	31.07.19 at 14.30 Hrs.
10 Date and time of tender opening (Technical Bid)	31.07.19 at 15.00 Hrs.
11 Date and time of tender opening (Financial Bid)	After technical evaluation.
12 Place for opening of tender	N.Rly. HQs Office, Baroda House, New Delhi.

Note: Cost of e-tender documents and EMD shall have to be deposited separately through net banking, failing which the offer shall be liable to summarily rejected. 2221/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Office of Inspector General, NW (Frontier) Indo-Tibetan Border Police Ministry of Home Affairs/Govt, of India Behlana, P.O.- Airport, Chandigarh (U.T.) Tel/Fax No. 0172-2637524, 2641737

No. IV-17020/01/e-proc/Tender(B,P Glass)/2019- On Behalf of the President of India, IG, NW FTR, ITBP, invites e-procurement tender under Two Bid Systems (Technical Bid & Commercial Bid) for the supply of "B.P. Glass "

Tender Publishing Date/Time : 24.06.2019 at 1700 Hrs
Tender Opening Date/Time : 16.07.2019 at 1230 Hrs

Notes:-

i) All details, regarding the subject tender are available on our website www.itbp.gov.in & www.eprocure.gov.in/cppp/. Any change/modification in the tender Enquiry will be intimated through our websites only. Bidders are therefore requested to visit our website regularly to keep themselves updated.

Sd/- DIG (PROV.) NW Frontier, ITBP For and on behalf of the President of India

davp/19112/1/0219/1920

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Manager (Ptg & Sty) Northern Railway Punjab Printing Press, Bagh, Delhi-110035 for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender for the under noted work-	
1. Description of work	House keeping, cleaning & waste management at Northern Railway Printing Press Punjab Bagh Delhi-110035
2. Work to be done	As per Section-II "Schedule of work"
3. Approx. Cost of work	Rs. 14,74,000/- Fourteen lakhs seventy four thousand (inclusive of GST)
4. Place of work	Northern Railway Printing Press, Punjabi Bagh, Delhi-110035
5. Cost of Tender Document	Rs. 2,360/- inclusive of GST @ 18% (Note- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only FDR, TDR or money receipt etc not be accepted for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board Letter No-2015/CE-I/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016
6. Earnest Money*	Rs 29,500/- In favour of FA&CAO/Exp/ NR/Baroda House, New Delhi (Note- It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only FDR, TDR or money receipt etc not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Board Letter No-2015/CE-I/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016
7. Mode of tender	Open Tender
8. Tender Number	176S/Press/Cleaning/2019
9. Last date & Time for submission (upload) of Tender	02.08.2019 15:30 Hrs.
10. Tender Opening Date and time	02.08.2019 15:45 hrs.
11. Contract Period	One year from the date of commencement of work.
12. Website	www.ireps.gov.in

Note: * Any firm recognized by department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) as "Startups" shall be exempted from payment of "Earnest money" 2225/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



naachaste ENGLAND



ALWAYS FEELS DISAPPOINTED WHEN YOU PLAY SUCH GOOD CRICKET AND THEN 45 MINUTES OF BAD CRICKET PUTS YOU OUT OF TOURNAMENT. IT IS DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT AND DIFFICULT TO COME TO TERMS WITH
— VIRAT KOHLI

CricketCradle



Indian superfan Sudhir Gautam reacts after India's 18-run semifinal defeat against New Zealand at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday

Narendra Modi @narendramodi

A disappointing result, but good to see #TeamIndia's fighting spirit till the very end.

India batted, bowled, fielded well throughout the tournament, of which we are very proud.

Wins and losses are a part of life. Best wishes to the team for their future endeavours. #INDvsNZ

7:46 PM · 10 Jul 19 · Twitter for iPhone

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweets after India's loss against New Zealand in the World Cup semifinal

Virender Sehwag @virendersehwag

Will it be advantage employees if Salary is given by Duckworth Lewis in rainy months. If baarish mein bhi employee is coming to office. What do HR log think?

10:28 PM · 09 Jul 19 · Twitter for Android

Virender Sehwag tickled the funny bone of everyone with his cheeky tweet on the Duckworth-Lewis method

Michael Vaughan

Come on Sanjay unblock me on Twitter ... It's only Bantz ... #India

Michael Vaughan takes dig of Sanjay Manjrekar after the former Indian batsman blocks him on Twitter

Harsha Bhogle @bhogleharsha

Once again. 2015. 2017. 2019. Impressive India fall in the pressure game.

7:23 PM · 10 Jul 19 · Twitter for Android

Cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle tweets after India once again fail to lift the ICC trophy despite playing outstandingly well throughout the tournament

Kevin Pietersen @KP24

How many times have we seen @RishabhPant777 do that????????!!!!

The very reason he wasn't picked initially!

Pathetic!

Former England skipper Kevin Pietersen criticises Rishabh Pant shot selection against New Zealand in the semifinal

Nasser Hussain @nasserhussain

These low scoring games are dull eh ???

7:15 PM · 10 Jul 19 · Twitter for iPhone

Former England skipper Nasser Hussain tweets after Kiwis beat India in the low scoring World Cup semifinal



Pakistan fan holds New Zealand flag as he supports Kane Williamson's side against India at Old Trafford

India out!

Kiwis fly to Lord's, Kohli home; Jadeja, Dhoni fight back but India lose semi by 18 runs

PNS ■ OLD TRAFFORD (MANCHESTER)

India go home. New Zealand it is for Lord's! A horrible start, a late flourish by Ravindra Jadeja and MS Dhoni, the lowest ever first powerplay total in any World Cup, the highest ever seventh-wicket partnership in any World Cup — the story was all India's, but the end was all New Zealand's.

Sudden death, death, death. Life, life and then death again, this one was not for the faint hearted. New Zealand won by 18 runs with India packing up for 221. MS Dhoni the finisher, in the last World Cup match of his career, failed to finish though he toiled hard in the middle as Jadeja launched his most audacious knock of the tournament to somehow get to the Lord's dressing room where Kapil Dev had in 1983. After 77 runs, sadly Jadeja was still a broken heart as was Dhoni at 50 being run out when he dashed for victory somehow, anyhow.

But really, the impossibility was imposed, as skipper Virat Kohli admitted, in the first 45 minutes of the game, when the India horror show pushed the 17000-odd spectators at the Old Trafford into shock. The end of a great Indian run in the tournament seemed to have approached virtually before the beginning, putting New Zealand on the road to Lord's and India back home in nothing but abject despair of an unexplained, unfathomable and unexpected plummet.

Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and KL Rahul shared an unenviable commonality of walking back with just one run each. After five centuries, Sharma's stay in the middle was the shortest when he was required to be there for the longest. Kohli, trapped by Boult, could not save himself despite a referral. KL Rahul got caught in a double mind, finally edging it away to the first slip when some lifesaving surgery was needed from his bat.

Staring at the scoreboard showing 5/3, the silence was so intense that one could almost hear Kohli's heart palpitating in panic. After being table toppers, losing just one game out of nine, getting to the top of the runs and bowling tables, India went out like the light does in Delhi's long and intense summer.

People were left asking who or what could have been more fickle than England's weather, the



Mahendra Singh Dhoni is run out via a direct throw from Martin Guptill during the Cricket World Cup first semifinal match between India and New Zealand at Old Trafford in Manchester on Wednesday

answer being made more than obvious by the Men in Blue and their opening show, or should one say the lack of it, in the middle.

From extra-ordinary to ordinary to less than ordinary — it just took three overs, inside an hour and a fall so vertical that the public around the middle started getting vertigo. Dinesh Karthik, meanwhile, got snapped by a flashy splashy catch at backward point to put the life support monitors on. It didn't matter that the ball would have otherwise raced to the boundary.

What mattered was India's dream of a Lord's dressing room presence on July 14 lay ripped — till of course Ravindra Jadeja came along to insert life in the coffin. India recorded the worst first powerplay figures of the World Cup — four wickets, 49 dot balls, 24 runs and a job totally undone after 35 days of ticking all the boxes, self-belief, fitness,

performance and professionalism that Kohli talked about.

New Zealand's 27/3 earlier in the innings paled into insignificance as the clouds started gathering over the stadium with prayers of a washout gaining chant, much like they did in the Joburg Final of 2003 and the Sydney semi-final in 2015.

Yes, cricket comes with glorious uncertainties but this one stretched the game's imagination a wee bit more than the faintest one could have. The 50-4 on board showed up the 17th over and run rate that could not have surpassed the exit rate of the Big Three of Indian cricket on a grey Manchester morning living on the singular brightness of the floodlights at noon.

From 5/3 to 221/10, the fightback was on an individual blade which kept flirting with hope for a long time before getting extinguished. A 116-run partnership at No 7 was the shin-

ing penny in the thoughts but once Jadeja walked at 77, it was all towards home for India.

Jadeja who was playing only his third game in this tournament, was the fable of the day. He showed his class as much as he did his reserve in the high-pressure situation soaking in the difficult moments with elan and balance all at the same time. Kohli later spoke of Jadeja's extraordinary class in extraordinary circumstances as did Kiwi skipper Kane Williamson who pointed out how big a task Jadeja had undertaken by batting magnificently so late in the innings and under extreme pressure to put on board more runs than anyone in both the teams through this match.

Widely called India's bright future, Rishabh Pant could not muster the required maturity or patience, much like his senior Hardik Pandya who could not light even a glimmer of hope

once the first three went uncharacteristically. When India were 71, the young Pant could no longer wait to play the big shot and fell to William Santner with de Grandhomme grabbing his fall of patience near the boundary when he was 32.

The debris at the stumps, meanwhile, kept mounting steadily with no checks or balances by the Indian batsmen. Pandya did save some minutes on the fall line but he too fell to a high in the air shot off Santner bringing India to an unassailable 92/6 situation with no established batsmen left in the bag and the run rate mounting. Santner's best spell of the World Cup couldn't have come on a better occasion though his colleague Matt Henry bagged the Player of the Match award.

A word here on the beauties that were bowled by the Kiwi bowlers who kept their wits as beautifully as they did their line,

length and precision bowling, not allowing any of the Indian bats to drive even a single ball till well into the late 30 overs. With his brilliant bowling, Smith resembled Woakes, bringing in the swing which Bhuvneshwar could not. Yes, the conditions were overcast but the Indian blade has the navigational capabilities to steer out of the mess and the moisture. Boult stuck to regimen bowling to tap into the Indian panic room and Santner did the rest in a match that turned out to be the last one for the legend of the game MS Dhoni.

May be Sanjay Manjrekar will have something to fill up the stunned silence that India have left the nation in. Something about New Zealand, may be? If not, this silence will at least give the right atmosphere for Team India to reflect on what went wrong, why and how it should not have, at least not the way it did. Yes, shit happens, and how!

Kohli goes out with pride & poise

'That you go out with just 45 minutes of bad cricket is saddening & it breaks your heart'

PNS ■ MANCHESTER

India captain Virat Kohli was poised in defeat on Wednesday when he and his team lost the biggest moment of the World Cup in a matter of just 45 minutes. That this quick ouster came after a grand run of good cricket spreading over nine matches, record breaking performances and top-ranking outings with both the bat and the ball, made the heartbreak even more unbearable, not just for the players in the dressing room but also the fans and the Indian media.

It must have been a difficult job to address the media after such a convulsive day but Kohli showed acquired maturity and balance to deal with the situation, urging the fans to strike the same balance in reacting to victory and defeat. "We lost the match due to the first 40 minutes of bad cricket," the skipper said candidly.

"I don't think that I would like to break things down immediately but in time would like to sit down and analyse what went wrong and what things we could have done right, in this game particularly," Kohli said, talking about the heartbreak in the team which played good cricket throughout the tournament only to go out of the game because of just 45 minutes of bad cricket.



Virat Kohli throws his bat in air after getting out

"You feel bad for the result. Everyone goes out there to win the game. We are sad but not devastated because we know where we stand as a team," Kohli added.

He lauded the efforts of the New Zealand bowlers who put up a great show bowling with the new ball. "We lost three wickets for five runs and it is very difficult to come back from there," he said.

"Rohit got a good ball. My ball was also decent.... Start is always important. The way they bowled did not give us any opportunity. The first seven or eight overs we did not get a ball to drive even one," he said. "The perfect spell of fast bowling put us under a lot of pressure."

He candidly admitted that "we are not good enough under pressure and we have to accept that," Kohli said.

Talking about the shot that took away Rishabh Pant from the middle when he had a big task at hand, Kohli said mistakes happen. "He is an instinctive bowler. Still young, I made many errors when I was young in my career. He will learn. He will look back and think he could have taken a different option in that situation. He realises that already. All these guys have a lot of pride and passion to play. They are the ones who feel most disappointed when mistakes happen.... The tal-

ent is there, the character is there. It happens in sport, you make decisions you make errors and you have to accept it," the skipper said. "The ones who make the error, trust me, are the ones who suffer the most," he added.

He called Jadeja's knock and Dhoni's partnership outstanding. Flicking away questions around the pace of Dhoni's innings, he said, "the way they batted together, it was the perfect tempo for that situation." Talking about Dhoni's dual role in the team, Kohli said: "He is been given that role of being in a situation where he can control one end like he did today or if there is a scenario that he could go and strike, then do so," he said.

"Failures teach you and you learn from them," he said philosophically.

Talking about his own personal heartbreak as a skipper and a player who could not bring in the victory in the knockout match, Kohli said: "You just go out with just 45 minutes of bad cricket is saddening and it break your heart also. We worked so hard throughout the tournament that we finish No 1 in the table and then a brief spell of bad cricket and you are out of the tournament completely. But we have to accept it. We have all come out better cricketers because of these setbacks. We have played some outstanding cricket and qualified for the

semis. We should also take some positives from here because there were a lot," he said.

Referring to Jadeja's celebration after he got to his 50, taunting commentator Sanjay Manjrekar with a wave of his hands, Kohli said: "I don't think we had anything to stop Jadeja after what had been going on for the past week. You saw the passion which he played. He has played like this in Test cricket also a couple of times. He played under tremendous pressure. He has got three triple hundreds in first class cricket. The talent has always been there. Watching Jadeja for 10 years and playing with him this is his best knock according to me."

Kohli felt that Jadeja was very motivated. "We all felt that the game can be closed down he played so well but a mistake can happen at any stage. I don't think that was a mistake. It was just lack of execution which in cricket happens. You have to take risks here and there so... He has been a very understated cricketer but..." he added.

He agreed to the question about the knockouts changing format and turning into playoffs, giving more chances to good teams. "If topping the table means anything than I think these things can come into consideration looking at the magnitude... it is a really valid point," he added.

Win against India up there with the best

To bowl as outstandingly as they did in such a high-pressure game makes victory over India one of New Zealand's best ever one-day performances.

Silver Fern



By DANIEL VETTORI
Former New Zealand captain

Trent Boult and Matt Henry's opening spell was one of the best you'll see, and to dismiss three incredibly-talented India batsmen to have them five for three takes something special. They bowled impeccably, putting the ball in the right areas for such a long period of time and that pressure tells on the batsmen, so they really earned the wickets. A semi-final adds so much pressure — so when you're able to deliver, under that type of strain, it really is something else. You're feeling a lot of things and at times you're almost desperate to get a wicket. So to put all the emotions on one side and go in there, bowl and do well, is even more impressive, and those guys should be very proud. But you have to give a lot of credit to Ravindra Jadeja and the way he batted. To have the confidence and courage to come out and play like that, with everything on the line, takes guts.

He was exceptional. India were under heaps of pressure and he was there building partnerships with people, those above him did it too



India's captain Virat Kohli, second left, congratulate New Zealand players on their win in the semi-final match at Old Trafford on Wednesday AP

and that was the key to getting them back into it. Almost straight away he put the pressure back on the bowling attack

and suddenly, with just a couple of sixes, a low-scoring match can really change. In the back of their minds, New

Zealand would have always known that a couple of wickets would make things safe — there were a couple of near misses along the way so it was

just about executing the skills, believing in what they were doing and keeping calm. That never changes in a Kane Williamson team.

They've beaten an exceptionally good Indian team, we can't forget that, and they'll leave Manchester feeling incredibly proud of what they've achieved.

The quicks will deservedly take the plaudits but Mitch Santner deserves plenty too. He bowled six overs for seven runs at one point, he would have seen the way Jadeja bowled and would have learnt a lot from the way he bowled, the pace he used and what was going to work on this wicket.

He didn't bowl a bad ball in the whole spell and against an Indian team that love playing against spin, that's very hard to do.

He reaped the rewards of bowling to the middle order as opposed to Rohit Sharma going at it from ball one. He was nigh-on perfect with his execution.

The fielding was equally as good. Jimmy Neesham's catch was brilliant, and the icing on the cake with the way the guys were bowling. Jimmy's an important part to why New Zealand are in the final, his impact with the ball, bat and in the field is so pleasing and he's contributed in all areas of the game.

Similarly, Martin Guptill's run-out of MS Dhoni was really quite something as well. You can't negate how important that is — Marty is such an exceptional talent in the field.

He hasn't scored as he'd have liked in this tournament but he's still fielded exceptionally, and to run Dhoni out like that is really brilliant.

There were so many match-winners in this game, and it's only now that you can appreciate how good Ross Taylor and Williamson's innings were.

They would have wanted 250 or 260 but with the way the pitch was, 240 proved to be a great score and a match-winning one, and it shows just how big a role these two play.

It was a perfect innings for the conditions and it's always those two that have performed well for so long, so it was nice to see them do it in a pressure situation. They had three losses in a row but you could tell that didn't affect them out there.

As a New Zealand fan you'd be hopeful of them doing it again in the final, but whatever happens it's going to be a great occasion, and the Black Caps can go into that game with a lot of confidence behind them.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

Henry buries Old Trafford demons

OLD TRAFFORD (MANCHESTER)

Sometimes the scene of your biggest disappointment really is the setting for your greatest triumph. It is 18 days since Matt Henry was carted to all corners of Old Trafford by a combination of Chris Gayle and Carlos Brathwaite, as the West Indies came within inches of an improbable win.

As his team-mates celebrated their ultimately dramatic victory, he looked as though he wanted to be half a world away, back home in Christchurch and a million miles from a cricket field.

There were immediate calls for a new approach, with Henry's figures to forget, 1/76 off nine, including a horror 25 off his last over. It prompted a chorus of critics to sing for change, citing his lack of penetration, variation and accuracy.

But how he answered them in scenes of undiluted drama in Manchester, with a brilliant combination of all the above inspiring New

Zealand to beat India and secure their place in a second consecutive ICC Men's Cricket World Cup final.

Henry secured the scalps of Rohit Sharma, KL Rahul and Dinesh Karthik, the latter thanks to a catch beyond superlatives by Jimmy Neesham, as India were stunned and the Bharat Army silenced.

In this semi-final, played over two days after Tuesday's rain delays, Henry proved whatever setbacks you face, whatever adversity you endure, that joy really does come in the morning.

With Virat Kohli's team chasing 240, Black Caps captain Kane Williamson kept the faith and threw the ball to his opening bowlers, perhaps more in hope than expectation.

They'd not arrived in Manchester with confidence high, following three consecutive defeats to Pakistan, Australia and England, not ideal preparation for a last four date with a team who'd swaggered through the group stages with just one defeat.

But how they responded, Henry



Henry in action during semi-final clash AP

and Trent Boult combining to produce the most devastating spell of swing and seam bowling we've seen at this tournament.

By the end of the first ten overs, the game had decisively turned, all conventional wisdom about how this World Cup would play out needing an extensive rewrite.

A staggering 82 per cent of their deliveries — 49 of 60 balls — were dots, India mustered just three boundaries and lost four wickets, their top order skittled.

India's trademark tactic of cautious starts, followed by rapid acceleration, was ruthlessly exposed and it was the first time four wickets had fallen in the opening powerplay in the entire tournament.

After Henry had cleverly tempted the in-form Sharma, averaging 92.42 at this World Cup, into a drive he edged behind, India's fans sat quietly, only to come alive when talisman Kohli came to the crease.

But his disappointing run in World Cup semi-finals continued,

Boult trapping him lbw, his average in three innings of this match just 3.6, compared to a career 59.70.

Henry, who bowled seven straight overs for just 23 runs, was bowling on a unerring length, his angling delivery catching Rahul between playing and leaving, an indecision that was to prove fatal.

Together with Boult, Henry peppered India's shell-shocked top order with the full English, getting them hopping with a succession of pinpoint swinging yorkers.

And when Neesham threw himself at Karthik's drive, producing a stunning one-handed catch at backward point, Henry reeled away in wide-eyed wonder. He finished with figures with 37/3, not a career best but certainly career defining.

Everything that could go wrong had gone wrong against the West Indies, but on the biggest stage it all went right and this road to redemption now leads straight to Lord's.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



Williamson celebrates with New Zealand teammates after Dhoni's dismissal AP

Better equipped for this final Taylor

OLD TRAFFORD (MANCHESTER)

Four years ago, in the World Cup final, New Zealand were a little overawed by the occasion and struggled to produce their best cricket against Australia.

At Lord's on Sunday, Ross Taylor believes the Black Caps will know what to expect and be better prepared to cope with the challenges of an ICC Men's Cricket World Cup final.

Taylor is one of six members of the current squad who played in the 2015 final, with New Zealand losing by seven wickets to Australia in Melbourne, having played the rest of the tournament on home soil to that point.

But ahead of either a rematch with their trans-Tasman foes, or a clash with hosts England at Lord's, Taylor insists New Zealand will be ready.

He said: "It was strange last time. We played so well throughout the tournament but then jumped on a plane and played in a country we hadn't played in for the whole tournament.

"I'd be lying if I said we weren't a bit overawed by the change of scenery. I think we know what to expect, the pressures that come with it, we've been there before.

"You just have to enjoy it, it's the Home of Cricket, I can't think of a better place to play a final.

"Whether it's England or Australia, we have to enjoy the moment, put our best foot forward and hope for the best."

Taylor played a crucial role in New Zealand reaching the final, top-scoring for the Black Caps with 74 in an 18-run victory over India at Old Trafford in a semi-final played over two days.

For Taylor, unbeaten on 67 overnight after rain had stopped the New Zealand innings at 46.1 overs, it was a strange feeling having to come back on a second day.

He added: "I woke up at three in the morning so I didn't know how I was going to go out and bat. It was such a strange one, it was a Test match feeling almost, being not out overnight and being a bit restless.

"But we talked about 240 being what Kane (Williamson) and I thought was a very competitive total. I don't think a lot of people believed us. It was a really slow wicket and if anything it got better to bat once it rained.

"The big boys up front were fantastic getting those three wickets and from there it was nice to be ahead of the game. Jadeja and Dhoni nearly took it away from us. There was some brilliance out there, the catch of Neesham, the run-out of Guptill without even the keeper there. Those highlights in a few years' time will be something the team will never forget."

Prior to the tournament, Taylor had spoken of trying to emulate Chris Gayle and appear in a fifth World Cup at the age of 39.

However he admitted after this one that the final at Lord's may well be his final appearance on this stage.

He added: "I've said that Chris Gayle is my inspiration, he's 39 and still playing but it's probably a bit too far-fetched for me to still be playing.

"Never say never but probably more than likely (it will be my last World Cup game).

"Apart from the All Blacks, most New Zealand sides are underdogs, no matter what sport they play. It's something we have embraced. It doesn't sit well when we're the favourites, we try to talk it down as much as possible.

"It's a proud team, hopefully we've done our nation proud. Regardless of who we play, we'll be up against it, but like this game, we'll put our best foot forward and hopefully that's enough."

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019

Tactical blunder to send Dhoni at 7

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

India committed a "tactical blunder" by dropping MS Dhoni to number seven in the batting order, said former stalwarts Sourav Ganguly and VVS Laxman, who were baffled by the move in the World Cup semifinal against New Zealand.

Hardik Pandya and Dinesh Karthik were sent ahead of Dhoni when India were positioned precariously at five for three and later 24 for four.

Eventually, it became a too tough a task to complete as India fell short by 18 runs.

"Dhoni should have come ahead of Pandya. It was a tactical blunder. Dhoni should have walked ahead of Dinesh Karthik. Stage was set for Dhoni. In 2015 final also, he promoted himself up to bat at number four ahead of Yuvraj Singh and won the World Cup," rued Laxman.

Former skipper Ganguly said it's not just about Dhoni's batting but his calming effect on the young batsmen, batting from the other end.

Rishabh Pant was set but threw away his wicket when he attacked spinner Mitchell Santner. Skipper Virat Kohli was seen having an animated chat with coach Ravi Shastri immediately after Pant's dismissal.

"India needed experience at that stage. If Dhoni was there when Pant was batting, he would not have allowed Pant to play that shot against the breeze. In England, it's a big factor. He would have told him to go after pacers, when mid-off and mid-on is up, because he is good at that.

"Dhoni should have batted up. You need that composure and not just his batting. He would not



New Zealand pacer Lockie Ferguson, left, reacts after bowling a delivery to Dhoni AP

have allowed wickets to fall in cluster. Dhoni was there when Jadeja batted. Communication is strength. You can't have Dhoni at number seven," Ganguly told official broadcaster Star Sports.

"As a finisher, he still has tremendous respect. He can still clear the field and that's why he left it for last. It's not that he can't hit sixes but he thinks that's the way to win ODI matches," he added.

Iconic batsmen Sachin Tendulkar too felt skipper Virat Kohli made a mistake by not promoting Dhoni up the order.

"The question here can be, in a crunch moment like this, would you not think of promoting Dhoni with experience on his back? Towards the end he kept talking to (Ravindra) Jadeja and he was controlling things.

"May be instead of Hardik, Dhoni should have come up. Barring Dinesh Karthik at number 5 was slightly out of the box I felt," he said.

Ganguly said the biggest mistake Indian selectors made in the last one and a half years was not finding a solid middle order.

"The one criticism (for selectors) is that they fiddled around the middle order."

"You can't always depend on Rohit and Virat," said Laxman.

Looking forward, Ganguly said, "What India need to do is to push Rishabh Pant to number five. Kohli can bat at number four, if KL Rahul is solution at number three when Shikhar Dhawan comes back. India will have to identify the middle order batsmen and persist with them."

"That's the only mistake selectors made. You can't depend on Jadeja (to win matches by leaving it for lower order).

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



naabaste ENGLAND

PETER WILL DEFINITELY PLAY. 100 PER CENT. HE DESERVES IT. HE WAS UNLUCKY NOT TO BE IN THE INITIAL SQUAD AFTER WHAT HE'D DONE TO HELP US GET TO THAT POINT
— JUSTIN LANGER

Battle of nerves

Australia England clash to seal spot at Lord's



Former Australian skipper Steve Smith, wicket keeper batsman Matthew Wade and Peter Handscomb prepare to bat during Australia team training session

UPNEXT

CRICKET VS

LIVE ON

3:00 pm IST

STAR SPORTS

PTI ■ BIRMINGHAM

England seem primed to win their maiden title but it will take a special effort to upstage arch-rivals and record five-time champions Australia in the second World Cup semifinal here today.

England have turned it around following their first-round exit in the 2015 edition and have become a formidable one-day side.

Considering the firepower the hosts possess, many current and former players have said it is England's World Cup to lose, a trophy they have not been able to lift despite making the final in 1979, 1987 and 1992.

And between them and a fourth shot at the title, stand familiar foes Australia who have been so consistent in the mega event that they are yet to lose a semifinal, having won six and one being a dramatic tie against South Africa in the 1999 edition.

Not many would have put their money on Australia as recent as four months ago but Aaron Finch and his team have made a phenomenal comeback that began with a rare series win in India in March.

Though they still cannot be bracketed among the 'invincible' Australian teams of the past, trust them to rise to the occasion when the stakes are high.

They seem to be peaking at the right time and look a relaxed bunch, something that was very much evident when the entire squad walked barefoot around the outfield at Edgbaston here on Monday.

"If you go back 12 months ago there wasn't too much to be relaxed and chilled about in Australian cricket, was there? And that's the truth," said Australia coach Justin Langer ahead of the game.

"We went through a major crisis in our cricket. It didn't just affect our crick-

AUSTRALIA-ENGLAND IN ODIs

Summary of Results

Venue	P	AUS	ENG	Tied	N/R
Total	148	82	61	2	3
In England	69	31	34	2	2
Day matches	77	38	36	2	1
In World Cup	8	6	2	-	-
Last 5 matches	5	1	4	-	-

HIGHEST TOTALS

AUS	342-9 inn 50 overs at Melbourne	14-02-2015
ENG	481-6 in 50 overs at Nottingham	19-06-2018

WORLD CUP ENCOUNTERS

DATE	VENUE	RESULT
18-06-1975	Leeds	Australia won by 4 wickets
09-06-1979	Lord's	England won by 6 wickets
08-11-1987	Kolkata	Australia won by 7 runs
05-03-1992	Sydney	England won by 8 wickets
02-03-2003	Port Elizabeth	Australia won by 2 wickets
08-04-2007	North Sound	Australia won by 7 wickets
14-02-2015	Melbourne	Australia won by 111 runs
25-07-2019	Lord's	Australia won by 64 runs

FAISEL FEATURES

et, it affected our country, so there wasn't too much to be relaxed about. We've had to work hard on being more humble in what we do and being focussed on playing good cricket but also being good people as well.

"And I know there will be some English people who will laugh about that but it's actually true. We had to work hard on that and that's a good bunch of players," said the former opener, he said referring to the period which saw senior players David Warner and Steve Smith being handed out one-year bans for ball-tampering.

England may have won 10 out of their last 12 meetings against Australia but they know well that the piece of statistic counts for little heading into the semifinal, especially after the Eoin Morgan-led side's 64-loss to them in the league stage. At England are back to their best since that loss to Australia as they beat India and New Zealand in their final two league games.

Openers Jonny Bairstow and Jason Roy have been on fire and the team will be expecting another flying start from the destructive duo.

England pacer Liam Plunkett feels his team is a title favourite for a reason and fancies beating Australia who suffered an unexpected defeat against South Africa in their final league fixture. "We are a different sort of animal compared to our last teams. We have played well for the past four years, we're ranked number one. We feel on our day we can beat anyone in the world," he said. The pace attack has provided the x-factor to both teams, adding to excitement of the contest.

While England don't have injury issues, Australia coach Langer has already confirmed Peter Handscomb will replace an injured Usman Khawaja in the playing eleven.

All-rounder Marcus Stoinis has recovered from a side strain he sustained against South Africa.

SQUADS

Australia: Aaron Finch (captain), Jason Behrendorff, Alex Carey (wk), Nathan Coulter-Nile, Pat Cummins, Peter Handscomb, Usman Khawaja, Nathan Lyon, Glenn Maxwell, Kane Richardson, Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc, Marcus Stoinis, David Warner, Adam Zampa (Standby players: Matthew Wade, Mitchell Marsh).

England: Eoin Morgan (captain), Moeen Ali, Jofra Archer, Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler (wk), Tom Curran, Liam Dawson, Liam Plunkett, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason Roy, Ben Stokes, James Vince, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood.



Glenn Maxwell in action during Australia's practice session

Finch coy over Maxi's fitness

AFP ■ BIRMINGHAM

all-rounder to come good.

"There's runs around the corner. He'd like to have scored more but he's hitting the ball nicely. We know how destructive he can be when he's in," he said.

"His contributions in the field are up there with most runs saved and he got a great run out at Taunton against Pakistan. And the overs he's bowled have been really, really key overs for us too.

"What he brings to the game is a still very exciting package."

Finch will be all business once the semi-final gets underway however, with Australia chasing an eighth World Cup final appearance.

Australia are bidding for a sixth World Cup title after winning four of the last five editions.

Asked why Australia thrive more than other teams under pressure, Finch said: "World Cups are very special and they bring out the best in players. That's why Australia has a very rich history in World Cups.

"Winning four of the last five (World Cups) is a great achievement. We're full of confidence going into this game, but England have been front runners in one-day cricket for the last four years.

"It will come down to whoever holds their nerve and whoever holds their half-chances."

Australia captain Aaron Finch insisted Glenn Maxwell's absence from a net session on the eve of the World Cup semi-final against England didn't necessarily mean he would miss today's clash.

Maxwell has struggled to hit peak form during the tournament and there have been growing rumours he could be dropped for the Edgbaston semi-final. He has scored just 155 runs in nine innings, did not take part in optional training session on Wednesday.

That increased the talk that Matthew Wade, called into the holders' squad this week to replace the injured Usman Khawaja, could be handed an immediate place in the starting line-up.

But Finch was keen to play down any suggestions that the usually big-hitting Maxwell could be axed.

"It's a purely optional training session. You're reading a bit too much into it," he told reporters.

"Maxi is someone who 50 percent of the time comes down to optional sessions. Most of the bowlers aren't here, Davey (Warner) isn't here. We'll name our side at the toss, as usual."

Pressed on his team-mates' struggles, Finch was adamant Maxwell remained a key player for Australia and backed the

Pride, not pressure

AFP ■ BIRMINGHAM

England captain Eoin Morgan has urged his side to embrace their World Cup dreams as they prepare for today's blockbuster semi-final against old rivals Australia.

Morgan can lead England to their first World Cup final since 1992 if they beat the holders at Edgbaston.

Advancing to Sunday's title match at Lord's would be the culmination of four years' hard work for Morgan and his squad after their dismal performance at the 2015 edition.

On the eve of the crunch clash, Morgan issued a passionate plea for his players to take pride in their achievements so far and to relish their moment in the spotlight rather than be weighed down by pressure.

"Sometimes I'm guilty of it, you can lose sight of the position you're in and the fact you're living your dream," Morgan told reporters on Wednesday.

"I think it's possible to play with a smile on your face tomorrow."

Asked if the World Cup hosts were feeling excited, nervous or simply focused on the task at hand, Morgan added: "All of those things. But I think excitement probably should be the dominant one.

"Everyone is excited to play this semi-final. The fact that through the group stages getting to this stage looked unlikely, or was called into question, makes it even more exciting for us."

CricketCradle

The oldest rivalry in cricket will return to the knockout stages of the World Cup for the first time in three decades when England take on Australia at Edgbaston. From a dramatic semi-final in the first WC, to the closest final of them all, England and Australia have played out some classics, with the Australians having enjoyed the better of the meetings.

However, while England have the edge in recent games, the World Cup match-ups favour Australia, including the group stage encounter between the teams at Lord's last month.

THE GILMOUR SHOW

The teams met for the first time in the competition at the semi-final stage of the inaugural WC in 1975 at Headingley. It was a low-scoring affair, and a close-run encounter despite a stunning bowling display from the Australians after putting England in. Gary Gilmour was virtually unplayable, finishing with figures of 6/14 as England were bundled out for just 93.

However, that proved a competitive total as Australia slumped to 39/6 in reply. John Snow had both Chappell brothers removed leg before but Gilmour then made a second crucial contribution of the game. He and Doug Walters (20) added an unbeaten 55 to take Australia home, Gilmour making 28 at a run a ball on a wicket where no one else had found any fluency. That victory took Australia through to the first World Cup final, where they went on to lose to the West Indies.

SKIPPERS UNITE

England captains past, present and future combined to help England exact revenge on Australia four years later in the group stages at Lord's. Geoff Boycott was the unlikely hero with the ball, taking 2/15 from six economical overs, while four run-outs help limit Australia to 159/9.

In response then-captain Mike Brearley (44) and a man who would later take on the role, Graham Gooch (53), combined to help England to a comfortable six-wicket victory. Australia's subsequent defeat to Pakistan saw them eliminated, while England went on to reach the final before suffering the same fate as the Australians as West Indies won their second straight title.

THE CLOSEST FINAL

The teams did not meet in 1983, but they faced off in the final four years later, both teams searching for their maiden title. At Eden Gardens in Kolkata, David Boon scored a fine 75 as the Australians built steadily on their way to 253/5, Mike Veletta chipping in with a quick-fire 45 not out. England looked to be in control in response as Bill Athey and Mike Gatting added 69, but an ill-advised reverse sweep from Gatting off the part-time off-spin of Allan Border turned the game on its head. He departed for 41, Athey followed soon after for 58, and it was left to Allan Lamb to get them over the line. Lamb made 45 before he was bowled by Steve



Waugh, and England ended up falling agonizingly short, losing by just seven runs. That remains the closest margin in a World Cup final.

BEEFY ON FIRE

The next World Cup was played in Australia and New Zealand, and it was in Sydney that Ian Botham inspired England to their second, and to date last, World Cup win over the Australians. After winning the toss and electing to bat, Australia were bowled out for just 171, with Botham the destroyer in chief as he took 4/31. In reply, the all-rounder flourished in his pinch-hitting role at the top of the order, scoring 53, while opening partner Gooch scored 58. Neither was there at the end, but England cruised to an eight-wicket success on their way to second spot in the group stages. Australia, by contrast, missed out on a spot in the

semi-finals due to Pakistan's remarkable recovery. It was the Pakistanis who went on to lift the trophy, beating England in the final by 22 runs, the third time England had fallen at the final hurdle.

BICHEL KNOCKS OUT ENGLAND

After an 11-year wait the teams met once more in South Africa, with defending champions Australia knowing that victory would eliminate their oldest rivals. England batted first with Alec Stewart (46) and Andrew Flintoff (45) the chief contributors as they made 204/8 at Centurion. The star man for Australia was Andy Bichel, who took 7/20 — the second best figures in a World Cup ever after teammate Glenn McGrath three days earlier against Namibia. The chase was far from straightforward, with Andy Caddick taking 4/35 as Australia slumped to 135/8. That was when Bichel joined master chaser Michael Bevan (74 not out) in the middle and the pair added 73 for the ninth wicket to take Australia home. With seven wickets and then an unbeaten 34, Bichel was inevitably named Player of the Match, with Australia going on to win their second successive world title, beating India in the final.

AUSTRALIA MARCH ON

For the second successive World Cup, Australia got the better of England, and while this one did not knock out the English, it left them on the brink. In Antigua, Kevin Pietersen produced a fine hundred as England batting first, making 104. However Ian Bell (77) provided his only real support as England collapsed to 247 all out, losing eight wickets for 83 runs. In reply, Ricky Ponting managed the chase beautifully, making 86, before Michael Clarke came to the middle and saw

Zelaud in the final, while England missed out on the quarter-finals.

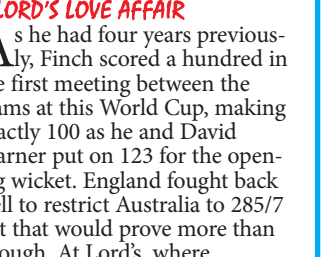
A LORD'S LOVE AFFAIR

As he had four years previously, Finch scored a hundred in the first meeting between the teams at this World Cup, making exactly 100 as he and David Warner put on 123 for the opening wicket. England fought back well to restrict Australia to 285/7 but that would prove more than enough. At Lord's, where Australia have had such a good record at both Test and ODI level, they were exceptional with the ball once again. Jason Behrendorff (5/44) and Mitchell Starc (4/43) raced through England's top order, the former removing James Vince with the second ball of the match. Ben Stokes provided some resistance, making 89 before Starc removed him with a stunning yorker to end any slim hopes England still had. Australia eventually ran out winners by 64 runs, but as the two teams meet for the second time at this World Cup — the first time this has happened — England will have an opportunity for revenge and a return to Lord's.

Courtesy: © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



Zelaud in the final, while England missed out on the quarter-finals.



Zelaud in the final, while England missed out on the quarter-finals.

Conditions on reserve day played spoilsport

Congratulations to New Zealand but that really was a thrilling semi-final - right up to the end. I think because of the rain and the match getting spilt over to a second day, that was in my opinion one of the root causes for the defeat as far as India is concerned.

The rain and the overcast conditions on the second day meant the wicket helped New Zealand more than India as it was ideal for the bowlers.

But if you look at the first three wickets and ask if it was bad batting or good bowling from New Zealand, I would say it was fantastic bowling by New Zealand.

All those first three wickets, KL Rahul, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, were outstanding international wicket-taking deliveries and got rid of players who were in brilliant form.

They literally finished off the backbone of the Indian side and then there was a good fightback, hats off to MS Dhoni and Ravindra Jadeja, especially Jadeja in just his second game of the World Cup.

He really made a fantastic fight out of it, he made it a brilliant game. He almost won the match alongside Dhoni and his all-round performance was brilliant for the entire match.

His bowling was fantastic, great batting and great fielding, but he cannot do it on his own and unfortunately, he was left with too much to do in



Rishabh Pant reacts as he leaves the field after being dismissed by Mitchell Santner

the end. I have to give great credit to Kane Williamson's captaincy. One thing about New Zealand's batting and bowling

approach, they played to their strengths and limitations. That's why when they were batting they didn't play the big shots as they knew

I think because of the rain and the match getting spilt over to a second day, that was in my opinion one of the root causes for the defeat as far as India is concerned. The rain and the overcast conditions on the second day meant the wicket helped New Zealand more than India as it was ideal for the bowlers

they only had their two main batsmen in Williamson and Ross Taylor, they just wanted to hang around.

They knew if those two could stay in and they could get near 250, they could make a match out of it and they ended up winning the match and reaching the final.

The way Williamson rotated his bowlers in particular was amazing. Jimmy Neesham and Colin de Grandhomme were the weak links in the bowling but he made sure they were not too exposed.

He rotated them around well and because of the early wickets, their limitations were not exposed. I also thought Mitchell Santner bowled brilliantly, but India gave him too much respect.

They should have played more positively against Santner. When I say positively, that doesn't mean hitting out, it's showing some sort of positivity against Santner, putting him under pressure.

At that point in the innings, the run rate started slowly climbing up, and that's what put pressure on the Indian's towards the end. India were in control before the rain came though.

Had it been a full day, India probably would have had it easy. I remember in the 1983 World Cup, we batted first and scored

about 260 against West Indies in the opening match in Manchester.

The match then went into a second day and we bowled West Indies out and won the game, so these things do happen when the games move over to the next day because of rain.

It generally helps the team bowling second, but it's disappointing for India as they looked like the world champions. That's what happens in the semi-finals, though, one match and you're gone.

The same thing happened in the 2015 World Cup, India were unbeaten to the semi-finals against Australia in Perth and here they had only lost to England before their semi-final match.

That's what happens in the World Cup and you just have to accept it and move on. I don't think India need to make any drastic changes, they just need to look at that middle order.

We're still struggling to get the right middle order combination. Rishabh Pant is good but at number five we need to find someone as we've tried too many people there.

We've tried Dinesh Karthik, we've tried Jadeja, we've tried Vijay Shankar, three guys have been tried and they've not proved useful so maybe we can find a good youngster for No 5.

Courtesy- © ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC 2019



By KRIS SRIKANTH Former India captain

OTHER SPORTS

Roger, Rafa set-up blockbuster

AFP ■ LONDON

Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal set up a Wimbledon semi-final blockbuster on Wednesday, 11 years after their epic 2008 title duel which is widely regarded as the greatest Grand Slam final ever played.

Eight-time champion Federer racked up his 100th match win at Wimbledon and reached his 13th semi-final with a 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 defeat of Japan's Kei Nishikori.

The 37-year-old will be playing in the semi-finals of a major for the 45th time.

Nadal, the two-time champion, made the last-four for the seventh time and 32nd at the Slams, by beating Sam Querrey 7-5, 6-2, 6-2.

Friday's semi-final will be the pair's 40th meeting and third at Wimbledon after Federer won the 2006 and 2007 finals before Nadal swept to his famous 2008 triumph.

The other semi-final will see four-time champion and top seed Novak Djokovic tackle Roberto Bautista Agut, the 23rd Spaniard who has made the last-four at a major for the first time.

Federer is also the oldest man to make the semis of a major since Jimmy Connors at the 1991 US Open.

"We have a lot of information on Rafa and so does he about us. I know people always hype it up in a big way," said 20-time major winner Federer.

"They did that again in Paris this year (when Nadal won their semi-final in straight sets). I'd love to play

against him here at Wimbledon.

"But I go about it like every other match."

Nadal, who was also champion in 2010, broke Querrey six times, sent down 10 aces and 44 winners in a convincing display which will give him great hope of beating Federer for the 25th time.

"It's great (to be facing Federer at Wimbledon again)," said 33-year-old Nadal whose recent 12th Roland Garros victory took him to 18 Slam titles.

"It's difficult to imagine to be again in that situation and here we are. I'm excited to play against Roger here at Wimbledon again after such a long time."

Djokovic reached the Wimbledon semi-finals for the ninth time, racking up his 70th career win at the All England Club in the process.

The defending champion hit back from a break down in the first set to carve out a commanding 6-4, 6-0, 6-2 win over 21st seed David Goffin of Belgium.

In a ruthless display, Djokovic reeled off 15 of the last 17 games to secure a place in the semi-finals of the majors for the 36th



Murray and Williams' Wimbledon dream over

AFP ■ LONDON

Andy Murray and Serena Williams' mixed doubles dream team came unstuck at Wimbledon on Wednesday when the star pairing were knocked out by the top seeds.

The pair lost 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 to Bruno Soares of Brazil and Nicole Melichar of the United States, who progress to the quarter-finals.

The third round match was played out on the 4,000-seater Court Two sunken bowl — a rare appearance outside the Centre Court and Court One big show courts for the likes of multiple former champions Murray and Williams.

British home favourite

time. Next up is Bautista Agut, who made his first Grand Slam semi-final with a 7-5, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory over Argentina's Guido Pella.

"He started well and was dictating play from the baseline," 32-year-old Djokovic said of Goffin.

"Things could have gone a different way if I had lost the first set but I was very pleased with the second and third.

He added: "I had a tough match in the third round (against Hubert Hurkacz). Other than that, I've won in straight sets and played really well throughout the tournament."

"It's exactly what I wanted and hopefully I can go in the right direction in the semis as well."

Goffin was on top in the early stages as he sensed the opportunity to become the first Belgian man to make the semi-finals at a Slam since



Nicole Melichar and Bruno Soares walk to the net after defeating Serena Williams and Andy Murray, top, in a mixed doubles match

Murray, a former world number one, is easing his way back into tennis via the doubles after undergoing radical hip resurfacing surgery.

Xavier Malisse at Wimbledon in 2002.

He broke for a 4-3 lead but 15-time Slam winner Djokovic then reeled off the next nine games, taking the first set, and the second in which he allowed the Belgian just four points on his serve.

The contest was over by the time Djokovic broke for a 3-1 lead in the third set.

"Even if you play well, it's not enough because he continues to play deep, close from the line, left, right. He was everywhere," said a shattered Goffin.

Bautista Agut, 31, booked his first appearance in a Slam last-four at the 27th attempt by seeing off Pella, who had never previously reached a quarter-final at the majors.

"Novak is the number one in the world and he's playing really well on grass," said Bautista Agut, who has a 3-7 record against the Serb. However, two of those wins came this year in Doha and Miami.

Srikanth hopeful of doing well in Olympics

PTI ■ CHENNAI

ACE Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth Wednesday said he was looking forward to doing well in the Olympics next year but preferred to focus on the tournaments coming up.

The 26-year-old shuttler from Guntur said playing the tournaments before the Olympics and qualifying first is important.

"There is one more year left. There are 15 more tournaments until April next year.

So I have to win a few of them and I'm working really hard towards achieving that. Just trying to improve," he told reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration of VSR Sports Academy here.

Srikanth, who had a spectacular 2017 and climbed to the No.1 world ranking before enduring a difficult time subsequently, said it has been a great season for him and he was looking forward to the rest of 2019.

"It's been a great season for me. I haven't been playing for the last 2 months but still it's been a great 2019.

There are many more tournaments coming up so I'm looking forward to doing well," the world No.9 added.

Asked if his confidence levels had dipped after his struggles post 2017, Srikanth said that was not the case and he was confident of doing well against top players.

"... Its about winning those crucial points that will definitely change the complexion of the match(es)," he added. Srikanth said India had been



Kidambi Srikanth in action during his match

doing well in the past few years, especially in the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games last year and expected to put up a good show in the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

"I am looking forward to the Olympics. My ultimate aim would be to win the Olympic medal next year."

We have done well in the last five-six years, won a good number of medals at the Commonwealth Games last year, the Asian Games last year and hope we can do well in the Olympics too," he added.

Ole dismisses Pogba's exit speculation

AFP ■ MANCHESTER

Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer on Wednesday dismissed speculation that Paul Pogba is to leave Old Trafford, saying there had been "no bids" for the midfielder and "agents talk all the time".

The 26-year-old World Cup-winner's future has overshadowed United's pre-season tour since they arrived in Perth on Monday, with Real Madrid and Juventus rumoured as possible destinations.

Mino Raiola, Pogba's agent, told UK radio station talkSPORT on Tuesday that "everyone knows the willingness of Paul to move on". But Solskjaer, who took

the reins from Jose Mourinho last December, said it was "business as usual" and warned the club were under no pressure to offload Pogba, or anyone else.

"There are no bids for our players. Agents talk all the time. We are Manchester United, we don't have to sell players," he said at a press conference after training ahead of matches in the Western Australia city against Perth Glory on Saturday and Leeds United on Tuesday.

"When you're at Manchester United you expect all these things to pop up in the summer."

Footage on social media Tuesday suggested Pogba and teammate Jesse Lingard had clashed on the trip, but



Paul Pogba in action during Man Utd pre-season training

Solskjaer said there had been no dust-up and that the Frenchman had been on the end of unfair press treatment. "With Paul, it looks like it's going to be a media, I don't want to call it, but it's an agenda against Paul," he said. "He's a top, top bloke."

He's a great professional. He's never been any problem. "Jesse and Paul were walking around and it's been portrayed as a fight between the two boys. There are no problems between the boys. Pre-season has been very good so far."

Uncertainty has also surrounded David de Gea's future but Solskjaer said he was optimistic about the goalkeeper remaining at Old Trafford, despite only one year remaining on his contract.

"David has had a summer where he's been negotiating and we hope we're going to get it sorted," Solskjaer said.

"I'm positive, of course with David I've said many times how lucky I am and happy we are to have him in

Origi pens new deal

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool have tied down Champions League hero Divock Origi to new long-term contract, the club announced on Wednesday.

"Divock Origi has committed his future to Liverpool Football Club by signing a new long-term contract at Melwood today," Liverpool said in a statement without revealing details over the length of the deal.

The Belgium international has largely been a peripheral figure at Anfield since signing from Lille in 2014.

However, he came to the fore by scoring twice in a remarkable 4-0 win over Barcelona in last season's Champions League semi-final, second leg to overturn a 3-0 first-leg deficit.

Origi then scored again in the final victory over Tottenham as Liverpool won the competition for a sixth time. "It's a story really only football can write," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp.

"We wanted to sign him again, to extend the contract, and the nice thing is he wanted to as well. He realised it was a tough time (but) we never gave him up in that time."

Origi had entered the final 12 months of his old deal and was reportedly stalling on the offer of a new one because of concerns over playing time.

"I'm very happy to be able to sign this contract and it gives you a boost at the beginning of the season, as well as the end of the season last year," said Origi.

"When we had to make the decision I just wanted to speak with the club first and my entourage, but the feeling was always that I wanted to stay and extend my contract."

Origi went on to score seven goals in total last season, as he also netted a vital late winner at Newcastle as Liverpool fell just short of chasing down Manchester City in a thrilling Premier League title race. AFP